

INTRODUCTION OF "LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT RESTORATION ACT OF 2007"

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Local Law Enforcement Restoration Act of 2007 in response to the recent decision by a federal judge to strike down a local ordinance in Hazleton, Pennsylvania aimed at addressing out of control illegal immigration in that community. The purpose of that local ordinance was to keep illegal aliens from taking up residence within the town's jurisdiction or taking local jobs. I believe that my legislation is necessary at this time in order to provide clarity and ensure that local elected officials are able to enforce ordinances against illegal immigration in their communities. Immigration enforcement has already overburdened our federal law enforcement agencies, and state and local governments should not be hampered when they want to step in where the federal government has failed. The federal judge misread current federal immigration law and communities should not be penalized by over-reaching federal judges. My legislation simply clarifies the right of local communities and states to address the consequences of illegal immigration within their jurisdictions.

A number of other communities and several states have taken similar approaches to address illegal immigration in their communities. Given the Federal Government's failure to act to enforce the laws already on the books to combat illegal immigration, a growing number of state and city officials across the United States are pursuing laws similar to those enacted in Hazelton. These elected officials are driven by Washington's failure to control our borders or deal with the more than 12 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S.

It is important to remove any ambiguity about the ability of states and localities—the ones who bear the financial costs associated with illegal immigration—to enforce their local ordinances aimed at addressing illegal immigration in their community. In many ways, illegal immigration is the ultimate unfunded mandate—the federal government fails to control the border, but then saddles states and localities with the costs imposed by illegal aliens (in the form of education spending, public services, and law enforcement costs).

It is important to clarify that states and localities are not preempted by federal law from imposing civil or criminal sanctions upon those who employ, recruit or refer for a fee for employment, unauthorized aliens. In the case of the ruling against Hazleton, the judge went well beyond the intent of federal law. Essentially, he said that cities and states are powerless to discourage illegal immigration within their jurisdiction. The good news is that by amending the INA we can address this problem and provide the degree of clarity to this issue that would remove any ambiguity in the law. My legislation does just this, and makes sure that cities and states have leeway to reinforce federal immigration law.

If you believe that the Federal Government has failed to effectively enforce our immigration laws, and believe that the Federal Government should ensure that states and local

communities have the ability to discourage illegal immigration consistent with federal law, then join me in passing the The Local Law Enforcement Restoration Act of 2007.

TRIBUTE TO CONGREGATION OHEV SHOLOM

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, Ohev Sholom is the oldest continuously operating Jewish House of Worship in the state of Kansas.

Congregation Ohev Sholom was founded in 1877 and is currently a Member of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. The first building erected by Gomel Chesed Synagogue, at 925 State Line, was dedicated by Rabbi M. Gershonowitz on September 3, 1893. Congregation Ohev Sholom was the result of a merger between Gomel Chesed and Shearith Israel Synagogues. Congregation Ohev Sholom's first building was at 7th and Sandusky in Kansas City, Kansas and they moved into that building in 1925.

Ohev Sholom began the transition from 7th and Sandusky, Wyandotte County, Kansas, to 75th and Nall, Johnson County, Kansas, in the 1950s. The current location was completed in two stages. The school building was finished in 1961, while the remaining structure was finished about a decade later.

Congregation Ohev Sholom offers a schedule of programs that include Regular Daily Morning Services, Weekly Sabbath Services, an Active and Vibrant Sisterhood, a Robust Breakfast Club, Social Action Activities, and Programs for Adult Education, and Community Action including participation in building a Habitat for Humanity House. Congregation Ohev Sholom's Religious School is an exciting part of programming and spans kindergarten to tenth grade. Congregation Ohev Sholom also offers an Adult Education Program that includes Torah Study, lectures and minicourses, lunches, brunches, and speakers. Additionally, Congregation Ohev Sholom conceived and executed the metro Kansas City area's first KosherFest—A Celebration of Jewish Food—and will continue that tradition on June 1, 2008 and thereafter.

Congregation Ohev Sholom will celebrate its 130th Anniversary, October 27, 2007. Madam Speaker, I know that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in taking note of this special and important occasion.

TRIBUTE TO EHUD DANOCH, CONSUL GENERAL OF ISRAEL IN LOS ANGELES

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I and my colleagues, Rep. HENRY WAXMAN, Rep. ADAM SCHIFF, Rep. BRAD SHERMAN, Rep. LINDA SANCHEZ, Rep. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, Rep. XAVIER BECER-

RA, Rep. GRACE NAPOLITANO, Rep. HILDA SOLIS, Rep. ED ROYCE, and Rep. JANE HARMAN pay tribute today to Ehud Danoch, Consul General of Israel in Los Angeles. We have had the pleasure of working with the Consul General on many Middle East issues since his arrival in Los Angeles in October of 2004 and view his return to Israel with regret.

Consul General Danoch is a distinguished and greatly admired individual who has enjoyed an outstanding diplomatic career. Prior to arriving in Los Angeles, he served as Chief of Staff to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Silvan Shalom. He held this position during some of Israel's most challenging moments in foreign policy—the road map, the disengagement plan, and the security fence. He served as Senior Advisor to Israel's Minister of Finance, where he helped shape Israel's economic policy and the national budget. His contributions as liaison to the Ministry of Finance, the Prime Minister's Bureau, the Israeli Parliament, and other government offices, were invaluable.

Consul General Danoch received both a law degree and an MBA from Manchester University. He is a member of the Israeli Bar Association and has specialized in corporate and finance law and business litigation. Born in Ashkelon, Israel, he lived abroad for many years.

His multi-cultural experiences and knowledge of Hebrew, English, and Spanish have been extremely useful during his years in Los Angeles. He met with leaders in the Latino political, business, and media communities; and forged new partnerships which provide great mutual benefits. The Consul General was also a strong force in uniting the Jewish communities in the area through Israel-centered events.

Consul General Danoch's passion for film endeared him to many influential individuals in Hollywood. The relationships he forged enabled him to marshal entertainment industry support for Israel during the Hezbollah war of 2006.

During his three year tenure as Consul General of Israel, Ehud Danoch dedicated his time and energy in promoting Israel's many resources and providing opportunities for mutual advancements in the fields of high tech, trade, and finance. A man of tradition and devout observance, he furthered religious tolerance by arranging for Israeli spiritual leaders to meet with those in the United States.

Madam Speaker, distinguished colleagues, we ask you to join us in saluting Ehud Danoch on his many achievements as Consul General of Israel in Los Angeles and extending our best wishes for his future endeavors.

H.R. 3161—MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES PROGRAMS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2008, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3161, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug