

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH RICHARD
ZOELLIN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph Richard Zoellin, a business owner in Carmel, California, who was a model of small town merchants who have done, and continue to do, so much to make our country a better place to live.

Mr. Zoellin was a lifelong resident of the district I represent. After many years working for one of our local banks, he bought the Carmel Drive-in Market in 1949 and operated it for 32 years after that. Mr. Zoellin was not only a merchant, but he knew his customers personally, and strived to provide the sort of personal service which helps a local community's business district to thrive. I remember going to the market as a child, taking bottles to redeem, and taking advantage of the Zoellin's good nature.

Richard Zoellin was friendly to his customers, helpful, caring of his community and family, and, overall, a tremendous asset to Carmel. Every town needs people like him. Because of Mr. Zoellin, his community is a better place—this is not only an achievement of which anyone can be proud, but also one of the most worthwhile achievements of a person's lifetime.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO COMPENSATE FOR OIL AND
GAS DRAINAGE IN THE WEST
DELTA FIELD

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join a number of my colleagues in introducing legislation that will right a wrong suffered by the State of Louisiana over a decade ago.

I believe that all of my colleagues know that most of the Federal Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas development occurs off the coast of Louisiana and, indeed, off the coast of my Congressional district. Large portions of the Gulf of Mexico are among the very few areas of the OCS where offshore drilling is not prohibited by the Administration's recently announced leasing moratorium. To put the contributions of the State of Louisiana in perspective, in FY97 \$3.2 billion of the slightly over \$4 billion of OCS revenue received by the Federal government was generated off the coast of Louisiana. Louisiana has been making this type of contribution to the Federal government's effort to develop its oil and gas resources every year beginning in the early 1950's.

Throughout the entire history of Federal oil and gas development off the coast of Louisiana, the state and the Department of the Interior have cooperated on the development of oil and gas resources that might underlie both the state and Federal offshore waters. Obviously, the interest of our state and our delegation is that the revenues generated by the development of oil and gas resources owned by the

people of Louisiana be returned to the treasury of the state of Louisiana. Where oil and gas resources occur in underground formations that underlie both state and Federal waters, the state and the Federal government have developed these areas through cooperative agreements that ensure that neither sovereign develops the resources of the other.

Unfortunately, this spirit of cooperation broke down in the mid-1980's in the development of a natural gas field along the seaward boundary of Louisiana called the West Delta Field. For the first and only time in the history of Federal OCS development off the coast of Louisiana, the Department of the Interior refused to cooperate with Louisiana in protecting Louisiana's resources from being developed by Federal lessees. As a result, Federal lessees drained over \$18 million of Louisiana's natural gas, the revenues from which went to the Federal treasury rather than the State of Louisiana's treasury. In 1989, an Independent Fact Finder appointed by the Secretary of the Interior at the direction of Congress confirmed these facts. Since 6004(c) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 authorized an appropriation to repay the State of Louisiana and its lessees for the \$18 million of gas developed improperly by the Federal lessees, plus interest. Today, the total authorized payment to the State and its lessees, with interest, is approximately \$32 million.

The State of Louisiana and its lessees have never received this money. Therefore, this legislation authorizes an alternative means of compensating the State and its lessees. Under this legislation, the state lessee in the West Delta Field would be authorized to withhold its Federal royalty payments on other OCS production in the Gulf of Mexico, using these funds to pay the State of Louisiana and itself until the authorization in Section 6004(c) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 is satisfied. At that point, the lessee would resume its royalty payments to the Department of the Interior.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to close this unhappy chapter in the relationship between the State and the Federal government on Federal OCS oil and gas development. Louisiana has been a good host to the Federal government with respect to OCS development. Louisiana expects the Federal government to honor the authorization enacted in 1990. I encourage my colleagues to support this long-overdue legislation and ensure its enactment this year.

REMEMBERING LONG ISLANDERS
WHO DIED IN THE HURRICANE
OF 1938

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the House of Representatives to mark a very somber and tragic event in Long Island's history. It was 60 years ago this Monday, September 21st that a powerful hurricane struck the Island's South Shore with devastating force, leaving behind a horrific wake of death and ruin. Few hurricanes have ever struck this Nation's shores with such fury; when it was over, approximately 100 Long Islanders—and more than 600 people across the Northeast—

were left dead, \$400 million in property damage had been wrought and the shoreline of Long Island was altered forever.

The 1938 hurricane hit with a surprising power and few areas were struck as hard as my hometown of Westhampton Beach and nearby Quogue. Without the lifesaving forecasting of modern weather forecasting, the residents of these two Southampton communities were caught unawares. Thirty-one of them paid for it with their lives.

The hurricane's early edges pelted the Island as seemingly nothing more than a late summer rainstorm. Traveling in excess of 60 miles-per-hour, the full force of this tempest soon overcame those who were lulled into thinking the clouds would quickly pass. Packing winds gusting up to 180 miles-per-hour, the hurricane broadsided the South Shore. Roofs were torn off homes and scattered like leaves, and the storm surge pushed a wall of ocean water six feet high down Westhampton Beach's Main Street.

Local residents struggled to make it to higher ground, some traveling several miles inland to Riverhead to wait out the storm. Two hundred children huddled in the Six Corner School in Westhampton Beach and about 100 Quogue residents sought shelter in their three-year-old schoolhouse for safety.

When the storm passed and people emerged, the aftermath was nearly as chaotic as the storm itself. No more than a handful of homes near the shore were left standing, bridges were torn from their footings and massive inlets were carved from the barrier islands that guard Long Island from the Atlantic. Many lives across the East End were lost in the storm and the Westhampton Country Club was converted into a makeshift morgue. It would be years before Westhampton Beach and Quogue would fully recover.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to pause a moment and remember those who lost their lives in the hurricane of 1938 as my Long Island neighbors mark this tragic anniversary.

I ask unanimous consent that I may include as part of the official RECORD these first-hand accounts of the 1938 hurricane as compiled by the Westhampton Beach and Quogue Historical Societies.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM LANIER
HALSEY, JR. OF HUNTSVILLE, AL

HON. ROBERT E. "BUD" CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 18, 1998

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a tribute to Mr. William L. Halsey III of Huntsville, AL, for his longtime contributions to our community and the betterment of society.

In honor of Mr. Halsey's extraordinary efforts on behalf of Huntsville, Madison County, and the State of Alabama, the Arthritis Foundation has chosen him to be the co-recipient of this year's James Record Humanitarian Award.

It is a fitting tribute to one who has provided so much time, so much labor, and so much inspiration for the success of our region.

Mr. Halsey represents the third generation of the Halsey family to run W.L. Halsey Grocery Company, Inc., where he serves as chairman of the 119-year-old company today. He