

Federal laboratories, especially the Department of Energy's national laboratories, with their high concentrations of scientists and engineers, are uniquely positioned to aid surrounding communities in improving the learning experience of their students. Currently, NREL conducts some science education activities using funds provided by private sources, including funds from companies that operate the lab—the midwest Research Institute, Battelle, and Bechtel. But enabling NREL to use licensing revenues would give the lab greater flexibility.

Even without the expansion of permitted uses of licensing revenues that this bill would enable, NREL has conducted a number of science education programs with private funds and some funds from the Department of Energy and other federal agencies.

For instance, NREL initiated the Coalition for Learning Opportunities and United Tutors (CLOUT) program in 1998. CLOUT began as a pilot program matching 200 volunteers with fourth graders in 17 Denver public schools who needed help with reading. The program has grown to be a great success.

Another example is NREL's Junior Solar Sprint, which celebrated its twelfth year in 2002. This annual event gives students the chance to design, build, and race vehicles whose only energy source is sunlight. Each team starts with a motor and a silicon solar cell, and teams are awarded design trophies based on technology, craftsmanship, and innovation.

A third example is NREL's Columbine Spirit Scholarship at the Colorado School of Mines. It was established in 1999 by the contractors that operate NREL, MRI, Battelle and Bechtel. The three companies gave an initial \$25,000 to endow the fund, which is used to award scholarships to graduates of Columbine and other Jefferson County high schools through the Colorado School of Mines Foundation. The scholarship is offered first to Columbine graduates who are pursuing degrees in disciplines related to the laboratory's research and development mission.

These three examples help us understand the importance of science education activities associated with federal laboratories and what they can mean for their surrounding communities. But because of the narrowness of current provisions in law, NREL and other labs are not able to utilize licensing revenues to support any of the activities outlined above or any other science education programs. As a result, NREL and other labs must depend on private funds for the bulk of its science education activities, which unnecessarily restricts what these labs can do in this area. My bill would expand the law to allow greater flexibility.

Licensing revenues have grown markedly over the years as the technologies NREL has created have gained wide acceptance. It makes sense to me that we should give the labs a bit more freedom to spend these funds, especially on pursuits as worthwhile as science education which can expose young people to the excitement and relevance of careers in science and technology.

Research is an investment in the future. I believe the integration of research and science education to take advantage of the unique resources and facilities of the Department of Energy's national laboratories and research facilities should be a high priority.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM
PRESCOTT ALLEN, JR.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the memory of an accomplished Colorado publisher, William Prescott Allen, Jr., of Montrose. Mr. Allen recently passed away, leaving behind a legacy of business and community leadership. As his family mourns his loss, I would like to take this time to highlight his life before this body of Congress and this nation.

Raised in Texas, William and his wife, Grace, relocated to Montrose, Colorado after he returned home from the Army during World War II. In 1944, the Allen family bought the local paper, the Montrose Daily Press. After gaining experience as a reporter and working at other family-owned newspapers, William became publisher of the Daily Press in 1948, a position he would hold for 38 years. Then, in 1997, William sold the paper after 53 years of Allen family ownership.

William remained active in the community during his lifetime. He served as a charter member in several local organizations, including the Montrose Industrial Development Corporation, the Montrose Kiwanis Club, the Ute Indian Museum, and the Uncompahgre Knife and Fork Club. William will be remembered for his contributions in the community and his leadership of the Daily Press.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor William Allen Jr.'s memory before this body of Congress and this nation. I extend my sincere condolences to his wife and family. William Allen was a great contributor to the state of Colorado and the community of Montrose and he will be greatly missed.

HONORING BOB DURAND, FORMER
MASSACHUSETTS SECRETARY
OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the citizens of Massachusetts in honoring Mr. Bob Durand, former Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mr. Durand has been an environment lover his entire life. He has proven his love of the environment as a member of the Massachusetts Legislature and as the Secretary of Environmental Affairs. Before, during, and after his appointment to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs by long time friend and former Governor Paul Cellucci, Mr. Durand worked on a myriad of environmental improvements solutions.

Mr. Durand has worked closely with groups like MassPIRG, the Audubon Society, and the Environmental League of Massachusetts. He was a powerful environmental advocate during his tenure as a member of the Massachusetts State Senate. His accomplishments are vast in number. The two that I find most important are

the "open space bond bill" and the "brownfields bill." Mr. Durand was also the author of the Community Preservation Act. After only two years as Secretary of Environmental Affairs, Mr. Durand used the limited financial resources at hand with unprecedented innovation to protect more than 100,000 acres of open space. He introduced a biodiversity program to help protect both open space and the Commonwealth's animal and plant species. Mr. Durand also initiated an environmental education program in elementary and secondary schools throughout Massachusetts, while taking the time to visit many of the schools himself.

One of Mr. Durand's more famous accomplishments was the River Protection Act, which protects over 9,000 miles of rivers and streams. After working on this extensive protective measure for seven years, Mr. Durand saw his bill signed into law in 1996. As a celebration, Mr. Durand and then Governor William F. Weld jumped into the Charles River, a delightful moment not soon forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Durand for the many years he has spent preserving the environment of Massachusetts. I have enjoyed working with Mr. Durand on environmental issues throughout the years, and look forward to working with him in the future, as we seek ways to further protect Massachusetts' environment. I am sure that the entire House of Representatives joins me in thanking Mr. Durand for many years of hard work in protecting our environment.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EAST BAY CONVERSION AND REINVESTMENT COMMISSION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the East Bay Conversion and Reversion Commission for its great contributions to Alameda County for the past 10 years.

In 1993, Congress authorized four pilot projects charged with seeking ways to improve the defense conversion process. Then-Congressman Ronald V. Dellums of California's Ninth District convened the EBCRC to manage one project in Alameda County, California. Members included elected officials, as well as representatives of public agencies, community groups, labor unions, educational institutions, business organizations, environmental advocacy groups and the military.

Since its inception, the EBCRC has had an impressive track record in assisting base closure communities locally and nationally. It has developed sound economic strategies to replace lost jobs and reuse dormant facilities. Under contract with the Department of Defense, the EBCRC has conducted two national studies examining the challenges and difficulties that accompany the base closure process and have published two internationally acclaimed reports, *Defense Conversion: A Road Map for Communities*, and *The Upside of Base Closure: Tools for Reinvesting in Communities*.

The East Bay Conversion and Reinvestment Commission has helped bring over \$50 million