

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING LABOR LEADER
MATTIE JACKSON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a longtime labor and community leader, Mattie Jackson, who died February 7 in San Francisco. Mrs. Jackson devoted her life to fighting for equal rights in the workplace and social justice for all San Franciscans. During her tenure the rights of women and people of color were protected and preserved. She educated and mobilized union members to correct the unjust and unfair practices that existed in the workplace. She was an inspiration to all who knew her.

Mrs. Jackson was born October 3, 1921 in Livingston, Texas and moved to San Francisco with her husband in 1943. Mrs. Jackson began her distinguished career in the labor movement when she took a job at Koret of California as a blind stitch operator in 1947 and worked for the next 20 years as shop steward. In 1967 she joined the staff of the Pacific Northwest District Council of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) and the National Board of the ILGWU. As Manager over the next 20 years she earned the reputation of an unrelenting advocate for garment workers and a tough negotiator. She was chief negotiator of contracts for the Pacific Northwest Division from 1970–1989. As a union leader her endorsement was sought by all those seeking elected office in the San Francisco area.

Upon her retirement in January 1990, the International President of the ILGWU, said, 'Mattie Jackson is an institution not only throughout our union, but throughout the entire labor movement.'

To her beloved daughter, Gail Jackson, her grandsons, Toriano Gordon, Marco Boccara, and granddaughter Angelique Boccara, I extend my deepest sympathy. Mattie Jackson was a beloved friend of San Francisco and will not be forgotten.

TRIBUTE ON THE BIRTH OF
MARGARET ELLISON ALBON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Major and Mrs. Brian and Susan Albon, USMC, of Kailua, Hawaii, on the birth of their new baby daughter, Margaret Ellison Albon was born on February 23, 2009, at 11:03 p.m., weighing 5 pounds and 14 ounces. Margaret joins an older brother Joshua William Albon. She has been born into a loving home, where she will be raised by parents who are devoted

to her well-being and bright future. Her birth is a blessing.

I want to congratulate Margaret's grandparents Joe and Vickie Chandler of Ninety Six, South Carolina, and Bill and Charlene Albon of Newton, North Carolina. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Brian, Susan, Joshua, and Margaret all the best.

STATEMENT ON THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF ELGIN COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elgin Community College on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and to join in recognizing May 22, 2009 as Elgin Community College Day.

Elgin Community College opened its doors in the fall of 1949 with only 97 students, 1 administrator, 1 full-time faculty member and 17 part-time staff members. For its first 10 years, the school worked out of a wing of the old High School on Elgin's East Side.

Throughout the 1950s, ECC was run by Public School District U–46. After 16 years of existence, Elgin became an independent community college in 1965.

Throughout the 1970s, Elgin Community College expanded curricula, faculty, staff, and services that included on-campus child care, financial aid, job placement, student activities, and tutoring. In 1974, the current boundaries of the Community College District were established. This district encompasses 360 square miles and serves students from 5 counties.

During the 1980s, Elgin Community College's enrollment increased significantly, so the college adapted by opening new facilities off-site and exploring alternate ways to reach its students. ECC first offered telecourses in 1980, and eventually opened a community education center in Carpentersville.

From the 1990s up to today, the college has continued to grow and now serves a diverse student population. Currently one out of every twelve adults in the Elgin Community College District takes at least one class a year at the school, and three out of every ten high school seniors choose ECC to continue their education.

I congratulate the class of 2009 and the entire Elgin Community College Family. I thank them for their service to the community, and I look forward to watching the College grow in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, on Monday February 23, 2009 I did not return to Washington in time and missed three votes.

Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 911—Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act of 2009 (rollcall 72), "yes" on H.R. 44—Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act (rollcall 73), and "yes" on H.R. 601—Box Elder Utah Land Conveyance Act (rollcall 74).

COMMEMORATING THE 17TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE MASSACRE AT
KHOJALY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to solemnly recognize the 17th anniversary of the massacre at Khojaly, and to honor the lives of those lost in this great tragedy.

On February 26, 1992, the small town of Khojaly, Azerbaijan was violently shaken by invading Armenian troops during the Armenian-Azerbaijan war. Armenian forces surrounded the town and opened fire on the innocent inhabitants. During this bloody incursion, nearly 2,000 civilians—mostly women, children and the elderly—were brutally killed, wounded or taken hostage by the Armenian military forces as they seized the town. This resulted in the largest massacre of modern times in the Caucasus and Caspian Basin.

According to Human Rights Watch and other international observers, the massacre was committed by the ethnic Armenian armed forces, reportedly with the help of the Russian 366th Motor Rifle Regiment. This crime led to the death of 613 civilians; including 106 women, 63 children and 70 elderly men; 1275 persons were taken hostage, and the fate of more than 150 remains unknown.

At the time, Newsweek Magazine reported, "Azerbaijan was a charnel house again last week: a place of mourning refugees and dozens of mangled corpses dragged to a makeshift morgue behind the mosque. They were ordinary Azerbaijani men, women and children of Khojaly, a small village in war-torn Nagorno-Karabakh overrun by Armenian forces on 25–26 February. Many were killed at close range while trying to flee; some had their faces mutilated, others were scalped."

Tragically, during this war, Khojaly was simply the first example of this savage cruelty. In fact, the level of brutality and the unprecedented atrocities committed at Khojaly set a pattern of destruction and ethnic cleansing that Armenian troops would adhere to for the

● 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.

remainder of the war. On November 29, 1993, Newsweek quoted a senior U.S. Government official as saying, "what we see now is a systematic destruction of every village in their (the Armenians) way. It's vandalism."

Altogether, the occupied areas represent roughly 20 percent of the territory of Azerbaijan. And, altogether roughly one million Azerbaijanis were evicted from their homes over the course of the Armenian-Azerbaijan war.

Armenia's then-defense minister Serge Sarkisian in an interview with British journalist Tomas de Waal openly admitted that "before Khojaly the Azerbaijanis thought that . . . the Armenians were people who could not raise their hands against the civilian population. We were able to break that [stereotype]."

Madam Speaker, in recognition of this horrific day, an international humanitarian awareness campaign, "Justice for Khojaly," was initiated by Mrs. Leyla Aliyeva, and provides much needed information on the massacre through its website for interested parties. In the wake of the 17th anniversary of this massacre, I encourage all of us to familiarize ourselves with this dreadful past so it is not repeated in the future. I also stand with all Azerbaijani-Americans as they recognize and commemorate this solemn day.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "CHUCK"
BEEMAN

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor a loving father, loyal husband, adoring grandfather, Charles "Chuck" Beeman.

Born in Clovis, New Mexico, his family moved to San Bernardino, California where he grew up to become a longstanding, influential member of the community. Having graduated from San Bernardino High School in 1950, Chuck received a track scholarship to attend USC. However, it was his thirst for education that made him truly shine as he earned a doctorate in pharmacy from USC in 1956.

In addition to serving in the Army and the Army Reserve, Chuck became a successful businessman, opening Beeman's Pharmacy at St. Bernardine Medical Center in 1963. At the same time, he continued working at Krause Pharmacy on North E Street. In 1971, Chuck expanded his business by opening a second Beeman's Pharmacy across the street in 1971. However, his passion and concern for the community reached beyond his place of work as he was a strong advocate for higher education.

Appointed to the San Bernardino Community College District board in 1983, Chuck served until November 2008. Having served for twelve years together on the board, I always respected his leadership and dedication to the community. Through our bipartisan efforts, we were always very supportive of one another. Together, we were successful in helping implement the first Hispanic President of sister schools San Bernardino Valley Col-

lege and Crafton Hills College. We also were instrumental in securing funding from public and private partnership in order to reinstitute the wrestling program at San Bernardino Valley College.

Survived by his wife, Janice, his memory will also be carried on by his children Christopher Beeman, Beth Beeman Dorado, Roland "Scott" Beeman and Gary Beeman; his brother; Jerry Beeman; his sister, Lois Waugh; and Chuck's loving twelve grandchildren.

As a longtime colleague and friend of Chuck's, I'll always remember his love for model car racing and though new to the game, a great golfer as well. At the last San Bernardino Community College meeting in December where we were celebrating his contribution to the District, I appreciated the mention that we can now add a 78 for his best round of golf to Chuck's long list of accomplishments.

I would like to express my greatest sympathies for his family's loss. Let us take a moment to remember this great man and his admirable dedication to instilling positive change and leading an exemplary life, one whose footsteps we all hope to follow. The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

God Bless Charles "Chuck" Beeman for love of country and mankind.

THE LAWLESSNESS SOUTH OF THE
BORDER CONTINUES . . . TOO
DANGEROUS FOR MARINES?

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Americans are still under vicious attack in Mexico. How violent is it on the border? Last month, Marines at Camp Pendleton were barred from visiting Tijuana, Mexico. Lt. General Samuel Helland of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton restricted Marines from traveling to Tijuana because they are concerned for the safety of Marines. Our United States Marines, Camp Pendleton Marines, who have toured in Iraq and Afghanistan can't travel 60 miles to the Mexican border because it is too dangerous.

In 2008, over 800 people were killed in Tijuana, compared to the 2007 death toll number of 337. Organized, violent crimes continue to spread south of the border. Currently, the U.S. Department of State's travel alert still exists for Mexican border towns. The State Department reports that "Mexican drug cartels are engaged in an increasingly violent fight for control of narcotics trafficking routes along the U.S.-Mexico border . . . recent drug cartels have taken on the characteristics of small unit combat, with cartels employing automatic weapons and, on occasion, grenades." I have been down to the Texas-Mexico border now 14 times, and I have talked to local sheriffs who testify to the wild, Wild West border style wars that take place in these towns and corroborate with the U.S. Department of State's warnings to Americans.

These are dangerous, deadly times on the U.S.-Mexico border, dangerous enough to ban

United States Marines. It is time we deal with the lawlessness on the U.S.-Mexico Border.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, and I thank Chairman OBEY, my Chairman, as well as the leadership, for their work in putting this bill together.

Today's action on the Omnibus Appropriations bill will complete action on the federal budget for fiscal year 2009.

When we originally began this process over a year ago, we were dealing with a President who rejected the idea that we needed to invest in our children's education.

He didn't think we should fund job training and employment services to ensure that American workers could compete in the global economy.

He didn't think that all Americans should have access to quality affordable health care, or that we should try and lift up the more than 37 million people living in poverty.

He rejected the basic notion that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and tried to cut funding for the CDC, while opposing increases in funding for cutting edge biomedical research to create the next generation of miracle drugs.

He told us in no uncertain terms that he would veto any federal budget we passed that tried to invest in education, job training, healthcare, alternative energy, and local law enforcement and ensure the continued prosperity of our nation.

And he did so while demanding that we provide hundreds of billions of dollars to fund the ongoing war and occupation in Iraq, and to bail out the banking industry for their greed and mismanagement.

Rather than accepting the President's position that the American people were not worth investing in, we decided to wait him out.

Today we have a President, who rejects the failed economic policies and ideologies of the last eight years.

We have a President who believes that, yes, the American people—our constituents—deserve a government that works for them, and that is willing to invest in them to ensure that they can get a good education, live healthy and productive lives, and obtain meaningful employment, and raise their children in a just and peaceful world.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, change has indeed come to our nation's capital. And now we've got to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

The Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 makes critical investments in a range of programs and builds on the economic stimulus package to help put America to work.

I urge my colleagues to support it.

CAPTIVE PRIMATE SAFETY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, as the lead Republican sponsor I am pleased to rise in support of the Captive Primate Safety Act. This legislation, supported by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, the Humane Society of the United States, and the Jane Goodall Institute, among others, would protect public health and safety and enhance animal welfare by preventing people from keeping nonhuman primates as pets.

On February 16, 2009, Travis, a 200-pound chimpanzee, attacked a 55-year-old woman in Connecticut. Travis, a popular figure in his home town who appeared in television commercials and posed for photographs, inflicted such massive injuries on the victim that she now awaits a face transplant.

This gruesome incident highlights the fact that keeping a primate for a pet is both dangerous to the owner and inhumane to the animal. Over the past decade, roughly 100 people have been injured by primates, many of whom are children. Acts of neglect have also occurred in my home state of Illinois. In October 2008, Chicago police seized a ring-tailed lemur that was reportedly found with no food, little water, and standing in his own waste.

Although nonhuman primates are our closest living relatives, because they have unique needs and can be dangerous, they should not be kept as pets. With an estimated 15,000 primates in private hands, federal legislation is needed to reinforce this fact.

This legislation would amend the Lacey Act by adding nonhuman primates to the list of "prohibited wildlife species," declaring it illegal for any individual person to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase any prohibited wildlife species. The bill exempts zoos, universities, and wildlife sanctuaries. Having passed in the 110th Congress overwhelmingly, I strongly encourage my colleagues to join me again in passing this needed and timely legislation.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO
FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF CRASH
OF CONTINENTAL CONNECTION
FLIGHT 3407

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 183, a resolution expressing condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407.

I want to thank my colleagues, Mr. LEE and the members of the New York delegation, for introducing this resolution.

On February 12, 2009, Continental Connection Flight 3407 crashed just a few miles from the Buffalo Niagara International Airport. It was a tragic accident and our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims.

Fifty people died as a result of this crash, and an investigation is underway to determine the cause of that crash.

While we have the safest air transportation system in the world, we must not become complacent.

Again, we, as a nation, mourn the loss of Continental Connection Flight 3407 and urge my colleagues to strongly support H. Res. 183.

THE GIDEONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Abraham Lincoln believed that "the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to a man." For 100 years The Gideon's, a non-denominational evangelical group of professional businessmen, have labored to extend this heavenly gift by distributing Bibles throughout the world. I commend the Gideon's as January 2008 marks their centennial anniversary of serving God and sharing the gospel of Jesus.

"Of the many influences that have shaped the United States into a distinctive nation and people, none may be said to be more fundamental and enduring than the Bible." Because of this the Gideon's are an undeniable part of American history. From their humble roots in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, three traveling businessmen devised a plan called "the Bible project". Their mission was to simply furnish a Bible in hotel rooms throughout the United States. One hundred years later The Gideon's presence in America and across the globe has grown tremendously. They have now placed more than 1.3 billion Bibles in more than 180 countries around the world.

The Gideon's patriotic spirit is truly realized through their quest to give all military personnel serving in the United States Armed Forces a small, pocket size New Testament. They also distribute Bibles to patients in United States Veterans hospitals. Their distribution of Scriptures, touches the lives of many people regardless of age, gender, income, or need and for that they are great patriots.

For the past 100 years, Gideons International members have given so much time and service to their communities, state, nation and the world. In so doing, they have brought the Gospel message to life by distributing God's Word. I invite you to join me in honoring all Gideons for their continued faithfulness and service to God.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Health Resources and Services (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Child Protection Center, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1750 17th St., Bldg. L, Sarasota, FL 34234

Description of Request: I secured \$285,000 for the Child Protection Center.

The "Pillar of Hope" Campaign seeks to build a Child Advocacy Center in Sarasota, Florida. Along with the expansion of the counseling program, the Center will have two new state-of-the-art medical exams rooms at their location. By having the ability to provide more medical services to abused children the burden on local emergency rooms will be lessened. Currently, the Center is unable to offer certain services as they are limited in space in their current location.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Charlotte County

Address of Requesting Entity: 18500 Murdock Circle, Suite 536

Description of Request: I secured \$380,000 for Evacuation Route Widening/Burnt Store Road Project.

Funds will be used to complete design and begin construction of this evacuation route, extending from Zemel Road to the Lee/Charlotte County line. Emergency evacuation times from Charlotte and Lee Counties are unacceptably high. The Burnt Store Road evacuation road, which services over 250,000 residents in Lee and Charlotte Counties, requires 17.3 hours clearance time for a category three hurricane during peak season.

Funds will be used to expand the existing 2-lane rural highway to a 4-lane divided arterial with shoulders. It is estimated that this effort will reduce clearance time by 11 hours and enhance the overall safety of the route.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers—Investigations
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Sarasota

Address of Requesting Entity: 1565 First Street, Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$166,250 for the revitalization of the Robert L. Taylor Community Center as part of the Newtown Redevelopment Comprehensive Plan.

The Robert L. Taylor Community Center is the only government sponsored/owned recreation center in Newtown and is the most heavily used recreation center in the City. Its renovation will provide modern recreation facilities for the youth of Newtown. The recreation center and its 10 acres of land, including athletic fields and a pool, is the home of the Redskins football league (little league football), a gym, weight room, auditorium (used heavily by seniors for meetings and bingo, etc.), and business offices. The center is also the primary facility used by local high school student athletes when their school facilities are in use by in-season sports. Unfortunately, most of the facilities are in need of complete intense renovation or replacement

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—COPS
Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sarasota County

Address of Requesting Entity: 1660 Ringling Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$600,000 for Emergency Technology and Communications from the COPS account for Sarasota County.

Sarasota County is requesting federal assistance to help fund the next generation E-911 VOIP network technology component of a new multifaceted Emergency Operations 911 Public Safety Communications Center. The technology component will replace the current 30-year-old 911 call-taking network (recognizing only voice calls). This equipment is vital to helping keep the people of Sarasota County safe.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO REVEREND
ROBERT ROYAL ON HIS 80TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I rise to congratulate my good friend Reverend Robert Royal as he joins his family, long time friends, and the Harlem community together in celebration of his 80th Birthday. This momentous and joyous occasion will be celebrated with an extraordinary affair on March 1, 2009 in the headquarters of "Our Children's Foundation" in my beloved village of Harlem.

Reverend Royal has a very rich history that has given him life and longevity. It all began in the winter day of January 27, 1929. At the tender age of fifteen, Mary, his dear mother, gave birth and quickly abandon her newborn on the streets of Harlem. Among the many reasons that could compel a mother to make such a heart wrenching decision, one can only assume that uncertainty in her tender age and the economic downturn that was to become the Great Depression later on that year, were strong reasons for such a decisive conclusion.

Robert Royal was placed in the old New York Hospital Founding Children's Home, under the administrations of the Catholic Archdioceses of New York. As a youngster, he was loved, cared for, and reared by nine surrogate mothers. Before this eighth birthday, he was transferred to the Riverdale Orphanage for Colored Children. In 1937, he was finally adopted by a distant uncle who lived in Stamford, Connecticut.

Robert returned to Harlem and attended Cooper Junior High School. He excelled in his studies and was given the honor to represent his school at the New York Daily Mirror International Youth Forum. Among the 500 attendees, he was selected to be one of the five panelist chairs. He went on to complete his High School education at Seward Park High School.

During the Korean War, there was a call to national service. He answered the call of conscription and become a warrior in the fight for freedom. Young Robert was among the many that had a near fatal experience, becoming a

disabled Korean War Veteran. His heroic actions earned him two Bronze Stars and the President's coveted Distinguished Service Medal.

Battered, wounded, with medals on his chest, and limited choices in his life, Royal returned to the Village of Harlem. He sought out to write his own ticket for a better future by entering the City College of New York. Like so many G.I.'s coming home from the war, he was able to take full advantage of the G.I. Bill. Higher learning resulted in an undergraduate degree in accounting with a minor in Law of Labor Standards.

Robert's public service career began shortly thereafter at the NYC Department of Hospitals as an auditor. Later, he worked for the NYC Department of Public Works, the United States Internal Revenue Service, and as a publication typesetter for the United Nations.

Robert's call to the ministry in 1974 led to entering New York Theological Seminary, where he received a Masters of Divinity. Reverend Royal is presently serving as Executive Director of the New Brighton Local Community Development Corporation and Minister of Social Justice at Saint Paul Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend Dr. V. DuWayne Battle.

Reverend Royal continues to be known for his extraordinary commitment, energy, wisdom, discipline, principle, and clear purpose which have won the admiration of all who are privileged to come to know and work with him. I consider myself fortunate to have the opportunity to observe and experience his example as a personal inspiration.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Reverend Robert Royal on his historic 80th Birthday. His constant dedication, commitment, and spiritual guidance is worthy of the highest esteem.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPRO-
PRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am glad we are finally wrapping up our FY 09 Appropriations work and offer this legislation my full support today.

Instead of slashing our federal investment in priorities like education, health care, energy, law enforcement and biomedical research as President Bush had demanded, this bill complements the economic recovery package by addressing our Nation's immediate needs while laying the foundation for long term economic growth.

For example, to help 6.9 million families pay for college and prepare our students to compete in the 21st century global economy, we allocate \$17.3 billion—or \$3 billion more than 2008—for Pell Grants.

To provide health care for over 470,000 uninsured Americans during this economic downturn, we provide \$2.2 billion—or \$125 million above last year's levels—for our community health centers.

To accelerate the deployment of renewable energy technologies and the jobs that go with

them, we include \$18.5 billion in additional loan guarantee authority for renewables in the Department of Energy's Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program.

To keep our communities safe, we designate \$3.2 billion—or \$495 billion above 2008—for State and local enforcement.

And to ensure that America remains the global leader in lifesaving biomedical research, we invest \$30.3 billion—or \$938 million more than last year—in the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a long time coming, but we now see it was worth the wait. I will cast a "yes" vote and urge my colleagues to do the same.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO
FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF CRASH
OF CONTINENTAL CONNECTION
FLIGHT 3407

SPEECH OF

HON. ERIC J.J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. MASSA. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep solemnity that I take this moment to offer my sincere condolences to the families and friends of the 50 individuals who lost their lives when Flight 3407 crashed in Clarence, NY on February 12th. While we can never bring them back we can make sure they are honorably remembered for their many contributions, both big and small, in the lives of those all around them. I further extend my condolences to my colleague, Rep. CHRIS LEE, who represents the 26th Congressional District where the tragedy occurred.

KLEIN COLLINS ROTC

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Flying Tigers of Klein Collins High School in Klein, Texas. I want to thank the AFJROTC Flying Tigers for their service to second district of Texas and to congratulate them on their many accomplishments that led them to be chosen to perform in this year's presidential inaugural parade.

Their selection to this high honor is a testament to their mission statement "to develop the best Air Force leaders and citizens of character, dedicated to serving the Nation." I am proud that a well-qualified group of cadets from Klein—Collins will be representing the state of Texas on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The KCHS AFJROTC has a history of success in their nationally acclaimed armed and unarmed drill team competitions. Under the direction of Colonel Daniel Crum and Sergeant Ray Watson, the cadets do much more than drill competitions and marching in parades. They are involved in serving their school and community through many different service projects and duties performed throughout the year.

The cadets have participated in numerous community projects that have respectfully earned them as many as 3,200 “man hours” in the 2007/2008 school year. I want to recognize several projects that the JROTC participated in this year. They have provided color guard presentations at many events around town. At Christmas time, the cadets sent care packages to our soldiers overseas. Locally, they sponsored as many as eighteen “angels” during the holidays to help provide impoverished families with presents. They have collected canned food for several needy families. They have participated in a local fall festival held at one of the Klein Elementary schools. Many of the cadets have served on individual service projects at their local churches, animal shelters and the YMCA. There are countless other service projects this group participates in throughout the community, all of which testifies to the quality of students in the great state of Texas.

The cadet’s service and patriotism to our nation sets them apart as role models to other students. I know that the residents of the Spring Klein area are proud of their many accomplishments and happy that the Flying Tigers were chosen, out of thousands of applicants, to march in the 56th inaugural parade. It will be a momentous occasion for the students, school district and the patriotic communities in the second district of Texas. I applaud them for their tremendous achievement and wish them the best of luck in the future.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with House earmark reforms, I would like to place in the RECORD a listing of the congressionally-directed projects I have requested in my home state of Idaho that are contained in the report of HR 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009.

I’d like to take just a few minutes to describe why I support these projects and why they are valuable to the nation and its taxpayers.

DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE

The report contains \$254,000 in ARS Salaries and Expenses for NW Center for Small Fruits in Corvallis, Oregon. The Small Fruits Initiative-Plant Improvement project will build upon the strengths of existing cooperative research programs aligned through the Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research. This ongoing tri-state program supports the development of small fruits as an alternative agriculture crop in the Pacific Northwest. The funding will strengthen existing programs throughout the region and add key programs to fill in critical gaps that are not met by the existing infrastructure associated with the Center, providing key resources for Idaho scientists to address problems that negatively impact the emerging berry, grape, and wine industries in the Northwest. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Idaho, located at 875 Perimeter Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83844 through

the USDA’s ARS located at 29603 U of I Lane, Parma, Idaho, 83660.

The report contains \$650,000 in Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, salaries and expenses, for Greater Yellowstone Interagency Brucellosis Committee. Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming are each required by law to manage brucellosis-infected wildlife within their borders in order to prevent the spread of brucellosis to non-infected wildlife, cattle, or domestic bison. The Committee is coordinating with federal, state, and private actions in eliminating brucellosis from wildlife in the Greater Yellowstone Area and preventing transmission of this disease from wildlife to livestock. The funding will be used to develop and implement brucellosis herd unit management plans; to perform functions and duties of Idaho relative to the Greater Yellowstone Interagency Brucellosis Committee; to conduct brucellosis prevention, surveillance, control and eradication activities in Idaho and the Greater Yellowstone Area. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, located at 2270 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, Idaho 83712.

The report contains \$176,000 in Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, salaries and expenses, for the Nez Perce Bio-Control Center. The Nez Perce Bio-Control Center is authorized by the Noxious Weed Control and Eradication Act of 2004 and manages and establishes nurseries to increase biological control organism availability, distribute biological control organisms, monitor their impacts, and provide an increased number of annual technology transfer workshops to Cooperative Weed Management Areas and other landowners and managers regionally. This funding will continue the partnership between USDA and the Nez Perce Tribe to maximize the effectiveness of implementing a complete bio-control of weeds program in an Integrated Weed Management strategy. The Center will increase the availability of agents for landowners and managers throughout the region. Biological control offers long-term management of invasive weeds and can be used with other integrated pest management approaches. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Nez Perce Tribe Bio-Control Center, located at 102 Agency Road, Lapwai, Idaho 83540.

The report contains \$514,000 in CSREES, research and education, for the Barley for Rural Development Project. Funding for this program will support research directed at the continued development of improved malt, feed, cellulosic ethanol and food barley varieties for growers and value added end-users in rural Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota communities. This research is starting to expand and meet market opportunities, addressing the critical need of growers in production agriculture to increase economic yield, enhance domestic and international market access, improve production technologies, better compete with Canadian imports and reduce dependence on government subsidies. Research supported by this project will increase the manufacture and sale of value-added barley products (malt, beer, fuel, food, livestock) in these states, having a substantial positive

impact on their economies, supporting jobs, generating business activity, and federal, state, and local tax revenue. Maintenance of the strength of barley in the Idaho economy requires continual efforts to improve crop quality and productivity. This can only be accomplished by investing in strong research programs that keep the industry at the forefront. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Idaho, located at 875 Perimeter Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83844.

The report contains \$235,000 in CSREES, research and education, for the Cool Season Legume Research Project. This program is an aggressive cooperative research program between the USDA, the University of Idaho, and the University of Washington that seeks new, high yielding, high quality, nutritious dry pea, lentil, and chickpea varieties to meet producer and consumer needs. This research focuses on the breeding of new, superior varieties of legumes; management of nematodes, insects, plant diseases and weeds that can limit production; and reduction of soil erosion and water degradation associated with production, as well as the development of value-added new products. The technology being generated through the research is essential for the pea, lentil, and chickpea industries to remain competitive and profitable. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Idaho, located at 875 Perimeter Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83844.

The report contains \$603,000 in CSREES, research and education, for Increasing Shelf Life of Ag Commodities. In order to prevent serious food safety issues, this project will fund research and development of bio-electronic sensors that can detect the presence of microbial pathogens in food and food products. Preventative detection and treatment at the agricultural commodity level and fast, accurate detection of biological pathogens and dangerous food toxins is an important element for ensuring safety and shelf life. The research being conducted in this area at the University of Idaho will advance and expand previous work on biosensor systems to further enhance preventative detection and treatment of biological pathogens and dangerous food toxins. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Idaho, located at 875 Perimeter Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83844.

The report contains \$349,000 in CSREES, research and education, for Potato Cyst Nematode Research. This funding will be used by the University of Idaho for research and development of means to eradicate and better protect the Idaho potato crop from the soil-borne pathogen potato cyst nematode, hardened nematode bodies filled with eggs which can persist in the soil for up to 25 years. Current eradication depends upon methyl bromide, which is not totally effective and which may be banned because of its ozone depleting properties, as well as other chemicals which are even less effective and several of which may also be banned. The funds will be used to maximize the efficiency of methyl bromide while it is available and develop new “green” replacement eradicates (such as green manure or biologically derived nematicides) and

procedures (advance hatching frequency), as well as to improve planting material screening procedures and to study plant-vectorvirus relationships, which may also lead to new ways to fight potato viruses.

FY08 funding established the groundwork, and the University of Idaho is now prepared to fully implement the needed research. This project will work in concert with the ongoing USDA eradication program by providing new methods of treatment. This crop pest can result in 80% yield reductions and has negatively affected agricultural trade. There is a good chance that if this threat is addressed with adequate research and treatment it can be eliminated. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Idaho College located at 875 Perimeter Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83844.

The report contains \$1.037 million for potato research (CSREES). This funding would be used to support an on-going research program that provides critical support to the potato industry through the development of new potato varieties and resistance to disease and pests. The ARS research station at Aberdeen, Idaho, has produced eight new potato varieties, and it has participated in the development of twelve other varieties nationwide. With the increasing threat of disease and pests, new varieties are crucial for America's agriculture community. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Idaho, located at 875 Perimeter Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83844 through the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. Research will be performed at the United States Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Research Service, Pacific West Area, located at 1691 S. 2700 W., Aberdeen, Idaho 83210.

The report contains \$8.294 million in Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, salaries and expenses, for Potato Cyst Nematode Eradication. The USDA is currently conducting an aggressive eradication program to address the outbreak of Potato Cyst Nematode in Idaho, the first discovery in the U.S. This pest can result in up to 80% crop reductions, and agricultural trade has already been affected. It is imperative that our trading partners know we are aggressively addressing this issue. Furthermore, this pest has a very high risk of dispersion. While it is currently confined to a small area in Eastern Idaho, it is very conceivable that, if left untreated, this pest can spread, affecting crops other than potatoes. Through this funding, the program will continue to adequately address this issue, and there is a good potential the pest could be eradicated. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service located at 1400 Independence Avenue, Washington, D.C.

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

The report contains \$1,000,000 in the COPS Meth account for the Idaho Meth Project. Methamphetamine trafficking and abuse in Idaho has been on the rise over the past few years and, as a result, Meth is having a devastating impact in many communities throughout the State. Meth is the number one illegal drug of choice in Idaho and the State's

leading drug problem. The financial and social consequences of Meth abuse in Idaho are devastating. It is a contributing cause for much of the crime in Idaho, costs millions of dollars in productivity, contributes to the ever increasing prison populations and adversely impacts families. The Idaho Meth Project is a large-scale, statewide prevention and public awareness program designed to reduce the prevalence of first-time methamphetamine abuse in Idaho by influencing attitudes through high-impact advertising. Based on the successful Meth Project model developed in the state of Montana, the Idaho Meth Project is focused solely upon prevention and to achieve this goal is active in three areas: Public Service Messaging, Community Action and Public Policy. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Idaho Meth Project, located at 304 N. 8th Street, Room 446, Boise, Idaho 83702.

The report contains \$350,000 in the NOAA account for the Boise Center Aerospace Laboratory (BCAL) Watershed Modeling Utilizing LiDAR at Idaho State University. ISU's Department of Geosciences has developed free spatial analysis tools available to the public for remote sensing and geographic information sciences (GIS). The remote sensing tools include a downloadable toolbox for analyzing light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data, primarily for topography and vegetation in semi-arid environments. LiDAR technology can also provide topographic data below water. This funding will allow the ISU to develop new analysis tools for full-waveform LiDAR data to enable continuous characterization of the earth's surface to the top of the vegetation canopy. This type of analysis has improved potential over multiple return LiDAR data for understanding landscape processes in three dimensions. Hyperspectral analysis (soils and vegetation) will be coupled with the LiDAR data for a full characterization, spectrally and spatially of the landscape. These analyses will allow for studies of vegetation structure, dependence of vegetation, soils, and earth processes (e.g. fire, erosion) on topology (slope & aspect, drainages, surface roughness) and will provide up-to-date and precise flood plain maps for rivers with built environments to guide decisions on flood insurance coverage and land use restrictions. These predictive maps can also aid in evacuation of people and livestock during an impending flood. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Idaho State University, located at 921 South 8th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83209.

The report contains \$350,000 in the NOAA account for the Improved hydrologic modeling of water resources for snow-dominated regions at Boise State University. Mountain-front communities in the western United States are experiencing rapid population growth, putting pressure on water resources. Wise use of water resources must be founded on knowledge of how water cycles through mountain-front landscapes. However, hydrologic processes in such systems are poorly understood. Understanding and forecasting these impacts of these changes requires comprehensive hydrologic models driven by state-of-the-art technology and science. These funds will assist with the development of an operational hydrologic model for mountain-front hydrologic sys-

tems based on new research that advances knowledge on physical mechanisms by which water moves from mountains to valleys. The hydrologic model will build upon and improve current models used by the National Weather Service by making use of satellite technologies. The hydrologic model will be capable of assessing the impact of critical problems such as urbanization and climate change on water resources. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Boise State University, located at 1910 University Drive Boise, ID 83725-1135.

The report contains \$880,000 in the COPS Law Enforcement Technology Account for the Idaho State Police to participate in the Criminal Information Sharing Alliance Network (CISAnet). CISAnet is a fully functional information-sharing network comprised of law enforcement agencies from ten states, including Idaho. The program focuses on drug trafficking and border security issues. Sharing of criminal law enforcement information by and between these ten states is vital to securing an area regarded as one of the most vulnerable to our nation's security. These funds would enable Idaho to continue participating in CISAnet. This program has received federal funding in previous fiscal years. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho State Police, located at 700 South Stratford, Meridian, ID 83642.

DIVISION C—ENERGY AND WATER

The report contains \$5 million within the Army Corps of Engineers Section 595 program for rural water infrastructure upgrades in the Eastern Idaho Regional Wastewater Authority. The funding was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act. This funding is critical to assisting Idaho communities in upgrading their water and wastewater treatment facilities. In many cases, this funding is required to comply with unfunded mandates passed down by this Congress and federal agencies. In addition, these funds help communities in Idaho trying to attract new businesses and spur economic development. The vital water funding in this bill will assist communities in job creation and affordable housing by offering improved services at lower costs than would otherwise be possible. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Eastern Idaho Regional Wastewater Authority, located at 101 S. Emerson Avenue Shelley, Idaho 83274.

The report contains \$1,427,250 in DOE's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for the City of Boise's Geothermal Expansion. The Boise City geothermal system currently provides a low cost, environmentally sound, sustainable, locally provided heat source to commercial and publicly owned buildings in downtown Boise. Geothermal heat is considered a renewable source of energy and does not rely on fossil fuels, nuclear power, mining or damming of rivers and has zero emissions into the atmosphere. This project will extend the City of Boise geothermal pipeline system to Boise State University and would have the capacity to heat over two million square feet on the campus. It would provide significant cost savings as global energy costs increase and geothermal services continue to expand

to more facilities. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Boise, located at 150 N Capitol Boulevard, Third Floor, Boise, Idaho 83702.

The report contains \$2,498,639 in the DOE Office of Science account for the Idaho National Laboratory Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). CAES is a partnership between the State of Idaho and its academic research institutions, the federal government through the U.S. Department of Energy and the Idaho National Laboratory managed by the Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC. Through its collaborative structure, CAES combines the efforts of these institutions to provide timely energy research on both technical and policy issues. The research equipment obtained through this appropriation will enable the INL, Boise State University, Idaho State University, the University of Idaho, other national universities and private industry to support DOE by furthering collaboration on the advanced energy studies. Through the resulting research, CAES will contribute to the availability of carbon-neutral renewable energy, such as biofuels for transportation; the stewardship of the environment including water resource management through energy efficiency; the management of fossil fuel energy systems; and the expansion of energy production from commercial nuclear power while educating the next generation of scientists, engineers, policymakers and the public. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho National Laboratory, located at 2525 North Freemont St., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415.

The report contains \$951,500 in the DOE Office of Science account for the Idaho Accelerator Laboratory at Idaho State University. The National Academy of Sciences recently issued a report recommending that the federal government should increase support to radio-nuclide production, distribution and basic research in production mechanisms; increase the domestic production of medical radio-nuclides through dedicated accelerators and reactors; and educate the next generation of medically-related nuclear scientists. The Idaho Accelerator Center would develop a medical isotope production facility that will serve regional isotope needs, conduct basic research in isotope production, educate the next generation of medically-related nuclear scientists and partner with regional and national entities in medical isotope distribution and use. This program would meet regional and national needs in education and isotope production and would complement and enhance DOE's National Isotope Program. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho State University, located at 921 South 8th Avenue, Pocatello, ID 83209.

DIVISION D—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The report contains \$200,000 in the Small Business Administration for a research and economic development and entrepreneurial initiative at Boise State University. With this funding, Boise State University will be able to establish research partnerships with business and governmental agencies to assist businesses in an effort to preserve free competi-

tive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of the State of Idaho. The federal funds being requested will be used to match private and public sector dollars and in-kind contributions to conduct collaborative research that creates intellectual property, creates jobs and ultimately leads to the benefit and growth of the Idaho business community. The funds will also be used to develop the necessary infrastructure to mine, protect and assess the commercialization potential of the intellectual property that is developed as a result of these efforts. This healthy business climate is critical to the economic strength of Idaho, the region and the nation; the innovation and entrepreneurial spirit that originates from this sector helps the United States compete in today's global marketplace. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Boise State University, located at 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725-1135.

The report also contains \$200,000 in the Small Business Administration for the Water Cooler, a business development center in Boise, Idaho. The Water Cooler is a collaborative project that will create a nonprofit business development center for synergistic, emerging businesses and interests in Boise's creativity economy. The facility will sublease office space to small businesses and organizations; provide meeting, seminar and event space; offer a small business services center (copy, printing, IT, Wi-Fi, video conferencing and the like) and serve as a networking and idea hub for the next generation of organizations in the areas of technology, film/arts, entertainment, media, venture capital, advertising/marketing, legal and urban life. The project will develop and facilitate strategies for growing businesses and employment opportunities in Boise and throughout Idaho. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Capital City Development Corporation, located at 805 W. Idaho St. Ste. 403, Boise, ID 83702.

DIVISION E—INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES

The report contains \$250,000 in STAG for the City of Lava Hot Springs Wastewater Improvement project. Lava Hot Springs is a small town of only 480 citizens. The city's wastewater treatment plant is currently discharging pollutants into the Portneuf River, and the city will be facing severe penalties under current federal law. With such a small population, the financial burden of coming into compliance is immense. This project will improve the collection system by replacing the badly deteriorated sewer mains, correct grade problems, and enlarge pipes. The problem of debris buildup in the lagoons will be resolved with flow meter, screens, and a grit removal system all housed in a constructed headwork building. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Lava Hot Springs, located at 115 West Elm, P.O. Box 187, Lava Hot Springs, Idaho, 83246.

The report contains \$150,000 in Save America's Treasures for Restoration of the Rexburg Historic Westwood Theater. Formerly known as the Romance Theater, this circa 1917 building was the heart of entertainment for the

rural communities of eastern Idaho offering vaudeville theater, silent movies, and dance recitals. One of the fastest growing communities in Idaho, Rexburg lacks a community venue for the arts. The City of Rexburg is attempting to restore the theater in order to provide a historical, cultural center for the growing population. The building requires restoration of the stage and auditorium and repairs to the roof and brick work. The City has developed a volunteer citizen committee to raise funding through fund raisers and the Idaho Commission on the Arts. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Rexburg, Idaho, located at 12 North Center Street, P.O. Box 280, Rexburg, Idaho, 83440.

The report contains \$2,000,000 in LWCF for Land Acquisition for Henry's Lake ACEC. The funding will be used to purchase a conservation easement on the historic Johnson Ranch, on the west side of Henry's Lake. The ranch sustains an important wildlife migration corridor for game herds in the Yellowstone region as well as the area's scenic beauty. Roughly 2 million visitors travel through the Henry's Lake area every year. This conservation easement will continue existing ranching and agricultural activities while protecting the land and its wildlife from the subdivision and second home development that is spreading in the Island Park/Henry's Lake area. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Bureau of Land Management, located at 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401.

The report contains \$500,000 in LWCF for the Upper Snake/South Fork of the Snake River ACEC. The funding will be used to secure conservation easements from willing sellers. The BLM has ranked the Upper Snake South Fork as a top priority for land acquisition. As one of the nation's premier fishing destinations and recreational rivers, the Upper Snake/South Fork of the Snake River, which features outstanding fish habitat, water quality, scenic vistas and one of the West's most extensive cottonwood riparian forests, is under pressure from increasing population. The funding will facilitate protection of key lands in this landscape and will preserve and protect natural habitat while simultaneously supporting important recreational, and tourism opportunities in eastern Idaho. Additionally the lands proposed for protection include important agricultural lands that will remain in production and private ownership. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Bureau of Land Management, located at 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401.

The report contains \$250,000 for the Idaho Sage Grouse Management Plan. This funding will be used to implement the state's management plan for the sage grouse population, which is on the verge of being listed under the Endangered Species Act. A decision by the Fish and Wildlife Service could come as early as this spring. Idaho is taking proactive steps to recover this species before a listing is required, and the Sage Grouse Advisory Committee (SAC) is coordinating implementation of a statewide management plan for sage

grouse. Contained within the plan are over 100 conservation measures for stabilizing and increasing populations of sage grouse in Idaho. In addition, there are 11 Local Working Groups that have completed or in the process of forming local plans. These funds will aid in implementing state and local plans and continuing the important on-the-ground work being done by Local Working Groups, including habitat restoration, monitoring, research, and education. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho Office of Species Conservation located at 300 North 6th Street, Suite 101, Boise, Idaho 83702.

DIVISION F—LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION

The report contains \$333,000 in the Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education account for the Idaho Early Literacy Project administered by the Lee Pesky Learning Center in Boise. The aim of the Idaho Early Literacy Project is to educate new mothers on the importance of early childhood literacy and math skills and providing them with resources for educating their children to assure that all children in Idaho are ready to read when they enter school. This funding will assist with the distribution of the research-based booklet, *Every Child Ready to Read: Literacy Tips for Parents*, to hospital maternity wards across Idaho as well as the training of child care providers throughout the state of Idaho. The training of child care providers includes a face-to-face approach in larger population centers and an on-line approach for remote rural locations. The project provides that children will receive literacy education at home and in child care facilities, creating the “language rich” upbringing necessary for success in school. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Lee Pesky Learning Center, located at 3324 Elder Street, Boise, ID 83705.

The report contains \$285,000 in the Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account for the Idaho Caring Foundation for Children for dental services for low-income children. As a dentist, I understand the importance of proper dental hygiene at a very young age. Serious health and self-esteem problems can quickly evolve if dental hygiene is neglected early in a child's development. The project will provide access to needed dental services for 5,000 low-income, uninsured Idaho children. These services will be provided by our network of 120 Idaho dentists who provide dental services for reduced fees and in partnership with the oral health programs at all seven Idaho Health Districts. Eligible children will be identified by working in partnership with Idaho schools, health departments, Head Start programs and YMCA programs. All administrative costs for this program will be donated by Regence BlueShield of Idaho. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Idaho Caring Foundation for Children, located at 1211 W. Myrtle, Suite 110, Boise, ID 83702.

The report contains \$285,000 in the Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education Account for the Idaho Falls Arts Council ARTKade program for the purchase of equipment. The Idaho Falls Arts Council is

creating a two-story, 5000 square foot interactive visual arts education center for youth, ages K–12, called ARTkade in downtown Idaho Falls. This funding will go primarily to purchase equipment to build the various arts stations. The purpose of ARTkade is to stimulate and re-awaken young people's interest in the visual arts by using interactive learning, computer technology and hands on festival style art projects that capture their imagination and redirect them to art education. The Council is partnering with area schools in the development and implementation of this facility (in large part because many local schools do not have full-time art teachers) and will be providing users with referral information about other arts education opportunities in the region. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Idaho Falls Arts Council, located at 498 A Street, Idaho Falls, ID 83402.

The report contains \$143,000 in the Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education account for the Life's Kitchen, Inc. life skills instruction programs for at-risk youth. This program works to stop the cycle of homelessness and prevent dependence on public assistance for at-risk, low-income youth (ages 16–20) through hands-on experience in the culinary arts combined with life skills instruction. Life skill instruction ranges from teaching students interview skills to personal financial management, as well as job placement. Life's Kitchen provides an innovative 16-week educational program of hands-on work experience training for young people who are at-risk and living on the fringe of society. These hands-on skills are developed while working in our three food businesses: cafe, catering and contract food. Students access the program through high school counselors, employment agencies, social workers, juvenile correction officers and word-of-mouth. The funding provided will be used to provide equipment and supplies needed to run the mentoring and tutoring as well as the culinary instruction portion of the programs. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Life's Kitchen Inc., located at 1025 S. Capitol Blvd. Boise, Idaho 83706.

The report contains \$333,000 in the Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account for the Idaho Oral Health Institute at Idaho State University. The Idaho Oral Health Institute will provide a center for oral health education, research, and clinical practice in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. The Institute will promote the highest quality of oral health care by providing education in contemporary clinical methods to oral health professionals, innovative continuing education to practicing health professionals and staff, collaboration among oral health and health professions researchers across the country and a state-of-the-art oral health care facility including classrooms, clinics, and laboratories with leading edge equipment and technology designed for education and research. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Idaho State University, located at 921 South 8th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83209.

The report contains \$285,000 in the Institute of Museums and Library Services Museums

and Libraries Account for the Discovery Center of Idaho for exhibits and outreach. The Discovery Center of Idaho is collaborating with multiple partners to create a new model of “hands-on” science center to captivate the attention of and inspire tomorrow's leaders and innovators. The center will be a resource for the region, with particular interest in serving rural areas to help break the myth that innovation is an urban phenomenon—and emphasize the understanding that ingenuity is found wherever and whenever an observant creative human being has a problem to solve. This is a tremendous opportunity to create a new approach to bridging the gap in science and technology education particularly for the underserved. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Discovery Center of Idaho, located at 131 Myrtle St., Boise, ID 83702.

The report contains \$285,000 in the Department of Education's Higher Education account for the College of Southern Idaho's Pro-Tech Training Program. This program will enable the College to partner with other agencies to identify training needs and to identify potential candidates for employment. Data provided by Region IV of the State of Idaho Economic Development Agency indicate that manufacturing will be a leading employment area in the Magic Valley with over 250 new jobs expected over the next two years. The College of Southern Idaho has identified a significant educational demand for hi-tech manufacturing and engineering and a need for in-depth training in the technological aspects of the design, fabrication and manufacturing phases of production. These jobs will require the type of training that the College of Southern Idaho can provide with great expertise. This funding would be used to develop curriculum, implement new post-secondary educational-technical training degrees and programs at the College. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is College of Southern Idaho, located at 315 Falls Ave. Twin Falls, ID 83303–1238.

The report contains \$285,000 in the Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account for St. Luke's Regional Medical Center's Children Health Services Expansion. The Children's Health Services Expansion project provides an essential increase in capacity for Pediatric Medical/Surgical, Pediatric Intensive Care, Neonatal Intensive Care, Pediatric Oncology, and Pediatric Surgical Suites and support areas, to meet the needs of the rapidly growing population in the hospital's service area. The hospital is spending millions on the expansion and federal funds will represent only a small portion of the project's total costs. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is St. Luke's Regional Medical Center Ltd., located at 190 E. Bannock Street, Boise, ID 83712.

The report contains \$381,000 in the Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services account for Madison County Memorial Hospital. Madison County Memorial Hospital services a growing area encompassing five counties and quite simply has outgrown its facilities. Increased capacity for obstetrics (Madison County Memorial Hospital

has more births than any other hospital of its size in the State of Idaho and possibly the nation) and inpatient and outpatient surgeries is needed. The size of this project is 70,000 sq. feet of new construction and 85,000 sq. feet of remodeling, with an overall budget of \$49 million and an equipment budget of over \$7 million. Federal funding will be used for necessary medical equipment for the expanded and remodeled facility and represents a very small portion of the overall funding for this project. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Madison County Memorial Hospital, located at 450 East Main, Rexburg, ID 83440.

The report contains \$190,000 in the Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education account for Idaho SySTEMic Solution program at Boise State University. Idaho SySTEMic Solution is a nationally relevant, hands-on, project-based STEM learning system (science, technology, engineering, & math) designed to spur achievement and confidence among elementary-age learners and their teachers. Key project components will include: 1) a comprehensive teacher training model that includes a one-week summer institute and ongoing site-based follow-up training to boost the ability and confidence of elementary teachers; 2) implementation into demographically diverse schools (grades 1–5/6, urban to suburban to rural, multicultural) of curriculum-aligned learning lab systems that have been shown to improve student scores in math, science, and technology; and 3) research and evaluation of results in accordance with Idaho and national assessment standards to maximize the effectiveness of transplanting this solution to other U.S. states. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Boise State University, located at 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725–1135.

DIVISION I—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The report contains \$285,000 in the HUD/EDI account for the Custer County Economic Development Initiative in Custer County, ID. Custer County is overwhelmingly owned by the federal government, creating enormous financial challenges. The county has a very small tax base with high costs for maintaining roads and services over a very large area. Funding would allow the county to purchase and renovate an old middle school in Challis that would become a government and business center housing county offices and allowing them to become ADA compliant. This project received \$100,000 in FY08, and funding of this request would complete the project. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Custer County, Idaho, located at 801 Main Street, Challis, Idaho, 83226.

The report contains \$1,961,750 in the FHWA/Public Lands Highways account for the City of Rocks Back Country Byway Relocation, ID. This 16.7 mile long project is located on the popular City of Rocks Back Country Byway in Cassia County, Idaho, which provides the only direct access to the City of Rocks National Reserve. When fully completed, the project will pave a 1.0 mile gravel segment, reconstruct 15.7 miles of deficient roadway, correct deteriorated road and slope

conditions, provide a wider road with shoulders and guardrail, and improve the road's alignment by reducing the number and severity of sharp curves and steep grades. These improvements will increase safety for the driving public and provide safer access for bicycle and pedestrian traffic. These improvements will also significantly reduce the amount of ongoing maintenance required to keep the route usable. Previous federal funding, FY 1999 through FY 2008, totals \$12,827,000 including \$3.95 million in FY 2008. Full funding of this request in FY 2009 will complete the project. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho Department of Transportation, located at 3311 West State Street, Boise, Idaho, 83707–1129.

The report contains \$4,845,000 in the FTA/Buses and Bus Facilities account for Buses and Bus Facilities for the Idaho Transit Coalition. Funding for this project will be used to support essential transit systems in rural and urban areas of the State of Idaho. This project meets the criteria of the FTA's Section 5209 Capital Program and has been funded by the Committee since FY 2002. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Community Transportation Association of Idaho, located at 10480 Garverdale Court, Bldg. 4, Suite 804A, Boise, Idaho 83704.

The report contains \$475,000 in the FHWA/Interstate Maintenance Discretionary account for the I–84, Broadway Avenue to Gowen Road Widening, Boise, ID. Funding will be used for design of the project to add a third east and westbound lane between Broadway Avenue and Gowen Road on I–84. With funding, the project will be ready for construction in FY10 in conjunction with the State of Idaho's Connecting Idaho projects in the Boise area. Improving I–84 through Boise and the surrounding area is a priority for the State of Idaho. In FY 2008, \$1.5 million was appropriated for the I–84 Interchange at Broadway Avenue that precedes this project, which is required to alleviate congestion and safety issues caused by the continued fast growth in the Treasure Valley. This project is included in the I–84 Boise Corridor Study adopted by the Idaho Transportation Department and the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) Boards in October of 2001 and part of the COMPASS Regional 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, approved in 2006. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Idaho Department of Transportation, located at 3311 West State Street, Boise, Idaho 83707–1129.

The report contains \$475,000 in the FTA/Buses and Bus Facilities account for the Treasure Valley Transit Facilities, Meridian, ID. This project will fund site location and required environmental analysis for up to one administration facility and/or up to four bus transfer centers to improve transit services in western Ada and Canyon Counties, Idaho. The development of transit facilities is a recommendation in the regional transit plan which characterizes these transit centers as crucial to the success of the transit system. These facilities will support regional public transportation services in the area. \$9.5 million was authorized in

SAFETEA–LU for the Boise Multi-Modal Center (MMC). This project is part of the same system and is included, as is the MMC, in the regional capital facilities plan for transit in the Treasure Valley. This project is the next phase of development. Funds to date include \$288,000 in the FY2008 Appropriations Bill for site location and the start of the environmental analysis. Matching funds for this year total \$125,000. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of this account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Valley Regional Transit, located at 830 N. Main Street, Meridian, Idaho 83642.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of Congressionally-directed projects in my district and an explanation of my support for them.

- (1.) \$254,000 for NW Center for Small Fruits in Corvallis, OR
- (2.) \$650,000 for Greater Yellowstone Interagency Brucellosis Committee
- (3.) \$176,000 for the Nez Perce BioControl Center
- (4.) \$926,000 for the Tri-State Predator Control Program
- (5.) \$514,000 for the Barley for Rural Development Project
- (6.) \$235,000 for the Cool Season Legume Research Project
- (7.) \$603,000 for Increasing Shelf Life of Ag Commodities
- (8.) \$349,000 for Potato Cyst Nematode Research
- (9.) \$1.037 million for Potato Research (CSREES)
- (10.) \$8.294 million for Potato Cyst Nematode Eradication
- (11.) \$1,000,000 for the Idaho Meth Project
- (12.) \$350,000 for the Boise Center Aerospace Laboratory (BCAL) Watershed Modeling Utilizing LiDAR; Idaho State University
- (13.) \$350,000 for the Improved hydrologic modeling of water resources for snow-dominated regions; Boise State University
- (14.) \$880,000 for Criminal Information Sharing Alliance Network (CISAnet); Idaho State Police
- (15.) \$5,000,000 for Rural Idaho water projects; Eastern Idaho Regional Wastewater Authority
- (16.) \$1,427,250 for Boise City Geothermal System Expansion; City of Boise
- (17.) \$2,498,639 for the Idaho National Laboratory Center for Advanced Energy Studies; Idaho National Laboratory
- (18.) \$951,500 for the Idaho Accelerator Center Production of Medical Isotopes; Idaho State University
- (19.) \$200,000 for a research and economic development and entrepreneurial initiative; Boise State University
- (20.) \$200,000 for a business development center, Capital City Development Corporation
- (21.) \$250,000 for City of Lava, Wastewater Improvement (STAG)
- (22.) \$150,000 for Rexburg Historic Westwood Theater (SAT)
- (23.) \$2,000,000 for Land Acquisition for Henry's Lake ACEC (LWCF)
- (24.) \$500,000 for the Upper Snake/South Fork of the Snake River ACEC (LWCF)
- (25.) \$250,000 for the Idaho Sage Grouse
- (26.) \$333,000 for Idaho Early Literacy Project; Lee Pesky Learning Center
- (27.) \$285,000 for Dental services for low-income children; Idaho Caring Foundation for Children

(28.) \$285,000 for ARTKade; Idaho Falls Arts Council

(29.) \$143,000 for Life skills instructions programs for at-risk youth; Life's Kitchen Inc.

(30.) \$333,000 for Idaho Oral Health Institute; Idaho State University

(31.) \$285,000 for The Discovery Center of Idaho exhibits and outreach; Discovery Center of Idaho

(32.) \$285,000 for College of Southern Idaho Pro-Tech Training Program; College of Southern Idaho

(33.) \$285,000 for Children's Health Services Expansion; St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd

(34.) \$381,000 for Madison County Memorial Hospital Construction and Renovation Project; Madison County Memorial Hospital

(35.) \$190,000 for Idaho SySTEMic Solution program; Boise State University

(36.) \$285,000 for Custer County to purchase middle school building

(37.) \$1,961,750 for the City of Rocks Back Country Byway

(38.) \$4,845,000 for the Idaho Transit Coalition for Buses and Bus Facilities

(39.) \$475,000 for I-84 Broadway Avenue to Gowen Road Widening

(40.) \$475,000 for the Treasure Valley Transit Facilities

The "Reading First" Program was widely supported for its emphasis on raising reading levels, particularly among low-income children. Just yesterday, I met with an elementary school principal from Iowa who praised the program as one which has made a difference to lots of children in my State.

Another policy change, done through a funding reduction, is a de-emphasis on Yucca Mountain. At a time when we need to be looking at all forms of energy, why would we want to halt construction and design work at Yucca since nuclear waste storage is a big issue. At a minimum, we should have had a debate on this subject.

In the end, this entire process has been a giant abdication of our responsibilities in this body, representing a shameful performance. Our constituents deserve better than the bill before us represents.

I hope that for the FY 2010 funding cycle, the majority will re-discover the value of regular order and transparency. In this way, we can add a little more credibility to the process, and the reputation of this House.

JULIE ROGERS "GIFT OF LIFE" PROGRAM AND THEIR "SPIRIT OF LOVE" AWARD WINNERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program and the recipients of their "Spirit of Love" awards for their commitment to the fight against cancer and dedication to assisting the medically underserved in Southeast Texas.

The Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program, established in 1994 by Regina Rogers, began as a tribute to her mother, a breast cancer survivor. Originally providing free mammograms to women, shortly afterwards they expanded to prostate screenings for men and cancer education outreach. Since then, they have provided over 13,500 mammograms and over 4,500 prostate screenings while conducting over 450 educational presentations. The Program has helped extend the lives of more than 135 people who found cancer after one of their screenings. They grew from their humble beginnings into one of the largest cancer screening and awareness organizations of its type in Texas.

Each year at their annual board meeting, the "Gift of Life" Program presents both an individual and corporate "Spirit of Love" Awards to honor those that have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help fight cancer and spread awareness. This year, the late Todd Christopher was awarded the Julie Rogers "Spirit of Love" Award, while the TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery was presented with the Corporate "Spirit of Love" Award. Both deserve the recognition for their dedication and commitment to the community.

Todd Christopher was born and raised in Beaumont, Texas. After graduating from Texas A&M University, Todd moved back home with an entrepreneur spirit and co-founded four businesses, bringing hundreds of jobs to the area. He served on a number of boards across the area and as co-chairman of

the Julie and Ben Rogers Cancer Foundation Drive. He somehow found enough time to dedicate a large part of his life to his wife Gerry and children Clayton and Gary. He has coached their sports teams and supported their scholastic endeavors. Cancer tragically cut Todd's life short in 2008 but his spirit lives on. The work he did for Southeast Texas will last forever.

The TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery was recognized for exhibiting outstanding community leadership and reducing health disparities among Southeast Texans. The refinery, built in 1936 and acquired by the French company TOTAL in 1973, has taken a proactive role in fighting cancer. Through their annual sponsorship of "Gift of Life" breast and prostate cancer initiatives, they have provided over 600 women and more than 1,800 men with free mammograms and prostate screenings. They alone have helped extend the lives of seven women and nine men whose cancer was detected at "Gift of Life" screenings. They have also made a commitment to Southeast Texas by embarking on a \$2.2 billion dollar expansion of their refinery, increasing their refining capacity and adding 60 new full time jobs.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas I would like to thank the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program, the family of Todd Christopher, and the TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery for all their work in fighting cancer and spreading awareness. Their efforts have made Southeast Texas a better place to live and work.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as a part of H.R. 1105, The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: California State University Agricultural Research Initiative

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802-094210

Description of Request: I have secured \$693,000 for the ARI. The Agriculture Research Initiatives (ARI) provides significant benefits to consumers as well as agriculture-related industries. Faculty and research scientists develop solutions for challenges that result in public confidence in food safety, agricultural research and production systems; regional and statewide economic development; and bring agricultural, environmental, and consumer benefits in the process. ARI funding priority will be given to science and best management issues related to climate change, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and carbon sequestering; food safety and security; water quality, infrastructure, and conveyance; and public health and welfare.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, today we come to the House chamber to consider a package of the remaining fiscal year 2009 appropriations bills. We are five months late in acting on these bills, and for no good reason.

The net effect of this delay is two-fold: One, the delay has prevented a number of Federal programs from making necessary mission changes simply because those programs have been frozen in-place under the CR.

Number two, the \$410 billion contained in this bill represents annual spending increases for hundreds of programs. These increases are well above necessary levels, especially given that we just passed a stimulus bill that carried \$301 billion in new discretionary spending—much of which is for the same programs contained in this omnibus measure, and that we fund every year in the annual process.

In short, many of the programs in this package will get a double dose of funding. Unfortunately, this extra dose will be built into future spending, and that's not fair to the American taxpayer—why, because it locks in trillion dollar deficits.

Apart from the problems with the spending totals in this package, we are allowing a laundry list of policy issues to pass through Congress without any public scrutiny.

A number of these policy issues are troubling to many of us. For example, the omnibus eliminates the "Reading First" Program within the Department of Education. I don't remember debating this issue in the stunted '09 process.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Pierce's Disease

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of California

Address of Requesting Entity: 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,531,000 for Pierce's Disease Research. The Pierce's Disease Research special research grant funds are awarded competitively to qualified researchers from any state based on priorities developed by industry, the University and governmental agencies. The program has supported projects to reduce the population of glassy-winged sharpshooters that spread the disease, map the genome for *Xylella fastidiosa*—the bacterium that causes the disease—develop new cultural and vineyard practices to help growers contain the spread of Pierce's disease, and advance the search for long-term solutions. Continuation of funding is important to supporting ongoing science aimed at finding permanent solutions for control and containment of this devastating disease through breeding disease resistant scion and rootstock, developing new vineyard management practices, and other breakthroughs.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Regional Operability for Public Safety Communications, 2009

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Stanislaus County

Address of Requesting Entity: 1010 10th Street, Suite 6800, Modesto, CA 95354

Description of Request: I have secured \$500,000 for Stanislaus County Regional Interoperability. This request will enhance the existing interoperability channel, expand radio coverage through difficult terrain, replace aging equipment, continue progress towards system wide P-25 compliance, and will support the City and County's joint efforts to respond to public safety incidents throughout California's Central Valley and to be prepared for a disaster situation. Equipment would include new towers, transmitters, antennae, voter/receivers and a security system at the primary transmission site.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Regional Interoperability, 2009

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Fresno County

Address of Requesting Entity: 2281 Tulare Street, Third Floor, Room 300, Fresno, CA 93721

Description of Request: I have secured \$200,000 for Fresno County Regional Interoperability. Fresno County is attempting to provide true communication capabilities between law enforcement, emergency medical services and fire protection serving Fresno County and the region by using an intelligent voice and data communication network. This request will enable the completion of an elec-

tronic data communication system. The completion of the system will greatly enhance the public safety of the approximately 1.5 million citizens of four counties (Fresno, Kings, Madera, and a portion of Tulare) and numerous communities served by the participating agencies through ensuring clear voice, data and video communications among first responders and law enforcement during emergencies.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers, Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California Department of Water Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: I have secured \$956,000 for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basin's Comprehensive Study. This Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study is a cooperative effort between the California Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The purpose of the Comprehensive Study is to develop a system-wide, comprehensive flood management plan for the Central Valley to reduce flood damage and to integrate ecosystem restoration in addition to developing ways to reduce the flood risk to people, their property, and the state and federal infrastructure of the Central Valley. The purpose is also to develop a sustainable flood management system for the future and to reduce the adverse consequences of floods when they occur. The Study provides a long-range management program for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins with the objective of improving the flood carrying capacity of the system while restoring and protecting environmental features including wetlands as well as fish and wildlife habitat.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Career Technical Education Pathway Program

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clovis Unified School District

Address of Requesting Entity: 1450 Herndon Avenue, Clovis, CA 93611

Description of Request: I have secured \$476,000 for the Clovis Career Technical Education Pathway Program. Funding will provide essential curriculum and professional development and equipment to support the dual objectives of advancing student academic achievement and career development in workforce areas essential to our national economic development. This funding will allow students to develop knowledge and skills within the career pathway while taking rigorous, integrated courses that include Honors and Advanced Placement curriculum for college and university admissions. Each pathway will prepare students for post-secondary education, employment, or advanced training in a particular industry sector.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Veterans Boulevard

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Fresno

Address of Requesting Entity: 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721

Description of Request: I have secured \$570,000 for Veterans Boulevard. The funding will be used for the preliminary engineering and design of a major thoroughfare, the Veterans Boulevard freeway interchange at State Route 99, which will alleviate growing traffic concerns as substantial development continues to expand in the northwest region of Fresno County. Veterans Boulevard is planned as a new six lane super-arterial roadway which includes bridges over SR 99, Golden State Boulevard and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. The interchange is a critical element to alleviate congestion at the Shaw Avenue/SR 99 and the Herndon Avenue/SR 99 interchanges.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: State Route 180 East Improvements

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Fresno

Address of Requesting Entity: 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,330,000 for State Route 180 East Improvements. The funding will be used to complete State Route 180 which will accommodate increased safe traffic flows vital for economic and commercial development of eastern Fresno County and will enhance farm-to-market shipping opportunities for the region. State Route 180 is vital to the economic health of the Central Valley. This vital corridor will provide the much needed East-West route extensions that will ultimately provide a connection to the only Interstate in Fresno County, Interstate 5. State Route 180 improvements help relieve State Route 99 of truck traffic and air pollution by moving traffic away from the metropolitan Fresno area.

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, as an original co-sponsor I proudly rise in strong support of H. Res. 83, which recognizes the significance of Black History Month. Since 1926, the contributions of African Americans have been recognized and celebrated each February. It comes as no surprise that this year Black History Month is especially significant with the inauguration of Barack Obama as the nation's 44th President.

I thank my colleague and friend from Texas, Congressman AL GREEN, for introducing this very important resolution. The joy we all feel on this occasion is tempered by the grief that still lingers over the sudden loss last year of our dear friend and colleague, Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones of Ohio.

For more than 400 years and despite tremendous hardships such as slavery, segregation, and legalized injustice, African Americans

have made significant contributions to the economic, educational, political, artistic, literary, religious, scientific, and technological life in the United States.

As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, let me say that it is altogether fitting and proper that we set aside the month of February to remember and honor the achievements and contributions of American heroes like George Washington Carver, Dr. Charles Drew, Justice Thurgood Marshall, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Jackie Robinson, Crispus Attucks, Tiger Woods, Benjamin Banneker, and Guion Bluford, Jr.

But Mr. Speaker, nothing wilts so fast as laurels that are rested upon. Time marches on and history unfolds daily. The greatest contributions to the American experience are yet to be made. The challenges facing our country are great but not as great as our will to overcome them. We have an economy to rebuild, an environment to protect, a generation to educate, diseases to cure, and lives to reclaim.

We will succeed. And when the history of this period is written, I have no doubt that it will record the tremendous accomplishments made by Americans, including African Americans.

We will rebuild our economy, preserve the environment and protect the planet, end the HIV/AIDS epidemic and other scourges; provide a world class education to the next generation; and demonstrate to the world not only that it is possible but desirable for people of different races, creeds, and religions to live and work together in peace and harmony.

As members of the greatest legislative body in the world it remains our duty this month and every month of every year to pursue policies that promote social and economic justice.

As an African American woman and legislator who has been benefited from the pioneering work of others, I am committed to doing all that I can to ensure that the doors of opportunity are opened even wider and that all persons in our country have the opportunity to fulfill their potential and realize their dreams.

I urge all Members to joining me in voting to support this resolution.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The CTSA program is an important and transformative initiative designed to improve the way biomedical research is conducted across the country, reduce the time it takes for laboratory discoveries to become treatments for patients, engage communities in clinical research efforts, and train the next generation of clinical and translational researchers.

As the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee noted in its subcommittee mark, the program has the potential to create a new paradigm for clinical and translational research.

I am proud that two of the 38 current CTSA sites, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University, are in my district. These two universities have a track record of excellence, and I am pleased that NIH has recognized them as strong research campuses.

Unfortunately, nearly level funding for NIH over the past few years has severely limited the size of the award that can be made to these and the other CTSA-recipient institutions. In addition to hindering the important work being done at the current CTSA sites, the funding challenges have encumbered implementation of the program and threaten to curtail its intended size of 60 sites.

As a firm supporter of NIH, I commend Chairman OBEY on the increased NIH funding in both the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations bill and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and thank him for designating for the CTSA program in the Omnibus bill. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to provide robust funding for this important program in the FY10 appropriations cycle.

LAW ENFORCEMENT LOOKING
OVER THEIR SHOULDER. ARE
THEY GUN SHY?

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, one element lost throughout the fight to free Border Patrol agents Ramos and Compean is the weakened morale it brought throughout the entire ranks of the Border Patrol and its possible detrimental effects on border security. Everyone in the agency knows it could have been them standing guard along the border in Fabens, TX that February day in 2005. Faced with a similar situation, would they have made the same call as Ramos and Compean? The question is an important one because when placed in future similar situations, agents will pause and hesitate and will think long and hard about what course of action to take and if they take a certain course of action, will their government back them up or will they face scrutiny and prosecution? The border is a dangerous place full of dangerous bad guys who don't contemplate these things. Their job is to get their drugs across the border and will fight with everything they have to accomplish that task. Agents are taught to use their training to help them in the face of danger but even the most trained agent is human and most if not all will pause long and hard with thoughts of Ramos & Compean. Officers who hesitate to act not only risk safety to themselves but they risk losing control of our border to the bad guys. The problem is, the other side knows this and their behavior has been growing ever more hostile and ever more assaultive to see the length they can take.

Agents who take aggressive action to hold their border line and protect themselves and their fellow colleagues are constantly looking over their shoulder. The Mexican government has aided in that fear. They constantly are directing pressure from their consulates to local and national offices of the U.S. Attorney's office and FBI to stomp out what they consider

are aggressive Border Patrol actions against their citizens, even if they know those citizens are there to commit crimes against the United States.

Our government needs to be on the right side of this border war. Our government needs to defend our agents who face hostility from a violent enemy. Our government needs to be less concerned with protecting criminals and more concerned with how agents actions will prevent further crime. Enemies throughout time respect only one thing and that is action and defiance. If we allow our agents to show that force and take it to the enemy instead of being gun shy, perhaps we will once again restore order on the border.

TRIBUTE TO BALTIMORE READS

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Baltimore Reads—an organization that has worked tirelessly for the past 20 years to combat illiteracy. Their goal is to help participants gain the necessary skills for self-sufficiency, employment, and life-long learning in order to achieve economic and social empowerment. For 20 years, Baltimore Reads has been striving to meet these goals and, for many participants, has been a means to achieve them.

Since 1992, Baltimore Reads has distributed more than one million books to schools and disadvantaged families. At the Ripken Adult Learning Center, their educational facility in downtown Baltimore, more than 325 students attend classes at proficiency levels ranging from non-readers to GED candidates. With their programs in high demand, they have plans to expand to more locations and add Internet classes. Today, thousands of Baltimoreans have the basic skills necessary to succeed in life because of Baltimore Reads' efforts.

I strongly support Baltimore Reads' vision of a 100 percent literacy rate in Baltimore. I would like to take this opportunity to commend them on their work and wish them another 20 years of success.

HONORING POLK COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
MARVIN WILLIAMS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have had a major impact on their community.

Today, I rise to honor Marvin Williams of Rockmart, Georgia in Polk County. Marvin has demonstrated a passion for serving others both in his personal and professional lives. For over 30 years, Marvin has been involved in the educational system of Polk County. He began his service as a Special Education

teacher and in 1980, Marvin started his administrative career at Westside Elementary School. In 1999, Marvin Williams became Interim Superintendent for the Polk County School District and officially became the county's first African-American Superintendent in 2007. Marvin has also been a valuable addition to my 11th District Education Advisory Board, helping to advise me in improving our nation's education policies.

In addition to Marvin's commitment to the education system of Polk County, he also gives back to his community through his service as the Minister of Music at Thankful Baptist Church in Rome, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Superintendent Marvin Williams for his leadership and service to the people of Polk County and his commitment to the students in his district.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Byrne Discretionary Grants
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Houston Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 1200 Travis Street, Houston, TX 77002

Description of Request: I have secured \$350,000 for the Houston Police Department to purchase more LiveScan equipment, enabling them to capture electronic fingerprints and be part of the IAFIS (Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System) program which enables them to determine in seconds as opposed to days the alienage and criminal history of those they apprehend through the federal Law Enforcement Support Center. Previously, Houston has gone through the Texas Department of Public Safety which has received approximately \$26 million in grants from the National Criminal History Improvement Program (through the Bureau of Justice Statistics) since 1995; however, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the National Criminal History Improvement Program services the entire state and they are limited in the amount of funding it can provide to Houston. Houston has 6 Livescan machines working. Funds obtained last fiscal year helped them buy 7 additional machines. Houston still needs 9 more machines to be fully electronic under IAFIS city wide.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Byrne Discretionary Grants
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Houston Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 1200 Travis Street, Houston, TX 77002

Description of Request: I have secured \$150,000 for the Houston Police Department to purchase 50 additional mobile AFIS (automated fingerprint identification system) handheld devices that would be given to police officers away from their desks to quickly capture biometric information of suspects and quickly determine their criminal histories, outstanding warrants, whether they have an order of removal or bench warrant for a failure to appear for an immigration proceeding from Immigration and Customs Enforcement, etc. from ICE's Office of Detention and Removal's deportable felon database.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Corps of Engineers, Investigations
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sabine-Neches Navigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 778, 2348 Hwy. 69 North, Nederland, TX 77627

Description of Request: I have secured \$478,000 to complete the feasibility study phase of deepening and widening the Sabine-Neches Waterway which will include beginning the Planning, Engineering, and Design (PED) phase of the General Investigation of deepening and widening the waterway.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Department of Energy, EERE
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Houston Center for Clean Fuels and Power Generation (CFPG)

Address of Requesting Entity: 4800 Calhoun Road, Houston, TX 77004

Description of Request: I have helped secure \$475,750 to focus on the synthesis and development of clean and sustainable fuels, their combustion for efficient generation of portable power, and their exhaust after-treatment for minimal impact to the environment. CFPG is one component of a diverse portfolio of programs focused on energy at UH, which is strategically located in a vast regional petrochemical complex and port system, as well as the center of the international energy industry. CFPG program activities include: cross-cutting multi-scale research in the sciences and engineering, technology transfer and integration, and educating a diverse scientific workforce in fields key to the success of the U.S. economy.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Corps of Engineers, O&M
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Chambers-Liberty Counties Navigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: 1801 Trinity Street, Liberty, TX 77575

Description of Request: I have secured \$994,000 to maintain navigation along the lower Trinity River in Texas. The Trinity River Project is a 47 mile shallow draft waterway beginning with the Anahuac Channel which extends for 5.6 miles from the 6 foot depth in upper Trinity Bay to the Mouth of the Trinity River at Anahuac Texas. From the mouth of Trinity River, the channel to Liberty proceeds for 41.4 miles along the meanders of the Trinity River to the Port of Liberty. Also included

is a 9-foot depth channel extending from the Houston Ship channel along the east shore of the Trinity Bay, to a point 1 mile below Anahuac, Texas. Maintenance is needed to allow shallow draft barge access to support the current industrial residents at the Port of Liberty and to attract new ones. The combination of rail and barge traffic at the Port of Liberty creates a powerful synergy to propel the economic development of our primary rural community.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Corps of Engineers, O&M
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Gulf Intra-coastal Canal Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 2010 Butler Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546

Description of Request: I have helped secure \$29,586,000 to maintain navigation of selected Gulf Intracoastal Waterway reaches in Texas such as the Victoria, Cedar Bayou, and Harlingen channels. Funding also could include installing mooring buoys at selected locations along the waterway and repairs to the Colorado Lock near Matagorda, Texas.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lamar University

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 10001, Beaumont, TX 77710

Description of Request: I have secured \$238,000 to Lamar University's Community and University Partnerships Service (CUPS) to help coordinate, plan and promote quality healthcare for underserved populations in Southeast Texas. CUPS will provide critical access to resources and expertise for quality healthcare coupled with traditional community-based delivery systems through efficient utilization of University resources and partnerships.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Memorial Hermann Baptist Beaumont Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 1591, Beaumont, TX 77704

Description of Request: I have secured \$190,000 for the Hospital's Behavioral Health Center to renovate the Center's appearance.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Economic Development Initiatives
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Beaumont, TX

Address of Requesting Entity: 801 Main Street, Beaumont TX 77701

Description of Request: I have secured \$190,000 for improvements to a 20 block area in downtown Beaumont, including Neches Street from Laurel to College Streets and Park Street from North to College Streets. Since the

downtown improvements are an ongoing project, the design and construction of the project would take approximately a year and could begin immediately.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act

Account: Airport Improvement Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Houston Airport System, George Bush Intercontinental Airport

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 60106, Houston, TX 77205-0106

Description of Request: I have secured \$712,500 for noise mitigation to include the continued residential acquisition and sound insulation program. The August 2000 Record of Decision for the Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport Runway 8L-26R and Associated Near-Term Master Plan Projects and Federal Actions identified a series of actions necessary to mitigate the environment impacts associated with the new runway and the related airport improvements. In terms of discernible community impacts, aircraft noise is the primary activity requiring mitigation. As noted in the Record of Decision (page 53), "The primary responsibility for implementation of the mitigation measures lies with the Houston Airport System and the FAA will take appropriate steps through federal funding grant assurances and grant conditions, airport layout plan approvals, and contract plans and specifications to ensure that the following mitigation actions are implemented during project developments. The approvals contained in this Record of Decision are specifically conditioned upon full implementation of these mitigation measures." The measures identified in the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision are acquisition and soundproofing of residential properties exposed to significant noise impacts. Property acquisition and soundproofing have been underway for several years. To date, over \$35 million has been invested in this program.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on project funding, I am submitting the following information regarding project funding I requested as part of Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill that was included in H.R.1105:

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, 1301 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801

Description of Request: \$176,000 for the University of Illinois Extension to extend its MarketMaker information technology platform to a national level that will enable food pro-

ducers, processors, wholesalers and retailers electronic access to geographically referenced data, thus enhancing the opportunity for food and agricultural entrepreneurs to identify and develop new and profitable markets and improve the efficiency and profitability of food systems in the United States and globally. Of this amount \$91,277 is for personnel; \$28,752 for Supplies; \$17,204 for Publications; \$13,198 for Services; \$13,679 for travel; and \$11,890 for USDA administrative costs.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, 1301 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801

Description of Request: \$461,000 for the University of Illinois to conduct collaborative, multidisciplinary research to promote optimal human health by studying novel attributes of food. Of this amount \$322,300 is for Personnel; \$14,000 is for Participant/Trainee Support; \$60,600 for Supplies; \$3,300 for Publications; \$29,800 for Travel; and \$31,000 for USDA administrative costs.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, 1301 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801

Description of Request: \$745,000 for the Soybean Disease Biotechnology Center, located within the National Soybean Research Laboratory (NSRL) at the University of Illinois, which provides cutting edge research and a first line of defense against major soybean diseases. Of this amount \$595,000 is for Personnel; \$80,000 for Supplies; \$20,000 for Travel; and \$50,000 for USDA administrative costs.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, 1301 West Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801

Description of Request: \$564,000 for the Livestock Genome Sequencing Initiative at the University of Illinois and international partners in two consortia who are creating maps of the complete cattle and swine genomes. Of this amount \$253,800 is for Personnel; \$140,000 for Supplies; \$115,400 for Services (sequencing); \$17,000 for Travel; and \$37,800 for USDA administrative costs.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: College of Veterinary Medicine, 1008 Hazelwood Dr., Urbana, IL 61802

Description of Request: \$235,000 for the Illinois Center for One Medicine, One Health at the University of Illinois which will focus on research, training and outreach efforts designed to improve our society's preparedness and response to natural and intentional exposures of biological, chemical and physical agents. Of this amount \$117,500 is for research; \$47,000 is for the instruction of courses various academic programs; and \$70,500 for training programs and exercises to serve state departments of agriculture and public health.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Agriculture Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: International Arid Lands Consortium

Address of Requesting Entity: 1955 East 6th Street, Tucson, AZ 85719

Description of Request: \$401,000 for the International Arid Lands Consortium to use research and technical assistance expertise at the University of Illinois, University of Arizona, University of Nevada's DRI, New Mexico State University, Texas A&M University and South Dakota State University in the critical fields of sustainable agriculture, land management and water use. It cooperates with researchers in Israel, Jordan and Egypt to enhance its effectiveness. Of this amount \$301,000 will go to peer reviewed research projects at the member institutions and \$100,000 will go to administrative costs.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 CJS Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Office of Justice Programs—Juvenile Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Project Success of Decatur and Macon County

Address of Requesting Entity: 310A West William Street, Decatur, IL 62522

Description of Request: \$180,000 to implement the "Truancy Prevention and School Success" project to provide truancy prevention/intervention programming for public school children in grades K-8. Of this funding \$64,920 is for Personnel; \$3,000 for equipment; \$4,000 for Travel; \$7,650 for supplies; and \$100,430 for consultants and tutors.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 CJS Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: NOAA—Operations, Research, and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Illinois State Geological Survey

Address of Requesting Entity: 615 E. Peabody Drive, Champaign, IL 61820

Description of Request: \$725,000 for the Illinois Height Modernization project to update the benchmarks in the state (approximately half can no longer be located), unify the database of benchmarks, and provide a digital elevation (LiDAR) model for the state. Of this amount \$64,708 is for salaries and benefits; \$11,000 is for travel; \$16,500 is for Computing Hardware and Services; \$200,000 is for Level lines for new benchmarks in Northern Illinois; \$190,000 is for LiDAR data collection; \$2,000 for outreach forums; \$377 for commodities; \$400 for telecommunications; \$119,665 for facilities and administration; and \$120,350 for NOAA/NGS overhead.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 CJS Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105
 Account: NOAA—Operations, Research, and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Midwestern Regional Climate Center
 Address of Requesting Entity: 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, IL 61820

Description of Request: \$3,900,000 for the Regional Climate Centers (RCC) program which will be split between the 6 Regional Centers to gather climate data from around the country, providing quality assurance and disseminating information to Federal, state and local government agencies, universities, businesses and the general public. After administration costs to NOAA/NESDIS approximately each RCC will receive \$570,000. For the Midwest Regional Climate Center \$381,800 will be used for Personnel; \$156,200 is for University of Illinois overhead; \$20,000 for operational support; and \$12,000 for travel.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Dewitt-Piatt Bi-County Health Department
 Address of Requesting Entity: 910 Rte. 54 East, PO Box 518, Clinton, IL 61727

Description of Request: \$238,000 for the construction of an office facility to house operations of the local public health department which will include a dental clinic to meet growing needs in the community. Of which, all of the \$238,000 will be spent on contractual services, such as labor and construction materials.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers—Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Grayville, Illinois
 Address of Requesting Entity: 122 S. Court St., Grayville, IL 62844

Description of Request: \$96,000 for a planning study to determine the feasibility of building a low-water dam near the main channel of the Wabash River at Grayville, Illinois. Of this total amount, \$10,000 will be used for preliminary analysis and scope definition; \$25,000 will be used for a ground and aerial survey; \$25,000 will be used for environmental coordination; \$25,000 will be used toward generating the dam feasibility report; and \$10,000 will be spent on a preliminary design of the dam.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lake Land College

Address of Requesting Entity: 5001 Lake Land Boulevard, Mattoon, IL 61938

Description of Request: \$1,332,100 to develop a campus-wide alternative energy plan to encompass the use of wind energy, geothermal, and photovoltaics in an effort for Lake Land College to take a leadership role in re-

gard to alternative and renewable energy education. Of this amount, \$1,332,100 will be spent on materials and equipment in the Northwest Classroom Building and include the upgrade of HVAC and electrical, lighting, and plumbing systems along with the removal of asbestos.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 interior Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: STAG—Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Lexington, Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: 329 West Main Street, Lexington, IL 61753

Description of Request: \$300,000 for the City of Lexington, Illinois for the construction of a new city-wide sanitary sewage collection and treatment system. The City is under a "consent decree" with the Illinois EPA that avoids legal action against the City as long as construction of the new system is undertaken in a timely manner. Of this amount, all of the \$300,000 will be spent on design services for the new system.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Transportation—HUD Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: Facilities & Services, 1501 South Oak Street, Champaign, IL 61821

Description of Request: \$570,000 for the extension of Fourth Street to Hazelwood Road in Champaign, Illinois for new development purposes and increased traffic needs. This will relieve traffic congestion along First Street and provide better access to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus, the University Park Hotel & Conference Center, and The Research Park at the University of Illinois. Of this amount, \$171,500 will be spent on engineering costs; \$307,000 will be spent on installing a traffic signal at the corner of St. Mary's Rd. and Fourth St.; clearance activities will cost \$33,500; and \$58,000 will be spent on installing a storm sewer.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Transportation—HUD Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Economic Development Initiatives
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Bloomington, Illinois

Address of Requesting Entity: 107 E. Chestnut Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

Description of Request: \$166,250 for the renovation of a 33,000 square foot former medical building into a regional arts education center for children. The final component of the City's new downtown Cultural District, the new center will enable the growth of area arts organizations, provide after-school arts programs for at-risk children in the city's core neighborhoods and continue the economic revitalization of Bloomington's downtown. Of this amount, \$146,250 will be used to replace the building's heating and air conditioning system and \$20,000 will be used for classroom equipment and furnishings.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
 Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2009 Transportation—HUD Appropriations bill included in H.R.1105

Account: Economic Development Initiatives
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Illinois State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Campus Box 304, Hovey 310, Normal, IL 61790

Description of Request: \$95,000 for the development of a university research park for small to medium sized businesses that will assist regional business development and create opportunities for new jobs in Illinois. The business incubator and university research park will be mixed use with particular emphasis on specializing in renewable energy, nanotechnology and advanced manufacturing. Of this amount, \$30,000 will be used for office equipment; \$5,000 will be used for supplies; and \$60,000 for personnel.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. 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. 1105, Consolidated Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Downingtown Borough, 4–10 West Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown, Pennsylvania—\$712,500 for a bridge over Brandywine Creek. The bridge will extend Boot Road over Brandywine Creek allowing access to a proposed redevelopment site that will bring jobs and attract businesses to Chester County's only Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ). It is critical to the revitalization plans of the borough.

Valley Forge Park National Historical Park, 1400 North Outer Line Drive, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania—\$142,500 for the construction of a bridge over Valley Creek for Loop Trail. This project will complete the final link in Valley Forge National Historical Park's Joseph Plumb Martin Trail (JPMT), which receives 960,000 visits annually. The Missing Link will connect the JPMT with three other popular hiking and recreational trails and with two popular parking areas at Knox's Quarters and the Mount Misery trailhead. The new trail will enable visitors to walk, jog, or bicycle around the entire park without having to travel along dangerous state highways. This will greatly improve visitor safety and enhance the visitor experience through reduced exposure to high-volume traffic and the increased availability of recreational options.

Borough of Boyertown, 100 S. Washington Street, Boyertown, Pennsylvania—\$475,000 for Main Street streetscape improvements. Boyertown is a Main Street designated community under the Main Street program of the Pennsylvania Department of Economic Development. The purpose of the designation is to revitalize the downtown commercial district to promote a stable, safe, and pleasant shopping and living area to be enjoyed but not only the borough but surrounding communities.

Historic Yellow Springs, PO Box 62, Chester Springs, Pennsylvania—\$142,500 for parking and street enhancements at Historic Yellow Springs. The funding will help to further revitalize the community with projects to enhance

parking and to help renovate their facilities. The mission of Historic Yellow Springs is to share, preserve, and celebrate the unique living village of Yellow Springs by focusing on history, arts, education and the environment.

Montgomery County Community College, 340 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, Pennsylvania—\$237,500 for continued expansion of their West Campus in the borough of Pottstown. This funding will allow for Montgomery County Community College's further expansion of workforce development and transfer programming to help residents in Pottstown Borough and greater tri-county area of Montgomery, Chester, and Berks counties.

AGRICULTURE

The Rodale Institute, 611 Siegfriedale Rd., Kutztown, Pennsylvania—\$42,000 for continued Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi research. The funding will help further Rodale's research which they believe has helped to determine that using biological farming methods instead of chemical methods will produce cleaner air and safer drinking water.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE AND SCIENCE

Berks County Community Foundation, PO Box 212, Reading, Pennsylvania—\$200,000 for the Reading Police K9 Unit. The funding will be used to further develop the Reading Police K9 Unit and help meet its future financial needs for the purpose of crime reduction in the City of Reading.

Exeter Police Department, 4975 Demoss Road, Exeter, Pennsylvania—\$250,000 for the Berks County Emergency Response Team (BCERT). Funding will be used to purchase equipment necessary for the formation of a Berks County emergency response team. The team and equipment that will be bought with this funding will help protect the lives of police officers and other first responders during the resolution of high-risk incidents and serving arrest and search warrants.

Alvernia College, 540 Upland Avenue, Reading, Pennsylvania—\$600,000 for the South Reading Youth Initiative. The funding will be used to assist at-risk youth by promoting programs that teach them to expand their ability to think logically and critically, to comprehend accurately, and to communicate effectively.

American Library Association, 1615 New Hampshire Ave. NW, First Floor, Washington, DC—\$258,000 for the All Kids Count program. The funding will be used to develop a series of four films dedicated to educating parents how to keep their children safe and informing children how to protect themselves against abduction, internet predators and targeted school violence.

Police Athletic League of Norristown, PO Box 685, Norristown, Pennsylvania—\$92,000 for PAL youth programs in Norristown. The funding will be used to continue the high-quality, low-cost programs that are offered to the youth (ages 5–18) of the Norristown Area. Programs and activities are offered that cover educational, artistic and recreational interests.

ENERGY AND WATER

Alvernia College, 540 Upland Avenue, Reading, Pennsylvania—\$570,900 for scientific instrumentation initiatives. The funding will be used for essential investigative equipment for an interdisciplinary forensic science and criminalistics training laboratory, an environmental research laboratory, a fuels and energy research laboratory, a human anatomy

and physiology laboratory, and a mathematics laboratory, that will help Alvernia in broadening its scientific offerings.

Albright College, 13th & Bern Sts, P.O. Box 15234, Reading, Pennsylvania—\$380,600 for science instrumentation and construction of three student independent research labs dedicated to biology, chemistry and biochemistry and physics.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Delaware County Community College, 901 South Media Line Road, Media, Pennsylvania—\$300,000 for a small business solutions center. The funding will be used to continue the Center's operations as well as expand its programs. Specifically, the Center will develop and deliver a series of entrepreneurial programs for students enrolled in DCCC's trade programs (i.e., plumbing, electrical, carpentry, HVAC, automotive technology, and welding) since these students have consistently asked for more training in starting their own small businesses.

INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT

City of Reading, 815 Washington Street, Reading, Pennsylvania—\$500,000 for the Reading Waste Water Treatment Plant. The funding will be used to consolidate screening and grit removal operations, the impact of future environmental regulations, the need for security improvements, and the potential for improved efficiencies associated with new control systems.

LABOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION

Phoenixville Community Education Foundation, PO Box 809, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania—\$147,000 for remedial after school math and reading education. Funding will be used to provide remedial summer and after-school programming for students in grades K–12 who are not proficient in math and reading on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA), the states standardized test.

I-LEAD, Inc., 525 Penn St., Reading, Pennsylvania—\$143,000 for the College Without Walls program. The College Without Walls program delivers I-LEAD's leadership curriculum via an accelerated Associates Degree in Leadership Studies in students' neighborhoods of residence through partnerships with local nonprofit organizations. The program includes Vocational training opportunities in healthcare, including a cutting-edge vocational ESL program, leverages workforce development dollars to build long-term careers in high-demand industries for low-income workers. For those who do not have a high school diploma, I-LEAD offers GED classes and support to equip local residents to take the next step toward economic independence and family and community stability by furthering their education.

Chester County Hospital, 701 East Marshall Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania—\$428,000 for facilities and equipment. The funding will be used to add 72 inpatient beds and will allow the hospital to centralize and update all of its surgical facilities and services.

Central Pennsylvania African American Museum, 119 N. 10th Street, Reading, Pennsylvania—\$238,000 for exhibits relating to the Underground Railroad. Funding will be used to educate the public regarding African American History including inventions, contributions to society and the world, with special emphasis on telling the Underground Railroad story and record the history of local African Americans.

Chester County Historical Society (CCHS), 225 North High Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania—\$190,000 for a community historical education initiative in the County. Funding will be used to modernize and broaden education and other outreach services to better address the changing needs, expectations, and demographics of the community.

Pocopson Township Historical Committee, PO Box 1, Pocopson, Pennsylvania—\$214,000 for exhibits and curriculum development at the Locust Grove Schoolhouse. The Pocopson Township Historical Committee works to identify and encourage the preservation of historical resources within the Township through education and community involvement.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD C.
BARRMAN, SR.

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime community leader and friend, Bernard "Bernie" Barmann Sr., from Bakersfield, California, on his retirement after more than 30 years of service to Kern County. Bernie has served in the Kern County Counsel's Office since 1974, first as the Deputy County Counsel and then as County Counsel since 1985.

Bernie graduated from Immaculate Conception College in 1955 and later earned his M.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1966. As a Fulbright Scholar and Kent Fellow, Bernie studied in France in 1963 to 1965. A dedicated scholar, Bernie taught at the Ohio State University and the University of Toronto from 1966 to 1971. In 1974, he earned a J.D. from the University of San Diego. Locally, he was an adjunct professor at California State University, Bakersfield's School of Business and Public Administration from 1986 to 2000.

A skilled lawyer, Bernie was admitted to the California State Bar in 1974 and for 33 years has practiced law in California at both the state and federal level. He has also been admitted to argue in front of several federal courts as well as the United States Supreme Court. Bernie has also been active in the California State Bar and the Kern County Bar—he was an editor for the Law Practice Management Newsletter for the State Bar from 1991 to 1993 and served as President of the Kern County Bar Association in 2001. He served from 1997 to 2000 on the State Bar Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission and was President of the California County Counsels Association in 1993–1994. Bernie was awarded the Kern County Bench & Bar Award in 2006 for his outstanding contributions to the legal profession and justice system, and was recognized in Who's Who in American Law each year from 1992 to 2004. He lectures frequently on local government issues, especially on the topics of the California Open Meeting law and the Public Records Act.

An active member in the Kern County community, Bernie has been a Rotarian for 23 years and has served in leadership positions with various community organizations, including the Kern County Academic Decathlon, the Boy Scouts of American Southern Sierra

Council, the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra Board, and the Community Concerts Association, to name a few. Bernie's victories for Kern County made funding available for new administration buildings including many fire stations and the Juvenile Justice Center.

As Bernie retires from the position of Kern County Counsel, his selfless contributions to Kern County will not be forgotten. However, I know he is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, Bee, their two children, Bernie Jr., an attorney in Los Angeles, and Brigit, a psychologist in Asheville, North Carolina, and his three grandchildren. I wish him well in retirement.

A TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE OF
LOUVINIA G. POINTER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Louvinia G. Pointer. Ms. Pointer, a 92-year-old Brooklyn resident, was a musicologist and celebrated arts educator.

Born in Holly Hill, South Carolina in 1926, Mrs. Pointer and her family migrated to Harlem in 1926 in search of progressive opportunities for African Americans in the North.

Trained as a pianist from a young age, organist and lyric soprano, Louvinia White was prompted by friends to audition for Apollo Theater's Amateur Night competition at age 18. With a recommendation from Countee Cullen, Louvinia was accepted to New York University (NYU) in 1935, where she studied music education and later enrolled in the Music Masters program.

In 1939, a member of Louvinia's church informed her that renowned British playwright Noel Coward sought three African American women to open his new production scheduled to open on Broadway. Louvinia and two singing partners auditioned for Coward singing "Lift Thine Eyes" from Felix Mendelssohn's Elijah. Returning home from classes at NYU one evening she found a telegram in her mailbox from Mr. Coward asking her to report to the theater. When she arrived, Coward approached her with hands outstretched and thanked her for coming, exclaiming that he needed her voice in his show, *Set to Music*, starring Beatrice Lillie. Soon thereafter, Coward composed an obligato for Louvinia to open the production.

In 1943, Louvinia became a choral director in the National Youth Administration (NYA) Radio Workshop, a unit of President Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration. Louvinia directed one of the two NYA Radio Choirs, which performed weekly concerts on WNYC-FM until the conclusion of the program in 1943. Through the success of her choir, Louvinia married World War II veteran William Davis Pointer Sr. (1918-2001) and the two birthed three children, Olive Elise Pointer (1950), William Davis Pointer Jr. (1952), and internationally acclaimed, Grammy nominated jazz violinist and political activist Noel Whitaker Pointer (1954-1994).

Louvinia's final Broadway role was in the 1951 revival of Marc Connelly's 1936 film classic *The Green Pastures*, a musical setting of the Biblical "Creation". Louvinia then com-

menced her tenure as a music educator in the New York City public school system in 1958. She educated thousands of youth at Girls High School, Tilden High School, P.S. 21 and Lefferts Junior High School.

In 1987, Louvinia founded the Great Day Chorale, a 50-member a capella singing ensemble. Under Louvinia's leadership the four-part ensemble performed nationally and internationally in New Orleans and Barbados.

Louvinia is survived by daughter Olive Pointer Harney, son, Rev. William D. Pointer Jr., Associate Pastor of Christian Cultural Center Brooklyn, N.Y., daughter-in-laws Elder Lillie Pointer of Long Island, NY and Chinita Pointer of Orange, N.J., fourteen grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding constituent projects of interest I received as part of the FY 2009 Omnibus.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Dept of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Galena City School District

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 299, Galena, AK 99741

Description of Request: I have secured \$485,000 for the Galena School District. Funding will be used for Galena's boarding school operations and provide a safe and educationally enriching environment for 120 students, many of whom are Native Alaskans from outlying villages where, in some cases, they may be exposed to a physically and emotionally challenging village environment. Due to a 2001 Department of Education formula change, Galena loses \$1 million annually in Federal Impact Aid Funding. It is my understanding that these funds will be used along with state funding to provide educational services and operate the boarding school. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Dept of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Literacy Council of Alaska, Fairbanks

Address of Requesting Entity: 517 Gaffney Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701

Description of Request: I have secured \$81,000 for the Literacy Council of Alaska, Fairbanks. The funding will be used for a school-age tutoring program focusing on reading, writing and math. It is my understanding that the funds will be used for salaries, supplies and tutor trainings. There is an in-kind volunteer tutor contribution of \$30,600 annually. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Dept of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: AK Addictions Rehabilitation Services, Inc./Nugen's Ranch

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 871545, Wasilla, AK 99687

Description of Request: I have secured \$490,000 for Addictions Rehabilitation Services, Inc./Nugen's Ranch. The funds will be used for the construction of a new residential substance abuse treatment facility. This will allow the recipient to increase the number of individuals treated which will decrease the number of people being sent out of state for treatment. It is my understanding that the funds will be spent for engineering and architecture fees, site preparation and actual construction of the facility. Other funds being used for this project are coming from the Denali Commission, Foundation Grants, AK Mental Health Trust Authority, the State of AK, and funds from the organization itself. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Dept of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Providence Health System

Address of Requesting Entity: 3200 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508

Description of Request: I have secured \$951,000 for Providence Health Services in Anchorage, AK. These funds will be used for the Alaska Family Medicine Residency Program which recruits and trains doctors to address the critical physician recruitment and retention problem in Alaska. It is my understanding that the funds will be used to pay for faculty salaries (\$835,000) and resident recruitment (\$116,000) and that Providence Health Services will provide supplemental funds to this program. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, School Improvement

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Department of Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202

Description of Request: I have secured \$33,315,000 for the AK Native Education Equity Program. It is my understanding that these funds will be used to meet the unique education needs and to support supplemental education programs to benefit Alaska Natives. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Dept of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alaska PTA

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 210496, Anchorage, AK 99503

Description of Request: I have secured \$238,000 for the Alaska PTA. These funds will be used to train parents in their roles and responsibilities under the No Child Left Behind Act. It is my understanding that the funds will be used in conjunction with Alaska PTA funds totaling \$160,000. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Dept of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 528, Bethel, AK 99559

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,475,000 for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. These funds will be used for capital equipment upgrades that will improve productivity, improve health care delivery and reduce the number of patients that are now required to be transferred out of the region. It is my understanding that no additional funds will be used for this project. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Commerce, NOAA—Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Gulf of Alaska Coastal Communities Coalition

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 201236, Anchorage, AK 99520

Description of Request: I have secured \$150,000 for the Gulf of Alaska Coastal Communities Coalition (GOAC3) which is an incorporated 501(c)6 non-profit membership driven organization primarily serving as an advocate for small boat community based fisheries in the protection and creation of fair and sustainable fisheries related economic opportunities. The GOAC3 has representation from over 45 fisheries communities in the Gulf of Alaska. The GOAC3 allows these communities to participate and be effective in North Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings, allowing them to help mitigate negative impacts and increase opportunities to create economically viable and sustainable marine related communities. It is my understanding that these funds will be spent as on Personnel: \$45,000, Travel: \$22,000, Supplies: \$12,000 and Support Contracts: \$62,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Commerce, NOAA—Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Research/Kenai Peninsula Borough

Address of Requesting Entity: 144 N. Binkley St., Soldotna, AK 99669

Description of Request: I have secured \$700,000 for the Kenai Peninsula Borough. This project will study the population of the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale so that it is fully understood and counted. The listing of the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale on the Endangered Species List affects over 70% of Alaska's population and knowledge of the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale's population size and migration habits

is sorely lacking. This project fulfills the mandates of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. It is my understanding that the funds will be used for tagging devices and equipment and to support tagging expeditions to place the tracking devices on the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale. Funds will also be used for data collecting and analyzing.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northwest Arctic Borough

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1110, Kotzebue, AK 99752

Description of Request: I have secured \$500,000 for the Northwest Arctic Borough's Public Safety Planning and Village Public Safety Officer Hiring and Training. This project provides for the creation of a comprehensive planning process for law enforcement in the Borough and to implement immediate improvements to the Village Public Safety Officer program by recruiting and training new officers. This will help to bring up the level of law enforcement and public safety in the Borough, which is currently completely inadequate and provide Borough citizens with the same protections afforded those Americans throughout the country. The State of Alaska provides contract funds for the Village Public Safety Officer program. It is my understanding that \$250,000 will be used for public safety planning process and \$250,000 for Village Public Safety Officer Hiring and Training.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Commerce, NOAA—Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Alaska Sea Otter and Steller Sea Lion Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: 6239 B Street, Suite 204, Anchorage, AK 99518

Description of Request: I have secured \$300,000 for a Steller Sea Lion Comanagement, Biosampling and Outreach/Education program. This project will feature two approaches to bio-sampling. The first will be to work with two high harvest communities to fund local monitors (residents that help facilitate sea lion bio-sampling and monitor and document the local environment). The second approach will consist of training approximately 25 coastal Alaskans on proper sample collection and technique and protocols from those sea lions harvested for subsistence. This will help fulfill the mandates created by the Marine Mammal Protection Act and help promote responsible and sustainable subsistence harvesting. It is my understanding that the money will be spent on: Personnel: \$130,000, Travel: \$64,000, Supplies: \$15,000, Community Monitoring Contracts: \$50,000, Biosamplers: \$10,000 and Administrative Support: \$31,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of Alaska / Victims for Justice

Address of Requesting Entity: 1057 Fireweed Lane, Suite 101, Anchorage, AK 99503

Description of Request: I have secured \$400,000 to be used for sexual assault/domestic violence education, victim assistance and prosecution. This project will support victims of violent crimes. It is my understanding that funding will be split between programs on Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Education, programs to provide Victim Assistance and prosecution of those who commit the violence.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: USDA, NRCS

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alaska Association of Conservation Districts

Address of Requesting Entity: 1700 E. Bogard Road, Suite 203A, Wasilla, AK, 99654

Description of Request: I have secured \$864,000 to support the work of 12 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Alaska. Specifically, this program would allow the Alaska Association of Conservation Districts to manage statewide natural resource concerns such as invasive plants, water quality and soil erosion due to global climate change. Assuming percentages remain the same, funding would include 53.5% for salaries and personnel, 9.3% for fringe funding, 6.7% for travel funding, 4.3% for equipment, 4% for supply funding, and 16.7% for contractual funding. The matching funds for this project, which will be augmented from local and private contributors, are unknown at this time. Additionally, this project will be enhanced by projects that are funded by USDA, State and Private Forestry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal agencies. A funding request to the State of Alaska is pending.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EPA, STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Craig

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 725, Craig, AK 99921

Description of Request: I have secured \$250,000 for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects in the City of Craig. The City has previously received funds from the State of Alaska's Village Safe Water Program, but because of delays in funding distribution and escalating project costs the funding received has not been able to fulfill the requirements for the approved projects. All funds appropriated will be used for the construction or replacement of waterlines, wastewater lines, lift stations, and other utilities. The total project will cost \$1.2 million. However, the grantee has received \$973,000 from the State of Alaska's Village Safe Water Program. The \$250,000 included in this appropriation will complete the project. Additionally, the City has provided additional in-kind contributions in the form of labor and equipment.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Federal Transit Administration, Bus and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Fairbanks North Star Borough

Address of Requesting Entity: 809 Pioneer Road, Fairbanks, AK 99707-1267

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$798,000 for bus acquisition to add a route from Eielson AFB to Ft. Wainwright. The local

share of the project will be provided by the Borough.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: FHWA, Federal Lands Highways

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Fairbanks North Star Borough

Address of Requesting Entity: 809 Pioneer Road, Fairbanks, AK 99707-1267

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$950,000 for rural and road service area transportation upgrades. Funds will be used to upgrade roads to federal lands, military installations, university research farms, and evacuation. Funds will be matched 50 percent by the Borough.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Federal Transit Administration, Bus and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mat Su Community Transit

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 8971590, Wasilla, AK 99687

Description of Request: Funding will be used for bus facility and property enhancements, 20 percent local match will be provided by Mat-Su Borough.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers,

Address of Requesting Entity: Elmendorf Air Force Base, AK

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$263,000 for Alaska District to continue the feasibility study of the Alaska Regional Ports and Harbors Comprehensive Plan.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Army Corps of Engineers,

Address of Requesting Entity: Elmendorf Air Force Base, AK

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3,328,000 to be used for Alaska coastal erosion. Native Villages on the coast of Alaska are eroding and this funding will help the Corps address the most pressing needs.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City and Borough of Sitka

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 Lincoln St., Sitka, AK 99835

Description of Request: Provide \$478,000 for upgrades to the harbor breakwater due to design deficiency. Upgrades are needed to protect fishing boats within harbor of Sitka Channel. Local match will be met by the state or borough.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Port of Anchorage

Address of Requesting Entity: 2000 Anchorage Port Rd, Anchorage, AK 99501

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$16 million will be used for transitional dredging for the Port of Anchorage Expansion Project.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EERE, Biomass and Biorefinery Systems R&D

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Municipality of Anchorage

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 19660, Anchorage, AK 99519

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$713,625 to be used for converting methane gas to electrical power generation. Municipality will match all federal funds.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EERE, Geothermal Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Unalaska

Address of Requesting Entity: 43 Ravens Way, Unalaska, AK 99685

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$951,500 for the development of a potential geothermal well in Unalaska. This could be a crucial source of energy for people on the Aleutian Chain.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: Elmendorf AFB, AK

Description of Request: Provide an earmark for \$740,000 for City of Dillingham in support of President's Budget for dredging Dillingham Harbor.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: Elmendorf AFB, AK

Description of Request: Provide an earmark for \$575,000 for City of Homer in support of President's budget for dredging Homer Harbor.

Requesting Member: Congressman DON YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Nome

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 281, Nome, AK 99762

Description of Request: Provide an earmark for \$724,000 for City of Nome in support of President's budget for dredging the Nome Port.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on February 25, 2009, I missed two votes regarding H. Res. 184, a resolution setting forth the rule for consideration of H.R. 1105 to consider making omnibus appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" for both H. Res. 184, Ordering the previous question (Roll call vote 84), and H. Res. 184, On Agreeing to the Resolution (Roll call vote 85).

A COMMEMORATION OF HOUSE SPEAKER TERRANCE CARROLL AND SENATE PRESIDENT PETER GROFF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor two distinguished gentlemen and mark a historic occasion for the State of Colorado and our legislature. For the first time in United States history, two African-Americans will hold the top leadership position in both chambers of a State legislature.

The election of Colorado State Representative Terrance Carroll as Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives and Colorado State Senator Peter Groff as President of the Colorado Senate puts our State's past injustices into perspective. It opens our eyes once again to a time only eighty years ago when a majority of the State House members were associated with the Ku Klux Klan members. It reminds us when the 1924 election ushered in numerous KKK-endorsed candidates, including the Governor of Colorado, Clarence Morley. These were the days when legislation was introduced without shame by people who sought to use the law to restrict the rights of African Americans and to remove them from boards and commissions. The struggle for harmony and freedom from inequity continues for all of us, but today Colorado makes progress toward that end.

The story of House Speaker Terrance Carroll began several blocks away from this chamber, where Carroll grew up in the Anacostia neighborhood of Washington, D.C. He was the only child of a single mother who was the daughter of a sharecropper. He attended Morehouse College in Atlanta. He eventually earned a master's degree from the University of Colorado and a law degree from the University of Denver, and he graduated from seminary to become an ordained minister. During his career, he has served as a police officer and a practicing lawyer. In his seven years in the Colorado state legislature, Speaker Carroll has championed issues ranging from educational reform, housing, homeland security, and civil and criminal justice issues.

Senate President Peter Groff, the son of former Colorado lawmaker Regis Groff, is a graduate of Denver's East High School. He started his political career working for former

Governor Roy Romer and former City of Denver Mayor Wellington Webb. He helped found the Center for New Politics and Policy at the University of Denver. He has served as the center's executive director since its founding, in addition to working as an attorney in private practice, college lecturer, and satellite radio talk show host. Peter Groff was first elected to the House in 2000 and later was appointed and reelected to the Colorado Senate. He is the highest-ranking African-American elected official in Colorado history and has been called the "Conscience of the Senate."

In a year when America inaugurated its first African-American President, the ascension of Speaker Carroll and President Groff is also a significant tribute to the innumerable individuals who have come before us who strived and sacrificed for civil rights, equal opportunity, and equality for all. It gives me great pleasure as the Senior Member of the Colorado Congressional Delegation to congratulate these two men and recognize their accomplishments, not only in the context of Colorado's history, but the nation's as a whole.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MERVIN WILLIAMS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the life of Mervin Williams upon his passing on February 7, 2009.

A highly decorated veteran of World War II, Mervin served in the 10th Mountain Division's 85th regiment alongside Senator Robert Dole. For his selfless service to America, Mervin received a Bronze Star for his heroism and two Purple Hearts.

After Mr. Williams' return to the United States to recover from shrapnel wounds he received defending our nation, he dedicated himself to improving the lives of his fellow veterans and our entire community. Mervin became engaged in many significant organizations including Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Eagles, the Moose Lodge, and The Knights of Columbus.

Madam Speaker, Mervin Williams is remembered as an American hero who loved and served our country and community in war and peace. Today, as we bid him farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his life. In league with his comrades who wore America's colors, Mervin Williams was a good man who did great things for the cause of human freedom. We are all diminished by his loss; and inspired by his life.

ACTION IN COMMUNITY THROUGH
SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Ta, a student at Lake Braddock Secondary School in

Burke, VA and recipient of the In Hope Freedom Rings Foundation Scholarship. Mary sets a strong example as a leader among her peers, and is committed to making the most of her gifts and passions.

Mary exhibits a maturity beyond her years. Her father passed away when she was eight years old, forcing her family to relocate. Later, as her older siblings left home, she assumed responsibility for her younger sister. She has learned the flexibility and presence of mind needed to excel under demanding circumstances, coupled with a natural compassion and intellectual curiosity.

Mary has distinguished herself as a leader in the school community, in large part through her commitment to public service. She is the past Secretary and Vice-President of the Lake Braddock Key Club and a member of Key Club International. She serves in the Key Club as the Capital District's Lieutenant Governor, working on a board of trustees from all over the Washington Metro Area and Delaware. Her responsibilities include overseeing 15 high schools in the Capital District and acting as liaison between them.

In addition, Mary has organized and coordinated various service projects with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the American Red Cross, Women's Domestic Shelter, United Nations Children's Fund, and many more.

Mary's strong orientation towards volunteerism has helped make her a leader in the student community. In 2005 she co-founded and is the current Vice-President of the Bruin ESOL Tutoring Association, a tutoring program for middle school students with English as their second language. In addition she has been an officer of the National Honor Society and the Student Government Association, and last year she attended Girls State at Longwood University and was elected to serve as a state Delegate.

Balancing her work in the greater community with more artistic activities, Mary is a serious musician, having played the violin for nine years. She has been a member of the Lake Braddock Orchestra since 2003, and is also a member of the Symphonic Orchestra and Tri-M music Honor Society.

Mary intends to continue challenging herself on many levels. Following college, she hopes to join the Peace Corps and ultimately to become a professor of history.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Mary Ta for her commitment to service and for the vital role she continues to play in her student community.

IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, in his Inaugural Address, President John F. Kennedy asked the people to ask not what their country could do for them but what they could do for their country.

Last month, as I again stood witness to history, President Barack Obama spoke a similar message, asking the people he had been elected to serve to remember the legacy that

came before and with which many of us are intimately familiar: hard work, faith, and understanding in the face of economic insecurity, international conflict and personal differences.

No one understands this legacy better than African Americans, and it is with that in mind that we come together again this February to celebrate Black History Month.

The theme of Black History Month this year is "The Quest for Black Citizenship in the Americas." It is a theme we in West Virginia understand to our core. Making our homes in a state born out of the Civil War, we are intimately familiar with the struggle for equality.

It is no surprise that we've seen significant moments in history celebrated right here in our hills and hollows. Carter G. Woodson, the "father of Black History" hailed from Huntington, a son of slaves who worked in the coal mines to earn money for an education at West Virginia State College and then Howard University in Washington, DC.

Booker T. Washington, perhaps our most famous African American, walked from Virginia to Kanawha County, 'free at last,' to have a better life for his family. He also worked hard to obtain the education he felt in his heart was his right to pursue, working in the coal mines until he was 16. He walked 200 miles on foot to study at the Hampton Institute in Virginia and then came right back to West Virginia to teach the children of Appalachia.

Minnie Buckingham Harper of Keystone, the first African American woman to become a member of a legislative body in the United States, broke ground for countless women in 1928 when she was appointed to fill the term of her late husband.

Leon Sullivan, born in Charleston, was brought up in a dirty alley in one of the city's most poverty-stricken sections, worked in a steel mill to pay his tuition at West Virginia State College, and rose from poverty to found the Opportunity Industrialization Center, a job-training organization with branches around the world.

Helen Dobson was from Raleigh County, well-known throughout West Virginia for her beautiful voice, performed at the inauguration of two of West Virginia's governors and served as public school teacher for many years. Her spirit is still strong in southern West Virginia and it was with Ms. Dobson in mind that I signed on as a cosponsor of a bill that designates the African American spiritual as a national treasure. This bill passed the House of Representatives earlier this month.

Countless men and women have worked long hours for less pay to provide for a better future for their children. They have fought, and continue to fight, for our liberties in the armed forces. Through their compassion and quiet strength, these men and women are role models by which we all can live.

With change and the spirit of unity sweeping the Nation, we have come together again to celebrate Black History month. I can think of no more fitting honorees this month than the African American men and women of West Virginia who have done so much to serve our Nation.

Today, southern West Virginians remain deeply indebted to our African American educators who work hard to make sure the children of the Mountain State are ready to take part in an ever more challenging and modern economy. Folks like Bluefield State President

Albert Walker; Maurice Cooley, Director of African American Programs at Marshall University; Dr. Shari Williams-Clarke, Vice President for Marshall University Multicultural Affairs; Loretta Young, Vice President for Development at Concord University; and Roslyn Clark-Artis, Executive Vice President at Mountain State University, are an inspiration to us all.

Too often, the history of black Americans is not fully taught or remembered. With the indomitable spirit of Dr. Carter G. Woodson and new leaders such as President Barack Obama, African Americans in southern West Virginia and across the country are making great progress. Let us take this Black History Month to celebrate the African American contributions to the greatness of West Virginia and to commend those carrying on this proud tradition of service today.

HONORING MR. ERNIE CHAMBERS

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to honor a great constituent in my district, Mr. Ernie Chambers.

Ernie Chambers is a former Nebraska State Senator and current member of the Omaha Learning Community.

As a member of the Nebraska legislature, he served longer than any other member had and up until this year, he was the Legislature's lone African-American member. As a State Senator, he was a voice for the residents of north Omaha and he always asked the tough questions. While some of his colleagues might have disagreed with him from time to time, he earned their respect and demonstrated a great passion in his work.

Mr. Chambers is a graduate of Omaha Central High School and Creighton University School of Law. It is my pleasure to recognize State Senator Ernie Chambers and thank him for his years of service to the great city of Omaha.

TRIBUTE TO COACH JIM CALHOUN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the most recent achievement of one of college basketball's premier coaches. On February 25, 2009, the University of Connecticut's Men's Basketball program celebrated a 93-82 win over Marquette University. Not just a typical victory in another impressive season for the Huskies, this victory was also the 800th in the career of Coach Jim Calhoun. Coach Calhoun is just the seventh coach in men's college basketball to reach this historic milestone, joining legends such as Bobby Knight, Dean Smith and Adolph Rupp.

Coach Calhoun's career as a basketball coach began in 1966 when he served as an assistant at his alma mater, American International College in Springfield, MA. Calhoun stayed at AIC until 1968 when he became a high school basketball coach in Old Lyme,

Connecticut. He stayed in the high school ranks for a brief period until 1972, when he assumed the role of head coach at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. Calhoun's squad came to dominate the Eastern College Athletic Conference, leading those Huskies to a 248-137 record in 14 seasons that included 5 league tournament championships and 4 outright regular season championships.

In May of 1986, Coach Calhoun assumed the role of head basketball coach at the University of Connecticut. Since that time, UConn has become the Big East Conference's premier basketball program. Just two years later, Coach Calhoun won his first national title when UConn defeated Ohio State in the 1988 National Invitational Tournament with Phil Gamble and future NBA all star Clifford Robinson leading the way.

During his 22+ seasons at the University of Connecticut, Coach Calhoun has led the Huskies to ten Big East regular season titles, six Big East tournament titles, an NIT title and 2 NCAA titles in 1999 and 2004. During his tenure, Calhoun has coached more than two dozen players who have moved onto the NBA, including perennial stars such as Ray Allen, Richard Hamilton and Emeka Okafor.

Coach Calhoun has received countless awards and has been consistently recognized for his remarkable career. In 2005, Coach Calhoun's career came full circle as he returned to Springfield, Massachusetts, where he started his basketball career. There, Coach Calhoun joined the ranks of basketball's greats when he was enshrined in the Dr. James Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. Coach Calhoun is also a member of the American International College and Northeastern University Hall of Fame and has been awarded the John Wooden "Legends of Coaching Award" for his lifetime of service.

Coach Calhoun's positive contributions to Connecticut are not limited to the basketball court. He has contributed huge sums of personal wealth to hospitals, charities and civic causes—often times with little fanfare. He is a strong voice for "Coaches Against Cancer", advocating for a stronger national effort to cure cancer and raising private funds for research and treatment.

The most impressive contribution I believe was his willingness to publicly share his personal battle against three bouts of cancer—educating and inspiring patients and families all across America to fight this illness and continue with their regular lives.

For more than two decades, Coach Calhoun's coaching prowess has been well known to the people of eastern Connecticut. For those of us who have the honor of calling him our friend, and for the scores of Husky hoops fans across the state and the country, we congratulate Coach Jim Calhoun on this historic achievement and wish him well as he continues his leadership of our beloved Huskies.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JERIS LAMPKIN SMITH

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Jeris

Lampkin Smith on the occasion of her retirement from the United States District Court, Southern District of Florida's Probation Office after 32 years of service and dedication. Mrs. Lampkin Smith will retire from the position of Supervising United States Probation Officer in the State of Florida, and can look back on a proud career of service and distinction in community leadership.

A native Floridian, Mrs. Lampkin Smith graduated from Middleton High School in Tampa, and in order to further her education, she attended Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University and received a Bachelor of Science degree. On April 25, 1977, Mrs. Lampkin Smith was appointed the first African-American female probation officer by Chief United States District Judge C. Clyde Atkins. Ultimately, Mrs. Lampkin Smith became the first person of color to be promoted to the position of Supervising United States Probation Officer in the State of Florida. She was not joined by any other African-American officer until 1983.

Mrs. Lampkin Smith had a distinguished 32 year career working for the Southern District of Florida Probation Office. The United States Probation Office in the Southern District of Florida is one of 94 federal judicial districts nationwide. U.S. Probation officers play an integral role in the administration of justice by protecting our communities by monitoring offenders and enforcing Court Orders, as well as promoting positive individual change by addressing offenders' needs through effective use of community resources.

In an effort to compliment her professional achievements, Mrs. Lampkin Smith is involved with various organizations such as a charter member and former president of the Dade County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated; life member and Regional Foundational Member at Large for Jack & Jill of America, Foundation, Washington, DC; member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated; and life member of the Black United States Probation and Pretrial Services Association and NAACP.

This public servant is married to Herbert B. Smith and has one daughter, Courtney Smith. In retirement, Mrs. Lampkin Smith plans to continue to develop her new career as an event planner, travel the world and play golf with her husband.

Mrs. Lampkin Smith is an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation. It is with deep respect and admiration that I commend Mrs. Jeris Lampkin for her 32 years of service to the South Florida area, and wish her and her family the very best in retirement.

THE STUDENT PROTECTION ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on January 28, 2009, I reintroduced the Student Protection Act, a measure aimed at protecting our Nation's classrooms from repeat sexual predators within our school systems.

The Student Protection Act requires uniform reporting requirements for eligible school system employees accused of sexual misconduct against a student, consistent with established guidelines for reporting child abuse; it requires

a central body in each state to be responsible for receiving and investigating allegations of sexual misconduct by school employees; and it creates a nationwide database of school employees sanctioned by the state for sexual misconduct—thus enabling state, local, and private school officials to ensure offenders remain out of the classroom.

Accounts of teacher sexual misconduct have inundated headlines across our country. In 2004, a study required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 reported that an estimated 4.5 million children are subject to sexual misconduct by a school employee sometime between kindergarten and 12th grade—that's nearly 1 in 10 students that are targets of sexual misconduct during their school career. As far as I'm concerned, that's one too many.

Further, a 2007 seven-month Associated Press investigation found a total of 2,570 educators across the nation were punished for sexual misconduct from 2001–2005, representing about a quarter of all educator misconduct cases in that time period.

More than a dozen states have considered legislation to strengthen laws for screening and reporting of sexual misconduct by educators last year—many of which became law. However, without adopting systematic policies and procedures at the national level all states remain vulnerable when hiring school employees from states with mediocre reporting procedures and lackluster ethical standards. Our classrooms deserve much more than a piecemeal effort that leaves our nation's schools exposed to predators moving from state to state.

Ernie Allen, President and CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children said, "This Act brings long-overdue recognition to the problem of child sexual exploitation in the school system."

It is abundantly clear that the system we have in place has failed our students—repeatedly. Before we read about another teacher assaulting yet another student or another classroom shaken by another breach of trust, now—not later—let us give schools the tools they need to keep repeat sexual offenders from preying on students within the very institutions that should be a safe-haven for our children.

We have a unique opportunity before us to empower educators and parents nationwide and make it crystal clear we will not allow those who would prey on young, vulnerable minds to compromise the integrity of our school system and tarnish an honorable profession. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, ensuring the safety of our children.

PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate National Peace Corps Week and the 48th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

While much has changed in the world since the Peace Corps was created in 1961, its goals and ideals of promoting goodwill remain. Volunteers continue to provide invaluable services in over 70 countries, serving as educators, technology consultants, environmental specialists, and business advisors.

At a time when extremism is sweeping through much of the globe, more than ever, we need these dedicated individuals.

As the former chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa, I have had the opportunity to meet with several Peace Corps Volunteers around the continent. The commitment these men and women have shown is extremely impressive and is to be commended.

These Americans, approximately 7,800 of them, are serving their country in often extremely difficult conditions. They live at the same level of the people they serve, and uniquely connect with them. Since its inception, over 195,000 Volunteers have worked in over 139 countries.

In my district, I'm proud to say that I have thirteen Peace Corps Volunteers, stationed around the world. Christina Balch in Lesotho, Joan Bash in Bulgaria, Joseph Flores in Macedonia, Mamie Florin in Gambia, Wendy Jones in Kenya, Olenka Langen in Nicaragua, Justin Lee in the Dominican Republic, Dulce Martinez in China, Lacey Monson in Thailand, Carmen Munoz in Guatemala, Joan Ngo in Paraguay, Stacey Ngo in the Dominican Republic, and Leala Ruangtragool in Honduras, are each to be commended for their service.

Madam Speaker, I have seen the valuable work the Peace Corps is doing in Africa, and throughout the world. It deserves our recognition and support.

A TRIBUTE TO ABISHEK JAIN

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Abishek Jain, a student at Falls Church High School in Falls Church, VA and recipient of this year's In Hope Freedom Rings Foundation Scholarship.

AJ has earned a reputation as a mindful and mature leader in his community. He is president of the Falls Church High School Science Club, which he founded in the 10th grade, and through which he founded, planned, and operated the school's first successful school recycling program. Today this program is staffed by 30 volunteers and has 200 collection locations.

He is a devoted scholar. His current overall grade point average is 3.86 and this semester he is enrolled in four Advanced Placement courses. He further contributes to the intellectual life of his school as President of the National Math Honor Society and Treasurer of the National Spanish Honor Society. In furthering his studies as an undergraduate AJ plans to pursue a degree in engineering.

AJ's studies are balanced by his athletic and artistic endeavors. He is a member of the Varsity Tennis and Indoor Track Teams and is a former member of the Varsity Swim and Dive Team and Junior Varsity Golf Team. In addition, he has a genuine passion for the violin, which he has played for the past nine years. In this capacity he is a member and former vice-president of the Chamber Orchestra.

AJ still finds time to volunteer in the community beyond his school. He has spent many hours over the past four years working at the Bailey's Crossroads' Homeless Shelter where

he is a coordinator charged with gathering food and volunteers to feed the area's homeless.

His school counselor notes, "What impresses me most about AJ is how grounded he is. He pushes himself to achieve, yet is also aware of his limitations. Since elementary school he has been involved with a cultural organization, the Chinmaya Mission. It is here where AJ has developed a spiritual sense and wisdom beyond his years."

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending AJ for setting such a strong example in his community.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. 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 secured as part of H.R. 1105, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Buffalo Trace/Gateway Narcotics Task Force

Address of Requesting Entity: 908 Kenton Station Drive, Maysville, KY 41056

Description of Request: Appropriate \$280,000 to continue the operations of the Buffalo Trace/Gateway Narcotics Task Force to collect, analyze and process information through an organized, coordinated investigation, with the assistance of local, State, and federal agencies, to discourage and eliminate the use and sale of illegal narcotics.

The Task Force will benefit law enforcement in the investigation of all types of crimes related to drug trafficking and drug abuse which may include thefts, robberies and homicides. Local law enforcement does not have the funds to strengthen and investigate drug related crimes in some of our communities.

The Task Force will impact the drug abuse and drug related deaths in the ten county area in which it covers, as well as provide the offender's with treatment and recovery. Local governments and law enforcement agencies provide matching funds to support operations of the task force.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oldham County Sheriff's Office

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 W. Jefferson Street, La Grange, KY 40031

Description of Request: Appropriate \$90,000 to acquire upgraded equipment to assist the Sheriff's Department in responding to a variety of law enforcement situations within the community. Needed equipment includes: dual antenna radar units, handheld radar units, Mobile Data Terminals, tazers, four wheel drive police vehicle, GPS positioning units, PD6500 security scanner, and other appropriate equipment

to assist the agency in responding to a variety of law enforcement situations within the community. The Oldham County Sheriff's Office is a twenty-four hour law enforcement agency that provides immediate assistance to the residents of Oldham County and surrounding counties as requested. In addition, the Sheriff's office is responsible for courtroom security, prisoner transport throughout Kentucky, protection of government employees, officials and government property.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Alexandria Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 8236 W. Main St., Alexandria, KY 41001

Description of Request: Appropriate \$30,000 to digitize police records and make them available in real time to officers throughout a three county region. The City of Alexandria Police Department on behalf of the Northern Kentucky Police Chief's Association is working collaboratively with local law enforcement agencies throughout our region to share police records. These records are considered public record, but are not readily available to local law enforcement as a means of data intelligence or for viewing by patrol officers in the field. This project uses state of the art software in a web interface that enables officers in real time to check master name files and previous contacts, as well as print warnings and other citations from the car using broadband internet connectivity. This project will allow local law enforcement to become more responsive to the community from a crime reduction standpoint.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Flemingsburg Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 140 W. Electric Avenue, Flemingsburg, KY 41041

Description of Request: Appropriate \$45,000 for the acquisition of four Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) for installation and use in the police cruisers used by the City of Flemingsburg Police Department. This will allow the department to connect to the Kentucky State Police LINK/NCIC terminal directly from the police vehicle. MDTs increase both officer and public safety by empowering law enforcement with critical information prior to exiting their vehicle. MDTs will let the officers know if a vehicle is stolen, the person driving is wanted and if the person is licensed to carry a concealed weapon.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Owen County Sheriff Office, Owenton, KY

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 North Madison Street, Owenton, KY 40359

Description of Request: Appropriate \$55,000 for the acquisition of six Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) for installation and use in the police cruisers used by both the Owen County Sheriff's Office and the City of Owenton Police

Department. The topography of Owen County limits the effectiveness of cell phones and two-way radios. However, experience has shown that MDTs are responsive throughout the county. MDTs will allow the department to connect to the Kentucky State Police LINK/NCIC terminal directly from the police vehicle. MDTs increase both officer and public safety by empowering law enforcement with critical information prior to exiting their vehicle. MDTs will let the officers know if a vehicle is stolen, the person driving is wanted and if the person is licensed to carry a concealed weapon.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Interior, EPA, STAG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Warsaw, KY

Address of Requesting Entity: 303 East Main Street, Warsaw, Kentucky 41095

Description of Request: Appropriate \$500,000 for the extension of a public water main to service area of the county not currently served by potable water supply. The project benefits include the delivery of safe drinking water to area residents not currently served by potable water supply and improved fire protection. The existing 0.21 MGD WWTP will be upgraded to a 1.0 MGD treatment facility.

Expansion and upgrading the existing facilities is vital for the area to continue its residential and economic growth. The proposed project would bring the Warsaw WWTP into compliance with KY EPA regulations and prevent the imposition of a consent decree or "agreed order." Furthermore, the project would ensure that water quality and environment would be protected.

The recipient has certified that the matching funds required by the STAG program (45% non-federal) can and will be met.

Adequate water and sewer service are essential infrastructure foundations that are required for residential and commercial growth. In addition, this funding will assist the community in complying with federal environmental regulations.

Budget allocation: Construction—81%; Administrative—1%; Engineering—7%; Resident Inspection—6%; Financing—1%; Project Contingencies—4%. Note: these percentages represent the allocation based on the total cost of the project as determined through the certified financing plan.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy & Water, Department of Energy—Fossil Energy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Kentucky

Address of Requesting Entity: 243 Bowman Hall, Lexington, KY 40506-0059

Description of Request: Appropriate \$951,500.00 to the University of Kentucky's Center for Applied Energy Research for the Coal-Derived Low Energy Materials for Sustainable Construction Project. The project and product development needs for the concrete, ready-mix, and masonry product industries that produce construction materials from coal combustion by-products and will provide data for using these materials in LEEDs certified green construction projects.

New products including low energy, low CO₂ producing cement and concrete can be fab-

ricated almost entirely from coal combustion products. Portland cement is an energy intensive product that represents the third highest anthropologic source of CO₂. A high performance substitute for Portland cement, based on calcium sulfoaluminate (or CAS cement) can be made from fluidized bed combustion ash, synthetic gypsum and bauxite.

These new materials are not only low energy but also recycled and can play a major role in sustainable, energy-efficient construction. Kentucky and many other states have made a commitment to LEEDs certified green building and architecture. These new materials will require documented performance and certification for their use that can only be provided by a cross cutting research effort as is proposed for the Center.

Budget allocation: 100% of the funds will be spent on research, including equipment and support for two senior engineers.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy & Water, Department of Energy—Fossil Energy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Kentucky

Address of Requesting Entity: 243 Bowman Hall, Lexington, KY 40506-0059

Description of Request: Appropriate \$1,379,675 for the University of Kentucky Strategic Liquid Transportation Fuels Derived from Coal Project at the Center for Applied Energy Research. The funding will continue the expansion of capabilities at the University of Kentucky directed toward research and labor force development and training related to the production of liquid transportation fuels (diesel, aviation fuel, etc.) derived from coal.

The use of coal for transportation fuels can provide additional independence from oil imports, safeguard the nation's security, allow for the development of new industries, and provide new incentives for coal mining. The Department of Defense has a keen interest in securing alternatives to petroleum for reliable supplies of battlefield fuels. Moreover, there are certain applications where coal-derived fuels are environmentally superior for the production of ultra-clean diesel and jet fuel of interest to the aviation, heavy equipment and trucking industries. Eastern and western Kentucky coals are suitable feed stocks for these purposes.

Budget allocation: 60% for construction; 15% for utilities and infrastructure; 25% for integration of the existing slurry column reactor.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy & Water, USACE, PED

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

Address of Requesting Entity: 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, WV 25701

Description of Request: Appropriate \$335,000 for the Greenup Lock and Extension, KY & OH. Greenup Lock and Dam is the eighth busiest of the Corps of Engineers' 230 locks and dam projects. Closure of the lock, for maintenance or in the event of an accident, generates massive delays and associated costs to industry. Traffic delays are increasing in frequency and duration due to the dilapidated state of the infrastructure. Budget Allocation: 100% of the funds will be used to complete the preconstruction engineering and design (PED) phase.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy & Water, USACE, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Description of Request: Appropriate \$10,144,000 to continue the construction and rehabilitation of the Markland Locks and Dam. This funding is for construction and installation of miter gate assembly area and pier, new miter gates for the main chamber and new culvert valves for the main chamber.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy & Water, USACE, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District
Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201-0059

Description of Request: Appropriate \$96,000 for the Northern Kentucky Riverfront Commons. The Army Corps of Engineers has completed a Master Plan and Reconnaissance Report for the Northern Kentucky Riverfront Commons Project. This request for funding is intended for preliminary design and engineering for the entire length of the project area.

The Riverfront Commons project coordinates riverbank stabilization strategies and public access enhancements along the Phase I 2.75 mile corridor of the south bank of the Ohio River in the communities of Covington, Newport, and Bellevue, Kentucky.

Implementation of the Riverfront Commons Project will improve quality of life for Northern Kentucky residents and residents of the Greater Cincinnati, Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana metropolitan area.

Riverfront tourism and festivals along the riverfront make a large contribution to the Northern Kentucky economy. Currently, an estimated 5,647,928 visitors, including 1,000,000 festival attendees, visit the Northern Kentucky riverfront area each year.

Budget allocation: 100% of the funding will be used for preliminary energy and design. Note, however, that the bill does not fund the original request completely. As a result, progress will be limited by the limited appropriation.

The affected local communities plan to provide a fifty-fifty local match of case and in kind services.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Financial Services, SBA, Salaries & Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northern Kentucky University

Address of Requesting Entity: Administrative Center 616, Nunn Drive, Highland Heights, KY 41099

Description of Request: Appropriate \$1,900,000 for equipment, faculty development and start-up costs for the College of Informatics to develop and apply informatics-based solutions to the real world, as well as train students for new jobs in various professions that could benefit from the application of informatics, including health.

Informatics is the science of gathering, processing and manipulating information. Employ-

ment potential in health informatics careers is skyrocketing, a result of the growing number of public and private stakeholders, increased health care technology applications, and the desire to positively impact health care evolution and programs.

The U.S. Department of Labor projects the healthcare industry to hold twelve of the twenty fastest growing occupations, five of the remaining eight in the computer technology industry. The Labor Department also identifies "medical records and health information technology" as the sixth largest field for growth, with a forty-seven percent employment increase over the ten years ending in 2012.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Financial Services, SBA, Salaries & Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Thomas More College

Address of Requesting Entity: 333 Thomas More Parkway, Crestview Hills, KY 41017

Description of Request: Appropriate \$100,000 for Thomas More College's Center for Regional Health Sciences and Health Care Management. The Center will use the funds to expand upon current programs to address both immediate and projected future needs of businesses in health care and health care related fields, both at the advanced skills and at the management level. The College is a leader in both nursing and business in the region and has a unique affiliation with St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center. Federal funds will be used for continued faculty development and operating costs of programs at the Center.

The Center serves to stimulate job creation in the region. The health care industry is expected to grow by 25% by 2010 outpacing the ability of post-secondary institutions to fill the void. The center will produce a greater volume of highly skilled workers. Employment opportunities in the health care field are expected to increase by more than 25% by the year 2010, creating 1.3 million jobs on a national level.

The total project cost estimate is \$3,180,000. The College (through tuition revenue, foundation support and alumni giving) will provide 61% of the required funds.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Harrison Memorial Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 1210 KY Highway 36 E, Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031

Description of Request: Appropriate \$285,000 to upgrade the technology and enhance the capabilities of Harrison Memorial Hospital's Amicus PACS Imaging System in order to improve efficiency, health care delivery and cost savings. This appropriation would enable Harrison Memorial Hospital to enhance PACS to include critical services and provide same-day testing for patients.

The current system is currently able to capture and distribute images of general radiology, CT, and general ultrasound. At present, bone density and stereotactic biopsy services are only available through a mobile service one day per month. Digital mammography is also currently not available at the hospital.

Federal funds will enable HMM to enhance the PACS system to include these critical services and provide same-day testing for patients. This increases access to critical health care resources in the community, as well as reduces multiple trips to the facility and multiple billings.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: HealthPoint Family Care

Address of Requesting Entity: 601 Washington St., Suite 300, Newport, Kentucky 41071

Description of Request: Appropriate \$238,000 to replace the current paper records system with electronic medical records to reduce errors, save money and improve the quality of care. HealthPoint Family Care is a federally qualified health center providing primary care medical and dental services to 35,800 mainly low-income, uninsured patients. Funding will cover hardware, software and training to convert medical records from paper to electronic.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, Elementary & Secondary Education (FIE)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Grant County Board of Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 820 Arnie Risen Boulevard, Williamstown, Kentucky 41097

Description of Request: Appropriate \$190,000 for equipment for the Grant County Board of Education's new Grant County/Williamstown Area Career and Technical Education Center. The new Center will provide closer career and technical training opportunities for high school students in Grant County. The flagship program will be the Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) Program. This field is an attractive and in demand area of expertise with Grant County's strategic location between three major airports. Federal funding will go towards technical equipment needed for the AMT Program.

The proposed Grant County/Williamstown Area Career and Technical Education Center will dramatically improve opportunities for students. The improved labor force will attract much needed industry to Grant County and the region.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, Higher Education (FIPSE)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ashland Community and Technical College

Address of Requesting Entity: 1400 College Drive, Ashland, KY 41101

Description of Request: Appropriate \$143,000 for the purchase of necessary equipment for the allied health laboratories and classrooms located in the Parsons Building. The Parsons Building is a new building gifted to the College in the downtown district of Ashland. The new location will be used for college classes in Health Sciences, the Business and Job Testing Center and a conference center. Federal funds will be used for equipment, including computers and related computer

equipment, laboratory equipment; training aids; and curriculum development tools for the allied health laboratories and classrooms in the new building.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, Higher Education (FIPSE)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Gateway Community and Technical College

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 Buttermilk Pike, Suite 334, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky 41017

Description of Request: Appropriate \$95,000 for the Gateway Community and Technical College's Center for Advanced Manufacturing. The new Center's goal is to prepare, train and retrain a skilled workforce in Northern Kentucky that will create a pipeline of young workers for new and expanded manufacturing jobs, train and retrain 10,000 workers in 200 companies annually to boost productivity, and provide just-in-time training for new manufacturing firms in the region. Federal funds will be used to purchase equipment for the training programs, including training modules and equipment for specific manufacturing careers.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Federal Highway Administration, Transportation & Community & System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Carroll County Fiscal Court

Address of Requesting Entity: 4400 Main Street, Second Floor, Carrollton, Kentucky 41008

Description of Request: Appropriate \$95,000 to begin replacement of the Highway 36 West Bridge over Locust Creek in Carrollton, Kentucky. This bridge is on a main thoroughfare for commercial road traffic. A number of fatalities have occurred on the existing bridge. Replacement of the bridge will improve the flow of traffic and be safer for those traveling the bridge.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Federal Highway Administration, Interstate Maintenance Discretionary (IMD)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Mero St., Frankfort, KY 40622

Description of Request: Appropriate \$380,000 to rehabilitate the section of I-471 between I-275 and the Ohio River in Campbell County, Kentucky. The project is listed in Kentucky's six year highway plan. This section of I-471 is an essential thoroughfare, serving residents of Kentucky, Ohio, and other States. It provides a link that is critical to the economic growth and safety of Northern Kentucky. This section will serve as an alternate route when work begins on replacement of the Brent Spence Bridge on I-71/75. The pavement has deteriorated to the extent that grinding and repairing is no longer feasible. Federal funds will be used for pavement rehabilitation in the form of structural overlay to restore this deficient thoroughfare.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Federal Transit Administration, Buses & Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Transportation Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK)

Address of Requesting Entity: 3375 Madison Pike, Fort Wright, KY 41017

Description of Request: Appropriate \$1,900,000 for the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK). Federal funds will be used to purchase replacement buses needed to address safety and capacity issues with the aging fleet. Newer buses will also help to achieve better fuel economy and have cleaner emissions than the buses currently in use and in need of replacement.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Federal Transit Administration, Buses & Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Tri-County Community Action Agency

Address of Requesting Entity: 1015 Dispatchers Way, LaGrange, KY 40031

Description of Request: Appropriate \$76,950 for Tri-County Community Action Agency for the Non-Emergency Medical and Independent Living Activities Transportation for Older Adults program. Federal funds will be used to purchase new vehicles and GPS systems in order to better serve senior citizens and veterans who need transportation to medical appointments, adult day care and independent living activities. The purchases will also be available to Emergency Management and First Responder Personnel in each county to help with evacuation of special needs residents should an emergency situation occur.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: HUD, Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Maysville

Address of Requesting Entity: 216 Bridge Street, Maysville, Kentucky 41056

Description of Request: Appropriate \$2,565,000 for the renovation and restoration of the Cox Building in the downtown area of the City of Maysville. The Cox Building is a historic keystone building for the City. Federal funding will be used for masonry, repairs, fire alarm, sprinkler, plumbing, HVAC, elevator, plaster, painting and other construction needs. The goal of the project is to renovate the building to become an income producing and economically stimulating entity for the historic business district. The restoration of the building will also provide space for the community's new "Entrepreneurial—Incubator Program" and provide local art organizations with affordable space and an opportunity to be located downtown.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: HUD, Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mason County Fiscal Court

Address of Requesting Entity: 221 Stanley Reed Court, Maysville, Kentucky 41056

Description of Request: Appropriate \$95,000 to complete the construction of the multi-use Mays Lick Community Center. Federal funds will be used to finish the community center, including drywall, flooring, ceiling and insulation. The Mays Lick Community Center will provide a place for community events, Boys and Girls

club activities, Boy Scouts of America and other community meetings. The community does not currently have any type of facility to meet these needs.

TRIBUTE TO PEACE CORPS
WORKERS

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to the 35 residents of the Third Congressional District of Minnesota who are currently serving as Peace Corps Volunteers around the world.

I also want to thank the Peace Corps itself for the important work it has done since its founding in 1961 to promote understanding with other countries.

As we approach the 48th anniversary of the Peace Corps on March 1, 2009 and celebrate National Peace Corps Week this week, we are all very grateful for the work of this wonderful organization and the many volunteers who do so much for so many people.

I am especially proud of my dedicated constituents who are currently serving our country and the people of the world as Peace Corps volunteers: Joseph Adams in Surinam; Melissa Cuddy in Guatemala; Kristina Denison in Zambia; Bradley Engelsma in El Salvador; David Garfunkele in the Dominican Republic; Patricia Godchaux in Moldova; Alyson Hatchett in Costa Rica; Laura Hoffman in Bulgaria; Sarah Horns in South Africa; Ledor Igboh in Ghana; Franklin Jadwin in Peru; Andrew Jondahl in Senegal; Briana Juster in Guatemala; Jennifer Katchmark in Botswana; Jessica Kolb in Kazakhstan; Sarah Litichy in Ethiopia; Erin Luhmann in Kyrgyzstan; Michael Luke in Romania; Kari Nelson in Senegal; Molly Nicholls in Macedonia; Mary O'Brien in Senegal; Derek Olson in Uganda; Martha Pakan in Mexico; Nichol Perkins in Nicaragua; Charles Powell in Honduras; Claire Reuning in Benin; Nicholas Rossi in Burkina Faso; Charles Seltzer in Dominican Republic; Braden Shannon in El Salvador; Gabriel Sidman in Honduras; Melanie Siler in Kazakhstan; Illyria Turk in Bulgaria; Janet Utecht in Mexico; Maria VanOsdale in Senegal; and Laura Van't Land in the Philippines.

Madam Speaker, I applaud each of these individuals for their service to our country and to the people of the countries in which they are working. And thank you to the Peace Corps for 48 years of critical service to the world.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. DUNCAN. 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 H.R. 1105, the "Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009."

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service—SRG

Project Amount: \$700,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Tennessee, 114 Morgan Hall, 2621 Morgan Circle, Knoxville, TN 37996.

Description of Request: This funding will be used for producing crops that can be used directly as early-warning sentinels for the detection of plant diseases.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Agricultural Research Service—Salaries and expenses

Project Amount: \$254,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Tennessee, 114 Morgan Hall, 2621 Morgan Circle, Knoxville, TN 37996.

Description of Request: This funding will be used to support developing new varieties and cropping systems that will improve disease resistance, enhance value of the crop and protect the regional soil and water resources.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: OJP—Juvenile Justice

Project Amount: \$400,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Childhelp of East Tennessee, 2505 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919.

Description of Request: This funding will be used to assist Childhelp in expanding its important services to more children in Knox County and the surrounding region who have suffered abuse. Specifically, the Children's Center of East Tennessee will expand its forensic interview capacity and related services to East Tennessee children who have, in the past, been turned away, as well as its community based forensic interview and medical examination services.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers—Investigations

Project Amount: \$96,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Maryville College, Fayerweather Hall 309, 502 E. Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville, TN 37804.

Description of Request: This funding will be used to conduct a watershed study on the Little Tennessee River in East Tennessee.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: SBA

Project Amount: \$670,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Alcoa, 223 Associates Boulevard, Alcoa, Tennessee 37701.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to develop infrastructure servicing the new Pellissippi Research Centre on the Oak Ridge Corridor.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EPA—STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Project Amount: \$300,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: West Knox Utility District, 2328 Lovell Road, Knoxville, TN 37932.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to provide sanitary sewer service to the Ball Camp Community to remove existing health and environmental issues resulting from failed septic systems.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EPA—Environmental Programs and Management

Project Amount: \$2,500,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Rural Community Assistance Partnership, 1522 K St, NW Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to assist small communities with drinking water and waste water concerns.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: HRSA Health Facilities and Services

Project Amount: \$476,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Blount Memorial Hospital, 907 East Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville, TN 37804.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to help implement an Electronic Medical Record System, which would help improving the accuracy of documentation, as well as improving the communication among the interdisciplinary caregivers.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: HRSA—Health Facilities and Services

Project Amount: \$285,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sertoma Center, 1400 East Fifth Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to provide improvement and technology upgrades at facilities which administer day and residential programs for adults with cognitive disabilities.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA)—Mental Health

Project Amount: \$238,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: ChildNet of East Tennessee, 201 West Springdale Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to expand ChildNet services in the Second Congressional District of Tennessee. Services offered by ChildNet include psychiatric assessment, medication evaluation, individual and family counseling, case management, classroom observation, and consultation from trained mental health professional(s).

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Buses and Bus Facilities

Project Amount: \$1,425,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: East Tennessee Human Resources Agency, 9111 Cross Park Drive, Suite D—100, Knoxville, TN 37923.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to replace high mileage, handicapped accessible vehicles used to daily transport citizens to life sustaining activities such as trips to medical appointments.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Project Amount: \$570,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Knoxville, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN 37902.

Description of Request: The funding would be used to construct a new pedestrian bridge with a free span of 800 feet, providing a safe pedestrian passageway between the South Knoxville Waterfront and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Buses and Bus Facilities

Project Amount: \$237,500.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Alcoa, 223 Associates Boulevard, Alcoa, Tennessee 37701.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to develop infrastructure servicing the new Pellissippi Research Centre on the Oak Ridge Corridor.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Project Amount: \$142,500.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Knoxville, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN 37902.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to purchase an Automated Vehicle Locator system and passenger variable message signs in an effort to prevent idling times at the transfer center which will help improve air quality.

HONORING BILL AND FAITH COLLINS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have a major impact on their community.

Today, I rise to honor a family who has dedicated their lives to public service and the improvement of the community they call home. Bill and Faith Collins of Rome, Georgia are the perfect example of how one family can have a positive impact on the lives of countless others around them.

Bill Collins has served his community on the Rome City Commission for the past 11 years. As a Commissioner, Bill currently chairs the Public Works Committee and serves on the Transportation and Downtown Development Authority—working to improve his community's infrastructure.

Bill's wife, Faith, has committed much of her life to ensuring that the children of Rome receive the best education possible. As a longtime member of the Rome City School Board, Faith has made improving the quality of education for Georgia students her mission.

I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Bill and Faith Collins—a true public service family—for their commitment to improving their community.

COMMEMORATION OF TAIWAN'S 2-28 MASSACRE

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 62nd commemoration of Taiwan's "2-28 Massacre."

On February 28, 1947, the brutal arrest of a female civilian in Taipei led to large-scale protests by the native Taiwanese against the repression of Chiang Kai-shek's Chinese Nationalists, who occupied Taiwan on behalf of the Allied Forces after Japan's defeat in 1945.

During the following days, Chiang's government sent troops from mainland China to the island. The Chinese soldiers began capturing and executing leading Taiwanese lawyers, doctors, students, and other citizens.

It is estimated that at least 18,000 people lost their lives during the turmoil. During the following four decades, the Chinese Nationalists continued to rule Taiwan under a martial law system that lasted until 1987.

The 2-28 event had far-reaching implications. Over the next half-century, the Taiwanese democracy movement that grew out of the incident helped pave the way for Taiwan's momentous transformation from a dictatorship under the Chinese Nationalists to a thriving and pluralistic democracy.

In some ways, the 2-28 incident was similar to the "Boston Massacre" that occurred in the Massachusetts colony in 1770. Both events launched a movement toward full democracy and helped galvanize a struggle for independence.

I urge other Members to join me in commemorating this important historical event.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN BRAD CONNORS, USN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Captain Brad Connors, USN, who will be retiring after turning over command of Naval Base Ventura County on Friday.

I have worked closely on a number of endeavors with Captain Connors over the past three years. He is the consummate professional military officer and gentleman.

Since he graduated the United States Naval Academy in 1982 and earned his wings in 1984, Captain Connors has logged more than 4,500 flight hours and 900 carrier landings in several different aircraft. He has served as squadron executive officer and commander and flew missions over Iraq in support of Operation Southern Watch. During this tour, his squadron was awarded the Navy's "Battle E" in recognition of superior squadron readiness and mission performance.

Following a Korean Peninsula deployment onboard USS Kittyhawk, Captain Connors led

a multi-squadron maintenance detachment in support of TopGun's transition to F/A18s and the very first Strike Fighter Instructor Course.

In December 1995, Captain Connors became an instructor at the Naval Strike Warfare Center in Nevada. His first official duty was to serve on the integration team that facilitated the merger of "TopGun," "Strike," and "TopDome" into the newly formed Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center (NSAWC). Following NSAWC's commissioning, Captain Connors became its first Air Wing Training Officer. Under his direction, integrated air warfare training and standardization went through a complete renaissance, including development of the Air Interdiction Mission Commander's Course the very first Strike Leader flying syllabus.

Captain Connors also served as Cruiser Destroyer Group ONE's Air Operations and Operations Officer onboard the *USS Constellation* following graduation from the Naval War College. During this tour, Captain Connors contributed to Iraqi Freedom operational planning, flew combat missions, and oversaw the integration of more than 140 coalition combatants in support of the operation's maritime objectives.

At Naval Base Ventura County, Captain Connors commands its more than 90 tenants, 6,000 military personnel, 9,000 civilian employees and 3,000 contractors at Point Mugu, the Naval Construction Battalion Center at Port Hueneme, the Channel Islands Air National Guard, 146th Airlift Wing, and the base's 36,000-square-mile sea test range—the largest in the world. He has done an exemplary job.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking Captain Brad Connors for his decades of service to his country and the U.S. Navy and in wishing him great success in his retirement.

'MR. AMIGO 2008' JOSÉ SULAIMÁN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the 2008 "Mr. Amigo," José Sulaimán, chosen recently by the Mr. Amigo Association of Brownsville, TX, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico. Sulaimán has spent his life in the sport of boxing, best known as the president of the World Boxing Council for more than three decades.

The Mr. Amigo Award began in 1964 as an annual tribute to an outstanding Mexican citizen who has made a lasting contribution during the previous year to international solidarity and goodwill. "Mr. Amigo" acts as an ambassador between our two countries and presides over the annual Charro Days festival.

The Charro Days festival, held in Brownsville and Matamoros, is an opportunity to enjoy the unique border culture of the Rio Grande Valley area. A Lenten event, much like Mardi Gras in New Orleans, the festival was organized in 1937 by the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce to recognize Mexican culture and was named in honor of the charros, "dashing Mexican gentlemen cowboys." The festival includes parades complete with floats, as well as street dances, a carnival, mariachi and ma-

rimba concerts, and ballet folklorico performances by school students.

In 1968, Sulaimán joined the World Boxing Council (WBC) and quickly moved through the ranks. In 1975, Sulaimán was unanimously elected president of the WBC and has served in that capacity ever since. Under his leadership, the WBC has instituted many new rules and regulations regarding boxers' safety and welfare, and has funded brain injury research programs at UCLA. Outside of boxing, Sulaimán, who speaks Spanish, English, Arabic, Italian, Portuguese and French, successfully operates a medical supply company in Mexico.

The United States-Mexico border has a unique, blended history of cowboys, bandits, lawmen, farmers, fishermen, oil riggers, soldiers, scientists, entrepreneurs, and teachers. The Charro Days festival reflects that deep sense of shared history and experiences, which is needed now more than ever. It is a time for all of us to not only remember our past, but to celebrate our future.

The Charro Days festival and the Mr. Amigo Award unite sister cities on both sides of the border and send a message that we are neighbors, and friends that trust, understand, and respect each other. We share a language, customs, and experiences unique to our communities, and during Charro Days we take time to celebrate our distinctive culture.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending José Sulaimán, the 2008 Mr. Amigo, as well as the cities of Brownsville and Matamoros, for their dedication to international goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Monday, February 23, 2009, I incorrectly recorded two votes. Please let the record show that I intended to vote the following way: roll No. 72—"nay," roll No. 73—"nay."

SAFE DRUG DISPOSAL ACT OF 2009

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, Congressman INSLEE, to support the "Safe Drug Disposal Act of 2009," legislation that will address the risks to our families, our communities, and the environment from unwanted or unused drugs that are left in the home or that are disposed of improperly.

Drug waste is a problem at every juncture of the health care system. Medications can accumulate in numerous settings—in nursing homes, hospitals, and hospice care facilities, and in home-based care settings and private residences. To encourage safe disposal of these drugs, many communities have developed take-back programs or sponsored collection events that allow consumers to properly

dispose of unwanted or unused drugs. These programs reduce the quantity of unused pharmaceuticals entering the environment and reduce the amount of drugs available for diversion, theft, abuse, or accidental poisoning.

While these programs are clearly of benefit to the consumer, they can be difficult to administer because, under current law, a representative of law enforcement must be present to take custody of medications that are classified as controlled substances. This bill will amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow end users, or caretakers of an end user, to safely dispose of unused prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs through Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) approved state-run drug take-back programs. This bill also prohibits pharmaceutical companies from recommending flushing as a safe means of disposal on prescription drug labels.

PHARMACEUTICALS IN SURFACE WATERS AND IN DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES

For many years, consumers were advised to dispose of their unwanted medications down the toilet. However, we now know that chemicals from over-the-counter and prescription medications are not always screened in water treatment systems, and can be discharged into rivers and lakes and enter our drinking water supplies. In 2002, the U.S. Geological Survey reported that some traces of common medicines such as acetaminophen, hormones, blood pressure medications, codeine, and antibiotics were detected in very low concentrations in 80 percent of samples taken from 139 streams across 30 states.

Little was known about people's exposure to such compounds from drinking water, so scientists at the Southern Nevada Water Authority in Las Vegas screened tap water from 19 U.S. water utilities for 51 different compounds. The surveys were carried out between 2006 and 2007. Of the eleven most frequently detected compounds, nine were pharmaceuticals:

Atenolol, a beta-blocker used to treat cardiovascular disease.

Carbamazepine, a mood-stabilizing drug used to treat bipolar disorder.

Estrone, an estrogen.

Gemfibrozil, an anti-cholesterol drug.

Meprobamate, a tranquilizer widely used in psychiatric treatment.

Naproxen, a painkiller and anti-inflammatory.

Phenytoin, an anticonvulsant that has been used to treat epilepsy.

Sulfamethoxazole, an antibiotic used against the *Streptococcus* bacteria, which is responsible for tonsillitis and other diseases.

Trimethoprim, another antibiotic.

Further testing of drinking water supplies has shown that at least 46 million people are exposed to trace amounts of pharmaceuticals through this route, while the overwhelming majority of U.S. communities have yet to test.

The Environmental Protection Agency and other federal agencies are working to evaluate exposure and potential effects on humans and aquatic life. While we know that pharmaceuticals have health effects at the therapeutic dose, EPA is working to better understand and evaluate the potential risk to humans associated with long-term exposure to low concentrations of the same chemicals.

Aquatic organisms may experience more pronounced effects than humans because they are continually exposed. Researchers are

finding evidence that even extremely diluted concentrations of pharmaceutical residues harm fish, frogs, and other aquatic species in the wild. Pharmaceuticals are seen as a source of the endocrine disrupting compounds in wastewater effluent that are suspected of causing the high rate of intersex characteristics detected in certain species of smallmouth bass found in the Potomac River. In addition, even small amounts of antibiotics that are not captured by wastewater treatment systems can kill off natural bacteria in waterways, encourage microbes to become drug-resistant, and poison fish. EPA is monitoring fish tissue and water samples in developed and urban areas across the country to produce a statistically representative estimate of the occurrence of pharmaceuticals in fish tissue and waterways.

EPA is also researching whether higher-level water treatment strategies can remove pharmaceuticals from wastewater and drinking water. EPA advises that while most pharmaceuticals from human sources are entering water through natural biological functions, it is important for the public to understand that they can help prevent pollution of our waterways by not using the toilet as a trash can for unused medications.

ABUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

This legislation will address not only the risks to our water supply, but will have public health benefits. Several studies of drug abuse patterns indicate that nonmedical use of prescription drugs is increasing. Last fall, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services released the results of the nation's largest substance use assessment, the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. For 2007, the study showed that cocaine and methamphetamine use among young adults dropped significantly, but that abuse of prescription drugs increased. Among young adults ages 18 to 25, the level of current nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers has risen 12 percent.

Results of a separate study of seventh through twelfth grade students were released in 2005 by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America. The Partnership Attitude Tracking Study tracks consumers' exposure to and attitudes about drugs. The study focuses on perceived risk and social attitudes. For the first time in its seventeen-year history, the study found that teenagers are more likely to have abused a prescription pain medication to get high than they are to have experimented with a variety of illicit drugs including Ecstasy, cocaine, crack, and LSD. The study reported that nearly one in five teenagers, or 4.3 million teenagers nationally, reported using the controlled substance Vicodin without a prescription; approximately ten percent, or 2.3 million teens nationally, reported using the controlled substance OxyContin without a prescription; and ten percent, or 2.3 million teenagers nationally, reported having used prescription stimulants, Ritalin and/or Adderall, without a prescription. Fifty percent of the teenagers surveyed indicated that prescription drugs are widely available; a third indicated that they were easy to purchase over the Internet; and 63 percent said they could easily obtain prescription opiates and painkillers from their own home.

The 2006 National Institute of Drug Abuse survey of drug use by teens in the eighth,

tenth, and twelfth grades, "Monitoring the Future: National Results on Adolescent Drug Use", found that past-year nonmedical use of Vicodin remained high among all three grades, with nearly one in ten high school seniors using it in the past year. Despite a drop from 2005 to 2006 in past-year abuse of OxyContin among twelfth graders (from 5.5 percent to 4.3 percent), there had been no such decline among the eighth and tenth grade students, and the rate of use among the youngest students had increased significantly since it was included in the survey in 2002.

The consequences of prescription drug abuse are seen in the data collected by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration on emergency room visits. In the latest data, "Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN), 2005: National Estimates of Drug-Related Emergency Department Visits," SAMHSA estimates that about 599,000 emergency department visits involved nonmedical use of prescription or over-the-counter drugs or dietary supplements, a 21 percent increase over 2004. Of the 599,000 visits, 172,000 involved benzodiazepines and 196,000 involved opiates. Overall, controlled substances represented 66 percent of the estimated emergency department visits. Between 2004 and 2005, the number of visits involving opiates increased 24 percent and the number involving benzodiazepines increased 19 percent. About a third (200,000) of all visits involving nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals resulted in admission to the hospital; about 66,000 of those individuals were admitted to critical care units; 1,365 of the visits ended with the death of the patient.

The most recent data available in the National Poison Data Base compiled by the American Association of Poison Control Centers show that in 2006 there were 21 pharmaceutical-associated fatalities in children under age 6, and 47 such fatalities in children 13 to 19 years. We may never know how many of these incidents affecting our children and youth are due to access to unused medications found in the home. Even so, it is important to look for opportunities to reduce the frequency of these incidents.

LOCAL AND STATE PROGRAMS OPERATED UNDER EXISTING LAW

The Drug Enforcement Administration administers the Controlled Substances Act and its implementing regulations to ensure an adequate supply of controlled substances for legitimate medical, scientific, research, and industrial purposes, and to deter the diversion of controlled substances to illegal purposes. Controlled substances are drugs that have a potential for abuse and psychological and physical dependence; these include opiates, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, anabolic steroids, and drugs that are immediate precursors of these classes of substances. The substances are divided into five schedules. Schedule I substances have a high potential for abuse and have no accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. These substances may only be used for research, chemical analysis, or manufacture of other drugs. Schedule II-V substances have accepted medical uses and also have potential for abuse and psychological and physical dependence. Virtually all Schedule II-V controlled substances are available only under a prescription written by a practitioner licensed by the State

and registered with DEA to dispense the substances. Overall, controlled substances constitute about 10 percent of all prescriptions written in the United States.

In enacting the Controlled Substances Act, Congress sought to control the diversion of pharmaceutical controlled substances into illicit markets by establishing a "closed system" of drug distribution governing the legitimate handlers of controlled substances. Under this closed system, all legitimate manufacturers, distributors, and dispensers of controlled substances must register with DEA and maintain strict accounting for all controlled substance transactions. DEA advises that current law does not allow a DEA registrant, such as a retail pharmacy, to acquire a controlled substance from a non-registrant, such as an individual patient, even for purposes of disposal. The individual determines whether or when to dispose of unneeded medications, although DEA recommends that controlled substances be disposed of in a way that does not allow them to be easily retrieved.

Communities have responded to the public health and environmental problems posed by unused pharmaceuticals by developing several different models of take-back and collection programs at the State or local level, including:

Collecting unwanted pharmaceuticals at pharmacies, grocery stores, or other retail settings.

Having citizens turn over unwanted medications to law enforcement officers.

Accepting unwanted pharmaceuticals at periodic household hazardous waste collection events, often with law enforcement personnel present to take custody of controlled substances.

Collecting unwanted pharmaceuticals through caregivers in residential care settings (i.e. hospices, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, boarding homes, adult family homes, child care programs, schools, correctional facilities, and animal boarding facilities).

Using the U.S. Postal Service for mailing unwanted pharmaceuticals to a secure consolidation location for disposal.

Collecting pharmaceuticals lost or abandoned by residents or visitors from hotels, campgrounds, cruise ships, homeless shelters, and other temporary housing or recreational sites.

The volume of medications these programs have collected is stunning. In 2006, a one-day drug return program at 25 locations in Chicago netted 1,600 pounds of medications. Separate one-day take-back programs in Michigan and Milwaukee the same year each yielded more than a ton of medicine. In one day in November 2008, a community-based effort at the Detroit Medical Center Surgery Center in Madison Heights collected 300 pounds of prescription and over-the-counter medicines and sent them to an incinerator. In one week in April 2008, EPA's Great Lakes Earth Day Challenge collected nearly 4.5 million pills from throughout the Great Lakes region. Macomb County, Michigan's hazardous waste recycling program collects more than 1,000 pounds of drugs a year.

NATIONAL GUIDELINES

At the national level, both the public and private sectors have taken steps to address the problem of disposal of unused pharmaceuticals. In 2007, The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Department of Health and Human Services, and EPA joint-

ly released new guidelines for the proper disposal of unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs. The guidelines are designed to reduce the diversion of prescription drugs, while also protecting the environment. The new guidelines urge Americans to:

Take unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs out of their original containers.

Mix the prescription drugs with an undesirable substance, like used coffee grounds or kitty litter, and put them in impermeable, nondescript containers, such as empty cans or sealable bags, further ensuring that the drugs are not diverted or accidentally ingested by children or pets.

Throw these containers in the trash.

Flush prescription drugs down the toilet only if the accompanying patient information specifically instructs it is safe to do so.

Return unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs to pharmaceutical take-back locations that allow the public to bring unused drugs to a central location for safe disposal.

In addition, the pharmacy profession through the American Pharmacists Association has partnered with the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in establishing the SMARxT DISPOSAL program to help protect the country's fish and aquatic resources. SMARxT DISPOSAL is a consumer awareness-heightening program that highlights the environmental threat posed by medications that are disposed of improperly, with the key message being "crush, don't flush." It encourages consumers to dispose of most unused medications in household trash rather than through the wastewater system, to take advantage of state and local medication collection programs, and to consult with a pharmacist should any questions arise.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Under British Columbia's Medications Return Program, the public can return expired or unused medications at participating community pharmacies across British Columbia. The pharmaceutical industry voluntarily established the program in November 1996. In 1997, provincial legislation made all brand-owners of pharmaceutical products responsible for the collection and management of their left-over products. This program allows consumers to return unused or expired medications at no charge to over 90 percent of participating pharmacies in the province.

Spain's Integrated Waste Management System (SIGRE) allows citizens to return packaging and leftover medicines to pharmacies across the country free of charge. The program has been in place since 2002 and is funded by the pharmaceutical industry. Collected wastes are taken to a central processing facility for recycling or destruction.

France's medicine take-back program, established in 1995, is an industry-funded system that is run collaboratively among manufacturers, wholesalers, and community pharmacies. Households are invited to return all unused medicines and packaging. Bags and leaflets are handed out at the time of dispensing; window stickers and posters reinforce the message of safe disposal.

HAZARDOUS PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE

EPA has offered its support of pharmaceutical take-back programs by proposing to revise its rules for managing hazardous pharmaceutical waste. A small proportion of pharmaceutical waste meets EPA's definition of

hazardous waste. The proposed amendment to EPA's universal waste rule would improve the management of hazardous pharmaceutical waste by providing a more streamlined waste management system, while ensuring that the waste is sent to hazardous waste management facilities, rather than municipal landfills, for final disposal. The streamlined standards include modified requirements for storage, labeling and marking, preparing the waste for shipment offsite, employee training, response to releases, and notification. In addition, no manifest would be required to transport the waste. This management system could also be used for safely collecting, transporting, and disposing of unwanted non-hazardous pharmaceuticals as part of a take-back program. Should these proposed rules be finalized, states operating EPA-authorized hazardous waste programs could adopt them to support their take-back programs.

WHAT THIS BILL WOULD DO

The Safe Drug Disposal Act of 2009 amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow end users, or caretakers of an end user, to safely dispose of unused prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs through DEA-approved, state-run, drug take-back programs.

Accumulation of dispensed controlled substances in the hands of individual or institutional care takers, including those caring for animals, can be a serious concern. Long-term care facilities, nursing homes, hospitals, jails, schools, and veterinary clinics may act in a custodial capacity, holding controlled substances that are prescribed for an individual and belong to that individual. The care taker dispenses these medications as directed by a medical practitioner. As a result of these dispensing practices, when a patient dies, leaves the facility or their medication is discontinued or changed, the care taker may be left with excess controlled substances that must be disposed. Under present law, these care takers may dispose of controlled substances directly, but, unless they are registered with DEA, they may not transfer controlled substances that have been dispensed to an individual to a DEA-registered entity for disposal.

Specifically, this bill directs DEA, within one year, to create five approved drug take-back program models from which states may choose. Should a state seek to implement a model not listed among those five DEA approved models, a state must seek approval from DEA for the modified version. In creating the five specific drug take back program models, DEA must comply with a specific set of criteria:

Protecting the public safety.

Allowing the ultimate user to dispose of their unused drugs through persons other than law enforcement.

Respecting environmentally sound practices for disposal (take-back programs may not include the disposal of drugs through public waterways or municipal solid waste landfills).

Being cost-effective for the state.

Including take-back program options for both rural and urban locations.

Successful take-back programs are likely to receive substantial volumes of medications, most of which will not be controlled substances. Under the Controlled Substances Act, Congress established a "closed system" of distribution designed to prevent the diversion of controlled substances. As part of this closed system, all persons who lawfully handle controlled substances must be either registered

with DEA or exempt from registration by the Act or by DEA regulations. Another central element of this closed system is that DEA registrants must maintain strict records of all transactions in controlled substances. Consistent with the Controlled Substances Act, current DEA regulations employ a system to account for all controlled substances received, stored, distributed, dispensed, or otherwise disposed of.

Take-back programs are unlikely to have the resources to separate controlled substances from other medications or to provide a detailed accounting of the kind contemplated in the Controlled Substances Act. Take-back programs currently in operation have demonstrated that it is possible nonetheless to protect against diversion. It will be particularly important for DEA model programs to provide methods for tracking collected medications that are cost-effective for the state to implement and operate.

Finally, the Safe Drug Disposal Act prohibits pharmaceutical companies from recommending flushing as a means of disposal on prescription drug labels. Guidelines issued by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy recommend that the general public dispose of their waste pharmaceuticals in household trash, except for thirteen substances which should be flushed down the toilet. The federal guidelines recommend the flushing of these thirteen substances because their drug labels (required of all pharmaceutical products and resulting from the Food and Drug Administration's approval process) recommend flushing.

This bill provides that, in approving an application for a medication, FDA shall ensure that the labeling not include any recommendation or direction to dispose of the medication by means of a public or private wastewater treatment system, such as by flushing down the toilet. The bill also directs FDA to conduct a review of the labeling of medications already on the market, and to order any labeling that includes a recommendation or direction to dispose of the medication by means of a public or private wastewater treatment system, such as by flushing down the toilet, to be revised to exclude that recommendation or direction. This order would be required to be issued within one year of enactment of the bill.

CONCLUSION

Madam Speaker, it is clear that the lack of an effective disposal mechanism for excess controlled substances and other pharmaceuticals, including over-the-counter medications, is contributing to contamination of our drinking water supply and putting aquatic wildlife at risk. It is also associated with a dangerous increase in nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals, especially among our young people. While it is easy to identify the problem, it is more difficult to devise a solution that consumers and law enforcement professionals will both accept. This bill will allow States to adopt take-back programs suited to the needs of their communities, and as such will help our nation to move toward a comprehensive solution.

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in calling on the Egyptian government to respect human rights and religious freedom by supporting the resolution which I have just introduced.

Each year the United States gives Egypt approximately \$1.5 billion in foreign military assistance—with no strings attached. No strings attached.

The United States gives Egypt \$1.5 billion a year and the Egyptian government continues to arbitrarily detain and brutally torture human rights and democracy activists, bloggers, and members of opposition political parties in its attempt to suppress dissent.

The United States gives Egypt \$1.5 billion a year and the government of Egypt continues to show utter and blatant disregard for human rights and religious freedom.

The United States gives Egypt \$1.5 billion a year and Egypt continues to allow weapons to be smuggled to Hamas through elaborate networks of underground tunnels.

The United States gives Egypt \$1.5 billion a year and Egyptian government deploys an arsenal of Washington's heavy hitter lobbyists to peddle excuses for the deplorable conduct of the Egyptian government.

If you speak to the Egyptian on the street, you will find that they long for freedom. They long to speak without censure, assemble in absence of fear and worship in peace. So I call on the Egyptian government to respect these fundamental rights.

We too often forget how we are blessed to live in the United States of America. But to whom much is given, much is required. America has a responsibility to the world.

President Ronald Reagan once said that the Constitution is "a kind of covenant. It is a covenant we've made not only with ourselves but with all of mankind."

We have a rare opportunity before us. The fact is that we not only have the opportunity, we have the obligation to stand up for freedom where it is stifled, and to seek out justice where there is tyranny.

This nation was founded upon the principle that every man is endowed with certain inalienable rights. These are the principles which led this nation to rise to greatness. Let us not turn our backs on these principles now.

This resolution will put Congress on the right side of history. I urge its passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. ROY JOHNSON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to an important day

in the lives of two constituents of mine, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Johnson.

On March 7, 2009, the Johnsons will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Both Roy and Sybil Johnson were born in the Alexandria/Saks area of Alabama. In fact, they were high school sweethearts. Over the years, Roy and Sybil have been blessed with two daughters, Delane O'Kelley and Ginger Gardner; and 4 grandchildren, Grant, Gray, Bradley and Brock. The Johnsons now also have one great grandchild, Katlyn Grace.

I would like to congratulate Roy and Sybil Johnson for reaching this important milestone in their lives. They are shining examples of love and dedication for us all, and I wish them and their family all the best at this important occasion.

ON RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK AND THE 48TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Peace Corps Week (February 23–March 2) and recognize the 48 years of commitment to peace made by our nation's Peace Corps volunteers.

Following a call to service by President John F. Kennedy, more than 195,000 Americans have served our country in the cause of peace by living and working in 139 developing nations.

Currently, 7,876 Peace Corp volunteers are making significant and lasting contributions to improve the lives of individuals and communities in 76 countries. This selfless group includes the following volunteers from Hawaii: Claire Albrecht in Zambia; Kristel Balbarino and Holly Horcajo in Nicaragua; Jack Chow and Noa Thomas in Vanuatu, Theresa Duddy in Madagascar; Rachel Grossman in Ukraine; Ashley Jones in Micronesia; Kevin Kalhoefer in Cambodia; Serette Kaminski in Niger; Nicole Nakama in Botswana; Kevin Schmitz in Dominican Republic; Mai Shintani in Gambia; and Theodore Varns in Guatemala.

I also want to recognize and thank the many Peace Corps alumni who reside in Hawaii. I have many friends who are former Peace Corps members. To a person, each has told me that their time of service had a major impact on their lives.

Aloha and mahalo to all Peace Corps volunteers past and present for your work in strengthening the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and others around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS FROM OREGON'S 3RD DISTRICT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, President Kennedy, speaking 48 years ago at the

establishment of the Peace Corps, remarked that, "The initial reactions to the Peace Corps proposal are convincing proof that we have, in this country, an immense reservoir of such men and women—eager to sacrifice their energies and time and toil to the cause of world peace and human progress." As the proud father of a Peace Corps volunteer, I know what was true in 1961 is true today; Peace Corps Volunteers are an outstanding group of men and women serving the cause of humanity across the globe.

During this National Peace Corps Week, I want to honor the service and commitment of the Peace Corps Volunteers from Oregon's 3rd Congressional district and express my pride in my fellow Oregonians who have chosen to devote years of their lives in service to others.

In particular, I want to recognize those Peace Corps Volunteers who have begun their service in the past year: Laura Baetscher (Honduras); Laura Bradford (Belize); Meaghan Corwin (Armenia); Paul Council (Moldova); Reiana Darosa (Guatemala); Anna Dinh (Cameroon); Alana Harris (Guatemala); Matthew Jones (Malawi); Daniel Koza (Uganda); Serene Loh (Botswana); Elizabeth Nolan (Nicaragua); David Schilmoeller (Bulgaria); Lacey Sugarman (Uganda); Allison Wells (Jordan); and Erik Wells (Jordan).

Their work to empower people and communities in developing countries is an invaluable contribution to creating a safe and prosperous world, building bridges between America and the world, and establishing a better future for people everywhere.

THE TAXPAYER'S FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Taxpayers' Freedom of Conscience Act, which forbids federal funds from being used for population control or "family planning." The recent executive order allowing those who perform and/or promote abortion overseas to receive taxpayer money brings new urgency to the need to protect pro-life Americans from being forced to subsidize abortion.

It is not enough to say that "family planning" groups may not use federal funds to perform or promote abortion. After all, since money is fungible, federal funding of any activities of these organizations forces taxpayers to underwrite the organizations' abortion activities. Thus, the Taxpayers' Freedom of Conscience Act is the only way to protect taxpayers from having to support what they "disbelieve and abhor."

Thomas Jefferson eloquently made the case for Taxpayer's Freedom of Conscience Act when he said that: "To compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical."

I hope all my colleagues will join me in helping end the "sinful and tyrannical" policy of forcing pro-life Americans to subsidize, either directly or indirectly, abortion by cosponsoring the Taxpayer's Freedom of Conscience Act.

HONORING MR. BEN GRAY

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, Black History Month provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize the many successful and talented African-Americans in my district. Today it is my great honor to recognize one in particular—Mr. Ben Gray.

Ben Gray is an outstanding advocate for the youth of Omaha, Nebraska. After graduating from high school, Gray joined the U.S. Air Force. In 1973, he joined KETV television station located in Omaha. During his time at KETV, he worked his way from photo lab assistant to news photographer and producer and host of "Kaleidoscope", a weekly half-hour public service program. He has received local and national awards as a reporter and photographer.

Ben is actively involved with at-risk youth volunteering his time with C.W. Boxing Club. He is also Chairman of the Omaha Public Schools African-American Achievement Council, a group that works to close the achievement gap between black and white students. Ben is a familiar face, as he remains active in promoting equal rights and helping students to achieve success. He is active, involved and committed to helping children and bettering our community. Our nation would benefit from more people like Ben.

RECOGNIZING BOSNIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bosnian independence. As a founding member and Co-Chairman of the Bosnian Caucus, and having the distinct pleasure of representing a growing, vibrant community of Bosnian-Americans in St. Louis, Missouri—one of the largest Bosnian-American communities in the U.S.—I am pleased to offer these encouraging words to recognize March 1 as Bosnian Independence Day.

Their appreciation for this country and opportunities it affords is reflected in their hard work and determination to make a difference in their communities and nation. Collectively, and as self-reliant individuals they have reinvigorated our St. Louis region, and exemplify the definition of good neighbors and friends.

With an understanding that this nation's greatness was built by those who sought out America and all she has to offer, we can during these hard times take comfort, learn by their example, and see that with a sense of community and purpose there is no challenge too great to overcome.

Today, I join Bosnian-Americans with great pride and hearty congratulations.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHING GEOGRAPHY IS FUNDAMENTAL ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act, a bill to help ensure that all young people acquire the vital global knowledge they need to compete in today's increasingly-connected world. I thank my colleagues, Representatives BLUNT, WALZ, and EHLERS, for their leadership and hard work on this issue.

Madam Speaker, our nation is facing a crisis in geographic knowledge. Sixty-three percent of young adults cannot locate Iraq on a map of the Middle East. Seventy-five percent cannot find Iran. Half cannot locate New York on a map of the United States.

These statistics are emblematic of a general lack of knowledge about the world that is troubling in a time when the United States must compete in a global marketplace. We need Americans to know and understand the countries and cultures that are or could become our political and economic partners. It is unacceptable that seventy-one percent of young Americans do not know that the United States is the world's largest exporter of goods. It is unacceptable that, despite the fact that it is the world's largest democracy, nearly half of young adults do not know where India is located.

We need to improve our children's understanding of their world both within and beyond our country's borders. The Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act will do just that. It would authorize federal funding to improve student achievement, increase teacher training, encourage education research, and develop effective instructional materials and strategies for geography education. It will leverage and expand support for geography education partnerships. And it will prepare America's students to move forward and succeed in a rapidly-changing, competitive, global economy.

It is time to be sure that American citizens are informed citizens of the world. I ask my colleagues to join Congressmen BLUNT, WALZ, EHLERS, and me and support the Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act.

PAYDAY LOAN REFORM ACT OF 2009

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the "Payday Loan Reform Act of 2009." During turbulent economic times like these, many Americans are searching for ways to meet their financial obligations. It is unfortunate that some in the financial services industry have actually profited from the financial pain of hard-working citizens who are doing their very best to provide for their families. This Congress should not and will not sit back and watch that happen.

For more than a decade, I have been concerned about my constituents becoming trapped in the cycle of debt caused by unfair payday loans. Consumers sometimes prefer these loans because the credit history requirement imposed by traditional banks is waived. Unfortunately, those who most need these loans are often the least able to repay them. The consumer is then subjected to exceptionally high interest rates, ranging from 261 percent to 913 percent annually.

The "Payday Loan Reform Act of 2009," which I am introducing today, provides significant new federal protections for payday loan consumers by restricting or prohibiting certain predatory payday loan terms and lending practices. The bill focuses on the two major concerns with regard to payday loans: the fees charged and the "cycle of debt" that occurs when consumers are not able to immediately repay their loans.

First, the bill caps payday loan fees and interest rates at a total of 15 cents for every dollar borrowed. This fee and rate cap is lower than the fees allowed in 23 states, and would save consumers roughly \$250 million annually through federally mandated lower fee levels. Undoubtedly, many in the payday industry will claim that fee and rate caps this low will drive lenders out of business. However, this fee is high enough to allow lenders to continue making such short-term credit advances, while at the same time providing consumers a credit option that is less expensive than many credit card fees and rates, and substantially less expensive than overdraft protection charges through banks.

The second major concern addressed in this bill relates to the "cycle of debt" that too often traps consumers when they cannot repay their payday loan when first due. As a result, many payday lenders force borrowers to rollover their payday loan or obtain a new loan to pay off the initial loan, while piling on additional fees. The "Payday Loan Reform Act of 2009" prohibits these rollovers (i.e., extensions of the loan term in exchange for an additional fee).

Under the bill, payday lenders would be banned from rolling over loans, and they would be required to give consumers the option of entering into a repayment plan in the event that they could not repay their loan when due. The repayment plan will allow consumers to repay the loan over an extended period of time without any additional fees or other charges whatsoever. The bill's repayment plan requirements are generally far stronger than those found in the few state laws that mandate such plans.

These three key provisions—capping fees, prohibiting rollovers and requiring extended repayment plans—would supersede state law provisions when such state provisions are less consumer-friendly. In all other areas, the bill's requirements would provide a minimum national standard for consumer protections, with states free to enact tougher payday lending restrictions.

The legislation also mandates that consumers receive special warnings and disclosures, stating that these short-term payday loans are only intended for short-term needs, that credit counseling should be considered, that no criminal prosecution can occur for non-payment nor may security interest be taken in the consumer's personal property, and that an interest-free, no-cost repayment plan will be available if needed. These disclosure notices

must be given both in the loan documents before obtaining a payday loan and in similar disclosures posted in the lender's public business area, Web site and/or printed advertising and solicitation materials. Disclosures must be in English and in Spanish, as well as the language in which the loan was negotiated.

Finally, the legislation guarantees consumers additional protections relating to various potentially abusive terms and practices currently used by payday lenders. For example, I have already explained that the bill prohibits lenders from taking a security interest in a consumer's personal property or seeking to have the consumer prosecuted in criminal court for nonpayment of the loan. However, it would also prohibit unfair mandatory arbitration clauses and grant consumers the right to rescind a loan by notifying the lender in writing and returning the money no later than the end of the second business day after the loan agreement was executed.

Specifically, additional penalties of up to \$10,000 per violation could be imposed; and state attorneys general, as well as consumers, will be allowed to enforce the Act. Additionally, states will be free to provide consumers with additional or greater protections than are provided for in the "Payday Loan Reform Act of 2009."

I urge my colleagues to support this important consumer protection bill.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding direct funding the Second Congressional District of Michigan received as part of H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER HOEKSTRA

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Detroit District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Address of Requesting Entity: 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226-2550

Description of Request: Provide \$75,000 for operations and maintenance of Arcadia Harbor. Provide \$275,000 for operations and maintenance of Frankfort Harbor. Provide \$82,000 for operations and maintenance of Pentwater Harbor. Provide \$325,000 for operations and maintenance of Muskegon Harbor. Provide \$410,000 for operations and maintenance of Ludington Harbor. Provide \$546,000 for operations and maintenance of Holland Harbor. Provide \$1,218,000 for operations and maintenance of Grand Haven Harbor. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Army Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance account.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER HOEKSTRA

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Bus and Bus Facility Program (Section 5309)

Requesting Entities And Addresses: Cadillac/Wexford Transit Authority, 1202 N. Mitch-

ell St., Cadillac, Michigan 49601; Yates Dial-A-Ride, 1987 E. U.S. 10, Idlewild, Michigan 49642; Harbor Transit, 440 North Ferry St., Grand Haven, Michigan 49417; Muskegon Area Transit System, 2624 6th Street, Muskegon, Michigan 49444; Ludington Mass Transit, 5545 West Carr Street, Ludington, Michigan 49431; Macatawa Area Express, 171 Lincoln Ave. Suite 20, Holland, Michigan 49423; Benzie Transportation Authority, 12762 Honor Highway, Honor, Michigan 49640.

Description of Request: Provide \$285,000 for Cadillac/Wexford Transit Authority for the purchase of replacement transit buses and improved transit facility; provide \$190,000 for Yates Dial-A-Ride for the purchase of replacement transit buses; provide \$152,000 for Harbor Transit for the purchase of replacement transit buses; provide \$427,500 for Muskegon Area Transit System for the purchase of replacement transit buses; provide \$190,000 for Ludington Mass Transit for the purchase of replacement transit buses; provide \$256,500 for Macatawa Area Express for the purchase of replacement transit buses; and provide \$190,000 for Benzie Transportation Authority for the purchase of replacement transit buses. This request is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Bus and Bus Facility Program in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER HOEKSTRA

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: United States Department of Agriculture/Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Services (USDA/CSREES) Special Grants Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 484 Administration Building, East Lansing, MI, 48824-9190

Description of Request: Provide \$346,000 for fire blight research at Michigan State University. Approximately, \$148,000 is for the salaries of laboratory and field research personal; and \$36,000 is for materials and supplies. Michigan State University has obtained funding from the Michigan Apple Committee and industry sources and will continue to fund the fire blight research at MSU at a level of \$52,500 in FY09.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER HOEKSTRA

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: USDA/Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Services Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 109 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: Provide \$346,000 in funding for Phytophthora research at Michigan State University. Approximately 85 percent of the funding will go to researchers, technicians and students. Approximately 15 percent will be used for materials, supplies and administration. Michigan State University has received outside sources of funding for Phytophthora research as well. This funding is consistent with the authorized purpose of the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER HOEKSTRA

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Community Development Fund/Economic Development Initiative

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 188 Howard Ave., Holland, Michigan 49424

Description of Request: Provide \$142,500 in funding for the conversion of a former pharmaceutical plant into a center for bio-based start-up companies and research. Approximately 95 percent of the funding will go to equipment acquisition and plant re-conditioning. The project has received funding from and will be supported by Lakeshore Advantage, Holland-Zee-land Community Foundation, State of Michigan and U.S. Department of Labor.

Requesting Member: Congressman PETE HOEKSTRA

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Energy/Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Viridian Drive, Muskegon, Michigan 49440

Description of Request: Provide \$1,427,250 in funding for an offshore wind demonstration project at the Michigan Alternative and Renewable Energy Center. Approximately two-thirds of the funding will be used for the purchase and installation of the wind turbine. Approximately 30 percent will be used for technical support and interface, environmental impact, education and economic studies for the use of offshore wind turbines in Lake Michigan. The project will be supported by Grand Valle State University, Muskegon Area First and L-3 Communications.

TRIBUTE TO MELVIN CAULEY

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize a true hero that has emerged in the New York Congressional Sixth District. Mr. Melvin Cauley, Jr. has served the Far Rockaway community for five years as a United States Postal Service Mail Carrier. He has walked the community's streets to deliver the letters and packages that are vital to the livelihood of many of my constituents. Now, Mr. Cauley walks the community's streets as a hero, as a citizen who went above and beyond his professional duties to save the life of Mrs. Margaret O'Brien, a 70-year-old resident of Rockaway Beach.

On January 29th, Mrs. O'Brien experienced a traumatic fall that rendered her helpless on her kitchen floor. For the next several days, Mr. Cauley delivered Mrs. O'Brien's mail without incident. Finally on February 5, Mr. Cauley took notice of the accumulated mail not collected by Mrs. O'Brien. This concerned him because Mrs. O'Brien often greeted him to receive his daily delivery. Mr. Cauley took action by notifying the 100th Police Precinct of her absence. At his insistence, the Police visited Mrs. O'Brien's home. Upon entering, they found Mrs. O'Brien lying on the floor unconscious, but alive. She was taken to a local medical facility where she was stabilized and has recovered since then. Mrs. O'Brien, who had lain on her floor for seven days, was saved because of the caring and decisive action of Mr. Cauley.

Beyond delivering letters and packages, the United States Postal Service is an important community partner in protecting the wellbeing of my constituents. For three decades, the Postal Service has had a "Carrier Alert" program in which Postal Carriers are empowered to alert social service agencies and law enforcement when they suspect a threat to the safety of their customers. The "Carrier Alert" program is a natural extension of the care that Postal Carriers have traditionally shown for their customers' wellbeing. Mr. Cauley has demonstrated the great impact that the program can have in protecting the lives of community members.

Mr. Cauley has established himself as a role model amongst his professional colleagues and community members, demonstrating what it is to be a dedicated citizen, on how to care for our neighbors, and the importance of rising to an occasion when circumstances necessitate it. I know that Mrs. O'Brien, her family, and her friends are grateful for his caring actions. On behalf of the Congressional Sixth District, I thank Mr. Melvin Cauley, Jr. for helping to save the life of Mrs. Margaret O'Brien.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "SELECT AGENT PROGRAM AND BIOSAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2009"

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, no one can forget the 2001 anthrax letter attacks, which killed five people, paralyzed the Postal Service, and affects the flow of mail to Capitol Hill to this day.

In response, Congress expanded the Select Agent Program, which monitors the possession and use of potentially dangerous biological agents and toxins.

But, the program's authorization expired in 2007, and serious problems persist. Earlier this month, researchers at the Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases received another wake-up call.

They discovered serious gaps in record-keeping after finding germ samples not listed in their database. Since then, the Army has suspended some research at the lab while an inventory of dangerous agents is conducted.

That is why it is so important to reintroduce today the Select Agent Program and Biosafety Improvement Act with my friend MIKE ROGERS in the House and Senators KENNEDY and BURR in the Senate.

The bill requires an assessment of the government's ability to track and control the dangerous substances that can be used to construct dangerous weapons.

It reauthorizes and updates the Select Agent Program, which limits access to and controls the transfer of dangerous biological agents and toxins.

It requires the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the program and recommend ways in which it can be restructured, to enhance biosecurity and international scientific collaboration.

It requires that the program consider newly discovered agents—such as genetically modi-

fied organisms, synthetic compounds, and other agents identified in Homeland Security risk assessments—to ensure that its database is current and comprehensive.

It encourages the sharing of information with State emergency planning officials, which is vital to ensuring that first responders have the tools they need to prevent or respond to an attack.

And it ensures minimum biosecurity and biosafety standards for the training of workers in the laboratories that deal with the most dangerous agents.

The threat of biological terrorism on U.S. soil is real and there is still room to improve the way our country tracks and transfers potentially dangerous materials that could be used against us in an attack. This bill will help that effort.

Nearly a decade has passed since weaponized anthrax was anonymously mailed as an attack on Americans. We must act swiftly to improve our capabilities to eliminate these dangers.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE AND MARIA VASQUEZ

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to two individuals whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Mike and Maria Vasquez are two of those individuals. On January 17, 2009, Mike and Maria Vasquez were honored at the Corona Chamber of Commerce's 94th Annual Installation and Awards Gala and received the 2008 Citizen of the Year Award.

Mike and Maria Vasquez are wonderful people that have worked their way up from humble beginnings and turned one restaurant into a successful family empire. In 1973, upon receiving a Corona restaurant named Chile Pepper, they entered the restaurant business, renaming the establishment "Miguel's" in honor of Mike's grandfather. Maria developed dishes based on recipes from her childhood in Mexico. They focused on exceeding customer service expectations and delivering fresh great-tasting food while offering an inviting ambiance and providing a culture of integrity and self-responsibility. It was Mike and Maria's work ethic and undaunted ambition that has ensured the success of Miguel's.

In 1975, Mike and Maria purchased a fast-food restaurant two miles from the original. Miguel's Jr., as they called it, was immediately embraced by the community. Today, the original Miguel's has two locations in Corona including their newest location at Dos Lagos, and Miguel's Jr. has expanded to include seven locations. Following the same business philosophies and family traditions that founded the business, the Vasquez children are committed to growing Miguel's. Their youngest son, Javier, is the President, Michael oversees Miguel's Jr., and Carol and Sylvia serve in the corporate offices.

In a large effort to honor their parents, Javier worked with Corona City Councilman Eugene Montanez to create a special park in Corona to honor his parents' accomplishments and to be a place they could enjoy with their grandchildren. Their vision materialized this past August when the Citrus Park splash zone opened to throngs of happy families. I'm proud to say that the Citrus-themed playground is Corona's first ever water park and was designed based on Corona's proud citrus history. The water park is yet another successful venture of the Vasquez family and a testament to their continued willingness to give back to the community.

Mike and Maria's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of Corona, California. Volunteerism is a major part of the Vasquez's life and from their business, they support many non-profit organizations and schools. For more than 35 years, the Vasquez family has achieved success by focusing on the things that matter: community, family, and tradition. I am proud to call Mike and Maria fellow neighbors, Americans and friends. I know that many community members are grateful for their service and we salute them in their recent award.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice—COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Manatee Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 5840 26th Street West, Bradenton FL 34207

Description of Request: I secured \$200,000 for an Emergency Notification System using VOIP at Manatee Community College.

VOIP technology offers many advantages; one of the biggest is the convergence between voice and data, which offers possibilities beyond regular telephone or e-mail services. A good example is using VOIP for mass notifications, in which a user can send an alert message simultaneously to a large audience in multiple ways such as text messaging, voice mail and e-mail. Funds will be used to purchase equipment and the one-time cost of installation and set-up.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sarasota Housing Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: 1300 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$237,500 for the Sarasota Housing Authority to build a LEED Certified community center.

Redevelopment is already underway. Plans call for a community center to be built to serve as a property management office as well as a resident services center that will be used to provide training and services to residents to become self sufficient. This center is slated to be a LEED Certified as a green building.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Manatee and Sarasota Counties

Address of Requesting Entity: 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205 (Manatee County) 1660 Ringling Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34236 (Sarasota County)

Description of Request: I secured \$475,000 Intelligent Transportation (ITS) project in Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

The counties are upgrading their signal systems in order to deploy a more advanced traffic management system. This project also complements a programmed State of Florida project to deploy ITS for the purpose of incident management on 1–75. It is expected to reduce vehicular delay by 9.5 million hours per year and reduce fuel consumption by 3.8 million gallons per year.

The counties have been coordinating their efforts. Manatee County will incur a greater cost on this project; as a result funding should be split 60–40 between the counties.

Manatee County's project is called Advanced Traffic management System (ATMS), while Sarasota County has designated their ITS.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hardee County

Address of Requesting Entity: 412 West Orange Street, Room 103, Wauchula, FL 33873

Description of Request: I secured \$332,500 for Bridge costs on US–17. Funds will be utilized to construct a 500' by 43' bridge in the Hardee County Line/CR 634 segment. The project is an important component of the larger project to four-lane US–17 in Hardee County.

This larger project is important for safety and economic reasons. US–17 four laned entirely will be a valuable evacuation route during hurricanes. Also, it would provide an economic boom as many businesses are looking to the area in their future plans.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERN BUCHANAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Alternative Analysis

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sarasota County

Address of Requesting Entity: 1660 Ringling Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34236

Description of Request: I secured \$1,009,375 Sarasota County Bus Rapid Transit.

Sarasota County is expanding its transit system with the most fuel-efficient vehicles and the latest ITS technology. The Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project will: connect areas of highest transit ridership access for key employment sites; improve the operating efficiency of transit services, and support regional long-term land use goals.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding the earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill:

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Special Research Grants

Project Name: Drought Mitigation

Amount: \$469,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 202 Agricultural Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583

Description: This funding is for the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) which conducts research and educational programs on drought mitigation and planning for drought. The project has assisted numerous states and municipalities in developing drought plans and implementing drought response action teams. The Center has received national visibility for providing information on the severity of drought throughout the United States. Both print and electronic mass media routinely use Center produced materials in their news stories on the drought.

The NDMC's program is directed at lessening societal vulnerability to drought through a risk-based management approach. The NDMC works with local, state, and tribal governments, federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations. The objectives of the NDMC are: (1) to develop and evaluate existing drought policies and plans in the United States and elsewhere with the goal of improving drought-coping capacity and (2) to develop and evaluate new techniques and methodologies for monitoring drought severity and its impacts, identifying and classifying users in the United States and elsewhere.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Buildings and facilities

Project Name: Systems Biology Research Facility

Amount: \$1,088,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 202 Agricultural Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583

Description: This funding will be used toward construction of a University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)/Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Research Facility. This facility would provide critically needed space for UNL and ARS research addressing two areas of national concern: renewable energy and water resource conservation and management. Agriculture is expected to provide almost 40 percent of the nation's liquid fuels within 30 years. This will further intensify demands on our soil and water resources. UNL and ARS scientists have been collaborating at UNL since the 1930s. Very strong collaborative programs continue today, including the ARS program at UNL that has been developing improved switchgrass varieties for 30 years and

is the leading program in the world on the use of switchgrass for cellulosic ethanol. These scientists are scattered across the UNL campus and the proposed building will enable them to share collaborative, cutting-edge research space that will move this important research forward more rapidly. This project would advance major research focused on essential national efforts.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Project Name: Lincoln Police Department Security Upgrades

Amount: \$132,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: City of Lincoln located at 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Description: The Lincoln Police Department wants to take its first steps into the emerging technology of digital recording systems for police patrol cars. The proposal would equip 20 police patrol vehicles with digital video systems integrated with the Department's existing mobile data computers. These systems will capture video from car-mounted cameras onto flash memory media that can be downloaded for archiving. These systems will replace older analog video tape recorders and cameras. This would integrate digital content into our extensive Intranet resources, so digital video can be used by police and prosecutors. Although many departments are beginning to make the transition to digital recording equipment, this integration is the key component of this project that differentiates it from most. The equipment will allow for greater efficiencies within the Department and accelerate information-sharing with neighboring jurisdictions.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Corps of Engineers—Construction
Project Name: Antelope Creek Flood Damage Reduction Project:

Amount: \$400,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Lower Platte North Natural Resources District located at 511 Commercial Park Road, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066.

Description: The Antelope Creek Flood Damage Reduction Project is a critical element of a flood control, transportation and community revitalization project known as the Antelope Valley Project. The project is being constructed in central Lincoln adjacent to the University of Nebraska Lincoln main campus to improve flood control, transportation networks and community well-being in the city's down-town area.

Essential to progress on the entire Antelope Valley Project is the completion of the flood damage reduction component. This multi-purpose project is a partnership of the City of Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Lincoln, and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, along with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the federal Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development. The project reduces flooding threats to over 800 dwellings and businesses and 1,200 floodplain residents and removes 100-year floodplain restrictions on 400 acres.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Corps of Engineers—Construction
Project: Sand Creek Environmental Restoration Project

Amount: \$400,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Lower Platte North Natural Resources District located at 511 Commercial Park Road, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066.

Description: The Sand Creek Project will restore several types of historic wetlands and add to the national wetlands inventory in support of the Administration's "net gain" national wetlands policy. A quantitative analysis of all environmental outputs by the Corps of Engineers in addition to the Feasibility Study demonstrated a significant level of benefits for this wetland restoration project for the Lower Platte River watershed which serves the North American Central Flyway.

The Sand Creek Project supports the national goal of a net gain in American wetlands. Active pursuit of this goal also provides for improvements in water quality and water supply to achieve watershed improvement. Flooding in Wahoo along the U.S. 77 Expressway corridor occurred twice during 2006. Completion of the wetlands restoration structure will also provide flood damage reduction benefits and the roadway allowing completion of this expressway between Lincoln and Sioux City. This is a key segment of the expressway.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Corps of Engineers—Construction
Project: Western Sarpy-Clear Creek Flood Damage Reduction Project
Amount: \$2,775,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District located at 8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE 68138.

Description: The Western Sarpy-Clear Creek Flood Damage Reduction Project is vital to the health and well-being of a large number of Nebraskans. It is planned to protect vital drinking water resources that supply up to 50% of Nebraska's population in the eastern part of the state from flooding due to potential ice jams on the Platte River. Elected officials at local, regional and state levels in Nebraska have been long committed to this project's construction because of risk to water supplies and other infrastructure.

Significant construction progress towards completion is vital to Nebraska in the year ahead. The Congress has provided construction funding for the past four years in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act.

In 1993, flooding in the Lower Platte severed one-half of the City of Lincoln's water supply and catastrophe was again threatened in 1997 from ice-jam induced flooding. That portion of the new Omaha Metropolitan Utilities District well field on the western side of the Platte River now under development south of U.S. Highway 92 will also receive vital protection from this project. Treatment facilities for water from this well-field will be completed in the months ahead.

Additionally, this project is needed to provide protection to: I-80 and U.S. Highway 6; The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, an Amtrak line; Military facilities at the National

Guard Camp at Ashland; National telecommunication lines; and Other public infrastructure.

Construction of a separate but companion levee at the Nebraska National Guard Camp at Ashland was fully funded by the Congress in the FY '04 Military Construction Appropriations Bill and is completed. Neither of these adjoining levees is effective without the other. Ice jams with the potential for flooding in the area around Camp Ashland and the 1-80 Bridge where it crosses the Lower Platte River occurred again as recently as 2001 and will continue to be a significant threat until both of these projects are completed.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Corps of Engineers—Construction
Project Name: Missouri National Recreational River

Amount: \$335,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers located at 106 S. 15th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Description: This funding is for the Missouri National Recreational River (MNR), located on the Missouri River from Gavins Point Dam downstream to Ponca, Nebraska. Federal activities pursued within the MNR must protect and enhance the values for which it was designated—scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife, historic, and cultural. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' FY09 capability of \$9 million would be used for bank stabilization, easement acquisition, and fee title purchase.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Section 205
Project Name: Fremont Section §205 Flood Control Study

Amount: No specific dollar amount

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Lower Platte North Natural Resources District located at 511 Commercial Park Road, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066

Description: This funding is for the federal share to complete the Fremont South Section 205 Flood Control Study. Funding for this Section 205 project will continue urgent feasibility planning to strengthen an existing flood control levee in order to remove a portion of South Fremont from the threat of flooding in the 100 year flood plain. This Fremont South area will be soon identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") as within the designated flood plain. The total cost of the project is \$1,086,000 split equally between the Corps of Engineers and the nonfederal sponsor.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Section 205
Project Name: Schuyler Section 205 Flood Control Study

Amount: No specific dollar amount

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Lower Platte North Natural Resources District located at 511 Commercial Park Road, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066

Description: This funding under the Section 205 authority is for the federal share to continue the Schuyler, Nebraska Flood Control

Study. The amount requested will continue the Schuyler, Nebraska §205 Flood Control Study. The purpose of the study is to plan for mitigation of flooding in 40% of the city which is anticipated to be placed in the flood plain for the first time when designated by FEMA. The total cost of the study is \$772,000 split equally between the Corps of Engineers and the non-federal sponsor.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Project Name: Bioenergy Demonstration Project: Value-Added Products from Renewable Fuels

Amount: \$1,903,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 302 Canfield Administration Building, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588

Description: The funding will be used by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to establish a pilot-scale corn-ethanol bioenergy facility and research program. Research will focus on developing new fractionation processes for removing value-added components from corn before and after fermentation to biofuel and on exploring new commercial uses for these products. Establishment of a research facility and program will help ensure the economic viability of the rapidly expanding biofuel industry during periods of commodity price uncertainty for grain and ethanol. The ability to test feed formulations with greater amounts of biofuel co-products will be critical to the livestock industry as corn and soybean prices rise in response to expanded biofuel production. This research facility's goals align with the U.S. Department of Energy's goal of displacing 30 percent of 2004 gasoline demand with biofuels, primarily ethanol, by 2030. Achieving this ambitious goal requires a rapid expansion of the fuel ethanol industry and research on the most efficient and cost-effective means of producing ethanol and of utilizing the byproducts of that process.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Project Name: Intelligent Controls for Net-Zero Energy Buildings

Amount: \$475,750

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 302 Canfield Administration Building, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588

Description: The funding will be used by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to develop intelligent real-time controls for buildings using distributed electrical generation systems. The U.S. Department of Energy has set a goal of marketable net zero energy buildings buildings with annual net energy consumption of zero by 2025. Because residential and commercial buildings consume almost 70% of U.S. electricity, reducing energy use in existing and new buildings is critical to achieving zero energy buildings. Many large buildings needing an uninterrupted power supply, such as hospitals, schools, manufacturing facilities, hotels, and retail buildings, use distributed generation systems that include diesel generators and

steam and gas turbines and could include solar, wind, and fuel cells. The intelligent controls developed by this project will decide in real time which energy source to employ and how much to charge and discharge storage systems to balance energy use and emissions over a year. These controls will enable operators to determine the optimal mix of on-site power generation and utility grid-supplied power needed for large buildings to maximize energy consumption and carbon emission credits. This research will lead to improved distributed generation applications in retrofit and new construction that reduce the energy use and carbon footprint of buildings.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Project Name: City of Lincoln Wastewater Treatment Upgrades

Amount: \$550,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: City of Lincoln located at 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Description: New and stricter wastewater treatment NPDES effluent discharge permit limits were issued in January 2004 to the City of Lincoln for both the Theresa and Northeast Wastewater Treatment Facilities. Over the last five years, more than \$61 million in improvements have been made to these facilities to meet the new NPDES permits. The last of these improvements is nearing completion. The City continues to make improvements to the treatment facilities and collection system pipelines and pumping systems to be more cost efficient; reduce overall energy use; control and reduce odor emissions; reduce greenhouse gas emissions by further utilizing biogas generated by the treatment processes, and minimize the overall carbon footprint of facility operations. The City's six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies \$17.7 million in treatment facility improvement projects and \$84.9 million for maintenance and improvement projects to the collection system. These improvement projects are essential for assuring air and water quality, protection of the environment, public health and safety of the community. The City expects to incur the majority of the costs to make improvements to the collection and treatment facilities through a capital construction program funded by user fees and federal assistance.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Higher Education (includes FIPSE)

Project Name: Northeast Community College

Amount: \$761,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Northeast Community College located at 801 E. Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, Nebraska 68702

Description: This funding is for a new collaborative education center in South Sioux City, Nebraska. Northeast Community College (a comprehensive community college), Wayne State College (a regional comprehensive public state college), and South Sioux City, Nebraska, are partnering in this project. The new College Center will serve the area by creating a "one-stop" consolidated service center offering community and economic development re-

sources in addition to providing educational opportunity for area residents at an affordable price. The primary purposes of the joint center are:

to improve access to higher education in an underserved area of Nebraska with special focus on the large number of minority and first-generation students in the region

to offer comprehensive "start-to-finish" degree programs that will allow place-bound students to earn associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees in focus areas without having to relocate

to support economic and community development in the region through workforce training and consolidation of services

The vision for the Center is to meet the educational demands of the region, provide a combination of classroom and lab instructional space adapted to the customized needs of regional employers, as well as to collaborate with area high schools to provide academic transfer, career and technical instruction for secondary students. This project will serve regional needs of Northeast Nebraska and the greater Siouxland area, including the southeast portion of South Dakota, and the west central to northwest portion of Iowa.

The new College Center facility will be designed to serve 500 full-time students by providing space for general classrooms, specialized instructional spaces for distance learning, science labs, computer labs, nursing labs, and a multi-purpose conference area that can be used as training classrooms for business and industry and learning community activities. It will also include areas for support services and academic support spaces for testing, tutoring, library services, study commons, and conference spaces. The South Sioux City Community Development Agency has donated 57 acres of centrally located land to Northeast Community College. The College Center will be located at this site.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Project Name: Environmental Health Informatics Database

Amount: \$238,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska Medical Center located at 986380 Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska 68198

Description: This funding is for the University of Nebraska Medical Center to create a Midwest Health Informatics database to assess environmental influences on the development of diseases by collecting health information from 50,000 Midwesterners. Currently most information about the relationship between disease and the environment is generated by major databases located in large urban areas on the east and west coasts which tend to be regionally specific and generally not applicable to rural areas. This database would be the first research cohort in the Midwest to study the relationship between rural populations, the environment, and disease development. This project could reveal environmental factors responsible for birth defects or lymphoma, a cancer with high incidence in Nebraska. The data will provide valuable information on the factors influencing development of deadly diseases like cancer and

position UNMC Eppley Cancer Institute to be designated a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Comprehensive Cancer Center. This high distinction will allow for the most advanced patient care and research to be available in Nebraska. UNMC is the ideal institution to spearhead this database with its numerous resources, well-established statewide hospital network to collect data, a state-of-the-art cancer research team and facilities, and comprehensive database capabilities to collect and assess acquired data from this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Project Name: Antelope Valley Transportation Improvements

Amount: \$570,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: City of Lincoln located at 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Description: The City of Lincoln is committing significant resources for road and pedestrian improvements associated with Antelope Valley. Some of the important projects that remain in the \$125 million transportation component of Antelope Valley Project include: construction of 5 miles of roadway (including the Antelope Valley Parkway from 17th & Y Streets to Capital Parkway) to improve traffic in the City's central core and Northeast Lincoln; reducing through traffic congestion on the University campus and on downtown streets; eliminating two dangerous mainline at-grade rail crossings, and providing a new overpass (16th Street Overpass) to the State Fair Park, Devaney Sports Center, state military areas, and surrounding neighborhoods. The federal assistance would be used in FY 2009 on Construction of P and Q Street bridges and roadways that are over the flood control channel that is to be constructed concurrently by the Corps of Engineers.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Project Name: Nebraska Highway 35

Amount: \$380,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Nebraska Department of Roads located at 1500 Highway 2, Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

Description: The intent of this project in northeast Nebraska is to develop the most efficient route from Norfolk to South Sioux City. Currently, the route is comprised of several short segments of highway winding its way to the northeast. This project has significant regional and national importance. It would provide substantial safety and economic development benefits. The Nebraska Department of Roads has classified the Highway 35 project as a planned expressway.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Project Name: Rulo Bridge Replacement Project

Amount: \$95,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Nebraska Department of Roads located at 1500 Highway 2, Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

Description: This funding is for the Rulo Bridge project between Nebraska and Missouri. The funding would be used for the initial planning and design of a replacement bridge. The current Rulo Bridge was built in 1939 and is too narrow to handle modern-day traffic. It also has dangerous curves in both of its approaches, limiting visibility and making it difficult for safe passage of vehicles meeting each other.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I wish to pay tribute today to the University of San Diego, which celebrates its 60th anniversary this year.

The University of San Diego (USD) can trace its roots back to 1496 and the Spanish town of Alcalá de Henares, home and resting place of Saint Didacus (or San Diego). However, it was in 1949 that the Most Reverend Charles Francis Buddy, first Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, and Reverend Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill, Vicar Superior of the U.S. Western Vicariate of the Society of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, obtained charters from the State of California to establish San Diego University and the San Diego College for Women, respectively.

The San Diego College for Women opened its doors in February 1952 with 33 students, seven faculty members and 16 courses on a campus still under construction. Shortly after, the College for Men welcomed 39 students and the School of Law enrolled a co-ed class of 30. In 1972, the two colleges and the School of Law merged to form a single, Catholic coeducational University of San Diego.

Today, the 180-acre campus enrolls nearly 7,500 undergraduate, graduate and law students and is known for its commitment to teaching, the liberal arts, the formation of values and community service. The addition of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies now brings the university's total number of schools and colleges to six. Other academic divisions include the College of Arts and Sciences and the schools of Business Administration, Leadership and Education, Law, and Nursing and Health Science.

On May 2, 2009, USD will recognize several of its alumni by bestowing the Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill Service Award on L. Douglas Robert, the Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Humanitarian Award to Sandy M. Cassell Farrell, Zuzana Lesenarova, four-time NCAA All-American and 1999 Division I NCAA National Singles Champion of Women's Tennis, will also enter the Pagni Athletic Hall of Fame. In addition, seven outstanding alumni will receive the Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Awards in recognition of their outstanding humanitarian and professional achievements. These honorees are Heather Raffo (College of Arts & Sciences), Denise M. Boren (Hahn School of Nursing & Health Science), Judy Ann Kamanyi (Kroc School of Peace Studies), John M. Cappetta (School of Business Admin-

istration), Richard M. Bartell (School of Law), and Leona Makokis and Patricia A. Makokis (School of Leadership & Education Sciences).

Please join me, Madam Speaker, in wishing these alumni, as well as the students and administration, continued success and academic promise during USD's diamond anniversary and in the decades to come.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD A. LOWE FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and dedicated public servant who has made an extraordinary contribution to the quality of life in his beloved hometown of Clinton, Massachusetts. Tomorrow marks the last day Donald A. Lowe will serve as Director of Community and Economic Development for the Town of Clinton. I look forward to attending a celebration in Don's honor tomorrow night at the Old Timer Restaurant so that I can personally thank and congratulate him for his remarkable service. However, I did not want to miss the opportunity to also publicly recognize this rare and special individual on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. I readily acknowledge that the tribute paid to him by this esteemed body pales in comparison to the honor he will receive just two short weeks from now as a recipient of the prestigious shillelagh award from Clinton's Leprechaun Society. Nonetheless, I am pleased to offer these remarks just the same.

Affectionately known by many of his friends, colleagues and fellow Clintonians simply as 'Donnie', this man has earned the respect and admiration of an entire community. Don's tireless devotion to improving the educational system, social services and economic vitality of this unique and wonderful town is a powerful testament to the difference one man can make. As a former member and chairman of the Clinton School Committee, Don was a forceful advocate for children insisting on nothing less than the finest facilities, best educational programs and highest academic standards. His tenure on the school committee is widely remembered for the thoughtful manner with which he approached the many challenges facing the school system at that time and the professionalism with which he discharged his duties.

Years later as Director of Community and Economic Development, Don was largely responsible for advancing Clinton's downtown revitalization through his relentless pursuit of competitive grant funding. The growth and expansion of NYPRO, Clinton's largest employer, benefited enormously from his skillful leadership. In fact, all business enterprises—large and small—found an eager and enthusiastic champion in Don Lowe these past seven years. His previous experience in the hi-tech sector brought an invaluable dimension to the role of local government in spurring economic development and job creation. Similarly, low and moderate income homeowners seeking help from the town received compassionate and capable assistance from Don. His volunteer service as a member of the board of directors for the Wachusett Health Education

Action Team (WHEAT) and his long involvement with the Clinton Exchange Club and Polish American Veterans are just a few examples of the breadth of his extraordinary civic engagement.

Madam Speaker, all of us in public life routinely rely on the advice of loyal friends and trusted advisors. I will forever be grateful to Don Lowe for his unfailing friendship and good counsel as a colleague in government throughout my career in congress. However, I am just as grateful that while he is leaving his position with the Town of Clinton, Don will remain in public service as the newly appointed Administrator for the Town of Bolton. Now more than ever, we as a nation and as a commonwealth need professionals like him in municipal government to help steer us through these uncertain economic times. Bolton will soon be in the steady hands of one of the most talented and devoted public servants I have ever known. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I want to extend to Don and his wife, Liz, our very best wishes for continued good health, happiness and success with heartfelt appreciation for all you have accomplished for the good people of Clinton, Massachusetts. You are a credit to your family and your community and make us all very proud.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS VETERANS BRAINTRUST

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise during this Black History Month to congratulate Hons. SANFORD BISHOP, JR. (D-GA) and CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY) for joining me in convening the highly successful 20th Anniversary of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 38th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) held in Washington, DC. The 20th anniversary celebration covered three days of activities over September 24–26, 2008, with the collaboration of the African American Civil War Museum, the Vets Group and the National Association for Black Veterans. This was an important social, psychological and political achievement for the sustained work and growth of the Veterans Braintrust over more than twenty years. During that period the Veterans Braintrust has become the institutional memory for the Congressional Black Caucus on American veterans of African descent, much like the U.S. Naval Historical Center is for the Navy, and U.S. Army Center of Military History is for the Army. Thus, can justifiably be called the pre-eminent forum for debate, or discussion for public policy issues between veterans of African descent and government officials in the country. Second, the Braintrust deserves our special admiration for being the champion of diversity and inclusion for a much broader array of WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Persian Gulf and War on Terrorism constituencies; including our African veteran allies from abroad heretofore unrecognized and unrepresented. For example, the Ethiopian delegation that at-

tended reminded us that Ethiopia fought by our side during the Korean Conflict; was the only African country never colonized, and led the way for the liberation of the rest of Africa. Equally important, the Veterans Braintrust long ago adopted the expanded definition of veteranhood to include: families and friends, in order to recognize the central importance of family and friends, particularly when any veteran goes into the hospital, and second, as an authentic voice for black veterans, their families, and communities nationwide.

Yet, no less important, the 20th Anniversary took place during two of the most challenging moments in American history—America's worse economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 20s and 30s, and the sixth year of the war on terrorism, now the second longest war in American history, in which 4,000 soldiers have been killed, 30,000 wounded, and 14,000 seriously disabled.

Hon. CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY) opened the morning tribute session of the forum, which was dedicated to recognizing the contributions of our nation's African American veterans, by briefly explaining the economic crisis and its impact on us all. He also honored our invited guest speakers Hons. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA), BOB FILNER (D-CA), and JOHN CONYERS, Jr. (D-MI).

Next he shared a small piece of his own story of returning from the Korean War (1952) as an Army Sergeant with a Bronze Star, four Battle Stars and a Purple Heart. But somehow forgot he was a high school drop-out and ended up pushing a clothing cart in New York City's garment district, before finally going to the VA to request assistance.

More importantly, he pledged his undying support for the GI Bill, because, as he put it, "the only difference between being a drop-out on Lenox Avenue and a chairman in Congress was the GI Bill!" before turning over the reins to Ron Armstead, Executive Director of the Veterans Braintrust, who has been with us since the beginning in 1988. Ron promptly began by saying "forums that begin with an invocation and end with a benediction are a blessed occasion," and invited Leon Bryant, Sr., Pastor of Capitol City SDA Church to give the invocation.

Throughout the morning session more than 250 people were on hand as we paid special tribute to the courageous African American men and increasingly women of the military who dedicate their lives to preserving our precious freedom and continuing way of life. Our special guest, Emmy award nominee Actor John Amos, called the honor roll of black military units from the segregated World War II and Korean War eras to the integrated Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq wars. Remembering their selfless service and sacrifice to national defense throughout the entire 20th century, and returning home to join the fight for equal rights.

Most importantly, we focused on the long legacy of service of those who undertake the armed defense of the sacred principles of the Constitution, Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights that all men (and now women) are created equal, have thus earned the right of every African American full citizenship through honorable military service, and as Dr. W.E.B. DuBois said in 1906, for "all true Americans." Thus Congress, the Executive Branch, states, commonwealths, territories, counties, municipalities and communities

across the land ought to be deeply indebted to these all too often forgotten warriors who fought the most bitter of ironies in America's history: for democratic ideals abroad while the practice of racial discrimination persisted at home. But as the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama proves, their hope, faith and loyalty have been vindicated.

Seated on the dais were Anthony Brown, Lt. Governor from the state of Maryland, highest ranking black elected state official to serve in Iraq; Hon. SANFORD BISHOP, JR. (D-GA), Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and I, Senior Member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, Co-Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation 38th Annual Legislative Conference and Veterans Braintrust Co-Convenor; keynote speaker Secretary James Peake, MD, Department of Veterans Affairs; Rev. Dr. James Forbes, Jr., President & Founder of the Healing of the Nations Foundation of New York; special guest of honor Actor John Amos, Honorary Master Chief of the USCG and Navy, and New Jersey National Guardsman (best known for his role as Kunta Kinte on the hit CBS miniseries *Roots*, and NBC's Emmy award winning hit series, *The West Wing*, as Admiral Percy Fitzwallace, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff); Hon. Louis Stokes (D-OH) Retired Congressman and Past Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies, Past Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust and WWII veteran, and Dr. Roscoe Brown, an original Tuskegee Airman and Congressional Gold Medal Recipient.

The afternoon session consisted of a unique Stakeholders Roundtable Discussion on Veterans' Issues supported by the Hon. BOB FILNER (D-CA), Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and his senior committee staff. The roundtable was moderated by Dr. William King, and featured the following subject matter experts and discussants: Dr. William Lawson, MD, Ph.D., Dr. Shirley Marks, MD, MPH, Dr. Lorraine Blackman, Ph.D., LCSW, Dr. Cedric Bright, MD, Dr. Reginald Wilson, Ph.D., Dr. Beverly Coleman Miller, MD, Dr. Donna Holland Barnes, Ph.D., Dr. Cheryl Royster Branker, Ed.D., Judge Robert Russell, Jr., Haywood Fennel, Sr., Sidney Lee, Maceo May, Amy Fairweather, Col. Ann Wright, USA, Ret., Sgt. Natasha McKinnon & Jason Lindsay, disabled Iraqi veterans & students at North Carolina State University; SFC Vontella Fludd, USA, Ret., Two Tour Iraqi veteran and mother of two accompanied by First Sgt. Ronnie Robinson, USA, Ret. and Local Union Vice President, American Federation of Government Employees, along with committee staff members to address a lengthy list of black veterans issues and concerns.

Additionally, special invitations were extended to the major veterans' service organizations to enhance ways of building closer relationships between them and minority veterans. Further, the VA provided us with case workers who were present to respond to questions from individuals in the audience.

The roundtable discussion opened with brief presentations on PTSD and other health related issues such as VA health disparities, disability benefits difficulties, employment concerns and/or discrimination, post secondary education challenges and other issues of particular interest to black veterans. The outcome

product was a video recording of the session, which in turn will be transcribed in order to produce a document, or written report for presentation back to Reps. BISHOP, JR. (D-GA), and RANGEL (D-NY) of the Veterans Braintrust, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Democratic leaders in the House, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and others recommending ways to address the unique needs of both Iraqi & Afghanistan returning soldiers, and their families, as well as African American, or black veterans and provide thoughtful proposals for legislation.

Later that evening I hosted the 20th anniversary gala reception and awards ceremony at the Washington Grand Hyatt Hotel. Among those publicly recognized and acknowledged on this special occasion were Judge Robert Russell, Jr. who was presented the Citizens Beneficiary Award by the Mike Handy Foundation and Fund, for his unique Buffalo Veterans Court Treatment Program in the state of New York along with the U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute recognizing Frederick Gray, President of the Black Iwo Jima Veterans Group; Brig. Gen. Robert Cocroft, President and CEO of the Center for Veterans Issues; and Joseph Stevenson, a World War II veteran.

Other 2008 Braintrust awardees included: Actor John Amos, Sgt. Nathaniel Bass, USA, Ret., Asa Gordon, Dr. Richard Danford, Jr., Ph.D., Dr. Edward Brown, Dr. Vincent Patton III, Maj. Gen. Rosetta Burke, NYANG, Ret., Thomas Jones, Sr., Christopher Moore, Dr. Charles Simmons, Howard Wright, Thomas Yarosz, Halley's Comet Foundation, Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Tubman African American Museum, Smithsonian's National Museum for African American History and Culture, Parting Ways Historical Site, Sankofa Restoration Project, Myrl Billings Memorial Veterans Center, and Doubleback Productions.

Finally singled out for special praise was the Association of the 2221 Negro Volunteers of World War II, who served in white Army infantry units during and after the Battle of Bulge. Afterward the private reception and awards ceremony was opened to the general public for a party with entertainment provided by Tori Robinson of Paris and Recording Artist Betty Wright.

My special thanks go to Roslyn Burroughs, Anthony Hawkins, Mae Campbell, Forest Farley, Jr., Dr. Frank Smith, Jr., Brigadier General Robert Cocroft, Joe Wynn, Jack Evans, Dr. Vince Patton III, Belinda Foster, Dr. Martel Teasley, Dr. Michael Kane, Dr. Cheryl Royster Branker, Karen Freeman Wilson, Carmen Wilson II, Lucretia McClenny, Thomas Harris, Pastor Leon Bryant, Sr., Maceo May, Jason Young, Clarence Slaughter, Jean Davis, David Thompson, Maj. Myles Caggins, USA, Tonya Collins, Medgar Evers College and Congressional staff members Emile Milne, Kenya Handy, Holly Biglow, Kiwanis Harvey Styles, Roshan Hodge, Lee Footer, Alexandra Ward, Sonya Passi, Jonathan Halpern, Edwin Larkins, Tony Buckles and Malcolm Shorter.

May God continue to Bless America, and thank all veterans for their service.

48TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
PEACE CORPS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 48th Anniversary of the Peace Corps and in doing so, join many others around the nation in celebrating National Peace Corps Week. Their mission is to help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women while helping to promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served, as well as, a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.

Since the establishment of the Peace Corps by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, more than 195,000 U.S. citizens have served their country in the cause of peace by living and working in 139 countries throughout the world. As of September 30, 2008, 7,876 Peace Corps Volunteers are making significant and lasting contributions to improve the lives of individuals and communities in 76 countries.

I am proud to say that three of those volunteers currently serving their country are from my district in West Virginia. Both Ashley M. Hess (Burkina Faso) and Garrett C. Prendergast (Mongolia) will finish up their two years' of service in August of 2010, while Stephanie D. Zorio will finish up her two years' of service in the Philippines in November of 2010.

Peace Corps volunteers have made significant and lasting contributions around the world in agriculture, business development, information technology, education, health and HIV/AIDS, youth and the environment.

The 195,000 citizens, who have volunteered to serve their country since 1961, came from all walks of life and represent the best of what the United States has to offer. The work they have done over the past 47 years has played an important role in developing nations and continues to provide opportunities for people of different backgrounds to come together to serve the cause of peace.

SUPPORTING THE MEDAL OF
HONOR COMMEMORATIVE COIN
ACT OF 2009

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I am proud to join my good friend Congressman CHRIS CARNEY as an original cosponsor of the Congressional Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Act of 2009. This bipartisan legislation will assist the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation in raising the funds it needs to promote heroism and selflessness among our nation's youth—qualities which the Medal of Honor embodies.

First authorized by Congress in 1861, the Congressional Medal of Honor is our nation's highest award for valor in action against an enemy force. It is a symbol of how ordinary Americans can risk their lives and go above and beyond the call of duty in defense of our great nation.

Since its inception, fewer than 3,500 Medals of Honor have been awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces—approximately half during the Civil War. Today, there are only 111 living recipients. These select few exemplify the values of our great nation through their incredible acts of bravery and commitment to our country.

As the first U.S. Representative-reservist to be deployed to an imminent danger area since World War II, I know first hand the sacrifices and challenges our men and women in armed forces face. It was an honor to serve with uniformed Americans in Afghanistan and it is in their honor that I join Mr. CARNEY in introducing this legislation today.

EXEMPLARY STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, There are wonderful examples of academic achievement and community service taking place in Southeast Queens high schools. Many students throughout the New York Congressional 6th District are performing at such a high level in their academic work and community activities that it deserves public recognition. I have been so inspired that I initiated the Exemplary Student Achievement (ESA) award program to honor these young citizens who are emerging as our community's future leaders.

Since the inception of the ESA program in September 2008, I have partnered with administrators and faculty in various Southeast Queens high schools to identify and honor worthy students. It has been my privilege to award the following students with Congressional Achievement Awards:

Andrew Sargeant of Business, Computer Applications & Entrepreneurship Magnet High School

Brian Herb of Queens High School for the Sciences at York College

Chandraika Niranjana of Math, Science Research & Technology Magnet High School

Cleavelyn Murray of Humanities & the Arts High School

Deborah Hector of Humanities & the Arts High School

Dookumarie Persaud of Jamaica High School

Kevin Thom of Humanities & the Arts High School

LeeAnn Anderson of Queens High School

Mariam Donzo of Hillcrest High School

Marquise Moore of Business, Computer Applications & Entrepreneurship Magnet High School

Miriam Gonzalez of Hillcrest High School

Oniyebiyi Hinton of Humanities & the Arts High School

Peter Brown of Math, Science Research & Technology Magnet High School

Philipnary Thuyamany of Jamaica High School

Reaz Khan of Jamaica High School

Robin Singh of Queens High School for the Sciences at York College

Shannon Gordon of Humanities and the Arts High School

Shelly Lekhraj of Business, Computer Applications & Entrepreneurship Magnet High School

Tracy Ganga of Jamaica High School

Tracy Mangal of Hillcrest High School

Zora Jiles of Jamaica High School

Through their strong commitment to academic excellence and community service, these high school students have established themselves as peer role models amongst their classmates. I am proud to have such stellar students emerging within the Southeast Queens community. I encourage them all to continue their academic studies and social development at a higher education institution. I look to them to continue representing the high standards that our district's families, schools, and community organizations promote. The people of Southeast Queens look to these youth to utilize their academic knowledge, practical skills, and social networks to strengthen our community's cultural, civic, business, and political institutions.

It takes a village to raise a child, so it is important that I also recognize the family members, guardians, teachers, administrators, counselors, coaches, and mentors who have provided these students with the guidance and resources making it possible for them to blossom into exemplary young leaders. I thank all of these individuals for their dedication and contributions to our youth and our community's future.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE
TRANSPARENCY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Federal Reserve Transparency Act. Throughout its nearly 100-year history, the Federal Reserve has presided over the near-complete destruction of the United States dollar. Since 1913 the dollar has lost over 95% of its purchasing power, aided and abetted by the Federal Reserve's loose monetary policy. How long will we as a Congress stand idly by while hard-working Americans see their savings eaten away by inflation? Only big-spending politicians and politically favored bankers benefit from inflation.

Serious discussion of proposals to oversee the Federal Reserve is long overdue. I have been a longtime proponent of more effective oversight and auditing of the Fed, but I was far from the first Congressman to advocate these types of proposals. Esteemed former members of the Banking Committee such as Chairmen Wright Patman and Henry B. Gonzales were outspoken critics of the Fed and its lack of transparency.

Since its inception, the Federal Reserve has always operated in the shadows, without sufficient scrutiny or oversight of its operations. While the conventional excuse is that this is intended to reduce the Fed's susceptibility to political pressures, the reality is that the Fed acts as a foil for the government. Whenever you question the Fed about the strength of the dollar, they will refer you to the Treasury, and

vice versa. The Federal Reserve has, on the one hand, many of the privileges of government agencies, while retaining benefits of private organizations, such as being insulated from Freedom of Information Act requests.

The Federal Reserve can enter into agreements with foreign central banks and foreign governments, and the GAO is prohibited from auditing or even seeing these agreements. Why should a government-established agency, whose police force has federal law enforcement powers, and whose notes have legal tender status in this country, be allowed to enter into agreements with foreign powers and foreign banking institutions with no oversight? Particularly when hundreds of billions of dollars of currency swaps have been announced and implemented, the Fed's negotiations with the European Central Bank, the Bank of International Settlements, and other institutions should face increased scrutiny, most especially because of their significant effect on foreign policy. If the State Department were able to do this, it would be characterized as a rogue agency and brought to heel, and if a private individual did this he might face prosecution under the Logan Act, yet the Fed avoids both fates.

More importantly, the Fed's funding facilities and its agreements with the Treasury should be reviewed. The Treasury's supplementary financing accounts that fund Fed facilities allow the Treasury to funnel money to Wall Street without GAO or Congressional oversight. Additional funding facilities, such as the Primary Dealer Credit Facility and the Term Securities Lending Facility, allow the Fed to keep financial asset prices artificially inflated and subsidize poorly performing financial firms.

The Federal Reserve Transparency Act would eliminate restrictions on GAO audits of the Federal Reserve and open Fed operations to enhanced scrutiny. We hear officials constantly lauding the benefits of transparency and especially bemoaning the opacity of the Fed, its monetary policy, and its funding facilities. By opening all Fed operations to a GAO audit and calling for such an audit to be completed by the end of 2010, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act would achieve much-needed transparency of the Federal Reserve. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING JUDY PEARL-LEE

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize another of the many successful and talented African-Americans in my district. Today it is my great honor to recognize Judy Pearl-Lee.

Judy Pearl-Lee is President of Frontier Bag Company in Omaha, Nebraska. The company was started in 1946 by Judy's parents, Amos and Alberta. In the early years, the company provided products to the agricultural markets in Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri. Since then it has expanded into a variety of product lines, including duffel bags, briefcases and totes.

As minority business owners, the family faced many challenges including the floods

and fires of the 1950's as well as the civil rights riots in the 1960's. The family and the business weathered these setbacks and are now an established part of our Omaha business community.

Judy attended Spelman College in Atlanta and graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a degree in Bachelor Science Textile Science.

In 1987 Judy took over the business and today the company can ship top-quality custom bags to anywhere in the country. Judy is also an active member of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Great Plains Minority Council, Kiwanis and Girls Inc. just to name a few.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to share Judy's life and business success with my colleagues and wish her continued success.

IN TRIBUTE TO PRESTON WILCOX,
EDUCATOR AND ACTIVIST

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and achievements of Preston Wilcox and his commitment to community empowerment, education, and public service. In 2006, the passing of Preston Wilcox removed from the world a scholar whose academic stature was as profound as its practical application. Though he is no longer with us we will not forget the contributions he has made to Harlem and to society at large.

Preston Wilcox was born in Youngstown, Ohio in 1923. He moved to New York after World War II. He went on to graduate from the City College of New York in 1949 and in 1957 he earned his Master's degree in social work at Columbia University. Mr. Wilcox utilized his skills to benefit the Harlem community from 1958-1964 where he served as a program consultant to the East Harlem Summer Festival, a United Neighborhood Houses initiative which was designed to prevent juvenile delinquency. He continued in this vein for the Massive Economic Neighborhood Development, and anti-poverty program.

As a teacher, Mr. Wilcox taught courses in social work theory and community organization at Columbia University's School of Social Work, Clark Atlanta University, Medger Evers College, along with other institutions of higher education. As a practitioner, Mr. Wilcox was a strong advocate for parent participation in curriculum development and in the hiring of school supervisors and teachers. He also participated as a social researcher in the Princeton University six week summer studies program for junior high school students for what has now become the Upward Bound Program.

After twenty years of involvement in the black educational movement he developed AFRAM Associates, a public service agency to provide technical assistance to community groups in the areas of education, economic development, and consumer rights. AFRAM operated a parent-implemented program in education funded by the Follow Through Program Division of Compensatory Education of the

U.S. Office of Education. AFRAM also operated a farm experiment, AFRAM Farm, in upstate New York, as a campsite and recreational center for urban-bound families and groups.

After his death, the acquisition of his personal and professional papers, writings, office files, and printed matter documenting his dual career as an educator and community organizer, by the Schomburg Center comprising

twenty-one linear feet, add an important name to the roster of black intellectuals who made Harlem their home.

Today, I am proud to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Preston Wilcox.