

that you join with us and his many friends and family in expressing our deep appreciation for his decades of leadership and community service.

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR CORBETT HOWARD

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize First Lieutenant Corbett Howard of Celina, Texas, and award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. 1LT Howard honorably served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

As a young man, 1LT Howard was inspired to follow in his family's footsteps and serve his country. In December 1968, he commissioned into the U.S. Army serving in Military Intelligence. After completing Combat Intelligence school, 1LT Howard deployed to Vietnam in the following year and served as an Intelligence Officer in Kien Giang Province. He was one of thirty four American advisors to the South Vietnamese Army and was responsible for training its troops. During the war, he also flew 108 combat missions in a Huey helicopter and participated in numerous Swift boat operations against the enemy. For his outstanding service, 1LT Howard was awarded the Bronze Star, the Air Medal, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with bronze star.

After he retired from military service in 1970, 1LT Howard has continued to be an active member of our community through his public service and volunteer efforts. Since 2012, he has served as a board member for the Military Warriors Support Foundation to help provide homes to wounded veterans and Gold Star families. Under 1LT Howard's exceptional leadership, they have given over 930 homes and 175 vehicles for veterans in need. Moreover, he has helped raise hundreds of millions of dollars for the organization to support veterans and ensure they can keep their homes for many years to come. I am proud of 1LT Howard's contributions to our community and his dedication to serving our great Nation.

I am honored to represent 1LT Howard in Texas' 4th Congressional district. It is a pleasure to award him the Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our Nation and the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF BARRY MELANCON

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my fellow Louisianan, Barry Melancon, who is retiring after 30 years from his role as President and CEO of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and CEO of the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants.

Barry Melancon has dedicated his 41-year career to the accounting profession, Mr.

Melancon began his role in 1995 at the age of 37, which made him the youngest CEO in the organization's history and now the longest serving CEO of AICPA. Mr. Melancon's professional career began in Louisiana where he practiced as a CPA, eventually leading the Society of Louisiana CPAs before beginning his leadership role at AICPA.

Mr. Melancon achieved an impressive number of accomplishments for his work on behalf of the accounting profession. In addition to testifying before Congress, Accounting Today named Barry Melancon the Most Influential Person in Accounting for 17 consecutive years, as well as the National Association Executive of the Year. Mr. Melancon has served as a member of AICPA's delegation to the International Federation of Accountants, board member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Center for Capital Markets Competitiveness, board member of the Center for Audit Quality, chair of XBRL-US, and board chairman of the Global Accounting Alliance. Barry Melancon also received an Honorary Doctorate of Commerce from his alma mater, Nicholls State University, and was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the 2023 International Accounting Forum and Awards.

It is my honor to recognize Barry Melancon for his passion, longstanding dedication, and leadership in the accounting profession. I am proud that a fellow Louisianan has played such a nationally prominent role in advancing innovation in his industry and mentoring a new generation of leaders. I commend Barry Melancon for his many years of dedicated service and wish him the best in his retirement.

OPPOSING CRITICAL MINERAL CONSISTENCY ACT (H.R. 8446) AND HARNESSING ENERGY AT THERMAL SOURCES ACT (H.R. 7409)

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2024

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act (H.R. 8446) and the Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources (HEATS) Act (H.R. 7409) would both limit the ability of the American public to have a say in protecting our public lands and determining how our natural resources are used.

H.R. 8446 gives cover for the copper industry to gain access to tax credits and expedited permitting processes. Only critical minerals on the U.S. Geological Service (USGS) list can access these federal supports, and we should not be playing politics with that process.

Foreign-owned mining conglomerates stand to benefit the most from this legislation, as they seek to fast-track copper mines like those that threaten the watershed of the Boundary Waters Wilderness in Minnesota, or the sacred site of Oak Flats in Arizona. These companies will have no obligation to contribute to our domestic supply with the minerals they pull out of our public lands. But our surrounding communities will bear the costs of pollution that all copper mines create. The least we can do is ensure the public and our federal government has the full opportunity to review these mines.

The American public should also not be subsidizing new copper mines when we have secure supply chains that meet our needs, as determined by the USGS. The USGS list of critical minerals intentionally differs in important ways from the Department of Energy's list of critical materials. Minerals only make it on to the USGS list if their supply chain is at risk of disruption. The tax credits that Congress passed to encourage the development of at-risk critical minerals should not go to support the copper industry, when the U.S. is already a global top-five producer and a top-ten exporter of copper.

The other bill under consideration today, the HEATS Act, would completely exempt certain geothermal projects that impact subsurface federal resources from the environmental review process if less than half of a geothermal project is non-federal. That means that if a project starts on private land but drills underground into publicly owned areas, it would not have to abide by the federal regulations.

I want to be clear that geothermal is an important renewable energy source, and that advancing geothermal energy is a worthy goal. That is why the House has already passed bipartisan legislation, and the Biden Administration has streamlined the process for certain categories of geothermal projects. I secured community project funding for a Geothermal Heat Pump to replace the inefficient natural gas-based system at St. Paul's Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. However, we must ensure that when geothermal projects impact our federal resources, they go through our federal review process. The Bureau of Land Management, who oversees our federal subsurface areas, is concerned that this bill would undermine their ability to ensure public safety, to uphold environmental laws, to consult with tribal nations, and to fulfill their core mission of managing our natural resources for multiple use.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing both these misguided bills and protecting public review of projects that impact our public resources.

FAFSA DEADLINE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2024

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act and a robust and efficient FAFSA application process. For many of our constituents, this process is the start of determining whether college is a reality or remains a dream. FAFSA can unlock critical financial aid that may make the difference between not only starting college, but also completing it.

As we've seen over the past two years, the FAFSA application process has been plagued by delays and technical issues as the Biden Administration worked to implement a new form. During the 2024 to 2025 processing cycle, processing delays resulted in families struggling to fill out the forms and delayed financial assistance packages being sent to students, causing unnecessary burdens and stress.

By standardizing the FAFSA application launch date on October 1, we not only ease

burdens on Department of Education officials tasked with processing these applications, but on families who rely on federal assistance to be able to afford college.

An efficient FAFSA application process is critical to making higher education more accessible and affordable. However, let's be clear: a better and more reliable timeline while we are cutting and gutting the federal programs that help provide support to students, like the Pell Grant and TRIO, isn't going to do much good for our constituents.

So, while we take this first step, let's not lose sight of all the other steps that we need to take to protect access to higher education for those who choose to pursue it. We must do what we can to improve the processing of these applications in a timely manner, which is why I am in support of this bill.

Rest assured, I will fight like hell in the next Congress to protect the federal programs and funding sources that help the students who will benefit from the FAFSA process stay enrolled and graduate, too.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 5310, to amend title 41, United States Code, to make changes with respect to the Federal Acquisition Security Council, S. 2315, to provide for the creation of the missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel Records Collection at the National Archives, to require the expeditious public transmission to the Archivist and public disclosure of missing Armed Forces and civilian personnel records, S. 2270, to establish and maintain a database within each agency for executive branch ethics records of non-career appointees, S. 5302, to amend title 5, United States Code, to address the responsibilities of the Administrator of General Services with respect to Federal advisory committees, S. 5312, to require agencies to create consistent organizational hierarchies, S.

5102, to require annual reports on counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations, S. 5313, to improve section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, S. 5315, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance border security by seeking to expand partnerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in Mexico and Central American and South American countries to combat human smuggling and trafficking operations in Mexico and such countries, S. 5321, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program, S. 5317, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review of the Homeland Security Information Network, S. 5319, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an annual audit of the information systems and bulk data of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department, S. 5028, to require Federal contractors to implement a vulnerability disclosure policy consistent with NIST guidelines, S. 5019, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 340 South Loudon Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "United States Representative Elijah E. Cummings Post Office Building", H.R. 6972, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require an Executive agency whose head is a member of the National Security Council to notify the Executive Office of the President, the Comptroller General of the United States, and congressional leadership of such head becoming medically incapacitated within 24 hours, H.R. 7528, to amend section 206 of the E-Government Act of 2002 to improve the integrity and management of mass comments and computer-generated comments in the regulatory review process, H.R. 9592, to amend title 44, United States Code, to modernize the Federal Register, H.R. 3208, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program, H.R. 7832, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to identify, integrate, and deploy new, innovative, disruptive, or other emerging or advanced technologies to enhance, or address capability gaps in, border security operations, H.R. 6231, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a prioritized policy issuance review process for the Department of Homeland Security, H.R. 8631, to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from procuring certain foreign-made batteries, H.R. 255, to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to develop a study regarding streamlining and consolidating information collection and preliminary damage assessments, H.R. 9596, to amend title 41, United States Code, and title 10, United States Code, to provide best value through the multiple award schedule program, H.R. 5867, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 109 Live Oaks Boulevard in Casselberry, Florida, as the "Colonel Joseph William Kittinger II Post Office Building", H.R. 6162, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 379 North Oates Street in Dothan, Alabama, as the "LaBruce 'Bruce' Tidwell Post Office

Building", H.R. 6188, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 420 Highway 17 North in Surfside Beach, South Carolina, as the "Nancy Yount Childs Post Office Building", H.R. 6633, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9355 113th Street in Seminole, Florida, as the "Army SSG Ryan Christian Knauss Memorial Post Office Building", H.R. 6750, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 501 Mercer Street Southwest in Wilson, North Carolina, as the "Milton F. Fitch, Sr. Post Office Building", H.R. 8057, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9317 Bolsa Avenue in Westminster, California, as the "Little Saigon Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Post Office", and the nominations of Val Butler Demings, of Florida, William Zollars, of Kansas, and Gordon Hartogensis, of Connecticut, each to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, and James Graham Lake, and Nicholas George Miranda, both to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SD-342

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Matthew James Marzano, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Matthew Kaplan, of Maryland, to be Federal Chairperson of the Great Lakes Authority, and 53 General Services Administration resolutions; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act, focusing on successes, challenges, and charting a path forward.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine disaster funding needs.

SD-106

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Economic Policy

To hold hearings to examine tax policy in 2025, focusing on implications for the American economy.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing from the Secretary of State.

SVC-217

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 4643, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Zuni Indian Tribe in the Zuni River Stream System in the State of New Mexico, to protect the Zuni Salt Lake, S. 4998, to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Navajo Nation in the Rio San Jose Stream System in the State of New Mexico, and the nomination of Patrice