

the biological and health sciences and the quality of the professional healthcare workforce in the Fort Wayne Region. The University of Saint Francis plans to construct a health sciences laboratory and purchase needed equipment in order to provide the next generation of health care professionals with the most modern and technologically up-to-date education possible.

Finance Plan: Funds will be used for the construction of a health sciences laboratory and to purchase needed equipment.

COMMENDING BILL BALLAGH FOR HIS 2008 SMALL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. MARK H. SCHAUER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor today Bill Ballagh of State Farm Insurance as he receives the 2008 Small Business Leadership Award by the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce. On a local level, Bill is a strong supporter of many events in the Chelsea community. He is an active board member of the Chelsea Senior Center and has been a valuable source of ideas and advice for the board in both the financial aspect and the improved image for the Center and its programs. Many local agencies and fundraisers have appreciated Bill's support by allowing them to promote their projects in his windows and the side of his downtown office building.

Bill goes above and beyond when it comes to serving his customers. As he writes and reviews policies for customers, he may direct them elsewhere if he feels they may be better served—without financial gain for himself and also points out ways that policies written by others can be improved upon to better meet their needs, again, without financial gain for himself. Bill has served Chelsea since 1996 in his business and consistently goes the extra mile making his clients feel they're more than just part of a business relationship.

It is with deep appreciation for his many contributions that I congratulate and commend Bill Ballagh of State Farm Insurance for his faithful commitment to service and quality and wish him and his family the best in all their future endeavors.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009. These earmarks are contained in Division C—Energy and Water Development:

SOUTHWEST COASTAL LOUISIANA HURRICANE PROTECTION, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$956,000 to advance the authorized Southwest Coastal Louisiana Hurricane Protection, LA project. The Corps is directed to expedite the study under the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. The funds will be used to continue the feasibility phase including the Chenier Plain Sustainability Initiative. Activities include plan formulation, hydrology and hydraulic analyses, economic inventory, environmental analyses, and stakeholder and public involvement.

CALCASIEU LOCK, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$574,000 to advance the authorized feasibility study for the Calcasieu Lock, LA project. The study is needed to replace the lock. Funds will be used to address economic and environmental concerns. A rate review will be undertaken to determine the economic impacts of the without-project conditions, and will be accompanied by an analysis to identify impacts from flooding of agricultural areas. The Calcasieu Lock is a bottleneck on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway system in Louisiana, causing delays in transportation and interstate commerce.

CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS NAVIGATION, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$155,000 for the authorized Calcasieu River and Pass Navigation, LA project. The study is needed to investigate ways to improve navigation on the Calcasieu Ship Channel by adding passing lanes and anchorage areas. Currently only one-way traffic is allowed because of the narrow channel and hazardous cargo. The funds will be used to complete the feasibility study and initiate the PED phase. Additional beneficiaries include the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District and the users of the Calcasieu River Ship Channel.

CALCASIEU RIVER BASIN

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$75,000 to advance the authorized feasibility study and initiate the PED. The study is needed to investigate methods of providing flood control and environmental enhancement measures in the Calcasieu River Basin. Additional funds could be used to initiate the plans and specs for the first construction contract. Other beneficiaries include the residents of Calcasieu Parish.

LCA—ECOSYSTEMS RESTORATION, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$8,604,000 to advance the studies for the authorized Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) Ecosystems Restoration, LA project. The funding is needed to continue eleven feasibility studies and initiate six PED studies. Activities include completing and submitting to the Secretary a final report on the Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Program Feasibility Program, completing identification of initial BUDMat projects; beginning plans and specs on Barataria Basin Barrier Shoreline Restoration project; and continuing studies initiated in FY08. Additional beneficiaries include residents of Louisiana.

CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$13,894,000 for the authorized Calcasieu River and Pass, LA project. Funds are needed to keep international commerce moving without delays and light loadings. Funds will be used to operate and maintain the Calcasieu River Salt Water Barrier and the channel, dredge bar channel, dredge mile 5 to 17 and Devil's Elbow, foreshore dike construction for protection of disposal areas and to reduce shoaling, and maintenance of dredged material disposal facilities. Additional beneficiaries include the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District and the users of the Calcasieu River Ship Channel.

FRESHWATER BAYOU, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$1,716,000 for the authorized Freshwater Bayou, LA project. The lock is crucial to support offshore oil industry to provide the necessary fuel, supplies and food to offshore oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, and also to support commercial fishing. The funds will be used for operations and maintenance and to dredge two critical reaches to support the energy infrastructure along the Freshwater Bayou, LA.

MERMENTAU RIVER, LA

Member requesting funds: CHARLES BOUSTANY Jr., MD (LA-07)

Entity receiving funds: US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, 7400 Leake Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Purpose: Provide an earmark of \$1,828,000 for the authorized Mermentau River, LA project. Funding is required to dredge and continue ongoing repairs along the Mermentau River, including operations of Catfish Point and Schooner Bayou Control Structures, maintenance of the control structures, including water control data systems, real estate, and dredge Mermentau Bar Channel, and boat-house replacement at CPCS.