

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 818, sponsored by our friend and colleague Congressman MATHESON, would allow the Uintah Water Conservancy District of Uintah County, Utah, to prepay—that means to pay ahead of time for anybody who really understands the prepay—the debt owed to the Federal Government for the construction of the Jensen Unit.

At a time when our country is watching our dollars and cents, H.R. 818 is legislation that does make very credible sense. The water district would have the option to pay its loan early—what a novel concept—and translate the interest savings into lower rates for its customers—again, quite an interesting concept. The Federal Government, in turn, would benefit from the accelerated repayment of the debt to the Treasury and be able to use that for debt reduction or whatever else is needed.

I do commend Congressman MATHESON of Utah for his efforts in moving this legislation. Identical legislation passed the House unanimously in the 111th Congress, so I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MATHESON).

Mr. MATHESON. I rise in support of H.R. 818, which would direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for the prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District.

I would very much like to thank Chairmen HASTINGS and MCCLINTOCK and Ranking Members MARKEY and NAPOLITANO for their support in moving this bill through the Natural Resources Committee.

This is a commonsense bill that encourages and promotes fiscal responsibility at all levels of government. Allowing the Uintah Water Conservancy District to pay its debt obligations back early and in a timely manner is what we like to call a “win-win” in that it’s finally beneficial to the local government and Federal Government alike.

It provides local government the ability to responsibly self-govern, giving it the flexibility to pay its loan off early and save hundreds of thousands of dollars in future interest payments. This savings will result in lower costs to the water users, which is very important as we continue to grow out of the current economic recession and look for additional ways to support much needed economic development in rural communities. Likewise, allowing for prepayment results in a significant payment to the Federal Treasury.

As Congress continues to look for ways to trim the Federal budget and encourage best practices and good government policies, allowing for prepayment is a good model to follow. In addition, I believe this legislation provides a good opportunity to help rural communities prioritize and implement best practices to utilize scarce resources in

an effort to meet rural water demands in a cost-effective and fiscally responsible manner.

I would also like to point out that there is precedence for allowing the prepayment of repayment contracts. H.R. 818 is similar to legislation used by the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, which allowed for the prepayment of the repayment contracts for the Bonneville Unit. This effort saved hundreds of thousands in taxpayer dollars and allowed for project managers to consider time and cost savings through a balanced approach to managing an important resource in my State.

H.R. 818 is the same bill that passed the House unanimously in the 111th Congress. It has also in this Congress been reintroduced in the Senate by my counterparts in the Utah delegation, Senators HATCH and LEE. I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this bill once again.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. As I have no further requests for time, I would urge my colleagues to vote for this very important piece of legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 818.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS NATIONAL MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 320) to designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 320

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial Act”.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS NATIONAL MEMORIAL IN RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The most reliable statistics regarding the number of members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross indicate that 126,318 members of the Armed Forces received the medal during World War II, approximately 21,000 members received the medal during the Korean conflict, and 21,647 members received the medal during the Vietnam War. Since the end of the Vietnam War, more than 203 Armed Forces members have received the medal in times of conflict.

(2) The National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri, burned down in 1973, and thus many more recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross may be undocumented. Currently, the Department of Defense continues to locate and identify members of the Armed Forces who have received the medal and are undocumented.

(3) The United States currently lacks a national memorial dedicated to the bravery and sacrifice of those members of the Armed Forces who have distinguished themselves by heroic deeds performed in aerial flight.

(4) An appropriate memorial to current and former members of the Armed Forces is under construction at March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California.

(5) This memorial will honor all those members of the Armed Forces who have distinguished themselves in aerial flight, whether documentation of such members who earned the Distinguished Flying Cross exists or not.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The memorial to members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, located at March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California, is hereby designated as the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial.

(c) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—The national memorial designated by this section is not a unit of the National Park System, and the designation of the national memorial shall not be construed to require or permit Federal funds to be expended for any purpose related to the national memorial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by thanking Congressman CALVERT for introducing this bill to designate a memorial in honor of the over 150,000 current and former members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The new memorial was dedicated on October 27, 2010, at March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California. With the legislation, the memorial will be designated as the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial. This designation honors these patriots and does not require or permit the expenditure of any Federal dollars.

I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, the recipients of the Distinguished Flying

Cross include Captain Charles Lindbergh, Commander Richard Byrd, Amelia Earhart, and Captain Mark Kelly. You might know who Captain Mark Kelly is because he had his medal pinned on him by his wife—our dear colleague, Representative GABBY GIFFORDS. All of the men and women who have received this medal are American heroes, and the March Field Air Museum is to be commended for its efforts to establish a memorial honoring these individuals.

On our side, we would likely support some Federal funding for this project, but in knowing our status on our budgetary problems, our friends on the other side have written the bill to prohibit Federal support. Nevertheless, we do wholeheartedly support H.R. 320.

I commend my friend and colleague KEN CALVERT, from my home State of California, for introducing this piece of legislation to recognize all our heroes.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. I rise in support of H.R. 320, a bill to designate a national Distinguished Flying Cross memorial in Riverside, California.

I thank my friends Mr. YOUNG and Mrs. NAPOLITANO for managing the bill today.

I am honored to represent the Inland Empire Chapter of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society, which is the primary sponsor of this memorial. The memorial honors all current and former members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In the 111th Congress, I introduced H.R. 2788, which passed the House unanimously; and today, I stand again in support of H.R. 320, which would designate a memorial at March Field Air Museum as the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial. The legislation is supported by the Distinguished Flying Cross Society, the Military Officers Association of America, the Air Force Association, the Air Force Sergeants Association, the Association of Naval Aviation, the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, and the China-Burma-India Veterans Association.

I would like to point out the language in the bill specifically states that the designation shall not be construed to require or permit Federal funds to be expended for any purpose related to the national memorial. Funds have been and will continue to be raised through private means for these purposes.

The Distinguished Flying Cross recipients have received this prestigious medal for their heroism and extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Armed Forces. There are many well-known people who have played a vital role in

the history of military aviation and have received the award. As was previously mentioned, this renowned group includes Captain Charles L. Lindbergh, former President George H. W. Bush, Brigadier General Jimmy Doolittle, General Curtis LeMay, Senator MCCAIN, Jimmy Stewart, and Admiral Jim Stockdale—just to name a few.

The March Air Reserve Base, which hosts the C-17As of the 452nd Air Mobility Wing is adjacent to the location of the memorial at the March Field Air Museum. Visitors are able to witness active operational air units provide support for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, which is an appropriate setting that honors the many aviators who have distinguished themselves by deeds performed in aerial flight.

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I would like to thank those who worked tirelessly to ensure this memorial is built and is properly designated in honor of the distinguished aviators that have served this great Nation. In particular, I'd like to recognize Jim Champlin; his late wife, Trish; Distinguished Flying Cross Society president, Chuck Sweeney; and the society's historian, Dr. Barry Lanman, who have been instrumental in this effort.

Again, I hope you'll join me in supporting the designation of the National Distinguished Flying Cross Memorial at the March Field Air Museum and support H.R. 320.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I just want to urge both sides to support H.R. 320, but at the same time I'd also like to thank our majority and our minority, not only our Members, but also the staff that have done a very wonderful job in helping us put this stuff together and putting up with us.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 320, "Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial Act," which designates a Distinguish Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California. Recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross are awarded to any officer of enlisted member of the United States armed forces who distinguishes himself or herself in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

The March Field Air Museum serves as the appropriate location for such a prestigious honor. Its home sits on the March Air Force Base. March Air Force Base dates back to a time when the United States was rushing to build up its military forces in anticipation of entering World War I. It continued to be used as a pilot training center and as well as an operational base throughout World War II. March Air Force Base was a part of outstanding achievements in test flights and other contributions to the science of aviation. For over seventy years, March has been a key component in the advance of aviation and in the growth of the modern Air Force.

The March Field Air Museum is representative of American ingenuity in aviation. The mu-

seum hosts a collection of military and vintage aircraft that presents an extraordinary look at the history of aviation and the use of aviation in modern warfare. The museum tells the story of how aircraft were first used in warfare and how they have become a vital part of our nation's military power.

As all of our military, we hold a special place in our hearts for those pilots who operated those aircraft. These aviators supported our ground troops from the air during times of war. This honor will bestow the nation's gratitude upon those who are so deserving of recognition. I am happy to share in this opportunity with my colleagues to place in our nation's history the recognition of these heroes of the skies. Our nation is better for the heroism of these brave men and women.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 320, the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial Act.

I want to thank my colleague from southern California, Mr. CALVERT, for sponsoring this bill and championing this cause to recognize some of our nation's greatest aviators.

March Air Field Museum, located in California's Inland Empire, at the site of the March Air Reserve Base, is a place for Americans to learn and celebrate our nation's great aviation and military histories.

It is appropriate then, that this museum serve as a sight for the United States to officially recognize the heroic service of over 165,000 Americans who have received the Distinguished Flying Cross.

The Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded to a member of the Armed Forces who distinguishes himself or herself with heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight.

March Air Force Base, March Air Reserve Base, and now March Air Field Museum have all been vital parts of the fabric of our community in California's Inland Empire.

I urge all my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 320 and help ensure California's Inland Empire will forever serve as home to the Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 320.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

EUROPEAN UNION EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME PROHIBITION ACT OF 2011

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2594) to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows: