

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 7056, THE INTERROGATION AND DETENTION REFORM ACT

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, during the presidency of George W. Bush, many of us have watched with horror as the Administration has pursued policies—supposedly to help fight an ill-defined war against terrorism—that shock the conscience and undermine the values fundamental to our understanding of what it means to be an American: torture; disappearance; indefinite detention.

Historians will view the excesses of this era with the same scorn as the Alien and Sedition Acts and the reign of McCarthyism. Even in hindsight, however, it will be difficult to understand how these policies could have gained even tacit approval from so many.

Many of us have resisted these policies, questioned them, opposed them, and condemned them. We have, in the last two years, begun the monumental task of dismantling them.

We also have begun a second, equally daunting effort: to identify policies that will address our very real security challenges without compromising our fundamental values and our standing in the world. Simply put, global terrorism presents a serious and evolving threat, and it demands new thinking about the tools we must use to confront this threat.

On September 24, along with nine original co-sponsors, I introduced H.R. 7056, legislation aimed at generating more robust debate about the nature of the threat of terrorism and the tools we must apply to address it. My legislation focuses specifically upon the Bush Administration's most disgraceful and disturbing legacy: its architecture of law and practice in the realm of detention, interrogation, and prosecution of terrorism suspects.

My legislation recognizes, however, that a progressive response to the Administration's regressive policies cannot be limited to "don't do that"—don't torture, don't hold detainees indefinitely, and so on—but must offer a new vision that is responsive to the challenges and opportunities of the current context. I hope my proposals will spark new ideas that will lead to a new, more ethical, and more effective approach to battling global terrorism.

The question of how best to organize and mobilize the instruments of our national power in fighting global terrorism, especially with regard to interrogation and detention of terrorist suspects, is particularly pertinent as we prepare to determine the direction and leadership of our country for the next four years.

In my view, there are three major challenges the next president will have to address. One: How can we most effectively approach human intelligence collection, a task that includes determining the most effective and most ethical ways to conduct interrogations?

Two: What is the best system to prosecute suspected terrorists quickly and effectively? Three: What will be the nature of our detention regime? Where, under what authority, with what rights, and for how long may suspects be detained? All of these questions will require fresh thinking and creative solutions.

Debate surrounding the first question has largely focused on whether or not the United States should engage in so-called "enhanced interrogation" practices, which often amount to torture. The Bush Administration has adopted policies authorizing aggressive interrogation practices that many of us would interpret to constitute torture or inhuman treatment, placing our nation in clear violation of the constitution, U.S. law, and international treaty obligations. The question these practices have posed is whether, and when, such practices are justified in the name of national security.

Most basically, the use of torture violates notions of human rights and dignity that in the American political and legal tradition have been regarded as inalienable and have pre-empted other considerations. The constitution explicitly prohibits "cruel and unusual punishment" and requires that no individual "be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." The constitution does not limit the application of these protections to American citizens or to cases that do not involve potential terrorism or other dangers. Torturing an individual inflicts cruel and unusual punishment upon an individual without granting him or her due process of law.

The Bush Administration, by contrast, has taken a utilitarian moral approach in justifying the use of torture. Utilitarian approaches judge an action according to its ability to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number of people. Should torturing a single individual prove to save the lives of hundreds or thousands of others, the action of torturing could be deemed justifiable. When vetoing an Intelligence Authorization bill including prohibitions against torture, for example, President Bush argued, "if we were to shut down this program and restrict the CIA. . . . we could lose vital information from senior al Qaeda terrorists, and that could cost American lives."

At least two of the factual premises of the utilitarian argument are highly problematic. While advocates often present the case in terms of a dramatic choice to torture one in order to save many, the truth is that torture and abuse have been applied far more widely than to a few unique individuals. The argument might be stronger if torture were a unique exception applied in a singular and critically urgent circumstance—the "ticking bomb" scenario. The case begins to fall apart, however, when torture is officially sanctioned policy, available at the discretion of interrogators.

What of the claim that violating human rights and liberties might serve some greater good? Even if one accepts such moral reasoning, it is based on false assumptions. Several current and former practitioners of interrogation have persuasively argued that so-called

"enhanced interrogation" practices—or torture—simply do not work. Such practices are no more likely to yield actionable intelligence than traditional methods and, in fact, in many cases, are more likely to yield false information.

As Rear Admiral John Hutson, a former Navy JAG, has explained, "torture doesn't work. All the literature and experts say that if we really want usable information, we should go exactly the opposite way and try to gain the trust and confidence of the prisoners. Torture will get you information, but it's not reliable. Eventually, if you don't accidentally kill them first, torture victims will tell you something just to make you stop."

Even the Army Field Manual on Interrogation states that "the use of force is a poor technique, as it yields unreliable results, may damage subsequent collection efforts, and can induce the source to say whatever he thinks the interrogator wants to hear."

Both moral and practical arguments thus lead to the same conclusion: the use of torture and cruel or inhuman practices is the wrong way forward.

But the question of torture is only the beginning of the debate, not the end. For far too long, public debate focused our attention only on the abuses of "enhanced interrogation," ignoring—to our peril and to the detriment of our counterterrorism efforts—the equally important questions regarding our ability to effectively detain and prosecute individuals involved in terrorism. A long litany of policies undertaken by the Bush administration in the service of its war on terrorism—indefinite detention, habeas corpus exceptions, special military tribunals, and so on—are as morally questionable as the practice of torture.

Yet, too often, we have engaged in passionate ideological debate about whether these policies are morally justified, when we might first ask the simple question: do they work?

While Supreme Court justices and legal scholars have debated the legality and morality of the Bush administration's justice system for terrorist suspects, reaching an array of different conclusions about the theoretical validity of Guantanamo Bay, the military commissions system, and the like, few would attempt to argue that this legal regime actually works.

To wit: the administration's controversial military tribunal system has yielded exactly two convictions in the seven years since 9–11, including one off a guilty plea. In the same time span, the civilian justice system that the tribunal system supposedly improves upon has delivered over 145 convictions. If our objective is a speedy, effective instrument for bringing terrorists to justice, the tribunal system fails miserably to deliver.

The denial of habeas corpus rights meets a similar fate when examined from a practical standpoint. This denial has led to numerous lawsuits bogging down the judicial process and has undermined the moral high ground on which U.S. antiterrorism efforts previously stood. In short, the denial of such rights simply does not work to benefit our efforts in combating terrorism.

• 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.

And practices such as the detention of high-value prisoners at secret, so-called “black site” prisons, the extraordinary rendition of detainees to countries known to torture suspects, and the broad round-ups of thousands of detainees with limited evidence of links to terrorism similarly have proven to be bankrupt as policies. There is no evidence to suggest that they have improved our human intelligence collection capabilities, they have not advanced our efforts to bring terrorists to justice, and in every case they have had severe dilatory effects on the credibility of our leadership in the global fight against terrorism. In short, they have hurt us far more than they have helped.

Looking at real-world results may help us debunk some of the Bush Administration’s misguided assertions, but it is not sufficient to help us formulate the right approach. Rather, it is essential that we inform our policymaking by a deep examination and national debate about the relationship between our long-held values—as enshrined in the constitution and law and expressed in our religious and ethical traditions—and our security prerogatives.

Examining our detention and interrogation policies through this lens is far more difficult, because legitimate differences do exist about what direction is most just, fair, and ethical, as well as what is most effective.

Nevertheless, it is critical that our country have this debate, and that we reach beyond the relatively basic question of whether or not to engage in “torture.” Our approach to this area of policy will be most effective when it is well informed by all three branches of government, by politicians and the public, and by the lessons of our experience.

Unfortunately, this national conversation has not occurred and, what’s worse, has been precluded by shrill fear-mongering and divisive rhetoric. The Bush administration deserves much of the blame. In debates over anti-torture provisions, FISA, military commissions, and the like, it has generally resorted to scare tactics, sharp partisanship, and questions about its critics’ patriotism. Such tactics do not promote a productive national debate that will make our nation safer from terrorism; they have only served to deflect attention from the enormous flaws of the Administration’s policies.

Instead of such cynical partisanship, we must truly wrestle with the very real challenges of developing smart detention and interrogation policies. Such wrestling must go beyond simply opposing the administration’s flawed policies.

Opposing torture, opposing the denial of habeas rights, opposing extraordinary rendition—these stances are all good and appropriate, but the rejection of bad policy alone cannot make good policy. Instead, we must seek ways to affirmatively improve our human intelligence collection, strengthen the capacity of our courts to prosecute terrorists, and better understand the nature and vulnerabilities of the terrorist threat.

In the interest of encouraging such a debate, the bill I have introduced offers a number of proposals for how we might effectively approach human intelligence collection, detention, and prosecution in terrorism cases.

My bill combines the imperative of rolling back the Administration’s worst abuses with what I hope is forward thinking about improving our ability to collect human intelligence and bring terrorists to justice.

It would repeal the Military Commissions Act and direct prosecution of terrorism cases to the time-tested civilian and military justice systems, which have proven far more effective at bringing terrorists to justice; It would close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.

It would establish a new, cross-government, uniform set of standards for interrogation practices, enacting a clear prohibition against torture and building in a regular Congressional review. Rather than imposing the Army’s standards on everyone, it would establish a process for military and civilian intelligence agencies to work together to develop new standards.

It would prohibit the use of private contractors for the critically sensitive, inherently governmental business of conducting interrogations, a red line that I hope we can all agree on.

And it would require that all high-level interrogations be videotaped, as proposed by our colleague, Representative RUSH HOLT.

These much-needed reforms are founded upon both moral and practical analyses of the current system’s flaws. Such correctives are needed to return our nation to a solid footing. But they must be paired with steps to ensure that our nation’s capacity for human intelligence collection is equal to the challenge of global terrorism.

To that end, my bill proposes a number of new initiatives designed to make our human intelligence collection better, smarter, and more penetrating.

It would establish a new interagency center of excellence to train intelligence collectors, review U.S. policies, and carry out sustained research on the best practices of interrogation and intelligence collection.

It would seek to enhance U.S. intelligence cooperation with key allies—like Britain, Spain, and Israel—that have significant experience in dealing with human intelligence collection and anti-terrorism efforts. We need to learn from their successes and mistakes as well as our own.

It would require the military to further develop intelligence collection career paths so that, instead of rotating officers in and out of the intelligence specialty, we retain the best and brightest in the field and benefit from the expertise they develop over the course of their careers.

And it would require the formulation of a strategy to prevent the radicalization of inmates held in both domestic and overseas detention facilities

I offer my legislation with the belief that we must have a far broader national conversation about the questions and the hope that my bill will point to some new and creative answers.

The American public must undertake this conversation with a deep reassessment of an even more fundamental question: what makes our nation truly secure? Is our nation more secure when we use aggressive measures that, even if they make some terrorist suspects talk, fuel the radicalization of a new generation of terrorists? Is our nation more secure if we detain hundreds of terrorist suspects extralegally, but then face legal obstacles that prevent us from convicting them? Is our nation more secure if we take measures designed to increase our security against attacks that undermine values we hold sacred?

Our national conversation must be oriented toward helping us develop a set of policies

that makes far more effective use of the instruments of our national power to defeat terrorism on the battlefield, while capitalizing on the moral authority of our free and open society to defeat terrorism in the battle of ideas.

Against those who would do us harm, we must be vigilant and ready to mount an effective defense. But the number of such adversaries, the support they gain, and the threat they pose will depend not only on the defense we mount, at home or abroad, but on the values we project and the role our nation plays in the world.

The legislation I offer today will restore our grounding in the values of justice and respect for human rights that have guided our nation through two hundred thirty-two years of history. It will help us lead again through the power of our example. And it will help us mount that vigilant defense against global terrorists by enhancing the effectiveness of our efforts. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

MIDDLE CLASS INVESTOR RELIEF ACT, H.R. 7123

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, a year ago, the subprime crisis surfaced. This month, we see the results of inordinate and mis-regulated financial risk-taking. The regulator for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac put these mortgage giants into conservatorship. The Treasury and Federal Reserve intervened to keep the largest U.S. insurer out of bankruptcy. Twice in 1 week, the U.S. stock market posted 1-day drops not seen since two airplanes were flown into the Wall Street’s World Trade Center buildings. Congress is taking swift action to protect the capital markets that keep our economy going. We must not forget the small investor.

Middle class families are seeing significant losses in their investments weaken investor confidence, consumer spending and the future growth of our Nation’s economy. Stock investors have watched the values of their portfolios drop more than 20 percent this year, and homeowners fear that continuing mortgage market volatility will hamper recovery of the real estate markets—down 30 percent in some regions of the United States. Some middle class Americans nearing retirement may need to work additional years to earn back their stock losses.

With continuing economic uncertainty, we must bring relief to middle class families while boosting investor confidence in an uncertain stock market. Today, I am introducing the Middle Class Investor Relief Act, increasing the maximum annual capital loss a taxpayer can take from \$3,000 to \$20,000.

Current tax law is asymmetrical with regard to taxing capital gains and writing off capital losses. Long-term gains are taxed at 15 percent while capital loss write-offs are capped at \$3,000 per year. An individual who lost more than \$3,000 in the stock market could take years to rebuild his or her holdings. The Middle Class Investor Relief Act will correct the asymmetry of current tax law and help middle class Americans recover losses and rebuild their portfolios.

TRIBUTE TO THE SHCC

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCC). To honor this organization, the State of New Jersey has designated October 13 through October 19 Hispanic Business Week.

The health of the Hispanic business community is vital to maintaining the strength of the New Jersey economy. This year, the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of New Jersey is celebrating 19 years of service and commitment on behalf of the growing small business community. They have positioned themselves as number one out of the top 50 Chambers of Commerce of the State of New Jersey.

I also want to recognize Daniel H. Jara, founding president and CEO of the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey. Daniel has been listed in the elite group of the State's 2006 Movers and Shakers Most Influential Business Leaders by NJBiz.

The Hispanic market represents the fastest growing sector in the United States. In the Garden State, this segment of the population has experienced an 87-percent growth in less than 10 years. This year, it is estimated that there are over 70,000 Hispanic-owned businesses, which support approximately 190,000 jobs and generate \$10.5 billion in sales. According to the last economic census, New Jersey has the fifth largest concentration of Hispanic-owned businesses in the Nation.

The Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey will hold its 18th Annual Convention and Expo on October 17, 2008. I wish the Chamber success as they continue striving to grow New Jersey's economy.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CAN DO BILL

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Communities in Action Neighborhood and Opportunity bill, also known as the CAN DO bill. The Department of Justice reports that, on average, 45 people are shot and killed daily in America. Annually, there are 16,000–17,000 gun deaths in America.

In contrast, the total number of American casualties in Iraq, over the entire 5-year span of the war, is about 4,155 and for Afghanistan, it's at least 500. The combined total of casualties for Iraq and Afghanistan is less than 5,000 since both wars began. More Americans are killed in America than American soldiers killed in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan combined.

Madam Speaker, as elected leaders of this country, we must address this critical issue that inflicts so many of our most vulnerable communities. This issue of gun violence affects all Americans, white, black, Latino, and Asian. And gun violence pervades in all of our communities: urban, suburban, and rural.

This issue is not a black or white issue, and it is not an urban or rural issue. This is an

American issue that we must address with all of the resources we have at our disposal.

The CAN DO bill offers a new strategy in dealing with gun violence. It combines strict law enforcement practices, along with new opportunities for mental health counseling, job programs, and educational and recreational services for at-risk youth and their families.

This bill is also unique in that it brings together the entire community to deal with the issue of gun violence by establishing partnerships between public agencies, businesses, community-based nonprofits, churches, schools, and universities. There is an "all hands on" approach in order to get all of the stakeholders involved and provide a comprehensive and effective strategy that families and communities can support and get behind.

As it is recorded by the Prophet Isaiah, "They will turn their swords into plows, and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will not take up the sword against other nations and they will never again train for war".

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the CAN DO bill and help end the destruction that is tearing apart so many of our communities. Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing".

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN JIM RAMSTAD

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, Congressman JIM RAMSTAD, as he retires from the U.S. House of Representatives.

Congressman RAMSTAD is dedicated to public service. He served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve after graduating from the University of Minnesota and then as a Criminal Justice attorney before being elected to the Minnesota Senate in 1981 and to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1990. Today, he is a member of the Board of Directors of Minnesota D.A.R.E and the Lake County Food Bank.

Minnesota has been fortunate to have a leader like Congressman RAMSTAD representing us in the House of Representatives. Congressman RAMSTAD is one of a rare class of members who always puts policy above partisanship, and with his focus on law enforcement and health care, has made a real difference for families in Minnesota and across the country.

He showed his immense courage and commitment by speaking about his own challenges with chemical dependency during his work on the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act. His dedication to reducing the stigma associated with mental health and chemical dependency and ensuring fairness in health care has changed the lives of millions of Americans.

Congressman RAMSTAD served on the Health Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee and has worked effectively on issues relating to health care access. As a freshman Member of the House, he recog-

nized the growing importance of technology to health care and to Minnesota's economy, and started the Medical Technology Caucus. This caucus has brought much needed attention to the field of medical technology and created a forum for Members and staff to learn more about these important innovations.

His important work in this area also has a global reach. I was proud to have Jim as a partner in introducing legislation to expand access to voluntary family planning in developing countries.

It has been an honor to serve alongside Congressman RAMSTAD in the Minnesota Delegation for the last 7 years. I have learned a lot from him, and will miss him. However, Minnesotans can rest assured that JIM's public service will continue long after he leaves Congress.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the service of Congressman JIM RAMSTAD in the U.S. House of Representatives.

NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, over the past several decades, employers, human resource professionals, policymakers, and everyone who works have come to understand the importance of supporting the often competing demands of work, home, and community. Support for the work-life juggling act has expanded to cover the predictable life events that occur throughout a career.

According to recent data and studies, balancing work and family is increasingly important to the strength of America's businesses today; 85 percent of United States wage and salaried workers have immediate, day-to-day family responsibilities outside of their jobs.

According to 2007 report by WorldatWork titled "Attraction and Retention: The Impact and Prevalence of Work-life and Benefit Programs", the quality of workers' jobs and the supportiveness of their workplaces are key predictors of job productivity, job satisfaction, commitment to employers, and retention.

Given the current economic crisis that is squeezing the family budget at a rate unprecedented since the Great Depression, from the escalating price of such basics as gasoline and food, at the same time housing values are declining, now more than ever it is essential to give working families some relief. Time is the new currency and has become as valuable a benefit as money. Research shows that workplace flexibility is the most highly prized response that employers can provide to 21st century workplace realities.

Workplace flexibility is not a trivial pursuit; it is a business imperative today. Corporations that engage in these family-supportive practices have earned 2–3 times the stock values, and creating a collegial, flexible work environment has been shown empirically to create a minimum of 9 percent of shareholder value.

No one is a pioneer; the path to flexibility is well-traveled, and best practices abound in all sectors—public as well as private. Many businesses are doing an exemplary job in this area already. H. Res. 1440 recognizes that

the goal of National Work and Family Month is to encourage all employers to pause once a year in October, take stock of the progress that has been made to creating great places to work, and move the bar up one notch, thus setting a new goal for the year to come. This is the way progress is accomplished, one step at a time. Today we recognize the importance of setting aside this time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD PERKINS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Perkins.

Richard has dedicated his life to serving his fellow Nevadans and giving back to the Southern Nevada community. After growing up in Boulder City and Henderson, Richard graduated from Basic High School and subsequently the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with degrees in Criminal Justice and Political Science. Following his graduation from UNLV, Richard began a long and illustrious career with the Henderson Police Department in 1984. He has served as the Chief of Police for the Henderson Police Department since 2006.

In addition to Richard's dedicated service as a police officer and first responder, he admirably served in the Nevada State Legislature for a number of years. In 1993, Richard was first elected to the Nevada Assembly and served for five subsequent regular sessions. During his time in the legislature, Richard distinguished himself, becoming the Democratic Floor Leader in 1995, the Chairman of the Legislative Commission from 1997–1998, and the Majority Floor Leader from 1997–1999. He served as the Speaker of the Nevada State Assembly in 2001.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my good friend, Richard Perkins. Richard's tireless dedication to his fellow Nevadans and the Southern Nevada community are admirable and should serve as an example of a life dedicated to service. I thank Richard for his efforts, and wish him the best in his retirement and all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DERON MICHAEL WILLIAMS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of U.S.A. Olympic Team member Deron Michael Williams for his contribution to the U.S. men's basketball team in the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

Deron Michael Williams was born on June 26, 1984 in Parkersburg, WV and later moved to Texas with his mother, who planted a love for basketball inside him. Deron's success began when he played as a point guard for the Colony High School Cougars. His passion for basketball paid off and he was recruited by the University of Illinois. Deron gained national

attention when he helped get his team to the National Championships, and was named one of the Big Ten's Best Players.

Deron was also awarded the position of third pick by the Utah Jazz in the NBA draft. His intensity and drive revitalized the Jazz and brought renewed energy to the team, and he was awarded the NBA Skills Champion title earlier this year. Deron's hard work led him to the U.S.A. Olympic Team, where he and his teammates brought home the gold.

Deron's role on the U.S.A. Olympic Basketball Team helped bring positive attention to America, and with his team, helped contribute to the spirit of the Olympics. As a Member of Congress, I am proud to stand before you today and boast of the accomplishments of a man like Deron Williams, whose professional accomplishments began in my own district as the point guard for the Colony Cougars. Deron, thank you for your unselfish dedication both on and off the court and for your role in representing America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed rollcall votes 637–644 on September 25, 2008. I was in my congressional district attending a funeral for a fallen service member.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted rollcall vote No. 637, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 1490, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 638, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 1490, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 639, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 758, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 640, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 1501, "nay"; rollcall vote No. 641, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended, H. Con. Res. 255, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 642, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 1014, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 643, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 6950, "aye"; rollcall vote No. 644, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended, H. Res. 1421, "aye."

TRAVEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, as Members of Congress who have long been strong proponents of American small businesses, we were pleased to include a small business representative on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Travel Promotion established under H.R. 3232, the Travel Promotion Act of 2008, which was recently passed by the House of Representatives.

Small businesses are the foundation of the American economy and play an integral role in

the travel and tourism industry. A small business representative on the board would offer a unique perspective on promoting travel to the United States. As such, it is imperative that this individual has significant, recent or current experience operating or being integrally involved in a small business' operation.

We look forward to enactment of the Travel Promotion Act, and to the small business representative on the Corporation for Travel Promotion's board being a strong voice for small business in this country.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus to congratulate Taiwan on its 97th National Day on October 10.

The people of Taiwan have many reasons to celebrate and be proud of their country. Having elected President Ma Ying-jeou, the Taiwanese have returned the KMT party back to power, thereby effectively passing Huntington's "two-turnover test of democratic consolidation." By successfully transitioning from one party to another and back to the original party, the people of Taiwan have proven their democracy is flourishing.

Today, Taiwan is a vibrant democracy with a strong market economy thanks to its strong ties with the United States. Under the new Ma administration, Taiwan will only seek to fortify these ties and continue to prosper as a nation.

Madam Speaker, I would also be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to push for the 111th Congress to pass a Free Trade Agreement with Taiwan. Taiwan is the United States' ninth largest trading partner, with trade flows between the two totaling \$64.6 billion last year. A Free Trade Agreement expand trade and improve economic growth, provide enhanced opportunities for U.S. businesses and support an important democratic ally in a strategic region. It is time we put our differences aside and pass this legislation which is long overdue.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 490 AND LADIES AUXILIARY UNIT 490

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I am privileged to recognize American Legion Post 490 and the Ladies Auxiliary Unit 490 of Houston, Texas for their outstanding service to the Houston area in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

American Legion Post 490 is located near Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Southeast Houston and enjoys 1,448 active members—one of the largest posts in the Department of Texas. Their hard work following Hurricane Ike as a non-profit veteran service organization is a true testament to their ongoing efforts to serve local communities.

Despite damage by the storm on the Post's main hall, Adjutant Bob Burrows of American Legion Post 490 and President Lisa Reeves of Ladies Auxiliary Unit opened their doors to the thousands of people still without power to utilize the facility as a registration site for FEMA assistance. They also took the initiative to ensure food, water and ice was available to affected individuals.

The American Legion Post 490 and Ladies Auxiliary Unit 490 dedicated themselves to the recovery efforts of the Houston area, Southeast Texas is grateful for the generosity of the Post's officers, members and auxiliary unit, and I am proud of their noble service to the victims of Hurricane Ike.

CONGRATULATING CAROLINE ROSE HUNT, RECIPIENT OF THE 2008 VIRGINIA CHANDLER DYKES LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caroline Rose Hunt on receiving the annual Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award.

The Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award is presented to Dallas residents who demonstrate a commitment to developing a strong community. The Award is a testament to care, commitment, and leadership given by Hunt to cultural and charitable organizations.

Ms. Hunt is an accomplished entrepreneur, author, humanitarian, and grandmother of nineteen. She is a vice-chair and co-founder of the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas Foundation where she was nationally recognized by the Tocqueville Society. Ms. Hunt is also the cochair of the Ralph Rogers Society of KERA television and chairwoman of the Crescent Club Board. Ms. Hunt has been honored with the Award for Excellence from the Dallas Historical Society, and named "One of 50 Most Powerful Women in the U.S.A." by Ladies Home Journal.

Ms. Hunt is a graduate of the University of Texas, and was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 2006. She has served as a trustee of Mary Baldwin College, where she began her academic career. Ms. Hunt was named the first woman deacon of Highland Park Presbyterian Church, where she also chaired the Early Childhood Division.

Madam Speaker, today it is my honor to recognize the achievements of Ms. Caroline Rose Hunt. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary, and deserves our sincere appreciation and respect. It is a privilege to represent Mrs. Hunt in the 26th District of Texas. I look forward to observing the positive impact she will continue to have on our communities.

TRIBUTE TO HURRICANE IKE VOLUNTEERS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, in the midst of the most devastating storm to hit our

shores in 50 years, the true colors of Texas were evident in each and every volunteer.

Before, during and especially after Hurricane Ike hit, Texans helped each other through this disaster. Neighbors helped neighbors with everything from boarding up windows to providing shelter to helping pick up the pieces. Many, Southeast Texans opened their homes to their evacuated neighbors, some cooking hot meals, others offering a helping hand and a kind smile.

Countless volunteers showed up at the congressional mobile office I helped set up. Many volunteers had no power or homes themselves, but remained dedicated to helping those worse off get back on their feet. Others flew in from out of town, arriving without knowing where they would stay that night, but knowing that they needed to help.

Volunteers at the congressional mobile office helped sign in individuals, assisted in helping those that spoke a number of different languages, aided people in the FEMA application process, answered questions, helped with traffic control, and assisted in the distribution of ice, water, and MRE's to those in need.

I am extremely grateful for the hundreds of individuals who have assisted and continue to assist in the recovery efforts of Hurricane Ike. The following individuals joined our efforts:

Grisehda Abehiz, Carl Aldridge, Mathew Aleman, Robert Andris, Storilynn Applegate, Peter Archambault, Derek Arkadie, Jennifer Arndorfer, Addie Arnold, Patricia Arp, Shaneck Backler, Jesse Baldez, Silvestre Banda, Kara Bartow, Donna Batchler, Dona Bautista, Veronica Bautista, Joan Baxter, Savannah Beberil, Tawayne Bell, Khristian Benjamin, Raveena Bhalara, Barbara Bigge, Elizabeth Briones, Bermuda Brittingham, Diana Brown, Quinten Burkes, Kimberly Burkes, Karla Cabrera, Stephen Caldwell, Sheryl Caldwell, Chauanchom Campbell, Antonio Capistran, Charlie Caplan, Nona Caradine, Cesar Carmona, Cristina Carmona, Maryanne Carrasco, Kim Chambles, Radia Chandani, Donna Chandler, Danielle Chandler, Matt Cherches, Gisela Cherches, Kay Cherry, Eugene Chevis, Joyce Cisneros, Leonard Coapiron, Charlene Cockelt, Reddie Collins, Laura Cortez, Roger Creery, John Cross, Raul Cruz, Martha Cruz, Angela Daney, Rebecca Daniel, Ascencion Dantes, Daphne Davis, Michael Dawson, Diane De Leon, Yvette De Los Santos, Teal De la Garza, Diana Brown Deleon, Tiffani Dennis, Amber Dennis, Annie Dennis, Jennifer Diaz, Darlene Dobes, C.F. Douglas, Joan Douglas, Becky Eastep, Lette Edward, Ryan Eisenman, Bonnie Engh, Anthony Epison, Mary Esqueda, Carletta Everett, Raslyne Faison, Robert Farias, Mike Finn, Stephen Firestone, Rigoberto Flores, Iranda Flowers, Sara Foster, Karen Fountain, Martha Fraga, Tiffany Franer, Cherie Frazier, Denny Friday, Yre Friday, Michelle Fryberger, Gregoria Fuentes, Wanoa Gage, Eva Gallegos, Victor Garcia, Marcos Garcia,

Mercedes Garcia, Jordan Gartner, Alma Garza Gawlik, Lisa Gillock, Amanda Gomet, Janie Gomez, Elizabeth Gonzales, Arushary Goodwill, LaVern Gordon, Tessa Gourash, Cat Graham, Gus Guerrero, Kimberlee Guerrero, Danielle Guerrero, Guadalupe Gutierrez, Lee Hall, Fred Hamilton, June Hanke, Susan Harting, Brian Hartwig, Meagan Harvey, Thelma Hawkins, Jael Hayood, Morgan Heeke, Andres Hernandez, Sarah Higginbotham, Norris Hill, Beatrice Hill, Austen Holley, Juan Homez, David Howard, Victoria Huynh, David Huynh, Phung Huynh, Dunct Huynh, Arareli Ibarra, Lillian Jenkins, Eontine Jett, Hope Johnson, Ann Johnson, Maggie Johnson,

Eligh Johnson, Dre Johnson, Larrilyan Jones, Janice Jones, Latasha Jordan, Willie Kelly, Mohammad Khan, J.J. Kim, Doug Kimble, Amanda Kinnebrew, Ernest Kinnebrew, Patrick Kolb, Melody Lacy, Helen Lacy-Pope, Gloria Lafnette, David Lanagan, Michelle Landin, Britney Laws, Andrew Laws, Ben Lebrun, Michael Leopold, Johnny Letman,

Joyce Lewis, Elsie Little, Roberto Llorente, Merlina Llorente, Melissa Lopez, Ruth Lopez, Miriam Lopez, Jenny Luna, Gary Magness, Denise Maldett, Denise Mallett, Concepcion Mares, Ruben Mariduena, John Marinos, Marilyn Marinos, Jacqueline Marion, Deanna Martin, Kenyarda Martin, Sylvia Masters, J.R. Max, Yulanda Mcguire, Molly McKee, Sylvia Medina, John Medina, Nicole Medina, Jamie Medina, Andy B. Medina, Don Meyers, Patricia Midan, Lakeitia Miller, Edward Miller, Sarina Miller,

Jamarr Miller, Albert Moreno, Esmeralda Moreno, Bronson Morill, Sheryl Muller, Misty Munley, Francisco Munoz, Don Myers, Mujteba Naqui, Lan Thi Nguyen, Carl Nix, Elaina Nix, David Noe, Gwendolyn Norris, Victor Ocanas, Tiffany Orandi, Phyllis Padron, Jane Parediz, Brenda Parker, Maggie Parks, Elfrin Patten, Wesley Paulson, Chase Payne, Anna Pennacchi, Madelon Perez, Alesia Perez, Guadalupe Perez, Fay Perkins, Tracy Perry, Cecilia Pham, Shelly Piomb, Arthur Pisana, Luke Pittman,

Cyndy Posey, Rick Pounter, Juawanna Powell, Margaret Prejean, Courtney Pryor, Debbie Pryor, Gloria Pulido, Tressa Pulliam, David Purvis, Jose Quezada, Marvelia Quezada, Alonso Quintanille, Yolanda Quintanille, Rupen Radia, Chandano Radva, Mike Ramirez, Briselda Ramirez, Mike Reves, Lettia Ride, Jessica Rienhart, Julia Rimam, Mackenzie Rita, Caroly Rittenhour, Matthew Robbins, Desiree Roberts, Doug Rosbrough, Arthur Rosbrough, Kathleen Rose, Sylvia Royster, Tyson Ruhman, James Russell,

Maria Saldiver, Rosemarie Sanchez, Steven Sartor, Janet Schell, Chris Schillinger, Donna Scholes, Jeanne Schultz, Reid Scofield, Carver Shivers, Leonard Siple, Harold W. Sjogren, Carol Smith, Tracy Smith, Robert Smith, Paula Smith, Edwin Smith, Phillip Smith, Estelle Sowell, Josephine Sowell, Shannon Sowell, Velma Sumra, Putu Sutjita, Mika Tabata, Lynn Taylor, Ginger Terry, Kim Kind Tezino, D.D. Tezino, Darren Thompson, Christine Thompson, Vicki Underwood, Elisa Valdez,

Raph Valverde, Cynthia Van Ostenbridge, Ruben Vargas, Angeline Varlet, Jeri Veile, Marisela Vela, Chezham Vela, Kenyon Vonters, Jason Voth, Helen Wait, Jonathan Waller, Zachary Walter, Barbara Walton, Kelly Waterman, Amanda Jo Webb, Micheal Weida, Scott Welch, Jackie Willard, Yolanda Williams, D'Ani Williams, Amber Williams, Nevin Williams, Herman Wilson, Geraldine Wise, Scott Wise, Cynthia Wood, Jaymie Woods, Javon Woods, Annie Xiang, Albert Zertuche

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BYRON LARUE MILLER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor the life of

my good friend, Byron LaRue Miller, by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today, I pay tribute to Byron LaRue Miller for his outstanding contributions to the Boulder City, Nevada community.

Byron had a long and successful career in the federal service, mostly in the electric power industry, but also at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Byron first started his long and illustrious career at the FDIC and subsequently worked at the Bonneville Power Administration before serving in the United States Navy for three years during World War II as a Lieutenant JG.

After serving his country in a time of war, Byron went on to serve in the Bureau of Reclamation (BLM) in Denver, and later Boulder City. While with the BLM, Byron truly distinguished himself, earning the Department of the Interior's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award in 1966. Byron then went on to work with Nevada Power Company, after leaving the BLM, from 1973 to 1983. During his tenure with the Nevada Power Company, Byron was well respected in the field as an authority on electric power marketing, transmission and system interconnection.

In addition to his professional successes, Byron was a dedicated community servant. Among Byron's many philanthropic pursuits were the Boulder City Hospital and Boulder City library, where he sat on the boards, as well as Lend A Hand and Grace Community Church. Byron was also an avid and dedicated Rotarian, serving a number of offices, and being inducted into the Rotary's Hall of Fame after 50 years of service.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my good friend, Byron LaRue Miller. His dedication to community and serving his country are admirable and should serve as an example to us all. He will be long remembered in the Boulder City community for his hospitality and compassion.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONNA S. ADAMS UPON HER RETIREMENT AS THE CITY MANAGER OF MILTON, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Donna S. Adams, who is retiring after 27 years of service to the city of Milton, Florida. Her courage and dedication proves that citizens can truly make a difference in the lives of others, and I am proud to honor such an admirable leader of the Northwest Florida community.

Mrs. Adams began her career as a public servant in 1981 as a secretary for the Community Development Block Grant program. She quickly saw how she could transform the City of Milton and began working to improve the city's infrastructure. Her first major project was helping to develop the Milton Riverwalk, a revitalization effort aimed at renewing the downtown property of Milton which lies along the Blackwater River.

After her service with the Community Development Grant Block program, Mrs. Adams

served in several varying capacities for the City of Milton including the Planning and Development Director and the Special Projects Coordinator. She also twice served as the Interim City Manager.

On January 13, 1998, Mrs. Adams was named the Milton City Manager, and she has remained there ever since. As City Manager, Mrs. Adams has overseen significant improvements to the city's community center, warehouse, community parks, and police department, as well as the construction of a new City Hall. Her ten years of service as City Manager has resulted in a tremendous improvement in the quality of life for Milton's citizens, and she will be dearly missed upon her retirement.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to thank Mrs. Adams for her years of service to the Northwest Florida community. Vicki and I wish her and her husband Millard best wishes for continued success.

THE INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO RATIFY AN AGREEMENT AMONG THE UNITED STATES, THE STATE OF ALASKA AND THE BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation today to assist the Bering Straits Native Corporation, an Alaska Native Regional Corporation established under the authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), in fulfilling its land entitlement under ANCSA. This Alaska Native Regional Corporation has requested the bipartisan assistance of Congress to achieve the enactment of this legislation on behalf of the Inupiat people in the region. I look forward to working with Chairman RAHALL and others on the Natural Resources Committee to obtain passage of this meritorious legislation.

An equitable agreement has been worked out by the State of Alaska, the Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) and the United States that would finalize BSNC's entitlement under the ANCSA and help fulfill the State's entitlement to certain lands under the Statehood Act.

As an Alaska Native Regional Corporation, BSNC received entitlement under ANCSA to 145,728 acres of land under Section 14(h)(8) of that landmark Act. This Agreement will fulfill a critical component of that entitlement by conveying to BSNC 1,009 acres of land in the Salmon Lake area while Bering Straits relinquishes 3,084 acres of land from its original Salmon Lake selections which would be conveyed to the State. In addition, in furtherance of fulfilling its land entitlement under the Settlement Act, 6,132 acres of land at Windy Cove and 7,504 acres of land at Imuruk Basin that were either not prioritized or not selected by the State or that were low priority for the State will be conveyed to BSNC. The tracts at Windy Cove and Imuruk Basin are long-standing BSNC 14(h)(8) selections and had been submitted to BLM by BSNC as prioritized

lands. Salmon Lake is located about 38 miles north of Nome, Alaska.

This agreement avoids further administrative appeals or litigation and is a sensible, fair and amicable resolution to some thorny land issues that have faced the parties for many years, caused in part by the competing land selections of the State of Alaska and BSNC.

BSNC's interest in the lands is primarily for subsistence and recreation purposes. With the harsh climate of the Bering Straits Region through many months of the year, the Salmon Lake area provides a place for families to engage in subsistence and recreation activities. It receives substantial use by local residents and this agreement preserves that ability for them to continue such uses.

Under the Agreement, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) retains ownership and administration of a 9-acre campground located at the outlet of Salmon Lake, and within those lands to be conveyed to BSNC under this agreement. This BLM campsite provides road accessible public camping opportunities. An additional easement is granted to the public through lands to be conveyed to BSNC to access Salmon Lake. The agreement also preserves access to BLM managed lands in the Kigluaik Mountain Range.

The agreement completes the previously submitted priorities for land BSNC is entitled to receive under ANCSA. The lands included in the agreement are lands that were validly selected by BSNC pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. It does not provide BSNC with any additional land beyond the amount of its entitlement. It will greatly assist the BSNC in its mission of assisting members of the regional corporation to be able to engage in subsistence activities in an area where recreation opportunities are also available. For people who live in such challenging weather and economic conditions, places such as Salmon Lake provide unique and important opportunities to participate in traditional subsistence and cultural activities that are crucial to a rural subsistence way of life.

It is important to the people of the Bering Straits Region that this agreement be completed. There are many challenges that the people of the region face. Ratifying this agreement will certainly lessen some of those challenges in a positive and constructive way. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that is so important for the Inupiat people of the Bering Straits Region.

NURSING HOME TRANSPARENCY AND QUALITY OF CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2008

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Nursing Home Transparency and Quality of Care Improvement Act of 2008" with my colleague Ms. SCHAKOWSKY of Illinois. This legislation is a companion bill to one introduced by my Senate colleagues, Senators GRASSLEY (R-IA) and KOHL (D-WI). I thank them for their leadership and look forward to working with them on this issue in the next Congress.

It has been 20 years since passage of the Nursing Home Reform Act. Despite improvements in some areas of quality, there is still

much to be done. I am introducing this bill because the lives of our most frail senior citizens are at stake, and our return to this issue is long overdue. I recognize we are in the waning days of this Congress, and I look forward to hearing feedback from my colleagues and interested parties in the coming months. It is my hope we will move forward on this issue in the 111th Congress.

A disturbing trend has been underway in the nursing home industry recently. Nursing home chains have changed their corporate structure in ways that conceal the ownership and management of individual facilities. In doing so, the chains are able to shield assets and limit liability. They obscure regulators' efforts to find the responsible party and seek corrective action or collect monetary penalties. Beneficiaries are similarly limited in their ability to seek remuneration for injury or neglect.

The result is a woeful lack of transparency and accountability. How can we hold nursing home chains accountable for the quality of care if they are hiding their true ownership relationships?

Even more worrisome is the negative effect on quality that may result from these changing corporate structures. The heightened focus on profit maximization in the restructured organizations may come at the expense of quality of care. When cost cutting leads to staffing cuts, patient care suffers, and our most frail seniors and people with disabilities are put in jeopardy.

We must not forget that this industry operates largely on the government dime. Medicare and Medicaid pay for the majority—60 percent—of spending on nursing homes annually, with the remainder coming from people's own wallets or from private insurance. At any one time, nearly 80 percent of residents living in nursing homes are supported by public funds.

These troubling trends in ownership and quality are occurring at the same time that the nursing home industry is enjoying healthy Medicare margins of nearly 13.1 percent in 2006. For profit nursing homes are doing even better, with soaring stock prices and Medicare margins of 16 percent in 2006.

The federal government has a moral and fiduciary responsibility to make sure we know who those providers are and what they are doing, and ensure they are using government dollars to provide high quality care for our nation's nursing home residents. That is why we are introducing this legislation.

The Nursing Home Transparency and Quality of Care Improvement Act would place patients before profits. It provides protections to residents when a home closes, and brings structure to the complaint process. It increases the transparency of nursing home ownership and operations so that seniors and their families know who is calling the shots, and what level of care is being provided in the home. It improves the data available on Medicare's Nursing Home Compare Web site so that families are well-informed when making decisions about the care of their loved one. The bill also improves staff training. The bill strengthens the current enforcement system via mandatory compliance and ethics programs, new quality assurance efforts, and meaningful enforcement penalties.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK TURNER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and say farewell to Chuck Turner, a hard-working, highly valued staff member of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. It is a privilege to consider Chuck a part of the extended Lewis family.

Throughout his over 30 years of service to the legislative branch, Chuck represented the highest values we in Congress want to provide: courtesy, commitment, and a dedication to public service. He has distinguished himself as a champion of this great institution, working tirelessly to ensure the Capitol stays the "people's house" and that it remains a beacon for motivated and service-minded young people.

Appropriations staffers have a special role in Congress, helping to ensure that our government spending meets the needs of the public and stays within our budget. At the same time, they must help us to win the support of a majority of Congress, since these spending bills must pass every year. New staff members working on Legislative Branch appropriations could always rely on Chuck's expertise, generosity, and insight. He has been an example of the very best of the Appropriations Committee and has been a staffer that colleagues and Members on both sides of the aisle could turn to.

Retirement is something to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but rather the beginning of a new adventure. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in sending our best wishes to Chuck in his retirement, and let him know that we will miss him every day and will always be grateful for all he's done for Congress and the Legislative Branch.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN ON THEIR NATIONAL DAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their National Day on October 10. As a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I am pleased to send my best wishes to our friends in Taiwan.

The Republic of China (Taiwan) is our ally in the Pacific. Although it is a small island nation, it has a growing and progressive economy, providing its citizens with quality education, health care and affordable housing. Also, with its well-educated population, Taiwan is an ideal place for business entrepreneurship. Much of Taiwan's economic prowess is directly attributable to Taiwan's political system.

A vibrant democracy, Taiwan's history of democratization is an important example of how other countries can change. In a little more than two decades, Taiwan has peacefully transformed its political system, from

authoritarianism to democratic government, providing a role model for other non-democratic political governments in Asia. Taiwan's successful democratic experience proves that democracy can thrive on Chinese soil.

We hope that in the years ahead, Taiwan and China will reach a rapprochement of sorts. Cross-strait relations are improving every day: There are now charter flights from Taiwan to the mainland, relaxation of China-bound investments, more visas for mainland tourists, and more exchange in many areas. Taiwan's new president Ma Ying-jeou is committed to pursue reconciliation and truce with the People's Republic. President Ma looks for peace and co-prosperity with the People's Republic.

Congratulations to the people of Taiwan and a warm welcome to Ambassador Jason Yuan. Ambassador Yuan is a distinguished career diplomat and will represent his country well.

CONGRATULATING SAMUEL BECK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Samuel Beck Elementary School in Northwest ISD. The school has been awarded a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award for 2008.

This prestigious award honors schools that have shown remarkable gains in student achievement. Samuel Beck Elementary was one of only 18 public elementary schools in Texas and 320 schools across the nation to receive this great honor.

The No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School award distinguishes and honors schools for helping students achieve at very high levels and for making significant progress in closing the achievement gap. The program honors public and private elementary and secondary schools that are either academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

Samuel Beck Elementary School was selected for the achievement of having students score in the top 10 percent of the state on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. The No Child Left Behind Act requires schools to make adequate yearly progress in reading and mathematics.

The accomplishments of the staff, faculty, and students at Samuel Beck Elementary School have extended beyond test scores—they've learned the value of teamwork and they've shown how dedication and persistence can lead to success. I am proud to represent Samuel Beck Elementary School in the 26th District of Texas, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOB SEGA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my good

friend, Bob Sega, by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today, I pay tribute to Bob Sega for his advocacy on behalf of cancer patients.

Bob was diagnosed with cancer in 2005 and has undergone extensive treatments to combat the disease. Following his diagnosis, Bob resolved to not only fight his own personal battle with cancer, but also assist other suffering from the disease, ease the suffering of cancer survivors, and advocate for funds for cancer research.

Bob volunteered to join the Lance Armstrong Foundation's fight against cancer and has participated in several LIVESTRONG Challenges since 2006. The LIVESTRONG Challenges allow individuals and teams to help raise money for the Foundation by holding cycling events. Bob participated in his first 100-mile fundraising effort in Orange County, California, in June 2006. That year Bob raised over \$15,000 for the Lance Armstrong Foundation and was invited to the Ride for the Roses, the Foundation's main fundraising event, in Austin, Texas.

Following his first LIVESTRONG Challenge, Bob joined the Cyclists Combating Cancer Team and has been riding with them ever since. Bob has also participated in the Moad Skinny Tire Festival in both 2007 and 2008, a 4-day 200-mile event, the Portland LIVESTRONG Challenge, in 2007 and the Ride for the Roses in 2007. Bob also plans to participate in the Portland Challenge in October and next year he and his team are planning a ride that will start in a number of locations in the United States with all of them meeting in Washington, DC and culminating in the participants talking with their Members of Congress about cancer research.

In 2007, Bob rode over 4,800 miles and plans to complete 3,500 miles this year as well as raise over \$20,000 for the Lance Armstrong Foundation. Bob attributes his success to his grassroots methods, which include personal solicitation and sponsorships.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend, Bob Sega. His advocacy on behalf of cancer research and treatment is commendable and his accomplishments with fundraising for the Lance Armstrong Foundation as well as riding over 7,000 miles the last 2 years are truly inspiring. I applaud Bob for all his success and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING DR. REGINA BENJAMIN FOR WINNING A JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to congratulate Dr. Regina Benjamin of Bayou La Batre, Alabama, for winning a 2008 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. As one of 25 recipients of this year's prestigious "genius grant," Dr. Benjamin's star is rising on the national level even as she continues to work daily to

improve the lives of the people of south Mobile County and the State of Alabama.

Dr. Benjamin, a lifelong resident of Alabama, has dedicated herself to serving the underserved—providing high-quality medical care to shrimping communities of the Alabama bayou. When Bayou La Batre was devastated by Hurricane Georges in 1998 and again in 2005 by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Dr. Benjamin rode from house to house in a pickup truck, caring for her patients one by one until her clinic could be rebuilt. Her dedication to serving her community stands out as an example for us all, and I am so glad she has been recognized by one of the world's truly prestigious foundations.

The MacArthur Fellowship is awarded annually to individuals recognized for "extraordinary originality and dedication in their creative pursuits and a marked capacity for self-direction." Fellows are awarded \$500,000 with absolutely no strings attached, a complement to the virtues of creativity and self-direction recognized by the foundation. Though Dr. Benjamin has not yet decided how she will use her grant, she is considering a program to help lower-income students pursue careers in medicine. It would be a worthy use of this award and truly a gift that would keep on giving.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the proud citizens of the First Congressional District and the entire State of Alabama, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Benjamin on her MacArthur Fellowship. I know I speak for all my colleagues in the House of Representatives when I say we can't wait to see what she does next.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FREDERICKTOWN

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, the dedicated people of the First Presbyterian Church of Fredericktown celebrate the church's 200th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate the resiliency and determination of spirit a congregation such as this can have over such a long period of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to be a model for worship and a beacon for hope to the destitute and that your presence over these two centuries has made the community a better place to live due to the contributions made by members of the congregation both past and present, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering commitment to the residents of Fredericktown and recognize the tremendous impact the church and members of the congregation have had on the community over two centuries. With great appreciation and respect, we express great appreciation for your 200 years of service to the community and to the lives of those people you have touched.

TRIBUTE TO RUDY GARCIA-TOLSON

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to congratulate an amazing athlete who broke the world record time, winning him a gold medal, in the 200m individual medley in addition to winning a bronze medal in the 100m breaststroke at the Beijing Games of the XIII Paralympiad this summer. He was awarded 2 of the 99 medals the United States proudly won.

By the age of five, this brave young man had already undergone 15 surgeries as a result of having been born with pterygium syndrome, resulting in a clubbed foot, webbed fingers on both hands, a cleft lip and palate, and the inability to straighten his legs. However, having endured so much at such young age, he decided to have both legs amputated above the knee.

Mr. Garcia-Tolson took it upon himself to embrace these new prosthetic legs and began running, cycling and swimming. By 1999 at the age of 10 years, he had become the youngest bilateral amputee to ever complete a triathlon on his own. Within that same year, he also set his first national record in swimming.

In 2000 and 2001, Mr. Garcia-Tolson finished in first place in the Silver Strand Marathon. In 2002, he was a recipient of the Casey Martin Award which honors individuals with a disability fighting for the right to compete in sports. In 2004, Teen People Magazine names him one of "20 Teens Who Will Change the World."

In 2004, having just turned 16 years old, Rudy Garcia-Tolson received his first gold medal at the Paralympic Games by breaking the 200m individual medley world record. He continued his training as well as passion for sports by completing the Ford Ironman World Championship 70.3 in 2006. Not long after, he broke the world record swimming the 200m individual medley at the 2007 U.S. Paralympics Open Swimming Championships.

As an athlete myself, I recognize the necessary courage, strength and dedication one must possess to triumph all that Mr. Garcia-Tolson has accomplished. Turning 20 years old earlier this week, he is to be celebrated not only for achieving the most impressive awards in his sport, but smashing world records along the way. More than anything, he is an inspiration to us all, conquering so much despite what hurdles laid in his path.

God Bless Rudy Garcia-Tolson for his talent, passion and love of country and mankind.

LOCAL HEROES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great appreciation and sincere gratitude that I take this time to honor three local men whose recent selfless acts have made them heroes to grateful communities in northwest Indiana. This exceptional group of heroes consists of

Chet Newsome, of Lowell, Indiana, and John and Mark Thanos, both of Chesterton, Indiana, whose bravery and self-sacrifice are an inspiration to us all.

On Saturday, August 9, 2008, at 5:30 a.m., Chet Newsome, a local truck driver, was awakened by the sound of what he has described as a blood-curdling scream from one of his neighbors. After hurrying outside to see what was happening, Chet saw his neighbor's garage engulfed in flames. He could hear the screams of two men who were trapped inside, so Chet ran to his garage for his ax, and without hesitation, began to hammer away at the door. After breaking through the door, Chet could see that one of the men was able to escape through a side door, but the other man remained trapped inside. Again, without hesitation and without thinking of himself, Chet reached in and was able to grip the severely burned man's belt and pull him to safety. Without Chet's quick thinking and immediate action, the outcome of this tragic event would have seen a very different outcome. For his bravery, the town of Lowell and the entire First Congressional District owe Chet Newsome their respect and gratitude.

On Sunday, September 14, 2008, at approximately 10:30 a.m., John and Mark Thanos were alerted by screams in their neighborhood. They soon learned that two young boys had fallen into a nearby ditch that had filled with rain. By the time they arrived, one of the boys had managed to escape the waters, but the other was being pulled into a culvert under the street. In a truly selfless act, Mark, an English teacher for the last 20 at Wheeler High School, and his father, John, a retired custodian who worked for many years for the Merrillville Community School Corporation, realized something needed to be done. They plunged into the ditch to save the 10-year-old boy, but the waters were too strong. While the boy was rescued, neither John nor Mark survived the ordeal. To those who knew John and Mark Thanos, it was no surprise that when called upon in such a horrific situation, they would answer without hesitation and would put the safety of others ahead of themselves. There is no greater sacrifice than to give one's life to save another, and John and Mark Thanos made the ultimate sacrifice to save the life of a child. For their heroism, they are to be forever remembered by the people of northwest Indiana and beyond.

These real-life heroes represent true courage and bravery, and they are the greatest example of the valor and strength of our country and its citizens.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending and acknowledging these outstanding heroes of northwest Indiana. Their bravery while putting aside personal safety to ensure the safety of others is worthy of the highest honor and respect. I am grateful and am truly honored to recognize these astonishing individuals and their remarkable acts of heroism.

IN HONOR OF DAVE PAVLICK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Dave Pavlick

upon the completion of his second 600-mile walk throughout Ohio to promote the "Health Care for All Ohioans Act." As one of the key driving forces behind the Single Payer Action Network (SPAN), Dave is ending his 23-day quest for health care justice in Parma, Ohio.

Dave's years of unparalleled dedication and commitment to the highest-quality, uniform standard of care for all as a basic human right has garnered increased attention and support from people all over the State of Ohio. Through his walk, Dave has given his own time and energy in a profound way for the over 1 million uninsured Ohioans and the many more without adequate health care who seek an end to their plight and injustice.

As a career public servant with both the United States Marine Corps and the Cuyahoga County Sheriff, Dave learned a great deal about many ails of society, and he decided to commit himself to healing perhaps the biggest social ail in America, the lack of adequate and affordable health care for all.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Dave Pavlick, whose outstanding and persistent contributions to health care justice for all Ohioans will someday lead to care for all. I, along with SPAN, the brothers and sisters of the United Auto Workers Local 1005, and all other supporters, welcome Dave back to Parma.

INTENT TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION IN THE NEXT CONGRESS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF VACANT AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES IN OLDER, INDUSTRIAL CITIES

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, Youngstown and Akron, and nearby cities like Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, and Detroit, suffered severe job and population losses over the past 25 to 30 years. This has led to the loss of thousands of housing units to abandonment and decay. The subprime mortgage crisis has only worsened the problem in these cities, ravaging entire neighborhoods in its wake, leaving thousands of vacant and abandoned houses that attract criminal activity and trash, and are safety hazards to the families who remain. The abandoned properties also lower the property values of those who remain, and frustrate neighborhood improvement efforts.

Although the Housing and Economic Recovery Act we passed in July will provide some assistance to cities to demolish vacant and abandoned properties, a more comprehensive, regional, approach is needed to address this problem in the so-called "shrinking cities" and their metropolitan areas.

Youngstown, under the leadership of Mayor Jay Williams, has already taken a big step in this direction by adopting the Youngstown 2010 Plan, which envisions Youngstown, which once had a population of 170,000, becoming a smaller, but more vibrant city of about 80,000, with revitalized neighborhoods, and abundant green open space that will be used for parks, urban agriculture, and future economic development. Some of its land

might actually be reforested. Youngstown is also working with other local governments to develop a regional strategy to address vacant and abandoned properties, which are becoming more and more commonplace in suburban areas around Youngstown.

We need to unleash the creative energies present in Youngstown, and other cities and metropolitan areas, by assisting them to develop and implement plans to eliminate the blighting influences of abandoned properties, gain some control of the vacant land in their residential areas, and reposition themselves for the challenges of the 21st century as vibrant, livable communities.

To this end, Madam Speaker, I am working with my good friend, Congressman BRIAN HIGGINS of Buffalo, to develop legislation that would establish a new demonstration program within HUD, the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program would be competitive. In order to successfully compete for assistance under it, a local government would need to partner with other jurisdictions within its metropolitan area. For example, a county government might be an ideal partner for its central city.

The partners would need to develop a plan that takes into account their population losses, and sets forth strategies to make better use of land and other resources within their boundaries. Grants awarded under the program could be used for, among other things, demolition, removal of old, antiquated infrastructure, the creation of parks and open space, code enforcement improvements, the development of real property information systems, and the creation and expansion of urban and regional land banks, which are widely recognized to be a key tool in efforts to promote investment and revitalization efforts in areas with very weak real estate markets.

Applicants would also have to submit detailed implementation plans, and would have to meet stringent accountability standards in carrying them out.

I would also like to mention that Mr. Stephen Cerny, who is currently serving in my office as a Brookings Institution Legislative Fellow, has provided me with tremendous help on this issue. Steve is an attorney at HUD and a former planner in Cleveland, and I am very grateful for the extensive professional experience he provides on this issue.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with you and the Committee to bring this program to fruition.

ALLIED VETERANS OF THE WORLD

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an organization of military veterans that works hard to take care of its own by supporting the Veterans Administration's health care services. It is my privilege to introduce the work of the Allied Veterans of the World to my fellow Members of Congress.

Allied Veterans of the World was founded in 1979 as the 451st Bomber Group by Commander-in-Chief Harold Grossman. It became the first organized veteran group in Florida by

incorporating under the name Bomber Group 451st.

For the next 10 years, this small group of veterans donated items to the VA domiciliary and aided senior citizens in its Florida area by providing transportation for veterans to the VA hospital. The members realized they could make a bigger impact if they opened the organization to all veterans. So in 1989, they formed under the name Allied Veterans of the World.

Today, led by National Commander Johnny Duncan, Allied Veterans raises funds through bingo, car washes, cookouts and cyber centers. All funds directly benefit veteran or first responder organizations.

National Commander Duncan states, "Our veterans deserve the best medical attention possible, and we understand the challenges their health care system faces today. We are proud to be assisting the VA volunteers and medical professionals with funds that will help them better serve our healing veterans."

Allied Veterans has contributed to VA hospitals in Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina and Georgia supplementing federal programs for veterans such as recreation therapy, therapeutic supplies and homeless veterans programs.

In my district in Northeast Florida, the Allied Veterans have purchased flags of all the services to be used in our local hospices so that when a veteran is admitted into a program, his or her service flag stands watch at the veteran's door. This is a meaningful gesture very much appreciated by the veteran and his or her family members. The program allows the hospice staff a final chance to display honor and appreciation for the veteran's service. Allied Veterans of the World has donated over a million dollars to projects through VA medical centers, Fraternal Order of Police chapters, and other organizations that support veterans and first responders.

It is my honor to commend the Allied Veterans of the World and its National Commander Johnny Duncan and National Secretary Jerry Bass on a job well done.

Surely, this organization lives up to its motto Veterans helping Veterans.

COMMEMORATING THE REDEDICATION OF COMMANDER WILLIAM C. MCCOOL ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the rededication and the opening of the new Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School on Naval Base Guam. The recent completion of this modern, state-of-the-art educational facility houses separate wings for the elementary and middle schools, administrative areas, a gymnasium, multipurpose rooms, a media center, cafeteria, and capacity for 850 students. Commander McCool embodied the ideal of being a lifetime learner, and his never-ending thirst for knowledge took him into space—an accomplishment that continues to inspire students and educators alike today.

Commander William "Willie" McCool attended Dededo Middle School in Dededo,

Guam and John F. Kennedy High School in Tamuning, Guam. After his graduation from the United States Naval Academy, Commander McCool was selected as a Navy test pilot and guided the space shuttle *Columbia* on Mission STS-107 in 2003. A son of Guam, Commander McCool carried the flag of Guam on that mission.

From the flight deck of the *Columbia*, Commander McCool stated, "From our orbital vantage point, we observe an Earth without borders, full of peace, beauty and magnificence, and we pray that humanity as a whole can imagine a borderless world as we see it and strive to live as one in peace." These words will inspire students at this school for many years to come.

On February 22, 2003, I introduced H.R. 672, a bill to rename the Guam South Elementary/Middle School, previously located in Apra Heights, Guam, in honor of Commander McCool. The bill was signed into law by President George W. Bush on April 11, 2003, and today, as we commemorate the rededication of the new Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School, there is no doubt that Willie McCool's legacy continues to touch the hearts and minds of us all.

I would like to congratulate former Commander Naval Forces Marianas RADM Patrick W. Dunne, former Commander Naval Forces Marianas RADM Charles J. Leidig, former Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) Superintendent Mr. Michael Diekmann, and former school Principal Mr. William Hall for their guidance, leadership, and oversight in the design and construction of Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School. I would also like to congratulate Commander Naval Forces Marianas RADM William D. French, DODEA Superintendent Dr. Gayle Vaughn-Wiles, and Principal Mr. Stanley Chop for their roles in the completion of the new Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School.

I would like to commend the family of Commander McCool for their strength and to honor them for their commitment to furthering his legacy. I want to first recognize his wife, Lani Vallejos McCool and his three sons Sean, Christopher and Cameron. I also want to recognize his parents Barry and Audrey McCool and his parents-in-law Albert and Atilana Vallejos. Our community thanks all of you for your graciousness in helping us to commemorate Commander McCool's life through the dedication of this school and for sharing his memory with the students and faculty. Through this tribute, we want you to know that you have a very large extended family and this school is your school; these students are your students; this tribute is your living memorial.

As our community gathers to rededicate this school on September 30, 2008, let us renew our commitment to excellence exemplified by the hero whose name graces this structure. On the occasion of the rededication of Commander William C. McCool Elementary School, let us recall his inspiring words, of ". . . an Earth without borders, full of peace, beauty and magnificence . . .".

RECOGNITION OF DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS OF ARKANSAS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize all the dedicated people at the Rainbow of Challenges in Hope, Arkansas and the South Arkansas Developmental Center for Children and Families, Inc. These are just a few of many organizations in Arkansas that are helping thousands of disabled individuals gain access to needed support services.

Unfortunately, there is an increasing workforce shortage threatening the quality of these services available in Arkansas and throughout the nation. Without an adequately paid, trained and dedicated workforce, our nation's disabled individuals and their families face a less secure future. Without the necessary workforce, providers can not help our nation fulfill its commitment to people with disabilities as intended by Congress's passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For this reason, I am a cosponsor of the Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act of 2007 (H.R.1279). This important legislation would provide funds to states to enable them to increase the wages paid to targeted direct support professionals in providing services to individuals with disabilities under the Medicaid Program. It is essential that the House of Representatives pass this legislation and bring it one step closer to being signed into law.

I applaud the work of these Arkansas organizations for taking a lead and coming to Washington, DC this month to advocate for improvements on this workforce issue. There is no better way to recognize their contribution to the nation than by passing this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO MR. NEAL E. BOYD

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who has inspired Americans in my congressional district and across our great nation. Mr. Neal E. Boyd is from Sikeston, Missouri, in the Eighth Congressional District and, in him, I am lucky to represent one of the most talented singers of opera in our country. Mr. Boyd has risen to national prominence in recent weeks, but we in Southern Missouri have long known about his superior ability as a singer. Whether he is singing Puccini or our National Anthem, Mr. Boyd does so with such rare emotion and sensitivity that it brings tears to many more eyes than my own.

I am also fortunate to know Mr. Boyd personally. He is a caring person who has always put the interests of his family and his community ahead of his own. He is shy, but he is not shy with his gift. He is modest, but his voice is brazen and strong. He is selfless with his art, with his time, and with his heart—and he is unfailingly kind.

Through hard work and dedication to his craft, Mr. Boyd has shown the cliché to be

correct: that dreams do come true. I have never once known him to complain, to become defeated, or to give in—even when he has been forced to put his first love of music on hold. Today, I am very glad that Mr. Boyd is able to put his amazing gift first now and for the foreseeable future. He has earned every bit of the success we are celebrating for him in Southern Missouri this month.

I am very proud to congratulate Mr. Neal E. Boyd on all of his successes, and I am humbled to thank him for the contributions he has made to Missouri over the years and is still making today. Mr. Boyd is most deserving of recognition in the U.S. House of Representatives, and I am fortunate to know him well enough to stand here today and declare him a true national treasure.

DECLARATION

HON. JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, pursuant to standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009:

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Navy RDT&E account, Warfighter Sustainment Advanced Technology, R-1 Line 18, PE 0603236N. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Rochester Institute of Technology, Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies at 111 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. It is my understanding that this \$5,000,000 would be used for the Defense Modernization and Sustainment Initiative to develop systems to detect equipment malfunctions and ensure equipment readiness. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Army RDT&E account, Medical Advanced Technology, R-1 Line 30, PE 0603002A. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Infotonics Center of Excellence at 5450 Campus Drive, Canandaigua, NY 14424. It is my understanding that this \$2,000,000 would be used for the Smart Technologies for Electro-mechanical Prosthetic Systems research and development effort. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Army RDT&E account, Medical Advanced Technology, R-1 Line 30, PE 0603002A. The entity to receive funding for this project is Integrated Nano-Technologies, LLC at 999 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, NY 14467. It is my understanding that this \$2,000,000 would be used to complete an automated, portable field diagnostic system for the rapid detection and diagnosis of diverse existing and emerging diseases. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Army RDT&E account,

Sensor and Electronic Survivability, R-1 Line 6, PE 0602120A. The entity to receive funding for this project is Vuzix Corporation at 75 Town Centre Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. It is my understanding that this \$1,000,000 would be used to develop prototypes for modern wearable gyro-compensated personnel tracking devices for use during GPS interference. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Air Force RDT&E account, Intelligence Advanced Development, R-1 Line 33, PE 0603260F. The entity to receive funding for this project is ITT Corporation, Space Systems Division at 1447 St. Paul Street, P.O. Box 60488, Rochester, NY 14606. It is my understanding that this \$2,000,000 would be used for the Broad-area Multi-Intelligence Ubiquitous Surveillance Enterprise project. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Navy RDT&E account, Shipboard System Component Development, R-1 Line 35, PE 0603513N. The entity to receive funding for this project is Dresser-Rand Company at 37 Coats Street, Wellsville, NY 14895. It is my understanding that this \$1,600,000 would be used to develop a new steam turbine to be used on the existing *Virginia* Class and future submarines. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Army RDT&E account, Combat Vehicle and Automotive Advanced Technology, R-1 Line 33, PE 0603005A. The entity to receive funding for this project is the General Motors Fuel Cell Activities Research Center at 10 Carriage Street, Honeoye Falls, NY 14472. It is my understanding that this \$1,600,000 would be used for the U.S. Army Next Generation Non-Tactical Vehicle Propulsion initiative, which will continue research in fuel cell propulsion for non-tactical Army vehicles. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

Fiscal Year 2009 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, Navy RDT&E account, Force Protection Advanced Technology, R-1 Line 16, PE 0603123N. The entity to receive funding for this project is the General Motors Fuel Cell Activities Research Center at 10 Carriage Street, Honeoye Falls, NY 14472. It is my understanding that this \$1,600,000 would be used for the U.S. Navy/USMC Future Fuel Non-Tactical Vehicle initiative, which will continue research in fuel cell initiatives for non-tactical Navy vehicles. I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAFE DRINKING WATER THROUGH CHLORINATION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, this week marks the 100th anniversary of one of the

most important public health achievements in U.S. history—the chlorination of drinking water. On September 26, 1908, Jersey City, New Jersey began operating a treatment plant at the Boonton reservoir, becoming the first U.S. city to use chlorination to help bring safe drinking water to the homes of its citizens.

Jersey City's groundbreaking work led to dramatic reductions in waterborne diseases like typhoid and cholera. Other cities rapidly adopted chlorination, and by 1918, over 1000 cities were using this lifesaving technology to treat more than 3 billion gallons of water each day.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that, by the middle of the 20th century, drinking water disinfection had helped to virtually eliminate cholera and typhoid fever; diseases that once killed thousands of Americans each year. This has contributed to a dramatic 60 percent increase in U.S. life expectancy since 1900. LIFE magazine has called the drinking water filtration plus the use of chlorine "the most significant public health advancement of the millennium."

As Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, I am gratified by the progress we are making in bringing safer water to the continent of Africa. This has been a joint effort by our government, non-profit agencies, and the private sector. Earlier this year, the American Chemistry Council and the U.S. Agency for International Development joined forces to help provide safer drinking water to Ghana, Mali and Niger. The groups announced a new two-year, \$1.3 million partnership to implement household drinking water programs in communities facing some of the most severe poverty and health challenges in the world. The USAID programs use chlorine-based disinfection and safe water storage techniques to help reduce waterborne disease and improve quality of life. Working with local partners in each country, the programs are aimed at reaching an estimated three million people over two years. A recent World Health Organization study found that household based chlorination is the most cost-effective way to reduce common waterborne illnesses.

Today we celebrate Jersey City's pioneering contributions to a century of healthier lives. I would like to specifically recognize the employees of United Water Jersey City and all the men and women working today to provide safe drinking water for all of us. We thank them for the fact that due to their efforts, we are so easily able to reach for a glass of safe and refreshing water.

CONGRATULATING TAYLOR PARK CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE IN THEIR CELEBRATION OF THEIR FOUNDING CENTENNIAL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Taylor Park Church of the Nazarene on their centennial celebration. The church, located in Pilot Point, Texas will be celebrating at the very spot where the church was officially organized.

Taylor Park Church of the Nazarene was founded in 1908 by a small group of worshippers, who at the time met in an abandoned

grocery store. The Church of Nazarene has become one of the largest denominations in the world, with almost two million members.

Through a commitment to ministry and mission work, the Church serves to enrich the community within its own congregation as well as the local community. The church has undergone numerous expansions, helping them grow to provide more resources for their community. Recently they acquired new property for an increase in classroom space and fellowship activities.

Madam Speaker, today it is my honor to recognize the Taylor Park Church of Nazarene. They have demonstrated a level of commitment to community that is well appreciated, and serves as an example for us all. It is a privilege to represent Taylor Park Church in the 26th District of Texas. I look forward to observing the positive impact they will continue to have on our communities at home and abroad.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "RADIO ALL DIGITAL CHANNEL RECEIVER ACT"

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Radio All Digital Channel Receiver Act." This legislation will assure consumers that they have seamless access to free, over-the-air digital radio in key consumer electronic devices. It will also help to safeguard the viability of free, over-the-air radio into the future. I am pleased to introduce this bipartisan legislation today with Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues Representatives LEE TERRY (R-NE), CHARLIE GONZALEZ (D-TX), DOUG WALDEN (R-OR), JOE WILSON (R-SC), and DAN BURTON (R-IN).

Madam Speaker, millions of Americans today rely on local broadcast radio for news, public safety bulletins, sports, weather, traffic and other information. The broadcast radio industry is increasingly migrating to digital broadcasting technology that will avail radio stations of the ability to transmit CD-quality digital content and offer multiple streams of service. This legislation is designed to ensure that consumers are able to readily receive such free service through consumer electronics systems that are otherwise receiving satellite digital audio radio and traditional AM or FM stations.

The recent merger of the only two satellite radio providers, XM and Sirius satellite radio, has underscored the importance of ensuring consumer access to a diversity of sources for digital radio content, in particular the free radio content originating in their local communities. This bill therefore simultaneously seeks to address the long-term competitive health of local radio while ensuring that their local, digital services are readily received by radio consumers.

With the 110th Congress in its final days of session, this legislation will obviously have to wait until the next Congress for action. I look forward to continuing to work with the original cosponsors of this bill as well as other Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues and other interested members of the House.

TRIBUTE TO PARAMOUNT CHIEF
A.U. FUIMAONO

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Paramount Chief A. U. Fuimaono and express my deepest condolences to his children and family on the occasion of his funeral services which are being held on September 26, 2008.

Paramount Chief A.U. Fuimaono was my mentor, and I will always feel indebted to him for everything he taught me. To say that he was like a father to me is an understatement. Paramount Chief Fuimaono gave me his complete trust right from the beginning of our relationship, when he selected me to be his Administrative Assistant for his Washington DC office from 1973–1975. That was when he became the first elected Representative from American Samoa to Washington.

This great man was one of the traditional leaders who instilled in me the passion of being a real and true Samoan in a fast changing world: a world filled with political conflicts and cultural contradictions. This was at the time when American Samoa was suddenly immersed in the national arena of social structuring, traditional maintenance and political identity.

It was a time of upheaval for the people of American Samoa in many ways, as they tried to embrace changes and influences from outside, yet retain their uniqueness as Samoans at the same time. It was also during that time that Fuimaono stood up and was recognized as a natural leader; and he was a champion in areas of economy, politics, culture and religion.

One of his most memorable and early advices to me then, and it still sounds like it was just yesterday, was: "Eni, the palagi are convinced that for us to move forward, we as Samoans must first learn to crawl, then also learn to walk, before we can run. I tell you right now, we do not have the time to learn how to crawl; nor do we have the luxury to walk. We have to run and run hard with them with whatever we have, whatever we can come up with so we could understand and play their game; otherwise, it would be too late and we would lose and be left out."

From the point forward, it was like a baptism by fire for me; like jump in, what are you waiting for; we have a lot to do. But Fuimaono also pointed out that the simplest way to go about tackling our challenges was by having an undying faith in God. Fuimaono firmly believed in God's love, and he used that as the basis of everything he did. He emphasized the importance of being Samoan as a reality check in the often turbulent moments of national and global politics.

I will not go into Paramount Chief A.U. Fuimaono's outstanding record as a pillar in government, private sector, the culture that was so dear to him, and the church his faith so firmly treasured. Those will always speak for themselves in defining the distinctiveness of the man.

But if there is anything I want to emphasize about his character, it is the immense wisdom he shared with me throughout the years I worked for him, and the many times he nour-

ished and encouraged me first as a congressional staffer in Washington, and eventually as the delegate from American Samoa years later.

His simple yet honest and direct approach to all issues forged the basis of my professional life in Washington. Fuimaono's determination for the development of American Samoa and yet his sensitivity to protecting the Samoan culture pushed me to strive for that delicate balance that can still define us as Samoans yet allows for us to be an equal participant under the complex, political system of the United States government.

So when I heard the news of the Paramount Chief's death, there was no question in my mind that I needed to go home, and be there, and honor his memory, even with the demanding schedule Congress is faced with as it works to address the national financial crisis we are now facing. I owed it to Fuimaono's children and his family to be in Samoa, if only for a day, to pay my personal respects and acknowledge my indebtedness to the one person who started it all for me.

I am most grateful and humbled that this great man had the patience and tolerance to help me develop confidence and pride in being Samoan. And if there is a last thing I would say of Paramount Chief Fuimaono, it is the fact that if it wasn't for his trust and belief in me, I would not be where I'm at and the person that I am right now.

Madam Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not also mention two other gentlemen, Roy J.D. Hall, Jr. and Michael F.J. Kruse, who over the years Uncle Fui had taken on as his own sons, like me. Roy J.D. Hall, Jr., has become a very successful corporate lawyer and also currently serves as counselor to the Honorable Lolo L. Moliga, President of the American Samoa Senate. The Honorable Michael F.J. Kruse is currently the first Samoan-appointed Chief Justice of the High Court of American Samoa.

I am sure there are many others whose lives have been deeply influenced by this great Samoan leader, but I can only speak for myself and for Roy and for Mike, who now contribute significantly to the needs of our Samoan people. We grieve on his passing and, again, I express my sincere condolences to Paramount Chief A.U. Fuimaono's children and family, and may God through His Everlasting Peace, grant His healing grace sooner on the grieving families and people of Samoa.

RECOGNIZING THE
CONTRIBUTIONS OF DON LYSTER

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Don Lyster, a dedicated, hard working gentleman whom I am very fortunate to have had on my staff for the past seven years.

Don joined my staff in March 2002 as my legislative assistant handling labor, trade, immigration, homeland security and judiciary issues. I was proud to promote him twice during his tenure in my office, first to Legislative Counsel and then to Chief of Staff.

Don demonstrated his passion for issues affecting underserved communities and the lives

of working families daily in his work. Through his efforts, legislation to expedite the naturalization process for legal immigrants serving in the U.S. military and members of the selected reserves, coupled with immigration protections for immediate family members of fallen soldiers, was enacted into law.

From a union family, Don's work on labor issues demonstrated his strong commitment to working families. He was constantly working to improve workplace conditions and grow jobs for working families. Don always worked to protect and increase worker's rights, not only on a national level, but by keeping close watch on the issues facing workers throughout Los Angeles.

His passion for telecommunications and internet matters was always seen through the perspective of the need to protect and expand affordable access for all consumers, which is especially important in California's 32nd Congressional District.

As my Chief of Staff, Don has played an integral role in helping advance my priorities on the Energy and Commerce Committee and as chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Task Force on Health and the Environment. I am grateful to have had him with me to assist in my role on the Steering and Policy Committee. Don has used his knowledge of telecommunications matters to help expand outreach in the Congressional District I represent through the use of new technologies. Through his words and actions, Don has trained, mentored and inspired my staff to constantly challenge themselves to meet new goals while helping them along the way.

Don's passion for life and love of his family will be sorely missed in my office. I join my staff in Washington, DC, and district offices in El Monte and East Los Angeles in wishing Don the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM
H. GOURLEY, U.S. ARMY (RET.)

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero, Maj. Gen. William H. Gourley, who passed away on August 25 this year. He will be greatly missed.

It is hard to condense the life of such a big man into mere words. His spirit and energy were indefatigable and inspired soldiers, family and friends alike.

I had the honor and pleasure to interview General Gourley shortly before he died in a retrospective look at his life. I did this as one way to pay tribute to General Gourley but also as part of the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project. Now General Gourley's story will be there for the generations to hear.

I got to know General Gourley when he retired to the Monterey Peninsula right about the time of the 1991 BRAC action which ended up closing Fort Ord in my district.

At the time I was serving in the State Assembly and was unaware that General Gourley, even then, was working behind the scenes to make sure the rank-and-file military was taken care of. General Gourley was fond of championing his own special command-

ments—his own 10 Golden Rules. When Fort Ord appeared on the BRAC list General Gourley worked his network in the Pentagon to make sure a portion of the base was dedicated to a VA clinic to serve the thousands of veterans living in the area. As his 10th Golden Rule says: "Make a better Army and Corps for your subordinates to inherit." In working to make sure the former Fort Ord held a VA clinic—even a small one—he was leaving something better behind.

But that was typical of Bill Gourley. He was a get-it-done kind of guy. He recalled a time from when he was stationed in Korea and was ordered to evacuate all civilian Americans from a town. One person refused to go unless the Army Chief of Staff wrote the order personally. Gourley wrote the order, forged then Army Chief-of-Staff Maxwell Taylor's signature and the recalcitrant civilian up and moved.

Now, 50+ years later, that almost sounds comical. But it was serious business at the time and Bill Gourley was a man determined to follow through. As important as getting the job done, however, was his commitment to the chain of command. He once told a story about working at the National Military Command Center as a part of the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff where he monitored cables from Asia. One evening then-Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara requested to see a particular FLASH cable, "FLASH" being a message relating to ground operations in Vietnam and of the utmost top secret nature and extremely urgent. Gourley searched the files for the communiqué and noted that it said "For the Chairman's Eyes Only." He stalwartly told the Secretary of Defense he could not pass on the file to read because only the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs had the necessary clearance.

General Gourley was always all about the men and women of the Army. He tried to do right by them in every posting he had. When he was in command at the War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, he insisted soldiers couldn't come to class unless they brought their wives. This was so spouses would come to understand the Army mindset and form a greater bond within the family around shared duty and sacrifice.

Not every task he undertook played out the way he thought. He was in charge of a task force assigned to approach Mrs. Julia Abrams, the widow of General Creighton Abrams, to discuss the possibility of naming a new Army tank after the late General. Gourley related how he and his staff gave a command briefing on the tank to Mrs. Abrams spending excruciating detail on the vehicle and praising its abilities. When they were exhausted from effort and turned to look to Mrs. Abrams for a reaction, she simply said, "But General, is it a good tank?" When Bill assured her it was, she said it was fine to name it the Abrams tank.

In relating all of this to you, Madam Speaker, I hope to portray the man behind the medals, for General Gourley was a "soldier's soldier" and loved the Army. He took up the military life early by joining ROTC in college. He flourished in ROTC and moved on to additional training over the years at the Infantry School, the Adjutant General School, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States War College. He served in Germany, where he shared MREs with Elvis Presley, Korea and Vietnam. When he returned from Vietnam he was assigned to the Pentagon and rose to serve on

the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff where he served for a time with Colin Powell. General Gourley retired from the Army on December 31, 1989 after 36 years of service.

Even in his retirement General Gourley did not leave behind the needs of the military. He was active in the community and worked hard on a number of issues relevant to the military, their families and veterans, like improving TRICARE service on the Monterey Peninsula; helping fashion a veterans cemetery on the old Fort Ord; establishing a health care consortium to provide more accessible and affordable health care to military retirees; and laying the groundwork for a joint DOD-VA health care clinic.

Earlier this year, General Gourley's beloved wife, Molly, passed away and was interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Bill, too, will be interred there on November 6. They leave behind a loving family: Michael their son, daughters Cecily, Carolyn and Mary Jane, and nine grandchildren, Lindsey, Scott, Allison, Michael, Andrew, Kathryn, Sean, Cole and Carlyanne.

Like General Gourley's last Golden Rule, he has left the place better than when he found it. I will miss his energy and his passion and his friendship. But short though our acquaintance may have been, I am proud to have known him and commend him for his service to the Army and to his fellow man.

HONORING TOBY SOLOMON, AN
ANGEL IN ADOPTION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, before this session of Congress adjourns, I would like to take a moment to ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person, Ms. Toby Solomon, who was recently selected as an Angel in Adoption by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.

Over two decades ago, Ms. Solomon formed and chaired an adoption subcommittee in order to address amendments to the New Jersey Adoption Statute and other adoption issues. Based on her prior personal and professional experience, she had become aware that adoption was an area which needed both reform and advocacy. The committee she chaired accomplished the task of writing amendments to the existing adoption legislation and getting the amendments passed by the legislature. The amendments to the Statute brought forth a wide range of new and much-needed concepts to the adoption process. Ms. Solomon also founded and chaired the Children's Rights Committee.

Ms. Solomon has been tireless in her efforts to educate other attorneys and clients about the adoption process. Her many contributions include lecturing on the topic and composing articles on adoption in order to educate both professionals and prospective adoptive parents.

Please join me in congratulating one of our unsung heroines from my home state of New Jersey, Ms. Toby Solomon, on being named an Angel in Adoption for 2008.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, on September 23, 2008, I was unexpectedly detained and could not vote on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 5244, the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act (roll No. 622). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE, MICHIGAN, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INCORPORATION AS A CITY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, after half a century of growth and change, Roseville remains a warm, family-oriented community. Roseville has a broad spectrum of residents who have lived here their whole lives and are the history of this city. They have a vibrant school district, a healthy business district, dedicated local elected officials, and active community volunteers.

Roseville has a wonderful history. The roots of this farming community go back to the days before Michigan gained statehood in 1837. A Congressional appropriations in 1828 provided funds for the construction of a military road connecting Fort Detroit and Fort Gratiot (now Port Huron). The completion of the Gratiot turnpike in 1831 brought settlers of Belgian, English, French, German and Irish descent. Orange Township encompassed the present cities of Eastpointe, Fraser, Roseville, St. Clair Shores, and part of Warren.

In 1836, William Rose was appointed the areas first postmaster. He established a permanent office in 1840, called the Roseville Post Office, after his father Denison Rose, a hero of the War of 1812.

In 1846, a wooden plank toll road (now known as Gratiot Avenue or M-3) was constructed, connecting the community with Detroit and Mount Clemens. One of the tollgates was located at Gratiot Avenue and Utica Road, the intersection known as "The Junction." Along with the tollgate were a toll house, general store, wagon and blacksmith shop, and the Junction Hotel, built in 1836. Roseville was also home to the state's first commercial airport, the Roseville Airport. It was also known as Packard Field and Hartung Airport. The airport originally set on the land now comprising Eastgate Shopping Center, the first shopping center of its kind in Michigan.

The City of Roseville is now a community of nearly 48,000. While the city is almost fully developed, a proactive approach to attracting and retaining businesses over the years has led to reinvestment and expansion of existing properties. Retail is a main attraction with over 60 miscellaneous stores available and over 96 restaurants. From the recreation programs for the very young, to the newly renovated community center for senior citizens, Roseville continues to provide outstanding opportunities

for its residents as well as the business community.

As the City of Roseville celebrates this important occasion, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating its citizens as they celebrate the past and focus on the future.

IN HONOR OF DR. CLARA YU

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, it is with bitter-sweet emotions that I rise today to thank Dr. Clara Yu on her retirement as President of the Monterey Institute for International Studies.

Clara arrived on the Monterey Peninsula in 2005 and was inaugurated in January 2006 as the 12th president of MIIS, which had become affiliated with Middlebury College the year before. She literally hit the ground running and since that time, her persuasive personality and keen leadership skills helped MIIS reestablish itself both financially and academically.

At the time of her investiture, Middlebury President Ron Liebowitz explained to a rapt Monterey audience why he lured Dr. Yu out of retirement to take the helm at MIIS—because she had the leadership qualities and academic excellence to succeed. Clara was born in China and educated in Taiwan and the United States. In 1978 she received a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Illinois. She taught at Dartmouth College and the University of Maryland before starting an artificial intelligence consulting firm. During her decade at Middlebury as Vice President for Languages, she designed the prototype for its internationally acclaimed International Studies Major.

During her too brief tenure at the Institute, Dr. Yu led innovative programs such as the Academic Excellence Initiative and the innovations incubator program that strengthened and revitalized the school. She successfully guided the strategic planning process that completed the affiliation between MIIS and Middlebury that will ensure the academic excellence of MIIS for future generations. In her honor, MIIS has established the Clara Yu Fund for Innovation to provide seed funding for programs with the potential to continue to transform MIIS to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Yu's distinguished career includes many academic accomplishments and accolades, but I hope none as heartfelt as the sincere gratitude we express today to Clara for "a life well lived". Thank you for being my friend.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN RAY LAHOOD FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE OF ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a distinguished Member of Congress from the Illinois Delegation, Congressman RAY LaHOOD. RAY is a

friend and a true example of leadership in public service.

RAY has served his country and his community in many ways throughout his lifetime. He was a dedicated teacher in both Catholic and public schools and he served as the Director of Youth Services in Rockford, Illinois. RAY was elected to the Illinois State House of Representatives in 1982 and then worked for House Republican Leader Robert Michel as District Administrative Assistant and, for four years, as Chief of Staff. Upon Rep. Michel's retirement, RAY was elected to the 104th Congress in 1994 where he has served the people of the 18th District for seven terms.

Here in the House, RAY is known for his efforts to establish a higher level of civility, decorum, and bipartisanship. His knowledge of congressional rules and procedures and his fair-handedness enabled him to be called upon many times to chair the House during proceedings on contentious issues including the impeachment debate in 1998.

RAY has also served his district with great bipartisanship and integrity, including working diligently on the creation of the Lincoln Presidential Library and supporting the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission in celebration of the 200th Anniversary of Abraham Lincoln to be held in 2009.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve with Congressman RAY LaHOOD in the House of Representatives. We will miss his presence, especially in the Illinois delegation. I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to RAY and his wife Kathy as they embark on new beginnings and future endeavors, especially The Ray and Kathy LaHOOD Center for Cerebral Palsy.

TRIBUTE TO DERRICK MOYO

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and career of Derrick Moyo, who served lately as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of South Africa here in Washington, DC.

Born Diederick Moyo in Soweto on September 13, 1962, Derrick passed away just 3 days shy of his 46th birthday on September 10th of this year. His early passing has deprived not only the Republic of South Africa, but the United States and the rest of the world, as well, of his passion for democracy and peace.

He is survived by his parents Josiah and Doreen Moyo, his siblings Mary and Ernest and, his two children, Itumeleng and Tshiamo. His family has already had to endure another early loss to their family, with the tragic passing of his wife Mingy several years ago.

An avid scholar with a thirst for knowledge, Derrick was awarded a bachelor of social science degree by the University of Cape Town with majors in social anthropology, industrial sociology and international politics. Additionally he undertook specialized courses in diplomacy, Foreign Service and management, studying at renowned institutions including the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Howard University, the Foreign Service Institute in New Delhi and the Irish Institute of Public Management.

While studying, Derrick embraced the democratic cause and led the Student Representative Council of the University of Cape Town as their vice president. Later he broadened his fight to the national level and guided South Africans as the Vice Chairman of the African National Congress's Claremont branch. Ultimately, Derrick's unflinching commitment to achieving freedom and justice in his native South Africa forced him into exile during the height of the Apartheid era.

Even in exile Derrick's faith and determination never strayed, and when he was free to return to his homeland he began his diplomatic career in the Department of Foreign Affairs. Initially assigned to the Regional Economic Organisations Desk, he was quickly promoted to work on the United Nations General Assembly and United Nations Security Council Desks.

While working at the Department of Foreign Affairs, Derrick's interest and devotion to the cause for peace culminated in the seminal discussion paper, "South Africa's Participation in Peace Support Operations."

Always faithful to South Africa, Derrick began his Foreign Service career in 1997 as the Counselor and Deputy High Commissioner at the South African High Commission in Canada. Later he was asked to serve as the Consul-General of South Africa in Brazil.

In 2005, Derrick assumed his final post as the Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of the Republic of South Africa in Washington, DC.

It was in this final position that Derrick again labored diligently for justice, this time with my staff on the House Foreign Affairs Committee to draft the historic legislation that removed the ANC and its venerated leader, President Nelson Mandela, from the United States' list of terrorist organizations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in a moment of silence in commemoration of Derrick Moyo for his tireless service to the cause of peace, democracy, freedom and justice. His life will be remembered with respect and admiration.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership standards, I submit the following information regarding continued funding for the Navy Health Research Center that I requested for inclusion in H.R. 2638—The Department of Defense Appropriations Bill:

Requesting Member: Congressman WALTER B. JONES.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Navy.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Navy Health Research Center.

Address of Requesting Entity: San Diego, CA.

Description of Request: \$2.4 million will implement a prostate cancer vaccine clinical trial with patients at the Veterans Medical Center, La Jolla, CA.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR GERALD DONOVAN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent and good friend Mayor Gerald Donovan who will soon be retiring after 32 dedicated years in elected office in the Town of Chesapeake Beach, MD.

Gerald Donovan comes from a long line of public servants and the importance of serving one's community was instilled in him at a young age. His grandfather, Wesley Stinnett was mayor of Chesapeake Beach from 1956 to 1963. After his grandfather passed away, Donovan's father served out his term. In 1976, Gerald was elected to the town council and, after 7 years of service, Donovan followed in the footsteps of his father and grandfather and became mayor in 1983.

Under Mayor Donovan's leadership, Chesapeake Beach has thrived—becoming a vibrant small town that has witnessed an improved quality of life and an increased sense of community. Mayor Donovan has worked to make the small town a great place to stay and visit. His tenure has seen the addition of a water park, beach trolleys, new housing, and a beautification initiative, all of which have won him grateful neighbors and constituents. New development has been matched with an updated infrastructure with everything from a boardwalk and new sidewalks to a new, clean wastewater treatment system.

Given the town's location on the Chesapeake Bay, it is unfortunately often in the path of potentially destructive weather events. In recent years it has been impacted by several hurricanes and a tornado. In every case, Mayor Donovan has stood ready to tackle cleanup and lend a hand to neighbors and businesses touched by disaster.

Mayor Donovan has managed to carry through initiatives that have a tangible positive effect on the daily lives of his constituents, raising overall revenue for the town. He has demonstrated what is possible with ingenuity, managing to leave a town surplus of over 50 percent of the town's overall annual budget.

Despite announcing his retirement, Mayor Donovan continues to look to the future, recently announcing that he is moving forward in an attempt to remove Chesapeake Beach from dependence on the grid and tap into wind and solar power as renewable, money-saving energy sources for the town.

Madam Speaker, Gerald Donovan's service to the Chesapeake Beach community goes beyond his duties as its mayor. He also contributed to the development of Chesapeake Beach through charity and enterprise.

With his brother Fred, Mayor Donovan owns the Rod 'N' Reel Restaurant, a popular meeting place and a great place to have a seafood dinner. For over 25 years, the restaurant has hosted the Celebration of Life Cancer Gala, an event created to honor the life of Gerald's father. The annual gala attracts an average of 1,500 people, raises more money for the American Cancer Society than any other event in all the State of Maryland. Not only that, but in his true devotion to the State, 60 percent of the funds raised goes to

support research initiatives taking place in Maryland.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Gerald Donovan has made a tremendous mark on the community of Chesapeake Beach and the State of Maryland. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding him on his many accomplishments and wishing him the best as he ends his career as an elected official.

THE GREAT LAKES COMPACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, Ohio, Michigan and the rest of the Great Lakes have a resource that is the envy of any nation. With 20 percent of the world's available freshwater, the regions water resource represents the key for economic and environmental sustainability. Gone are the days when we can take this resource for granted and trust that the rest of the world will not tread on us.

My district spans 90 plus miles of coastline across Lake Erie and depends on the natural bounty of the Great Lakes.

The Great Lakes Compact represents a paradox. On the one hand the time for action is clearly upon us, however, while this legislation represents a starting point, the loophole that allows the export of bottled water outside the basin puts the entire agreement in jeopardy.

While the States have been reviewing this compact for years, Congress spent less than 20 legislative days examining this legislation. I am particularly concerned about the binding effect of S.J. Res. 45 and its broad exemption for bottled water.

What will be the bills effects on our trade agreements? I cannot honestly answer that point.

How many bottled water companies will be eligible to apply for this exemption removal? No one knows.

What opportunities will there be to update or amend the legislation? No one can truly say.

According to the legislation, a—"Diversion means a transfer of Water from the Basin into another watershed, or from the watershed of one of the Great Lakes into that of another by any means of transfer, including but not limited to a pipeline, canal, tunnel, aqueduct, channel, modification of the direction of a water course, a tanker ship, tanker truck or rail tanker . . ."

However, this legislation continues to describe a glaring loophole in the following: "but does not apply to Water that is used in the Basin or a Great Lake watershed to manufacture or produce a Product that is then transferred out of the Basin or watershed. Divert has a corresponding meaning".

In section 4.12, this legislation allows the bulk water transfer so long as it is packaged in containers of less than 5.7 gallons or less. The legislation goes on to provide authority for jurisdictions to determine the treatment of Proposals to Withdraw Water and to remove it from the Basin in any container of 5.7 gallons or less. This provision to allow the regulated transfer of bottled water must not be misused and will be Congresses job to ensure that this does not happen.

While I will vote against the Great Lakes compact today, I do not do so out of opposition to the base legislation but in an effort to

slow down its consideration. Once this bill is signed into law, the story is not over. Congress must continue to use its legislative authority to ensure that the compact is implemented as intended.

With strong oversight, this body must ensure that the provisions of the compact are used to protect the Great Lakes. Hopefully, this legislation is a starting point. It is the first step in protecting our water resource but it must not be our last. While I encourage a no vote on the final legislation, I do so to ensure that these concerns are clearly presented for the record.

HONORING SHIRLENE MERCER
FOR HER LONG SERVICE TO HER
STATE AND COUNTRY

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend, Mrs. Shirlene Mercer, a long-time community leader, teacher and role model. While I know she will continue to play an important role in our community, Shirlene is retiring after serving the 8th Congressional district for 20 years.

Shirlene has always worked to serve the community above herself. She was a teacher for 24 years in Hardeman County, TN, before joining our staff in 1989 as Director of District Services, a position through which she has helped countless Tennesseans.

Shirlene has also helped many West Tennesseans through her tireless dedication to fighting crime in our area by initiating regular anti-crime marches for residents of Madison County, Tennessee, to make clear their intention to keep our neighborhoods safe for our families. I have been honored to be part of these marches over the years, as have many other local, state and national leaders, including Vice President Al Gore. Shirlene's work gained national attention and helped highlight the problems of crime in our area and in many communities like it across our state and country.

Both Vice President Gore and I have been fortunate to receive Shirlene's guidance over the years, as have many other leaders, including Governor Phil Bredesen, Governor Ned McWherter, Senator Jim Sasser, Congressman Harold Ford, Sr., Congressman Harold Ford, Jr., and many members of the Tennessee General Assembly. Her counsel on issues of importance to Tennesseans has always been helpful to those who seek to better serve their communities.

Shirlene is a graduate of Merry High School and Lane College, both in Jackson, TN, and she did graduate work at the University of Memphis and Austin Peay State University. She is married to Luther, a Madison County Commissioner, and they have two grown children, Luther Mercer, Jr., and Tina Mercer. Both are following in their mother's footsteps and proving to be strong leaders in their communities.

Madam Speaker, I wish you could see Shirlene's office walls in our Jackson, TN, district office. They are filled, floor to ceiling, with awards and commendations she has earned over the years for her service and leadership.

Included in these many awards are multiple recognitions from the NAACP, the Tennessee Education Association's "Humanitarian Award" and the FBI's "Director's Community Leadership Award," just to name a few of the very long list.

I know that even as Shirlene begins her retirement from Congressional service, she will remain active in our community. I am sure she will continue to help West Tennesseans and will remain a leader in the Tennessee Democratic Party. Many of us will still seek her counsel and friendship.

Madam Speaker, I hope that you and our colleagues will join Betty Ann and me in congratulating Shirlene on her retirement, expressing deep gratitude and admiration for her long career of public service and wishing her all the best as she works in new ways to help those in our community.

HONORING SOUTH CAROLINA
RESEARCH AUTHORITY

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, As Dean of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation, I rise today on behalf of my colleagues in the South Carolina delegation to honor the South Carolina Research Authority, SCRA, on its 25th anniversary. SCRA was established 25 years ago and, since its inception, has played a leading role in commercializing technological advances, managing research parks, and supporting small businesses and entrepreneurial development. The result has been a positive economic impact on South Carolinians. In 2007, SCRA operations, technology parks, and programs in South Carolina were responsible for a \$1.4 billion economic impact. SCRA's operations, technological programs, and research parks, have benefited South Carolina and the country.

Madam Speaker, we are honored to celebrate with fellow South Carolinians the 25th anniversary of the South Carolina Research Authority. We recognize the distinguished leadership and staff for their hard work and dedication to making SCRA successful. We look forward to witnessing the continued growth and development of this great institution and seeing the tremendous impact it has on our State and our country.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JERRY
WELLER FOR HIS DISTIN-
GUISHED SERVICE REP-
RESENTING THE PEOPLE OF IL-
LINOIS.

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a distinguished Member of Congress from the Illinois Delegation, Congressman JERRY WELLER. JERRY is a true friend and a valued member of the Illinois Delegation.

From his rural roots growing up on a farm in Dwight, Illinois, JERRY has dedicated his life

to public service. He started in the office of Representative Tom Corcoran before moving on to the office of the Secretary of Agriculture before being elected to the Illinois General Assembly. In 1994 he was elected to represent Illinois' 11th District in Congress where he has served ever since.

Congressman WELLER has been a strong voice for Illinois working tirelessly for such important projects as forming the nation's largest national prairie, the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, and creating the Abraham Lincoln National Veterans Cemetery.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve with JERRY WELLER in the House of Representatives. We will all miss his presence, especially in the Illinois delegation. I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Congressman WELLER and his wife Zury as they embark on new beginnings and future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS
AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN DE-
FENSE CONTRACTING ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Fairness and Accountability in Defense Contracting Act. This bill will provide much needed transparency to the growing defense contracting industry, and help shine light on any conflict of interest between Pentagon contracting officials, as well as any perceived "revolving door" between the Pentagon procurement offices and private defense contractors.

As our military conflict and commitments have increased overseas since 2003, the Department of Defense has increasingly relied on private contractors to supply goods and services to support our armed forces. In January, 2007, the Acquisition Advisory Panel issued a report to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy and the United States Congress on the procurement policies of the Federal Government. In this report, the advisory panel devoted an entire chapter to evaluating the appropriate role of contractors in supporting the Government, and found that the potential for conflicts of interest "has increased significantly in recent years" as the traditional lines between public and private functions are continually blurred.

In July of this year, the Project on Government Oversight sent a letter to the General Services Administration and stated that a revolving door now exists between public and private sectors that has "become such an accepted part of Federal contracting in recent years that it is frequently difficult to determine where the Government stops and the private sector begins." The conflict of interest that results from this "revolving door" between private contractors and Government contracting offices can create serious conflicts of interest that may result in an environment of favoritism and profiteering that will only serve to misuse Federal tax dollars and betray the public's trust.

While a revolving door culture would be disturbing in any instance where public funds are used, it is particularly heinous during a time

when our country is at war and the lives of our men and women in the armed services depend on the equipment that is supplied to them by our procurement offices. Unfortunately, and to my complete dismay, there have been far too many instances over the past decade where the Pentagon's procurement policies have sold our soldiers short.

In January of 2006 it was revealed by the New York Times that an internal Pentagon memo reported that 80 percent of the Marines killed in Iraq due to upper body wounds could have survived if they had extra body armor. This troubling news followed earlier revelations that our troops went into Iraq without enough bulletproof vests and armored vehicles necessary to safeguard their lives. In light of these reports I requested that the Department of Defense Inspector General conduct an investigation into the Pentagon's body armor procurement policies. The Inspector General's initial findings, while incomplete, uncovered a troubling trend: 13 of the Army's 28 body armor contracts between January, 2004, and December, 2006, did not either require, perform, or have documentation to support proper first article testing as required by Federal Acquisition Requirements. While I am waiting for the Inspector General to complete a more thorough audit of the overall body armor procurement policy, these initial results should spark the desire for greater contracting oversight in any civic minded person.

In addition to the DoD IG's findings on body armor, there have been numerous recent public cases where the Pentagon's procurement policies have failed our troops. Earlier this year it was revealed that in 2007, the Army awarded a contract worth over \$200 million to two 22 year old boys to supply ammunition to Afghan troops. Appallingly, this ammunition was found to be from the Cold War era and completely inadequate for the Army's needs. Additionally, the botched contract award by the Air Force for KC-135 tankers, which was, challenged, reviewed by GAO, and ultimately reopened, received even greater public scrutiny. And perhaps most damning is the recent GAO report that the Pentagon has wasted about \$300 billion in defense spending.

These public examples show a disturbing trend of the failure of Pentagon procurement policy. They also suggest that an increasingly blurred line between the public and private sectors as identified by the Advisory Panel, as well as the perceived "revolving door" between contracting offices and private contractors, have consistently undermined the public's best interest.

This legislation will fight the revolving door between Pentagon contracting offices and private defense contractors by strengthening the transparency and reporting requirements for private contractors bidding on and receiving defense contracts. The Fairness and Accountability in Defense Contracting Act will require contractors who are bidding on contracts to disclose any Defense Department employment history of its employees. This legislation will also require that contractors submit a yearly report, for each year that a contract is in effect, which discloses this Defense Department employment history. The Department of Defense will also be required to submit a report to congressional defense committees that details the employment information reported by the contractor as required by this Act. And finally, this legislation will direct the GAO to

submit a report to Congress on the implementation and enforcement of rules governing future employment negotiations of contracting officials.

These measures will provide the transparency necessary to ensure that conflicts of interest with the Defense contracting offices, and a perceived revolving door to the private sector, are not undermining the public trust and selling the American taxpayers short. Most importantly, this legislation is necessary to ensure that defense contracting policies serve to provide the best possible equipment for our men and women in uniform at the best possible value to the taxpayer.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MATTHEW K. ROSE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Matthew K. Rose, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Rose is being honored as this year's Fort Worth Business Executive of the Year and will be inducted into the Fort Worth Business Hall of Fame.

In June 1999, Rose became Chief Operating Officer of Burlington Northern Santa Fe where he was responsible for all operations and marketing activities. He quickly accrued accomplishments, being made President and Chief Executive Officer in December of 2000, and later being elected Chairman of Burlington Northern Santa Fe in March of 2002.

In addition to leading the company to five consecutive years of recordsetting revenue earnings, Rose rebuilt flood-damaged rail lines ahead of schedule and won national recognition for this accomplishment. Rose's peers know him as not only a gifted businessman but also as a man with excellent leadership skills and a strong ability to work well with others.

It is with great honor that I recognize Matthew Rose for his hard work and leadership given to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. He sets a great example for us all, and I am proud to represent him in Washington.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES C. BINNICKER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James C. Binnicker, a man who has dedicated a lifetime of service both to our country and to the families of our military veterans. It is my pleasure and privilege to honor him as a great leader and a great American.

Mr. Binnicker's career of service began as a Civil Air Patrol cadet in his hometown of Aiken, South Carolina. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1957. Mr. Binnicker served honorably and with distinction for more

than thirty years. He reached the pinnacle of achievement in 1986 when he was selected to be the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

The Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force is a unique non-commissioned rank. As the highest enlisted leader in the Air Force, Chief Master Sergeant Binnicker served as the personal adviser to the Air Force Chief of Staff and the Secretary of the Air Force on all issues regarding the welfare, readiness, morale, and utilization of the enlisted forces. There have only been fifteen Chief Master Sergeants of the Air Force in the history of the U.S. military, and Mr. Binnicker was the ninth.

When Mr. Binnicker retired from the Air Force in 1990, he could have rested on the legacy he had created. Instead, he took on another challenge, the leadership and development of the Air Force Enlisted Village, a non-profit charity in Shalimar, Florida that provides a home for the surviving spouses of enlisted airmen. As President and CEO of the Enlisted Village, Mr. Binnicker oversees a \$28 million organization with 86 employees who care for more than 500 independent and assisted living residents on two campuses.

Mr. Binnicker's accomplishments were recognized in 2008 when the Florida Association of Homes and Services for the Aging selected him as their "Executive of the Year." Considering that caring for the elderly is a second career for Mr. Binnicker, the honor of being recognized by his peers in the state's largest aging-services organization is quite significant. Mr. Binnicker has dedicated his life to helping those in need, we will be eternally grateful for his service.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor one of America's true heroes, James C. Binnicker, for his leadership and service to Northwest Florida and throughout the world.

TRIBUTE TO THE CLEAR LAKE PATROL DIVISION AND HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the Clear Lake Patrol Division of the Houston Police Department for its outstanding service to the Houston community in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

In the days following the storm, the Clear Lake Patrol Division was dispatched to provide security at the congressional mobile office at the American Legion Post 490 near Ellington Field. By providing security, traffic and crowd control, the officers were able to ensure a successful operation and allow thousands of individuals to register for hurricane assistance.

Founded in 1841, the Houston Police Department continues to provide invaluable service and has grown to become the largest municipal police departments in the State of Texas. Under the leadership of Lieutenant Eldon Harris, the Clear Lake Patrol Division acts as a preserver of peace and a source of safety for the Clear Lake area of Houston.

It is my distinct honor to recognize the Houston Police Department's Clear Lake Patrol Division for their remarkable efforts following Hurricane Ike. Without their service, the

5,943 individuals that applied for assistance at the congressional mobile office would not have been possible.

The following police officers helped ensure the accessibility and effectiveness of the congressional mobile office:

Randall L. Derr—Senior Police Officer
Ricky W. Dalme—Sergeant of Police
Marvin Dutton—Sergeant of Police
Eldon Harris—Lieutenant of Police
Gregory Gillespie—Sergeant of Police
David L. Knatt—Police Officer
Gary L. Schaefer—Police Officer

HONORING MICHAEL J. CRITELLI

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, I pay tribute today to Michael J. Critelli—one of our foremost leaders in corporate America today. Mike has been at the helm of Pitney Bowes for over a decade and with the company for almost 30 years. At the end of this year, he steps down so on the occasion of his retirement. I would like to recognize his years of service.

Mike has been a leader at Pitney Bowes for many years in a number of positions. He's been the company's general counsel, chief personnel officer, president of Pitney Bowes Financial Services as well as chief executive officer and chairman of the board and is currently the executive chairman of the board. He's been a business leader not only in his home State of Connecticut, where Pitney Bowes is headquarters in my district in Stamford, but also on issues here in Washington, DC.

Mike spent a tremendous amount of time working on postal reform legislation and his work was exemplary. He helped to form the Mailing Industry CEO Council, an organization of over a dozen leaders of major mailing industry companies. As CEO of Pitney Bowes as well as chairman of the Mailing Industry CEO Council, he came to town frequently to meet with me and other members of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee and many others to champion the postal reform legislation and need for reform. His commitment to this issue was extraordinary. And in the second session of the 109th Congress, we saw the legislation pass the House and Senate and it became law.

One of the people there with President Bush—front and center—when the President signed the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act into law was Mike Critelli. It was the culmination of years of effort by those of us in Congress but also people in the mailing industry like Mike Critelli. He was, almost without a doubt, the single most dedicated corporate executive working with us in Congress to enact that legislation. He knew it was what the U.S. Postal Service needed in order to survive and thrive for the long term and he was dedicated to helping get it done.

Mike has also been committed to helping retain jobs in Connecticut. At a Government Reform Committee hearing several years ago on postal reform, Mike Critelli testified. He made a decision to move some jobs to an old industrial city in Bridgeport, Connecticut. He could have moved some of these folks elsewhere

but he knew that Bridgeport needed the jobs. That not only speaks volumes for who Mike Critelli is, but it also speaks volumes for the commitment of Pitney Bowes and its leaders to the well-being of our State.

Mike's commitment to our community has been a constant for over two decades during which he has volunteered in a range of advocacy roles for organizations in Connecticut. For example, he has been active on transportation issues including most recently serving as chairman of Governor Rell's Commission on the Reform of the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

I am grateful for Mike's dedication to the people of our community and the important issues affecting them. Please join me in recognizing Michael J. Critelli as he retires this year.

CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE, AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2638, The Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act. This bill makes critical investments in America to provide we have the necessary resources to secure our nation, to prepare and respond to natural disasters, and to maintain the uninterrupted flow of important government services and functions.

This continuing resolution includes three annual appropriations bills to operate important security programs in the departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and Veterans Administration. With the nation engaged in military conflict both in Afghanistan and Iraq, it is important that Congress provide the necessary investments in the Defense Department for the American men and women engaged in both battles. As a step-mother of a uniformed soldier and a wife to a former Marine, I am particularly pleased with the increased investment of \$28.4 million over current funding; among other important items for our troops this will address equipment shortfalls, supply quality training, and provide top of the line medical care to our troops.

The bill increases our investment in Homeland Security by \$2.3 billion over 2008 levels. Most of this increase is in the area of grants to states and localities for much needed security programs such as those for urban areas, states, transit systems, fire, interoperable communications and emergency management performance. Key programs in customs and border protection and the Transportation Security Administration which monitor and safeguard our borders, trade and transport systems will also receive increases.

The bill also makes investments in veterans' programs and in military construction, providing a \$9 billion increase in funding. We all appreciate and honor the service and sacrifice of our veterans, and these investments will fund increases for medical care and will improve access to medical services for all vet-

erans. It also continues a critically needed quality of life initiative to improve living conditions for training soldiers and marines and to upgrade substandard medical treatment facilities.

In addition to these three regular appropriations bills, our legislation addresses important emergency needs. With hurricanes in the gulf coast, floods in the Midwest, and wildfires in the west, America has experienced another year of dramatic weather-related disasters. Our bill makes a \$22.9 billion investment to not only respond to these specific events but also to ensure our preparation and readiness for future emergencies. These funds will help rebuild damaged highways, levees and other public infrastructure; help communities revitalize their damaged economies; and provide important social services to affected residents.

Of course, it is equally important that we take the opportunity of this continuing resolution to address certain important domestic needs. Accordingly, this bill makes several important investments to directly benefit hard-working families, as well as strengthen the American economy. These investments include the following increases over current funding:

\$1 billion for Nutrition for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) to provide mothers and their children with proper nutrition to cover increased costs as more families struggle with the economic downturn and rising food costs; \$23.5 million for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program to prevent nearly 70,000 low-income women, infants, children, and elderly citizens, from losing access to food;

\$2.5 billion for the Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) to help families pay rising home energy bills, assisting an additional 2 million households and raising the average grant from \$355 to \$550;

\$2.5 billion for Pell Grants to prevent cuts to student aid midway through the school year;

\$2.9 billion to help the Census Bureau to ramp up operations for the 2010 Census; and

\$7.5 billion to support \$25 billion in loans to help American automakers retool their factories to build more fuel-efficient vehicles.

While I am pleased the continuing resolution addresses these important issues, I am disappointed that it does not include another important matter—an extension of the drilling ban on the outer continental shelf. Although an extension of the ban had become routine in the annual appropriations bills, the current energy crisis has made that impossible this year. I trust congressional leaders in the next Congress will reach an agreement that addresses our energy needs while still providing continued environmental safeguards for our coastlines and coastal communities.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents are not happy that once again Congress has had to resort to a continuing resolution to fund the operations of the government. Unfortunately, the Congress was left with no choice but to proceed in this fashion when the President threatened to veto domestic spending bills that exceed his inadequate requests. Re-investing in America and in American families is the new Majority's priority; however, it clearly is not the priority of the Administration as evidenced by the President's budget request. Rather than engage president renown for his inflexibility, the new Majority has opted to work with the next administration to fund these important programs.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill to secure our nation, invest in America, and respond and prepare for disasters.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5244, the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation, which protects families across America from the confusing, deceptive, and unfair credit card practices. I believe that passage of this legislation is long overdue.

Unfortunately, the increased usage of credit cards among Latinos has resulted in more Latinos with credit card debt. Between 1992 and 2001, the share of Latino families with credit cards grew from 43 percent to 53 percent and the average credit card debt among Latinos increased by nearly 20 percent to \$3,700. Even worse, credit card issuers have profited by taking advantage of Latino families' need to rely on credit for everyday expenses. Credit card companies imposed an astounding \$18.1 billion in penalty fees on families carrying credit card balances. Seventy-seven percent of Latinos carry a balance on their credit cards, which makes them especially susceptible to credit card industry's unethical tricks and penalties.

Inequities in access to mainstream credit cards mean that Latinos are targeted by unscrupulous companies and are more likely than Whites to have credit cards with high interest rates. Because credit card companies can increase interest rates at any moment and can charge interest on debt that consumers have already paid on time, they have trapped vulnerable low-income Latino families in a never-ending cycle of debt.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 5244, the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights. We need to end unfair and arbitrary interest rate increases and protect vulnerable consumers from high-fee subprime credit cards. I look forward to working with my colleagues to protecting the financial security of consumers across our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE RALPH REGULA, THE HONORABLE DEBORAH PRYCE AND THE HONORABLE DAVID HOBSON

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, the state of Ohio has been greatly blessed to have leaders like RALPH REGULA, DAVE HOBSON, and DEBORAH PRYCE working for them in the United States Congress. Their decades of hard work and outstanding service have made the state of Ohio a better place and have set an example for the rest of the Ohio Delegation. I am

proud to have had the opportunity to work with them on the issues affecting our state and our nation. RALPH REGULA has been a great example of service and statesmanship as the Dean of the Ohio Delegation. DAVE HOBSON has been a role model and mentor for me since I took office in 2003 and I appreciate his friendship and support. DEB PRYCE has been a graceful and determined leader for all Ohioans over her 16 years in Congress. I join the rest of my colleagues in congratulating RALPH REGULA, DAVE HOBSON, and DEBORAH PRYCE, on their service to their districts, our State, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JIM SAXTON

SPEECH OF

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of my friend and fellow member of the New Jersey delegation, Representative JIM SAXTON. Mr. SAXTON came to Congress nearly 24 years ago and since that time has served as a tireless advocate for the people of New Jersey's 3rd Congressional District.

He has served as a role model to members of the delegation, including me, throughout his distinguished service. On the House Armed Services Committee, Mr. SAXTON worked to improve the quality of life for those who serve in the military and their families on the home front, and especially those who work with the Special Forces Command.

Mr. SAXTON has been a strong supporter of military bases across the country, especially Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. He will be remembered for his passionate and steadfast advocacy on behalf of his constituents and our state.

Mr. SAXTON has a tremendous record of environmental protection of New Jersey's beaches and coastline over many years. And we have worked closely together in passing the Highlands Conservation Act, which protects open space and water supplies vital to the entire Northeast.

His thoughtful and deliberative style serves as an example to other lawmakers and is a true testament to good government. Mr. SAXTON has always been known to do the "right thing," which has made him an example to his colleagues and endeared him to his constituents.

On a more personal level, JIM SAXTON has been a good friend and mentor, as he was to my predecessor, the late Dean A. Gallo. Like Dean Gallo, I have benefited from his knowledge and wisdom, his good humor and compassion, and I will surely miss him as a colleague.

The retirement of Congressman JIM SAXTON is a loss to the people of New Jersey and the U.S. Congress. His leadership and knowledge will be missed. I thank him for his service and wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE TERRY EVERETT ON THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, as I was thinking about what to say about my good friend BUD CRAMER, it occurred to me that the many things I could say would soon be forgotten.

But what I will remember is his friendship and the experiences we shared together.

A former constituent of mine, Johnny Cash, summed it up best in when he sang "Jim Wore a Tie Today." The lyrics of the song follow:

"Jim, I did everything that I could,
But your fever just wouldn't die down,
So I tied your horse to the wagon bed,
And last night I brought you to town.

"But when I got there you were gone Jim,
And there was nothin' nobody could do,
I bought you a suit and a tie Jim,
And today I wore one too.

"Jim I wore a tie today,
The first one that I ever wore,
And you'd have said I looked like a dummy,
Out of a dry goods store.

"Jim they said a lot of things,
But I don't know a thing they said,
My mind kept wanderin' off down the trail,
Back to the times that we've had.

"And for gold on the cuff,
We've done everything in the book I guess,
And a lot they'd never thought up.

"Well Jim, you're ridin' on ahead,
I guess that's how it has be,
But when you reach those streets paved with gold Jim,

Stake a claim out for me . . ."

CALLING CARD CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3402, the Calling Card Consumer Protection Act. After years of deceptive and abusive marketing practice by the calling card industry, I am pleased to be here today to offer protection to our constituents who rely on the cards to stay in touch with their loved ones. The victims of calling card fraud are often the most vulnerable among us—they are low-income, immigrants, military families—in short, the ones who can least afford it. I think this is sensible legislation, and I thank my colleague and friend Congressman ELIOT ENGEL for all of his hard work to enact this bill.

I am proud to represent a diverse constituency and am proud to support the Calling Card Consumer Protection Act to crack down on those abuses. Too many people are lured in by promises of cheap overseas calls but end up getting less than half of what they paid

for. These cards use hidden fees so creative and outlandish that they would almost be funny if they weren't so awful, and the practice must stop.

The legislation before us today goes a long way toward solving this problem. It would require calling cards to clearly present what services they offer and any additional fees associated with the card. Most importantly, if someone buys a card that says it's good for 250 minutes, they will receive those 250 minutes. Consumers deserve to get what they paid for.

While I support H.R. 3402, I do want to express my concern with a couple of provisions in the bill, especially those that involve State standards and enforcement. Many States and the Federal Trade Commission, FTC, already have tools to address the many abuses related to the sale of prepaid calling cards. As we heard from the FTC Commissioner in our hearing, those States are at the forefront of cracking down on deceptive practices. Therefore, we need to be very careful about preempting States from setting or enforcing standards related to the cards.

I believe that the disclosure preemption provision in H.R. 3402 should set a floor, not a ceiling, and allow those States that want to enact stricter disclosure standards to do so. Illinois is on the forefront of policing calling cards, and our State law mandates strong disclosures that should not be preempted with weaker ones. I also hope that the FTC will solicit input from the States as they work to establish minimum standards.

Finally, I also believe that retailers should be held responsible for selling cards that do not meet the Federal and State standards. Illinois State law requires retailers to obtain a proof that the underlying carrier is certified, with the underlying carrier and all resellers responsible for ensuring that the required disclosures are made. This is not a burdensome step for retailers to ensure that the product they sell is in compliance with the law, and this is a commonsense provision that should be included in H.R. 3402 as well.

I look forward to working with Rep. ENGEL, my colleagues on Committee, and my friends on the Senate Commerce Committee to improve this bill and to see it enacted into law.

FILIPINO VETERANS EQUITY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 22, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the 18,000 surviving Filipino Veterans of World War II who have yet to receive the benefits and recognition for their service to this country that was promised to them many years ago.

As my colleagues know, Filipino soldiers were an essential part of United States military operations during World War II. These brave men fought alongside our American soldiers under the command of General Douglas MacArthur.

In return for their heroic efforts, our Government promised these Filipino soldiers that they would receive full veteran status and the ben-

efits awarded to their American compatriots in recognition of their sacrifices.

However, to date, over 60 years later, we have not kept this promise. This is shameful.

200,000 Filipinos fought alongside American soldiers in World War II. Today, only 18,000 of these Filipino veterans are still living. It is imperative that we act to provide these surviving veterans with the benefits we promised them and the respect that they deserve.

I will vote for H.R. 6897 because it begins to address this misguided policy by the U.S. Government by providing a one-time payment to surviving Filipino veterans—\$15,000 for U.S. citizens and \$9,000 for those veterans who have remained citizens of the Philippines.

However, the benefit provided in H.R. 6897 is only a small fraction of what we owe these veterans. I am disappointed that this legislation does not go as far as the Senate-passed provisions in S. 1315, which would give Filipino WWII veterans full veteran status and all the benefits that go along with that designation. Full veteran status is not only important because of the benefits received, but also because of the honor that the designation affords.

Nonetheless, I believe that it is important that the House pass this legislation which at long last will give formal congressional recognition to contributions and sacrifices of these soldiers.

Despite my belief that we should do more, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 6897. It is imperative that we pass this legislation as soon as possible to move the process forward with the goal of keeping our word to these brave soldiers.

DEMOCRACY RESTORATION ACT OF 2008

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Democracy Restoration Act of 2008. This legislation will serve to clarify and expand voting rights as well as assist former felons with their reintegration into our democracy.

The Sentencing Project reports that, since 1997, 19 States have amended felony disenfranchisement policies in an effort to reduce their restrictiveness and expand voter eligibility. These reforms have resulted in more than 760,000 citizens regaining their voting rights. Yet, despite these reforms, an estimated 5 million people will continue to be ineligible to vote in November's Presidential election, including nearly 4 million who reside in the 35 States that still prohibit some combination of persons on probation, parole, and/or people who have completed their sentence from voting.

I believe that such prohibitions on the right to vote undermine both the voting system and the fundamental rights of ex-offenders. In the past two election cycles, flawed voter purges have deprived legitimate voters of their rights. Moreover, in Ohio, an erroneous interpretation of State law by the Secretary of State deprived thousands of ex-felons of even the right to register. Only Federal law can conclusively resolve the ambiguities in this area plaguing our voting system.

Earlier this year, President Bush signed the Second Chance Act into law, signaling a greater awareness of the need to implement policies to aid the reintegration of our ex-felon community. This legislation is the next step in restoring the ex-felon community to full citizenship. Denying voting rights to ex-offenders denies them the opportunity to fully participate and contribute to their society. Disenfranchisement laws isolate and alienate ex-offenders and serve as one more obstacle in their attempt to successfully reintegrate into society.

The legislation is a narrowly crafted effort to expand voting rights for ex-felons while protecting State prerogatives to generally establish voting qualifications. The legislation would only apply to persons who have been released from prison, and it would only apply to Federal elections. As such, our bill is fully consistent with constitutional requirements established by the Supreme Court in a series of decisions upholding Federal voting rights laws.

In past Congresses, voting restoration legislation has been supported by a broad coalition of groups interested in voting and civil rights, including the NAACP, ACLU, the National Council of Churches (National and Washington Office), the National Urban League, the Human Rights Watch, and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, among many others.

The practice of many States denying voting rights to former felons represents a vestige from a time when suffrage was denied to whole classes of our population based on race, gender, religion, national origin, and property. I believe that we fail not only ex-offenders by denying them the right to vote, but the rest of a society that has struggled throughout its history to be legitimate and inclusive.

Just like poll taxes and literacy tests prevented an entire class of citizens, namely African Americans, from integrating into society after centuries of slavery, felon disenfranchisement laws prevent ex-offenders from reintegrating into society after retribution. It is long past time that these restrictions be relegated to unenlightened history.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Fiscal Year 2009 Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act.

Requesting Member: Representative LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART (FL-21).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Army, RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lehman Injury Research Center (Ryder Trauma Center).

Address of Requesting Entity: 1800 NW 10th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136.

Description of Request: The funding would be used for the Army Trauma Training Center (ATTC) at the Ryder Trauma Center situated

in the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center. The ATTC has functioned as the national training center for U.S. Army Forward Surgical Teams (FSTs) since 2001. Monthly, the ATTC conducts a 14-day training program for deploying FSTs in order to improve clinical skills and teamwork. The resources of the Ryder Trauma Center and the William Lehman Injury Research Center present a unique opportunity to develop and evaluate new and innovative diagnostic and treatment tools and point-of-care information systems to maximize the care of injured soldiers. The Ryder Trauma Center is developing diagnostics and devices to enhance the capability of first responders to effectively treat casualties as close to the geographic location and time of the injury as possible. Since January 2001, the Army Trauma Training Center, in conjunction with the Ryder Trauma Center, has trained over 25 forward surgical teams and more than 650 Army personnel in active duty and reserve components—two-thirds of all forward surgical teams in the U.S. Army—supporting over 75,000 combat troops.

BUDGET PLAN

Lehman Injury Research Center (Ryder Trauma Center) will likely receive \$5 million in CR/FY 2009 DOD.

SALARIES

Faculty, \$419,195.00; Staff, \$1,349,209.00.
Total Salaries (includes fringe benefits), \$1,769,194.00.

Telemedicine equipment, \$300,000.00.
Minor other equipment, \$70,000.00.
Software licenses, \$120,000.00.
Programming consultants, \$500,000.00.
Minor supplies, \$387,000.00.
Total equipment, \$1,377,000.00.
Grand total, \$3,146,194.00.
Indirect costs, \$853,806.00.
TATRC 20 percent, \$1,000,000.00.
Total Award, \$5,000,000.00.

Requesting Member: Representative LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART (FL-21).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Army, RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Heavy Fuel Burning Engines for UAVs (Locust USA, Inc.).

Address of Requesting Entity: 8312 NW 74th Avenue, Miami, FL 33166.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to accelerate development of very small engines (Microturbines) to meet present requirements at the Department of Defense. During the past 18 months Locust USA has made significant advancements in the design of the product, and bringing to test the smallest turbine engine (5 horsepower). A version of this engine was selected in September 2006 to power the Army's FCS (Future Combat System) Class I UAV. The DOD is currently in the process of purchasing nearly 500 MAVs (Micro Air Vehicles) for special missions; all are powered by a gasoline engine instead of the heavy fuel requirements that would be preferred under this project.

BUDGET PLAN

\$800,000 of the FY 09 funds are to be used to refine performance and durability of prototype heavy fuel propulsion systems in the 40 to 70 horsepower class.

\$1,200,000 will be used for the power range of 5 to 10 horsepower engines, to include the original heavy fuel system that was to power the MAV (Micro Air Vehicle).

Specifically, improvements in component efficiency which will lead to improvements in basic performance (horsepower, fuel consumption, and internal electrical power generation) as well as durability of bearings, improved castings of critical parts that operate at speeds as high as 230,000 RPM.

Requesting Member: Representative LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART (FL-21).

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Army, RDT&E.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Medium-Sized Unmanned Ground Vehicles Platform (Phoenix Worldwide Industries).

Address of Requesting Entity: 10780 SW 190th Street, Miami, FL 33351.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to develop and implement smaller, lightweight command platforms with reduced power requirements for biological, video and systematic sensors to be installed to function with medium-sized Unmanned Ground Vehicles. Phoenix Worldwide mobile command platforms would be fitted onto military vehicles. This effort would be overseen and directed by the Robotic and Joint Center for Unmanned Ground Vehicles at TARDEC, the attending agency.

Unmanned Ground Vehicles and Robotics are of high importance to our warfighters. The U.S. military is currently using numerous types and designs of these UGVs overseas. The U.S. military will continue to develop newer UGVs and mobile command platforms whose technologies will reduce exposure in hazardous situations and at the same time gather information and intelligence. For this reason, the U.S. Army created the Future Combat System directive to increase situational awareness while reducing human exposure for our ground troops.

BUDGET PLAN—BUDGET PROPOSAL, UNCLASSIFIED

Appropriation—Phoenix Worldwide Industries.

Platform: DoD or Military Spec. The design platform will be one that can be air lifted and/or driven.

Materials: Much of the technology that will be incorporated in the working prototype developed for the Mobile Command and Control Platform will be Commercial, off-the-shelf products (COTS).

We will use and intergrate current DoD or Military Spec sensors which will be listed as Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) as per instructions.

Platform Costs—structure reinforcing, balancing weight distribution, etc., electrical adaptations, shelter. \$150,000.00.

Vehicle Transportation, \$12,000.00.

Labor Costs—mechanical engineering, software engineering, design engineering, project management, trade labor. \$750,000.00.

COTS Material Cost, \$913,000.00.

GFE Adaptations, \$50,000.00.

Contract Costs—NASEA and TARDEC, \$125,000.00.

Schedule: 2009.

HONORING ERNEST CHARLES
JAMES TARTER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ernest Charles James

Tarter of Blue Springs, Missouri. Ernest is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1282, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ernest has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Ernest has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ernest Charles James Tarter for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CODY JAMES FRIZZELL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cody James Frizzell of Kansas City, Missouri. Cody is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1354, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cody has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Cody has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cody James Frizzell for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING TYLER ANDREW GRAEF

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Andrew Graef of Blue Springs, Missouri. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Andrew Graef for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING JOHNATHAN SHELBY
STITT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Johnathan Shelby Stitt of Kansas City, Missouri. Johnathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1333, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Johnathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Johnathan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Johnathan Shelby Stitt for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT JACOB
BESER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the memory of Lieutenant Jacob Beser, the only United States Army Air Force Officer to serve on both the mission of the Enola Gay to Hiroshima and Bock's Car to Nagasaki.

Jacob Beser was born on March 15, 1922 in Baltimore Maryland and graduated from Baltimore City College in 1938. He then studied mechanical engineering at Johns Hopkins University but left the day after Pearl Harbor to enlist in the Army Air Forces. Because of his educational background and training, Beser was sent to Los Alamos, New Mexico to work on the Manhattan Project in the area of weapons firing and fusing.

Lieutenant Beser was the radar specialist aboard the Enola Gay on August 6, 1945, when it dropped the "Little Boy" atomic bomb on Hiroshima. "Little Boy", the first atomic bomb to be used in warfare, was to detonate over the city triggered by radar calculations that measured the bomb's distance from the ground as it fell. Lieutenant Beser's job was to monitor those calculations and also to ensure that no other radars interfered with the radar frequency, which could have caused a premature detonation.

Three days later, Lieutenant Beser was aboard Bock's Car when "Fat Man" was dropped on Nagasaki. He was the only person to have crewed the attack aircraft of both missions.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the memory of Lieutenant Jacob Beser. It is with great pride that I recognize a fellow Baltimore City College graduate on being the only United States Army Air Force Officer to serve on the crew for both the historic missions of the Enola Gay and Bock's Car.

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, I send the appreciation of the Congress to those who have given San Francisco, as well as the world, the magnificent gift of the new California Academy of Sciences as it opens on September 27, 2008.

Generations of Bay Area residents have grown up with the Academy as a cultural treasure in Golden Gate Park, visiting as schoolchildren and then bringing their own children to this center of exploration and natural sciences education. Worn by earthquakes, age, and the love of so many children, its friends re-imagined the best possible version of this beloved institution.

How fortunate are we all that the Academy's board and leadership secured the talent and vision of the brilliant Italian architect Renzo Piano, who transformed this noted science museum into an architectural triumph and forward-looking example of energy-efficient design. The Academy also benefited greatly from the crusading spirit of former executive director Pat Kocielek, whose enthusiasm for a 21st century natural history center became infectious.

The California Academy of Sciences is home to the Steinhart Aquarium, Kimball Natural History Museum, Morrison Planetarium and world-class research and education programs. The magnificent new site boasts a four story living rainforest, an awe-inspiring corral reef ecosystem, a living roof of California native plants which is an engineering marvel of seven hills reflecting San Francisco's landscape. The Academy is committed to preserving natural habitats and protecting essential natural resources.

San Francisco prides itself on being a model for the Nation, indeed the world, when it comes to preserving our beautiful planet for future generations. Therefore, it is fitting that the California Academy of Sciences will be the greenest nature museum in the world and stands with the deYoung to make Golden Gate Park a destination of world-class museums.

This extraordinary renovation of the Academy benefited greatly from large private philanthropy, due in great part to the tireless work of the Academy's Board of Trustees, led by the task force of William Wilson, Martha Knopf, George Montgomery and Richard Bingham. The renovation also benefited from funding from the city and the state, and I am especially pleased my colleagues in Congress joined me to obtain \$8 million in federal investment for this innovative project.

My five children, like so many others, spent endless hours exploring the boundless treasures of the academy. Now this magnificent new building will inspire and educate scores of children, scientists and environmental leaders to explore and protect our natural world. I am proud to represent this world-class, eco-friendly institution, and look forward to introducing my grandchildren to its wonders.

NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE
IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, Americans continue to work hard in these tough economic times.

As in the past, today's immigrants supply the limitless stream of ability, hard work, and innovation that improve the economic life of our nation.

Like the immigrant founders of this country, today's immigrants improve the economic life of America.

Immigrants also provide the amazing diversity that makes America what it is, what makes us unique among all the nations in the world.

However, we must remember that injustice for any person leads to injustice for all. If there are people without rights, it puts us all at risk.

Denying justice and human rights to any group of people is Un-American.

I urge my colleagues to support comprehensive immigration reform and fix this broken immigration system.

PREDICTION OF A FINANCIAL
CRISIS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as our Nation faces a financial crisis, I wish to submit the following article, "Fannie Mae Eases Credit To Aid Mortgage Lending," published in The New York Times on September 30, 1999. Special recognition should be given to those who recognized early on the dangers inherent in easing credit requirements for housing loans—including Peter Wallison of the American Enterprise Institute.

FANNIE MAE EASES CREDIT TO AID MORTGAGE LENDING

(By Steven A. Holmes)

In a move that could help increase home ownership rates among minorities and low-income consumers, the Fannie Mae Corporation is easing the credit requirements on loans that it will purchase from banks and other lenders.

The action, which will begin as a pilot program involving 24 banks in 15 markets—including the New York metropolitan region—will encourage those banks to extend home mortgages to individuals whose credit is generally not good enough to qualify for conventional loans. Fannie Mae officials say they hope to make it a nationwide program by next spring.

Fannie Mae, the nation's biggest underwriter of home mortgages, has been under increasing pressure from the Clinton Administration to expand mortgage loans among low and moderate income people and felt pressure from stock holders to maintain its phenomenal growth in profits.

In addition, banks, thrift institutions and mortgage companies have been pressing Fannie Mae to help them make more loans to so-called subprime borrowers. These borrowers whose incomes, credit ratings and savings are not good enough to qualify for

conventional loans, can only get loans from finance companies that charge much higher interest rates—anywhere from three to four percentage points higher than conventional loans.

“Fannie Mae has expanded home ownership for millions of families in the 1990’s by reducing down payment requirements,” said Franklin D. Raines, Fannie Mae’s chairman and chief executive officer. “Yet there remain too many borrowers whose credit is just a notch below what our underwriting has required who have been relegated to paying significantly higher mortgage rates in the so-called subprime market.”

Demographic information on these borrowers is sketchy. But at least one study indicates that 18 percent of the loans in the subprime market went to black borrowers, compared to 5 per cent of loans in the conventional loan market.

In moving, even tentatively, into this new area of lending, Fannie Mae is taking on significantly more risk, which may not pose any difficulties during flush economic times. But the government-subsidized corporation may run into trouble in an economic downturn, prompting a government rescue similar to that of the savings and loan industry in the 1980’s.

“From the perspective of many people, including me, this is another thrift industry growing up around us,” said Peter Wallison a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. “If they fail, the government will have to step up and bail them out the way it stepped up and bailed out the thrift industry.”

Under Fannie Mae’s pilot program, consumers who qualify can secure a mortgage with an interest rate one percentage point above that of a conventional, 30-year fixed rate mortgage of less than \$240,000—a rate that currently averages about 7.76 per cent. If the borrower makes his or her monthly payments on time for two years, the one percentage point premium is dropped.

Fannie Mae, the nation’s biggest underwriter of home mortgages, does not lend money directly to consumers. Instead, it purchases loans that banks make on what is called the secondary market. By expanding the type of loans that it will buy, Fannie Mae is hoping to spur banks to make more loans to people with less-than-stellar credit ratings.

Fannie Mae officials stress that the new mortgages will be extended to all potential borrowers who can qualify for a mortgage. But they add that the move is intended in part to increase the number of minority and low income home owners who tend to have worse credit ratings than non-Hispanic whites.

Home ownership has, in fact, exploded among minorities during the economic boom of the 1990’s. The number of mortgages extended to Hispanic applicants jumped by 87.2 per cent from 1993 to 1998, according to Harvard University’s Joint Center for Housing Studies. During that same period the number of African Americans who got mortgages to buy a home increased by 71.9 per cent and the number of Asian Americans by 46.3 per cent.

In contrast, the number of non-Hispanic whites who received loans for homes increased by 31.2 per cent.

Despite these gains, home ownership rates for minorities continue to lag behind non-Hispanic whites, in part because blacks and Hispanics in particular tend to have on average worse credit ratings.

In July, the Department of Housing and Urban Development proposed that by the year 2001, 50 percent of Fannie Mae’s and Freddie Mac’s portfolio be made up of loans to low and moderate-income borrowers. Last

year, 44 percent of the loans Fannie Mae purchased were from these groups.

The change in policy also comes at the same time that HUD is investigating allegations of racial discrimination in the automated underwriting systems used by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to determine the credit-worthiness of credit applicants.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL RITA ARAGON

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend and congratulate retired Major General Rita Aragon, who has been named Woman of the Year by the Journal Record business newspaper in Oklahoma City.

Rita Aragon’s story is an inspiration to all women. As a single mother working as public school teacher, she joined the Oklahoma Air National Guard more than 30 years ago. In 1989 she became the first unit commander in the Guard, and by 2003 she had risen to the rank of Brigadier General. As a major General she served on active duty as assistant to the commander of air education and training and later as assistant to the chief of Staff Manpower and Personnel in the Pentagon. Since her retirement she has returned to education as director of advance programs at the College of Continuing Education at the University of Oklahoma.

Throughout her career, Rita Aragon has given her time and talent to many community organizations and served on the boards of many of those groups. During Oklahoma’s response to the 1995 federal building bombing in Oklahoma City she helped lead the military contingent at ground zero. I am honored to recognize Rita Aragon’s life of service to her Nation, state and city.

JOB CREATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Job Creation and Unemployment Relief Act and congratulate Speaker PELOSI and Chairman OBEY for providing important relief to American families struggling under current economic conditions.

At a time when taxpayers are being asked to rescue Wall Street, it is imperative that Congress also recognize the challenges facing Main Street. Our economy has lost jobs for eight straight months with 605,000 American jobs lost this year. This summer Minnesota’s unemployment rate reached its highest level in 22 years. Putting Americans back to work is critical to the recovery of our economy and to the health and safety of families.

H.R. 7110 invests in families by creating good-paying jobs through new infrastructure projects. These investments have an immediate effect on the economy by putting people to work and will have a long term effect with

improvements to our roads, bridges and schools.

Other jobs will be created through new energy technologies. New loans to the auto industry and investment in new renewable energy technologies will both put people in good paying, stable jobs but will also move this country towards energy independence.

For those hit hardest by economic conditions, this legislation provides an extension of unemployment benefits for those still searching for a job, including 20,000 Minnesotans. It also includes additional food assistance to help deal with rising food prices and a temporary increase in Medicaid payments for states so they can continue to provide health care coverage for children and families. To address the cost of fuel and growing demand for public transportation, this bill invests in transit to improve access and afford ability of buses and trains.

It is absolutely unacceptable for members to find the political will to bail out Wall Street at a cost of \$700 billion to taxpayers and at the same time claim that we do not have the resources to invest one-tenth of that in American families. This is a prudent, targeted package and it is critical to our economic recovery. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 7110.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION APPROVAL AND NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. India is the world’s largest and most diverse democracy and a strong ally and friend of the United States. As a member of the India Caucus, I recognize the benefits of increased economic, security, and cultural cooperation between India and the United States, and am proud that in recent years the relationship between our two countries has made rapid advances in so many areas.

Because of the growing importance of that relationship, it made sense for the Bush administration to consider expanding the U.S.-India strategic partnership to include civilian nuclear energy development. In the context of our friendship with India, I support the concept of civilian nuclear cooperation, and I will support this legislation today.

U.S. law prohibits nuclear cooperation with countries that have not pledged under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty—like India—to forgo nuclear weapons. The U.S.-India agreement carves out an exception for India to allow it to gain access to long-denied civilian nuclear technology in exchange for opening 14 out of 22 of its nuclear facilities to inspections under the International Atomic Energy Agency. Importantly, India and the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, have negotiated a safeguards agreement and the 45-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group has approved an exemption for India, requirements that needed to be met before Congress could vote on the final cooperation agreement.

Under existing law, Congress would have 60 days to consider the agreement, an important provision given that the agreement before us is complex and requires time for hearings and debate. But because there is little time left on the legislative calendar, we're forced to vote to waive the consultation period and consider the agreement today without the benefit of sufficient review. The bill is also being considered under suspension of the rules, which provides for only limited debate and no amendments.

Mr. Speaker, I am uncomfortable with this process. I am also disappointed that the legislation does not resolve what appear to be conflicting interpretations between U.S. officials and Indian officials about key points of the agreement. But I do believe that ultimately this agreement will help bring India closer to the global nonproliferation regime—a better outcome than if we leave it on the outside. And for that reason, I will support this legislation today.

In exchange for getting access to sensitive nuclear technology and fuel supplies, India has committed to continue its moratorium on nuclear weapons testing; separate its civilian and military nuclear programs; place all current and future civil nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards; implement a strong national export control system; work with the U.S. to conclude a multilateral Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty; and not transfer nuclear technologies to states that do not already possess them. Although the agreement does not specifically require the U.S. to cut off nuclear cooperation if India tests another weapon or violates the IAEA safeguards, Secretary Rice has promised that the “deal . . . would at that point be off.” I have no doubt that an Obama or McCain administration would follow that same course. I have confidence that as a strong democracy and a responsible actor on the world stage, India will abide by its commitments—but I also take comfort in the agreement's stipulations that we can terminate the agreement and seek the return of any transferred materials and technology should circumstances require such a step.

So in conclusion, I believe this agreement strikes the right balance between strengthening our relationship with India and also maintaining our robust and time-tested international nuclear nonproliferation regime. I will support the bill today, but I plan to carefully scrutinize the agreement's implementation to ensure that India is abiding by its commitments.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JERRY WELLER AND THE HONORABLE RAY LAHOOD

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the distinguished career of JERRY WELLER, who will be retiring at the end of the 110th Congress. I wish to express my appreciation for his service to our country and the state of Illinois.

JERRY was elected to Congress in 1994 as the representative of the 11th District of Illinois. He began his public service career working as a Congressional and Administration aide, followed by three terms in the Illinois General Assembly. He has used his seat on the Ways and Means Committee to make a strong, positive difference for families in Illinois and throughout the United States.

JERRY has worked on a number of initiatives important to Illinois' families, including his efforts to enhance Illinois' infrastructure, establish and expand veterans' outpatient clinics, and protect children from on-line predators. JERRY was instrumental in passing legislation to redevelop the Joliet Arsenal in 1995, which created thousands of union jobs by establishing North America's largest intermodal truck, rail, and freight facility. He is a tireless advocate for the needs of his constituents and his country.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Congressman WELLER for his years of dedicated service to this body and to the people of Illinois. I wish JERRY and his family the very best in the future.

SUPPORTING RESTITUTION FOR
PROPERTY CONFISCATED BY
NAZI AND COMMUNIST REGIMES

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 371 which strongly supports and immediate and just restitution of, or compensation for, property illegally confiscated during the last century by Nazi and Communist regimes. As a cosponsor of this important resolution, I believe that while we must recognize steps forward, countries in central and eastern Europe that have not already done so must return confiscated properties to their rightful owners or, where restitution is not possible, pay equitable compensation.

In that vein, I would like to draw the attention of the House to one particular situation in Hungary. Since the end of the Cold War, Hungary has developed into a vibrant democracy, a member of the European Union, an important NATO ally, and a key friend of the United States.

Yet, even with this great progress, Hungary's record on restitution for Holocaust victims is mixed, at best. Take the case of Martha Nierenberg, an 84-year-old U.S. citizen who lives in New York State. Her grandfather amassed one of the preeminent art collections in Hungary, consisting of some 2,500 paintings. After the Nazis occupied Hungary, some of those paintings were personally seized by Adolf Eichmann, the infamous implementer of the Final Solution, for shipment to Nazi Germany. Others were taken by the Hungarian government in collaboration with the Nazis and wound up after World War II in state owned museums in Budapest.

Mrs. Nierenberg's mother began asking Hungary for the return of some of the paintings in 1996 and upon her mother's death, Mrs. Nierenberg began to request their return,

as well. Hungary refused to return the paintings, even though there has been no question that the paintings belonged to Mrs. Nierenberg's grandfather and to her mother after his death. As a result, Mrs. Nierenberg was forced to sue in Hungary for the return of 12 paintings. She won initially in the lower court (which returned one painting to her), but the Hungarian government challenged the ruling, requiring her to endure 7 years of appeals. She finally lost the final court case earlier this year, on technical grounds.

The Washington Principles adopted in 1998, and supported by the Hungarian government, require governments holding Holocaust property, such as Hungary, to arrive at a fair and equitable resolution of claims to the property. But, Hungary has not followed those principles and has not tried to reach a fair and equitable resolution of Mrs. Nierenberg's claims.

The appearance, sadly, is that the Hungarian government wants to “run the clock” on Mrs. Nierenberg, hoping that she will give up or die. But she will not give up, and Mrs. Nierenberg's children are as determined as she is to recover what is rightfully theirs.

What is most shocking to me about this case is how quickly countries are able to disassociate their war-time complicity in the Nazi Holocaust from their holding of the war-time booty. During World War II, Hungary expelled 440,000 Jews, most of whom perished in Auschwitz. Ironically, Adolph Eichmann, who stole some of the Nierenberg paintings, was chief of the team of “deportation experts” that helped the Hungarian authorities send their country's Jewish population to its demise.

Madam Speaker, Hungary has no moral claim to Mrs. Nierenberg's paintings and, should, at long last, do what is right. Therefore, as a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 371, I urge the Hungarian government to return the paintings, at once, or work out a just resolution of this case with Mrs. Nierenberg in accordance with the Washington Principles.

BREAST CANCER PATIENT
PROTECTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, H.R. 758, the “Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act”, would require that insurance companies cover a stay of at least 48 hours in the hospital for women undergoing mastectomy and other procedures when the physician, in consultation with the patient, deem them to be medically necessary.

This section of the bill was largely written to parallel section 2704 of the Public Health Service Act, Standards Relating to Benefits for Mothers and Newborns, which prevents drive through deliveries. Certain superfluous and unnecessary provisions, however, were deleted from H.R. 758 as reported by the Committee on Energy and Commerce on September 23, 2008, because the protections already exist in law.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONOR-
ABLE TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CON-
GRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2008

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague Congressman BUD CRAMER, who is retiring from Congress after spending the past 18 years representing the Fifth District of Alabama.

I have had the immense privilege of serving with BUD on the Appropriations Select Intelligence Oversight Panel and on the Intelligence Committee, where he acts as the Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. BUD has demonstrated true leadership in his role as Chairman and has created a legacy that will outlast us all. He has pursued all oversight matters vigorously, always in a bipartisan fashion and always in the interest of national security. His input has been thoughtful, even-handed, and precise. And I can say that I have always appreciated his well-timed sense of humor, which often lightens the load when we all start to take ourselves too seriously. In short, BUD has set an amazingly high standard on the Committee, and I will miss him greatly.

BUD never does anything half-heartedly, and I would like to tell the people in North Alabama that it's going to be difficult to replace him. A true son of Alabama, BUD has been a relentless champion of the Marshall Space Flight Center and Redstone Arsenal. He guided a community through the base realignment and closure process twice and has been a vocal advocate for North Alabama's growing defense and aerospace industries. In fact, BUD's leadership and efforts are responsible for bringing jobs and further economic development to his district.

Finally, I would do BUD a great disservice if I failed to mention his big heart and his work on behalf of abused and neglected children. During his tenure as the Madison County District Attorney, he endeavored to create a cooperative relationship between the social service and criminal justice systems and an effective, secure environment for children who were suffering. BUD's initiative has developed into Huntsville's National Children's Advocacy Center, a nationally-renowned child advocacy group that trains communities to successfully and compassionately integrate the services essential to child abuse victims.

I wish BUD all the best as he moves from one remarkable phase of his life to another. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve with such a committed, passionate, and just man. His presence and leadership will be greatly missed by the House and on the Committee.

Thank you for your service, BUD.

HONORING SHERRY FRIEDLANDER
OLSEN

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend my constituent, Sherry Friedlander Olsen, on being named Florida's Outstanding Older Worker for 2008. This year marks the eleventh year Experience Works has recognized remarkable individuals, 65 and older, who continue to make valuable contributions in the workplace through the Prime Time Awards.

Experience Works is a national organization that seeks to improve the lives of every day Americans through community service, training and empowering seniors through the dignity of work. Sherry Friedlander was given this honor on account of her revolutionary program that helps find missing children, elderly people and disabled individuals by enabling law enforcement agencies to get the word out quickly.

Sherry is the founder of A Child Is Missing and currently serves as the program's Executive Director. Since its inception, her program has assisted in the safe recovery of over 380 missing people.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Sherry came to Fort Lauderdale in 1964 to marry her husband, George. Since then, Sherry has remained committed to helping those in need. Her tireless work has been recognized in Congress with the passing of H.R. 5464, A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center Act. This bill expands the widely-praised South Florida nonprofit organization into a national program with regional centers under the Department of Justice. The bill passed with the support of more than two thirds of this distinguished chamber.

For her achievements, Mrs. Friedlander Olsen has received the prestigious J. Edgar Hoover award for Distinguished Public Service and was named the Kiwanian of the Year. It is now my distinct pleasure to congratulate Sherry Friedlander Olsen as Florida's Outstanding Older Worker of 2008.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND COUN-
SELING SERVICES 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a Maine organization that provides vital services to our State.

In 1883 a group of church women organized the Associated Charities, a coalition of church and voluntary charitable organizations located in and around Bangor, Maine. The organization has gone through many name changes, but its mission and dedication have remained the same: to improve the lives of vulnerable children and adults in Maine.

Now known as the Community Health and Counseling Services, the program has continually modernized its services to meet the changing needs of the community. Today, it brings many services directly to clients in the

comfort of their home. The agency is a significant employer of home health and mental health professionals throughout the State. The program excels at helping children and families meet the challenges of modern life by providing services they need and value. Community Health and Counseling Services has continued to expand their service area by opening additional offices throughout Maine.

On October 15, 2008, the Community Health and Counseling Services will celebrate its 125th anniversary. I congratulate this organization and the many people who, over the course of many years, have contributed their time and resources to help thousands of Mainers in need.

SUPPORT FOR REAL SEX
EDUCATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for real sexual education. In my home state of California, sexual health education taught in public schools must be medically accurate, bias-free, and age appropriate. Comprehensive sex education is needed to truly address the rise in sexually transmitted infections and the rise in teenage pregnancies among communities of color.

I am working to reduce teen pregnancy in the Latino community. Despite the arguments of the current administration, abstinence-only education has not proven to be effective. For the first time in 15 years, teen birth rates are increasing in the United States. Fifty-three percent of Latina teens become pregnant at least once before age 20. These appalling statistics are why I introduced H.R. 468, the Communities of Color Teen Pregnancy Prevention Act. This legislation would provide additional funding to support teen pregnancy prevention efforts in our communities and schools and for research about teen pregnancy in at-risk communities.

We need to protect the future of our children by committing to providing comprehensive, medically accurate sex education. I am proud that several Planned Parenthood centers are located in my district in the San Gabriel Valley. I know that many of my constituents rely on health information from Planned Parenthood clinics such as the El Monte Medical Center and East Los Angeles Medical Center.

Recently, I invited Andreina Cordova, a teenage Planned Parenthood peer advocate in Los Angeles, to discuss her work with the Ujima program at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Public Policy Conference. I was impressed by her commitment to provide sexual health information and promote responsible behavior among teens.

I also strongly support the efforts of Planned Parenthood's successful promotoras program. Promotoras visit schools, homes and community centers to educate families about reproductive health and teen pregnancy prevention. We need to provide comprehensive sex education in schools instead of wasting valuable dollars on ineffective abstinence-only programs. Some states agree. In fact, California is one of few states in our country that rejects federal abstinence-only sex education funding

in order to provide students with accurate comprehensive sex education.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support comprehensive, medically accurate sex education so that we can reduce the number of teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. I look forward to working with a new administration to ensure that our younger generations will be provided with real, medically accurate sexual health information.

TRIBUTE TO THE IOWA ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa Army National Guard for being recognized as the Best Installation Management Program in the nation during the Army National Guard's Construction and Facility Management Officers annual conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Iowa scored 902 points out of 1,000 and was the only state to receive a Gold Award in the installation management program. The Iowa Army National Guard has had a history of putting an emphasis on installations and stresses the importance of setting goals to provide facilities that make our Soldiers and citizens proud, which has included important modernization efforts such as improving accommodations for female Soldiers. It also provides continuing education for all Iowa Army National Guard installation management professionals to help them become the best they can be on the job.

The Iowa National Guard, which has 42 armories, continues to make Iowa and our nation proud through its dedicated service. It is an honor to represent Installations Division Chief Col. Michael Bouchard, Construction and Facilities Management Officer Col. Scott Ayres and all those involved in installations at the Iowa Army National Guard in the United States Congress and I wish them success in their future work.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES GIFT OF
LIFE MEDAL, ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong support of H.R. 6950, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act.

I was pleased to work with Chairman PETE STARK to craft this bill that recognizes those that have donated their organs, and gave the gift of life. And it is a fitting tribute to name this bill in honor of our late colleague, Stephanie Tubbs Jones. A dedicated public servant to the end, she too gave the Gift of Life, helping over 50 individuals.

Enacting this bill will give the thousands of Americans who also donated their organs appropriate recognition for their tremendous gift by presenting them with a Congressionally-

sponsored medal. Each year, individuals donate approximately 14,000 organs. This is an amazing success and they should be recognized. Yet there are still nearly 100,000 individuals waiting for transplants.

In order to further encourage individuals to consider organ donation, Congress must publicly thank those that have made this selfless and living saving decision.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Former Senate Majority Leader, Dr. Bill Frist. As a transplant surgeon and sponsor of this legislation in previous years, Dr. Frist helped to encourage greater organ donation. Mr. STARK and I introduced an earlier version of this bill in honor of Dr. Frist, who has endorsed H.R. 6950. Enclosed is a copy of Dr.

Finally, I want to thank the Tubbs Jones family for allowing this bill to be named in her honor. I am proud that we will pass this bill to ensure that through tragedy, lives will be saved and honored.

NASHVILLE, TN,
September 15, 2008.

Hon. PETE STARK,
Chairman, Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Ranking Member, Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN STARK AND RANKING MEMBER CAMP: Thank you for your leadership on the Gift of Life Congressional Medal.

Like you, I am truly inspired by those that donate their organs. I can think of no act that is more honorable or selfless, and it is befitting of Congress to pass this act to recognize these outstanding individuals and their families. I was pleased to sponsor this legislation in the Senate.

It is also extremely fitting to name this legislation in honor of the late Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. A tireless advocate for those in need, she cemented her legacy by donating her organs and tissue, which will help over 50 individuals. Her act, and the thousands that have come before it, must be recognized.

Each year, there are nearly 14,000 organs that are donated. As a transplant surgeon, I have seen firsthand how lives are transformed through these miraculous gifts. For me, it is a privilege to be part of the transplantation process. I am continually amazed at the advances in technology that make transplants more successful every year.

While advances are being made, there are still too few donors—nearly 100,000 people are waiting on national transplant lists. To encourage more donors, we should make every effort to recognize those that make this life-saving decision. I believe creating a Gift of Life Congressional Medal is critically important to increasing awareness on this issue.

Again, please accept my sincere appreciation for your work and strong support for naming the Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act in honor of Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. It is a fitting tribute for such an outstanding and committed woman.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM H. FRIST.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN LINCOLN

HON. JOHN R. "RANDY" KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of New York Farm Bureau President John Lincoln.

Throughout his career, John has proven time and again his commitment to bolstering our agriculture industry here in New York State.

During his 12 years as President of the New York Farm Bureau, John has made a significant impact on our State's agricultural industry at every level. He has been a tireless advocate for the industry and he has never failed to communicate his enthusiasm for agriculture. As a member of many boards and task forces, John is one of the most respected and devoted members of our agricultural community.

In the words of John himself, "farming is a challenging business, and without farm bureau working for farmers, farmers simply wouldn't have a voice. We're too busy farming."

Yet, through it all he remained a farmer, operating a dairy farm with his wife Anne.

The farm has expanded over the years to include his daughter Julie and son Mike, ensuring that the next generation will keep farming in upstate N.Y.

John Lincoln has been an outstanding leader and advocate for strengthening the agriculture industry in New York and across the Nation, and for that, I thank him and wish him the best in his retirement.

LINCOLN TO RETIRE AS FARM BUREAU CHIEF

(By Julie Sherwood)

EAST BLOOMFIELD.—John Lincoln will retire in December as president of the New York State Farm Bureau after 14 years as head of the agriculture advocacy organization that includes 52 county farm bureaus statewide.

"I am so honored to have been a part of this wonderful, farmer-driven organization for all of these years," stated Lincoln, an East Bloomfield dairy farmer. "It's been a place where, working together, we've been able to positively advocate for real changes in public policy which have made a difference in the ability of family farmers to live and farm and thrive in New York."

"Farming is a challenging business, and without Farm Bureau working for farmers with a constant presence in Albany and D.C., farmers simply wouldn't have a voice. We're too busy farming," he added.

Delegates from each of the 52 counties in the bureau will vote for a new president at a two-day meeting in Albany in December.

Lincoln, who served 29 years on the state Farm Bureau's board of directors, said he thinks it's time for "the next crop of farm leaders to take their turn" leading the organization.

During his tenure, Lincoln took part in major victories for farmers including revisions to the agricultural-assessment program, the beginning of the farmland-protection program, passage of the farmers' school property-tax credit, authorizing interstate shipment of wine, incentive programs to encourage on-farm production of renewable energy and the recent boost of funding for specialty crops through the federal Farm Bill passed this year.

"John has been a great asset for New York agriculture," said Laura Pedersen, president of the Ontario County Farm Bureau. "We will miss him representing us" at both the state and national level.

In addition to being president of the state Farm Bureau, with its 30,000 member families, Lincoln also serves on the American Farm Bureau Federation's board of directors. In that role Lincoln has been involved in numerous immigration, trade, and environmental policy issues.

Lincoln "has played a key role in improving the financial well-being and quality of

life for New York farmers,” stated American Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Stallman. New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker said Lincoln leaves “a legacy on agricultural policy that will remain for decades.”

Prior to becoming president in 1994, Lincoln was state Farm Bureau vice president for nine years and also served as the county president for Ontario County Farm Bureau.

Lincoln owns and operates Linholm Dairy LLC with his wife, Anne, and their children, Mike Lincoln and Julie Pellett.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND JOB
CREATION TAX ACT of 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation that will extend critical tax credits for renewable energy and for American families while not adding to the federal deficit.

As cochair of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, I am especially pleased to see the House take action on needed tax credits for renewable energy. The Production Tax Credit, PTC, in particular has been instrumental in promoting the creation of a renewable energy industry. An extended PTC will provide more market certainty and we must have an extension of this key tax credit before the current credit expires at the end of 2008.

I must add that, while I am pleased that the bill provides a three year extension of the PTC for most renewable energy sources, I am concerned that it only provides a one-year extension for wind energy. Wind is a very promising renewable energy source and a one year extension will not be as helpful for the industry. I will continue to lead the fight to extend the wind energy PTC for more than one year.

The bill also extends the Investment Tax Credit, ITC, for solar energy, qualified fuel cells, and microturbines for eight years. The ITC will help companies with initial investment costs in expanding these renewable energy sources across the country.

Rising gas prices are forcing many Coloradans to dip into their savings just to make ends meet. This bill will help families reduce their fuel bills by providing \$3,000 in tax credits toward the purchase of fuel-efficient, plug-in hybrid vehicles. It will also help address long-term fuel cost concerns by expanding production of homegrown fuels and incentives for the installation of E-85 pumps for consumers to fill up flex-fuel vehicles.

This bill also will support advances in energy efficiency and conservation in commercial and residential buildings, as well as energy efficient appliances.

And this bill will also help Colorado businesses stay competitive by extending the research and development tax credit for one year. While again I would like to see this key tax credit extended for more than one year, this is a step in the right direction.

To help with the hard economic times that Coloradans are facing, this bill includes sev-

eral other key tax credits, including expanding the child tax credit for some of our neediest families, allowing teachers to take a deduction for purchasing classroom supplies out of their own pocket, and providing additional support for families paying for college education.

Although this bill includes several important provisions and I will vote for it, I am disappointed that it does not include provisions that passed in the Senate and in previous House bills—particularly those related to clean renewable energy bonds, CREBS, and the Secure Rural Schools program.

CREBs provide a critical tool for public power providers and electric cooperatives to invest in renewable energy. This is a unique tool for Colorado's rural coops and municipal utilities and I hope to see us address this issue before the session ends. CREBS provisions were in the version of the bill originally passed by the House, but in the Senate they were revised. My understanding is that is the reason they have been omitted entirely from the bill now before us. My hope is that further discussions between the House and Senate will resolve this impasse.

The “Secure Rural Schools” program, originally authorized in 2000, was designed to establish stability to certain annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System lands and certain public domain lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Since 1908, 25 percent of Forest Service revenues, such as those from timber sales, mineral resources and grazing fees, have been returned to the States in which national forest lands are located. Because receipts from timber sales have fluctuated over time, the 106th Congress in 2000 enacted the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, Public Law 106-393, to address this instability by providing funding for a period of seven years, but requiring reauthorization after that time.

While Colorado is not among the States receiving the largest payments, the program has helped some of our rural counties meet urgent needs. In fact, last year payments under the program to Colorado counties amounted to more than \$6.4 million, helping to offset the costs of public schools, roads, and other needs of Colorado residents.

That is why I cosponsored legislation, H.R. 3058, to renew the program's authorization, and why I voted for that legislation when the House considered it on June 5 of this year. Unfortunately, while 218 of us voted for the bill, the final total included 193 against and thus, because it was considered under a procedure requiring two-thirds approval, the bill did not pass.

In its version of this legislation the Senate included funding for both the Secure Rural Schools program and for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes, PILT, program, which makes payments to counties across the country where certain categories of Federal lands are located. PILT is also very important to Colorado, and I strongly support funding for it—and I would have preferred to have both its funding and that for the Secure Rural Schools program included in the bill now before us.

Nonetheless, despite the lack of these provisions, this is a good bill. I hope we can move it forward and promote positive change that

will benefit our families and rural communities, save consumers money, reduce air pollution, and increase reliability and energy security.

I encourage my colleagues in the House to vote for this needed legislation, and also encourage quick action in the Senate so that we may move it to President's desk.

NELSON OSTIGUY IS SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, one of the most important organizations in the district I represent in terms of providing needed service to people who deserve our help is the Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Housing Program, Inc. This group of dedicated and compassionate individuals maintains the Veterans Transition House and the Women's Veteran Transition House. One of the things they do annually as part of their overall program is to present a Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year Award. On November 6 of this year, that award will be presented to an extremely deserving individual—Nelson Ostiguy. Mr. Ostiguy is now the Senior Executive Aide to the very able Mayor of New Bedford, Scott Lang. The leaders of the veterans program correctly describe Mr. Ostiguy as a “behind the scenes type of person who is always there helping out but never seeking the recognition or limelight.”

I am glad that his friends, admirers and the beneficiaries of his many good works have decided to give him a little limelight whether he likes it or not. And I am especially pleased to be able to add this tribute to him so that all of my colleagues can read about him because he is a very fitting model for others to emulate.

Nelson Ostiguy joined the Marines when he was 18, and served for 4 years, including combat service in Vietnam. He was the recipient of a number of medals in recognition of his courage. After a job in the private sector, he joined the Massachusetts State Police in May 1969, and served there for 27 years, and, as in his Marine service, he received frequent decorations for his bravery and good works. Since his retirement as Lt. Colonel/Assistant Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police, he was the Associate Director of the Harvard University Police Department, put his dedication to young people to work as a substitute teacher in the school systems of New Bedford, and, again, is now an important aide to Mayor Lang.

The list of Mr. Ostiguy's affiliations is impressive, but even his resume does not convey the benefit those who know him derive from being his friends and associates. Nelson Ostiguy is an outstanding citizen who very well deserves the title of Veteran of the Year that has been bestowed upon him by his fellow veterans—which I know makes the honor particularly meaningful to him.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in celebrating the life and work of Nelson Ostiguy on this occasion of his being honored.

TRIBUTE TO THE BOONE COUNTY
HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Boone County Hospital employees who took part in a school supply drive to assist children whose families did not have the means to buy school supplies.

The Boone County Hospital social events committee organized the school supply drive which accumulated many crayons, color pencils, No. 2 pencils, colored markers, pens and paper. The supplies were divided up among the Boone, Ogden, Madrid and United school districts.

This collective effort at Boone County Hospital is a characteristic of what Iowa is all about—regular citizens motivated and dedicated to improving the daily life of their neighbors, and in this case our children. I commend all those involved in organizing and contributing to this heartwarming effort. I consider it an honor to represent each of these employees who assisted in making a difference for the children of their community in the United States Congress and I thank them for their great act of kindness.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information for project requests that I made and which were included within the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment for H.R. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009".

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Military Construction, Air Force.

Project Amount: \$6,000,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Edwards Air Force Base.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 S. Rosamond Blvd., Edwards AFB, CA, USA.

Description of Request: This funding would complete construction of the main base runway at Edwards Air Force Base, CA. The funding will be used to complete paved shoulders on the runway and account for extra costs in the overall runway replacement project from items such as the stabilization of

over 41,000 cubic yards of both unsuitable and unstable soil.

The main base runway, which supports almost every flight operation at Edwards Air Force Base, as well as space shuttle landings when necessary, is over 50 years old and is rapidly degrading as a result of Alkali-Silica Reaction (ASR), a reaction between the cement and the aggregate that creates map cracking, scaling and spalling of the concrete. Emergency Foreign Object Damage (FOD) repairs have forced runway closures affecting 10 to 15 flights for each closure. No other runways at Edwards AFB can safely support the current and projected test operations without significant test mission delays, and temporary relocation of these missions is not feasible; however, many of the current and planned test missions can be supported by a temporary runway.

This project was programmed by the Air Force in 2003 for FY06, and was incrementally funded over 3 years (FY06, FY07 and FY08). After the project was programmed, the cost of construction materials escalated dramatically, eliminating all management reserve and resulting in a reduction in the planned scope of the project. Providing the final \$6,000,000 in FY09 will complete the project as originally scoped, avoid contractor demobilization and remobilization, and avoid reconstitution of the temporary runway to support this work, saving the government over \$4,000,000 in cost avoidance on the temporary runway alone.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Air Force.

Project Amount: \$1,400,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Aerojet-General Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 13222, Sacramento, CA 95813-6000, USA.

Description of Request: This funding will be used for the Hydrocarbon Boost Technology Demonstrator program and the increase in funding is to return the FY09 funding closer to the planned level at contract initiation. This critical, next-generation liquid rocket engine development effort run by the Air Force Research Laboratory at Edwards Air Force Base will not only provide the highest performing hydrocarbon engines ever developed in the United States, but also will provide higher operability, lower costs and greater safety with higher reliability than any liquid booster engine ever made in the U.S. and perhaps the world. A match is not required for defense research projects, but I was informed that during the past eight years, Aerojet has invested approximately \$30 million in internal research and development funding on this technology and intends continued support in FY09.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Navy.

Project Amount: \$1,600,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: GE Aviation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 3290 Patterson Ave., SE., Grand Rapids, MI 49512, USA.

Description of Request: The funding for the Micro-munitions Interface for Tactical Unmanned Systems (MITUS) program will be used to develop an interface between Unmanned Air Systems (UAS) and micro-munitions, which are defined as weapons weighing less than 100 pounds. Integration of micro-munitions onto UAS requires a stores/weapons management interface that provides a safe and effective integration between the weapon and the unmanned system. Funds will be expended to develop key technologies, including a high speed communication network, airborne weapon emulator, interface for micro-munitions, unmanned safety architecture, and universal stores management system. Additionally the funds will be used for lab demonstrations of the technologies, integration into unmanned systems, and flight demonstration.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Navy.

Project Amount: \$1,200,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: AAI Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 124 Industry Lane, Hunt Valley, MD 21030, USA.

Description of Request: The Next Generation Electronic Warfare Simulator (NGEWS) represents a technology breakthrough by its ability to simulate electronic warfare threats more precisely and accurately than existing technology. The NGEWS will be used to test the advanced Electronics Surveillance Measures (ESM) capabilities of FA-18 and EA-18G aircraft, as well as other aircraft in the future. It saves time and money by optimizing lab testing rather than flight testing. The funding will be used to complete the upgrade of the first identified necessary simulator.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Securities Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act.

Two earmarks were granted in the aforementioned bill, which I had previously requested from the fiscal year 2009 Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

H.R. 2638 contains an appropriation of \$1.2 million for 105mm ammunition procurement from the Procurement of Ammunition Account for NI Industries, Inc. The 105mm ammunition utilizes the deep drawn steel cartridge case manufactured by NI Industries. NI Industries is the only supplier with the unique capability and expertise to manufacture large caliber deep drawn steel cartridges. Due to the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure plans, cartridge case production at NI Industry's facility in Riverbank, CA will cease in early 2009 in support of the relocation of production to Rock Island Arsenal, IL. This request for funding to procure 10,000 cartridge cases is necessary for three specific reasons:

No. 1. Future demand for the ammunition may be higher than originally planned due to recent performance by the Mobile Gun System which uses 105mm ammunition.

No. 2. The Army may be evaluating other types of ammunition to add to the current suite of 105mm ammunition, which will require additional cartridge cases.

No. 3. The relocation of the cartridge case production facility is a major undertaking that is subject to uncertainty. Because NI Industries is the only known contractor with the process knowledge, technical expertise, and skilled manpower to produce the 105mm deep drawn large caliber steel cartridge cases, it is prudent to stockpile additional cartridge cases to mitigate potential ammunition shortages due to the unavailability of cases.

Additionally, SmartSight, Remote Weapon Video Sight project received an earmark of \$2 million from the Department of Defense's Army Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Account, in H.R. 2638.

SmartSight is designed to provide vastly improved survivability and overwhelming lethality for dismounted troops in close combat situations, providing a means for aiming direct-fire weapons from cover and concealment using indirect-view display technology. This appropriation will acquire continued development and testing for 120 initial configuration SmartSight systems. The systems will be offered for testing, combat effectiveness and interoperability with existing systems, by operational commands of U.S. Army Special Operations Command, U.S. Navy Special Operations Command, USMC systems Command and/or USMC War Fighting Lab, and possibly other commands.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE TOM ALLEN, REPRESENTATIVE WAYNE GILCHREST, AND REPRESENTATIVE JIM SAXTON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I along with Ms. BORDALLO and Mr. INSLEE rise to recognize and commend three extraordinary Members of Congress—TOM ALLEN, WAYNE GILCHREST, and JIM SAXTON—for the leadership they have shown during their distinguished careers in this House to protect and promote the oceans.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON have been allies in the struggle to conserve and restore our oceans, coasts, and bays. They each have fought to ensure that our Nation, with the largest ocean territory in the world, will have healthy and productive oceans for generations to come.

We are honored to have served with them, to have learned from them, and to be able to call them friends.

We commend Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON for their tireless efforts over the years at shaping policy for sound stewardship of our oceans and our coasts.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON have been leaders in ocean conservation, science, and education as cochairs of the House Oceans Caucus and as active members of the National Marine Sanctuary Caucus.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON were instrumental in the establishment of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the first comprehensive ocean study in 35 years.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON have led efforts to increase funding for ocean programs and for the ocean mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON have defended and strengthened the Coastal Zone Management Act and the National Marine Sanctuaries Act which are our country's cornerstones of ocean conservation and management.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON joined Mr. FARR to coauthor a comprehensive ocean management bill, H.R. 21, the Ocean Conservation Education and National Strategy for the 21st Century Act or OCEANS-21. With their support, passion, and input, OCEANS-21 was reported favorably out of the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans and we are one step closer to having a national ocean policy and coordinated State and Federal management of our oceans.

Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAXTON were central to the negotiation and passage of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006, which requires an end to overfishing in our Nation's oceans.

Our colleague Mr. Tom ALLEN is especially known during all six of his terms in Congress for his diligence in working to protect the oceans and the communities whose livelihoods depend on the oceans, particularly in the coastal communities of Maine.

Mr. ALLEN has led the House Oceans Caucus alongside Mr. FARR since they, along with Mr. Curt Weldon and Mr. Jim Greenwood, founded the bipartisan caucus for the oceans.

We are indebted to Mr. ALLEN for his longstanding commitment for the protection of the oceans, for his defense of the National Environmental Protection Act, his work to protect deep sea corals, and his fight to protect fishermen and end overfishing.

Mr. ALLEN introduced legislation to preserve access to coastal waters for commercial fishing operations, to prohibit the commercial harvesting of Atlantic striped bass in the coastal waters and exclusive economic zone.

Mr. ALLEN introduced and shepherded legislation to increase our understanding of the oceans and their role in global climate change: the National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observing System Act of 2007 and the Fed-

eral Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act to passage by the House of Representatives.

Mr. ALLEN authored and successfully led the effort in the House to incorporate key provisions to end overfishing, rebuild depleted stocks, create quota shares, and protect NEPA in the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery and Management Act—Mr. ALLEN's amendment became the Democratic en-bloc amendment during negotiations of the bill.

We will miss Mr. ALLEN's commitment to working for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, and we will miss his passion for those who rely on the oceans.

Our colleague from Maryland, Mr. WAYNE GILCHREST has tirelessly fought for the environment and to protect and preserve the delicate environment of the Chesapeake Bay during his nine terms in Congress.

We have all received the benefit of Mr. GILCHREST's practice of reaching out to freshman members and reaching across the aisle to protect and conserve our waters, bays, coasts, and oceans.

Mr. GILCHREST has deep convictions about the need for conservation that were only increased when he and his family spent part of 1986, including the harsh winter, living in the Bitterroot National Forest in Idaho where he worked for the Forest Service. This conviction extended to his active role as Chairman of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Task Force, co-chair of the House Climate Change Caucus, and as Founding cochair of the House Organic Caucus.

Mr. GILCHREST is a senior member of the House Natural Resources Committee on the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, which he chaired from 2000–2006. As chairman, he set a high standard for being fair, open-minded, diligent, and responsible in discharging the duties of the chair. Mr. GILCHREST took oversight seriously, always respected the science, and always listened.

We are indebted to Mr. GILCHREST for leaving a strong legacy in this House of the protection of the oceans and the environment. He sponsored for legislation preventing aquatic invasive species, providing a better understanding and protection of marine mammals, and to update and refine fisheries management.

Mr. GILCHREST sponsored legislation includes the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Enhancement Act of 2007 (and previously), a bill to establish a Task Force on Ocean Policy, the Coastal Ocean Observation System Integration and Implementation Act of 2005, the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2005, the Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2005 (and previously), and the Multi-State and International Fisheries Conservation and Management Act of 2006.

He introduced Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Amendments Act of 2006, and later continued negotiations to seek passage of a strong reauthorization. He fought for and won the inclusion of the provision in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 2006 that requires the United States to end overfishing.

We are saddened that as we lose Mr. GILCHREST, we lose a passionate fighter for the coasts, the ocean, and the Chesapeake Bay.

Our colleague from New Jersey, Mr. JIM SAXTON has distinguished his 13 terms in

Congress by his commitment to the ocean and coasts and his work protecting and conserving their resources.

Early in Mr. SAXTON's career, he was successful in stopping the dumpsites responsible for the hypodermic needles and other medical waste that ended up on the beaches of New Jersey. Since then he continued to strive for clean water, clean air, coastal and wildlife protection, and the creation of open space.

We are grateful for Mr. SAXTON's thoughtful contributions on coastal and ocean issues before the Committee on Natural Resources, where he served as the Chairman of the subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans from 1994 to 2000 and as Vice Chairman from 2000 until 2006. Mr. SAXTON has also been a cochair of the House Oceans Caucus since the 109th Congress, and is an active member of the National Marine Sanctuary Caucus.

While it is impossible to list everything that Mr. SAXTON has done for the oceans, and we are humbled by the legacy of protecting the oceans that he has built. Mr. SAXTON has worked to boost Federal efforts to protect sensitive coastal lands, to promote sensible fisheries management as well as for fishermen's rights, to support exploration and research for discoveries and better understanding of our oceans. He sponsored the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1996, Clean Air Act of 1990, the Oceans Act of 2000, the Striped Bass Conservation Act in 2000.

Mr. SAXTON has been a leader on behalf of our National Wildlife Refuge System as a founding member of the National Wildlife Refuge Caucus and he authored the National Fish Hatchery System Volunteer Act of 2006, the National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Act of 2004, and the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998, and the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Act, which recently passed the House.

We will miss the insight and the vision of Mr. SAXTON, the elder statesmen of the oceans in this House.

Madam Speaker, it has truly been an honor to serve alongside Mr. TOM ALLEN, Mr. WAYNE GILCHREST, and Mr. JIM SAXTON, who have provided invaluable service in the House of Representatives. We will continue to draw on their passion to continue the fight to protect and conserve our oceans and environments: our greatest treasures. They will truly be missed by everyone in this House and by all those who fight for the ocean and the environment; we ask all of our colleagues to join us in commending these members of Congress.

IN TRIBUTE TO PAT AND JERRY B.
EPSTEIN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Pat and Jerry B. Epstein, who will be honored next month by the Saint John's Health Center Foundation with the prestigious Spirit of Saint John's Award.

My wife, Janice, and I have known Pat and Jerry for 25 years. Jerry is a hardworking, industrious, and charitable entrepreneur. Jerry and Pat's philanthropic endeavors have helped legions, myself included.

Pat and Jerry are being honored by Saint John's for their "vision, determination, and generosity of spirit" which has "advanced the mission of the Health Center."

Jerry has been a member of the Board of Trustees since 1975 and served as chairman in 2006 and 2007. His vast involvement has included leadership of the Development Oversight Committee, Building Committee, Leadership Giving, Jimmy Stewart Relay Marathon Committee and Chautauqua Inaugural Committee, Board of Counselors, The Endowment Legacy Project and the Campaign for Saint John's. He also served as member of the Executive, Finance, and Board Affairs committees.

Pat is one of the founding members of the Irene Dunne Guild, founded in 1987 to advance Saint John's mission. With more than 100 dedicated members, the Guild is a major support group of Saint John's Health Center. Guild members are goodwill ambassadors to the community and are committed to promoting the charitable objectives of Saint John's Health Center Foundation. Pat is also a committee member of the Women's Health Initiative and serves on several fundraising event committees. Pat has hosted countless dinners and special events in their home to introduce friends and neighbors to Saint John's.

Yet, this only touches on their involvement in the community.

A World War II veteran as both an enlisted man and commissioned officer, Jerry has been involved in the development, construction and management of real estate since 1952, and is probably best known as one of the founders of Marina Del Rey, CA. His many involvements include chairman of the Energy Commission for the Cities and County of Los Angeles from 1981–1984; service on the Los Angeles State Building Authority since 1983, for which he is currently president; service on the city of Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners from 1985–1990, including 2 years as president; service from 1991–1997 on the California Transportation Commission, including 2 years as chair; member of the Board of Directors of The Jewish Federation of Los Angeles; and member of the Board of Governors of the Southern California Division of NCCJ.

The list goes on, and even this impressive list does not do them justice, but the time grows short.

Madam Speaker, let me close by asking my colleagues to join Janice and me in thanking Jerry and Pat, his wife and partner of 60 years, for their many years of passionate service to our community and to join with Saint John's in honoring them for their "vision, determination, and generosity of spirit."

TRIBUTE TO LADIES OF THE
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
NATIONAL PRESIDENT BARBARA
KNOPKE

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Knopke, who elected to the office of National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic (LGAR) at their National Encampment in

Peabody, MA, and installed on August 9, 2008. President Knopke has been instrumental in the Department of Kansas maintaining its vitality.

Barb Knopke joined the LGAR in 2001. Recently, she, along with her daughter, Jennifer Knopke, were the driving force in organizing the new Ercelle Speaks Circle in Johnson County, KS, to which she now belongs. She held various positions within the Emma Edmond Circle and Department of Kansas. Barb has a great love for genealogy and has done extensive research on both her husband's and her heritage. She has direct lines going back to colonial times and has had direct ancestors who participated in all wars and conflicts except WWI and the Korean Conflict. Her great-great grandfather, George Washington Dittmore, served during the Civil War as a private in Company A, 13th Kansas Infantry, from 1862–65. Another great-great grandfather, Frederick Samuel Moser, also served as a private in Company C, 13th Kansas Infantry, during the same period.

President Knopke was born and bred on Long Island, NY, but has called Kansas her home since 1981. She states that, "I feel blessed with my wonderful husband, Jim, who is a member of the SUVCW, and our daughter, Jennifer, who is also a member of LGAR." She is also active in the Daughters of the American Revolution: "I am in awe of my heritage and what my ancestors achieved. I feel it is my duty to keep their memory and that of all patriots of this great country alive." Barb is the wife of Department of Kansas Junior Vice Department Commander Jim Knopke, PDC.

The Ladies of the G.A.R. is the oldest Women's hereditary organization in the United States. We are one of the five groups in the allied orders; the others being the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, The Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Women's Relief Corp and the Auxiliary to the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. The Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic was chartered by the Congress of the United States under Public Law 86–47 in 1959, and remains dedicated to their mission today and we remain a national nonprofit organization deeply rooted in history. The Kansas Department was formed in 1885 and today we have a circle that celebrated its 113th birthday this July. There are very few that are older today.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to pay tribute to Barb Knopke, and I know that all Members of this House join with me in commending her for her election to this prestigious position.

TRIBUTE TO TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the members of Trinity Lutheran Church in State Center, Iowa, for their efforts in improving the lives of those affected by Hurricane Katrina in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

The day Katrina struck the Gulf of Mexico members of The Trinity Lutheran congregation

loaded up a semi-truck with food and cleaning supplies and has been helping those in need ever since. Some volunteered with the Red Cross in Mississippi during the November following the hurricane and then Trinity Lutheran put together a mission trip in June where church members helped rebuild homes.

The collective effort by Trinity Lutheran members in Pascagoula, Mississippi is a characteristic of what Iowa is all about—regular citizens motivated and dedicated to improving the lives of their fellow citizens, and in this case the very people who need help the most. I commend Jim and Kathy Lively, Melanie Maddick, Rachael, Alan and Ryan Johnson, Janelle and Emily Durlin, Ron, Shelly, Ron Jr., Brandy and Mary Wilkey, Tyler and Abbey Sheer, Denise and Jordian Berrey, John and Marva Tolson, Breanna Billman, and all people who financed and organized the mission trip. I consider it an honor to represent each of those involved in this effort in the United States Congress and I congratulate and thank them for their great acts of kindness.

2008 CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION LEGACY AWARDS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the recipients of the 2008 Chester County Community Foundation Legacy Awards.

The Foundation annually recognizes members of the community who embody its mission of making Chester County, Pennsylvania a vibrant place to live, work and raise a family. The following awards will be presented to those who have exhibited exceptional charitable commitment and dedicated community involvement:

Carol Ware Gates, Ph.D. of Christiana will receive the Jordan Award for Lifelong Philanthropy; Peg Anderson of Coatesville will receive the Thanks For Caring Award for community involvement; Herr Foods of Nottingham will receive the Corporate Social Investment Award; John A. Featherman, III, Esq. of West Chester will receive the Door Opener Award for introducing prospective endowment fund donors to the Community Foundation; and the West Chester University Relay for Life Student Committee will receive the Youth Philanthropy Award.

The Community Foundation will honor the contributions these recipients have made to the community during the Annual Meeting and Legacy Awards Ceremony, Tuesday, October 14, 2008, in Philips Auditorium on the campus of West Chester University.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting all of the recipients for these well-deserved awards and commending them for giving so much of themselves while serving others and building a better Chester County.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR
COOPERATION APPROVAL AND
NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCE-
MENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7081, the United States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Nonproliferation Enhancement Act.

Today, the House will consider the culmination of 3 years of difficult work in Washington and New Delhi and take the final step to fashion a new policy toward India, one that reflects the realities of the 21st century and acknowledges India's emergence onto the world stage.

The bill before us will give Congressional approval to civil nuclear cooperation with India. Let me tell you what that means. It means that the IAEA will be able to inspect two-thirds of India's civilian nuclear facilities, because those facilities will be under IAEA safeguards and all future civilian nuclear facilities will also be under safeguards. It means that India, for the first time ever, has committed to MTCR guidelines. It means that India, for the first time ever, will adhere to Nuclear Suppliers Group guidelines. It means that India and the IAEA are making substantial progress toward an Additional Protocol. It means that India is committed to working with us to conclude a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty. It means that we can send a clear message to nuclear rogue states about how to behave, because it shows that responsible nuclear powers are welcomed by the international community not sanctioned; and it means that we can finally achieve the broad, deep and enduring strategic relationship with India, that all of us in this House support. So if you wanted all these things 2 years ago when we established this process, then you are for this bill now.

Some Members have expressed concern that the agreement with India doesn't go far enough, that it doesn't rollback India's nuclear weapons program, that it doesn't include all of India's nuclear facilities, and that it sends the wrong message to rogue regimes like Iran and North Korea.

For 30 years Mr. Speaker, U.S. policy toward India has been defined and constrained by our insistence on punishing India for its sovereign decision not to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Truth be told, had India conducted its nuclear tests earlier, it would have been treated like China, Russia, France, Britain, and the United States: In short, as a grandfathered member of the nuclear weapons club. But they did not and nothing we have tried over the last 3 decades has convinced them to give up their nuclear weapons. And nothing we say over the next 3 decades will convince them either. India is a responsible nuclear power and deserves to be treated that way. The bill before us does just that.

Critics have expressed concerns regarding the agreement's impact on our nonproliferation policy and clearly Iran, Pakistan, and North Korea are all looking for clues about what this deal means for them and their nuclear pro-

grams. I think the message is clear: If you want to be treated like India, *be* like India. Be a responsible international actor with regard to WMD technologies, don't sell your nuclear technologies to the highest bidder, don't provide it to terrorists, be a democracy, a real democracy, and work with us on important foreign policy objectives not against us. That's the message we send today.

Does it warm your heart and make you comfortable that Iran and North Korea signed the NPT and are now running away from their freely accepted obligations and away from IAEA inspections?

True, India did not sign the NPT yet it is embracing the IAEA, embracing global nonproliferation norms and is a democracy. India's attitude should be recognized and commended.

There are two options before us today. One is to throw away all the work that has been done since July 2005 and keep the status quo. India will pursue its national interests as it has been doing outside the nonproliferation mainstream and we inspect nothing. The other is to make the deal with India and get for the United States and the international community a window in perpetuity into two-thirds of India's existing nuclear facilities and all of its future civilian nuclear facilities.

I think the choice is clear. This bill before us brings India into the nonproliferation mainstream and gets the United States and the international community access to India's civilian nuclear facilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for a 21st century policy towards India, one that supports and encourages India's emergence as a responsible global power and solidifies the United States-India bilateral relationship for decades to come. The bill before us today is that new policy. Vote yes on H.R. 7081.

TRIBUTE TO NANCY NEIGHBOR
RUSSELL

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Nancy Neighbor Russell, an extraordinary Oregonian who passed away last week. More than 20 years ago, Nancy co-founded Friends of the Columbia Gorge and was the driving force behind the passage of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act in 1986. Nancy's efforts on behalf of the once-threatened Gorge have preserved it as one of the most magnificent natural and scenic landscapes in the United States, and a recreational mecca for visitors world-wide.

Nancy loved the Gorge, and thanks to her, future generations will have the same opportunities to enjoy its beauty. The Gorge Act designated more than 292,000 acres as federally regulated land, aimed at protecting and enhancing the Gorge's scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources. But that was just the start for Nancy. Over time, she purchased 33 parcels of property—600 acres—and sold many to the Federal Government for open space. Her vision of a network of public hiking trails, parks, and vistas is part of the Columbia River Gorge's enduring legacy.

Nancy's contributions to conservation have inspired comparisons to John Muir. Oregonians who love all that the Gorge has to offer, including hiking, scenic driving, wildflowers, and waterfalls, have Nancy Russell to thank. Her last visit to the Gorge came just 3 weeks before she passed. Her legacy of sweeping views, rugged rivers and mountains, and pristine beauty lives on.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I requested in the FY 2009 Duncan D. Hunter National Defense Authorization Act. This is in addition to my comments dated May 20, 2008.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 5658.

Project: Eglin Air Force Base Child Development Center.

Account: MILCON, Air Force.

Requesting entity: Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Description: \$11 million request for a Child Development Center at Eglin Air Force base. There is an urgent requirement for a new Child Care Development Center for 305 children. The current Child Development Center does not provide sufficient child care capacity to meet the needs of the rapidly growing Eglin AFB community.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 5658.

Project: Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures, LAIRCM, for AFSOC AC/MC 130 aircraft.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Requesting entity: L-3 Crestview Aerospace 5486 Fairchild Road Crestview, FL 32539.

Description: \$9 million request for LAIRCM for AFSOC AC/MC 130 aircraft. The funding would be used to provide aircraft protection from infrared and small arms threats.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 5658.

Project: Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures, LAIRCM, for AFSOC MC130P.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Requesting entity: L-3 Crestview Aerospace 5486 Fairchild Road Crestview, FL 32539.

Description: \$15 million request for LAIRCM for AFSOC MC130P aircraft. The funding would be used to provide aircraft protection from infrared and small arms threats. Operational fire hazard constraints presently preclude the tanker aircrews from employing their sole infrared flare protection while at slow speeds and low altitudes refueling helicopters.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 5658.

Project: I-1000 Warhead Demonstration.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Requesting entity: General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems 4565 Commercial Drive, Suite A, Niceville, FL 32578.

Description: \$8 million request for I-1000 Warhead Demonstration. The funding would be used to close the "first night" capability gap in light of the Air Force's decision to retire the F-117 fleet.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 5658.

Project: Impact Aid Program.

Account: O&M, Defense-Wide.

Requesting entity: Department of Defense Education Agency.

Description: \$50 million request for the Impact Aid Program. The funding would provide assistance to local school districts that educate large numbers of military personnel. An additional \$15 million would be used to support those local school districts that will be significantly impacted by BRAC and Global Re-basing.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Republican Conference standards on earmarks, I submit the following information regarding a project included at my request in H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman JIM JORDAN. (OH-04).

Bill: H.R. 2638.

Account: Army Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E)—Combat Vehicle and Automotive Advanced Technology.

Requesting entity: Joint Systems Manufacturing Center, 1161 Buckeye Road, Lima, OH.

Project title: N-STEP-Enabled Manufacturing Cell for Future Combat Systems.

Description: With Federal assistance in fiscal years 2005 and 2006, the Government-owned Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, OH, developed a friction apurtenance welding cell to automate the many hundreds of individual welds required in large combat vehicle manufacturing. The \$2.4 million included in H.R. 2638 will help perfect this technology for current and Future Combat Systems production, reducing the cost to the Government for vehicle procurement.

RECOGNIZING MR. DANA GIOIA

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Dana Gioia for his service and tenure at the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mr. Dana Gioia has been a tireless advocate for bringing the arts to communities across the country. Through his NEA National Initiatives, such as The Big Read, Poetry Out Loud, and American Masterpieces, Mr. Gioia has given all Americans the opportunity to enjoy the finest artistic and cultural programs. During his two terms as chairman of the Na-

tional Endowment for the Arts he has successfully worked across party lines to bring broad support and enthusiasm to the arts and art education.

As a lifelong trumpet player and a member of the National Council on the Arts, I have seen first hand the positive impact art education can have on a person's life. It has been a pleasure working with Mr. Gioia during his two terms as chairman, granting more opportunities for more Americans to experience the arts. Mr. Gioia has traveled to my district and many others, educating members of the community and promoting the grant process at a grassroots level. Through the Challenge America: Reaching Every Community initiatives, he has guaranteed that direct grants will reach art organizations in every congressional district in every State. Many of these organizations are first time recipients of Endowment support. Mr. Gioia is continuously ensuring all communities have the ability to bring the arts home.

For his life of service to the arts and consistent hard work toward the betterment of our country, I commend Dana Gioia upon his retirement from the National Endowment for the Arts.

HONORING THE HADLEY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to rise in support of a resolution I authored, H. Res. 875, honoring and supporting the Hadley School for the Blind.

Dr. William A. Hadley, an Illinois high school teacher, lost his vision at age 55. With the loss of his sight Dr. Hadley believed that he would also lose his greatest joy—teaching. Although he taught himself Braille so he could continue to read, he was frustrated with the lack of educational opportunities for blind individuals.

Dr. Hadley wanted to help others like him gain the skills and knowledge that could lead to independence. In 1920, Dr. Hadley and ophthalmologist Dr. E.V.L. Brown created the Hadley School for the Blind. Today, the Hadley School is the largest single educator of blind persons in the world, reaching 10,000 students annually in all 50 states and in 100 different countries.

The school began with teaching Braille with the innovative use of correspondence courses. While it is still known for its superior Braille curriculum, the school has expanded to offer a high school degree program and adult continuing education classes. In 2008, the School will expand again to include the Hadley School for Professional Studies for professionals who serve those who are blind and visually impaired.

Students from the school have done extraordinary things. Former student Christine Gilson, a blind doctoral candidate and Fulbright scholar from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was the 2007 recipient of the Hadley School for the Blind's President's Service Award for exceptional work in raising awareness of the needs and abilities of blind and visually impaired people. She bridged cultural boundaries by teaching visually impaired

Chinese students English language classes online.

The Hadley School for the Blind recently formed a partnership with Bookshare.org, an online community that lets people with print disabilities, such as blindness or low vision, scan books and exchange them legally through its website. The strategic partnership will extend the reach of both organizations and provide a broad range of learning and reading materials to people who are blind and visually impaired.

I am proud to be the author of this resolution that supports an institution that has, for almost 90 years, provided a valuable education for thousands of visually impaired individuals.

ON THE PASSING OF
COMMISSIONER CARLOS MARIN

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great sorrow. The United States-Mexico border community lost a great champion earlier this month. Carlos Marin, was the Commissioner of the United States section of the International Boundary and Water Commission. This agency is charged with maintaining dams, levees and other infrastructure on the border as well as implementing water and boundary treaties with Mexico. Commissioner Marin tragically died when the plane he was on crashed while on its way to inspect severe flood damage in Presidio, TX.

He was a leader who dedicated his life to the betterment of the border. He, himself was from the border and was a proud graduate of the University of Texas—El Paso. He was extremely well-liked and his upbeat, positive, and down-to-earth demeanor was unlike any others.

Commissioner Marin was a licensed professional engineer who had worked for the USIBWC for 27 years. He was sworn in as Commissioner on December 20, 2006. He previously served as Deputy Commissioner from January 2002–November 2004. Prior to being named Deputy Commissioner, he was the Principal Engineer of the Operations Department, serving as a key technical and policy advisor to the U.S. Commissioner regarding USIBWC field office operations and implementation of United States-Mexico boundary and water treaties.

To us on the border, the Rio Grande is part of our way of life. Commissioner Marin understood that. My congressional district encompasses 785 miles of the Rio Grande from El Paso County to Maverick County. He will truly be missed throughout our community, and his successor will have some mighty large boots to fill.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Rosa, and his many family and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR BEHAVIOR CHANGE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 11th Anniversary of a professional organization dedicated to improving the lives of adolescents in Southeastern Pennsylvania with autism and other developmental disabilities.

The Institute for Behavior Change of Coatesville, Chester County was founded in 1997 by Dr. Steven Kosor, a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist. Dr. Kosor's vision was an institute that would recruit and train those providing quality in-school and in-home psychological treatment and behavioral support to children.

Since the Institute's inception, its dedicated staff has served more than 500 children throughout Philadelphia and the surrounding counties of Chester, Delaware and Montgomery.

The Institute will commemorate its 11th Anniversary during a conference at the Eden Resort in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on November 21, 2008.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in celebrating this special milestone for The Institute for Behavior Change and thanking the staff for its outstanding professionalism and commitment to helping youth with developmental disabilities fulfill their maximum potential.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. FEENEY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall no. H.R. 7110—Providing for Appropriations for Job Creation and Preservation, Infrastructure Investment, and Economic and Energy Assistance for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.

Due to a computer malfunction it appeared the vote was not taking place. By the time I got back to my office and a new vote ordered it was too late to return to the floor. The computer malfunction is the cause of my missed vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

VOLUSIA HONOR AIR GUARDIANS

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, today, September 27, 2008, 100 Volusia County veterans from the Second World War visited our Nation's Capital as part of the Honor Air program. The trip was made possible through the Rotary Clubs of Volusia County and with the support of sponsors and the 49 Guardian escorts.

It is my pleasure to assist in hosting the veterans during their visit to our Nation's Capital. This morning they will visit the World War II Memorial to pay tribute to their fellow patriots. This is the first visit for most of the servicemen, and it will be a moving occasion. I look forward to visiting with these heroes as they stand among the stone columns, fountains, and pools that comprise the Memorial.

This afternoon, the Volusia veterans will pay their respects at Arlington National Cemetery. Veteran leaders and I will have the privilege of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in a solemn tribute to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The day will conclude with visits to the Woman in Services Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial and the Iwo Jima Memorial.

As the Congressman from Florida's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to play a part in our Volusia County heroes' visit. I ask that the U.S. House of Representatives join me in expressing our appreciation to the 49 Guardians, who through a sense of duty and at personal expense will escort the World War II veterans on this memorable day.

The September 27, 2008 Volusia Honor Air Guardians included:

Robert Blackwell, Floyd Brewer III, Bernadette Britz-Parker, Frank Coe, Linda Edwards, Howard Fisher, Raymond Fletcher, Robert Gast, Wayne Gordin, John Harting, Todd Heffington, Angela Heffington, Sharon Hill, Victor Hindery, David Hinshaw, James Houck, Francis Irza, Barbara Irza, Mathew Jemison, James Jemison, Jeffrey Lau, Charles Matousek, William McGhee, Kenneth Naser, Patti Ostermann, Charles Paiva, Daniel Parker, Christopher Rego, Diana Santos, Robert Sullivan, Lorraine Sullivan, Daniel Thorne, Walter White, Jr., Bonita Winn, Michael Brooks, Geof Felton, Dave Brannon, Gloria Denston, Judith Hensley, John Hill, Raymond Heffington, Derek Mears, Robert Apgar, Phillip Martin, Roger Baumgartner, Leslye Lorenz, Timothy Biggs, Edward Malloy, Morgan Gilreath.

INTRODUCING THE WATER FOR THE POOL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2008

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing the Water for the Poor Enhancement Act of 2008, with Representatives DONALD PAYNE, DONALD MANZULLO, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, CHRIS SHAYS, GEORGE MILLER, STEVE LA TOURETTE, and WALTER JONES as original cosponsors. The Water for the Poor Enhancement Act complements legislation introduced today in the Senate by Senator RICHARD DURBIN.

This bill enhances our Nation's commitment to addressing the global water crisis. Every 15 seconds, a child dies from lack of access to safe water and sanitation. Across the globe, 900 million people live without access to safe drinking water and 2.5 billion people are without access to improved sanitation. Millions of girls can't go to school because they must spend hours walking to collect water for their families. As half of the people in the developing world are sick at any given time from a water-related disease, water and sanitation access is a major barrier to fighting poverty and increasing economic productivity.

At the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa the United States and 185 other countries agreed to the goal of cutting in half the percentage of people without access to safe water and basic sanitation by 2015. I responded by working with Reps. Tom Lantos and Henry Hyde and Sens. Bill Frist and HARRY REID to enact the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005, which established water and sanitation as a cornerstone of United States foreign assistance efforts.

We are now halfway to the 2015 date, and we must redouble our efforts. By 2030, 4 billion people—almost half the world's projected population—will live in water-stressed areas. Three days ago the U.N. Secretary General convened a High Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals in New York, urging governments to translate their commitments into actions and aggressively work to meet these goals.

This legislation answers the call to act. The Water for the Poor Enhancement Act is a bipartisan, non-ideological approach to making our government more responsive to this crisis. This legislation would increase U.S. Government capacity to coordinate and streamline clean water and sanitation development activities and foster strategic investments in on-the-ground expertise and low cost, high impact technologies.

Through this legislation we will help U.S. Government pull together the pieces to implement a smart and efficient global water strategy and to meet our commitment to extend safe drinking water and sanitation to over a billion people in need.

HONORING THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners, specifically the Morris, Essex, Somerset, Sussex, and Passaic County Chapters, of which I am proud to represent. On November 8, 2008, members of the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners will celebrate this influential organization's 30th Anniversary.

New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners [NJAWBO] was established in 1978 by Adele Kaplan and Bette Benedict. The women started the New Jersey Association Women Business Owners, while planning the organization's first Business Expo in 1978. The organization began as a small group of ten women who held monthly breakfast meetings. Through hard work, networking, the organization has grown exponentially. In the past 30 years (1978–2008), the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners has expanded to represent 1,000 women, making it the largest Women Owned Business organization in New Jersey.

The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners supports and encourages business ownership by women, through networking, education and political advocacy. NJAWBO has provided women business own-

ers with the tools necessary for success. It is well respected and regarded as one of New Jersey's most influential organizations.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners, on the celebration of 30 years serving Morris, Essex, Somerset, Sussex, and Passaic Counties, as well as the rest of New Jersey.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION APPROVAL AND NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, given the enormous pressures this Congress is facing to solve urgent financial problems which threaten the stability and health of our economy, I must express my deep reservations about expediting approval of the U.S.-India Civil Nuclear Agreement at this time.

While I fully favor strengthening economic, social, cultural, and political ties with our Indian friends, why this most desirable pursuit hinges upon the sale of sensitive nuclear technology—remains a mystery to me.

The U.S.-India Civil Nuclear Agreement sets a groundbreaking precedent that could open a floodgate for worldwide nuclear commerce that, absent rigorous conditions, safeguards, and oversight, could significantly damage the stability and integrity of U.S. and international nuclear nonproliferation efforts. Just this week, the Russian Prime Minister announced that Russia "was ready to consider the possibility of cooperation in nuclear energy" with Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez.

As you know, in 2006 Congress passed the Hyde Act, which waives key provisions of the Atomic Energy Act to enable our consideration of the U.S.-India Civil Nuclear Agreement. Absent the Hyde Act, the agreement would violate the Atomic Energy Act, which has regulated U.S. nuclear commerce since 1954 to prevent the dangerous proliferation of nuclear technology and materials.

Upon a preliminary review, the agreement does not address the Hyde Act's prohibition on nuclear cooperation in the event of nuclear testing. Also, I understand that the terms of this agreement and India's safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency would permit the removal of tritium from heavy water in safeguarded reactors, possibly enhancing nuclear weapons yields, in contravention of U.S. law and the NPT.

Moreover, I am deeply concerned that international guidelines recently eased to pave the way for this agreement and exempt India from longstanding rules of nuclear commerce that have applied equally to all nations are insufficiently rigorous to prevent the potential erosion of decades of global nonproliferation gains.

Let us remember that the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the NPT, which India has not signed, is the nonproliferation mainstream.

This bill also waives the 30-day period provided in the Hyde Act for congressional con-

sideration of the underlying agreement. As co-chair of the Nuclear Security Caucus and the author of a Hyde Act amendment that seeks to prevent potential diversion of fissile material for military purposes, I oppose waiving the 30-day requirement to permit thoughtful consideration of whether this agreement in fact complies with the law we passed to condition its implementation.

Mr. Chairman, we should not rush this. We are accountable to the American people for conducting rigorous oversight on matters of nuclear security, and I am concerned that short-circuiting the review process for this agreement is not consistent with that obligation. The Hyde Act was the result of precise and painstaking negotiations. I urge my colleagues to allow for adequate, due diligence of this complex matter.

HONORING CARLOS MARIN, UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my profound sadness at the loss of Carlos Marin, the United States Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission, IBWC. Commissioner Marin recently lost his life in a plane crash while touring flood damage on the Mexican border. His loss along with those of Mexican Commissioner Arturo Herrera-Solis, Rio Grande County of Governments Executive Director Jake Brisbin, and pilot Matt Juneau has taken from our community devoted public servants who worked for the well-being of people on both sides of the border.

A graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso with a degree in engineering, the Commissioner began his career at the IBWC in 1979 after working for the United States Bureau of Reclamation's in El Paso. He served in many engineering and management positions at the IBWC before rising to the rank of Deputy Commissioner and Principal Engineer, and in 2006 he was designated the Commissioner by President George W. Bush.

Commissioner Carlos Marin was a model public servant who dedicated his life to the International Boundary and Water Commission and to serving the needs of border communities. I met regularly with Carlos and always appreciated his cheerful attitude and his thorough understanding of complex border issues. He was quietly resourceful and effective, lending his expertise and professionalism in restoring large stretches of the Rio Grande after the devastating floods 2 years ago. His service greatly benefited both the U.S. and Mexico sections of the International Boundary and Water Commission.

Today, I also rise to wish to extend a special "thank you" to the employees of the International Water and Boundary Commission in both the United States and Mexico for their cooperation and their perseverance in working on behalf of border residents threatened by recent floods. Even as they dealt with the loss of their leader, they tirelessly worked to respond to flooding and to continue their efforts

to improve the quality of life of the millions of people who live and work along the United States-Mexico border.

My thoughts and prayers are with the staff of the IBWC and with his wife Rosa Marin and the entire family of Commissioner Marin during this very difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BLAKE DEWITT

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous accomplishment of a young man from my district, Mr. Blake DeWitt, who with hard work and determination has earned a valued place in the starting lineup of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

In baseball, Mr. DeWitt is making good on the promise he showed with Sikeston High School, where he batted .558 his senior year. He has been singled out with numerous awards, earning recognition as member of the all-state first team each of his four high school years, and ultimately being named to Baseball America's High School All-America first team. At the professional level, Mr. DeWitt began playing in 2004—working his way up to the major league club.

Mr. DeWitt's athletic achievements would lack meaning without the solid character behind his athletic ability. He has been lauded by his coaches Joe Torre and Larry Bowa for his unshakable focus and demeanor. He is recognized both on the field and off to be a natural leader.

Baseball has a special place in the hearts of all Americans, and Mr. DeWitt is fortunate to be able to play professionally—even with all of the hard work and the many sacrifices it has taken to get him to the major leagues. In Southern Missouri's Cardinal Nation, where you will find a local radio station (KRHW-AM) which is proudly part of the Dodgers Radio Network, we are lucky to have a young man committed to serve as an ambassador of our community wherever his considerable talents are on display.

I'm very proud to commend Mr. DeWitt to this Congress and to congratulate him on all of his success in this, his first season in Major League Baseball. We should all look forward to much more of his success on the field.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TONY E. GALLEGOS

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Tony E. Gallegos, a deeply patriotic Mexican-American who I am proud to represent. Tony has admirably served his country both in uniform and as a civilian.

A native of Montrose, Colorado, Tony served as a flight engineer in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, flying 17 missions in a B-17 bomber. After the war, Tony pursued an education at the Bistram School of Art in California, earning his bachelor of arts

degree. His professional career spanned 30 years with McDonnell Douglas Aircraft climbing the ranks to corporate art director before retiring to join the civil service.

Tony's concern for societal injustices led him to become an active member of the American GI Forum. As such, he served as the commander of the Pico Rivera Chapter, California State commander, and eventually as national commander.

As an active member and commander of the American GI Forum, he spearheaded the Coors boycott, the GI Forum March in Washington, D.C., east Los Angeles moratorium and social justice demonstration confronting President Richard Nixon in San Clemente, California.

Tony has made countless contributions to the Mexican-American community. He has been an advisory member of the U.S. Senate Task Force on Hispanic Affairs and was a founding member and the first chairman of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation. Tony served on the national board of Operation SER and as a member of the boards of the Los Angeles County Office of Economic Development and Veterans Outreach. And he was the president and CEO of Veterans Community Service in Santa Fe Springs, California.

Under President Ronald Reagan, Tony served two terms as a Commissioner on the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He was reappointed to the Commission by President George H.W. Bush and became the first Latino appointed EEOC Chairman under President Bill Clinton. During his tenure at the EEOC, Tony distinguished himself by expanding Title Seven, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the Tribal Employments Rights Program and the Voluntary Assistance and Expanded Presence Program. Tony also initiated the Hispanic charge study.

Mr. Gallegos was married to the late Carmen Gallegos for 55 years. They have a son Michael, who is a financial planner, a daughter Lori, an attorney, and three grandchildren, Angela, Rachel and Brandon.

Tony has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to his community and to his country. He has served in a time of war and at the highest levels of civil service. His tireless work on the behalf of others has established a model that others should strive to emulate.

In honor of his many accomplishments and dedication to our great country, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Mr. Tony E. Gallegos.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I proudly congratulate Central Church of Christ on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. The church's centennial anniversary was celebrated on August 8, 2008.

In 1902, Central Church of Christ began holding services at the homes of members in Hereford, Texas. As the congregation began to grow, the elders of the church decided to construct a building where members could offi-

cially come to worship. Upon the completion of construction, the church opened its doors in 1910.

As the community of Hereford grew, the need for a large building developed. Construction of a new church began with a groundbreaking ceremony on May 19, 1957. Less than a year later, the new Central Church of Christ opened. Since 1958, the church has provided a place of happiness and worship for its members.

Today, the church continues to offer a variety of activities including: worship services, Bible and Sunday school classes and youth outings.

Throughout their long history, the Central Church of Christ continues to find wonderful ways to contribute to the community of Hereford, Texas. I am proud to recognize the Central Church of Christ, Pastor John Henley and the over 200 members of the congregation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RON PAUL

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 2638:

Name of Requesting Member: RON PAUL.
Bill Number: H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act.

Account: Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Replacement.

Legal Name and Address of the Requesting Agency: Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Administration Office, Washington, DC; and the Gulf Intra-coastal Canal Association, 2010 Butler Drive, Friendswood, Texas 77546.

Description of Request: Provides \$5,000,000 for the Galveston Causeway Railroad Bridge Replacement. Today, 21 thousand barges move 29 million tons of cargo worth \$10 billion through the Galveston Bridge each year. In 2001, after a lengthy review process, the bridge was declared a hazard to navigation by the Coast Guard under the Truman Hobbs Act. The current estimated cost of replacement is almost \$68 million. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard, under the Truman Hobbs Act. Under the Truman Hobbs Act, the Federal Government pays 90 percent of replacement cost and the bridge owner—Galveston County—pays 10 percent.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WAIPIO 2008 NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1436, Congratulating the

Waipio Little League baseball team for winning the 2008 Little League World Championship. These young men from Hawaii won the World Series on August 24, after defeating Team Mexico with an impressive score of 12–3.

As a member of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation and as an island resident I am delighted to distinguish these young men.

Waipio became only the second team in Little League World Series Championship game history to score in every inning. It was the second time in four years that a team from Oahu won the world title in what is arguably the biggest event in youth sports.

The Waipio Players have demonstrated skills in leadership, athleticism, and above all, team work. Through their example we can all recognize that with cooperation and hard work much can be achieved.

I join their family and friends in applauding them on this outstanding achievement. I would like to acknowledge all the coaches and players' families who make this program such a success. For the commitment, time, and expense it took to get the team from their home field in Waipio all the way to the World Series in Williamsport, PA.

As was evidenced by the hundreds of Hawaii residents that lined Kalakaua Avenue during the "Parade of Champions" earlier this month—Waipio Little League, you make Hawaii proud.

JOB CREATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7110, the Appropriations for Job Creation and Preservation, Infrastructure Investment, and Economic and Energy Assistance Act of 2008.

There is no denying that our country is in the midst of a financial crisis. While those in the media continue to focus on the crisis on Wall Street, they have forgotten that American families have been struggling for months. The unemployment rate has been steadily increasing, reaching 6.1 percent this month, the highest level since 1992. 84,000 Americans lost their jobs in August and 605,000 have lost their jobs this year. Employed Americans are continuing to struggle from increased energy and food costs, and decreasing wages. Many are at risk of losing their pensions due to bad decisions made by Wall Street. The legislation before us today would directly help those struggling on Main Street and I strongly encourage my colleagues to support it.

H.R. 7110 would provide immediate assistance to those who need it most. It would extend unemployment benefits by 7 weeks for workers who have exhausted regular unemployment compensation. It would help provide healthcare to the growing number low-income children and families by providing a temporary increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for Medicaid health costs. It would provide \$2.6 billion for food stamps to address the rising food costs for seniors, people with disabilities and very poor families with children. It would also increase access to job

training for youths and for workers who have lost their jobs to help them to find new employment.

This legislation would help to grow our economy by providing tens of thousands of jobs by making a significant investment in our nation's infrastructure. H.R. 7110 would provide \$12.8 billion to improving our nation's aging highways and bridges. It would contribute \$12.5 billion for investment in our nation's water resource infrastructure, \$3 billion for repairing crumbling schools, \$5.1 billion for expanding public transportation including Amtrak, and \$1 billion for improving public housing.

H.R. 7110 would also provide for our long term energy needs. This legislation would provide \$500 million to accelerate the development of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies. Additionally, it would invest \$1 billion in advanced batteries.

This legislation would provide some much needed relief to America's families as they struggle through these tough economic times. However there is much more that needs to be done to keep our economy strong in the long term. I look forward to working with my colleagues to find real solutions which will help to keep America's economy strong.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION APPROVAL AND NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this bill which will do unacceptable damage to the international nuclear nonproliferation regime.

I have worked for over three years in opposition to the U.S.-India nuclear cooperation agreement because of its disastrous implications for nonproliferation. I've been called the "Arch-Critic" of the deal; but really I see myself as the "Arch-Defender" of nuclear nonproliferation. Halting the spread of nuclear weapons is not something over which the United States can afford to compromise; this issue is central to both international stability and our own security here at home. I'm not "attacking" India, I am defending the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

My goal has been to get meaningful nonproliferation conditions included in the agreement at all levels, including at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG). But the Bush administration fought this at every turn.

The legislation I introduced in 2005, H. Con. Res. 318 outlined the serious nonproliferation problems of the proposed India nuclear cooperation agreement.

I testified before the House International Relations Committee on May 11, 2006 and explained the incredible dangers of the President's proposal. I told them that the deal was "ill-conceived, that it undermines U.S. national security interests, and that it sets a dangerous precedent that will be exploited by our adversaries and rivals." I continue to believe that this is the case.

In response to the issues I and others raised regarding the threat to Congressional prerogatives from the administration's draft bill, the bill that was actually introduced removed many of the worst "blank check" provisions of the Administration bill. For instance, the administration bill would not have allowed the Congress to even see India's IAEA Safeguards Agreement or the Nuclear Suppliers' Group rule change before we voted on whether or not to give final approval.

The Motion to Recommit which I offered during floor debate on July 26, 2006 focused on India's dangerous relationship with Iran. My motion would have required India to help us halt Iran's nuclear program. It received 192 votes—the strongest vote that opponents of the deal were able to muster. Sadly, however, it was not included in the final bill.

But after the Congress passed the Henry J. Hyde Act of 2006, to allow in principle nuclear trade with India, the Bush Administration ignored many of the most important and requirements which were contained in that legislation. President Bush has negotiated a deal with India which is universally recognized by nonproliferation experts as ripping an enormous hole in the nonproliferation regime by granting unprecedented concessions to India, a country that has never signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

I would like to take this opportunity to explain for the RECORD, the problems inherent with this bill, and more generally with President Bush's now three-year campaign to carve out a massive loophole to the nonproliferation rules on behalf of India.

ADMINISTRATION ARGUMENTS FAIL THE REALITY TEST

In selling its proposal for the nuclear cooperation agreement with India, the Bush Administration relied on arguments which simply fail the reality test. Among the most glaringly false arguments on which the administration continues to rely to this day are that the nuclear deal will unlock India for American commerce, and that India will be a natural strategic partner with the United States,

The U.S.-India trade relationship

The Bush Administration has argued that the nuclear cooperation agreement will exponentially boost commerce with India. They also argued repeatedly that if the nuclear deal were not immediately approved by the Congress, the U.S. would lose the benefit of this trade.

But in reality, we already have strong and growing trade ties with India, and there is no reason to believe that this will be substantially altered by the nuclear cooperation agreement. Furthermore, I believe that the Bush Administration has sought to use this false economic argument to rush Congressional approval.

The truth is that since 2000, Indian exports to the United States have doubled, and U.S. exports to India have almost tripled. In the last 30 years, total bilateral trade has grown almost 8-fold, an enormous increase. In 2006, our total bilateral trade topped \$31.9 billion, growing at a whopping 18.9% over the previous year. Even during the worst moments of the U.S.-India relationship, for instance after the 1974 and 1998 Indian nuclear tests, trade continued to grow at rapid rates.

The bottom line is that trade between the United States and India will continue to grow, regardless of the ultimate outcome of the nuclear cooperation agreement.

The U.S.-India strategic relationship

The Bush administration has repeatedly called the U.S.-Indian relationship a "Strategic Partnership." I am a strong supporter of India, and I believe that the United States and India must, and will, continue to have a relationship marked by mutual cooperation and shared values. But I do not believe, as the Bush Administration has essentially argued, that India will become a subservient partner to the United States.

The reality is that India has always followed a fiercely independent foreign policy, and will certainly continue to do so. In fact, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told his Parliament in August of 2006 that, "Our sole guiding principle in regard to our foreign policy, whether it is on Iran or any other country, will be dictated entirely by our national interest."

The first major test of the U.S.-India strategic partnership is the question of how to deal with Iran's nuclear program. If India really were a steady strategic partner to the United States, New Delhi would be actively supporting the U.S. in halting the Iranian nuclear program. But instead of assisting the U.S. with Iran, India's longstanding strategic relationship with Iran has only grown stronger.

Let me list some of India's actions vis-à-vis Iran which have led me to conclude that India is not fully and actively supporting United States' efforts to sanction and isolate Iran for its ongoing nuclear program: India has repeatedly defended Iran's nuclear program; India has developed intelligence outposts in Iran near the Pakistani border; India and Iran have held two joint naval exercises, in March 2003 and March 2006; The 2003 Iranian-Indian New Delhi Declaration explicitly raised concerns about U.S. unilateralism in Iraq; Indian scientists have been sanctioned by the U.S. for WMD-related transfers to Iran, most recently in July 2006; India is pursuing an \$8 billion gas pipeline from Iran. India has committed to help Iran build a Liquefied Natural Gas terminal; the two countries established the Indian-Iranian Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism in 2003; and India is developing a port in south-east Iran which analysts believe will be a naval base.

The other major test of the U.S.-India strategic partnership is how to address the rise of China. Some supporters of the nuclear deal will admit, in their more candid moments, that the real driver behind this enormous change is a desire on the part of the Bush Administration that India become the U.S. "hedge" to contain China's rise in Asia.

But India has no desire for conflict of any kind with China, and India will not act as an American proxy. To put it simply, it is not in India's interest to risk poor relations with China. China is India's second largest trading partner. India and China signed an energy agreement to prevent them from bidding for the same resources and driving up prices, in January 2006. Total bilateral India-China trade has grown at over 30% every year since 1999, even faster than India-U.S. trade has grown.

China is simply too valuable as a partner, and too potentially threatening as an enemy, for India to seek anything but positive relations. And all the armchair strategists who have been trying to sell the idea of India as an American proxy against China are absolutely foolish. It's not going to happen.

I am not arguing that India cannot or should not have an independent foreign policy. I'm ar-

guing it inevitably will chart its own course, as any powerful nation would be expected to do. My colleagues should be realistic about what we can expect from India in terms of support for U.S. foreign policy priorities. The Bush Administration seems to think that by granting India international nuclear trade we are locking them into a permanent foreign policy alliance with the U.S. That is absolutely naive, and I believe that the Bush Administration's strategic calculation that they are getting a permanent ally in exchange for a wholesale change of international nonproliferation rules is simply wrong.

U.S. VIOLATION OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

Article I of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, of which the United States is a signatory, states that, "Each nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty undertakes not to transfer to any recipient whatsoever nuclear weapons or other nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over such weapons or explosive devices directly, or indirectly; and not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce any non-nuclear weapon State to manufacture or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, or control over such weapons or explosive devices." However, the U.S.-India nuclear agreement could put the United States in violation of this central obligation, since India's nuclear weapons program is likely to both indirectly and directly benefit from the terms of civilian nuclear trade, and since the United States could therefore be said to be "encouraging" India's manufacture of nuclear weapons.

The non-partisan Congressional Research Service analyzed at my request the question of whether the U.S.-India nuclear agreement could violate the United States' obligations under the NPT, and identified three ways in which this could occur. First, it analyzed the "separation plan" under which India's civilian and military nuclear facilities will be disentangled. Second, it investigated whether U.S. de-facto recognition of India as a nuclear power could encourage India to continue its production of weapons. And third, it examines the most significant issue of U.S. assistance to India's weapons program: how imported nuclear fuel would free up India's domestic uranium for use in its weapons program.

Without a credible separation plan, the United States could wind up transferring technology directly into India's weapons program. The CRS analysis states:

It should be noted that while IAEA safeguards ensure that nuclear material is not diverted, there are no procedures or measures in place to ensure that information, technology and know-how are not transferred from the civil sector to the military sector. This could become a key loophole, particularly because the separation plan places 8 indigenous power reactors under safeguards, while leaving at least 8 indigenous power reactors outside of safeguards. Without additional measures to prevent the transfer of personnel or knowledge from the safeguarded program to the unsafeguarded program, there would be little assurance that assistance to the safeguarded program could not migrate to the military program.

By changing U.S. law to allow for nuclear trade with India, the United States will grant international legitimacy to India's nuclear arsenal. The CRS analysis states:

The United States is not granting de jure recognition to India as a nuclear weapon

state, because doing so would require amendment of the NPT, a prospect that is unattainable, according to most experts. Nonetheless, a successful U.S. effort to gain an exemption in U.S. nuclear cooperation law would place India in the company of only four other nations—the United Kingdom, France, China, and Russia—all de jure nuclear weapon states. While this may not constitute formal recognition of India as a nuclear weapon state, many observers believe that it legitimizes India's nuclear weapons program, thus providing de facto recognition.

Critics of the President Bush's plan for the U.S.-India nuclear agreement long argued that allowing India to import uranium for its civilian reactors would free up its domestic fuel sources to concentrate exclusively on weapons production, giving India a vast new capacity for the manufacture of fissile material for weapons. The CRS analysis agreed with this argument, calling this indirect benefit to India's weapons program "a clear consequence of such cooperation." The analysis continues:

Secretary Rice seemed to be suggesting that having more uranium would not encourage or assist India's nuclear weapons program because it already had the fissile material it needed. If, as Secretary Rice suggests, the military requirements are dwarfed by civilian requirements, then finding international sources for civilian requirements could result in a windfall for the weapons program.

It is my strong belief that the NPT is the single most important international security agreement in existence. Furthermore the United States has a unique responsibility as the sole remaining superpower, as well as the driving force behind the drafting of the NPT in the middle of the last century, to exert constant vigilance on behalf of this extraordinarily significant treaty. If the United States does not strictly adhere to its NPT commitments then we are likely to see a dramatic and dangerous deterioration in the strength and stability of the Treaty.

INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN THE HYDE ACT AND THE "123" AGREEMENT

The Hyde Act of 2006 set numerous requirements for the negotiation of the technical bilateral agreement for nuclear cooperation, known as the "123 Agreement" in reference to Section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. However, the Bush Administration did not meet these requirements, and the 123 Agreement is therefore inconsistent with the law.

The most important inconsistencies between the Hyde Act and the 123 Agreement are: nuclear testing and the termination of U.S. nuclear supply; assurances of nuclear supply to India in the case of supply "disruption;" and, the reprocessing of U.S.-origin nuclear material.

Nuclear Testing and the Termination of U.S. Nuclear Supply

The Atomic Energy Act requires, and the Hyde Act reinforces, that nuclear trade with any nation will terminate if that nation conducts a nuclear test. In addition, U.S. law provides that the United States may demand the return of all transferred nuclear materials and technology in case of a test.

Almost all other 123 Agreements state these requirements and rights explicitly. But the U.S.-India 123 Agreement doesn't. The India 123 Agreement provides no detail at all on the kinds of actions that will result in termination. Given the difficult disagreements in the past

with India on nuclear rights and responsibilities, this is not wise. In addition, the India 123 Agreement does not state that the United States has the right to demand the return of all transferred nuclear materials and technology if India conducts a test.

Because the 123 Agreement lacks these specific statements of the consequences of an Indian nuclear test, many in India argue that they not only have an unfettered right to test their nuclear weapons, but that no consequences will follow if they do. This is not what Congress intended with the Hyde Act, which specifically requires that cooperation end if India tests a nuclear bomb.

Assurances of Nuclear Supply to India in the Case of Supply "Disruption"

The 123 Agreement contains two unprecedented clauses with respect to assuring India a supply of nuclear fuel under all scenarios, even if they test a bomb.

First, the 123 Agreement commits the United States to "support an Indian effort to develop a strategic reserve of nuclear fuel to guard against any disruption of supply over the lifetime of the reactor." This means that the United States will assist India in stockpiling uranium from international suppliers. If supply was terminated for any reason, even if India failed to uphold its nonproliferation commitments, such as by testing a nuclear bomb, India could use this stockpile of fuel as a cushion against another supply cutoff. This clause flies in the face of the Hyde Act, which states that any fuel reserve should not exceed normal reactor operating requirements.

Second, if India should ever have a fuel supply disruption, the U.S. is to convene "a group of friendly supplier countries . . . to pursue such measures as would restore fuel supply to India." Again, this would take place in the event of any disruption of supply, including due to India exploding a nuclear bomb.

This renders toothless the requirement in the Atomic Energy Act to stop nuclear exports to a country that tests a nuclear weapon. Will India care that U.S. cooperation is cut off if the U.S. itself is turning around and asking other countries to step in and provide the nuclear fuel to India? Would you think twice about illegally parking if you know your ticket will be paid for?

The Hyde Act specifically states that the United States is to seek to prevent other countries from providing India with nuclear material or technology if our own cooperation is cut off. The 123 Agreement should say the same thing, but it doesn't.

Reprocessing U.S.-origin nuclear material

As a matter of policy, the United States doesn't transfer enrichment, reprocessing, or heavy water production equipment to any state because of the dangerous utility of those technologies for nuclear weapons programs. In fact, in February 2004, President Bush said that "enrichment and reprocessing are not necessary for nations seeking to harness nuclear energy for peaceful purposes." And he had it right!

And reinforcing the point, the Hyde Act states that, "Given the special sensitivity of equipment and technologies related to the enrichment of uranium, the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, and the production of heavy water," the United States will work to further restrict the transfers of such technologies to India.

Yet, the U.S. has given India the right to reprocess our nuclear material, and promised

cooperation in reprocessing technologies! How will the U.S. be able to stop other countries from transferring reprocessing technologies and other sensitive technologies if we are making such transfers ourselves?

The fact of the matter is that President Bush negotiated an agreement with India that does not meet the requirements of U.S. law, on testing, on assurances of supply, and on reprocessing.

PROBLEMS RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY SAFEGUARDS

The Hyde Act of 2006 set numerous requirements relating to India's negotiations and declarations to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). While a number of these key requirements have not met, President Bush made a formal declaration that all of the Hyde Act requirements were fulfilled.

Separation plan

Section 104(b)(1) of the Hyde Act requires the President to determine that India must provide to the United States and the IAEA "a credible plan to separate civil and military nuclear facilities, materials, and programs." However, the separation plan that India has provided is not credible from a nonproliferation perspective, since it will not prevent all materials from moving between the civilian and military spheres.

Under the separation plan, India will be allowed to use domestically produced heavy water to moderate its safeguarded civilian reactors. However, the domestically produced heavy water itself will not be safeguarded, and safeguards will be removed from old heavy water as it is removed from the reactor in exchange for new heavy water. This creates a serious problem within the separation plan, as the old heavy water will contain tritium, a nuclear byproduct material which is used to boost the yield of nuclear weapons.

India will be able to use tritium generated in its "safeguarded" reactors to boost the yield of its nuclear weapons, making the civilian-military separation plan utterly meaningless from a nonproliferation perspective. Yet, on September 10, 2008, President Bush made a formal declaration that "India has provided the United States and the IAEA with a credible plan to separate civil and military nuclear facilities, materials, and programs."

India's declaration to the International Atomic Energy Agency

Section 104(b)(1) of the Hyde Act requires the President to determine that:

India has "filed a declaration regarding its civil facilities and materials with the IAEA."

However, India has not filed such a declaration with the IAEA, and has stated that it will not do so until after the 123 Agreement has been approved.

Yet, on September 10, 2008, President Bush made a formal declaration that, India . . . has "filed a declaration regarding its civil facilities and materials with the IAEA."

India's progress towards concluding an Additional Protocol

Section 104(b)(3) of the Hyde Act requires the President to determine that:

India and the IAEA are making substantial progress toward concluding an Additional Protocol consistent with IAEA principles, practices, and policies that would apply to India's civil nuclear program.

The "substantial progress" required by the Hyde Act has simply not occurred. India and the IAEA have met just one time to discuss

negotiations of an Additional Protocol, and one concept paper has been exchanged. No one knows what the final Additional Protocol will look like, if indeed one is ever successfully negotiated.

Yet, September 10, 2008, President Bush made a formal declaration that, "India and the IAEA are making substantial progress toward concluding an Additional Protocol consistent with IAEA principles, practices, and policies that would apply to India's civil nuclear program."

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS' GROUP WAIVER

The Hyde Act of 2006 set numerous statements of United States policy relating to the negotiation of a waiver from the Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG) guidelines for international nuclear trade with India. However, the Bush Administration ignored many of these statements of policy, and in at least one instance aggressively pursued a policy which was directly contradicted by the Hyde Act.

Termination of NSG supply in response to violations

Section 103(a)(4) of the Hyde Act states that it is the policy of the United States to:

Strengthen the NSG guidelines and decisions concerning consultation by members regarding violations of supplier and recipient understandings by instituting the practice of a timely and coordinated response by NSG members to all such violations, including termination of nuclear transfers to an involved recipient, that discourages individual NSG members from continuing cooperation with such recipient until such time as a consensus regarding a coordinated response has been achieved.

However, the United States did not seek to establish strengthen the NSG guidelines to require a termination of NSG supply to a recipient states in the event of a violation of supplier and recipient understandings. In fact, many NSG member states sought to strengthen the NSG guidelines in this manner but could not because opposition by the Bush Administration. In this case the Bush Administration actively worked to thwart the policy of the United States as set by Congress in the Hyde Act.

Enrichment and reprocessing restriction

Section 103(a)(5) of the Hyde Act states that it is the policy of the United States to:

Given the special sensitivity of equipment and technologies related to the enrichment of uranium, the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, and the production of heavy water, work with members of the NSG, individually and collectively, to further restrict the transfers of such equipment and technologies, including to India.

However, the United States did not seek to strengthen NSG guidelines to restrict the transfers of enrichment and reprocessing technologies, despite having sought such a restriction for four years. In 2004, President Bush declared in a major speech on nonproliferation that achieving a historic international restriction on transfers of enrichment and reprocessing was one of his administration's highest priorities. For the next four years, the Bush Administration sought to achieve such a restriction at the NSG, yet abandoned this issue during the negotiations regarding India.

Universalizing U.S. termination triggers

Section 103(a)(6) of the Hyde Act states that it is the policy of the United States to:

Seek to prevent the transfer to a country of nuclear equipment, materials, or technology from other participating governments in the NSG or from any other source if nuclear transfers to that country are suspended or terminated pursuant to this title, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), or any other United States law.

However, the United States did not seek to amend NSG guidelines to ensure that all international nuclear supply to India would be terminated if U.S. law required U.S. nuclear trade to be terminated. Such a rule would not only have significantly strengthened international nonproliferation policy, but it would have protected American firms from the possibility of being the only firms in the world barred from trade with India.

Madam Speaker, this bill, and the nuclear cooperation agreement with India which it approves, will do great damage to the international nuclear nonproliferation regime. Can we afford to undermine the nonproliferation rules at the very moment when Iran is speeding toward a viable nuclear capability, when North Korea is redoubling its intransigence and throwing out IAEA observers, and when Venezuela is requesting nuclear cooperation from Russia? No, we cannot. I urge my colleagues to think carefully about the implications of this bill for international stability and U.S. security, and vote against H.R. 7081.

H.R. 6460, THE GREAT LAKES LEGACY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6460, the Great Lakes Legacy Reauthorization Act. Today, we will vote to reauthorize the Great Lakes Legacy Act program for the next 2 years at its current level of \$50 million per year rather than the \$150 million per year for the next 5 years the House approved last week. I am supporting this Senate-amended version not because I believe the Great Lakes deserve substantially less money than we afforded them in the House, but because this very important cleanup program must be reauthorized before it expires next week.

The Great Lakes Legacy Act has been an incredibly successful program. In fact, the first success story from the Legacy Act is in Trenton, Michigan. Black Lagoon, as it had been named in the 1980s because of the oil and grease that had accumulated between the 1940s and the 1970s, was renamed Ellias Cove just 1 year ago after the area was remediated. Without the Great Lakes Legacy Act, the \$9.3 million cleanup would not have been possible.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on H.R. 6460 to reauthorize this program that will continue to clean up our national treasure. However, I look forward to a time, hopefully after the next election, when a single senator, who is not even from the Great Lakes region, cannot stand in the way of greater progress for our Great Lakes.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DOWNINGTOWN LIONS CLUB

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Downingtown Lions Club on its 80th Anniversary and to honor the service organization for its commitment to serving the community.

Founded in 1928, the Downingtown Lions Club is part of the largest service organization in the world, with approximately 1.3 million members in 202 nations.

National Lions Club founder and Chicago businessman Melvin Jones said in 1917 that the organization was created to allow their service clubs to give something back to their communities. And the Downingtown Lions Club has certainly carried out that mission admirably.

Thanks to the dedication and work of its members and volunteers, the Club built the Kerr Park Pavilion and installed a drinking fountain along the Struble Trail. Hundreds of people in the community have benefited from the Club's distribution of free eyeglasses and funding raised for sight and hearing programs, including the Leader Dog Program.

The Club will celebrate its 80th Anniversary on Saturday, October 4th during a dinner at the Thorndale Inn.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the Downingtown Lions Club for reaching this special milestone and in commending the efforts of Club members, both past and present, for their tireless dedication and service to the Downingtown area community.

CONGRATULATING THE REV. GREGORY F. LUCEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF SPRING HILL COLLEGE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the long and distinguished career of the Rev. Gregory F. Lucey on the occasion of his retirement as president of Spring Hill College in Mobile.

For the past 10 years, Father Lucey has been an integral part of the Mobile community. As Mobile's Press-Register wrote in a tribute, "His remarkable accomplishments will set the standard for leadership at [Spring Hill College] for years to come."

Father Lucey was a student at Campion Jesuit High School, a boarding school in Wisconsin, when he chose to follow in his brother's footsteps and become a Jesuit priest. Ordained in 1964, Father Lucey has said he knew then that God had a plan for his life. He went on to earn a master's degree in education as well as undergraduate and graduate degrees in philosophy from St. Louis University. He earned a master's degree in liturgy

from the University of Notre Dame, and later, he earned a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Following his educational pursuits, Father Lucey served as a teacher at his former high school before being named the school's principal a short time later. Just one year later, he was named president of Campion Jesuit High School.

From there, Father Lucey went on to Seattle University where he served as vice president for development. In 1988, Father Lucey returned to a spiritual role, serving as rector of the Jesuit community at Marquette University. He then went on to become president and chairman of the board of the National Jesuit Conference in Washington, D.C.

In 1997, Father Lucey was named president of Spring Hill College, and over the past 11 years, he has earned an admirable record of accomplishment. Enrollment has increased by over 15 percent during his tenure, and he has helped grow the college's endowment by almost \$20 million. The campus has also experienced tremendous growth—the construction of six new buildings and the renovation of eight others. Spring Hill College also consistently receives high marks in U.S. News & World Report's college rankings.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated spiritual and community leader as well as friend to many throughout south Alabama. I know his friends and colleagues join me in extending thanks for his service over the years. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE TERRY EVERETT ON THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2008

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two of my fellow colleagues from the great state of Alabama, Congressman BUD CRAMER and Congressman TERRY EVERETT, who are set to retire at the end of the 110th Congress. Both of these Members have a passion for and deep respect for serving the American people that led them to serve the constituents of the 5th and the 2nd Congressional Districts, respectively.

BUD CRAMER has served the people of the 5th District of Alabama in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1991, where he faithfully served on the House Appropriations Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. TERRY EVERETT came to the House of Representatives 16 years ago and ever since he has spent his time helping the people of the 2nd Congressional District and serving on the Agriculture Committee, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and as Ranking Member on the House Armed Services Committee.

As military veterans, they have both answered the call to serve their country time and again, and I know that as they start this new

chapter in their lives, they will continue to find new ways to serve their community.

Although it seems that we as a Congress can't find ourselves in agreement on many things, one thing that is beyond dispute is that both Congressmen CRAMER and EVERETT have embodied the ideal of civil servants who tirelessly have served the interests of the American People.

TRIBUTE TO CARLOS MARIN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear friend, Carlos Marin, the United States Commissioner of the International Boundary and Water Commission, IBWC. On September 15th, he departed with his IBWC Mexican counterpart, Mr. Arturo Herrera, on a chartered flight to survey the flooding of the Rio Grande River along the border area of Presidio, Texas, and Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico. While working to assess the damage and coordinate joint-response efforts with the local officials and the Mexican Government, their chartered flight crashed, taking the lives of all those aboard, in a remote area of the Sierra Madre mountain range.

Mr. Marin joined the IBWC as a staff engineer in 1979, and he rose through management and executive positions through 2006, when President Bush appointed him as U.S. Commissioner to the IBWC. Our Nation has lost a true public servant who worked for a quarter of a century with the International Boundary and Water Commission on issues such as water debt, and most recently the rehabilitation of the levees in Hidalgo County. He was one of the few that understood the water issues facing the border region, and was a friend to everyone in South Texas.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and to the others who were on the plane with him. His tragic passing leaves a void in our hearts and minds. I am personally saddened to lose a wonderful friend; and it will not be the same working with the IBWC without Carlos as its commissioner. His exemplary dedication and service to the South Texas community have been crucial to future development, especially with the much-needed levee repairs that helped save residents in my district from flooding during the hurricanes this past summer. We in our South Texas community will be forever grateful to Carlos for his contributions, and I thank his family for their support of Carlos' work with IBWC.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to honor the memory of Mr. Carlos Marin.

USS "MISSOURI"

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, today I was honored to deliver the keynote address at

the keel laying ceremony for the new USS *Missouri* (SSN-780), a *Virginia* class attack submarine. The ceremony was held at the General Dynamics Electric Boat facility in Quonset Point, Rhode Island.

In Navy tradition, the keel laying ceremony is the first major milestone in the construction of a ship. I ask unanimous consent that a copy of my remarks be included in the record. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

REMARKS OF CONGRESSMAN IKE SKELTON (D-MO), USS "MISSOURI" (SSN-780) KEEL LAYING CEREMONY, GENERAL DYNAMICS ELECTRIC BOAT FACILITY—QUONSET POINT, R.I., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

I am absolutely honored and thrilled to witness the latest chapter in the State of Missouri's historic association with the U.S. Navy.

I want to thank Navy Secretary Donald Winter for his decision to name the newest *Virginia* class submarine USS *Missouri*. All Missourians can take pride that a namesake to the "Mighty Mo" will soon be joining the Navy's fleet, this time in the silent service.

A submarine, or any Navy ship, is really just steel and equipment. Very highly engineered and crafted steel and equipment, but in the end just metal. It is the crew which gives a ship life, it is the crew who craft the legacy of the vessel. One *Virginia* class submarine is indistinguishable from the next—save the crew. The attitude of the crew, the dedication of the crew, the bravery of the crew, that will distinguish this ship. The first crew of this vessel will set the tone for all the crews to follow, and the first crew will take their lead from their sponsor.

So I especially want to congratulate and publicly thank Mrs. Gates on accepting the role of sponsor of the new USS *Missouri*. This is not the first connection the Gates Family has had to our great state. I recall that Secretary Gates' first duty station as an Air Force second lieutenant was Whiteman Air Force Base near Knob Noster, Missouri.

Being a sponsor is not a one or two ceremony job—this is your ship, these are your sailors. A sponsor may stay as involved as she wishes with her ship, and I hope that you do. My late wife Susie had the honor to serve as sponsor of the USS *Jefferson City*, a *Los Angeles* class submarine. I know how much she treasured keeping up with the activities of "her" submarine and she enjoyed every opportunity she had to visit and keep in touch with the crew and their families. I know that you will enjoy the same close relationship with the sailors who will bring this submarine to life. And may I remind everyone, most of the sailors that finally haul down the commissioning pennant of this vessel three decades from now won't be born for another 5 to 10 years. Mrs. Gates, good luck to you and thank you for your service to the nation.

The name *Missouri* has a distinguished naval history.

The first USS *Missouri* was a steam/sail vessel commissioned in 1842, only 21 years after *Missouri* was admitted to statehood. This frigate had an unfortunate fire which burned her to the waterline in the Port of Gibraltar.

The second *Missouri*—which a retired Navy Captain on my staff advises me not to count—was a Confederate side-wheel steamer used to ferry supplies on the Mississippi during the Civil War. This ship was turned over to the U.S. Navy at the end of the Civil War, but then scrapped because she was built from green timber and leaked excessively.

The third USS *Missouri*, a battleship commissioned in 1903, was part of the famous

"Great White Fleet" that sailed around the world in the first decade of the 20th century. The cruise of that fleet marked the beginning of the United States as a world power. It proved the point that American naval might could penetrate any waters and reach any foreign soil. That ship was still in active service during World War I, with my father serving on that ship as a coal-shoveling fireman in 1918.

The last USS *Missouri*, and the most famous, was commissioned in 1944 and earned the nickname "Mighty Mo" for essentially continuous combat action from arrival in the Pacific theater to hosting the Japanese surrender ceremony in Tokyo Bay that ended World War II. The "Mighty Mo" also saw action during the Korean conflict. Decommissioned in 1955, she returned to the active rolls following a major upgrade in 1986. The "Mighty Mo" fired some of the first strikes during the first Persian Gulf War and the liberation of Kuwait. This fine ship gave our country many years of service until her final decommissioning in 1992. In fact, I participated in the recommissioning and the second decommissioning ceremonies for this, the most celebrated USS *Missouri*. The historic vessel is now open to the public as a floating museum in Pearl Harbor, near the final resting place of the USS *Arizona*.

So, as the keel is laid for the latest USS *Missouri*, shipbuilders and sailors alike should remember the legacy represented by the ships that previously held this proud name. This modern submarine will add to our nation's seafaring capabilities and project U.S. power wherever necessary to protect U.S. interests.

I commend the remarkable craftsmanship of the workers of both the Electric Boat Company and Newport News Shipbuilding. It is truly extraordinary how you start with steel plate, pipe, and rolls of cable and deliver the most complicated warships on the face of the earth in just a few short years. Your service to the country sometimes goes unheralded, so I wish to publicly thank you for your dedication and sacrifice as you make these ships for our warfighters.

I know that when this new submarine is christened and commissioned, many Missourians will attend the ceremonies to pay tribute to the fifth American warship named after the Show-Me State. I am confident that the sailors who will serve on the submarine USS *Missouri* will make us proud as they write a new chapter in naval history.

God bless.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I was absent for several votes on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, for personal reasons. Had I been present to vote on passage of H.R. 5244, the Credit Cardholders Bill of Rights, I would have voted "yes." Likewise, had I been present to vote on passage of H.R. 6897, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF THE "LABELING EDUCATION AND NUTRITION ACT OF 2008"

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MATHESON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Labeling Education and Nutrition Act of 2008" which I believe is a first step towards providing consumers with the nutritional information they seek while hopefully providing restaurants with a workable framework for delivering that information. This legislation is a starting point for a bipartisan effort to address nutritional labeling. Senator CARPER introduced the same legislation earlier this week in the Senate. With the introduction of the LEAN Act, I believe we have an opportunity to have a constructive national conversation about this important issue.

As we see in our own lives and daily eating habits, consumers increasingly choose to eat in restaurants. In my home State of Utah, restaurant jobs represent about 7.9 percent of the employment in my State. American adults buy a meal or a snack from a restaurant 5.8 times per week on average, and spend 48 percent of their food budget on food away from home, almost \$1,078 per person annually. Unfortunately, we have also seen the toll diseases such as obesity and diabetes have taken on society. By providing nutritional information, individuals with special dietary needs will be able to make the right nutritional decisions for them regarding caloric intake or sodium levels.

I appreciate the interest and leadership some of my colleagues have demonstrated on this issue in the past. I believe my legislation represents a compromise effort that will allow consumers to make informed decisions while also providing for greater individual responsibility in dietary choices. Finally, I hope my colleagues will work with me on this piece of legislation and I look forward to building upon this legislation next year.

HEART FOR WOMEN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the HEART for Women Act (H.R. 1014) to help improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease in women, which often manifests itself differently in women than in men. It is critically important that we develop a better understanding of these differences and the reasons behind them, and spur the development and use of diagnosis, treatment, and prevention strategies that are most effective for reducing the death rate for heart disease in women.

We have made some progress on this front. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's WISEWOMAN (Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for Women Across the Nation) provides low-income, under-insured or uninsured middle-aged women with screening and knowledge to prevent cardiovascular disease. Cardiovascular disease ranks as Amer-

ica's number-one killer and, with one in three female adults facing some form of cardiovascular disease, this program shows how prevention can make the difference between life or death.

The WISEWOMAN program has proven to be tremendously successful in reaching those women most at risk for heart disease and stroke. In fact, 3 out of 4 of the women screened by WISEWOMAN have at least one risk factor for heart disease and stroke, and women who have participated in WISEWOMAN are more likely to quit smoking and make other lifestyle changes to reduce their cardiovascular disease risk.

It is a good investment, too. A recent study found the WISEWOMAN program to be very cost-effective because of its success in reducing risk for chronic diseases. In this study, the program extended women's lives at a cost of \$4,400 per estimated year of life saved, as opposed to a much higher cost of \$26,000 per estimated year of life saved by heart bypass surgery.

Unfortunately, even these effective, proven programs reach only a fraction of the women who could actually take advantage of them. Through 2007, CDC funded 14 state health departments and two tribal organizations to offer WISEWOMAN programs. It makes common sense to bring this effective program to women in all 50 states. The HEART for Women Act would do just that.

The HEART for Women Act is co-sponsored by a majority of Members of Congress, including almost all of the women in the House, and has the support of the American Heart Association, the Society for Women's Health Research, WomenHeart, the Association of Black Cardiologists, and the American College of Cardiology.

I commend the Energy and Commerce committee for supporting this important bill and congratulate my colleague Congresswoman CAPPs for her leadership. This represents an important step forward in ensuring that women all across our country have the help they need to live the healthiest, most productive lives possible.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3013, THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE PROTECTION ACT

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the "H.R. 3013, the Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2008." This legislation would have reversed an ever changing DOJ policy on privileged material. I sponsored this bill because I believe DOJ's prior policy allowed prosecutors to overreach in forcing organizations and their employees to waive the protections of the attorney-client privilege and the work product doctrine.

On August 28, 2008, Deputy United States Attorney General Mark R. Filip announced a new policy that adopted much of the substance of H.R. 3013. I applaud DOJ's effort, and see it as a clear and substantive improvement over the previous policy, in many respects. However, I believe legislation is still needed for at least three reasons.

First, the new DOJ policy does not cover other federal agencies and many still have policies that undermine these important protections. A list of some of those agencies and their policies is attached to this statement.

Second, agency policies on protections to the attorney-client privilege, including the Deputy Attorney General's new policy, do not have the effect of law. Defendants are advised in the new DOJ policy to complain to a prosecutor's supervisor when a prosecutor has violated DOJ policy. It is unrealistic, to say the least, to think that defendants are going to complain to the supervisor of a prosecutor who is determining whether to indict the organization because of the actions of one or more of its employees.

Lastly and perhaps most importantly, public policy in this area should not be subject to the whims of every new administration. Deputy Attorney General Filip's new policy is DOJ's fifth attempt in 10 years to settle this matter.

Given the desire by some Members to give this new DOJ policy a chance to play out, it appears that legislation may not pass in the Congress this year. However, I call on all federal agencies to change their policies to come into line with H.R. 3013 as soon as possible. If legislation fails to pass in this Congress, I intend to reintroduce legislation in the next Congress. I also plan to hold a hearing in the next Congress to examine the issues of attorney-client privilege waiver and employee due process rights in federal investigations, to determine what if any real change has occurred in DOJ's actions under its new policy, and to determine whether other Federal agencies have appropriately revised their policies.

Department of Justice.

Securities and Exchange Commission (ac privilege, work product, employee legal rights).

Department of Housing and Urban Development (ac privilege, work product, employee legal rights).

Environmental Protection Agency (ac privilege and work product only).

General Services Administration/Civilian Agency Acquisition Council/Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (ac privilege and work product only; waiver demand is not explicit, but rather is implied as part of its proposed FAR rule dealing with "Contractor Compliance Program and Integrity Reporting").

Commodity Futures Trading Commission (employee legal rights only; it reversed its ac privilege and work product policies at our request).

H.R. 2786, THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. HIRONO. I rise in support of H.R. 2786, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act, NAHASDA. Reauthorization of NAHASDA through FY2012 will ensure that safe, decent, and affordable housing is available to low-income American Indian and Alaska Native families.

At the same time, I am very troubled by the obstructionist tactics of certain Republicans in

the Senate that resulted in stripping reauthorization of the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant and Loan Guarantee Program from the final version of this bill. Native Hawaiians, like other indigenous peoples of the United States, are members of traditionally underserved communities and deserve equitable participation in federal programs with American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Legislation will be reintroduced next year that will reauthorize funding for the Native Hawaiian housing program to ensure that the affordable housing needs of Native Hawaiians are addressed. Since the inception of the Native Hawaiian housing program in FY2002, \$37 million has been awarded to Hawaii to support much-needed affordable housing activities for low-income Native Hawaiians who are eligible to reside on Hawaiian home lands. I believe in the importance of Native Hawaiian programs, and I will continue to champion these programs.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 2786, and I ask for your support to correct this unfair exclusion of Native Hawaiians.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JERRY WELLER AND THE HONORABLE RAY LAHOOD

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the distinguished career of RAY LAHOOD, who will be retiring at the end of the 110th Congress. I wish to express my appreciation for his service to our country and the State of Illinois.

First elected in 1994, RAY LAHOOD has represented the 18th District of Illinois for nearly 15 years. A teacher by trade, RAY began his career teaching junior high school students in Peoria, Illinois. He continued his commitment to public service by becoming a member of the Illinois General Assembly and serving Congressman Bob Michel for over a decade.

RAY has been lauded by many of his colleagues for his leadership on the local, State, and national levels. He has led efforts to preserve our waterways, improve local airports, and addressed the development of rural communities in his district. Never afraid to disagree with his party's leaders, RAY has always worked in the best interests of the State and his district, particularly as part of the Appropriations Committee.

RAY is widely regarded as someone who has a deep respect for the institution of Congress, proven by his efforts to establish a higher level of civility and decorum in the House of Representatives. His commitment to bipartisanship remains an example to all of us in Congress today. I wish RAY and his family the very best and I am proud to call him my friend.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Congressman LAHOOD for his years of dedicated service to this body and to the people of Illinois.

VOLUSIA HONOR AIR VETERANS

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, today, September 27, 2008, 100 Volusia County veterans from the Second World War will visit our Nation's Capital as part of the Honor Air program. For most of these central Florida veterans this will be their first opportunity to see the World War II Memorial. As the Congressman from Florida's Seventh Congressional District, it will be my privilege to assist in their visit. As part of their mission to Washington, DC, I will join them in laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery to honor those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation. This will be a special occasion in the lives of our World War II veterans. I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing Our Greatest Generation from Florida's Seventh Congressional District and wish them well as they gather in America's Capital City.

It is my privilege to honor the service and sacrifice of those veterans who will be visiting our Nation's Capital on September 27, 2008:

Rhea Adams, Leonard Ballesteras, Raymond Behrens, Seymour Berman, Michael Bloch, William Brown, Bernard Bruns, Dan Brunson, James Brussow, Robert Burrough, Mildred Cavanaugh, Tervence Cavanaugh, Jr., Kenneth Chapman, Robert Chase, William Clark, Kenneth Coe, George Crippen, Robert Deline, Robert Dinda, Rabun Dittmar, Jr., Richard Douglas, Arthur Dreves, Dorothy Dreves, Leland Eamest, Albert Edwards, Donald Ellwein, Delbert Erickson, Albert Erwin, Ben Fabian, Jr., Dominick Ferrarini, Louis Figliuolo, Victor Frank, James Galloway, Edward Gariano, David Garland,

Edward Gartland, Richard Goodwin, George Gornatti, Leroy Gwaltney, Authur Harriman, Daniel Harting, Richard Heard, Frederick Hering, Clarence Hershberger, Stanley Hiers, Marvin Hinshaw, George Holden, James Holsapple, Jack Honaker, George Hood, James Houck, Francis Johnson, Helen Jurewicz, William Kautz, William Kernstock, Howard Koons, Adolph Koury, Phyllis Lee, Earl Leone, David Levenson, Claude Lindquist, Jr., Eric Loveland, Albert Luckett, Jr., Russell Macomber, Gabriel Maioli, Howard Meyers, Navy Meyers, Daniel Miller, Robert Miller, Boris Nekrassoff, William Parker,

Frank Parsons, James Patterson, Ivey Poe, Jr., Harry Price, Donald Priddle, Marion Reid, Mary Rickerson, Edwin Rieger, Wilfred Rook, William Schildecker, Herman Schmidt, Ethel Schuemann, Juanita Semsy, William Shiepe, Lester Shontz, Jr., Vincent Sindelar, Jack Singleton, Charles Skeels, Eugene Swarbrick, Robert Thousand, Sr., Charles Underwood, Jr., Wilbert Varley, Alfred Vogel, Bertran Wallace, Keith Weihermiller, Walter White, JD Womack, Walter Ziamik.

I know I join countless Americans who continue to recognize their heroism and their families' incredible sacrifice to our Nation.

INTRODUCTON OF THE LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT PREFERENCES ACT OF 2008, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE COVERAGE UNDER MEDICARE FOR CONSULTATIONS REGARDING ORDERS FOR LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT AND PROVIDE GRANTS TO DEVELOP OR ENHANCE ORDERS FOR LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act of 2008. Advances in health care have led to an aging population facing increasingly complex end-of-life health care decisions. Too often, these decisions are avoided until a crisis occurs, resulting in inadequate planning, unknown patient preferences, and families left struggling with the burden of determining their loved ones' wishes.

In response to this, health organizations in Oregon came together in the early 1990s to develop what became known as the POLST form, or Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment, to help seriously ill patients identify their treatment preferences using a clear, standardized template. Written as actionable medical orders and signed by a physician, these forms help communicate patient preference regarding intensity of medical intervention, transfers to the hospital, use of antibiotics, artificially administered nutrition, and resuscitation.

National interest in Oregon's POLST program has blossomed and Oregon has become the national resource for states and communities interested in developing similar programs. Recently California and New York enacted orders for life sustaining treatment programs and 23 other states have adopted or are developing programs.

While Medicare currently pays for acute care services provided to beneficiaries, it does not recognize the important benefit of informed discussions between patients and their health provider about care preferences for their last months and years of life. The Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act provides coverage under Medicare for consultations regarding orders for life-sustaining treatment. These discussions add quality and value to patient care, but they often require significant time, proper training, and great delicacy, which merit compensation through Medicare.

Programs for orders for life-sustaining treatment provide valuable services to patients, their families, and health care providers through educational materials, professional training on advance care planning, coordinating and collaborating with hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, hospice programs, home health agencies, and emergency medical services to implement such orders across the continuum of care, and monitoring the success of the program. The Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act creates a grant program to support the development and expansion of these programs, providing necessary resources to states and local communities.

To be effective, advance care plans must ensure that treatment preferences are elicited

and presented in a way that is recognized and respected by the health care community—orders for life-sustaining treatment programs do just that. These programs have a track record of promoting patient autonomy through documenting and coordinating a person's treatment preferences, enhancing the authorized transfer of patient records between facilities, clarifying treatment intentions and minimizing confusion, reducing repetitive activities in complying with the Patient Self Determination Act, and facilitating appropriate treatment by emergency personnel. Oregon is nationally recognized for our exemplary end-of-life care and orders for life-sustaining treatment have played a critical role providing quality, patient-centered care for those in their final chapter of life.

I am proud to introduce the Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act, which will lay the groundwork so all Americans have the tools to make informed medical care decisions, convey their care plans as clearly as possible, and feel confident their wishes will be respected by health care personnel.

TRIBUTE TO MASONIC LODGE #135
OF LENEXA, KANSAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the Masonic Lodge of my hometown, Lenexa, Kansas. Masonic Lodge #135 is celebrating the 135th anniversary of its founding this October.

In reading documents compiled by Lenexa Historical Society member and Masonic Lodge leader Angelo Mino, it becomes clear that the history of this lodge is intertwined with the history of Lenexa. The Masonic Lodge was the first fraternal or civic organization of Lenexa, and city leaders were often leaders of the lodge as well. Lodge members included the first mayor of Lenexa, the first police judge, the first postmaster and the first physician in the city.

In 1873, the lodge received official recognition from the Masonic organization, and the first Eastern Star chapter was also established. In 1922, the first DeMolay group in Johnson County, Kansas, received its charter, and in 1953, the Rainbow Girls Assembly #56 began.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the members of Lenexa Masonic Lodge #135 on this remarkable milestone, and thank them for 135 years of community leadership and service.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF
DIONICIO MORALES

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a Latino civil rights leader and the founder of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation, MAOF, Dionicio Morales, who passed away on September 24, 2008.

Dionicio was born to immigrant farm worker parents and was raised in Ventura County,

California. Like many Mexican Americans of his generation, Dionicio struggled to achieve an education and he graduated from high school in 1937. Dionicio attended Santa Barbara State College and worked with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union early to ensure garment workers had better working conditions.

Dionicio was a life-long community organizer who devoted his life to providing critical programs and resources to the Mexican-American community. He was a strong advocate and dedicated leader for the people of Los Angeles.

In 1963, Dionicio became the founder and president of the Mexican-American Opportunity Foundation, which provides the Mexican-American community with critical access to services and programs. These services include increased access to job skill training programs, repair programs for low-income homes, nutrition and employment aid for seniors, and many other critical programs that have dramatically improved the lives of many Mexican Americans in Los Angeles County and the surrounding areas. Dionicio later spent most of his life serving on several Federal, State, and county boards that gave him a voice which he used to advocate for the important issues that faced the Mexican-American community.

Throughout my career in public service, I have had the pleasure to work with Dionicio and MAOF to increase economic and social justice in the Latino community. I am proud to have received the prestigious Aztec Award from MAOF in October 1996 and am committed to continuing this work to bring greater equality and opportunity to the Latino community.

Dionicio will be remembered for his lifetime commitment to the Mexican-American community. I extend my sympathy to Dionicio's family in this difficult time. Dionicio's legacy will continue to live in MAOF. He will be dearly missed by the Latino community.

JOB CREATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT
RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. I rise in support of H.R. 7110, the Job Creation and Unemployment Relief Act.

While I have reservations about any bill that relies on deficit spending, I think the long-term benefits this bill will have for the American economy outweigh those reservations. I am, however, very disappointed with the minority's objection to an amendment that would have included funding for the Secure Rural Schools program in this bill.

H.R. 7110 will help stimulate the American economy by creating jobs, and will update the Nation's rapidly deteriorating infrastructure. Nationwide, 84,000 Americans have lost their jobs within the last month, and more than 600,000 Americans have lost their jobs within the last month, and more than 600,000 Americans have lost their jobs throughout the year. In my home state of Colorado, more than 19,000 Coloradans have lost their jobs within the last year.

This bill will put Coloradans to work, rebuilding our roads, expanding our public transportation, investing in our water infrastructure, and fixing our schools. The Colorado Department of Transportation, CDOT, recently weighed down by a combination of deteriorating infrastructure and shrinking resources, will receive more than \$200 million in direct funding that will be put to use quickly and efficiently, and which will immediately help local economies. Colorado will be eligible for further funding for its public transit agencies.

This bill will also provide assistance for those who need help getting back on their feet after being wiped out by the current state of our economy. H.R. 7110 will extend unemployment benefits for up to 12,000 unemployed Coloradans, and fund job training programs to help them find work. And for those struggling to put food on the table, this bill will provide additional food stamps, and will help maintain the health of struggling Coloradans by increasing Medicaid assistance.

As a national leader in the development of clean, renewable energy, Colorado stands to benefit greatly from the resources dedicated in this bill to advance such technologies. This bill will further help lead this nation into an era of energy independence by investing in the manufacture of advanced vehicle batteries and battery systems—a key component to developing a new fleet of fuel efficient cars.

Simply put, this bill is an investment in America—her people, her ingenuity, and her future. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure for two project authorization requests that I made and which were included within S. 3001, the "Duncan Hunter Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009."

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Bill Number: S. 3001.

Account: Military Construction, Air Force.

Project Amount: \$6,000,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Edwards Air Force Base.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 S. Rosamond Blvd., Edwards AFB, CA, USA.

Description of Request: This funding would complete construction of the main base runway at Edwards Air Force Base, CA. The funding will be used to complete paved shoulders on the runway and account for extra costs in the overall runway replacement project from items such as the stabilization of over 41,000 cubic yards of both unsuitable and unstable soil.

The main base runway, which supports almost every flight operation at Edwards Air Force Base, as well as space shuttle landings when necessary, is over 50 years old and is rapidly degrading as a result of Alkali-Silica Reaction (ASR), a reaction between the cement and the aggregate that creates map

cracking, scaling and spalling of the concrete. Emergency Foreign Object Damage (FOD) repairs have forced runway closures affecting 10 to 15 flights for each closure. No other runways at Edwards AFB can safely support the current and projected test operations without significant test mission delays, and temporary relocation of these missions is not feasible; however, many of the current and planned test missions can be supported by a temporary runway.

This project was programmed by the Air Force in 2003 for FY06, and was incrementally funded over 3 years (FY06, FY07 and FY08). After the project was programmed, the cost of construction materials escalated dramatically, eliminating all management reserve and resulting in a reduction in the planned scope of the project. Providing the final \$6,000,000 in FY09 will complete the project as originally scoped, avoid contractor demobilization and remobilization, and avoid reconstitution of the temporary runway to support this work, saving the government over \$4,000,000 in cost avoidance on the temporary runway alone.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Bill Number: S. 3001.

Account: Research Development Test and Evaluation, Air Force.

Project Amount: \$1,750,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Aerojet-General Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 13222, Sacramento, CA 95813-6000, USA.

Description of Request: This funding will be used for the Hydrocarbon Boost Technology Demonstrator program and the increase in funding is to return the FY09 funding closer to the planned level at contract initiation. This critical, next-generation liquid rocket engine development effort run by the Air Force Research Laboratory at Edwards Air Force Base will not only provide the highest performing hydrocarbon engines ever developed in the United States, but also will provide higher operability, lower costs and greater safety with higher reliability than any liquid booster engine ever made in the United States and perhaps the world. A match is not required for defense research projects, but I was informed that during the past eight years, Aerojet has invested approximately \$30 million in internal research and development funding on this technology and intends continued support in FY09.

THE HERMOSA BEACH SISTER CITY PROGRAM: 40 YEARS OF GOODWILL AND ENDURING FRIENDSHIP

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, to many, Hermosa Beach is a beautiful coastal community blessed by perfect weather, endless sun and surf. But few would know that it is home to one of the oldest and strongest international exchange programs in the United States.

It all started in 1967, when the Hermosa Beach City Council established a "Sister City" program with the citizens of Loreto, Mexico. Back then, Loreto was a small community on

the pristine Baja coast of the Sea of Cortez—famous for sport fishing, whales, cave paintings and colonial missions. Its Spanish mission, founded in 1697, was the first in all of the California's.

Over the past 40 years, the Hermosa Beach Sister City Association (HBSCA) has provided funding and other support for educational and humanitarian programs for Loreto. Among the most notable is the middle school student exchange program. Every spring, Hermosa Beach 7th and 8th grade students travel to Loreto—and vice versa—where they gain language skills, opportunities to learn about a different culture from host families and field trips, and lifetime memories.

The HBSCA also assists the people of Loreto with critical medical care. As recently as 1998, Loreto had no emergency medical treatment facilities. Through a partnership between physicians in Loreto and Hermosa Beach, the HBSCA has been able to provide badly needed medical training and equipment, including paramedic gear and even an ambulance.

Since its inception, Sister City programs have benefited both cities and their citizens. Loreto has become a home away from home for Hermosans, who have in turn helped improve the quality of life for Loretoans. One of our Nation's oldest sister city programs shines as a stellar example of the impact global exchange can have on our world.

I congratulate the citizens of Hermosa Beach and Loreto on achieving this impressive milestone.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF IBWC COMMISSIONER, MR. CARLOS MARIN

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, it is with deep and heartfelt sympathy that I join my colleagues today in conveying my sincere condolences on the death of my good friend, International Boundaries and Water Commissioner, Mr. Carlos Marin.

On September 17, 2008 aircraft wreckage located in the Sierra Madre mountain range was confirmed to be that of an airplane on which U.S. Commissioner Carlos Marin and Mexican Commissioner Arturo Herrera of the International Boundary and Water Commission were passengers.

At the time of this tragic accident, the Commissioners were traveling to assess Rio Grande flood conditions at Presidio, Texas-Ojinaga, Chihuahua and to coordinate joint response efforts.

Carlos Marin was a brilliant, enthusiastic, and devoted public servant. He played a lead role in the IBWC, overseeing flood control, sanitation, boundary demarcation, and mapping projects. It has been an immense pleasure to know and work with him over the course of my career. I have wholeheartedly enjoyed collaborating with him on innumerable projects along the U.S.-Mexico border. I have admired his ability to bring people together across borders and his dedication to and understanding of the U.S.-Mexican border region. We will all greatly miss his leadership and wisdom.

Above all, Carlos was an exceptional American. He will forever be remembered for his dedication to his country and for his tireless efforts to forge cooperation across borders in the name of the common good.

Madam Speaker, let me once again express my deep regret on learning of Carlos's death. I wish to portray my condolences to his wife, Rosa, his children, and family. All those whose lives he touched, directly or indirectly, mourn at his passing.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF SSG WAYNE CARRINGER

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of SSG Wayne Carringer of Robbinville, North Carolina, a courageous and highly decorated World War II veteran who was held for almost 3½ years as a prisoner of war.

Staff Sergeant Carringer enlisted in the Army in September 1939. He survived what has become known as the Bataan Death March, the march from Mariveles to San Fernando where the soldiers, already malnourished and weak, were brutally tortured or killed by the Japanese.

At the end of the march, the soldiers were transported to Camp O'Dell, which Staff Sergeant Carringer has described as a death factory. He was placed into the Zero Ward, the building where the Japanese put the soldiers that were expected to die. Eventually, he was moved to work in the Japanese coal mines, where he endured starvation, malnutrition, torture, beatings, solitary confinement, malaria, and slave labor. His weight plummeted to what he estimated was 80 to 85 pounds. After living as a prisoner of war for almost 3½ years, he emerged from captivity after the end of the war to find that the government had declared him dead in 1943. Staff Sergeant Carringer attributes his survival of the horrendous experience to his faith in God, and said that the experience increased his appreciation for his country and in his fellow man.

Every day we enjoy freedoms made possible by this heroic man and the thousands of other members of our military who have risked or given their lives to protect us, to ensure that the United States remains the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the bravery and sacrifice of SSG Wayne Carringer, and to thank him for defending and preserving the freedoms that each of us enjoys today.

HONORING MRS. EDNA PHARR

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Edna Pharr of Marietta, Mississippi on her 90th birthday. Edna is a cornerstone of the Marietta community, supporting her family members who have provided excellent local leadership to Marietta,

Prentiss County, Mississippi, She not only supported her husband in his role as the long serving supervisor of the fourth district of Prentiss County, she also supported her son-in-law in that same role. Edna herself later became the supervisor of the fourth District of Prentiss County and is the only woman to ever hold the position. Today, she and her family continue their tradition of service with her daughter, Judy, serving as mayor of the Town of Marietta. Edna worked hard for many years making an honest living at the town's only factory. A member of the Marietta Church of Christ for her whole life, she is one of the longest serving members of the congregation. I am proud to honor her on this milestone birthday and wish her many more. I thank her for her wisdom and humor. Edna has been a lifelong friend to me and my family and I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating her on this occasion.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL LATINO
AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sixth annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day which will be observed on October 15, 2008.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a call to action for all Latinos to protect their lives and the lives of those they love by getting tested and learning about HIV.

In my district in Orange County, CA, over half of all new HIV infections take place among Latinos. Nationwide, Latinos continue to be affected by HIV at a disproportionately high rate, representing over 20 percent of HIV/AIDS cases.

The AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County is a critical resource that works to prevent the spread of HIV and improve the lives of men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS. This year, they have arranged for rapid HIV testing to be available at the Community Health Fair taking place in downtown Santa Ana, in my district, as a part of Binational Health Week in October 2008.

In addition, the AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County offers invaluable services to our community by providing food, transportation, housing, emergency financial assistance, kids and family programs, counseling, education, and prevention services.

We all must work together to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in our families, communities, cities, States, Nation, and around the globe. To do this we must not let differences in language and culture be a barrier to providing access to preventative measures, healthcare, and support services.

In honor of National Latino AIDS Day, I urge my colleagues in Congress and all Americans to renew our commitment to the fight to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF PLANE
CRASH

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest condolences to the families of IBWC U.S. Commissioner Carlos Marin, IWBC Mexican Commissioner Arturo Herrera, Executive Director of the Rio Grande Council of Governments Jake Brisbin, Jr., and pilot Matthew Peter Juneau. These four men were tragically killed in a plane crash.

I had the privilege of working with Commissioners Marin and Herrera on numerous issues affecting south Texas. They were strong advocates of continued cooperation between the United States and Mexico. Their service to the IBWC was matched by their dedication to improving the quality of life between the two nations.

I will keep the families in my thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO PAT O'BRIEN, GEN-
ERAL MANAGER OF THE EAST
BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues ELLEN TAUSCHER, BARBARA LEE, PETE STARK, and JERRY MCNERNEY in honoring Pat O'Brien for his many accomplishments and contributions to the East Bay Regional Park District, a world-class system of parks and trails throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Pat O'Brien has provided remarkable leadership as the general manager of the East Bay Regional Park District, and our congressional districts have been greatly enhanced by his two decades of service. On the 20th anniversary of his leadership there, it is our great privilege to pay tribute to his work in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

His service to public parks and recreation in California began at the Southgate Recreation and Park District in the Sacramento area. Due to his innovative ideas and pioneering work at Southgate, he was hired as the East Bay Regional Park District's general manager. Over the next 20 years, Pat has accomplished more than many could in a lifetime of service.

Under his leadership, the park district has acquired over 32,000 acres of new parklands, and has added 17 parks and more than 100 miles of regional trails. The East Bay Regional Park District today includes 98,000 acres and 65 parks, a remarkable achievement in protecting and providing open space access to the citizens of one of the densely developed regions of the country. And while expanding to ensure that all of our communities are served, Pat O'Brien and the East Bay Regional Park District have built strong relationships throughout the region so that their important projects and initiatives have widespread support.

The East Bay Regional Park District during Pat O'Brien's tenure has been a wise steward

not only over the parks, trails, and natural and cultural resources of the East Bay Area, but of the taxpayers' money as well. The Park District has brought in more than \$75 million in matching funds, and they have worked through ballot measures and assessment districts to provide stable funding for their good work.

Pat O'Brien's public service is an example to us all, and we are lucky to have his vision and his commitment in the East Bay. We have all benefited by his leadership, and on behalf of all of our constituents, it is an honor to recognize Pat O'Brien on the occasion of his 20th anniversary as general manager of the East Bay Regional Park District.

HONORING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF
PAUL GUERRERO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Paul Guerrero on his 80th birthday. Mr. Guerrero is a long-time advocate for minority small business concerns and was named San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Advocate of the Year in 2006. Prior to moving to the Central Valley, Mr. Guerrero and his family lived in Santa Clara County, and I worked closely with him to ensure that minority and women contractors had a fair opportunity to bid on government contracts. Mr. Guerrero serves on the Board of Directors for the California Small Business Association and is the President and CEO of the California Small Business Entrepreneurs, Inc. Mr. Guerrero is a strong leader of the small business community, and I am honored to have him as a friend.

On behalf of Mr. Guerrero's family and friends, I would like to congratulate him on this milestone birthday and wish him many more to come.

HONORING JAMES "JIMMY" C.
PHARR

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James "Jimmy" C. Pharr on his 74th birthday. Jimmy has a long record as a leader in the Marietta, Prentiss County, Mississippi community. He served for years as an alderman and mayor of Marietta and the community has grown under his leadership. He was also one of the founding members of the Prentiss County Development Association, an entity that continues to be the cornerstone for economic growth in Prentiss County. Jimmy continues to support Marietta's schools, churches, and civic organizations and is the owner of local sawmills, employing hard-working people in the town. At an age when many others choose to retire, he goes to work at the sawmill every day. I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing James "Jimmy" C. Pharr, for whom I have great respect, for his life of service to the town of

Marietta, Prentiss County and the great State of Mississippi on his 74th birthday.

HONORING SUNKIST ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL IN ANAHEIM, CA ON ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sunkist Elementary School in Anaheim, California to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

I am especially thrilled to honor Sunkist Elementary today, because aside from being one of the fine elementary schools in my district, Sunkist Elementary is also the elementary school that I attended.

For the past 50 years, my alma mater has provided a fun and welcoming environment to each student that has stepped foot on campus.

On my last visit to Sunkist Elementary, I met with their after-school program, Anaheim Achieves.

Anaheim Achieves focuses on providing students with additional individual assistance that they need to excel in the classroom.

I'm proud that Sunkist Elementary has recognized this need and worked to assure that every student has the tools they need to achieve academic success.

Congratulations to Sunkist Elementary on providing 50 years of excellence in student learning.

CONGRATULATING NEW HOPE
INTERNATIONAL CHURCH ON
THEIR NEW FACILITY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the New Hope International Church in Sunnyvale, CA on their new facility. The New Hope International Church, led by Pastor John Christenson, will have a dedication ceremony on October 5, 2008 for the 34,000-square-foot building. The New Hope International Church is an asset to the Greater Bay Area community, and this new facility will help the church further its mission. I would like to commend Pastor Christenson and his congregation on this momentous achievement.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is September 27, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000

more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 13,032 days since the tragedy called *Roe v. Wade* was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So, Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 13,032 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is September 27, 2008, 13,032 days since *Roe versus Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

IN HONOR OF WORLD PHILOSOPHY
DAY 2008

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize World Philosophy Day 2008, sponsored by the Philosophy Program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This year, World Philosophy Day will take place on November 20. On this occasion, numerous events to recognize this day occur in many UNESCO member states, and Delaware is privileged to join with these organizations and schools in doing so.

It is especially fitting that World Philosophy Day be recognized and celebrated in the United States, as it has been since 2002. The United States is perhaps unique in the world as a nation founded on the ideas of liberty, equality, and democracy. Thomas Jefferson, in drafting our "Declaration of Independence", drew heavily from the writings of British Philosopher John Locke. Likewise, the framers of the United States Constitution were greatly influenced by the French Philosophers Voltaire, Jean Jacques Rousseau and Baron de Montesquieu, the latter shaping the American understanding of separation of governmental powers. Philosophy continues to play a profound role in the development of American thought in many areas, including public policy, religion, the sciences, and jurisprudence.

It is also especially fitting that World Philosophy Day be recognized and celebrated in Delaware. The American Philosophical Association (APA), founded in 1901, is headquartered at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware. The APA is the largest philosophical society in the world, with over 11,000 members. According to its mission, this long-standing organization focuses on promoting philosophical research and scholarly endeavors, improving the quality of philosophical education in American schools and universities, and working to better equip American students to face the challenges of our rapidly changing and greatly diversified world.

Once again, I am pleased to stand to recognize World Philosophy Day 2008. The critical and analytical skills that remain at the core of philosophy are increasingly vital to education in our State of Delaware, our nation, and our world. For this reason it is particularly appropriate to join with UNESCO in setting aside November 20 to celebrate the ancient yet always relevant discipline of philosophy.

PRIORITIZING RESOURCES AND ORGANIZATION FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support for S. 3325, the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008. This critical legislation will not only provide more resources for law enforcement to enforce existing copyright laws, it will also promote better coordination of U.S. intellectual property policy in the executive branch.

These are two important policy goals for my constituents in Tennessee's 7th District. Tennessee's economic engine is built upon the strength of the creative community's intellectual property, and industries from auto manufacturing, film and entertainment, recording arts, and live performance depend on the Federal government enforcing their property rights.

The music industry in Nashville and Memphis alone accounts for nearly \$7 billion in economic impact per year, and create than 20,000 jobs. Film, television, and cable broadcasting account for bills more. In 2004, for example, the Oscar-winning film *Walk the Line* shot for over 45 days in Memphis and Nashville, generating between \$18 and \$20 million in economic impact for the local economy, and hundreds of high paying jobs. And before Nissan moved its North American headquarters to the Nashville area, Tennessee was already home to nearly 1000 auto-related manufacturers, 159,000 jobs, and a payroll of over \$6.6 billion.

These industries are based on the development, nourishment, and incubation of intellectual ideas before they evolve into marketable products. This process is not free, and instead dependent on an implicit understanding that appropriate compensation will result from investment and hard work.

Unfortunately, these industries are suffering from rampant theft of their intellectual property online, and in marketplaces around the world to the tune of \$58 billion each year. The Institute for Policy Innovation estimates intellectual property theft and copyright infringement costs American workers 373,375 jobs per year, \$16.3 billion in earnings, and \$2.6 billion in tax revenue for governments at every level.

These statistics are alarming and unacceptable, but demonstrate the U.S. must continue a vigilant effort to increase enforcement efforts. S. 3325 would provide the Federal government with new tools and information sharing capabilities consistent with this important goal, and I urge all my colleagues to support it.

CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, this bill will provide the necessary funding to keep federal agencies up and running through March 6, 2009. While most agencies will continue to be funding at fiscal year 2008 levels there are three agencies, the Department of Defense, Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Homeland Security, that will receive full-year funding at fiscal year 2009 levels.

This massive funding bill is necessary in part because Congress lacked the will to consider fiscal year 2009 funding through the regular legislative process. Had each of the 13 annual appropriations bills been deliberated separately there would have been an opportunity to debate and reform portions of federal spending. Debate and reformation are an important part of the process because they allow funding to be shifted to more accurately reflect the priorities and needs of the American people.

With our economy in crisis it is more important than ever to ensure a budget that creates jobs and improves job security for hardworking Americans, provides all citizens with healthcare and affords an exemplary education for our children that will give them the skills to compete in today and tomorrow's world. It is significant that the federal budget in fiscal year 2008 was not reflective of my constituents' needs and priorities.

Unemployment is continuing to rise. The latest unemployment statistics show that our national unemployment is at 6.1 percent and Ohio's unemployment is now 7 percent. At the same time the number of jobs vanishing in America outpaces the number of jobs being created. This net loss of jobs coupled with high unemployment is a disastrous combination. Home foreclosures continue to rise and more families are expected to fall behind. In Cleveland the foreclosure crisis continues to worsen substantially. 47 million Americans have no health insurance and another 50 million Americans remain underinsured.

Fiscal year 2008 appropriations bills dedicated only approximately 6 percent of the discretionary budget to education, training, employment and social services. Roughly another 5 percent was dedicated to health, 4 percent for services and benefits for our veterans and approximately 5 percent was devoted to income security. The vast majority, over 50 percent, of the discretionary budget was spent on national defense. In addition, the Department of Defense budget has received a 6 percent increase between fiscal years 2008, and 2009 while the Departments of Education, Labor and Health and Human Services will continue to be funded at fiscal year 2008 spending levels.

The United States military is unmatched. We outspend the rest of the world combined two to one. Yet the bill follows a misguided strategy of buying weapons that provide Americans with no increased safety. This bill fails to

match real threats to our security with appropriate defensive measures. Our foreign policy should promote economic stability worldwide, thereby eliminating the true roots of terrorism, desperation. This bill does the opposite by swelling policies of fear and aggression. H.R. 2638 contains a host of provisions that do a grave disservice to the American public.

This bill devotes \$10 billion to missile defense. These funds include a third interceptor site for the Ground-Based Mid-Course Defense (GMD) program despite a lack of assurance that the system will work or is needed for the safety of our nation. Congress' continued funding of the GMD only lends credence to the Administration's misguided claims the system is necessary to defend the U.S. from a long-range ballistic missile attack from Iran despite the fact that Iran is unlikely to pose such a threat to the United States in the foreseeable future.

Furthermore, the bill appropriates \$3.6 billion for the Army's future combat systems; \$2.9 billion for the Air Force's next generation aircraft the F/A-22 Raptor and \$3.6 billion for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter which is a next generation aircraft for use by the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps.

The security of America lies not in defense spending but in ensuring well paid jobs for hard-working Americans, guaranteed health care and a strong education for our nation's youth. We must shift our priorities because our current spending trends are threatening our social fabric and economic security.

Another detrimental provision in the bill allows the longstanding moratorium on drilling on the outer continental shelf to expire, which is a policy that will provide virtually no relief from high gas prices in the short or long term. It will instead lock us further into an unsustainable energy future and pave the way for drilling in our precious Great Lakes, our drinking water source. If we were serious about lowering prices now, we would focus on that which can actually make a difference now, which is energy efficiency and curbing the profit seeking behavior of the oil industry.

Although the budget priorities in this bill are out of touch, it does contain important provisions that are needed by the American people and by my constituents in Ohio's tenth district. These programs and others all have merit, deserve more funding and will have a positive impact during these tough economic times. Unfortunately this bill holds these admirable initiatives hostage to our nation's bloated and often counterproductive defense spending.

For example, this bill provides an increase of \$23.5 million over fiscal year 2008 for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). In Cleveland and around the nation families are turning to food pantries for emergency food assistance. Food pantries are continuing to experience increased demand and are finding it increasingly difficult to meet the needs of the community. As jobs continue to decline and food and fuel prices continue to rise, more middle-class families are seeking this emergency food assistance.

This bill will provide an additional \$1 billion over fiscal year 2008 funding levels for the Nutrition for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program to help combat the struggles families face with rising food costs. The bill grants \$2.5 billion more than the fiscal year 2008 level for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to ensure that families

stay warm in the upcoming winter months. I also support the \$250 million for weatherization programs that will help families lower their energy use and combat the hardships associated with increasing energy costs.

This bill contains \$7.51 billion to carry out the \$25 billion Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program. These funds are critical to our domestic automobile industry because they will help manufactures to re-equip and expand U.S. facilities to produce high fuel-efficiency vehicles and parts. This program is important in Brook Park, Ohio at the Ford manufacturing plant, where the equipment currently used to manufacture the six-cylinder engines will need to be replaced to accommodate demand for fuel-efficient cars. This can help to ensure that jobs in Cleveland are secure as well as pave the way for additional jobs by transitioning to the vehicles of tomorrow such as hybrid electric cars and fuel cells.

While help for the auto industry is clearly long overdue we are allotting this money without a broader and more comprehensive strategy that addresses the problem, not the symptoms. Building the plants of tomorrow is a good step but without rethinking and reforming our flawed NAFTA-style trade policies, the U.S. automobile industry will remain under threat. Triggering surges in automotive imports into the United States while limiting the demand of U.S. made products at home and access to markets abroad exacerbates U.S. competitiveness. These faulty trade policies are responsible for enormous auto trade deficits and the loss of tens of thousands of well paid American jobs.

This body must stop passing legislation that does not reflect the real needs and priorities of the American people. We cannot continue to spend approximately half of our total federal budget dollars on the development of weapons systems and excessive military capabilities while the American people go without jobs, health care and good schools. We owe the American people better.

BLAME FANNIE MAE AND
CONGRESS FOR THE CREDIT MESS

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I submit the following article for the RECORD.

[From the Wall Street Journal, 23 Sept. 2008]

BLAME FANNIE MAE AND CONGRESS FOR THE
CREDIT MESS

(By Charles W. Calomiris and Peter J.
Wallison)

Many monumental errors and misjudgments contributed to the acute financial turmoil in which we now find ourselves. Nevertheless, the vast accumulation of toxic mortgage debt that poisoned the global financial system was driven by the aggressive buying of subprime and Alt-A mortgages, and mortgage-backed securities, by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The poor choices of these two government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs)—and their sponsors in Washington—are largely to blame for our current mess.

How did we get here? let's review: in order to curry congressional support after their ac-

counting scandals in 2003 and 2004, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac committed to increased financing of "affordable housing." They became the largest buyers of subprime and Alt-A mortgages between 2004 and 2007, with total GSE exposure eventually exceeding \$1 trillion. In doing so, they stimulated the growth of the subpar mortgage market and substantially magnified the costs of its collapse.

It is important to understand that, as GSEs, Fannie and Freddie were viewed in the capital markets as government-backed buyers (a belief that has now been reduced to fact). Thus they were able to borrow as much as they wanted for the purpose of buying mortgages and mortgage-backed securities. Their buying patterns and interests were followed closely in the markets. If Fannie and Freddie wanted subprime or Alt-A loans, the mortgage markets would produce them. By late 2004, Fannie and Freddie very much wanted subprime and Alt-A loans. Their accounting had just been revealed as fraudulent, and they were under pressure from Congress to demonstrate that they deserved their considerable privileges. Among other problems, economists at the Federal Reserve and Congressional Budget Office had begun to study them in detail, and found that—despite their subsidized borrowing rates—they did not significantly reduce mortgage interest rates. In the wake of Freddie's 2003 accounting scandal, Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan became a powerful opponent, and began to call for stricter regulation of the GSEs and limitations on the growth of their highly profitable, but risky, retained portfolios.

If they were not making mortgages cheaper and were creating risks for the taxpayers and the economy, what value were they providing? The answer was their affordable-housing mission. So it was that, beginning in 2004, their portfolios of subprime and Alt-A loans and securities began to grow. Subprime and Alt-A originations in the U.S. rose from less than 8% of all mortgages in 2003 to over 20% in 2006. During this period the quality of subprime loans also declined, going from fixed rate, long-term amortizing loans to loans with low down payments and low (but adjustable) initial rates, indicating that originators were scraping the bottom of the barrel to find product for buyers like the GSEs.

The strategy of presenting themselves to Congress as the champions of affordable housing appears to have worked. Fannie and Freddie retained the support of many in Congress, particularly Democrats, and they were allowed to continue unrestrained. Rep. Barney Frank (D., Mass.), for example, now the chair of the House Financial Services Committee, openly described the "arrangement" with the GSEs at a committee hearing on GSE reform in 2003: "Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have played a very useful role in helping to make housing more affordable . . . a mission that this Congress has given them in return for some of the arrangements which are of some benefit to them to focus on affordable housing." The hint to Fannie and Freddie was obvious: Concentrate on affordable housing and, despite your problems, your congressional support is secure.

In light of the collapse of Fannie and Freddie, both John McCain and Barack Obama now criticize the risk-tolerant regulatory regime that produced the current crisis. But Sen. McCain's criticisms are at least credible, since he has been pointing to systemic risks in the mortgage market and trying to do something about them for years. In contrast, Sen. Obama's conversion as a financial reformer marks a reversal from his actions in previous years, when he did nothing to disturb the status quo. The first head of Mr. Obama's vice-presidential search com-

mittee, Jim Johnson, a former chairman of Fannie Mae, was the one who announced Fannie's original affordable-housing program in 1991—just as Congress was taking up the first GSE regulatory legislation.

In 2005, the Senate Banking Committee, then under Republican control, adopted a strong reform bill, introduced by Republican Sens. Elizabeth Dole, John Sununu and Chuck Hagel, and supported by then chairman Richard Shelby. The bill prohibited the GSEs from holding portfolios, and gave their regulator prudential authority (such as setting capital requirements) roughly equivalent to a bank regulator. In light of the current financial crisis, this bill was probably the most important piece of financial regulation before Congress in 2005 and 2006. All the Republicans on the Committee supported the bill, and all the Democrats voted against it. Mr. McCain endorsed the legislation in a speech on the Senate floor. Mr. Obama, like all other Democrats, remained silent.

Now the Democrats are blaming the financial crisis on "deregulation." This is a canard. There has indeed been deregulation in our economy—in long-distance telephone rates, airline fares, securities brokerage and trucking, to name just a few—and this has produced much innovation and lower consumer prices. But the primary "deregulation" in the financial world in the last 30 years permitted banks to diversify their risks geographically and across different products, which is one of the things that has kept banks relatively stable in this storm.

As a result, U.S. commercial banks have been able to attract more than \$100 billion of new capital in the past year to replace most or their subprime-related write-downs. Deregulation of branching restrictions and limitations on bank product offerings also made possible bank acquisition of Bear Stearns and Merrill Lynch, saving billions in likely resolution costs for taxpayers.

If the Democrats had let the 2005 legislation come to a vote, the huge growth in the subprime and Alt-A loan portfolios or Fannie and Freddie could not have occurred, and the scale of the financial meltdown would have been substantially less. The same politicians who today decry the lack of intervention to stop excess risk taking in 2005-2006 were the ones who blocked the only legislative effort that could have stopped it.

A TRIBUTE TO SAINT JOHN'S
FOUNDATION BOARD TRUSTEE
JERRY B. EPSTEIN AND HIS BE-
LOVED WIFE, PAT, FOR THEIR
MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
COMMUNITY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friends, Jerry B. Epstein and his remarkable wife, Pat, who are being honored on October 11 with the Spirit of Saint John's Award at the 2008 Caritas Gala at the Beverly Wilshire in Beverly Hills, California.

To fully capture the breadth of this extraordinary couple's service to Saint John's and the community at large, I would like to share with my colleagues a tribute written by members of the Saint John's Health Center Foundation family. My husband Ed and I have had the privilege of knowing this remarkable couple for many years, I feel the tribute captures Jerry and Pat's tireless work to make Saint John's the quality health center it is today. It also

highlights their many other contributions to the Los Angeles community they hold so dear.

The foundation's tribute reads, "Pat and Jerry's love for Saint John's is apparent in the enthusiasm and passion they bring to each project they embrace. When asked why they have chosen to devote so much of their time and energy to the Health Center, Jerry will tell you that having a place like Saint John's is absolutely essential—as important as having food to eat and a roof over your head."

Jerry joined the Saint John's Foundation Board of Trustees in 1975 and was elected Chairman in 2006 and 2007. He has actively participated in numerous hospital and foundation initiatives including leadership of the Development Oversight Committee, Building Committee, Leadership Giving, Jimmy Stewart Relay Marathon Committee, Chautauqua Inaugural Committee, The Saint John's Legacy Project and the Campaign for Saint John's. He currently serves as a member of the Foundation Executive Committee and Board of Counselors. During the design and construction of the new Health Center campus, Jerry's vast knowledge and experience in large-scale real estate development have been invaluable to Saint John's.

Jerry's commitment to Saint John's is matched by his wife and 60 year life-long partner, Pat, whose contributions have touched everyone in the Saint John's family. As one of the founding members of the Irene Dunne Guild, she continues to be an integral part of this important support group. She is a committee member of the Women's Health Initiative and serves on several fundraising event committees. Pat has graciously hosted countless dinners and special events in their home to introduce friends and neighbors to Saint John's.

The Epsteins' dedication to Saint John's is rivaled only by their pride for the State of California. Jerry is a true real estate visionary and since 1952 has been involved in the development, construction and management of major building projects in Los Angeles. One of the highlights of his extremely successful career in real estate is the development of Marina del Rey, the largest pleasure boat harbor community in the world.

Jerry's leadership in civic affairs extends to all sectors of the community and he has proudly served every California governor since Ronald Reagan on state boards and commissions, including the California Transportation Commission and California High Speed Rail Authority, City of Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners and Los Angeles State Building Authority, all of which he served as president.

A dedicated student of history, Jerry collects memorabilia associated with the Founding Fathers and other great American statesmen. He is perhaps most proud of the collection he recently donated to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, which included an original copy of the Declaration of Independence: plus documents and letters signed by every signatory of the Declaration, including Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and John Hancock.

Pat and Jerry's energy is boundless when it comes to making a difference in their community. Jerry serves on the board of directors of The Jewish Federation of Los Angeles and a three-person committee overseeing the construction of the new L.A. County USC and

Harbor UCLA Medical Centers. Pat is an officer of the Beverly Hills Hadassah and a member of the Governing Board of FIDM/The Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, one of the largest institutions of its kind in the Nation. A gifted artist, sculptor and collector, Pat is also a member of the city's artistic community and is passionate about the time she spends in her studio, Studio Eight, sculpting in different mediums."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the entire Roybal family in paying tribute to Pat and Jerry for their generosity, dedication and love for Saint John's Health Center, the greater Los Angeles region and the state of California. They have given selflessly of their time, creativity, talent and financial resources to many important causes and it is with great pride that I join Saint John's in recognizing them for their significant and ongoing contributions to our communities.

COMMENDING JOSEE DUCHESNEAU'S 25 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Josee Duchesneau, who has admirably served this House and the 12th District of Florida for 25 years. She began her career working for Congressman Andy Ireland in 1983 in his Lakeland office. Josee then continued her service to the people of Florida when Congressman Charles Canady was elected to that seat in 1992.

Upon my election to Congress in 2000, Josee joined my staff bringing years of experience, wisdom and dedication to public service. Since then, she has tirelessly worked for thousands of constituents in central Florida as well as servicing as a mentor to her colleagues.

The many constituents in the 12th District of Florida owe the successful outcome of their complex casework to Josee Duchesneau. Josee's work on immigration cases, among others, has helped countless people experience the true American Dream. The unparalleled efforts on behalf of constituents and their loved ones have made life changing impacts throughout central Florida.

Josee has dedicated her entire career to serving those in the 12th Congressional District and embodies everything that the American taxpayer deserves in a civil servant. The House of Representatives, the State of Florida and our entire nation owe Josee a debt of gratitude for the service she has provided to so many. I know I speak for her colleagues in Washington, DC, and Bartow when I say we that she epitomizes what it truly means to give selflessly; we are proud of her many accomplishments and look forward to the many constituents she will assist in the years to come.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Josee Duchesneau for her 25 years of service to the House of Representatives. On behalf of the 12th Congressional District, I would like to thank Josee for her diligent efforts and continued success.

IN HONOR OF DR. GERALD M. LEMOLE, M.D., 2008 RECIPIENT OF THE WILMINGTON SENIOR CENTER'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Dr. Gerald M. Lemole, M.D. Dr. Lemole is the 2008 recipient of the Wilmington Senior Center's Lifetime Achievement Award. The Wilmington Senior Center bestows this prestigious award upon an older adult whose accomplishments are particularly laudable. As one of our nation's foremost cardiothoracic surgeons, Dr. Lemole is certainly deserving of such an honor.

Following his graduation from Villanova University in 1958 and after earning his doctor of medicine degree from Temple University in 1962, Dr. Lemole completed an internship at Staten Island University and his residency at Temple University Hospital. From 1967 to 1969, Dr. Lemole received cardiac training from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. Serving as an instructor in surgery at Baylor in 1968, he was part of the surgical team that performed the first successful heart transplant in the United States.

Returning to Temple University in 1969, Dr. Lemole quickly made his mark on the Tri-State area, performing the first coronary bypass that same year. At 32, he became Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Temple University, Chief of Surgery at Deborah Heart and Lung Center at 35, and a full professor of surgery at Temple University at 38, making him one of the youngest individuals in the United States to achieve such a position. Dr. Lemole relocated to Delaware in 1986 in order to establish our State's first open heart surgery program, where he has since continued to save numerous lives as well as train and mentor other promising surgeons on the staff in the Christiana Care Health System. He also serves on the staff at A.I. Dupont Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware, along with several hospitals in the Greater Philadelphia area.

As an accomplished physician and brilliant instructor, Dr. Lemole has lectured extensively and authored many articles for various publications. He has served as a visiting professor at several colleges and universities both in the United States and abroad, including the University of Istanbul, where he performed Turkey's first successful coronary bypass surgery in 1982.

I thank and acknowledge Dr. Gerald Lemole for his dedicated service to our nation and the State of Delaware. With honed precision and an exceptional medical mind, Dr. Lemole has touched countless lives in his over forty years of surgical practice. He is a truly worthy recipient of the Wilmington Senior Center's Lifetime Achievement Award.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Rep. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy Account.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: McGee Industries Incorporated.

Address of Requesting Entity: Nine Crozerville Road, PO Box 2425, Aston, PA 19014.

Description of Request: The next generation aircraft carriers will be built using new-technology that replaces the traditional steam catapults with an Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS). The environment around aircraft carrier catapults is among the most corrosive (i.e. seawater spray, heat, deck contaminants) with which the Navy must contend. No reliable corrosion or fracture data exists for the new EMALS materials and configuration operating in a catapult-like environment. A T & E program initiated to develop design-specific corrosion data under simulated catapult conditions needs to be continued in order to permit further design refinement, that will: (1) prevent premature component failures (2) minimize costly fleet maintenance and (3) enhance operational readiness.

Corrosion protection is an important element in producing a durable, highly reliable EMALS that will meet or exceed all Navy performance goals. It can be expected that unforeseen corrosion issues will arise as full-scale development, testing, and implementation of the EMALS proceeds. There is a window to generate corrosion data and recommend changes through 2009. Corrosion fatigue and stress corrosion cracking are critical problems that if addressed correctly, would improve performance, extend their life cycle and lower Operation and Maintenance costs for the carriers and their test facilities. Fracture mechanics testing of various corrosion control alternatives in a realistically simulated environment is required to resolve these concerns.

Detailed Finance Plan—McGee Industries: The total cost of this program has been valued at \$3,000,000. We will need to design and develop load frames that will replicate the harsh catapult trough environment. Test equipment will need to be built that simulates the heat extremes, vibration effects, various deck contaminate and their effects on corrosion. All of these parameters will need to be monitored on a periodic basis to assure that we are simulating the EMALS operating conditions. At present we plan to evaluate more than 20 different chemicals and coatings.

The research program planned will follow the direction of the testing results and the direction of appropriate NAVAIR personnel. We estimate that we will need man hours for chemists, engineers, technicians and laboratory services as well as clerical and administrative support.

Breakdown of the Requested Funding:

\$750,000 for Design and Test Equipment.

\$350,000 for Laboratory Supplies and Equipment.

\$550,000 for Man Hours for Chemists, Engineers, Technicians.

\$150,000 Administrative, Travel,

\$200,000 Research Institutes.

Though this program is specifically directed at the EMALS system controlled by NAVAIR, McGee Industries plans to include updates pertinent to NAVSEA. Corrosion issues and improved corrosion protection are a problem

throughout all military branches due to the age of existing equipment and the harsh environments which they must operate in successfully. Thus, this program offers conditioned maintenance improvements for the Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard.

CONGRATULATING ECUMENICAL ENTERPRISES INC. ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROVIDING SAFE, AFFORDABLE, HOUSING IN NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Ecumenical Enterprises Inc., of Dallas, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, for 40 years of providing quality housing to those with low or moderate incomes and those who are elderly, handicapped or disabled.

Recognizing the need for such housing in the late 1960s, a group of concerned religious and lay leaders headed by the late Rev. Dr. Jule Ayers and Monsignor Donald McAndrews began meeting to discuss ways and means to address this growing housing issue.

That effort led to the formation of Ecumenical enterprises Inc. sponsored by four diverse but socially committed religious bodies including the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre; the Roman Catholic Diocese of Scranton, the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre and the Metropolitan Lutheran Council of Wyoming Valley.

Subsequently, this fledgling agency began experimenting with single family home development and later moved into larger, multi-family, apartment complexes in Wilkes-Barre City, Dallas Borough and Wyoming Borough. EEI at this time also began addressing the needs of the elderly, the disabled and the handicapped.

As EEI moved into the 1980s, it realized there was a need for housing for those who could no longer live independently. After a tremendous effort, EEI began the construction of a skilled nursing facility in 1983.

In due course, EEI developed more housing facilities in West Pittston Borough, Kingston Township and Glen Lyon in Luzerne County and at Honesdale, in Wayne County.

Throughout its history, Monsignor McAndrews has remained a remarkable counselor and a leader committed to improving the quality of life for others. In appreciation, Msgr. McAndrews is being presented with a "Founders" award by EEI.

EEI has also been blessed with the fine co-operation of Wachovia Bank, now under the leadership of Thomas F. Capone, Area Executive Officer. Wachovia is also being honored by EEI with its "Partners in Caring" award this year.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ecumenical Enterprises Inc. for the extraordinary leadership in community service it has provided for four decades during which it has touched the lives of thousands of people and endeared itself to multiple generations who lives have been comforted and enriched by its very existence.

HONORING DON CHARLEVOIX ON HIS RETIREMENT AS SHERIFF OF DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dickinson County Sheriff Don Charlevoix. Sheriff Charlevoix, Dickinson County, Michigan's longest serving sheriff, will retire at the end of this year after 31 years in law enforcement. As a former Michigan State Trooper, I have a special appreciation for the service of public servants like Sheriff Charlevoix, and I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in paying tribute to his 20 years of service with the Dickinson County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Charlevoix started his law enforcement career in 1977 with the Northern Michigan University Public Safety Department from 1977 to 1983. He worked for the Marinette City Police Department for a short time, and then the Norway Police Department from 1983 to 1988 prior to being elected sheriff in 1989.

Sheriff Charlevoix instituted many changes in the Dickinson County Sheriff's Office over the years and developed an outstanding and dedicated staff of law enforcement officers and employees. In addition to guiding the office through several expansion projects, Don Charlevoix continued to acquire numerous grants and successfully maintained and developed valuable programs such as D.A.R.E., Marine, Snowmobile, ORV Patrols as well as airport and courthouse security programs.

As a former president of the Michigan Sheriff's Association, Sheriff Charlevoix is widely recognized by his peers as one of Michigan's top sheriffs. He was instrumental in forging a truly cooperative working relationship among law enforcement agencies, county officials and numerous local governmental entities. In addition to overseeing a staff of 61 full and part-time employees at the Sheriff's Office and Correctional Center, Sheriff Charlevoix always found time to work and speak with the people he served and has always been completely dedicated to helping the public.

When he announced he would be retiring, Don told the Iron Mountain Daily News: "I will miss the people more than anything. Serving as your sheriff has truly been a pleasure and I will always look back fondly upon the many wonderful memories and relationships that we have developed over the years."

Don Charlevoix and his wife, Teresa, have a wonderful family and he hopes to spend more time with them when he retires. He plans to do some traveling and find some time to ride his motorcycle a little more. The Charlevoixs plan on staying in Dickinson County, in the place they love best.

Madam Speaker, the dedicated men and women who enforce the law to protect their communities rarely receive the praise they deserve. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join with me in congratulating Sheriff Donald Charlevoix on a job well done and in wishing him well in his retirement.

CELEBRATING CONNIE VALANOS' 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in wishing a happy 90th birthday to Connie Valanos, who has become a Capitol Hill institution as the owner of the landmark Monocle Restaurant.

Connie and Helen founded the Monocle in 1960 as a young couple. Over the years, leaders from Congress have regularly gathered at this fine restaurant to relax with their friends and colleagues. It has often been the scene of quiet discussions over legislative strategy and resolving differences between Democrats and Republicans.

Many a major problem has been solved over a meal at the Monocle. Many a friendship was made at these sessions. Politics is at its best when people solve problems by way of compromise. Connie has always known that Democrats and Republicans coming together and becoming friends leads to the best of compromise.

Madam Speaker, friends from the House of Representatives and the Senate will be gathering on his birthday October 6 to celebrate the great success of the nearly 50-year-old Capitol Hill restaurant. Please join me in wishing Connie and his entire family a great birthday and many more years of success.

A TRIBUTE TO CRAIG HANNEMAN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of our colleagues in Congress to a special leader in Oregon who for many years has been a tremendous public servant, citizen, and champion of the forest products industry, Mr. Craig Hanneman. Craig is currently the President of the Oregon Forest Industries Council (OFIC) and has announced his plans to retire early in 2009. Before this Congress adjourns for the year, I wanted to share some thoughts about what a special individual Craig is and the positive impact he has made on so many Oregonians.

Craig Hanneman was born and raised in Salem, the capital city of Oregon. He graduated from South Salem High School in 1967 and Oregon State University in 1972. Craig was a phenomenal All-American defensive end on OSU's football team, where he played under legendary coach Dee Andros, was team captain, and later inducted into OSU's Hall of Fame. This success led to Craig realizing every player's dream of being drafted into and then achieving success in the National Football League where he played for the Pittsburgh Steelers and New England Patriots. After years of devout training and extreme physical and mental endurance on the gridiron, Craig Hanneman didn't exactly coast into the next chapter of his professional life when his football career concluded.

Craig owned and managed a 200 acre farm and forest operation in Polk County, Oregon for seven years after his NFL career, where he honed his expertise in the agricultural and natural resource arena. Craig was elected County Commissioner of Polk County in 1985, and his determination and inclusive ways were instrumental in eliminating an inherited county budget deficit and establishing a \$1 million reserve fund without levying new taxes. Many Oregonians took notice of Craig's talents and effectiveness during his tenure as Commissioner, and this led in 1989 to Craig becoming the first Administrator of the new Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission. Agriculture and Natural Resources are the backbone of Oregon's vast rural areas, and during this time Craig became widely known and highly respected for his leadership skills and integrity. In 1990, Craig accepted the position of Government Affairs Manager at Willamette Industries, a historic, global forest products company founded in Dallas, Oregon in 1906. I was a member of the Oregon legislature and first began to work on issues with Craig then, and I am very fortunate that a great friendship followed.

Throughout 12 years at Willamette Industries, 2 years at the Weyerhaeuser Company (which bought Willamette Industries in 2002), and 5 years at OFIC, Craig has achieved a tremendous list of accomplishments and established a sterling reputation throughout Oregon and his industry nationally as a highly effective and inspiring leader of great integrity. Craig is the forest products industry's chief policy leader and political moral compass in Oregon, and his leadership has guided many very important and complex policy decisions. He always champions science over politics, and has a keen sense of when to hold firm. Craig's successes and personal attributes are simply too numerous to list so I thought sharing a few reflections I solicited from some of Craig's industry colleagues would best reveal the outstanding individual he is.

Paulette Pyle of Oregonians for Food & Shelter says "Craig Hanneman is the glue that holds the natural resource industry in Oregon together. He approaches every challenge with extensive and sincere thought, and is upright and honorable in every respect. He is the ultimate gentleman professional." Rick Sohn of Lone Rock Timber Management Company says "Craig is a peacemaker and is inclusive of other interests in forestry. He knows who his friends and allies are and brings us all together, and has created so many alliances that serve us well. He also knows his professional adversaries and does not cross the line with them." Allan Foutch of Miami Corporation Tree Farm says "Craig has always been a man of his word, and whatever he does, he makes sure it is the right thing to do." Dave Ivanoff of Hampton Affiliates says "Craig's business know-how, keen intellect, uncanny political instincts and incredible effectiveness in dealing with elected officials from both sides of the political spectrum have greatly contributed to OFIC's reputation as being one of the most effective trade associations in the nation."

Madam Speaker, as you can see, Craig Hanneman is a special leader. I would be remiss, however, if I didn't note that Craig is also a great family man. Craig and his wife, Kathy, an educator, have been married for 34 years. Together they have raised three out-

standing and successful children. Molly is a public servant here in our nation's capital, Paul is an Army Staff Sergeant serving his second tour in Iraq, and Annie is a junior at Oregon State University. They are as proud of their husband and father as he is of them.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking Craig Hanneman for all he has done for his community, state and nation. When Craig retires from full-time leadership in the forest products industry, he will be sorely missed. But I can say with confidence he will continue for many years to dedicate himself to his community and state as he always has, and I look forward to as many years of continued great friendship with him.

HONORING NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the Nebraska National Guard, who have recently returned from hurricane duty on the Gulf Coast.

Nearly 1,000 Guardsmen were called up September 2 to help the Gulf Coast recover from Hurricane Gustav. The deployment was the largest out of state domestic emergency response mission in the history of the Nebraska National Guard.

They were deployed to St. Francisville, Louisiana and then to Monroe, Louisiana—north of Baton Rouge. There they were assigned to security detail, making sure businesses were safe, and homes and families were protected. Other members delivered much needed supplies and assisted in clean up efforts.

I'm proud of these Nebraskans, and I'm proud of the job they did. I also want to take a moment to thank the families of our Guardsmen and the employers who provided the flexibility necessary for this deployment.

Finally, I want to welcome home these men and women who represent the best of Nebraska.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Rep. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

Bill Number: H.R. 2638

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Rutgers University

Address of Requesting Entity: 96 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8018

Description of Request:

This project is a partnership among Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

The Center will focus their work in several areas: critical infrastructure protection; preparedness and response to natural, accidental, and intentional disasters; information/intelligence assessment and analysis; health care/hospital preparedness and response; chemical, biological and radiological countermeasures; disaster and terror medicine; emergency communications; emergency response through innovative uses of rail transportation systems; and education and training for first-responders and local governments, and health and engineering professionals.

The application of our unique expertise in the combination of mathematical sciences, engineering, communications, transportation, medicine and health care, environmental and exposure science, basic societal services, and social/behavioral sciences will help prepare the military and the nation in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist attack.

Detailed Financial Plan:

Center Administration—\$200,000
R & D Projects—\$700,000
Info & Intelligence Analysis—\$200,000
Education & Training—\$144,000
Clinical & Health Care Preparedness and Response—\$200,000
Equipment—\$156,000
TOTAL—\$1,600,000

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GLORIA DAVIS

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Gloria Davis, for a lifetime of musical and theatrical accomplishments.

The child of Italian immigrants, Gloria was born to Anthony and Anna Pacchioli in Easton, Pennsylvania and has lived in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley most of her life. She married Irwin Davis, who ran Dave's Luncheonette in Allentown for 36 years. Gloria and Irwin raised two children, Shari and Robert, who would go on to bless them with four grandchildren, Patrick, Lauren, Brandon, and Becca.

Gloria studied singing at Juilliard and spent years touring the United States. As the first female musical director and orchestral conductor in the Lehigh Valley area, Ms. Davis put on thirty musicals, including Hair, George M. Cohen, Stop the World I Want to Get Off, Fiddler on the Roof, Annie, Oliver, No No Nnette, Hello Dolly, and La Cage Aux Folles and many others.

Gloria shared her voice with the world, touring across Europe from 1946 to 1948. During the 1950's, she actively supported our men and women in uniform, participating in three professional USO tours to entertain the troops in Asia and the South Pacific. Gloria has taught voice lessons to amateur and professional singers alike for over forty years, and she continues to coach aspiring singers to this day.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to Gloria Davis for all her work bringing music to the Lehigh Valley, the United States, and the world. She has made our community extremely proud.

HONORING THE LATE
REPRESENTATIVE JO ANN DAVIS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pause and remember the late Representative Jo Ann Davis who passed away last October after a courageous battle with breast cancer.

Jo Ann made history in 2000 when she was the first female Republican elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the Commonwealth of Virginia. In Congress, she was a passionate advocate for better government, lower taxes, and a strong defense. Jo Ann was a tireless advocate for our brave service members. She constantly supported legislation that strengthened our armed services and improved benefits for our men and women in uniform.

Jo Ann represented the people of the First District of Virginia with distinction. Through her service she set an example of courage in the face of adversity that we would all do well to emulate.

Jo Ann believed that God called her to service, and in her years of service to this nation, Jo Ann's faith never wavered. She regularly attended the Member's weekly prayer breakfast, and she was also a co-chair of the 2007 National Prayer Breakfast.

Jo Ann truly loved her family and our thoughts and prayers continue to be with her husband of 33 years, Chuck; her two sons Charles and Christopher; granddaughter Charlotte and the many family and friends who are still touched by her absence.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the late Representative Jo Ann Davis.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF PAUL
NEWMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Paul Newman, distinguished actor, entrepreneur, and philanthropist whose intelligent movie roles and dedication to promoting the common good has touched the lives of thousands of people.

Paul Newman was not only a Hollywood legend whose movie roles include "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and "The Hustler," but also an avid philanthropist who dedicated his life to creating opportunities for the economically disadvantaged and for other communities of need. He was nominated for ten Oscar Awards and won the best actor award in 1987 for his role in "The Color of Money." Mr. Newman was as big of a social activist as he was a movie star. In 1988, he founded Hole in the Wall Camps—a camp for children with life-threatening illnesses. Since then, camps have been held all over the world, including in the United States, Italy, Ireland, Hungary, and the United Kingdom, as well as in parts of Africa and Asia. Almost

200,000 children with life-threatening illnesses have attended Hole in the Wall Camps, making it the largest and most successful family of camps in the world.

In 1982, he founded Newman's Own natural food company, whose motto is "Shameless exploitation in pursuit of the common good", a reflection of his compassion, selflessness and dedication to advocating for vulnerable communities. Since its founding over 20 years ago, Newman's Own has raised over \$250 million dollars in proceeds, all of which is donated to educational and charitable causes around the world. Between the work of Hole in the Wall Camps and Newman's Own, Mr. Newman has advocated for peace, raised awareness for various social and economical issues, and has worked towards combating the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of a true humanitarian and legend, Paul Newman, whose inspiration and genius will continue to touch the lives of generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 647 and rollcall No. 662 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the February 2008 New Republican Earmark Standards Guidance, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congresswoman JO ANN EMERSON.

Account: Research, Development, Test And Evaluation, Army 98 0604710A Night Vision Systems—Sdd.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: DRS Technologies, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 McDaniel Street, West Plains, MO 65775.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$2,800,000 to complete development and qualification of the Common Remote Stabilized Sensor System (CRS3). This project has received \$2,100,000 in Congressionally directed funding to date and has been matched with \$1.3 million in internal recipient investment. The total development cost is estimated to be \$7.7 million. CRS3 would place sensor operators under armor, eliminating their exposure to snipers and IED's. In addition, it would allow the vehicles to conduct surveillance while on the move. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army account.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF STAFF SERGEANT WAYNE CARRINGER

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Staff Sergeant Wayne Carringer of Robbinsville, North Carolina, a courageous and highly decorated World War II veteran who was held for almost three and a half years as a prisoner of war.

Staff Sgt. Carringer enlisted in the Army in September of 1939. He survived what has become known as the Bataan Death March, the march from Mariveles to San Fernando where the soldiers, already malnourished and weak, were brutally tortured or killed by the Japanese.

At the end of the march, the soldiers were transported to Camp O'Dell, which Staff Sgt. Carringer has described as a death factory. He was placed into the Zero Ward, the building where the Japanese put the soldiers that were expected to die. Eventually, he was moved to work in the Japanese coal mines, where he endured starvation, malnutrition, torture, beatings, solitary confinement, malaria and slave labor. His weight plummeted to what he estimated was 80 to 85 pounds. After living as a prisoner of war for almost three and a half years, he emerged from captivity after the end of the war to find that the government had declared him dead in 1943. Staff Sgt. Carringer attributes his survival of the horrendous experience to his faith in God, and said that the experience increased his appreciation for his country and in his fellow man.

Every day we enjoy freedoms made possible by this heroic man and the thousands of other members of our military who have risked or given their lives to protect us, to ensure that the United States remains the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the bravery and sacrifice of Staff Sgt. Wayne Carringer, and to thank him for defending and preserving the freedoms that each of us enjoys today.

RETURN THE HERZOG COLLECTION TO ITS RIGHTFUL HEIR

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my continued deep frustration and concern about the injustice suffered by one of my constituents, Martha Nierenberg, an American citizen and Holocaust survivor whose family's artwork was stolen by the Nazis and now is in the hands of the Hungarian government. Mrs. Nierenberg has fought tirelessly to regain her family's legacy, yet the Hungarian government has failed to take morally appropriate steps to set historic wrongs right by returning Mrs. Nierenberg's artwork.

Mrs. Nierenberg grew up in Budapest, surrounded by the paintings collected by her grandfather, Mor Lipot Herzog, an avid art collector who amassed one of the largest private

collections of art in Hungary. When Hitler's troops invaded and occupied Hungary in March 1944, the Hungarian police and the Nazi SS stole the Herzog family art collection as part of the Nazi genocidal efforts to strip Jews of their lives and property. A young Mrs. Nierenberg escaped Hungary and eventually became an American citizen.

After WWII, Hungary, under control of a totalitarian government, came into possession of paintings that had been part of the Herzog Collection. Some of these paintings were even displayed in state-owned museums in Budapest and were described as belonging to the Herzog Collection. Despite agreeing to the 1998 Washington Conference on Holocaust Era-Assets, the government of Hungary has still not returned all of the Nierenberg family's art.

Under the Washington Principles, which the government endorsed, Hungary is required to try to come to a just and fair resolution of claims to Holocaust looted property. Today, I call on President Solyom and Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany to take a moral stand, rectify past wrongs, and return the Herzog collection to its rightful heir, Martha Nierenberg. This injustice has gone on for far too long and must be put right immediately.

KEN TREVETT: CHAMPION FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN THE SOUTH BAY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, the 36th District is known for more than its pristine beaches and year-round sunshine. We have our fair share of beakers and graduated cylinders, too. It is home to groundbreaking scientific discoveries, many of which come out of the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute in Torrance, formerly known as Harbor-UCLA Research & Education Institute. For the past 55 years, this institution has served as the beating heart of the biomedical research community—the modern cholesterol test and the paramedic model for emergency care are familiar inventions that LA BioMed created.

So, the news that Ken Trevett is leaving LA BioMed after 7 distinguished years as its CEO has left all of us with a sense of genuine loss.

LA BioMed owes its standing in the industry in large part to Ken's ability to commercialize its medical successes. His keen business sense helped efficiently convert new medical discoveries into the technologies that have helped thousands of patients. Ken's efforts propelled LA BioMed's profile in the industry, attracting the best researchers and doctors in the country to its laboratories. And its endowment has nearly quadrupled during his tenure.

Ken's success in science and business is matched by his extraordinary community service. He served as a member of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, South Bay Economic Development Partnership, and the LA Economic Development Corporation, not to mention numerous board memberships at organizations like the American Heart Association. And Ken has taken time to share his expertise and wisdom in classrooms across the South Bay with the next generation of scientists, doctors, and businessmen.

As a member of my "Medicine Cabinet," Ken's voice, though I often rib him about his Boston accent, has played a substantial role in helping shape my decisions on health care policy. His absence will be strongly felt.

I join those whose lives Ken has touched in wishing him and his family continued success at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio, TX.

HONORING DENNIS J. MAUFORT ON HIS RETIREMENT AS AREA DIRECTOR OF THE USDA IN THE UPPER PENINSULA

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Dennis Maufort on his retirement from the United States Department of Agriculture. Mr. Maufort will be retiring as Area Director for USDA in the Upper Peninsula after more than 37 years. I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring and thanking Dennis Maufort for his 37 years of service to our community, State, and country.

Born and raised in Menominee, MI, Dennis Maufort is a native of Michigan's Upper Peninsula and has been proud to serve his fellow community members these many years. Dennis Maufort and his wife, Karen, have been married for 34 years. Together they have two wonderful children. Dennis was active in coaching minor league baseball for 4 years and senior league baseball for 5 years in Gladstone while his children were young. He also served as his daughter's fifth and sixth grade basketball coach.

Dennis Maufort graduated from Western Michigan University in 1971 with a degree in agriculture and a minor in general business. He went to work for what was then called the USDA Farmers Home Administration in June 1971 as an Assistant County Supervisor in the Marquette County Office. He served the residents of Marquette, Dickinson, and Alger Counties, providing single-family home loans and working with area farmers to provide loan and grant assistance. Dennis moved to Escanaba in 1977 as Farmers Home Administration County Supervisor. When the District Office was created in 1978 in Escanaba, he became the District Director, supervising six county offices located in Escanaba, Marquette, Ewen, Sault Ste. Marie, Petoskey, and Alpena, MI.

During the farm crisis in the 1980s, Mr. Maufort became involved in the Upper Peninsula Market Livestock recordkeeping project at the Upper Peninsula State Fair. Each person involved in 4-H who is raising an animal for sale at the fair must submit a record book for his or her livestock project documenting how the animal was raised and recording feed and maintenance cost for the animal. Dennis spearheaded the committee of employees who volunteered their time to review and analyzed the record books, interviewed the students, and awarded the ribbons. The committee consists of employees from USDA Rural Development, Farm Service Agency, and Farm Credit Services. Mr. Maufort has also served on the Dairy Science Advisory Council and as an advisor for the Rotational Grazing Project with Michigan State University.

USDA Farmers Home Administration is now USDA Rural Development, and Mr. Maufort works out of the agency's office in Gladstone, MI. He has been instrumental in developing a working relationship between the Native American Tribes in the Upper Peninsula and USDA Rural Development. The Gladstone Office processed the first Tribal Loan in the State of Michigan because of Mr. Maufort's personal dedication to the application.

Dennis Maufort has been a tremendous asset to the Upper Peninsula and all of Michigan over the course of his 37 years with USDA. He processed the first USDA loan for a Michigan hospital in the 1970s at Munising Memorial Hospital, and he also was instrumental in coordinating the first Hydroelectric Power Loan in Norway, MI, in the early 1980s. More recently Mr. Maufort worked with the County Board for Keweenaw County in providing assistance for the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge in Cooper Harbor, MI. Mr. Maufort also worked with the city of Houghton to obtain a loan for the Houghton Public Library which overlooks the estuary in Houghton and provides services for the entire county. These are just a few of Dennis Maufort's many accomplishments since he started working at USDA.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Maufort has been a vital asset to USDA Rural Development during his career. His contact with the communities he has served has increased the quality of life for countless citizens in Michigan. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Dennis Maufort on a job well done and in wishing him well in his retirement.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Defense Authorization bill. Despite the 2006 mandate from the American people to end the war and occupation of Iraq, this bill authorizes the funding to continue operations in Iraq well into the 2009 fiscal year. This bill authorizes \$68.5 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition it authorizes the entirety of the administration's request of \$542.5 billion for the National Defense budget. This is a grand total of \$611.1 billion to continue misguided policies such as preemptive strikes, interventionism and peace through strength.

The bill includes absolutely no language calling for the withdrawal of our honorable and brave service members in Iraq, 4,170 servicemen and women have been killed in Iraq, there have been tens of thousands of injuries to our troops and over 1 million innocent Iraqi civilians have been killed as a result of the war. The true monetary cost of the war is estimated to be \$3 trillion. Yet instead of keeping a commitment that we made back in 2006 to end the war, we are once again voting on a bill that will continue to fund it well into the term of the next President. Congress has the ability to end the war and bring our troops home simply by refusing to continue funding.

Additionally, I do not support the authorization for \$465.8 million to continue development of the European Ground-Based Mid-Course Defense, GMD, program despite a lack of assurance that the system will work or is needed for the safety of our nation. Congress' continued funding of the European GMD only lends credence to the administration's misguided claims the system is necessary to defend the U.S. from a long-range ballistic missile attack from Iran despite the fact that Iran is unlikely to pose such a threat to the United States in the foreseeable future.

Continuing to develop the European GMD has consequences for U.S. foreign policy. This deal has exacerbated tensions between the U.S. and Russia. There has also been strong opposition by the citizens of the Czech Republic and Poland to the placement of the radar and interceptors in their respective countries.

This bill continues to reflect the wrong priorities for our nation's security. The continued proliferation of nuclear weapons does not make America safer. What will make America safer is to place a priority on cooperation with the global community on nuclear nonproliferation initiatives. This bill authorizes over \$6.6 billion for the nuclear weapons activities of the National Nuclear Security Administration, and less than \$2 billion for nuclear nonproliferation.

The U.S. administration has established a record of unilateralism that undercuts our nation's credibility in the eyes of other nations. The repercussions of this record include undermining our security and diplomatic integrity. In just under eight years the U.S. administration has backtracked on international treaties and conventions. The U.S. has rejected the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, refused to sign the Land Mine Treaty, withdrawn from the Anti Ballistic Missile Treaty, unsigned the Kyoto Protocol, and blocked a verification protocol for the Biological Weapons Convention.

Continuing to keep "all options on the table" while refusing to engage in diplomacy without preconditions leaves America devoid of any moral authority. The idea that peace (the absence of violence) can be brought about through violence and increasing weapons stockpiles is antithetical. The assertion that keeping our nation safe requires us to maintain a pre-emptive strike policy is built on a foundation of fear and continues to drive Americans further away from each other and the world community. The belief that the bulk of our foreign policy should be comprised of insisting other countries do what we tell them, while we fail to engage in any meaningful global cooperation is hypocritical and condescending.

The security of America lies not in defense spending but in ensuring well paid jobs for hardworking Americans, guaranteed health care and a strong education for our nation's youth. We must shift our priorities. This body must stop spending half of America's tax dollars on the funding of the military industrial complex and instead invest in economic projects that really will keep America safer. With our economy in crisis it should be clear that continuing to hemorrhage money on defense spending while our future economic stability is uncertain is not in the best interests of our citizens. Congress must wake up. In other words, I believe that Congress must reassess our current priorities and in so doing begin to provide for the traditional sense of security by first ensuring economic security, health security, and job security for all.

WEBCASTER SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Webcaster Settlement Act of 2008, and want to thank the gentleman from Washington for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor.

H.R. 7084 is a simple yet critical legislative solution that allows private sector actors to keep a negotiating process alive. Why? Because Internet radio royalties operate under a government license, and Congressional approval is necessary to allow a private sector agreement to effectuate outside the government process.

This is a good thing. After all, if I have a choice between a government mandated solution and a private sector agreement, I will take the private sector agreement almost every time.

The Webcaster Settlement Act of 2008 guarantees that our nation's performing artists, musicians, record labels and webcasters can continue copyright negotiations that are making slow but steady progress. And a resolution to the issue is critical, so Internet radio listeners can keep on listening and the people performing those songs can be properly compensated.

The Copyright Royalty Board is small government body tasked with determining royalty rates for the use of music over Internet radio. It is obscure to some, but its decisions are critical to my constituents in Tennessee and Internet radio users across the country. Unfortunately, this body was tasked with the authority to adjudicate a rate structure at the direction of Congress back in 2004. This proved to be unwise, since the Board's decision announced in March of 2007 sparked a lengthy lobbying battle and an acrimonious relationship between two important members of the music industry's family; the copyright holder and the copyright deliverer.

We now understand that the parties are gradually coming together, and growing closer to finding common ground. Congress should do everything in its power to ensure the negotiations continue, and H.R. 7084 is the vehicle to guarantee the talks will continue.

I urge my colleagues to support it, and yield the balance of my time.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus to congratulate Taiwan on its 97th National Day on October 10th.

The people of Taiwan have many reasons to celebrate and be proud of their country. Having elected President Ma Ying-jeou, the Taiwanese have returned the KMT party back to power, thereby effectively passing Huntington's "two-turnover test of democratic consolidation." By successfully transitioning from one

party to another and back to the original party, the people of Taiwan have proven their democracy is flourishing.

Today, Taiwan is a vibrant democracy with a strong market economy thanks to its strong ties with the United States. Under the new Ma administration, Taiwan will only seek to fortify these ties and continue to prosper as a nation.

Mr. Speaker, I would also be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to push for the 111th Congress to pass a Free Trade Agreement with Taiwan. Taiwan is the United States' ninth largest trading partner, with trade flows between the two totaling \$64.6 billion last year. A Free Trade Agreement would expand trade and improve economic growth, provide enhanced opportunities for U.S. businesses and support an important democratic ally in a strategic region. It is time we put our differences aside and passed this legislation which is long overdue.

A TRIBUTE TO YUCAIPA, CALIFORNIA, CITY MANAGER JOHN TOOKER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Tooker, a fine public servant who has dedicated the past 17 years to making the city of Yucaipa, California, a better place to live. After serving as city manager for all but 2 years of Yucaipa's cityhood, Mr. Tooker has announced his retirement.

A native Californian, John Tooker was bitten by the public service bug early in his life, graduating from California State University at Long Beach with a specialty in public administration. He has worked in city and county government continuously since then and, through his hard work, has helped improve many communities in California.

John Tooker came to my congressional district in 1991 as the city manager for Yucaipa, California. Since his arrival, the city of Yucaipa has always passed a balanced budget. In addition to his good fiscal housekeeping, Mr. Tooker has been instrumental in building up the parks and community recreation areas during his tenure. He negotiated the purchase of 32.5 acres for a community park site in 1996 and, in the years following, oversaw the construction of a Community Park, Community Center, City Hall and Fire Station No.3.

In addition, the Teen Center and Senior Center have been enlarged and remodeled and numerous city parks have been renovated. With the local community college, the city purchased an Olympic size swimming pool which will be placed in a beautiful new facility for the entire community. The residents of Yucaipa and their families have these great places to relax in no small part due to John's leadership.

Mr. Speaker, John Tooker and his wife are the proud grandparents of a baby grandson, Luke Jonathan Tooker, who was born last month. He will now be able to spend a lot more time with Luke. Please join me in wishing John Tooker health and happiness in his retirement and thank him for his many years of dedicated service.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE TERRY EVERETT ON THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Congressman BUD CRAMER on his many years of service to our Nation and to the people of Alabama's Fifth District.

Since I first came to Congress in 1997, BUD has been a respected colleague, a good friend, and a personal mentor. Over the years, I often have looked to him for guidance on different issues before Congress, and he has always given me wise and thoughtful advice. BUD's work on the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee has served as a model for me. I have seen firsthand his ability to work across the aisle to advance good policy to the benefit of our national defense efforts, our military community, and the American people.

As a founding member of the Blue Dog Coalition, BUD has dedicated his time in Congress to being a good steward of taxpayer dollars and creating a more fiscally responsible government. The Blue Dogs have been able to grow and continue our message of fiscal responsibility because of the groundwork that Bud and other founding members laid over 13 years ago.

BUD, as your friend and colleague, I will truly miss your leadership in Congress. I wish you the best of luck in all of your future endeavors and hope you enjoy your much deserved retirement.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Rep. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Military Construction, Navy Account.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle.

Address of Requesting Entity: Colts Neck, New Jersey.

Description of Request: This project will upgrade the Main Gate located at Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle. These upgrades will provide the proper Anti-terrorism Force Protection (AT/FP) measures required for current security and terrorist threats. Construction will consist of the following: gate access realignment; reinforced ornamental fencing along the public highway; new security fencing surrounding guardhouse area; removal of existing guard house; and removal of existing parking areas; hardened guard house, intrusion detection system (IDS), local area network (LAN), and base wide alarm duress system; site light-

ing with connections tied into existing generator; raised median; rejection area for privately owned vehicles (POVs); permanent vehicle inspection shelter with CCTV, for one truck and two POVs side by side; undercarriage video surveillance equipment; permanent passive barriers from fence and gate to active vehicle barriers; two active (pop-up) vehicle barriers; elevated fighting position; hardening of existing generator; sidewalks on both the inbound and outbound sides; relocate entrances to parking for Family/Housing Services and to Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD); construct new connector road to EOD; demolish existing pass and identification office; construct new pass/i.d., within new inspection facility and provide 54 parking spaces.

NWS Earle has been fortunate to not experience serious assaults or threats; however, continued operations without major security improvements could result in exposing NWS Earle's valuable assets and personnel to terrorist activity.

Detailed Financial Plan:

The majority of the funding (approximately \$6.5 M) will be used for Electronic and Mechanical Utilities and Site Improvements, including: Area Lighting; Water Distribution; Sanitary Sewer System; Paving and Site Improvements; Storm Water Management; and Demolition.

The rest will fund Special Construction Features, which total \$1,515,766 M and include:

Active vehicle barrier—	\$91,036.00.
Passive vehicle barriers—	\$270,213.00.
Security fencing—	\$208,801.00.
Automatic traffic controls/devices—	\$245,648.00.
Inspection enclosure (truck/car)—	\$85,977.00.

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support this relief from the Alternative Minimum Tax, AMT. If Congress does not pass this legislation, over 25 million middle-class tax payers would find themselves subject to this tax.

It is important that we provide this relief to millions of American families who want a better life for their families. The current structure of the AMT leaves middle-class households vulnerable to a significant unexpected tax bill while many very wealthy households pay no AMT. In these economic times, enacting AMT relief can put more money in their pockets rather than subject them to taxes that were not intended to apply to middle-class families.

I have long supported and advocated for responsible reform of the Alternative Minimum Tax, which would be offset by other changes that target loopholes and abuses in the tax code. A responsible paid-for fix would also protect future generations of Americans from tax increases by not adding to our national debt. The Federal Government deficit will reach over \$400 billion this fiscal year and it is projected to reach \$500 billion in the next fiscal year.

Today, we see the consequences of excessive debt in our economy. I am greatly concerned with the legacy of debt that we are leaving to our children as our national debt reaches over \$10 trillion. That amount translates to a debt of over \$30,000 for each of our children. We must pay interest on the debt and each day the average interest payment adds more than \$1 billion to the tab we leave behind.

While I believe that huge, persistent debt has a significant cost for the economy, I also practically realize that both the President and my colleagues across the aisle refuse to pay for this package of tax relief. They rejected the fiscally responsible bill, H.R. 6275, that I voted for in the Ways and Means Committee and on this floor when the House approved the bill on June 25, 2008. The other legislative body has only passed an AMT patch without an offset, rejecting paying for this tax relief just last week once again.

Weighing the economic stress middle-class families face today, I will cast my vote for the Alternative Minimum Tax Relief Act today so that this tax does not fall on families struggling to meet increasing prices with wages that have not kept pace with inflation over the last 8 years. I do so in the hope that Congress will work next year with a new administration to advance commonsense tax reform that includes paid for AMT relief. We must reverse years of failed Republican policies that have mortgaged our grandchildren's future with debt.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHICAGOANS
HELPING THEIR NEIGHBORS
FOLLOWING THIS MONTH'S
FLOODING

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the firefighters, police officers, sanitation workers, and other Chicagoans who pitched in to help their neighbors in the Albany Park neighborhood and other areas affected by record flooding earlier this month.

When I toured the Albany Park area Sunday before last—after 3 straight days of hard rain and a rising river—I saw streets, parks, sidewalks, and backyards underneath the floodwaters. Chicago bungalows line these streets, and no amount of sandbags could prevent the floodwaters that submerged streets, sidewalks and parks from pouring in.

But rather than chaos, I saw neighbors helping neighbors, and a coordinated response from Chicago's city workers and the Army Corps of Engineers. The city of Chicago coordinated emergency services to be accessible with a telephone call to 311, and Aldermen and other elected officials were on the front lines ensuring residents' safety and organizing the clean-up and rebuilding efforts.

Now that the flood waters have receded, I am working across party lines with my colleagues from all over Cook County and all over Illinois to make sure that our State has the emergency assistance we need and resources to continue the clean-up and rebuilding process. This week, the entire Illinois dele-

gation sent a letter to the President supporting Illinois' request for a major disaster declaration and emergency Federal assistance. We will continue to work together to help our home state just as our constituents have helped one another.

As the saying goes, the colder the weather, the warmer the hearts. Chicagoans have experience braving freezing winters, but in times of need, they have the warmest hearts. I commend the men and women who volunteered to help their neighbors. With families rebuilding homes and lives after these floods, that goodwill and those good works will go a long way to rebuilding neighborhoods like Albany Park, and I am committed to making sure that Chicago has the tools and funds we need to complete the job.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR JOHNNIE ROBINSON

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I wish to call the attention of the House to a remarkable citizen, Sergeant Major Johnnie Robinson, of Rock Hill, SC. Johnnie Robinson served for 27 years in the Army, including tours in Korea and Vietnam, and rose to the rank of Command Sergeant Major. When he retired from the Army, he kept on serving. For 22 years he was Quartermaster and Commander of VFW Post 2889 in Rock Hill, SC, and also State Commander of the VFW. Under his leadership, Post 2889 became one of the largest posts in the State, and by everyone's estimation, one of the best. Among his proudest accomplishments: handsome new quarters, a building 11,000 square feet large.

Johnnie Robinson has passed the torch to a new generation, and stepped down as commander, but to commemorate all that he has done for veterans, the VFW, and Post 2889 in particular, the post today is naming its ballroom for him.

Madam Speaker, I ask permission to enter into the RECORD the following account from the Rock Hill Herald of Johnnie Robinson's service to community and country, and not least, to veterans and the VFW.

[From the Herald of Rock Hill, SC]
VFW LEGEND PAVED THE WAY FOR LOCAL
VETS

Few places are known to a city by one face like Rock Hill's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2889 is known by Johnnie Robinson.

For most of the past 22 years, Robinson has been commander of the almost 500-member post, among the largest in the state. The few other years, he was quartermaster in charge of raising and accounting for the post's money.

Robinson has spoken about service and community to throngs at the local football stadium and to small groups of students. He has helped raise and give tens of thousands of dollars for veterans, widows and the children of veterans.

He helped start and organize an honor guard that still serves at military funerals and other functions.

He has been the state VFW commander and held national posts in the organization of more than 1.6 million members nationwide.

He has bent the ears of local, state and federal politicians to make sure veterans get

better treatment and raised a stink if he didn't like the answers he got.

Robinson helped the post move from an old building on Main Street into what is now an 11,000-square-foot building down the block. He brought the first black member into the post decades ago, walking in with an arm on the guy's shoulders saying, "Meet one of us."

But now it is over. Robinson, 77, has given up his commander's hat. He didn't run in the recent yearly post elections.

"It was time for somebody else to lead," he said.

That somebody else is Ray Bentley, elected the new commander, but even Bentley said following Robinson isn't easy.

"The man is a legend," Bentley said. "Leadership is what Johnnie was always about."

The post is having a banquet September 27 to honor Robinson, and to name the ballroom in his honor. Politicians, combat veterans and dignitaries will toast what this guy has meant to the little guys who fought in wars. One of those speakers will be Pat Nivens, veterans affairs officer of York County, whose job it is to help veterans get benefits. Robinson is respected and well-known around the country in veterans' circles as a veterans' rights advocate, Nivens said.

To outsiders, the VFW might look like a smoky barroom where old vets drink cold beer and tell war stories. That it is at times, and few places are as tough as at the bar rail of the VFW if somebody is a boaster who can't back up claims about heroism or combat.

But the VFW is a lot more, offering veterans advocacy and assistance and helping with community functions ranging from scholarships to flower sales for deceased veterans' children. Robinson is not to be found at the bar.

But he has been found where soldiers are since joining the post more than 30 years ago. When a group of area National Guardsmen went to Iraq and then Afghanistan, Robinson led the drive for the post to adopt the whole unit so money could be raised for families.

Robinson then worked to enlist those men from 178th Combat Engineers in the VFW when those men came home: More than 60 of those newest vets joined.

"This is their VFW, not mine," Robinson said. "We serve combat veterans, and we serve the community. I only hope I serve both."

Robinson himself—not a representative—attends every local military send-off, every welcome home. Why? Maybe it's two wars and 27 years in the Army ending up as a command sergeant major—the highest enlisted rank there is.

He joined as a teenage kid straight off the cotton-chopping fields of rural Lancaster County. He was in the Nevada desert for atomic bomb tests, the cold killings of Korea, the hot killings of Vietnam. He doesn't have to read about Agent Orange—he lived through it, and he has lived through cancer because of it.

"I came home from Korea to California on a ship, then took a bus across the country to Columbia," Robinson said. "I had to take another bus to Lancaster. I couldn't say I was coming home because we had no phone in those days."

"I came home alone, and nobody knew I was coming until I got there. People need to be there at these ceremonies to show these guys what they do matters."

Robinson's membership at the post continues, and he will be around to help. He'll pull in driving his red pickup truck, with an old South Carolina license plate from 1990 on the front bumper.

The plate says disabled veteran. The tag number states simply that Robinson was and remains in this city: "VFW 1."

CONGRATULATING MISSION
SPECIALIST MICHAEL T. GOOD

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Ms. SUTTON. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mission Specialist Michael T. Good on his upcoming trip into space aboard the Space Shuttle *Atlantis*.

Mission Specialist Good is one of seven astronauts who will fly on the shuttle's fifth and final mission to service the Hubble Space Telescope. This 11-day flight will include five spacewalks to make repairs to the telescope, extending its life into the next decade.

Mission Specialist Good is a native of Broadview Heights, Ohio, in the 13th Congressional District. He attended Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, located in Brecksville, Ohio, which is also located in my congressional district. His wife Joan is also from Broadview Heights. The couple has three children, Bryan, Jason, and Shannon.

Mission Specialist Good is a distinguished graduate of the University of Notre Dame with both a B.S. and M.S. in Aerospace Engineering.

As a colonel in the United States Air Force, he has logged over 2,100 hours in more than 30 different aircraft.

Good was selected as a mission specialist by NASA in July 2000. Following 2 years of training and evaluation he was assigned technical duties in the Astronaut Office Advanced Vehicles Branch and the Space Shuttle Branch.

On October 14, 2008, at approximately 10:19 p.m., Mission Specialist Michael Good and the crew of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* will launch from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Once again, I rise to express my congratulations and best wishes for Brecksville, Ohio's Mission Specialist Michael Good. Best wishes for a safe and productive journey.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE REVITALIZING CITIES THROUGH PARKS ENHANCEMENT (RECIPE) ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I reintroduce legislation, the Revitalizing Cities Through Parks Enhancement, RECIPE, Act, that would establish a \$10 million grant program for qualified, nonprofit, community groups, allowing them to lease municipally-owned vacant lots and transform these areas into parks. Parks and gardens created with the grants will not only provide safe places to gather, but will increase property values as well. The grants will be available from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to groups who have met standards of financial security, and who have histories of serving their communities. To further ensure that these grants are used to make lasting positive changes, land improved and made into open community space under this legislation must be available for use as open space from the government for at least 7 years.

IN HONOR OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, 2008 marks the 30th anniversary of the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI). I rise to congratulate them on their three decades of important work and the unique role they continue to serve for us here in Congress, the news media, and the public.

EBRI was created in response to enactment of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), the major Federal law that still governs private-sector retirement and health plans today. EBRI's purpose was the—

as it is today—to conduct objective, reliable research on income security issues so that policymakers and the public would have the best possible information when making decisions on these issues.

EBRI is an extremely rare organization in this town: It does not take policy positions, and it does not lobby. Rather than trying to tell Congress and the Federal Government what we should do on health and retirement issues, instead it simply reports what the facts are—and what the likely results are likely to be from different policy options. Substance, reliability, credibility: That's what I expect when I see work from EBRI.

Because EBRI is nonpartisan, its data and analyses are trusted and used by Members of both sides of the aisle. As we in Congress continue to address the important health- and retirement-related challenges facing our country, it is extremely important that we have a reliable source of information to turn to like EBRI. And in a town as transient as Washington, EBRI also is remarkable for the depth of knowledge, institutional memory, and tenure of its first and only CEO, Dallas Salisbury, who has led the institute ever since it opened its doors 30 years ago. The institute has never wavered from its original mission of objective research and education.

I offer my congratulations to EBRI on its three decades of service. With health care and retirement coverage becoming ever-more important to our constituents, and the policy choices becoming ever-more complex and difficult, we will need their contributions and knowledge more than ever in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber for rollcall vote 656 on September 26, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."