

D.C., tells them. It seems to me—I don't know, maybe I am cynical, maybe I am jaded—we are getting no help from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle on this border issue or on this spending issue. Likewise, we are getting little to no help from the other side of the building.

Are we the only four Americans that care about this? There are other good colleagues here that care about it. Well, they are on this side of the aisle, and they are on this side of the building. Mr. BIGGS, is there anybody—you come from a State where there are Democrats elected. I come from Pennsylvania. We have 12.5, 13 million Pennsylvanians. During the course of the 4-year Biden administration there is going to be a whole new Pennsylvania in this country, right? That is how many people are coming. Do our friends on the other side of the aisle have no constituency that says, hold on a second, I am tired of paying for this? Mr. Speaker, is there anybody in your State on the other side of the aisle that will say I have had enough? Mr. BIGGS?

Mr. BIGGS. I will tell you this: There may be three people over here I can name. I won't name them to protect them because they always talk like they are going to help us out, but they don't ever help us out. I love them to death, but they never quite can deliver it. But I will tell you, when you go along the border from RGV to San Ysidro, which is San Diego, and you go talk to the local folks, many of whom are Democrat leaders of those cities and those counties, they want something done. They will stand with you.

And do you know what you guys heard in your group, and we happened to be there? They said shut the government down until you shut the border down. And do you know what? That is a common sentiment all along the border. It is common in my district in Arizona. And I have got a great plan for that, but I can't introduce it in 2 minutes, but, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you, that is the facts. Even the Democrats who are facing the brunt of this—and I don't care what New York is doing. You go tell the people down in Ajo, Arizona, why they are getting overrun right now. They would like to hear it from you.

Mr. PERRY. That is right. In the remaining 1½ minutes, I will kind of end this where I started it out for all of us. We have got friends on the other side of the aisle here in this building, friends in the other party around the country in charge of cities, in charge of States. All of them are complaining. They are all complaining. This is a crisis. It is an emergency in our State. It is an emergency in our city and our community. We have to have something done about it.

I am still waiting. I am still waiting for the first one to say we are going to revoke the sanctuary city, the sanctuary State status. But until that happens, Mr. Speaker, they are not serious

about any of this. They don't care about any of this. They don't care about any of the citizens that elected them, that pay taxes in those political subdivisions. They don't care about them. They want to appear to care, but they don't care because they are allowing this. They are not only allowing it like Secretary Mayorkas, like my friends on the other side of the aisle and the other side of the building, they are not just allowing it; they are promoting it. They want it to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to direct all remarks to the Chair, to formally yield, and to reclaim time when under recognition.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, it is a new year, and the House is already busy tackling issues important to Americans. Something that should be high on our list is advancing legislation that will benefit our economy, U.S. innovators, and American workers—and that is immediate R&D expensing.

Tonight my colleagues and I want to talk about how this critical provision encourages research and development in the United States, and, in turn, helps fuel job growth and keeps manufacturing inside our borders.

Recognizing this, for nearly 70 years the tax code allowed businesses to fully deduct their R&D expenses in the same year in which they were incurred. However, since the beginning of 2022, businesses have been required to spread out, or amortize, R&D expenses over 5 years for domestic R&D or 15 years for foreign R&D.

As you can see on this graph, since amortization took place, the growth rate of R&D spending has slowed dramatically from 6.6 percent on average over the previous 6 years to less than one half of 1 percent over the last 12 months.

This slump in U.S. R&D investment is hurting the American economy at a time when rising inflation is hurting workers and holding back job creators.

As companies spend far less on R&D, the sector is down by more than 14,000 jobs. Three-quarters of research and development spending is on salaries and

wages, making R&D amortization primarily a jobs issue.

On the other hand, our main competitor, China, has seen its R&D investment increase by 400 percent in just two decades. While the United States' share of global R&D investment in 2019 had dropped to 30 percent, China's share had moved up to 24 percent—in fact, up from 15 percent in 2009, a jump of nearly 10 percentage points in 10 years.

They achieved this impressive growth by implementing the deduction of 200 percent on eligible R&D investments. Without action, the United States will fall even further behind.

But we have the solution, and it is backed by Members in 43 States and from both sides of the aisle.

On tax day of this year, I reintroduced H.R. 2673, the American Innovation and R&D Competitiveness Act. This bipartisan bill corrects the R&D amortization issue and will spur homegrown research and development. And we know that where R&D occurs, jobs and economic opportunities follow.

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Mr. Speaker, the American Innovation and R&D Competitive Business Act has 212 cosponsors in addition to myself and a lead Democrat. Those are nearly evenly split between Democrats and Republicans. It is the 17th most cosponsored piece of legislation in this Congress. Tonight, my colleagues are going to help me share the decisive difference it would make for workers and innovators in each of their districts.

As I wrote in an op-ed in December, the best time to address R&D amortization was at the end of 2021. The best next time is now. We need to pass R&D immediate expensing for the American people and our U.S. economy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), the chair of the Budget Committee and my good friend.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas who represents a district that may be the second largest production ag district only to west Texas, the food, fuel, and fiber capital of the world.

In all seriousness, spending is out of control like never before in this country. Our debt is unsustainable, which is an understatement, maybe the biggest one of the night, and America's fiscal health is in rapid decline.

What is the formula? Reverse Biden's spending spree, right-size this bloated and weaponized bureaucracy, rein in mandatory spending, reform entitlements, root out all of this trillions in waste and fraud, and then return to progrowth, prowork, proenergy policies.

That last piece is critical. In order for us to bring this indebtedness in this great country of ours—it has surpassed World War II as the highest levels of indebtedness in the history of our country. We have to have growth. Growth is essential not only to reining

in deficits. It generates more revenue for the country and reduces spending by giving Americans better-paying jobs and allowing people to save and invest more of their hard-earned money.

CBO projects over the next 10 years we will have a paltry 2 percent economic growth. If we grow 1 more percent, we can help bring the deficit down by \$3 trillion. We need \$16 trillion, Mr. Speaker, in order to balance the budget, so growth will play a critical role.

In 2017, Republicans and President Trump passed tax reform. After that, we saw unprecedented, record investment in R&D, capital investment, growth, job creation, lowest unemployment, lowest poverty rates, lifting 6 million people out of poverty in this country. It had tremendous value to the country as a whole. All boats rose on the tide of prosperity.

In fact, the CBO projected that we would only grow the revenue from the tax cuts by \$327 billion in 2021, the year after, and the revenues actually grew by tens of billions more. The following year, 2022, the CBO projected \$353 billion. They were off by \$100 billion. We got record revenue.

One of the biggest progrowth provisions in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was 100 percent business expensing. We need to give businesses the certainty to make the investment, supercharge America's competitiveness, and create more things in this country instead of depending on other countries for important products, making sure that we stave off what is projected to be a sustained recession if not stagnation.

We can do this, address inflation, save this country from a debt crisis, and reverse the curse of these failed economic policies and this unbridled spending. We can do it in part with progrowth, prowork, and proenergy policies.

I am proud to work alongside my friend from Kansas, a true leader on the Budget Committee, on the Ways and Means Committee, and on all things progrowth and making America the most powerful, most prosperous Nation in the world. I thank Mr. ESTES for his leadership.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, Mr. ARRINGTON has obviously delved into this issue and particularly focused on economic growth and what the impact is in terms of the value for not just the economy and workers across the country but also the tax revenue to help make sure we can fund the operations here in government.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. HERN), the chair of the Republican Study Committee, a fellow member of the Ways and Means Committee, and my friend and neighbor to the south.

Mr. HERN. Mr. Speaker, it is great to see my colleague from Oklahoma from the Second District, our newest member of our Oklahoma delegation. I certainly know where his heart is on these issues that American taxpayers rely on

us to be responsible for and for the money to be put to good use.

We have a critical tax cliff fast approaching at the end of 2025, with the majority of the TCJA's progrowth tax policies expiring. We are already seeing the devastating economic effects of TCJA's expired provisions, including the EBITDA interest deduction limitation, immediate deduction of R&D, and 100 percent bonus depreciation.

Ernst & Young projects that over 10 years, if the increased limitation on the interest deductibility is not repealed, 900,000 jobs will be lost; employee compensation will be reduced by \$58 billion; and GDP will fall by more than \$108 billion.

Twenty-six OECD countries use earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization, otherwise known as EBITDA, as an earnings-stripping limit, and zero countries in the OECD use the new U.S. EBIT-based limitation.

This stricter limitation on businesses will fall on the American worker in the form of lower wages and employment and make the U.S. less competitive in the global marketplace. We need to restore the EBITDA interest deduction limitation immediately.

Since the harmful R&D amortization requirement took effect in 2022, R&D spending's rate of growth has slowed dramatically, from 6.6 percent on average over the previous 5 years to less than 1 percent over the past 12 months.

China continues to offer a 200 percent super-deduction for R&D, and the United States remains uncompetitive at 20 percent. We need to restore immediate deduction for R&D costs, something that has been around since the middle 1950s.

Bonus depreciation will continue to ramp down for ensuing years: 80 percent in 2023, 60 percent for this year, 40 percent for 2025, 20 percent for 2026, and zero percent beginning in 2027.

Last year, the U.K. announced its commitment to make permanent its progrowth policy for full expensing. The U.S. should be looking to do the same to remain competitive in the global marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, this is more than just an economic issue. This is a national security issue. How can we expect to compete with China when it is more expensive to invest, innovate, and grow here in the United States of America?

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, Mr. HERN highlighted that it is so important for us to have a strong America. It means we need to have a strong economy and good-paying jobs for workers, which means we need to have these provisions that make things work and make the economy grow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mrs. MILLER), a member of the Ways and Means Committee and a good friend of mine.

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for American innovation and to highlight the importance of a progrowth tax code.

The United States was built on resourcefulness and good ideas. The desire to be successful in whatever we do has made America the top place to live, work, and raise a family.

Part of what makes the United States the best place in the world to do business is that we respect our workforce and encourage them to think outside of the box.

Because of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, our tax code was strengthened, jobs were created, and the economy flourished. Some of the provisions have now expired. It is a problem. It is imperative that we make the TCJA permanent.

For example, if we cement the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, we can reverse the current limitation on the deductibility of interest payments on business loans. That will save over 850,000 American jobs.

Another example is in research and development. While it was once a paid expense, R&D is now a cost that many small businesses cannot afford. China is subsidizing their R&D costs, giving them a huge advantage over the United States. Modernization and national security shouldn't suffer because of any lapsed tax change.

Our tax code should work for American workers and businesses and not against them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. ESTES for this Special Order tonight.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I am glad Mrs. MILLER highlighted the impact on small businesses because that is one of the things that sometimes we think about, business provisions that affect large businesses, but small businesses are greatly affected as well by some of these provisions just because of being able to manage their cash flow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. KUSTOFF), another good friend of mine who is also on the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I thank our colleague from Kansas for getting this together this evening to discuss our important issues so the American public can hear from us.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about three progrowth tax policies that are critical for businesses and workers across west Tennessee and across the Nation: bonus depreciation, business interest deductibility, and immediate expensing for research and development costs. These policies help businesses grow, create jobs, and invest in our communities.

It is crucial that Congress extend these policies to ensure our tax code remains competitive and encourages economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, and it led to one of the strongest economies in our Nation's history.

One important piece of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, known as bonus depreciation, allows businesses to fully and immediately deduct the cost of certain capital investments. If we want businesses to continue investing in their

workers and in their future, bonus depreciation must be extended.

Domestic investment will also be strengthened by restoring business interest deductibility. Interest deductibility has served as a vital tool for manufacturing and other capital-intensive businesses. Restoring this provision will protect American jobs and keep manufacturing right here at home in the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, for decades, America has been the global leader in innovation and the go-to destination for startups and entrepreneurs. It is important that we keep it that way.

Allowing U.S. businesses to immediately deduct research and development costs will lead to more innovation, more domestic investment, and more jobs.

I have heard from west Tennessee businesses, large, medium, and small, and they are asking Congress to pass these three provisions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to stand with American businesses and workers and extend these critical provisions.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. KUSTOFF. It is so important, as he highlighted, to have innovation and to support that so that we can have good economic growth. That is a key thing that has always helped America over the long term.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE), the vice chairman of the House Republican Conference and a fellow member serving on the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening, along with my colleagues, in support of critical progrowth tax policies House Republicans are supporting to bolster good-paying jobs and strong wage growth for earners. These are solutions that will ultimately help Utah families flourish and help the entire Nation.

We have seen that tax policy can make a difference for the American people. In 2018 and 2019, following the passage of TCJA, real median household income rose by \$5,000 and real wage growth increased 4.9 percent, the fastest 2-year growth in real wages in over 20 years.

Since then, we have seen the expiration of three important tax provisions that support these job creators and workers. It is not an exaggeration to say that my team and I have had thousands of conversations over the last few years about how these provisions contribute to the ability of businesses to expand, innovate, and invest in workers, communities, and the economy. These include the ability to immediately deduct R&D expenses, the more generous limitation on business interest expenses, and the 100 percent bonus depreciation for equipment and vehicles. These provisions of the tax code were crucial for job creators, workers, and their families in Utah.

Lastly, according to SBA, over 600,000 Utahns are employed by small busi-

nesses. My Small Business Growth Act, which would lift the deduction cap for qualifying equipment for small businesses, would help these small businesses grow their workforce in northern Utah.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by noting that these policies are fundamentally about the American workers in every congressional district across the country and the investments that we can make in them as well as their families and their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to work together to get these policies over the finish line.

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Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE). It is important to talk about these very important issues.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Kansas has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YAKYM), who has shown great interest in being engaged in this issue of how do we actually reinstate the R&D immediate expensing.

Mr. YAKYM. I thank the gentleman from Kansas, my good friend, for the time and for organizing this important event and for this Special Order.

I also thank the gentleman for his leadership on promoting pro-growth research and development policies.

Mr. Speaker, we are living through a time of great economic uncertainty created by the Biden administration.

This Republican House has an opportunity to provide some certainty to all American families and businesses by bringing back full and immediate deductions for research and development, capital expenditures, as well as by undoing lower interest deductibility limitations. Doing so would help create high-quality, good-paying jobs across our economy for businesses of all shapes and sizes.

My district in northern Indiana is no different. Many Hoosier companies have reached out to tell me what fixing those provisions would mean to them.

A major medical device company in my district had a \$60 million impact in 2022, because they couldn't fully deduct their research and development expenses, and they expect a similar hit for 2023. That is a huge sum of money to be sucked out of our local economy unnecessarily.

However, the impacts aren't just felt in large gashes. There are thousands of less-visible cuts across Main Streets in my district, in our State, and across our country.

Family owned restaurants have told me they are putting off buying new kitchen equipment. Engineering firms that build our roads and bridges are holding off on new cutting-edge software. Also, suppliers to the R.V. and auto industry are spending less money on new machinery.

Mr. Speaker, the small businesses that are the engines of our economy have sand in their gears, and we have an opportunity to fix it.

About a month and a half ago, I was proud to lead a letter to Speaker MIKE JOHNSON signed by 145 of my non-Ways and Means colleagues calling for the return of full expensing for R&D and capital expenditures, as well as progrowth interest deductibility. The high turnout shows just how important these provisions are to small businesses and workers across our great Nation.

I know my friend, Ways and Means Chairman JASON SMITH, is hard at work on negotiations to fix these provisions. I hope both sides can come together on an agreement that provides wins for hardworking Hoosiers of Indiana's Second District.

I want to close by thanking Mr. ESTES once more for his leadership in organizing this Special Order.

Mr. ESTES. I thank the gentleman. It is so important that the gentleman has taken such an active interest.

I now recognize for 2 minutes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG), a friend of mine, and a good guy.

Mr. STRONG. I thank the gentleman from Kansas for yielding.

I rise to support the extension of critical provisions from President Trump's signature tax law, the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This tax policy unleashes America's ingenuity and the full potential of the American economy. It helps individuals and families take home more pay each month. It supports American investments in research and development. It signals to our business community that America values and supports domestic innovation.

This tax policy is also necessary to stay ahead of global competitors. Small businesses in north Alabama directly benefit from research and development expensing. It allows them to reinvest in their products and people. It stimulates the economy, encourages investment, and creates jobs.

President Trump's legislation started an era of increased investment in the U.S. and produced an economy with record gains. If we fail to extend this critical tax provision, we fail American businesses.

I urge Congress to act and extend these provisions.

Mr. ESTES. I thank the gentleman for speaking about some of the important impacts on businesses within his district.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ).

Ms. De La CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for hosting this Special Order.

I stand before you today as a mom and a lifelong small business owner to champion the cause of small businesses by encouraging my colleagues to work swiftly to extend three vital tax provisions from the TCJA.

These provisions include the full expensing of critical research and development, the full expensing of investments in new equipment, machinery, and technology, and also business interest deductibility.

These provisions are tools that empower small businesses to drive innovation, create jobs, and make “el Sueno Americano,” “the American Dream,” a reality for families all across America.

I urge my colleagues to join me.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, it is great that we have so many people from so many different districts talking about issues that are important to them and seeing the wide impact across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize for 2 minutes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN), another member of the Texas delegation, and a good friend of mine.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, more jobs, better pay, and a stronger economy—that is the result when taxes are low.

I rise today in support of extending the pro-growth tax provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 that are critical to families and businesses, items like immediate R&D expensing and allowing for full bonus depreciation in the year in which those expenses were incurred.

Through provisions like these, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ushered in a competitive Tax Code that encouraged companies to invest in American jobs, and it served as a catalyst for innovation nationwide. These provisions lifted more than 6 million people out of poverty, grew wages by 4.9 percent, and spurred American innovation to new heights.

Also, these pro-business and pro-family tax provisions will play a vital role in advancing the American economy, boosting wages, and maintaining U.S. competitiveness worldwide into the future, but only if we make them permanent.

Unfortunately, allowing these pro-growth tax provisions expire or remain expired would be devastating to our economy. They would slow the economy, decrease wages, halt job growth, and stifle investment and innovation. This is not the direction that hardworking Americans want us to go. This is not the direction of America.

Mr. Speaker, I stand with American businesses and hardworking Americans everywhere, including in east Texas that I represent, and I encourage my colleagues to make these expiring tax provisions permanent. We must act now to make these provisions permanent and reduce the tax burdens on our businesses, to see our economy thrive and grow and to see our families benefit as a result.

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman participating and highlighting how important it is in the Congressman's district and the impact on that part of the country in Texas.

Wichita, where I am from, is known as the Air Capital of the World for its pioneering role in the early days in

American aviation. Today, in south central Kansas, it is brimming with companies continuing to push the limits of the aerospace industry, including in general and commercial aviation, but also space, defense, and unmanned aircraft systems.

All of these new advances in Kansas that developers, engineers, and manufacturers want require technology, and they require research and development, but these innovators tell me that the incentive just isn't there. Knowing that they have to amortize their R&D costs prohibits them from pursuing these technological advances. Let's change that by restoring immediate R&D expensing.

As I mentioned earlier, R&D expensing is primarily a jobs issue, and, without an incentive for home-grown R&D, the U.S. loses out on creating new jobs. As the R&D Coalition says, for every \$1 billion of U.S. R&D spending, 17,000 jobs earning \$1.4 billion are supported in the United States.

They also note that, if the R&D amortization policy is not reversed, the United States stands to lose 410,000 jobs, \$57.5 billion in labor income, and \$71 billion in R&D spending over the next year, and it is going to make America less competitive on the world stage.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Members who shared their experiences and what we have heard from districts all across the country on this very important issue. As we have discussed here tonight, R&D expensing legislation is critical for our job creators, innovators, and everyday Americans. The health of our economy depends on us passing this bipartisan, common-sense legislation.

The legislation has broad support from Members in 43 States and both parties. As I said in my opening remarks and in the op-ed last month, the time to address R&D amortization may have been at the end of 2021, but with the start of the new tax-filing season a few weeks away, the next best time is now.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT R. HREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9th, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California, Mr. KILEY, for 30 minutes.

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I take a moment tonight to share with people across America a little bit about the life of an extraordinary person from my district, Bob Hren.

There are so many things I could say about Bob. He was a great friend of mine. He had the best sense of humor. He was an extraordinary leader, and he was just a great man.

In the world of politics, you will not find a better man. He was just so clearly in it for the right reasons. He be-

lieved in this country. He wanted to do everything that he could to make his community in Nevada County a better place.

There are so many things I could tell you about Bob that whatever I might say would actually pale in comparison to a beautiful tribute that was prepared by his wife, Cindy, as well as his friend and associate and successor, Mac Young.

Cindy is a wonderful, wonderful woman who was always by Bob's side at events. They were truly a team.

In addition, Mac worked very closely with him on everything he did in Nevada County and is now doing a tremendous job of filling his very, very big shoes as the head of the Nevada County Republican Party.

This is the tribute that was prepared by Cindy and Mac:

Robert Ralph Hren was an outstanding citizen who dedicated his life to making a positive difference in the world. A loving husband of 50 years and father of two sons, he was a beacon of light for his family and community.

Born in Chisholm, northern Minnesota, on September 19, 1948, and passed away peacefully from multiple strokes on September 26, 2023.

Bob had a way of seeing the goodness and the potential in people. Even when facing adversity, Bob gained respect from others for his fair and calm manner. He was a mentor and guidance counselor to many. He approached life with his dry sense of humor, kindness, determination, and forward thinking.

Bob gained more than 40 years of experience in the electric power generation field. He combined his technical expertise as a mechanical engineer and legal knowledge with his law degree to work as a project development manager for Bechtel Enterprises, Incorporated. He focused on the development, construction, ownership, and operation of electric-generation facilities. He traveled worldwide to develop projects in Japan, New Zealand, Brazil, Mexico, Canada, and across the United States.

Bob joined International Generating Company, Intergen, as vice president in 1999 and opened an office in Sacramento in 2001 to respond to the California energy crisis and develop new power projects that he legislated and oversaw the development of are now bringing power to citizens through Roseville Electric and the Ocotillo plant in Palm Springs.

In 2002, Bob became an independent consultant through his company, Vista Enterprises, and brought his expertise to advise solar energy companies, such as NextLight and Eight Minute Energy—that is the amount of time it takes to receive energy from the Sun.

He retired from the energy consulting business in 2016 to dedicate his time to his family, hobbies, and traveling to favorite destinations in the U.S. and abroad.

Bob loved gardening and was known for growing an abundance of large, luscious tomatoes. He would plant up to