

HONORING THE IRONBOUND  
COMMUNITY CORPORATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ironbound Community Corporation, a multiservice organization that has made amazing contributions to the city and residents of Newark. The Ironbound Community Corporation celebrated its 35th anniversary on October 22, 2004, at the Mediterranean Manor in Newark, NJ.

Guided by a desire to ensure justice and equality for all people, the Ironbound Community Organization provides a variety of programs and outreach services and offers assistance in areas such as family literacy, multilingual adult education, family assistance and development, and senior citizen care. In addition, it develops programs for children, adolescents, environmental projects, and general neighborhood issues, with the goal of improving the lives of those living in and around the ethnically and culturally diverse Ironbound neighborhood. More than 700 people benefit daily from the services this wonderful organization provides.

Each year, the Community Corporation honors those who have contributed greatly to the organization's success. This year's honorees include Gabriella Morris, Joseph DiVincenzo, António Matinho, David and Florence Schnegelberger, Bernadine Fillmore, and Eva Harris.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Ironbound Community Corporation for 35 years of dedicated and honorable service working to improve the lives of the people of Newark. Its broad range of programs and services has greatly impacted the community and will no doubt continue to benefit the lives of countless people in the years to come.

RELEASE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE  
RECIPIENT AUNG SAN SUU KYI

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight recent and profoundly heartbreaking situations in the brutal authoritarian dictatorship of Burma. For nearly two decades, the ruling military regime has sought to crush any and all opposition to their complete domination of the country.

The military junta's actions have led to the unjust imprisonment of over 1,000 political opponents, including the world's only imprisoned Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Aung San Suu Kyi. While indications recently hinted at the release of most, if not all, of these political prisoners, once again the regime has proven that no trust can be lent to their promises. Just days after the promising release of a handful of democracy activists, the military junta informed Aung San Suu Kyi that her sentence would be extended one more year.

Mr. Speaker, even more appalling, recent reports indicate that five Burma Army battal-

ions are involved in slash and burn campaigns in ethnic minority controlled areas in eastern Burma. These actions follow an all-too-familiar pattern of tactics employed by the regime to stifle resistance by anti-regime, ethnic minorities. Military are actively burning villages and crucial rice supplies. Perhaps a greater outrage is the military then land mining the empty villages, and most times, the paths to and from that village so people are unable to return. There is no other intention in these actions than extermination.

As a strong advocate for children, I am saddened that the nearly 7,500 displaced villagers recently fleeing to the jungle include numerous children. The child mortality and malnutrition among these displaced people are staggering. Not only the children are suffering the effects of this displacement. With nowhere to go, many families are divided and many people die of preventable, treatable diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I add my voice to others in this great nation that continue to seek freedom and democracy for the people of Burma. I strongly object to the continued imprisonment of Nobel Peace Prize recipient Aung San Suu Kyi, and call for her immediate release. I also encourage the Administration to take whatever measures necessary to exert more pressure on the ruling military regime.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to a provision inserted in the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act. Title 1 section 142 states "Any excess animal sold under this provision shall no longer be considered to be a wild-free roaming horse or burro for purposes of this Act." This section completely reverses the goal of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, which was aimed at stopping wild horses and burros from being harvested for commercial poses without limitation.

The Bureau of Land Management, BLM, oversees approximately 261 million acres. More than 29 million acres of this land is used for wild horse and burro grazing. BLM's responsibilities with regard to caring for wild horses and burros were created by the Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act in 1971. Although the act's primary concern is caring for wild horses and burros, it also permits BLM to lease this land for several purposes, such as grazing, mining, and parks. The act and subsequent regulations require BLM to manage wild horses and burros on public lands and protect them from unauthorized capture, branding, harassment, death, and ensure their humane care.

Current law prohibits the sale of wild horses and burros for processing into commercial products. Section 142 will undermine these efforts by allowing wild horses and burros that are at least 10 years old or have been put up for adoption three times to be auctioned. As a cosponsor of the American Horse Protection Act, along with 227 other Members, I am ap-

palled that wild horses and burros could possibly be captured for slaughter.

Horses that are sent to slaughter are often crammed into double decker trailers, where conditions are so bad that many horses arrive at the slaughtering facility injured. Moreover, since there are no export tariffs on horse meat, no profits from this industry remain in America. The profits go directly to Belgium and France, which is where the owners of the only slaughter houses in the United States live. More importantly, the provision is a devastating blow to the equine industry, because they have worked diligently to protect horses from slaughter.

Section 142 was inserted during conference negotiations, leaving many members unaware of the new provision and its impact. In addition, no stand-alone legislation has been introduced and, to my knowledge, the House Resources Committee had not seen this language. Because this provision was inserted behind closed doors, no congressional authorizing committee had an opportunity to comment on this provision and its impact. Additionally, no hearings have been held to get feedback from BLM on possible alternatives. In fact, since 1988, every Department of Interior Appropriations bill has included language that states, "Appropriations herein made shall not be available for the destruction of healthy, unadopted, wild horses and burros in the care of the Bureau or its contractor." Coincidentally, this language was left out this year. I believe that if this language was brought before the full House for a vote as stand-alone legislation it would fail, because clearly the majority of the House has gone on record opposing the slaughter of horses.

Mr. Speaker, it does not speak well of this institution when individual members of the House and Senate can change 16 years of policy by sneaking a provision into the Omnibus without disclosure, discussion, or public knowledge. Horses are part of our American heritage and hold a favored status. They are not food animals in this country and, unlike cows, pigs, and chickens, they should not be bred, raised, or gathered for slaughter.

THE CURSE HAS STRUCK OUT

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2004*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of the victory of the Red Sox in the World Series, I have an offering for the House, with apologies to Ernest L. Thayer entitled, "The Curse Has Struck Out."

The outlook wasn't guaranteed for the Red Sox nine this year

Since 1918 our boys had left us crying in our beer.

And when they lost twice in New York, and then at home again

A pall-like silence fell over the loyal Red Sox fans.

A straggling few got up to go in deep despair. "Wait 'til next year," they said. Resignation filled the air.

The rest clung to that hope that springs eternal in the human breast.

"It ain't over 'til it's over" they muttered half in jest.

They thought, "If only our boys could put some bat on that ball,