

very human qualities that neighbors or friends do. And that is why I want to commend GeoEye and thank the company for their quick response and their offer to help.

I want to particularly thank Mr. Matt O'Connell, the CEO of GeoEye, Mr. Mark Brender, the Vice President for Comms/Marketing at GeoEye, and to Kim Goff, Kerri Rose and Val Webb. They generously gave of their time and expertise to help the community. Ms. Webb called my District Office to follow up on the case several times to offer additional assistance. That kind of personal effort certainly impressed me and my staff.

Please join me in commending these individuals and thanking them for their public-spiritedness. They remind us that with the right leadership, corporations are not necessarily abstract institutions lacking the qualities we look for in good friends and neighbors, but are, at their best, integral parts of the community at-large.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRENCH HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to French Hospital Medical Center and acknowledge their 60 years of providing quality healthcare to our community.

Founded by Edison French in 1946, this French Hospital Medical Center brought state of the art medicine to the San Luis Obispo community and continues to do so today. Dr. French, a surgeon, actively encouraged other specialists to settle in the San Luis Obispo area. In 1972, Dr. French moved the hospital to its current location on Johnson Avenue, where it serves residents throughout San Luis Obispo County. Currently, the hospital has working relationships with 320 physicians and employs more than 480 people.

On June 1, 2004, French Hospital was acquired by Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), and joined a network of over 40 medical centers and hospitals in three states. Founded in 1986, CHW is one of our Nation's largest not-for-profit healthcare systems and the largest Catholic healthcare system based in the Western United States. In 2005, French Hospital Medical Center provided more than \$5 million in care to the uninsured in our community and to other philanthropic endeavors. The hospital is committed to delivering high-quality, compassionate and affordable healthcare services, with special attention to the poor and underserved.

French Hospital Medical Center has set, and continues to set, a positive example with their passion for the practice of great medicine and their commitment to our local community. I am pleased, Mr. Speaker, to represent this community and the many caring staff and administrators of French Hospital Medical Center and am pleased to celebrate their 60-year anniversary.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6061, SECURE FENCE ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 6061, the Secure Fence Act of 2006. This bill is not about border security or terrorism prevention, as the name implies, but is rather a gimmick and will not in fact solve our nation's border and immigration problems. We need to focus on "smart security" and develop a comprehensive plan. Only then will we truly secure our borders and ensure our safety as Americans. This bill strays far from those priorities and is opposed by almost every reasonable business, labor, and civil liberties advocacy group in the country.

The bill before us does not provide any specific dollar amounts to build the mandated fence, and nowhere does the bill even authorize additional Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or Customs officers needed to secure the border. Blindly erecting a fence, without taking into consideration the needs of the area and the men and women who work on the front lines of our borders is not effective and we can do better. We need to focus on "smart security," and we need to do it now.

It is extremely important to know who is entering our country and who is already here. We need to focus on strengthening our borders by improving our surveillance technology, deploying more border patrol agents, and providing them with the materials they need to effectively do their jobs. This is why I am proud to support Mr. Thompson's substitute amendment.

The substitute amendment requires the Department of Homeland Security to develop a comprehensive border security strategy by deploying at least 3,000 additional Border Patrol agents and 2,000 additional Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents at our borders each year for the next four years. The substitute also provides helicopters, portable computers, radio communications and hand-held global positioning devices so the agents have all of the resources they need to get the job done.

Mr. Thompson's substitute also ends our ineffective "Catch and Release" practice. We need to ensure that we have adequate space in which to house people until we determine who they are and why they are here. It is unacceptable that illegal immigrants have been released after being charged with a crime simply because there is not adequate space in which to detain them. The substitute authorizes 100,000 additional detention bed spaces through FY 2010 to assist with the detention of undocumented individuals.

We also need to refocus our efforts on monitoring precisely which materials come through our borders. As the lead Democrat on the Subcommittee for the Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, I have called for the installation of radiation portal monitors at designated ports of entry to screen all inbound cargo for radiological or nuclear materials. I am dedicated to ensuring we have this important technology at every entry point.

Although erecting a security fence in specifically targeted areas may be necessary, it needs to be part of a much larger comprehensive plan. In order to employ a plan that is truly effective, we need to take into consideration all of these factors, not just a select few.

Rhetorical bills proposing a quick fix will not secure our borders, and I will not support legislation that does not propose a comprehensive solution. I am proud to support Mr. THOMPSON's substitute amendment, and I urge my colleagues to follow suit.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF GEORGE NASHAR FOR RECEIVING THE NORTH OLMSTED DEMOCRAT OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of George M. Nashar, dedicated father and community leader, whose lifelong service has merited him this year's North Olmsted Democrat of the Year Award.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Nashar grew with a strong sense of responsibility and family values as the oldest of seven siblings. After graduating from Detroit Institute of Technology and Cuyahoga Community College, he proudly served in the U.S. Army for two years. During his service, Mr. Nashar bore witness to the Berlin Wall crisis, a harsh reality of the Cold War that left a lasting impression upon him, strengthening his democratic values and call to civic duty. Back in America, after his service, Mr. Nashar fell in love with his wife Donna and settled down in Ohio, where the two have been happily married for 41 years and blessed with three beautiful daughters, Nancy, Nicole, and Noelle, and nine lively grandchildren. A devoted husband and father, Mr. Nashar has supported his family throughout the years with his employment at General Motors. After retirement, Mr. Nashar stayed active working for Gerald Fuerst at the Clerk of Courts.

In addition to being a hard-working and warm-hearted family man, Mr. Nashar is an exemplary American citizen because of his enthusiastic involvement throughout his local community of North Olmsted. Actively committed to his children's education, Mr. Nashar served for several years on the St. Richard School Parent Club as President and as Chairman of fun and successful fundraisers, in addition to serving for 12 years on the Magnificat High School Board of Governors. A devoted Catholic, Mr. Nashar has been ushering for Sunday Mass at St. Richard Parish for over 20 years and has made many friends within the church community.

Mr. Nashar goes above and beyond his civic responsibility with engagement in the political process. As a member of the North Olmsted Democratic Club, serving as its President for two years and repeatedly sponsoring their annual picnic, he works to foster unity and political awareness. From 1990-2006, Mr. Nashar honorably served as Ward 3 Councilman for the City of North Olmsted, chairing several committees including Streets and Transportation and Safety. During these 16 years he was well-respected and repeatedly