

Attorney in Memphis for the next five years. Governor Bufford Ellington appointed Horton to the Shelby County Criminal Court, a position to which he was later elected without opposition.

In 1968, at the peak of the civil rights movement, with the black sanitation workers in Memphis on strike, Mayor Henry Loeb appointed Horton as director of the city's hospitals, making him the only black division director in City Hall at the time. Horton dealt with a bitter strike by hospital workers, who were represented by the same union leadership as the sanitation workers. During the strike, Horton confronted officials at the University of Tennessee's medical school over the way their doctors treated patients at the hospitals. Judge Horton ordered the desegregation of William F. Bowld hospital and began moving some indigent patients to Bowld and Crump hospitals, which had been reserved for paying patients from the UT doctors' private practices. In 1969, he received the L.M. Graves Memorial Health Award as the person who did the most to advance the cause of health care in Memphis.

Judge Horton stepped down from the bench to serve as the President of LeMoyne-Owen College, a historically African-American liberal arts college, from 1970 to 1974.

Judge Horton returned to federal service upon his appointment as reporter for the Speedy Trial Act Implementation Committee by the Western District Court of Tennessee and later served as U. S. Bankruptcy Judge from 1976 to 1980.

After having served as both jurist and chief justice for the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, Judge Horton took senior judge status on May 16, 1995, and two years later, closed his Memphis office.

Judge Odell Horton is remembered as a calm and patient judge, who carefully and deliberately explained legal concepts to jurors.

Judge Horton and his wife, Evie L. (nee Randolph), were married for over fifty years and have two sons, Odell, Jr. and Christopher, who graduated from his alma mater, Morehouse College in Atlanta.

Odell Horton's wife, Evie, spoke for so many in both his professional and personal life when she stated after his death, "He was a rare and precious jewel in the crown of humanity and made all our lives richer and better because he passed this way."

cause of liberty for the Cuban people. Mr. Ubals González admirably chose to dedicate his life to the battle for freedom for the Cuban people.

He joined his fellow Cuban pro-democracy activists, journalists, and human rights defenders and committed himself to helping shed light on the atrocities committed by the brutal tyrant and to help put an end to the abhorrent nightmare that is the Castro regime. On March 20, 2003, as part of the totalitarian regime's ruthless crackdown on pro-democracy activists, Mr. Ubals González was arrested and, after a farce trial, "sentenced" to 20 years in the totalitarian gulag.

After this sham trial, Mr. Ubals González was sentenced to 20 years in Castro's maniacal dungeon for nothing other than a peaceful exercise of his fundamental right to voice his opinion. Let me be very clear, Mr. Ubals González in suffering in depraved conditions that the U.S. State Department describes as, "Harsh and life threatening" in which "police and prison officials beat, neglect, isolate and deny medical treatment to detainees and prisoners."

As always with prisoners of conscience in Cuba, Mr. Ubals González does not suffer this torture alone. According to the International Committee for Democracy in Cuba, his wife, Mayelín Bolívar González, must travel by train with her three children to visit her husband in prison. However, since the train does not stop at the prison, Mrs. Ubals is forced to watch her two oldest children jump from a moving train before following suit, holding the youngest in her arms every single time she attempts to visit her husband.

Mr. Ubals González is a brilliant example of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination and depravity of the totalitarian despot. He is languishing in repulsive squalor because he does not subscribe to the lies and propaganda forced upon Cuba by the communist regime.

Madam Speaker, it is unconscionable that human beings just 90 miles from our shore are locked in a barbarously cruel gulag because they believe they have a right to freedom and a democratic government. My Colleagues, we must demand freedom and human rights for all people, especially those who live under the darkness of totalitarian regimes. We must demand the unconditional freedom for Manuel Ubals González and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

States. This observance will take place the week of April 22 through April 28.

In 1980, President Reagan first called for a national observance to recognize and honor the millions of crime victims and survivors in America. National Crime Victims' Rights Week also pays tribute to the thousands of community-based and system-based victim services providers and to the criminal justice and allied professionals who provide critical support and assistance to victims every day, of every week, of every single year. National Crime Victims' Rights Week has since been proclaimed annually with ceremonies and observances in Washington, DC, and in thousands of communities throughout our Nation.

President Reagan's strong emphasis on the rights and needs of crime victims led to the passage of the Victims of Crime Act, which in 1984 created the Crime Victims Fund. Since then, the Crime Victims Fund has dedicated more than \$8 billion collected from criminal fines—not taxpayers' dollars—that annually supports more than 4,400 victim assistance programs serving some 3.8 million victims, and compensation to more than 165,000 victims for their unreimbursed medical expenses, lost wages and funeral costs. The adage, "crime doesn't pay, victims do," is challenged by the VOCA fund, which rightfully holds offenders accountable for their criminal actions, with fines ensuring that crime victims receive the services and support they so greatly need and deserve. And the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus has worked since its inception to preserve the intent and integrity of the Crime Victims Fund as created by President Reagan nearly a quarter century ago.

The 2007 National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme is "Victims' Rights: Every Victim. Every Time." Today more than ever, these simple words resonate with greater importance than ever before. In the decade between 1994 and 2004, the National Crime Victimization Survey found that violent crime rates declined, reaching the lowest level ever recorded in 2005. Unfortunately last year, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports reported that crime is, once again, on the rise—violent crime rose 3.7 percent; murders increased 1.4 percent; robberies were up nearly 10 percent; and arson increased by nearly 7 percent. This means more victims than ever suffer the indignation of crime, and have significant losses that affect them physically, emotionally, financially and spiritually. Our caucus and our Congress must recommit our energies to ensure that "every victim of every crime" has access to support and services.

I know that my colleagues in Congress have heard a great deal about violence and victimization, and have heard from those who are directly affected:

The teenage girl who leaves home for the first time to go to college, only to be drugged and raped at a campus party; or the young mother who is beaten by her husband on a regular basis, but fears leaving him because he's threatened to kill her kids, and she has no money, nor no place to go.

"Every victim. Every time."

Or the elderly man—no different from our parents—who is abused in a nursing home; or the parents whose only son is killed in a violent drunk driving crash.

"Every victim. Every time."

Or the horrific day that nobody will ever forget—September 11, 2001—when nearly 3,000

FREEDOM FOR MANUEL UBALS
GONZÁLEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Manuel Ubals González, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Ubals González, President of the Political Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners Club in Guantanamo, Cuba, is a peaceful pro-democracy activist who has worked for basic human rights for the people of Cuba. The persistent repression of human rights on that oppressed island forced Mr. Ubals González to choose between a life without rights or fighting for the

INTRODUCTION OF 2007 NATIONAL
CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK
RESOLUTION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, I rise today to introduce the 2007 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resolution on behalf of myself and my caucus co-chair, Congressman TED POE of Texas. This resolution expresses Congress's support of the goals and ideals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week and the efforts to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of crime victims and survivors in the United

people were killed in the terrorist attacks against our Nation in New York, Pennsylvania, and right here in the shadow of our own Capitol.

"Every victim. Every time."

America is a nation known for its commitment to justice. Yet when we consider "criminal justice," that's pretty much what it is about: justice for the criminal and, still too often, little consideration is given to justice for victims. National Crime Victims' Rights Week gives us the chance to talk about "victim justice"—justice for innocent folks whose lives are irrevocably altered by crime. It gives Congress the opportunity to say, "yes," every victim of every crime should receive information about their case; to say, "of course" every victim of every crime should be offered protective measures to make them feel safe; to say, "absolutely," every victim of every crime that results in a conviction should receive restitution directly from the offenders who harmed them.

America's victims' rights movement is leading our entire Nation in this direction. Today, victims of crime and those who serve them have not only a voice, but a vision for what justice should look like in America. Today, there are over 32,000 laws that define and protect victims' rights. We have over 10,000 organizations in our communities and in our systems of justice that help victims cope in the aftermath of crime, and help victims recover. Criminal justice is no longer all about the offender; it is rightfully becoming very much about the victims.

I am proud to be one of the cofounders, along with Representative POE, of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus. The goals of the Victims' Rights Caucus are to (1) represent crime victims in the United States through the bipartisan legislation that reflects their interests, rights and needs; (2) provide an ongoing forum for proactive interactions between the U.S. Congress and national victim assistance organizations to enhance mutual education, legislative advocacy and initiatives that promote justice for all—including victims of crime; and (3) seek opportunities for public education initiatives to help people in America to understand the impact of crime on victims, and to encourage their involvement in crime prevention, victim assistance, and community safety. We have an Advisory Group of victims, survivors, victim advocates and justice professionals who serve as our "eyes and ears" to victims and survivors of crime, and they are not shy about letting us know what victims need.

And we have learned that one thing victims need, the one thing that victims deserve, is recognition of their suffering, and recognition of their need for justice, and their need for supportive services. "Victims' Rights: Every Victim. Every Time."

This is what 2007 National Crime Victims' Rights Week is all about. And this is what Congress can commit to by passing the National Crime Victims' Rights Week resolution.

INTRODUCTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY LEGISLATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a package of legislation

that achieves a comprehensive approach to the future of renewable energy. As we move forward with national energy policy, I strongly believe we need to start taking steps in a direction that will provide consumers with other options other than just oil based fuels. With crude oil hovering around \$60 a barrel and natural gas around \$8.00 per btu, renewable energy like wind, solar, biomass, ethanol and biodiesel have started to become economically competitive sources of energy for our nation's consumers and businesses. By advancing the use and knowledge of renewable energy, we can lower demand for imported oil and lead our nation towards energy independence.

One of the components I introduced today will push forward an aggressive schedule for renewable fuels by mandating the renewable content of gasoline to be 25 billion gallons by 2025. Under the energy bill, we are mandating that the renewable content of gasoline be at 4 billion gallons by 2006 which is 2% of total gasoline. Once implemented, the "25 by 25" initiative would raise that percentage up to 12.5%.

For farmers, the 25 billion gallon requirement means better commodity prices for corn and soy and more importantly it means jobs. According to the Renewable Fuels Association, a new ethanol plant will: expand the economic base of the local economy by \$110.2 million, generate an additional \$19.6 million of household income, support the creation of as many as 694 permanent new jobs throughout the entire economy of the United States and generate at least \$1.2 million in new tax revenue for the state and local governments.

One problem we face in the advancement of renewable fuels is the sub par infrastructure we currently have in place. With ethanol and biodiesel plants mostly focused within the midwest and with only around 1,000 fuel stations that carry E-85 transportation fuels, it is essential that we provide tax incentives for the construction and development of ethanol and biodiesel plants. Another bill that I will be introducing, the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2007, builds upon the relationship between renewable fuels and industry that started in the last energy bill. The legislation achieves this by providing multiple tax incentives for the construction and development of an infrastructure that will be more able to expand past the Midwest.

The legislation will provide an aggressive 7-year depreciation schedule for all ethanol and biodiesel refining equipment. Also included within this section is a provision that will expand and extend the installation of alternative fuel refueling property that we in Congress passed earlier this year. The provision will allow taxpayers to claim a more effective percentage tax credit for the cost of installing clean-fuel vehicle refueling property to be used in a trade or business of the taxpayer or installed at the principal residence of the taxpayer. This ramped up percentage schedule would help accelerate the construction of the E-85 infrastructure.

Another piece of legislation I introduced today ensures that government agencies will expand their use of renewable fuels. Under this bill, departments and agencies will have to purchase ethanol and biodiesel where it is competitively priced to gasoline and diesel. In the mentality of "practice what you preach" it is time for our own Federal government to increase their use of ethanol and biodiesel

where these fuels are reasonably available. In attempting to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, it should start right here in our Nation's capitol.

I believe the most innovative legislation that I am introducing is a new tax credit that will provide for consumers who purchase a new concept vehicle which combines hybrid and flexible fuel technologies that will be available to consumers in the near future. It is this marriage of these technologies that will create a vehicle that will be better steward to our environment and will further reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil. In providing this tax credit, we promote a greater sense of innovation for the future of automobiles.

In addition to renewable fuels, I believe we also need to make a serious investment in renewable sources of energy like wind, solar and biomass. It is for this reason I have introduced three different bills that will make current tax incentives permanent. The residential energy efficient tax credit, wind energy production tax credit and the renewable energy production tax credit all have been effective in promoting the investment and production of renewable energy. With energy sources like wind, solar and biomass, the up front costs for investment by producers and consumers are high. By giving individuals and businesses small incentives, like the \$2,000 solar credit, we can make it easier for these technologies to be taken advantage of.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I believe we need to take many different approaches in making America energy independent. With the Energy Policy Act of 2005, we took steps forward in reducing our dependence on foreign oil by creating policy that increased the use of renewable energy in tandem with increasing our domestic production of energy sources. Due to the energy bill, we have seen over \$100 million invested in wind energy and four to five new ethanol and biodiesel plants in my district. In total, we saw investment in renewable energy double in the United States to \$68 billion dollars.

We need this investment in renewable energy to continue. These bills are good for farmers, the automobile industry, businesses, consumers, the environment and most importantly, the goal of reducing our dependence on foreign oil. I believe the legislation that I have introduced today, achieves the goals in renewable energy we need to achieve. I ask my colleagues to join me in moving forward with this innovative approach.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUTS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, the following is a list of young men who embody service and responsibility and have received the status of Eagle Scout. Today I want to applaud their achievement.

As a proud parent of four Eagle Scouts myself, I can attest to the hard work and dedication these men have put forth to become an Eagle Scout.

Only 5 percent of all Boy Scouts attain the highest advancement rank of Eagle Scout. To do so, a Boy Scout must excel in areas of