

U.S. INNOVATION AND COMPETITION ACT

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, today, the Senate passed the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act—USICA—legislation which would establish a new Technology and Innovation Directorate at the National Science Foundation. Section 2005 of USICA would define 10 initial key technology focus areas to direct research at the new Directorate and the Department of Energy. One of these areas is advanced energy technology. I want to put in the record that Congress has previously enacted legislation defining advanced energy technology in 42 USC 18632, and that definition should apply here.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 215, On the Motion to Table, Motion to Table Rubio Amdt. No. 1802.

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 216, on the amendment, Crapo-Wyden Amdt. No. 1562 as modified.

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 217, on the Motion for Attendance, Motion to Instruct the Sergeant at Arms to Request the Attendance of Absentee Senators.

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 218, on Motion to Invoke Cloture Re: Motion to Proceed to H.R. 3233.

HONORING TROOPER JOHN MARTIN HARRIS

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Madam President, I rise to pay tribute to Mississippi Highway Patrol Trooper John Martin Harris, who was killed in the line of duty on May 28, 2021. Harris was conducting a routine traffic stop on Highway 16 in Madison County when a vehicle struck and killed him. I honor Trooper Harris' service, extend my deepest condolences to his family, and reiterate my unwavering support for our law enforcement personnel.

A Clarksdale native, Harris knew from a young age he wanted to serve his community as a law enforcement officer. Trooper Harris began his law enforcement career in 1997 in Webb, MS. He earned his first Law Enforcement Purple Heart while serving on the police force in Friars Point and earned a second Purple Heart while serving at the Madison County Sheriff's Office. Harris then continued his career at the Richland Police Department. In 2018, Harris achieved his lifelong dream of becoming a Mississippi Highway Patrolman and graduated from Trooper School as part of Cadet Class No. 62. In addition to the Purple Heart medals, Harris received dozens of awards, too numerous to mention here, for valor

and bravery. Several were commendations for his work on narcotics teams and with K-9 units.

Trooper Harris is survived by his wife Katie Parker Harris of Madison, his two children Parker and Cooper, and his parents Jean and Jimmy Harris of Clarksdale. I send my deepest sympathies to his family and to all who knew him. May God grant them comfort, grace, and peace in these unspeakably difficult times.

Law enforcement officers across our Nation face many challenges in their mission to protect and serve. Trooper Harris's death shows us that our law enforcement officers face tremendous danger to ensure public safety, and I greatly admire those who remain steadfast amidst the dangers of their noble profession. Let us commemorate Trooper Harris's life by redoubling our commitment to support and advocate for those in law enforcement. I will continue to honor the legacy of Trooper Harris and all of those officers who have lost their life in the line of duty by doing all I can to support our law enforcement officers.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATRONA COUNTY MEALS ON WHEELS

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today to recognize a significant anniversary for the Natrona County Meals on Wheels Program. On Saturday, June 19, 2021, this wonderful organization will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Meals on Wheels is dedicated to providing healthy meals, a friendly smile, and a watchful eye to seniors across the Nation. As a doctor, I understand the importance of balanced nutrition but also companionship and care. The hard-working employees and volunteers deliver all three by offering tailored meals and home visits.

In 1971 Casper resident Mabel Marvel founded the Casper branch of Meals on Wheels. Mabel was on a trip to Colorado to visit family when she ran across a similar service. The volunteers for the Colorado organization were delivering hot meals to elderly residents from a church kitchen. Mrs. Marvel realized that Casper did not have such a program. Soon after, she formed an office in a Salvation Army coat closet and requested that the Natrona County Memorial Hospital, now Wyoming Medical Center, aid in providing meals. This was the beginning of the Natrona County Meals on Wheels Program.

When Natrona County Meals on Wheels began initial operations, they were preparing 20 meals a day. By 2001, the number of meals delivered increased to over 500 per day. When the coronavirus pandemic hit, the need for home-delivered meals exploded. This Casper-based organization rose to the challenge and served clients who were forced to quarantine and unable to leave their homes. In Natrona County, they delivered over 650 meals each

Monday through Thursday and an average of 1,550 meals on Fridays to cover the weekends. Their hard work resulted in senior citizens in Natrona County receiving nearly 207,000 meals in 2020.

Serving so many people at once is challenging, especially when many of these meals are prepared with special dietary needs in mind. Meals on Wheels prepares healthy food for community members requiring specific diets including diabetic, celiac, and vegetarian. The volunteers with Meals on Wheels also make home visits to check in with members of the community who may not have enough social interaction or are not as mobile. The giving nature of this organization presents its members with a balanced meal and quality time spent with others. Ensuring the needs of community members allows seniors to preserve their independence at home.

Meals on Wheels continues to find new ways to enrich our community. Jamie Loveall has been leading the charge as the Executive Director of Natrona County Meals on Wheels for more than 17 years. She has written grants, planned community events, and helped prepare meals in order to keep clients fed, staff members engaged, and the community aware. A favorite community event is their Bubbles, Baubles 'n Beans fundraiser. It is a chili and soup tasting experience to raise money for annual operating costs.

The strength of an organization is determined by the dedication of its leadership, staff, and volunteers. The full-time staff are responsible for preparing the meals, managing the financial aspects, and writing the delivery routes. In addition to Executive Director Jamie Loveall, staff members are Katrina Lorenzen, Foundation Development Director, Andrea Trout, Route Coordinator/Administrative Assistant, Debbie Cardinal, Receptionist/Volunteer Coordinator, Ashley Woodward, Client Services Coordinator, Mariah Bokhari, Bookkeeper, and Shelley Blake, Kitchen Manager.

Current board members are Jim Browlee, President, Joe Moss, Vice President, Vickie Ujvary, Treasurer, Don Smith, Secretary, and members Wendy Elmer, Bob Thunselle, Ed Chase, Jennifer Deurloo, Peggy Porter, Kelli Carmichael, Paul Rhodes, CJ Lovato, Dane Grace, and Stacia Hill.

The volunteers deliver the meals, partake in home visits, and spend quality time with clients. Eighty-five percent of the volunteers with the Natrona County service are seniors themselves, using their time to help friends and neighbors. About the volunteers, Jamie Loveall says, "Without these individuals, our program would not exist."

It is my great honor to celebrate the incredible work of this organization. Every day, the staff and volunteers of Natrona County Meals on Wheels work to make our community a better place