

clauses. In essence, the savings clauses state that none of them give the FERC any new authority. They confirm that once PUHCA repeal takes effect, the FERC will continue to apply existing utility rate regulation to public utilities within formerly registered holding companies under PUHCA of 1935.

Particularly, Section 1275(a) states if a state commission disagrees with the allocation of costs of non-power goods or services provided by an affiliate organized specifically for that purpose, typically a service company, either the state commission or the holding company system may ask the FERC to resolve the allocation issue. The FERC will then make a determination of the proper allocation of such costs under the standards contained in the section, but only at the request of a State commission or a holding company system. The FERC has no authority to review or approve such cost allocations absent such a request. Section 1275(b) merely states that both the FERC and the State commissions retain whatever rights they now have to review cost allocations from service companies among public utilities for rate-making purposes.

H.R. 1964 THE HIGHLANDS
CONSERVATION ACT

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1964, the Highlands Conservation Act, introduced by my colleague, Mr. RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN.

I am very pleased to be an original cosponsor of the Highlands Conservation Act, which is an important step forward in our ongoing effort to save New Jersey's precious open space and enhance the quality of life for residents. New Jersey is the most densely populated State in the Nation, which is why it is so important that we think ahead and recognize the importance of preserving our remaining acres of open space. By protecting the 2 million acres of the Highlands, which extend through our neighboring states as well, we are creating an environmental legacy for future generations, safeguarding our area's drinking water, and ensuring that our children and our children's children have places to explore and opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors.

The Highlands Conservation Act is a testament to the foresight of the bill's author, Congressman RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN, who recognizes the importance of saving New Jersey's open space. I have seen Congressman FRELINGHUYSEN's commitment to the preservation of undeveloped acres firsthand as a colleague of his on the House Appropriations Committee. He worked in a bipartisan fashion to garner support for his measure. Congressman FRELINGHUYSEN's leadership to protect the Highlands will truly help New Jersey live up to its namesake as the Garden State.

Getting Congress to authorize \$100 million for the preservation of the Highlands would be a victory for our quality of life and the environment, but also a victory for New Jersey's taxpayers who will be spared from having to pay for the full cost of these preservation efforts. I am pleased that I was able to help get this bill onto the floor today and I look forward to

working with Congressman FRELINGHUYSEN on the Appropriations Committee to preserve New Jersey's open space.

HALF A LOAF FOR AMERICA'S
DISABLED VETERANS IN ELIMI-
NATING DISABILITY TAX

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this session I signed the discharge petition to force a vote on legislation that I co-sponsored (H.R. 303) which would have repealed altogether an antiquated law from the 1890s that prevents disabled veterans from receiving concurrently both military retirement and veterans' disability benefits. In response to that parliamentary procedure, the Republican Leadership finally relented and included a plan in the FY 2004 Defense Authorization Conference Report that will be phased in over ten years and would provide greater benefits for approximately 245,000 disabled veterans—only half of those who see their retirement benefits reduced or eliminated under current law.

This is a good step forward and I surely would have voted in favor of this plan had it been brought to the House floor as a free-standing bill. Unfortunately, the Republican Leadership folded it into the \$400 billion Defense Authorization Conference Report, which I voted against for several other reasons. Now that this legislation has been enacted, it is incumbent upon this Congress to do more than provide half a loaf. We need to pass additional legislation in the next session of Congress to cover the remainder of our nation's disabled veterans who are unfairly left in the predicament of having to pay this de facto "disability tax".

On January 21, 2001, President Bush said, "America's veterans ask only that government honor its commitments as they honored theirs. . . . In all matters of concern to veterans—from health care to program funding — you have my pledge that those commitments will be kept. My Administration will do all it can to assist our veterans and to correct oversights of the past."

I couldn't agree more. I will actively support additional legislation in the next session of this Congress to ensure that none of the 4,263 veterans in New Jersey who currently receive military retirement benefits will have their disability payments reduced commensurately because they remain subject to the so-called concurrent receipt prohibition.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE RE-
TIREMENT OF NAVAL CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE SPE-
CIAL AGENT ROD MILLER

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my appreciation to Special Agent Rodney Miller of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service for his 32 years of service to his

country, and to salute him on the occasion of his retirement from the ranks of federal law enforcement.

Special Agent Rod Miller was born and raised in Linton, Indiana, which is in the heart of Indiana's 8th Congressional District. The son of an Army veteran who was awarded the Purple Heart during World War II and who himself worked as a Navy employee for some 30 years thereafter, Rod spent time as a life-guard and paperboy in Linton before graduating from Linton High School in 1966. He enrolled at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, and completed two years of study before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in 1969. After a four-year stint in the Air Force, including over a year spent in Vietnam, Rod returned to Terre Haute and completed his undergraduate studies, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology in 1974. Shortly thereafter, he began coursework at the same school to obtain a Master of Science degree, also in Criminology.

In May 1975, Rod commenced what would become a long and illustrious career as a Special Agent with the Naval Investigative Service (NIS)—the predecessor of today's Naval Criminal Investigative Service—at NIS Resident Agency Great Lakes. There he learned the basics of criminal investigation, and proved himself to be a talented and driven law enforcement professional.

In 1978, Rod opened a new NIS office in Crane, Indiana, where the Navy conducts some of its most important research, development, and engineering of surface ship combat systems. He also took this opportunity to conclude his studies at Indiana State University, finishing his thesis and earning his Master's degree in 1979.

Following his NIS service in his home state of Indiana, Rod was assigned to the NIS Resident Agency in Guam from 1980 to 1982. He demonstrated continued leadership and investigative acumen in Guam, where he received a meritorious award from the Drug Enforcement Administration for his role in a significant international drug smuggling investigation, and was made an honorary Police Officer with the Guam Department of Public Safety for the support he provided to that department. He was rewarded with a supervisory role at the NIS Resident Agency in Portsmouth, Virginia, where he was appointed to the position of Assistant Special Agent in Charge in 1982.

For the next 21 years, Rod served with distinction in supervisory roles at a host of critical Navy locations—from 1984 to 1985, as the Special Assistant to the NIS Regional Director in Norfolk; from 1985 to 1986, as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the fraud unit at NIS Resident Agency Norfolk; and from 1987 to 1988, as the first Special Agent in Charge of the new NIS Mid-Atlantic Regional Fraud Unit.

In 1988, Rod was appointed to be the first Special Agent in Charge of Operation Ill Wind, one of the most significant defense procurement fraud investigations in our nation's history. This joint investigation ultimately resulted in the conviction of 46 individuals and six defense corporations, and yielded fines and penalties in the amount of some \$190 million.

Rod's professional success continued in the wake of his involvement in Operation Ill Wind. In 1989, he was appointed the Special Agent in Charge of the new NIS Regional Fraud Unit based in Los Angeles, California. And, when

the decision was made to open a new NIS Field Office in Los Angeles in 1992, Rod was the natural choice to be the first Special Agent in Charge there, as well.

In 1993, in the aftermath of the Tailhook investigation, the then-acting Secretary of the Navy disestablished the Naval Investigative Service and established the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) in its stead. This change, and the reforms associated with it, had profound and dramatic effects across the organization.

Among other developments, in 1997 NCIS created a new Office of Special Projects, or OSP, representing the vanguard of the agency's counterespionage efforts. The following year, Rod was named the Special Agent in Charge of OSP, and set about to make his impact felt. He applied his vision and leadership to the OSP mission, ultimately evolving the unit far beyond original expectations. In addition to enjoying success in several significant espionage cases, Rod's unit applied its specialized training to a broad range of other investigative and operational activities, including counterterrorism operations, counternarcotics initiatives, and "cold case" homicide efforts. The successes achieved in these endeavors have earned OSP accolades from across the law enforcement and counterintelligence communities.

Mr. Speaker, Rod Miller has served our nation with distinction for 32 years—first in the uniform of an Air Force airman, and then in the ranks of federal law enforcement with NCIS. His is a record to be admired. I hope that the occasion of Rod's retirement from NCIS this November will give all of us pause to consider the many contributions and sacrifices of our nation's law enforcement professionals. On behalf of all Americans, I wish him "fair winds and following seas" as he pursues the next stage in his life—returning to Linton with his wife of 34 years, to join his three children and three grandchildren there—after a long, successful, and distinguished career in service to the United States of America.

THE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2003

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce "The Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2003."

While Congress, the Administration and the American people have discussed the many challenges facing our nation's manufacturers, such as international trade, China policy, tax policy and health care costs, I believe that a fundamental issue has been generally left out of the debate—innovation. For decades innovation has underpinned American's dominance in the world economy. If our manufacturing sector is to remain competitive in the global marketplace, we must foster innovation within this sector.

As Chairman of the House Science Subcommittee on Environment, Technology and Standards, I oversee many of the federal government's manufacturing-focused research and development programs. I have met with

manufacturers from around the country and specifically spoken to manufacturers both large and small about their problems. They all agree that innovation is one of the keys to ensuring our manufacturers remain competitive and it is crucial to the development of new industries. Funding research and development underpins innovation.

Based on these discussions and a hearing I held earlier this year, I am proud to introduce the Manufacturing Technology and Competitiveness Act of 2003. This bill will help our nation's manufacturers maintain and improve their technological edge. This legislation will stimulate innovation through collaborative research and development, and broaden and strengthen the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, which provides small- and medium-sized manufacturers with the tools to compete better. More importantly, it will bring together a variety of partners in the public and private sectors, building relationships that encourage and foster technological development and the ability to bring these developments to the marketplace.

Our global competitors are eagerly supporting investments in manufacturing research and development because they know it is the key to sustained economic development. If we are to continue to be the world's technological leader, we need to rise to this new global challenge and make the investments envisioned by this legislation.

More specifically, the bill:

Ensures that all federal manufacturing programs and related funding are coordinated and focused on solving these important problems. The bill requires a strategic plan and improved budget process to ensure these programs work together efficiently;

Designates the current Under Secretary for Technology within the Department of Commerce, as the Under Secretary for Manufacturing and Technology, to be the federal government's point person on manufacturing R&D policy, and outlines new duties focused on fostering innovation within the manufacturing sector for this position;

Establishes a new collaborative research and development program for manufacturing technology to build partnerships among higher education institutions, businesses, states and other partners. This program will provide \$184 million over four years;

Helps to develop future leaders in manufacturing technology through a fellowship program in applied manufacturing research. Fellows will get to work with world-class leaders in technology and engineering at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (KIST). The fellowship program will provide \$7.5 million over four years;

Reauthorizes and reforms the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program by increasing competition among the centers. MEP is funded at \$120 million for the first year, increasing to \$137 million by year four; and,

Creates a new competitive, peer-reviewed grant program within the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program to develop new tools to help small businesses innovate and compete. Funding for this program will come from the total MEP funding.

Mr. Speaker, while I am pleased that we are on the road to economic recovery, we must still address underlying concerns about the future of U.S. manufacturing. This bill will help address some of those concerns and put our Nation's manufacturers in a better position to compete today and in the future.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate, and with the manu-

facturing and research communities, to pass this important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUBURN, ALABAMA CITY MANAGER DOUG WATSON TO THE AUBURN COMMUNITY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the residents of Auburn, Alabama, in recognizing the contributions of Doug Watson to the City of Auburn, Alabama.

Doug Watson has been City Manager for Auburn for 21 years. During this time, he has gained the respect of the entire community for his loyal and dedicated service. To demonstrate their appreciation, the City of Auburn, Auburn University and the Auburn Chamber of Commerce are hosting a community-wide reception on December 10, 2003. The reception will immediately follow the dedication ceremony of the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex, consisting of the Development Services building, the Public Safety Administration building, and the Municipal Court. The naming of this complex after Doug Watson is an indication of the high esteem in which he is held.

I salute Doug Watson for his service to the Auburn community and wish him well as he takes on the new position of tenured professor at the University of Texas at Dallas.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6,
ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, offshore oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico provided nearly \$6.6 billion in royalty, bonus and rent revenues to the federal government in 2001. The coastal states which supported this production received approximately \$130 million combined—a royalty sharing rate of less than two percent. Yet onshore oil and gas production revenues on federal lands is shared 50/50 between the federal government and the state in which the production occurs. In the case of Alaska, the state gets 90 percent of these onshore revenues produced on federal lands.

The disparity between the onshore and offshore royalty sharing programs and their contribution to our domestic energy security is striking. Federal lands within the United States generated an estimated \$2 billion in royalties from the production of oil, gas and coal in 2001 with about \$1 billion of these revenues going to the states for "hosting" these energy production activities. In contrast, offshore production in Louisiana's waters of oil and gas contributed over \$5 billion in royalties to the U.S. Treasury in 2001 yet Louisiana received royalties of less than \$30 million, a 0.6% return. The Gulf of Mexico produces more energy and associated revenues to the U.S. Treasury than any other area of the federal