

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Chairman, the intent of Sec. 25 of H.R. 3824, the Relationship Between Section 7 Consultation and Incident Take Authorization Under Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 is to clarify that when regulations set forth under the Endangered Species Act conflict with regulations set forth under the Marine Mammal Protection Act during the review process for issuing dock permits, it is the regulations set forth under the Endangered Species Act that are the governing authority.

HONORING HIS HOLINESS ARAM I,
CATHOLICOS OF THE ARMENIAN
APOSTOLIC CHURCH

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the second largest Armenian-American community in the state of California to welcome His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Armenian Apostolic Church. We are honored that His Holiness will be visiting our state during his October pontifical travels.

Catholicos Aram I has served the Armenian Apostolic Church with distinction since he was consecrated as spiritual leader in July of 1995. His major priority has been to reorganize and revitalize the work of the church, particularly in the areas of theological education, cultural activities, youth outreach, and the promotion of peace, justice and human rights. Additionally, he has increased the social service work of the church, improving assistance to orphans, to vulnerable children, to the elderly, and to the disabled.

I am particularly grateful that His Holiness will be visiting the 38th Congressional District on Oct. 8th, where he will attend a ceremony at the Armenian Genocide Monument at Bicknell Park in the city of Montebello. This is the only Armenian Genocide Monument to reside on public property in the United States. It is a reminder to our communities of the horrible atrocities that befell the Armenian people 90 years ago, and the world's continuing struggle against genocide wherever it occurs.

Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege to serve my constituency on the Committee on International Relations, which recently passed H. Con. Res. 195, Commemorating and Recognizing the Armenian Genocide, and H. Res. 316, Affirming the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide. H. Con. Res. 195 acknowledges the systematic and deliberate annihilation of 1.5 million Armenians by the Ottoman Empire, and H. Res. 316 recalls the proud history of U.S. intervention in opposition to the Armenian Genocide. I hope the full House will have an opportunity to vote on and pass these important bills. The United States Congress must honor the many survivors of the Armenian Genocide who have made our nation and my district their home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming His Holiness Aram I as he visits the Armenian Genocide Monument in Montebello, CA. This will be a rare opportunity for the Armenian Apostolic community in my district to hear from their spiritual leader. My district, the Los Angeles region, and the state of California are deeply honored by his visit.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE WEEK

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that October 2–October 8 is Nuclear Medicine Week. Celebrated at hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, educational institutions, and corporations around the world the first full week of October each year, Nuclear Medicine Week encourages members of the nuclear medicine community to take pride in their profession.

I am proud to note that the Society of Nuclear Medicine is headquartered in Reston, Virginia in my congressional district. The Society is an international scientific and professional organization of more than 15,000 members dedicated to promoting the science, technology, and practical application of nuclear medicine. I commend the Society staff and its professional members for their outstanding work and dedication to caring for people with cancer and other serious, life-threatening illnesses that are diagnosed, managed, and treated with medical isotopes via nuclear medicine procedures.

Nuclear medicine is a medical specialty that involves the use of small amounts of medical isotopes called "tracers" to help diagnose and treat a variety of diseases. These tracers are introduced into the body by injection, swallowing, or inhalation. A special camera, called gamma camera, detects the medical isotope in the target organ, bone, or tissue and forms an image that provides data and information about the imaged area of the body. This is how nuclear medicine differs an x-ray, ultrasound or other diagnostic test—it determines the presence of disease based on function rather than anatomy.

Nuclear medicine tests are safe and painless and often identify abnormalities very early in the progression of a disease—long before some medical problems are apparent through other diagnostic tests. This early detection allows a disease to be treated in its beginning stages, which significantly improves the odds of a successful outcome.

An estimated 16 million nuclear medicine imaging and therapeutic procedures are performed on 20 million individuals each year in the United States. These procedures are a vital tool in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with cancers of the brain, breast, blood, bone, bone marrow, liver, lungs, pancreas, thyroid, ovaries, and prostate, as well as cardiovascular disease, neurological disorders such as stroke and Alzheimer's disease, and kidney disease.

Some of the more frequently performed nuclear medicine procedures include:

Bone scans to examine orthopedic injuries, fractures, tumors or unexplained bone pain.

Heart scans to identify normal or abnormal blood flow to the heart muscle, measure heart function or determine the existence or extent of damage to the heart muscle after a heart attack.

Breast scans that are used in conjunction with mammograms to more accurately detect and locate cancerous tissue in the breasts.

Liver and gallbladder scans to evaluate liver and gallbladder function.

Cancer imaging to detect tumors and determine the severity (staging) of various types of cancer.

Treatment of thyroid diseases and certain types of cancer.

Brain imaging to investigate problems within the brain itself or in blood circulation to the brain.

Renal imaging in children to examine kidney function.

Unfortunately, funding for nuclear medicine research is in jeopardy. The President's FY 2006 Budget cut the Medical Applications and Measurement Science, MAMS, Program at the Department of Energy, DOE, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, OBER, from \$37 million to \$14 million and earmarked the remaining funds for research unrelated to nuclear medicine. The DOE has funded nuclear medicine research for over 50 years. Fortunately, the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee restored \$35 million for the MAMS Program, but the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bill is silent on this matter. It is vital that this small but highly successful program receive funding at the House level in conference. The MAMS Program is directly responsible for the creation of positron emission tomography, PET, and current research projects will create the next generation imaging procedures that will save lives.

I encourage my colleagues to support Nuclear Medicine Week and to support the House funding level for the MAMS Program so that our nation will continue to be at the cutting edge of life saving nuclear medicine and imaging research.

A STATEMENT ON TAIWAN
NATIONAL DAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of National Day on October 10.

The Republic of China (Taiwan) is our ally in the Pacific. Although it is a small island nation, it has a growing and progressive economy, providing its citizens with quality education, health care and affordable housing. In a recent survey conducted by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum, Taiwan was ranked first in Asia and fifth in the world in terms of growth competitiveness. With its well-educated population, Taiwan is an ideal training ground and place for business entrepreneurship. Much of Taiwan's economic prowess is directly attributable to Taiwan's political system.

A vibrant democracy, Taiwan's history of democratization is an important example of how other countries can change. In 2 decades Taiwan has peacefully transformed its political system, from authoritarian to democratic government, providing a role model for other non-democratic political governments in Asia. In view of China's growing military strength and intentions, the best way to safeguard Asia's permanent peace and prosperity is to have all Asian countries join forces with other democratic countries in the world to form a global community of democracies. In the meantime, we hope democracy will take roots in China. Taiwan's successful democratic experience proves that democracy can indeed thrive on Chinese soil.