

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MARK EDWARDS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, on May 8th, 2009, the San Bernardino community will gather to honor Mark Edwards as he is presented with the prestigious Golden Baton Award from the San Bernardino Symphony Guild. In the Guild's eighty years of its existence, this will only be the tenth time that this honor has been awarded. The Guild is honoring him not only for his significant contribution to the San Bernardino Symphony but also for his commitment and dedication to the San Bernardino community.

A respected lawyer in the Inland Empire, Mark received his Juris Doctor with Honors from the University of California, Davis. In 1982, he became a Shareholder and Senior Attorney at Reid & Hellyer, A Professional Corporation in San Bernardino. In 1994, Mark became a founding member of the Law Office of Mirau, Edwards, Cannon, Lewin & Tooke, A Professional Corporation in Redlands, where his firm practices transactional law in the areas of business, corporate, tax, real estate and estate planning.

In addition to his law practice, Mark has always been a very active member of the San Bernardino community. As former President and current First Vice President of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, he has also continuously served on the Board of Directors since 1992 and as a Member of the Executive Committee since 1995. In addition, he was actively involved with the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce, serving as President in 1992 and a Member of the Board of Directors as well as the Executive Committee throughout the 1990s.

Known for his passionate and selfless volunteerism, Mark has served as an Elder for the First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino, Judge Pro-tem for the San Bernardino Superior Court, founder of Leadership San Bernardino, as well as a Member of the Board of Directors for numerous other organizations throughout the Inland Empire. It is obvious that the community has always been important to Mark based on his continual support of both the San Bernardino Symphony and city as a whole.

Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the service, sacrifice, and dedication of Mark Edwards. His impact on our community over the years serves as a great reminder that a life spent giving back to society is a life of a true patriot.

RECOGNIZING SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK IN MINNESOTA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I am thrilled to recognize hard-working school board members in Minnesota this year during School Board Recognition Week. Throughout the year, school boards across the nation play a vital role in organizing members of the community to participate in our children's education.

Parents, teachers and local leaders are uniquely equipped to meet the needs of students in the classroom. A locally-governed education system requires local involvement. Many of these individuals hold full-time jobs, and yet they selflessly volunteer their time to serving their families and other families in the community by donating their talents and resources through various roles on the school board.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank members of school boards across the State of Minnesota for devoting countless hours and energy towards our children's education and ultimately their future. Additionally, I want to encourage continued involvement to ensure our grandchildren receive the same priceless support from which so many of us benefit. I applaud and join my colleagues in recognizing the individuals who selflessly dedicate their time to this crucial role.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I offer the following justification for the projects that I requested that were included in H.R. 1105, the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act.

For the project titled, "Assistance to Improve Water Quality for Tarrant County, TX," in H.R. 1105, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Texas AgriLife Research, 113 Jack K. Williams Building 2142 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-2142. The \$336,000 in the bill supports specialized studies to improve water quality in North Central Texas. The project aims to create a watershed protection plan and improve the water quality in the five reservoirs that supply water for the majority of Fort Worth and fifty-nine surrounding communities. By implementing a watershed protection plan, water quality can be improved in North Central Texas, thereby protecting supply and quality for over 1.6 million residents in the

area. Matching funds are as follows: Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (\$740,000), Texas Water Development Board (\$200,000), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (\$542,000). Tarrant Regional Water District and the Texas Water Resources Institute also provide in-kind support.

For the project titled "Child Abuse Training Programs for Judicial Personnel: Victims Act Model Court Project" in H.R. 1105, OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, 1041 North Virginia Street, Third Floor, Reno, Nevada 89503. The \$920,000 in the bill for this project will be used in planning and programming for work in Model Courts and in jurisdictions nationwide, including site-based and local, regional and national interdisciplinary training programs; Model Court site visits; Model Court cross-site visits; All-Sites Meetings; outreach to national State Court Improvement Programs; direct technical assistance to Model Courts and other jurisdictions nationwide; mentoring of non-Model Court jurisdictions; publications for national dissemination; research to evaluate Model Court work; and networking with national organizations. The project focuses on improving court practice in handling child abuse and neglect cases in jurisdictions across the country, and will have significant impact on the over 513,000 children in the nation's foster care systems. The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is supported by a number of funders both federal, state and private; and national and state-based that supports related work. Supplemental funding for this project has been applied for in the past, as NCJFCJ continually seeks a variety of funding sources for its projects.

For the project titled "Train-the-Trainer (ALERRT)" in H.R. 1105, OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the Texas State University, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, Texas 78666. The \$1,200,000 in the bill for this project will enable Texas State University to build ALERRT's Train-The-Trainer capacity to meet the training needs of the more than 650,000 law enforcement agents across the nation. Since 2002, ALERRT has trained more than 16,000 first responding patrol officers. ALERRT is a program designed to train first responders with tactics they will need to effectively respond to active shooter situations. More than 200 law enforcement agencies, including Texas Christian University Police Department and Ft. Worth Police Department, are on the waiting list for training under ALERRT. Funding would allow these departments to receive training. ALERRT has been awarded more than \$7 million in federal and state funds to bring this Rapid Response training to frontline officers across Texas and the nation. Texas State will provide any required matching funds.

For the project titled "White Settlement Emergency Management, Police, and Fire Department Interoperable Communications

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