

was through the efforts of Dave Foster and the Lake Michigan Area Office that we were able to open up the St. Joseph Harbor and save hundreds of jobs in our region.

Southwest Michigan is very fortunate Dave Foster stayed close to home. Thousands of people have been impacted by his hard work and commitment to the Army Corps of Engineers. I salute his efforts and thank him for his service as a career federal employee. I wish Dave all the best in his retirement.

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#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Requesting Member: Congressman ADAM H. PUTNAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division F—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Department of Education/Funds for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Project Funding Amount: \$476,000—to be confirmed.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hillsborough Community College (HCC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 39 Columbia Drive, Tampa, FL 33606.

Description of Request: Hillsborough Community College submitted a project request for their Veterinary Technology Program. Specifically, the funds requested would complete and refine the large animal program, which includes development of articulation agreements with St. Petersburg College and the school District of Hillsborough County while also acquiring specialty needs equipment. The program currently accommodates 26 students. When HCC completes the program it will eventually be able to accommodate an additional 25 students. HCC has invested over \$590,000 in funding since the program began in 2006–07; the state has provided approximately \$304,000 in facilities construction; and the private sector has donated software at an estimated value of \$4,000.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division F—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Department of Education/Funds for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Project Funding Amount: \$718,000—to be confirmed.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Polk Community College (PCC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 999 Avenue H, N.E., Winter Haven, FL 33881.

Description of Request: Funding for Polk Community College's project request would establish the Center for Advanced Global Technology at Clear Springs, a training and education center of excellence that will: (1) provide degree and training programs to meet Central Florida's critical demand for a highly-skilled technology workforce in the areas of high-tech supply chain management, advanced manufacturing, green construction and

related technologies, (including solar technologies), and information technology; (2) create career pathways into technology industries through partnerships with career academies at the secondary level, and (3) serve as a center for innovation that facilitates public/private collaborations, research and development, and technology transfer opportunities.

Specifically, funds are requested to: (1) establish a degree program in Supply Chain Management including curriculum development and acquiring advanced technological training equipment; (2) establish a Green Technician degree program and a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification training program including curricula development, acquiring lab equipment, and hiring and training staff to pursue this objective; and (3) acquire advanced manufacturing training equipment and technologies applicable to a wide range of industries including solar/photovoltaic power systems.

Community support and commitment to the project is strong. Clear Springs Land Development Co. donated a twenty acre parcel of land valued at approximately two million dollars to Polk Community College for the facility site. Twenty-four million dollars (private donation matched with State funds) was raised towards facility construction. Advanced manufacturing simulation equipment, software, and technical support have been donated (value \$250,000); and initial funds to support scholarships have been secured in order to increase access to the program. Several courses are currently being held at a temporary site.

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#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following: in regards to H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Joshua Tree National Park Visitor's Center

Account: National Park Service, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Twentynine Palms

Address of Requesting Entity: 6136 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms, California 92277

Description of Request: The Joshua Tree National Park Visitors Center annually hosts nearly one and a half million visitors in a cramped, obsolete facility where it is impossible to display the cultural history of the area, provide needed community and informational services, or even provide appropriate information to visitors to the Park. These funds would allow for an improvement and expansion of the Center to provide the space to display the fabled Campbell Collection of Native American artifacts, as well as a wide array of other objects of interest to both the visiting public and to researchers.

Amount: \$300,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Joshua Basin Water District Recharge

Account: EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Joshua Basin Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 61750 Chollita Road, Joshua Tree, California 92252

Description of Request: Joshua Basin Water District needs to develop a recharge system to import water from the California State Water Project to avoid overdraft conditions and septic system contamination of the aquifer. This project is an important component of a regional water management plan and over \$2 million has already been committed locally. The system of underground storage facilities would accept and store water from the State Project in years when surpluses are available. There are currently no other recharge projects on going in the Joshua Tree basin.

Amount: \$300,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Water System Infrastructure Improvements

Account: EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power

Address of Requesting Entity: 41972 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake, California 92315

Description of Request: This project would provide improved water pressure at peak demand periods and improved water quality resulting from the replacement of steel pipes with PVC. Although the City of Big Bear is located in an area prone to wildfires, much of its water supply infrastructure is unable to even meet minimum requirements for fire flow. Engineering studies have identified 181,800 feet of pipeline that must be replaced to meet current standards.

Amount: \$500,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Desert Hot Springs

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mission Springs Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 66575 2nd Street, Desert Hot Springs, California 92240

Description of Request: This project will construct a municipal wastewater collection and treatment system that will eliminate individual wastewater disposal systems that overlie the Mission Creek and Desert Hot Springs aquifers. To accomplish this, the district needs to replace roughly 4000 individual sewage disposal systems that lie in a very concentrated area over the primary inflow of the groundwater that supplies nearly 400,000 people.

Amount: \$478,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Hi-Desert Wastewater Collection and Reuse Account: Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hi-Desert Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 55439 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Description of Request: The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner. The Hi-Desert Wastewater Collection and Reuse Facility will protect the groundwater quality in the area and provide reclaimed

water to be used directly for irrigation and commercial purposes that are normally supplied by potable water. Using reclaimed water to meet non-potable demand will off set the demands for potable water.

Amount: \$1,000,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Seven Oaks Water Quality and Conservation

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 East Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, California 92408

Description of Request: The rains of the winter of 2005 demonstrated beyond question that water conservation at Seven Oaks Dam can provide a major supplemental source of water for an increasingly water starved region. Unfortunately, by holding water behind the dam the water is degraded so far as to be unusable. Work is being done to determine the appropriate method to improve water quality while continuing to conserve behind the dam.

Amount: \$1,500,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Santa Ana River and Tributaries

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Yucaipa

Address of Requesting Entity: 34272 Yucaipa Boulevard, Yucaipa, California 92399

Description of Request: This project will study the feasibility of a flood control project in Yucaipa, California. This community is located just north of Interstate-10, a major transportation hub that is threatened by 100-year level flooding. The study will look at the viability of detention basins, flood channels, and habitat to reduce the threat downstream.

Amount: \$268,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

H.R. 1105 The Omnibus Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009

Project Name: Space Radiation Health Research Program

Account: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Loma Linda University Medical Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 11175 Campos Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354

Description of Request: Provide \$2,800,000.00 to conduct investigations that clarify the space environment and how it will affect personnel and equipment. Funding will continue the implementation of the radioisotope laboratory for handling radioisotopes and tagging selected molecules for PET scanning and molecular imaging. This project will also enhance on-going core research activities including radiation protection, radioprotectants, and other site specific protection, immune interactions, nanodosimetry to explore radiation interactions on the DNA level, and other on-going joint research initiatives. This research will give support for on-going core activities in both the histology laboratory and in the imaging laboratories.

## THE SENIORS' TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on January 27, 2009, I introduced H.R. 728, the Seniors' Tax Simplification Act, legislation that would allow our nation's senior citizens to file their federal income taxes on a new and simplified Form 1040S. This new form would capture sources of income commonly reported by seniors, including social security benefits, distributions from qualified retirement plans, annuities or other deferred payment arrangements, interest and dividends, and capital gains and losses.

Currently, individuals who are age 65 or over are prohibited from using Form 1040EZ. Seniors that do not qualify for the shorter Form 1040A, fill out a longer, more complicated Form 1040 that deals with schedules, and includes much that is simply not pertinent to seniors' taxable situations.

In 2004, the House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation by a recorded vote to create Form 1040S. However, the Senate failed to consider the legislation and the IRS has since halted their efforts to develop such a form even though their estimates showed that as many as 11 million seniors could benefit from such a simplified tax form in the first year it is made available.

The U.S. Census Bureau projects in 2030, when all of the baby boomers will be 65 and over, that nearly one in five U.S. residents is expected to be 65 and older. This age group is projected to increase to 88.5 million in 2050, more than doubling the number in 2008, which was 38.7 million.

Further, in Florida alone, the 65 and over population represent over 3.3 million residents—that's 17.4 percent of the state's total population. Recent estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau project this population will only continue to grow. By 2025, Florida's 65 and over population is projected to reach close to 5.5 million residents. This represents a 107.3 percent increase from 1995 to 2025.

The 60 Plus Association has also endorsed this important legislation stating the "senior-friendly proposal would dramatically simplify the federal income tax filing process for millions of our nation's senior citizens."

It is clear that millions stand to benefit from the Seniors' Tax Simplification Act, and countless hours of time and energy could be saved not fretting over complex and often confusing tax forms. I encourage my colleagues to support our nation's seniors and cosponsor this long overdue legislation.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold closed hearings on Afghanistan and Pakistan, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

SVC-217

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine an update on the latest global warming science.

SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings to examine scoring health care reform, focusing on Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) budget options.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine ensuring television carriage in the digital age.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Aging

Business meeting to consider committee's rules of procedure for the 111th Congress; to be followed by a hearing to examine securing retirement in a volatile economy.

SD-106

2 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David S. Kris, of Maryland, and Dawn Elizabeth Johnsen, of Indiana, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be Chairman and Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 26

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine strategic options for the way ahead in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's Homeowner Affordability and Stability Plan.

SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine consumer protection and the credit crisis.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine integrative care, focusing on a pathway to a healthier nation.

SD-430