

achieved this very commendable goal. I am certain Sean's incredible accomplishments, dedication to service, and evident leadership talents will continue to speak highly of him, as they do now.

INTRODUCTION OF IMPORTED ETHANOL FACILITATION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to facilitate the importation of ethanol. It is cosponsored by my colleague from Colorado, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and I appreciate his support.

The bill will direct the President to lower the ethanol import tariff, so that it will never be higher than the tax-credit subsidy for blending ethanol into gasoline.

Historically, the ethanol tariff was linked to the subsidy, and so had the effect of precluding foreign ethanol blenders from benefiting from the subsidy. However, the recently enacted Farm Bill will reduce the subsidy but simultaneously extend the tariff for 2 more years at \$0.54 per gallon.

Unless that changes, the tariff will be changed into a trade barrier that will make it even harder for ethanol imports to enter the U.S. market. This can have serious adverse consequences. For example—

By restricting supplies, it will tend to increase the price of fuel—including both gasoline and ethanol—in the United States.

It will make it harder to import sugar-based ethanol, which can work in today's cars and, like other ethanol emits considerably less lifecycle greenhouse gas than gasoline.

It works against imports from friendly countries that produce ethanol while oil and gasoline imports from OPEC enter the United States tax-free.

It hinders the emergence of a global biofuels marketplace that could permit mutually beneficial trade between producing regions and stabilize both fuel and food prices.

And it tends to increase our dependency on fossil fuels—including petroleum from the Middle East—when we should be working to reduce that dependency.

By restoring the role of the tariff as an offset, not a trade barrier, my bill will prevent those consequences. In this respect, it is a companion to legislation (S. 3080) introduced in the Senate by Senator FEINSTEIN.

In addition, my bill will require the Energy and Commerce Departments to report to Congress regarding the possible effect of further reducing—or even eliminating—the tariff on ethanol on fuel supplies and prices in the United States and on the domestic production of ethanol.

I have included this provision because I think it is worth exploring whether legislation to further reduce or eliminate the tariff could help reduce fuel prices without serious harm to our domestic ethanol industry.

Madam Speaker, this bill alone will not do all that should be done to revise and reform our energy policies. But I think it can help, and I think it deserves the support of all our colleagues.

For the benefit of our colleagues, here is an outline of the bill's provisions:

SECTION-BY-SECTION OUTLINE

Section one provides a short title, "Imported Ethanol Facilitation Act."

Section two sets out findings regarding the reasons for the bill. It also states the bill's purpose, which is "to ensure that the tariff on ethanol does not exceed the tax credit applicable to blenders of ethanol, to avoid erecting a new trade barrier to imports of ethanol while assuring that foreign blenders will not benefit from the tax credit, and to require a study of potential effects of further reduction in or elimination of the duty on ethanol."

Section three directs the president to act to ensure that the ethanol tariff will not exceed any tax credit applicable to ethanol.

Section four requires the Department of Energy and the Commerce Department to report to Congress regarding the effects any further reduction—or elimination—of the ethanol tariff would have on (1) fuel supplies and fuel prices in the U.S.; and (2) the domestic production of ethanol. The deadline for this report would be 90 days after the bill's enactment.

THANKING MR. DANIEL G. DOODY FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement on July 6, 2008, we rise today to thank Daniel (Dan) Doody for over 23 years of combined federal government service within the Department of Defense and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Prior to his tenure with the House, Dan spent approximately 15 years of his career in the Department of Defense with responsibilities ranging from program control officer and staff engineer to various management positions supporting complex systems development activities.

In January 2000, Dan came to the U.S. House of Representatives, within the Office of Chief Administrative Office, CAO, as the Deputy Associate Administrator for House Information Resources (HIR). In this role, Dan managed the CAO's technology planning and budgeting activities as well as overseeing systems development projects and operations.

In August 2001, Dan took overall responsibility for HIR, an organization of approximately 270 staff. This role was quickly tested when in September 2001 the nation experienced the tragic events of September 11th followed quickly by the House Office Building anthrax contamination and subsequent closures in October 2001. Immediately thereafter, Dan was assigned the critical role of Program Manager for the House's Business Continuity Disaster Recovery (BCDR) initiatives. The focus of this program was to dramatically improve the House's business continuity planning and recovery capabilities so that House essential support services were easily restored or transitioned to backup systems in the event of an emergency.

Dan continued his duties as HIR Associate Administrator until February 2006 at which time he became the Deputy CAO for Operations. In this role, Dan had responsibility for the operations of HIR, Administrative and Fi-

ancial Services, Workforce Services, and Business Continuity. Dan's attention to detail, skill in developing working relationships at all levels of the House, Legislative Branch, and industry, as well as his uncanny ability to discern good ideas and implementation approaches from the bad, Dan was a voice of reason whose recommendations and opinions were always sought after and held with the highest regard.

Dan has dedicated his life to making the federal government and, in particular, the CAO and the U.S. House of Representatives a better and more secure place to work. After his retirement from the government, Dan's plan is to return to private industry. On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Dan for his dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish him many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

IN TRIBUTE OF REX LAIRD

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Rex Laird, who retired this week after 28 years as Chief Executive Officer of the Ventura County Farm Bureau.

As CEO, Rex was responsible for managing the Farm Bureau's staff, daily operations and finances. He recommended policy to the bureau Board of Directors, implemented board directives, and represented the interests of the membership at legislative and regulatory hearings. He also served as the bureau's liaison with the news media and community organizations.

Rex did it all with a calm, consensus-building demeanor. It's safe to say that Rex and I didn't always agree, but we always parted with a handshake and looked forward to seeing each other again.

Rex commands respect due to his knowledge and passion for Ventura County's agricultural industry. During his tenure, the county's population more than doubled. Restrictions tightened on pesticide use; trade with the Pacific Rim expanded; competition from foreign growers increased; and growers faced floods, freezes, fires, droughts, and agricultural pests.

Rex not only helped steer the industry through it all, he helped it grow and expand. Today, agriculture remains one of Ventura County's top industries, grossing more than \$1.5 billion annually. Agriculture is also diverse in Ventura County, with citrus and nut groves, row crops, livestock and poultry, and nursery stock, among others.

Rex's skill as a consensus builder is epitomized by his role as a founding member of the Ag Futures Alliance Committee, which was formed to promote better understanding and dialog within the community on agricultural issues. The group includes representatives from the community, media, business, agriculture, environmental, and advocacy groups.

In 2005, the California Farm Bureau Federation recognized the Ventura County Farm Bureau for its activities in the Ag Futures Alliance and its leadership role working in a collaborative effort with the Association of Water