

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDATION OF THE SECOND CHANCE PROGRAM OF NEW MEXICO

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, there are over two million people incarcerated in the United States, and nearly 6 percent of the adult population is under some form of correctional supervision.

Over the past 25 years, prison populations have grown 377 percent and prison budgets have grown 600 percent. The burden currently borne by the American taxpayer exceeds \$162 billion annually.

The U.S. Department of Justice reports that the average criminal recidivism rate in the United States is 65 percent, and nearly two thirds of United States money is spent dealing with recidivism. Recidivism costs taxpayers over \$35 billion a year in enforcement costs, and over \$17 billion for additional court costs.

Over 80 percent of the crimes in the United States are committed by recidivists. The only continuous factor for the past 25 years linked to recidivism is drug addiction, two-thirds of the prison population recidivate, two-thirds of the prison population is addicted and approximately 90 percent of the incarcerated addicted recidivate.

The Second Chance Program is a secure long-term residential rehabilitation program treating substance abusers in the criminal justice system providing the judiciary an alternative to traditional incarceration.

The purpose of the Second Chance Program is to provide secure, long term rehabilitation and then transition individuals back into society so they can lead a stable life free of crime and drugs.

The Second Chance Program protocol is a non-medical social detoxification model of treatment based on nutrition, exercise and education.

The Second Chance Program has shown in three independent university studies to have a 90 percent success rate, and has been operational and achieving rehabilitation results in New Mexico for 1 year.

Congratulations to the Second Chance Program for successfully completing its first year of servicing the courts of New Mexico.

HONORING MR. SCOTT MARIAN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the commitment and dedication of Scott Marian of Denver, Colorado who passed away unexpectedly on October 21st, 2007. Scott was a dedicated supporter of con-

servative causes and candidates and dedicated his life to following a path he believed to be morally correct.

He was active in politics for more than two decades including heading up a statewide initiative and running for the Colorado Legislature. Scott's career spanned from mortgage banking to owning his own business in Colorado.

Scott's life was one of great success and great difficulties but he always found comfort in his faith, his family and his friends. His dedication to spiritual needs of himself and others led his Priest to say his was one of the most prepared souls to join the Heavenly Father.

He was a great American, often spreading the positive attributes of capitalism and the word of God in the same breath. He inspired others to find their voice and express themselves in politics and faith.

Scott leaves behind his parents Joseph and Jean Marian, as well as his brother Craig, sisters Susan, Michelle, and Cheryl and eight nieces and nephews.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 515

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Boy Scouts of America Troop 515 in Cleveland, Ohio, on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. In the time Troop 515 has been in existence, it has served to teach young men the value of hard work, citizenship and leadership.

Troop 515 has had over 1,000 scouts in its ranks, with 35 of those scouts rising to the rank of Eagle Scout. Many of these scouts have gone on to serve their communities, influencing social policy and businesses alike. This troop has served the greater Cleveland community as an organization where young men can learn essential skills to serve them in their adult lives.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Boy Scouts of America Troop 515. For 50 years, Troop 515 has been committed to serving Cleveland and our citizens. I thank them for their service and I wish them another 50 years of vibrant leadership and civic engagement.

RECOGNIZING CHARLENE MAURO FEARON FOR RECEIVING THE FLORIDA OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Charlene Mauro Fearon, this year's recipient of the Outstanding High School Science Teacher Award from the Florida Association of Science Teachers.

Ms. Fearon currently teaches marine-science at Navarre High School in Navarre, Florida. She has been an educator for over 9 years, and prior to teaching, she worked as a marine science instructor and animal care specialist at Sea World in Orlando.

With thousands of teachers in the State, the Florida Association of Science Teachers critically examines the character and performance of each nominee. Teachers are evaluated on their ability to identify and address their students' educational needs and the impact they have on the students' learning. Only teachers with great enthusiasm for the subject matter and committed devotion to their pupils are considered.

This is not the first time Ms. Fearon has been recognized for her exceptional teaching skills. In 2005, she was named the Santa Rosa County Teacher of the Year, and in 2004 she was a recipient of the John Beakley Marine Science Educator of the Year Award. Students and faculty alike praise her for the passion she devotes to her work. Her enthusiasm for the subject matter combined with her expertise of the material has sparked an overwhelmingly positive response from her students.

Through her hard work and dedication in the field of education, the impact she has had on her students and the difference she has made in their lives have proven her to be among the great teachers of the Nation. We are honored and proud to have her as one of our own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I am proud to recognize Charlene Mauro Fearon on this outstanding achievement for her exemplary contribution to the education of our children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1009, I was not present. Please note that I view rollcall No. 1009 as a re-vote of rollcall No. 982 on October 18, 2007 where I voted

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

no. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO MR. MARK
ALVARADO

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Mark Alvarado, a resident of my congressional district in upstate New York. Mark currently serves as the field representative for New York DeMolay, but he is leaving this position at the end of the fiscal year.

DeMolay is a youth organization that develops leadership skills, civic awareness and personal responsibility among young men. With more than one thousand chapters worldwide, the organization combines its serious mission with a fun approach.

Mark's first experience with DeMolay came when he joined, and later became the master councilor of, the David J. Nye chapter in Ohio. After serving as the secretary and president for Northeast Ohio, he became the state secretary in July 1995. Due to his outstanding work in Ohio, Mr. Alvarado was offered a position at the DeMolay International Headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. In 2002, he became the field representative for New York DeMolay.

During his tenure as field representative, Mark has traveled throughout the state to help the members of New York DeMolay as they have contributed approximately ten thousand hours of community service per year. He has developed and implemented a membership education curriculum, and planned conventions, athletic weekends and charity functions.

Perhaps Mark's greatest accomplishment as field representative has been the redevelopment and expansion of the Mohawk Valley chapter, which is based in my hometown of Utica. Due to his encouragement and support, the chapter has become involved in many community events, including the Boilermaker Road Race and the St. John's Day Festival.

In recognition of his work with DeMolay, Mark has received numerous honors including the Leadership Correspondence Course, the Blue Honor Key, the Chevalier, the Legion of Honor and the Representative DeMolay Award.

Mark's exceptional dedication is to be commended. As the father of two teenagers, I recognize the importance of organizations like DeMolay that encourage young people to get involved in their communities. I thank him for his commitment and wish him luck as he pursues his future goals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the Chamber for rollcall votes 1003 and 1005 on October 25, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 1003 and "no" on rollcall vote 1005.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF TERRY NEUSTAEDTER AS
PRINCIPAL OF BERRYHILL ELE-
MENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today and recognize the retirement of Terry Neustaedter, a great educator.

For over 33 years, Terry has served as the principal of Berryhill Elementary School in Milton, FL, and under his leadership the school's size, facilities, and reputation have flourished. When he took the helm at Berryhill in 1974, the school served 350 students with a faculty and staff of only 35 people, and when he retires at the end of this year the student body will have more than doubled to 850 students and a faculty and staff of 115.

When the State of Florida implemented the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, FCAT to determine how well schools were meeting the standards set by the No Child Left Behind Act, every school principal was faced with a new challenge of making sure the schools under their charge lived up to its highest potential. Within 2 years, Terry Neustaedter had Berryhill Elementary School earning an "A" grade, and it has remained that way ever since. In addition, the Florida Department of Education recently awarded Berryhill with a Certificate of Achievement for having exceeded the standard for annual progress, and the school is 1 of only 12 schools out of 1,400 to receive such distinction.

Terry's leadership of Berryhill Elementary was not limited to just within the school walls. The school has received numerous awards on both the State and local level for community involvement, especially in the area of volunteering in the surrounding community. These volunteer efforts have included helping raise money for the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Association, and for many years Berryhill has received the Department of Veteran Affairs "Outstanding Service" award recognizing its outstanding service to our nation's veterans through the Voluntary Service Program. In addition, he has brought programs into the school that teach the importance of civic participation through activities such as voting, reinforcing the importance of being involved with one's community.

Madam Speaker, Terry's leadership and friendly positive demeanor will be missed by past and current students of Berryhill Elementary School. I am confident that those following in his footsteps will aspire to achieve the same great results for our Nation's youth as Terry has achieved, and I know he will continue to be looked up to as a great educator.

IN RECOGNITION OF LYNDA
SACKETT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lynda Sackett as she

retires from her position as Director of Dance at the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood, Ohio. For the last 40 years, she has touched the lives of thousands of young dance artists as she has worked to establish the Beck Center as a great arts resource for Northeast Ohio.

Lynda began her career in the 1960s in Beck Center's Theatre Education Program. During the 1970s, she helped to create the Dance Education Program and has led that program ever since. Her passion for dance and for the arts led her to get even more involved with the Beck Center, serving as both director of Outreach Education and program director for Visual Arts Education while continuing to lead the dance program.

In her honor, the Beck Center has recently announced the establishment of the Lynda Sackett Endowment Fund for Dance Education. This money will serve to honor Lynda's spirit and dedication to dance by continuing her efforts to reach out to the community and encourage more young people to learn about the art of dance.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Lynda Sackett for her service to her community and to arts education.

CONGRATULATING JUNIOR
ACHIEVEMENT OF ROCKY MOUN-
TAIN INCORPORATED

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, today I am honored to acknowledge the achievements of Junior Achievement of Rocky Mountain Incorporated for serving Colorado's youth attending Littleton public schools. This year, Junior Achievement is being recognized by the Colorado Association of Partners in Education for its outstanding volunteerism and academic contributions in the fields of economics and finance. Their commitment has instilled a strong sense of financial prowess and capitalist spirit within the youth of their community; a valuable asset which will undoubtedly yield great benefits in the years to come.

The successful history of Junior Achievement mirrors the entrepreneurial character it strives to instill. Founded in 1919, it has grown from being an after school mentoring program to become the world's largest organization focused on educating students on the dynamics and benefits of local and global financial markets. By introducing young individuals to the values of economics, they are better prepared and responsible to establish and manage their financial and personal goals as they grow older.

In addition, all Junior Achievement programs are taught by volunteers who successfully mentor roughly 8 million individuals annually. These volunteers are comprised of a myriad of experiences and backgrounds, from business professionals to college students. They instill economic knowledge and understanding in youth and reflect the importance of service to local communities; a value which my district is distinguished to have.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to have such a fine organization at work in my district. Please join me in congratulating Junior Achievement for their many successes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 1008, Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 3963, I was not present. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATING SETH S. GROSS UPON BEING NAMED "MAN OF THE YEAR" BY B'NAI B'RITH AMOS LODGE NO. 136

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Seth S. Gross, who was named "Man of the Year" by the B'nai B'rith Amos Lodge No. 136 of Scranton, PA.

Mr. Gross graduated from Scranton Central High School in 1959 and received his bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1962. After attending the College of Insurance, he worked for Chubb and Son in New York City before returning to Scranton to join his father, Abraham, his mother, Lillian and his uncle, Bernard Gross, in Gross-Brown Associated Agencies, Inc.

He remained associated with Gross-Brown until 1994, when it merged with Chamberlain Insurance. Mr. Gross continues to be associated with Chamberlain and Reinheimer Insurers, Inc.

He is a past president of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters and has taught classes for the CPCU designation.

Mr. Gross has served as president of many Jewish and community organizations over the years, including the Scranton Lions Club, the Lackawanna Audubon Society, Jewish Family Service of Lackawanna County, Junior Achievement of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Temple Israel of Scranton and the Scranton Jewish Community Center. He is currently president of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania and he serves on the boards of Jewish Family Service, the JCC and Temple Israel.

Mr. Gross previously served on the board of the Scranton Hebrew Day School and on the United Way allocations panel.

He has also worked on the Pennsylvania Film Festival/Scranton Tomorrow Committee and the First Night Celebration in Scranton. Mr. Gross was the recipient of the Scranton Jewish Community Center Young Leadership Award, its Man of the Year Award and its Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Gross is married to the former Sheryl Jacobowitz. The couple has two daughters and three grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Gross. His contributions to the business and community sectors in Scranton

and the northeastern Pennsylvania region have earned him well-deserved respect and admiration, which are reflected in this honor being bestowed on him by B'nai B'rith Amos Lodge No. 136.

 TRIBUTE TO MARGARET ALEROTEK

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Margaret Alerotek a dedicated advocate for peace in Northern Uganda. Margaret passed away on Tuesday, July 31, 2007, and is survived by her adoptive mother, Abitmo Rebecca Odongkara, and siblings.

Margaret participated in many meetings on Capitol Hill during her time in the United States. She was greatly impressed by the opportunity to address a group of young African Americans who are helping to shape U.S. policy. During her May 8, 2007, visit, Ms. Alerotek met with Congressional Black Associates, a Congressional staff association and provided insight regarding international efforts to alleviate poverty and to end the involvement of children in conflict throughout Africa. Sadly, Margaret passed away shortly after her return to Uganda on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 at the age of 27.

Margaret was born in 1980 in the Gulu District of Northern Uganda and was later adopted at the age of 3 when her parents were murdered by Lord's Resistance Army rebels. Margaret graduated from the Uganda Christian University with honors and served for almost 3 years as communications officer for World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization.

In December 2006 when the Lord's Resistance Army walked out of the Juba Peace talks, 26-year-old Margaret reached out to the LRA leadership and the Ugandan Government chief negotiator to break the silence. The parties recommitted themselves to the peace talks.

One month before her death, at the conclusion of her briefing, with the Congressional Black Associates, Margaret was asked, "Why do you continue to advocate for peace in Northern Uganda at great risk to yourself?" She replied, "Because they are my people."

The impact of Margaret's life is immeasurable—not only because of her work, but more importantly, because of the power of her example. Margaret chose not to be consumed by the misfortune of being an orphan in a country consumed by war. She instead chose to stand on its shoulders and become a powerful advocate for peace, hope and reconciliation.

Margaret was a remarkable young woman. Her leadership, sacrifice and courage serves as an example to people everywhere. For this reason, I rise today to honor the life and service of Ms. Margaret Alerotek.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately Tuesday, October 23, 2007, I was unable to cast my vote on the Motion to Table H. Res. 767 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 986 on the Motion to Table H. Res. 767, I would have voted "nay."

 RETIREMENT OF MR. ALAN G. WILSON

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Alan G. Wilson, garrison manager at Rock Island Arsenal, for his outstanding military service and contributions to the Quad Cities community on the occasion of his retirement.

For over 35 years, Mr. Wilson dedicated his life to serving our country. From 1966 to 1967, Mr. Wilson served in active duty in the U.S. Army. He later began his civilian career as a management analyst in the U.S. Weapons Command at the Department of Defense.

In 1974, he was transferred to the new Armaments Command at Rock Island Arsenal (RIA). After various high-level positions at RIA, Mr. Wilson became the first civilian garrison manager at the U.S. Army Garrison-Rock Island Arsenal in 2004.

In his role as garrison manager, Mr. Wilson was responsible for installation operations, which included managing an \$89 million budget, supervising 60 tenant activities and overseeing 6,600 government and contracted employees.

During his tenure as garrison manager, Mr. Wilson was credited for high-performing installations during the BRAC 2005 round and addressing other BRAC-related issues such as housing and office space. Mr. Wilson also led efforts to integrate the installation with the larger Quad Cities community, resulting in an estimated economic impact of \$1 million daily to the Quad Cities region.

Continuously recognized by superiors for his hard work, Mr. Wilson has received several Exceptional Performance Awards, two Superior Civilian Service Awards, two Commander's Awards, and the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service. Most recently, he was honored with the Meritorious Civilian Service Award for his exemplary record of professionalism and dedication to the U.S. Installation Management Command.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the constituents of the 17th Congressional District of Illinois, I congratulate Mr. Wilson on his retirement and thank him for his honorable service to our Nation. Alan, you will be missed. I wish you and your family well as you embark on a new life chapter and congratulate you for an admirable career.

ON THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE
OF JIM BATES TO THE HOUSE
BUDGET COMMITTEE

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, with the recent decision by Jim Bates to leave the Budget Committee staff to serve as a program associate director at OMB, the Congress has lost a dedicated public servant and the Budget Committee has lost an important institutional resource. But our loss is OMB's gain. Jim served on the Budget Committee staff for nearly 20 years, starting in 1988 as a budget analyst for the Republican staff and eventually becoming staff director to Jim Nussle when he was chairman and to Paul Ryan as ranking member. During that long tenure, Jim rightfully came to be known as one of the top budget experts in Washington.

Jim has a deep knowledge of both the grammatical and numbers side of the budget, on the one hand, and the budget process, on the other hand. One reason Jim knows the budget rules so well is that he helped to write them. He has been centrally involved in such budget milestones as the budget agreements of 1990 and 1997, as well in the debates we have had over the years about how to best structure the budget process.

Year in and year out, he has been critically involved in the development, consideration, and enforcement of the congressional budget resolution—the key blueprint for Congress's spending and revenue decisions. Throughout, Jim has been a strong advocate for the importance of the congressional budget process, in general, and the role of the Budget Committee, in particular. We will miss Jim Bates and his steady presence as he leaves the Congress to begin his new job. But he departs with great respect and sincere appreciation that he has earned from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

DEPARTURE OF DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS SECRETARY
R. JAMES NICHOLSON

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and bid farewell to a distinguished leader and patriot, the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Throughout his life, Secretary Nicholson has been a devoted servant to his country and fellow citizens. His bio is a classic American story that illustrates the potential each individual holds as a result of the liberty and freedom we cherish in this great Nation.

Secretary Nicholson's deeply held faith and hard work ethic reflect his heritage. One of seven children, he left his family and the peaceful Iowa farm on which he was raised, to graduate from the United States Military Acad-

emy at West Point. During his 8 years on active duty, Secretary Nicholson served as an Army officer and Airborne Ranger in the Republic of Vietnam. He also served in the Army Reserves for 22 years, retiring with the rank of colonel.

In addition to a distinguished military career, Secretary Nicholson holds an impressive list of academic accomplishments. He holds a master's degree from Columbia University and a law degree from the University of Denver. Secretary Nicholson was also successful as an entrepreneur and political activist. He established a thriving business in Denver, and ascended to become chairman and chief executive officer of the Republican National Committee.

In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed him Ambassador to the Holy See. Secretary Nicholson was subsequently knighted by Pope John Paul II in 2003 for his advocacy on a number of humanitarian issues.

Secretary Nicholson's life of service to others culminated in his appointment as head of the second largest Cabinet Department. As Secretary of Veterans Affairs, he proved to be a tireless and innovative advocate for his fellow veterans.

Our Nation will be eternally grateful for his devotion to the men and women who have defended our freedom and way of life. Secretary Nicholson decided to leave Government service to pursue other interests, and fulfilled his final day as VA Secretary on September 30, 2007.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the tremendous career of Secretary Nicholson and to thank him for his leadership and honorable service to our country. I wish him and his wife, Suzanne, the very best of luck and happiness during the next chapter of their lives.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOSEPH M.
LAUFER

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Joseph M. Laufer. On November 29, 2007, Mr. Laufer will receive the 2007 Lloyd Ritter Community Service Award on behalf of the Volunteer Center of Burlington County, NJ.

In 1997, Mr. Laufer retired as an associate dean at Burlington County College after 27 years of tireless service. Yet, he has continued to reach out and dedicate his time to the residents of Burlington County. Some of his recent activities include maintaining and updating the Southampton Township website and assisting a local fire relief company in obtaining a preservation grant. He has also served as a member of the Jack Allen Early Country Living Museum, the Roebing Main Gate Museum, the Rancocas Valley Tourism Association, the Burlington County Historical Society, and he volunteers at the Holy Eucharist Parish in Tabernacle.

In addition, Mr. Laufer does not shy away from providing valuable leadership to area or-

ganizations. He was appointed the Burlington County Historian in 2003 and elected president of the H.B. Smith Industrial Village Conservancy, the director of alumni relations for the Lenape High School District, and finally, was a past president of the Southampton Historical Society and Library Board.

Madam Speaker, the Burlington County community has truly benefited from Mr. Laufer's experience. As he is honored by the Volunteer Center of Burlington County for this very special award, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for his desire to utilize his talents for the greater good and enduring commitment to improving the lives of those around him.

TRIBUTE TO WANDA CHANEY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise on this occasion to honor Wanda Chaney, a dedicated employee of the CAO, for her service to the House of Representatives.

Wanda Chaney began her career at the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994 serving as a user information specialist in the User Assistance Office, now known as the CAO Technology Call Center. Wanda soon went on to be a technical support representative (TSR) providing excellent service with enthusiasm and passion. Wanda's dedication and leadership qualities soon found Wanda leading a team of TSRs whose mission was to provide timely and efficient services to Member offices.

Throughout Wanda's career, she continued to expand her services beyond technical support. Wanda's contribution to the transitioning of Congresses cannot be overstated. Wanda moved services to a higher standard, raising the bar for all who assisted her in these endeavors. Wanda identified the problems facing Members as they transition in and out of Congress and presented practical and time-saving solutions for Members and staff. Wanda can be credited for infusing technology in the dissemination of information critical to new Members of Congress. She created an interactive CD-ROM to familiarize Members with technology services provided by the House. She introduced an interactive web page to help offices navigate through the transition.

Wanda's contribution to the rollout of U.S. Active Directory for user authentication to the House ensured that Members' requirements were satisfied and complete. There are countless examples of how Wanda made a difference in the provisioning of technology services to Member offices.

A common theme shared by her customers and colleagues speaks to her commitment, resourcefulness and drive to provide a meaningful solution to any problem sent her way. Wanda's ability to see the "big" picture, understand the needs of her customers and passion for doing what's right are inspiration to all.

Wanda gave tirelessly in the pursuit of excellence and it is an honor to recognize her service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3963, CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3963, a revised version of the Children's Health Insurance bill which the President vetoed on October 3 despite strong bipartisan support. Like the original, this bill ensures health care coverage for 10 million children.

This bill will preserve coverage for all 6.6 million children currently covered and will reach millions more children who are currently eligible but not yet enrolled. It is vital that we pass this important legislation to ensure that our nation's children receive the health care they deserve.

We cannot allow our children to slip through the cracks.

An overwhelming majority of the American people and Governors of both parties support our efforts to provide health insurance for our children.

Democrats have reached out to Republicans to craft this revised bill to address concerns that were raised with the original bill.

Today's vote will give the American people the opportunity to see whether these were legitimate concerns or merely political excuses.

This revised bill gives the President another opportunity to protect America's most vulnerable children. Let's send the President this bill giving him the chance to finally get this right.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in fulfilling our moral obligation to our nation's children by supporting this bill and giving them the health care they need and deserve.

HONORING ROSALIE DOWNS

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rosalie Downs, who will retire on January 2, 2008, after completing 50 years of federal service.

In 1957, Ms. Downs began her career with the Director of Accounting and Finance at the Department of the Air Force. She went on to work for the Directorate of Intelligence, Policy and Management Group the next year, and then moved to the Directorate of Operations, Bases and Units Division. In 1964, she assumed her current duties as Secretary of the Congressional Inquiry Branch, and in 1970, began serving in the Congressional Inquiry Division, Directorate of Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. During this period, the outstanding professional skill, leadership and ceaseless efforts of Ms. Downs resulted in key contributions to the effectiveness and success of the Congressional Inquiry Division. In this capacity, Ms. Downs performed superbly across a broad spectrum of congressional issues, while expertly assisting the Directorate in providing timely responses to tens of thousands of inquiries from Congress.

During her 50 years of work in the Office of Legislative Liaison, Ms. Downs has provided dedicated and professional service to both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. She has developed close working relationships with many of our staffs, and her efforts have greatly enhanced congressional understanding of Air Force personnel matters. The distinctive accomplishments of Ms. Rosalie A. Downs culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of the federal government, and reflect great credit upon herself and the Department of the Air Force.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Rosalie Downs for her 50 years of service and dedication to the Federal Government. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Downs on her retirement and wishing her the best of luck in all future endeavors.

COMMENDING MICHAEL TOMPKINS FOR BEING INSTALLED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Michael Tompkins on being installed as Chairman of the Board of the National Apartment Association. Mr. Tompkins has been a leading advocate for quality rental housing in the state of Georgia for nearly two decades, where he has served on the Atlanta Apartment Association for over 13 years.

Applying his knowledge of the apartment industry, Mr. Tompkins has been an asset to the Atlanta Apartment Association, serving in a variety of roles, including president in 2001. In 2004, Mr. Tompkins served as president of the Georgia Apartment Association.

In addition to the impact Mr. Tompkins has made on the quality of rental property in the southeast, his philanthropic endeavors have also benefited the well-being of our community. He volunteers his time serving on several non-profit organization boards including the Southeastern Trustee for Boys and Girls Clubs, Atlanta Community Food Bank and the Emory University Board of Trustees, to name a few.

Madam Speaker, it is no small wonder that word of Mr. Tompkins' leadership in the advocacy of quality rental housing spread quickly, and he will now take his expertise to the national level, where he will chair an association comprised of more than 51,000 members and responsible for more than 6.1 million apartment homes nationwide.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Michael Tompkins for his commitment to improving the quality of rental homes in this country and representing the interests of renters throughout our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF GENERAL KEVIN P. CHILTON

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for General Kevin P. Chilton's service as Commander of the Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base. During his time there, General Chilton commanded over 39,700 professionals responsible for providing North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Strategic Command with combat forces and capabilities. In addition to managing the development, acquisition and operation of the Air Force's missile and space systems, the General also supervised missile warning and launch facilities, satellite command and control, and America's intercontinental ballistic missile force.

Before coming to AFSPC, General Chilton served as Commander, 8th Air Force, and Joint Functional Component Commander for Space and Global Strike, U.S. Strategic Command. General Chilton, who graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1976, is a Guggenheim Fellow with a Master of Science in mechanical engineering from Columbia University. After graduating from U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School in 1984 with the Liethen-Tittle Award for top graduate, General Chilton conducted weapons testing in models of F-4 and F-15. In 1987 he entered the National Aeronautics and Space Administration where he served as Deputy Program Manager for Operations for the International Space Station Program and flew on three space shuttle missions.

A capable leader, General Chilton has served on the Air Force Space Command Staff, the Joint Staff, the Air Staff and was the Commander of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing. His distinguished career has been marked by numerous awards including the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross, and NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal.

I wish to offer my sincere appreciation to General Chilton for his dedicated service to our nation and his contributions to Air Force Space Command.

THE MILITARY DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESPONSE ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, today, as we recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I am proud to introduce the Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act. This important piece of legislation will ensure greater protections for service members and their families if they become victims of violence. It also will strengthen programs to prevent violence against fellow soldiers and military families.

Unfortunately, sexual assault and domestic violence are pervasive and serious problems

throughout all branches of the military. In March 2007, the Department of Defense (DoD) released their third annual sexual assault report, which stated that there were 2,947 allegations of sexual assaults reported in 2006; a 24 percent increase from 2005. In 2004, the DoD reported 9,000 incidents of spousal abuse. A 2005 Sexual Harassment and Assault Survey of the Service Academies found 6 percent of females and 1 percent of males said they were sexually assaulted in 2004–2005, and less than half the females who experienced sexual assault reported it. In this same survey, 60 percent of female cadets indicated sexual harassment was about the same as when they first enrolled at their academy.

While the DoD has been making efforts to improve its prevention and response to domestic and sexual violence, victim services remain incomplete and inconsistent among the various branches. There have been reports that victims advocates, charged with protecting the victim's rights, have been denied resources to do their job, and in some instances been forced off the base altogether. Furthermore, DoD policies are not codified in the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and do not offer the same level of rights and protections afforded to civilian victims. Perhaps most importantly, victims are unable to seek confidential counseling and treatment without fear that their records might become public if they press charges against their assailant.

My bill, the Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act, seeks to bring military law up to par with civilian laws by establishing a comprehensive approach for the military to address domestic violence and sexual assault among our soldiers. Specifically, this bill will:

Establish an Office of Victims Advocate (OVA) within DoD, bring the Family Advocacy Program under OVA, and create a Director of OVA to oversee and coordinate efforts to prevent and respond to cases of family violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking with the military and among military families;

Codify rights, restitution policies, treatment and other services for victims within the UCMJ, including creating comprehensive confidentiality protocols to protect the rights of victims within military law;

Strengthen policies for reporting, prosecuting and treating perpetrators of violence;

Create counseling and treatment programs through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The military should be at the forefront of prosecuting assailants and setting the highest standards for treatment of service men and women, or military family members, victimized by sexual assault and domestic violence. Our Armed Forces must be able to guarantee the most basic protections to ensure these victims can receive necessary counseling, treatment, and justice.

If a victim cannot access essential care for fear of stigma, threats to their career, or because they just do not know what resources are available, the military will continue to lose valuable female and male soldiers. These men and women who serve our country in uniform put themselves in harm's way to protect our Nation from threats at home and abroad. They deserve the same rights and protections as the civilians whose freedoms they protect. My bill ensures service members are adequately protected when dealing with the horrible tragedy of sexual assault or domestic violence.

Do not allow our brave service members to be victimized twice, once by their perpetrator and then again by the military's lack of appropriate, compassionate, and confidential treatment and response.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members to join me in cosponsoring the Military Domestic and Sexual Violence Response Act.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. STEPANOS ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, ELBERON, NJ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th anniversary of St. Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church. St. Stepanos is across the street from my home in Elberon, New Jersey. It is a daily reminder to me of Armenian heritage and culture.

St. Stepanos is also named in honor of the patriarch of the Hovnanian family, who has contributed so much to my district and the goal of affordable housing across the Nation. The Hovnanian family is the main benefactor of the church and many of its activities.

St. Stepanos Church was consecrated in 1987. It sits on the site of St. Mary's Armenian Church, which served as the religious and cultural center for the Armenian community of the Jersey Shore for much of the 20th Century.

St. Stepanos is one of the most beautiful examples of Armenian architecture in the United States. One can easily feel that you are in Armenia by standing in front of it, or inside the sanctuary. On the 10th anniversary of its consecration, the church added an Armenian khachkars, a traditional ancient art form in which a cross is intricately carved out of stone, to further enhance its architectural splendor.

The Armenian School is an integral part of the St. Stepanos community, focusing on the study of Armenian language and culture, with participants ranging from age 4 to adult. Sunday school promotes St. Stepanos emphasis on religion within the Armenian community in Central New Jersey.

The Women's Guild organizes fundraisers, dinners, and cultural activities. It has become increasingly important in promoting a sense of community at St. Stepanos. The church's youth organization also hosts fundraisers and trips for the younger Armenian population at St. Stepanos. The activities hosted by the church in addition to its commitment to religion and culture only serve as further proof of the active role that St. Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church has taken in the community throughout the years.

Madam Speaker, we are honored in New Jersey on the 20th anniversary of St. Stepanos to receive Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, his Holiness Karekin II, from St. Etchmiadzin, Armenia. St. Stepanos has received many Armenian prelates over the years including the Patriarch of Jerusalem on its 10th anniversary, but this is the first time the head of the Armenian Church has visited.

I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the 20th anniversary of St.

Stepanos Church for its contributions to the Armenian-American residents of Central New Jersey, as well the larger Armenian-American community in the United States.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT W. MIXON

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere gratitude for Major General Robert W. Mixon's service to Fort Carson as Commanding General of Division West, First Army and previously as Commander of the 7th Infantry Division.

Before coming to Fort Carson, Major General Mixon, a 1974 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, served as Deputy Director and Chief of Staff for Futures Center at the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia. He was also the Deputy Commanding General, Assistant Commandant, and Director of the Unit of Action Maneuver Battle Lab at Fort Knox as well as the Assistant Division Commander 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood.

Major General Mixon, an Armor Officer, has served in numerous capacities at the operations, planning and training levels including as Command of L Troop, 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Bad Hersfeld, Germany, Command of 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Bliss, Texas, and as Command of the 1st Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea.

A distinguished graduate of the War College, Major General Mixon also holds a Masters of Arts in History from Rice University and was an Assistant Professor of History at West Point from 1982 until 1985.

As Major General Mixon prepares to retire from the U.S. Army, he departs with an impeccable record of nobility and leadership of the utmost distinction. Soldiers who served under his command will always remember him to be a soldier's general. I would like to offer my sincere appreciation for his commitment to defending our country and the invaluable contributions he has made to Fort Carson.

CONGRATULATING CRIDER HEALTH CENTER

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Crider Health Center, located in St. Charles, Missouri. Recently, the Department of Health & Human Services announced that Crider Health Center's application to become a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) was approved.

For the past 27 years, the Crider Health Center has provided mental health treatment and services for underinsured and uninsured adults, children and families affected by persistent mental illness and serious emotional disorders. Since its inception, the Center has notably expanded its service programs to

meet the rapidly changing expectations in the area of mental health service delivery. Such dedication has enabled Crider to serve over 35,000 residents a year in a four-county area who are in desperate need of such services.

Previously, the Crider Health Center faced consistent challenges in obtaining medical and oral health care services for their patients. In fact, the nearest federally qualified health centers for persons living in this four-county area were in St. Louis, Potosi and Columbia, Missouri. Such distances created a considerable challenge in terms of access for low-income residents in Crider's service area.

Crider Health Center's new FQHC status will allow Crider to integrate its current mental health care services with primary and oral health care services. This integration not only allows Crider to better serve its consumers but aid in further addressing the health care disparities in the St. Louis region.

I congratulate the Crider Health Center's recent FQHC designation. The Crider Health Center is an exemplary example of the leadership we have in Missouri and I am pleased to honor them in their continued endeavor to provide for the needs of the people in the St. Louis region.

IN TRIBUTE TO MAJOR ALEA
HOKUAO MORNINGSTAR

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, poet and capitol tour guide Albert C. Caswell has penned a number of heartfelt tributes to our military, and recently, he has recognized the service of Major Alea Hokua Morningstar, U.S. Army.

Major Morningstar has served in Iraq extending care to coalition and civilian casualties. As an emergency physician, she has served honorably and bravely at three combat support hospitals and as a field surgeon.

Major Morningstar symbolizes the professionalism of America's military. I want to thank her and all the brave men and women of our armed forces for their service. They are fighting to defend our freedom and protect American families.

I gladly submit the following into the RECORD.

A Morning Star,
That's who you are . . .
A light which shines so very fine . . . so very
far, that's who you are . . .
A woman of heart,
Of Hopi Sioux, great American Indian blood
. . . a fine woman of soul . . .
A healer, a great Hawaiian . . . For, but the
gift of life . . . to so give, as what you
chose . . .
A light,
In the darkest of days and nights . . .
Which burns bright, as a Morning Star . . .
can cheat death, can so bless . . . and
can give fight!
Out in darkness of evil war, out in harms
way . . .
Amidst the darkness and solemn gray . . .
amidst the death, and all of that sad
decay . . .
To save a life, to hold a dying hero's hand
until that night . . . Morning Star,
that was your way . . .

As there, in The ER . . .

You'd hear the screams, and the devil's roar
it seems . . . trying to save life, you'd
go far!

All in the midst of his evil gore, all in the
face of hell . . . you fine heart choose
to swell, for one life more

Living in the shadow of death,
Pouring out your very heart and soul, until
none lies left . . .

As with your God given skills, the gift of life
and hope you instilled . . . staying
with the dying until death!

A young hero's last vision, before they were
gone . . .

A bright Morning Star, holding their hand
. . . as was your decision, not leaving
them alone . . .

The last Angel they would see on Earth,
showing your worth . . . with tears in
eyes your mission honed!

And in the coming years,
There will be many a tear, when in that moment
it all comes back to you . . . so
here . . .

But, what baby born . . . to save the world
. . . or love so great, to this our world
adorned that you saved here!

And for all of those Mothers of Sons,
And all of those Fathers of Daughters, who
so lost their most precious of all loved
ones . . .

They may gain strength, in knowing what
your love to their dying loved ones so
meant! At the end!

A Morning Star,
Yes, my Lady . . . that's who you are . . .
A light which shines so very bright . . . so
very far, into the night, that's who you
are!

High above,
With your gift of life, your gift of love . . .
Holding a dying hero's hand, On The Wings
of a Dove!

NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank the 261 Members who supported H.R. 505, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2007. I also want to encourage my colleagues who did not support the bill to talk to me and Congressman ABERCROMBIE to learn more about the merits of the legislation. The passage of the bill has been celebrated by the people of Hawaii—Native Hawaiians and non-Native Hawaiian alike. I thank all the members of this body for the respectful and deliberate manner in which the debate was conducted.

During the course of my remarks on the bill, I was privileged to place into the record several recent letters of support for H.R. 505, including letters from the Governor of the State of Hawaii, as well as the National Congress of American Indians and the American Bar Association, two of more than 50 national and state organizations that worked hard on behalf of the bill.

After the vote on the bill, I received another letter of support from the Japanese American Citizens League, one of many civil rights organizations championing the efforts of Native

Hawaiians to regain their right of self-governance and self-determination.

Americans of Japanese ancestry fought their own battles against discrimination and subjugation, although for a shorter duration, when they were sent to relocation camps during World War II. They understand all too well the deprivation suffered by the Native Hawaiians, since their sovereign government was overthrown, and have lent their full support to the Native Hawaiian cause, which I deeply appreciate.

It is therefore important that this letter from the Japanese American Citizens League be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to reflect the support of the JACL for this historic vote to recognize the inherent sovereignty of the indigenous, native people of Hawaii. I thank the members of JACL for their valuable support.

JAPANESE AMERICAN
CITIZENS LEAGUE,

Washington, DC, Oct. 23, 2007.

Hon. MAZIE K. HIRONO,
1229 Longworth House Office Building, U.S.
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HIRONO: The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization, fully supports the passage of H.R. 505, The Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2007 (NHGRA), introduced by the Members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation. The bill is scheduled for a vote before the House on Wednesday, October 24th and I ask that you vote in favor of the bill and against any motion to recess H.R. 505.

A process of U.S. recognition is already available to American Indians and Alaska Natives, and enactment of NHGRA extends a similar process to Native Hawaiians. There are over 560 federally recognized Native governing entities functioning in the U.S., along side local, state and federal governing entities. Native Hawaiians are the indigenous people of Hawai'i, whose ancestors practiced sovereignty in their ancestral lands that later became part of the United States. The establishment of a process of federal recognition for Native Hawaiians moves us toward fairness in federal policy toward American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

Protection of Native Hawaiian culture, as well as existing Native Hawaiian programs is critical for future generations. Perpetuation of distinct, living cultures requires self-determination, and that is necessary for the Native Hawaiian culture as well. Enactment of NHGRA protects this greater self-determination, and thus the distinct culture. It protects existing programs because it establishes a single U.S. policy reaffirming that as the indigenous people of Hawai'i, Native Hawaiian people have a special political and legal relationship with the U.S., consistent with the Hawai'i Constitution, over 150 existing Federal laws addressing Native Hawaiians and the U.S. Constitution regarding Native people of the lands of the 50 states.

Sincerely,

FLOYD MORI,
National Director.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTHY
AIR AND CLEAN WATER ACT

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Healthy Air and Clean Water

Act. This legislation, drafted with the valued input and assistance from my constituents from the 23rd Congressional District of New York, is designed to combat four pollutants—mercury, carbon, nitrogen oxide, and sulfur dioxide—that are decimating our Nation's environment.

I have the distinct privilege of representing one of the largest congressional districts east of the Mississippi River. The district stretches from Lake Ontario on the west to Lake Champlain on the east, and is capped by the magnificent St. Lawrence River, with its famous Thousand Islands region. The district also includes the Adirondack Park, which is bigger than the Grand Canyon, Glacier, Yellowstone, and Yosemite National Parks combined and is world-renowned for its pristine beauty.

The environmental beauty of the region is not only enjoyed by my northern and central New York constituents, it also supports a vibrant tourism industry, with many choosing to visit in order to partake in such activities as boating, hunting and sport fishing. In addition, downhill and cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and ice fishing are but a few of the winter activities associated with the region that has twice been home to the Winter Olympics.

The Healthy Air and Clean Water Act would require the reduction of 90 percent of mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants by 2011. The need for this legislation is clearly illustrated by the fact that, due to high levels of mercury contamination, everyone within New York State is now advised to eat no more than one meal per week comprised of fish taken from New York State waters. Sadly, women of childbearing age and young children have been warned not to eat any of six types of fish caught from 55 bodies of water within the Adirondack Park area. Frankly stated, Madam Speaker, this state of affairs is unacceptable.

Carbon emissions are a leading cause of global warming and thus a threat to our environment as well as the economy of my district and throughout the country. Thus, the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 80 percent from the 2005 levels in the year 2050.

The bill also seeks to address acid rain, which is principally caused by the effects of nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide. Specifically, by January 1, 2010, the bill would require nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide emissions to be reduced to 75 percent of the levels that these pollutants reached in 1997. As a lifelong resident of New York's north country, I have seen firsthand the impact acid rain has had upon the Adirondack Park and its High Peaks region. In fact, I am alarmed by the vast area of the Adirondack Mountains that has been ravaged by this silent killer; close to 700 lakes and ponds in the Park are too acidic to support their native plant and aquatic wildlife.

It is important to note, Madam Speaker, that acid rain's impact is far from limited to the Adirondacks alone. In Virginia, thousands of miles of Appalachian trout streams are at risk of becoming chronically acidic and thus unable to support wild brook trout populations. In the southern Appalachians, acid rain is altering soil chemistry and leaching valuable nutrients from the soil. And in Vermont, acid rain has killed more than half of large-canopy red spruce in the Green Mountains and approximately one-quarter of large-canopy red spruce in the White Mountains. Sadly, acid rain is

also reducing sugar maple trees in central and western Pennsylvania as well.

In response, the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act would authorize funding for the operation and modernization of a number of programs that monitor the impact these pollutants have on our environment. These include, but are not limited to, the Clean Air Status and Trends Network, the National Atmospheric Deposition Program National Trends Network, and the National Atmospheric Deposition Program Mercury Deposition Network. My bill would further require the Environmental Protection Agency to submit reports to Congress to identify objectives that protect sensitive regional ecosystems, including but not limited to the Adirondack, mid-Appalachian, Catskill, Rocky, and Southern Blue Ridge Mountain ranges and water bodies of the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain, Long Island Sound, and the Chesapeake Bay.

Madam Speaker, as is often the case with proposed legislation, some may argue that my bill goes too far, while others may claim that it does not go far enough. However, while Congress continues the important and needed debate in our quest to craft the perfect global warming legislation, our constituents and environment wait. We cannot allow the perfect to become the enemy of good. Similarly, we cannot afford to commit a sin of omission. If we do not begin to take action now, clean and viable healthy waters and forests might well become a distant memory. There are always tradeoffs in public policy and I firmly believe the benefits of acting in this instance far outweigh all potential costs, particularly those of inaction.

I'd like to include, for the record, two letters of support for my bill, one from The Adirondack Council and the other from the Adirondack Mountain Club.

We can see the impact these four pollutants are having upon our environment and our health. The Healthy Air and Clean Water Act would address and reduce that impact and I urge my colleagues to join with me as I work to enact it into law.

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB,
October 10, 2007.

Re Healthy Air and Clean Water Act.

Hon. JOHN MCHUGH
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN MCHUGH: On behalf of the Adirondack Mountain Club, ADK, we would like to take this opportunity to express our strong support for your Healthy Air and Clean Water Act. We believe that passage of this four-pollutant bill is critical to achieving greater reductions in harmful nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, mercury and carbon dioxide emissions.

ADK, a membership organization representing approximately 30,000 hikers, paddlers and cross-country skiers, advocates for the protection and responsible use of New York's Forest Preserve and other wild lands and waters.

We have a critical stake in the continued vitality of the federal Clean Air Act to effectively reduce air pollution from coal-fired electric generating facilities. Enforcement of the Clean Air Act has already resulted in significant reductions in air pollution emissions that are harmful to human communities, aquatic life and forest ecosystems in the Appalachians, Hudson Highlands, Catskills, Adirondacks and White Mountains. However, more needs to be done and we believe that your Healthy Air and Clean Water

Act will lead to even greater reductions in air pollution.

CARBON DIOXIDE

Carbon dioxide emissions have been scientifically linked to global climate change. ADK is very pleased that the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act would cut carbon emissions from coal-burning power plants by 80 percent by 2050. Further, the requirement that EPA establish a market-based carbon emissions trading program by 2010 will provide an economic incentive for power plants to reduce carbon emissions.

Climate change threatens the local economies of the Adirondacks, Catskills and other areas that rely heavily on winter sports, such as snowmobiling, downhill and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Also, a study by the National Wildlife Federation found that lower summer stream flows and higher stream temperatures due to global warming could significantly reduce habitat for brook trout and other cold-water fish in New York.

As temperatures rise; the Adirondacks could be plagued by tree-destroying pests such as the Sirex woodwasp, hemlock woolly adelgid and Asian longhorned beetle.

We believe that the carbon dioxide cuts included in the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act are critical to reducing the impact of the many threats posed by global climate change.

MERCURY

ADK also supports the legislation's proposed cuts for hazardous mercury emissions. A 90 percent reduction in mercury emissions by 2011 is critical to addressing the devastating impacts of mercury on public health and wildlife.

A 2007 independent study by Charles Driscoll and the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation estimated that mercury emissions from US coal-fired power plants are responsible for 40 percent to 65 percent of mercury deposition in the Northeast. Current levels of mercury deposition in the Northeast are four to six times higher than the levels recorded in 1900. Ninety-six percent of the lakes in the Adirondack region and forty percent of the lakes in New Hampshire and Vermont exceed the recommended EPA action level for methyl mercury in fish. High mercury levels in fish from six reservoirs in the Catskills have prompted advisories that infants, children under the age of 15, and women of childbearing age should not eat any fish from these reservoirs. Further, mercury is present in two-thirds of Adirondack loons at levels that negatively impact their reproductive capacity, posing a significant risk to their survival.

The Healthy Air and Clean Water Act, if enacted, would significantly reduce harmful mercury emissions and penalize those coal-fired electric generating facilities that do not comply with the new standard. The legislation also requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promulgate regulations regarding monitoring systems to measure mercury emissions. Monitoring systems are a critical component in effectively enforcing the new mercury standards.

NITROGEN OXIDE AND SULFUR DIOXIDE

The Healthy Air and Clean Water Act will reduce nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide emissions from power plants by 75 percent from 1997 levels by January of 2010. Such a reduction is critical to reducing the scourge of acid rain and acid deposition in New York.

As a result of acid rain, a quarter of the lakes and ponds in the Adirondacks have become too acidic to support aquatic life. Acidic precipitation also depletes calcium from forest soils, leaving sugar maple and red spruce trees more vulnerable to insects and

winter kill. Since the 1960s, more than one half of the large canopy red spruce in the Adirondack and Green Mountains and one quarter of large canopy red spruce in the White Mountains have died.

ADK strongly supports the legislation's provision closing the existing loophole allowing old coal-burning power plants that were grandfathered from the Clean Air Act to continue operating without complying with the most recent new source performance standards. The new standards must be met either on the power plant's 30th birthday or within five years after the enactment of the act. As you know, the Adirondacks and other wild lands and waters in the Northeast are located downwind of many of these unremediated power plants whose emissions have damaged lakes and forests in these regions, as mentioned above. Further, ADK supports the legislation's balanced approach to regulating nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide through the use of market oriented mechanisms such as emissions trading, auctions or other allocation methods in order to achieve compliance with the emissions reduction requirements.

REPORTS AND FUNDING

ADK supports the legislation's requirement that the EPA submit a report to Congress by 2010 identifying objectives to protect sensitive regional ecosystems, such as the Adirondack Mountains. By 2019, the EPA will have to determine if the emissions reductions are sufficient to ensure that the objectives contained in the report are met. If not, EPA will have to promulgate regulations to ensure that said objectives are met.

As mentioned above, the Adirondack Mountains and other wild lands and waters in the Northeast have been seriously impacted by air pollution emitted by coal-fired electric generating power plants. The report and subsequent regulations if needed will ensure that these sensitive areas are better protected from the devastating effects of air pollution.

The funding measures contained in the legislation are also important. The authorization of funding for critical clean air networks and programs such as the National Atmospheric Deposition Program National Trends Network will provide needed support for continued monitoring of air pollution and its effect on the environment.

ADK strongly supports the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act. We believe that, if enacted, it will lead to significant and necessary reductions in nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, mercury, and carbon dioxide emissions.

We look forward to working with you and your staff as this legislation advances through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

NEIL F. WOODWORTH,
Executive Director.

MARISA TEDESCO,
Conservation and Legislative Director.

THE ADIRONDACK COUNCIL,
October 15, 2007.

Hon. JOHN MCHUGH,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. MCHUGH: On behalf of the entire Board of Directors and staff of the Adirondack Council, I write to thank you for introducing the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act. This bill, if passed into law, would have profound benefits for the Adirondack Park of upstate New York.

Numerous studies have shown that the Adirondack Mountains have suffered some of the most devastation in the country due to the scourge of acid rain, caused by the emis-

sions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, which often come from Midwestern coal burning power plants. This has caused great damage to the forest of the over one million acres of true Wilderness within the Adirondack Park, as well as having nearly 700 water bodies lose their ability to sustain their native fish populations due to their unnaturally low pH.

In addition, the New York State Department of Health advises that women of child-bearing age and children under age 15 should not eat any of six varieties of fish taken from either Adirondack or Catskill water bodies due to high levels of mercury contamination. Another eight species should not be consumed by women and children more than once a week for the same reason.

More recently, studies have concluded that if there is not a dramatic decrease in the emissions that cause climate change, upstate New York, including the Adirondack Park, may have the climate currently associated with southern states like Virginia or Georgia by the end of the century. This would create tremendous problems for the Adirondacks. Warmer weather would lead to the invasion by more exotic species, harming our native flora and fauna. Some species of trees associated with the colder climate of New York would slowly begin to move north to the cooler temperatures of Canada. Birds, such as the rare Bicknell's Thrush, would also leave New York in search of cooler breeding habitat. In addition, there would be many fewer days with snow cover on the ground in the Adirondacks, greatly diminishing the winter tourism economy, now associated with activities such as cross country and downhill skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing and ice fishing.

Once again, we wholeheartedly support your legislation, the Healthy Air and Clean Water Act, and will actively encourage your colleagues to become co-sponsors of it and pass it in the House of Representatives as soon as possible. We thank you once again for all of your efforts to limit the negative impacts of all four of the pollutants in your bill. We look forward to working with you to secure its passage and protect the people and environment of the Adirondack Park.

Sincerely,

BRIAN L. HOUSEAL,
Executive Director.

GO, MIKE JOSHI, GO

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate Mike Joshi for running in (and completing) yesterday's 32nd Annual Marine Corps Marathon.

Mike is the staff assistant in my Washington, DC office. He has shown great focus, commitment and dedication in the months leading up to yesterday's marathon. Mike is such a positive presence in the office and he has been such a good sport . . . allowing everyone in the office to "participate" in his training by sharing stories and updates from his evening and weekend runs.

I am told that when his coworkers saw Mike at mile 13 (the half way point), he was smiling and looking so relaxed . . . like it was mile 3, not 13. The characteristics that carried him over the finish line will continue to serve him well in the race that is life.

Congratulations Mike on this amazing accomplishment. Team SCHAKOWSKY is so proud of you.

MARKING PATH'S 30TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, this year marks 30 years since PATH began working to create innovative solutions that enable communities worldwide to break longstanding cycles of poor health. Originally founded in 1977 as the Program for the Introduction and Adaptation of Contraceptive Technology (PIACT), PATH began by helping manufacturers set up facilities for making high-quality condoms in China.

Today, PATH implements health programs in many countries, works with a variety of private partners to develop new vaccines and microbicides, and has advanced more than 30 health technologies for low-resource settings. By collaborating with diverse public- and private-sector partners, PATH provides appropriate health technologies and vital strategies to improve global health and well-being worldwide.

Over the past three decades, PATH has worked in more than 100 countries and received many prestigious international awards for its work. PATH's president, Dr. Christopher Elias, was the Schwab Foundation's "U.S. Social Entrepreneur of the Year" in 2006 and the organization has earned four-star ratings from Charity Navigator, the Fast Company Social Capitalist Award, and recognition by Amazon.com as one of the ten most innovative nonprofits.

The breadth of PATH's work includes many innovative technologies. One example, the Uniject™ device, is a single-use syringe (auto-disabled to prevent reuse) used by USAID to prevent maternal deaths and by UNICEF to deliver life-saving vaccines. PATH also implements and expands programs to increase adoption of malaria control and childhood nutrition interventions in some of the world's poorest settings. Additionally, the organization's public-private partnerships work to create and introduce affordable vaccines to prevent malaria, meningitis, cervical cancer, diarrheal diseases, and other major illnesses.

PATH's efforts maximize health equity to ensure health products and programs reach the poorest and most vulnerable. They strengthen the capacity to foster demand-driven and scalable solutions by promoting an inclusive approach to innovation and discovery—one that builds strong partnerships with communities, industry, and local governments. Admirably, the organization enhances programmatic integration and improving the monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination of results.

As health inequities continue to persist, the effects of preventable disease and deaths become greater, particularly in our increasingly interconnected and global society. PATH demonstrates a commitment to address these threats. They have demonstrated dedication to finding innovative, scalable solutions for some of the world's greatest challenges by harnessing the promise of science and technology, the ingenuity of individuals and communities, and ensuring solutions can be realized for everyone.

Please join me in celebrating PATH's 30 years of success and innovation in improving the world's health.

H.R. 3985, THE OVER-THE-ROAD BUS TRANSPORTATION ACCESSIBILITY ACT OF 2007

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3985 the "Over-the-Road Bus Transportation Accessibility Act of 2007", introduced today by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO). I am proud to co-sponsor this important legislation, which will ensure that motorcoach accessibility regulations promulgated by the Department of Transportation, DOT, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, are fully implemented, vigorously monitored, and actively enforced.

In 1990, upon signing the landmark ADA into law, President George H. W. Bush stated that the ADA "promises to open up all aspects of American life to individuals with disabilities—employment opportunities, government services, public accommodations, transportation, and telecommunications." In many respects, the Act has been implemented to result in expanded and enhanced transportation opportunities for individuals with disabilities. However, as a recent U.S. Court of Appeals case revealed, a troubling void in DOT's oversight of the over-the-road bus accessibility regulations has unnecessarily reduced the protection Congress intended to afford under the ADA.

In 1998, DOT adopted a final rule requiring vehicle modifications to intercity, charter, and tour buses to accommodate individuals with disabilities. These regulations set forth requirements for these transportation providers, referred to as over-the-road bus operators, to acquire or lease accessible vehicles or provide accessible service to passengers with disabilities on a 48-hour advanced notice basis. The requirements are phased in over time, and vary by type of service provided by a company, either fixed route or "demand responsive", such as charter and tour service. Alter-

native compliance requirements were established for small businesses.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration ("FMCSA") is the modal agency responsible for ensuring that over-the-road bus transportation providers comply with DOT regulations, including safety rules. However, according to FMCSA's interpretation, the existing motor carrier statute limits the agency's ability to enforce the over-the-road bus accessibility regulations promulgated by DOT.

On December 19, 2006, the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, in *Peter Pan Bus Lines, Inc. and Bonanza Acquisition, LLC v. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration*, rejected FMCSA's assertion that the agency does not have discretion to interpret the law to allow FMCSA to consider compliance with ADA regulations in determining whether a bus company is fit to operate in interstate commerce. The case was remanded to FMCSA in February 2007, and the Court directed the agency to reexamine the statute.

FMCSA did not respond to the Court for more than 8 months, and I have no doubt the pattern of inaction would have continued without pressure from Congress. Earlier this month, Highways and Transit Subcommittee Chairman DEFAZIO and I sent a letter to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrator John Hill, expressing our intent to legislate a solution to this problem if the agency did not respond with its plans to make changes administratively to ensure that ADA requirements were being met by the over-the-road bus operators that FMCSA registers.

Last week, FMCSA issued a decision in response to the Court order. In the decision on remand, the agency defends its original position that the underlying statute does not provide the authority for FMCSA to consider compliance with ADA. The agency further argues that the Department of Justice ("DOJ") has enforcement authority under the ADA to investigate all alleged violations and commence a civil action in court, pursuant to part 36 of title 28, Code of Federal Regulations. This includes authority over transportation providers. Therefore, FMCSA concludes the agency has no role in taking action with respect to ADA violations by over-the-road bus companies. In fact, in the October 26, 2007 decision FMCSA states: "If Congress intended to expand the fitness criteria to include compliance with addi-

tional DOT regulations, such as 49 CFR part 37, it presumably would have said so."

Let there be no doubt—Congress will be saying so with this legislation. This bill removes any statutory ambiguity and gives FMCSA the authority to take action against violators of the ADA.

H.R. 3985 strengthens FMCSA's ability to monitor and enforce compliance with the Department of Transportation's regulations governing the accessibility of over-the-road bus transportation. The bill amends Section 13902(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the agency from granting registration authority to a motor carrier providing over-the-road bus transportation who is not willing and able to comply with the accessibility regulations under subpart H of part 37, title 49, Code of Federal Regulations. The bill also clarifies that the Secretary may suspend, amend, or revoke a motor carrier's registration in the event of a willful failure to comply with regulations pursuant to the ADA. H.R. 3985 further requires the Department of Transportation and the Department of Justice to enter into a memorandum of understanding to ensure coordination between the two Departments, to clearly define each Department's roles and responsibilities in enforcing the provisions of the ADA, and to avoid duplication of effort.

Violations of ADA regulations are not a theoretical problem. Several newspaper articles have highlighted problems that individuals with disabilities have encountered in trying to ride curbside buses. Curbside bus companies operate fixed-route, intercity bus service, mainly between cities along the Northeast Corridor, picking up and dropping off passengers on the street rather than in bus terminals. A March 2, 2006 Washington Post investigation revealed that 11 companies that operate in the Northeast Corridor had violated ADA regulations. (See "Bus Lines Cited in Federal Probe; 11 Firms Accused of Violating ADA"; Washington Post, March 2, 2006; Financial; page D1).

Madam Speaker, the Americans with Disabilities Act was enacted 17 years ago, and nearly a decade has passed since the Department of Transportation issued implementing regulations. This legislation, to ensure that the accessibility regulations promulgated by DOT are adhered to by all over-the-road bus operators, is both necessary and overdue.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 31

9 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings to examine S. 2063, to establish a Bipartisan Task Force for Responsible Fiscal Action, to assure the economic security of the United States, and to expand future prosperity and growth for all Americans. SD-608

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). SD-562

10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the licensing process for the Yucca Mountain Repository. SD-406

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) amendments, focusing on ways to protect Americans' security and privacy while preserving the rule of law and government accountability. SD-226

10:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider S. Res. 334, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the degradation of the Jordan River and the Dead Sea and welcoming cooperation between the peoples of Israel, Jordan, and Palestine, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, with Annexes, done at Montego Bay, December 10, 1982 (the "Convention"), and the Agreement Relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, with Annex, adopted at New York, July 28, 1994 (the Agreement"), and signed by the United States, subject to ratification, on July 29, 1994 (Treaty Doc.103-39), Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on In-

come and accompanying Protocol, signed on November 27, 2006, at Brussels (the "proposed Treaty") (Treaty Doc.110-03), Protocol Amending the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income signed at Copenhagen May 2, 2006 (the "Protocol") (Treaty Doc.109-19), Protocol Amending the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Finland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital, signed at Helsinki May 31, 2006 (the "Protocol") (Treaty Doc.109-18), and Protocol Amending the Convention Between the United States of America and the Federal Republic of Germany for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital and to Certain Other Taxes, Signed on August 29, 1989, signed at Berlin June 1, 2006 (the "Protocol"), along with a related Joint Declaration (Treaty Doc.109-20). SD-419

2:30 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Disaster Recovery Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine post-catastrophe crisis, focusing on addressing the dramatic need and scant availability of mental health care in the Gulf Coast. SD-342

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Securities, Insurance and Investment Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine climate disclosure, focusing on measuring financial risks and opportunities. SD-538

NOVEMBER 1

9 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Private Sector and Consumer Solutions to Global Warming and Wildlife Protection Subcommittee
Business meeting to consider S. 2191, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases. SD-406

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the impact of the Flood Control Act of 1944 on Indian Tribes along the Missouri river. SD-628

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations. SD-215
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gregory F. Jacob, of New Jersey, to be Solicitor, and Howard Radzely, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Labor. SD-430

Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 1946, to help Federal prosecutors and investigators combat public corruption by

strengthening and clarifying the law, S. 2168, to amend title 18, United States Code, to enable increased federal prosecution of identity theft crimes and to allow for restitution to victims of identity theft, S. 352, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, and the nominations of John Daniel Tinder, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, and Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security. SD-226

Intelligence
Meeting of conferees on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2008 for the intelligence community. S-407, Capitol

2 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Small Business Administration, focusing on the efficacy of the 7(a) loan program. SD-342

2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

NOVEMBER 7

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the performance and structure of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans. SD-562

10 a.m.
Rules and Administration
To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office report focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution. SR-301

1:30 p.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine sovereign wealth fund acquisitions and other foreign government investments in the United States, focusing on economic and national security implications. SD-538

NOVEMBER 8

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 86, to designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers, S. 1365, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with any of the management partners of the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, S. 1449, to establish the Rocky Mountain Science Collections Center to assist in preserving the archeological, anthropological, paleontological, zoological, and geologic artifacts and archival documentation from the Rocky Mountain region through the construction of an on-site, secure collections facility for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Denver, Colorado, S. 1921, to

amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, S. 1941, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Wolf House, located in Norfolk, Arkansas, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 1961, to expand the boundaries of the Little River Canyon National Preserve in the State of Alabama, S. 1991, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and

feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation and return phases of the expedition, S. 2098, to establish the Northern Plains Heritage Area in the State of North Dakota, S. 2220, to amend the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963 to authorize certain appropriations, and H.R. 1191, to authorize the National Park Service to pay for services rendered by subcontractors under a General Services Administration In-

definite Deliver Indefinite Quantity Contract issued for work to be completed at the Grand Canyon National Park.

SD-366

POSTPONEMENTS

OCTOBER 31

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine universal telephone service.

SR-253