

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATION OF
THE NEW CAMPUS OF THE
FRISCH SCHOOL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the faculty, parents, and students at the Frisch School in Paramus New Jersey in celebrating the dedication of their new campus. The new 14-acre property will help this yeshiva continue to practice educational excellence and instill hundreds of young people each year with sustenance for their minds, bodies, and souls.

Since its founding in 1972 by Rabbi Menachem Meier and Alfred Frisch, the school has grown from a student body of a mere dozen to more than 620. The Frisch School curriculum is rigorous—offering a steady course of core subjects as well as a wide variety of advanced placement classes. Students leave Frisch well versed in history, liberal arts, science and math, and the cultural arts. But, they also leave well versed in Judaic heritage and values. As a college preparatory school, students often go on to higher education, well-prepared by their Frisch experience. And, each year, a good portion of the student body goes to Israel to spend a year in study as well.

The new Henry & Esther Swieca Family Campus, Mordecai & Monique Katz Academic Building, and Zayat Athletic Center are the result of hard work by a dedicated community of parents, faculty, and students. The extraordinary generosity of dozens of families has enabled the School to literally double its size and provide even more educational opportunities to its students.

The Frisch School counts among its notable alumni Elie Katz, Mayor of Teaneck; Arthur Lenk, Israeli Ambassador to Azerbaijan; and Rabbi Daniel Nevins, Dean of the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Under the guidance of its President, David Rauch; its Principal, Dr. Kalman Stein; and its Executive Director, Elaine Weitzman, I am certain that still more leaders will emerge from the Frisch School ranks, and I look forward to seeing the wonderful contributions they make to our community and our society.

AMERICA'S HISTORICAL AND
NATURAL LEGACY STUDY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3998, "America's Historical and Natural Legacy Study Act." At the outset, I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Chairman GRIJALVA for bringing this bill to the floor and for their work in crafting a broad package of studies that will help us to preserve our natural and historical heritage.

In particular, I am pleased that the Chairmen included a study of the Rim of the Valley Corridor in southern California. This bill is an important milestone in my 7-year effort to di-

rect the Department of the Interior to study alternatives for protecting the mountains and canyons in southern California that are part of the Rim of the Valley Corridor, as designated by the State of California.

This environmentally sensitive area is located in one of the most densely populated areas in the United States. The greater southern California metropolitan region has the Nation's second-largest urban concentration; about 1 in every 10 Americans lives in this region. At the same time, this area has one of the lowest ratios of park-and-recreation-lands per thousand-population of any area in the country. So this rapidly growing urban region is extremely underserved in terms of open space needs. Unless action is taken soon, this situation will only worsen as the region continues to grow.

The Rim of the Valley Corridor is an ecologically significant, contiguous region that consists of parts of the Santa Monica Mountains, Santa Susanna Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, Verdugo Mountains, San Rafael Hills, and adjacent connector areas to the Los Padres and San Bernadino National Forests. This corridor system is an example of the world's most endangered habitat area, the Mediterranean chaparral ecosystem.

Parts of the Rim of the Valley Corridor are already managed within the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and the Angeles National Forest. Yet, with increasing development and population pressures, the future of the Corridor is threatened. It is in danger of becoming reduced to isolated pockets of open space, irreversibly destroying its connectivity. The contiguous nature of these open spaces is potentially critical to help preserve the integrity of its ecosystems.

The State of California has adopted the Rim of the Valley Master Plan, and local governments within the Rim of the Valley Corridor have made significant progress toward protecting the unique natural and recreational resources of the area. However, these efforts have been hampered by a lack of financial resources, technical assistance, and resource management expertise that can only be provided by the Federal Government.

Since Congress set aside the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Areas in 1978, federal, state and local authorities have worked in remarkable cooperation to manage what is the world's largest urban park. Now, nearly three decades later and in the face of tremendous projected population growth and development pressures, Congress, by passing this bill, again will have the opportunity to study ways to help safeguard and supplement the existing state and local parks, open space and recreational opportunities in southern California.

I hope that the Congress will seize the opportunity to order the Department of Interior to study of alternatives for protecting some of the most beautiful land in southern California for future generations of Americans to enjoy. The Rim of the Valley is a special place and we owe it to our children to develop a long-range plan that will balance preservation, recreation, and the needs and rights of those living in and around the area to be studied.

Again, Chairman RAHALL and Chairman GRIJALVA, thank you for your support for the Rim of the Valley Corridor study and for all of your work to preserve America's natural splendor.

RECOGNIZING WORK OF CONGRES-
SIONAL MEN'S HEALTH CAUCUS

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, as a founding member of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus I am very pleased to report a groundswell of activity occurring as I speak today across the country related to men's health education, outreach, awareness, and screening. This focus and attention is long overdue. New data provide alarming statistics about a gradual decline in men's health. In fact, men are living on average about 5 years less than their female counterparts, men are leading in 9 out of 10 top causes of death, 1 in 2 men in their lifetime will be diagnosed with cancer compared to 1 in 3 women, and as women enter retirement (65–69 years of age) approximately 15 percent are widows due to the premature death/disability of men.

I am proud to work with the Men's Health Network, MHN, to raise awareness of men's health; they, for over 15 years, have taken the lead nationally in setting best practices, creating grassroots networks and activism, and providing health services to men and their families where they live, work, play, and pray.

Under their leadership we are seeing symposia, screening events, and campaigns launched all across the country aimed at reversing the negative trends in men's health. In November and December of 2007 alone, they have led community/neighborhood development efforts resulting in a Massachusetts Symposium on Men's Health, Louisiana Symposium on Men's Health, Florida Smoking Policy Symposium, "Healthy Sunday" church screening at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Baton Rouge, LA, and will launch a Women Against Prostate Cancer organization in conjunction with the Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center. Each of these programs and initiatives makes it a priority to empower men, women, and their families to live healthier lifestyles. These efforts are engineered to reach underserved populations who don't have access to health services or health education materials.

Women Against Prostate Cancer is a new organization, founded by Men's Health Network in conjunction with the Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center, that is developing a grassroots network of women volunteers who have been adversely affected by prostate cancer. The National Cancer Institute estimates 219,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, resulting in more than 27,000 deaths this year. Meanwhile, the state symposia create opportunities for networking for men's health and community outreach organizations throughout the State(s), as well as encourage preventative health measures and physician and patient dialogue.

Actions like these can save lives and, more importantly, American families. I along with my colleagues belonging to the Congressional Men's Health Caucus am proud to support these continued efforts while continually stressing the need to establish an Office of Men's Health within the Department of Health and Human Services.