

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING 188TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 188th Anniversary of Greek Independence Day and the valiant Greek struggle to cast aside the shackles of imperial oppression. For those who believe in life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, March 25, 1821, resonates through the annals of history as a seminal moment in the epoch of democracy.

From ancient Greece the world came to speak of the founders of democratic thought—Cleisthenes, Themistocles, Pericles, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and countless others. When our founding fathers contemplated the establishment of the United States of America they looked across time and geography to the shores of ancient Greece. Thomas Jefferson and others who studied the Democratic philosophies of the ancient Greeks knew that in their teachings lay the formula for a just and free society.

In 1776 the sacred flame of liberty illuminated the shores of America, and when in 1821 the mother of democracy awoke and sought to liberate herself from the dark conquest that had befallen her, America cheered her on. During the Greek struggle for independence, many Americans felt a kindred spirit with the Greeks, and gave the name of a Greek Independence War hero to the town of Ypsilanti, Michigan.

It is only natural that the fraternal bonds of liberty between America and Greece have been present from the first day of the establishment of each country. History shows that Greece is one of America's greatest allies, from the passing of the ancients' democratic philosophy to the modern Hellenic Republic's fighting alongside the USA in every major struggle since its inception.

Long before the United States took on the Nazis in WWII, the only countries standing in the way of the Nazi onslaught were Greece and the United Kingdom. Greece paid a dear price for its steadfastness, losing 10 percent of her entire population, and nearly all of the ancient Jewish Community of Thessaloniki. The heroic acts of the Greeks were evident everywhere, from the daring removal of the Nazi flag that floated above the Acropolis, to the unparalleled resistance movement that resulted in the first defeat of an Axis Army when the Greeks pushed Mussolini's troops across the Albanian frontier.

Greece has come a long way in 188 years. In 2004 Greece did an outstanding job hosting the Olympics. She has been an important ally in the war in Iraq and Afghanistan and is the beacon of democracy in the Balkans, serving as one of the largest investors, business and job creators throughout all of Southeastern Europe.

Greece is a proven democracy and proven ally of the United States. Greece is a country that can be counted on to support the high ideals of freedom and liberty, and is and always has been a staunch American ally.

NATIONAL BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 23, 2009

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 178—expressing the need for enhanced public awareness of traumatic brain injury and support for the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month.

It is appropriate that we debate this bill today, since March is widely recognized as Brain Injury Awareness Month. Now, more than ever, we need to heighten the public's awareness to a growing issue—Traumatic Brain Injury.

Traumatic Brain Injury has been called the signature wound of the War on Terror, as thousands of American servicemen and women have been diagnosed with TBI and untold more have yet to be diagnosed.

An estimated 360,000 soldiers have sustained Traumatic Brain Injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan. Furthermore, Military health screening programs have shown that as many as 20% of returning troops have suffered at least a mild concussion.

The use of Improvised Explosive devices are the primary cause of this silent wound. Often, symptoms don't manifest themselves for some time. Many of the symptoms of Traumatic Brain Injury are similar to Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, further hindering a proper diagnosis.

The dramatic increase in Traumatic Brain Injuries among military veterans has created huge stresses on the VA system's capability to handle. While there was no way that the VA could have predicted the demand for Traumatic Brain Injuries treatment and rehabilitation before our troops were deployed in response to the attacks on our country, the fact remains that we need to provide better services to our veterans, and we need to be able to provide those services in their own communities rather than requiring them to travel for treatment.

The Veterans Administration is already working with some private and nonprofit providers of Traumatic Brain Injury treatment and rehabilitation, but it can and should identify more opportunities to allow veterans to receive appropriate, high-quality care from providers in their own communities.

And that is why I have joined with my colleagues here in Congress and joined the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force.

Our goal is to further educate and raise awareness of brain injury and support funding

for basic and applied research on brain injury rehabilitation. It is important that we give brain injury the attention it is due to help us move beyond the "silent epidemic" and towards real treatments, supports, and eventually cures.

The Congressional Brain Injury Task Force has worked to ensure that individuals have access to reliable information, effective prevention strategies, and, if injured, comprehensive and appropriate treatments.

We owe our nation's veterans a debt we cannot fully repay, but we must make sure that every soldier, sailor, airman or Marine exposed to an Improvised Explosive Device is properly screened and treated for Traumatic Brain Injury—we owe them no less.

I support the recognition of March as National Brain Injury Awareness Month and I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this bill.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following Information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1109, The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Project Name: Police Department Photography Lab Upgrades for the City of Miami

Amount Funded: \$400,000

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Contact: Pedro G. Hernandez, City Manager, City of Miami

Address: 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33143

Description: The City of Miami Police Department Photo Lab Upgrades Project will upgrade and digitize the City's police department photo lab. Funds will be used to incorporate digital cameras, memory card readers and a digital photographic laboratory system which will replace the antiquated film technology that is currently in use. Funding for photo lab upgrades will facilitate the investigative and prosecutorial efforts of the law enforcement community in the City of Miami, with national crime fighting implications that extend beyond Southern Florida in circumstances when fugitives flee the City to avoid prosecution.

Project Name: Miami Beach After School Gang and Drug Prevention Program

Amount Funded: \$200,000

Account: OJP—Bryne Discretionary Grants
Contact: Kevin Crowder, City of Miami Beach

Address: 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Description: Continued After-School and summer programs ensure youth "growing-up" within the system. These youth are less likely to entertain outside and detrimental participation in other unsupervised activities, such as

• 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.

involvement in gangs and/or drugs. Participation in the recently created Teen Intervention Program in North Beach has increased dramatically during the past year, as have the various programmatic offerings by the City. City of Miami Beach local funding is \$642,167, or 23% of the program cost. Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars.

Project Name: Life-Management Skill Intervention Program for At-Risk Youth

Amount Funded: \$300,000

Account: OJP—Juvenile Justice

Contact: Susan Benson, ARISE Foundation

Address: 824 U.S. Highway 1, Suite 420, North Palm Beach, Florida 33408

Description: During 2006–07 Florida committed 7,187 juvenile offenders to residential delinquent treatment facilities. The Department of Juvenile Justice wants to increase their life chances according to the Models of Change (Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice). ARISE provides juvenile, justice facilities with specialized staff training and its unique curricula designed specifically for populations reading at approximately a third grade level. With over 260 easy-to-administer ARISE life-management lessons, ARISE materials contain vital information necessary for reducing recidivism. The ARISE program provides both staff training and educational materials for teaching life lessons to incarcerated youth through interactive methods and help develop critical thinking skills needed to break the cycle of violence and crime that would otherwise doom many of these juvenile offenders to tragic lives of gang involvement, crime, drugs, disease and poverty.

Due to inherent problems staff have in dealing with incarcerated high risk youth, ARISE will expand its training program for Juvenile Care and Detention Officers in Florida's Juvenile Justice facilities, by introducing additional training topics such as anger management, non-judgmental listening and conflict resolution. This training will be directed at reducing staff on youth conflict, and severe turnover of staff.

Project Name: City of Coral Gables Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements

Amount Funded: \$500,000

Account: EPA—STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Contact: Alberto Delgado, Department of Public Works, City of Coral Gables

Address: 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33144

Description: The project meets the STAG match requirement. Funding would be used to make state-mandated upgrades to the City's wastewater infrastructure.

Project Name: Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements

Amount Funded: \$2,392,000

Account: Corps of Engineers, Construction

Contact: Clyde Burnett, City Manager, City of Marathon

Address: 9805 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida 33050

Description: The Florida Keys are required to meet rigid wastewater and stormwater management restrictions as well as near shore water quality and environmental protection standards.

Project Name: Miami Museum of Science Renewable Energy Research Project

Amount Funded: \$713,625

Account: Department of Energy, EERE

Contact: Gillian Thomas, President and CEO, Miami Museum of Science

Address: 3280 S. Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33122

Description: Funding is requested for a research and development program aimed at enhancing understanding by Miami-Dade residents of programs related to alternative energy and energy efficiency technologies, with a special emphasis on Hispanic and Haitian communities.

Project Name: Miami Harbor Channel Dredging

Amount Funded: \$478,000

Account: Corps of Engineers, O&M

Contact: Eric Olafson, Assistant Director, Miami-Dade County

Address: 444 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Description: This funding request is for the first phase of implementation, which includes the design, preparation of plans and specifications for bidding. Miami-Dade County is also seeking an additional source of PED funds through utilizing the funds that will be restored to the project, once the Port of Miami reimburses the Army Corps for its share of the costs of the General Reevaluation Report (GRR). The Chief of Engineers has recommended the deepening project to 50–52 feet and Congress has authorized the project (Title I, Water Resources Development Act of 2007).

Project: Intracoastal Waterway, Jacksonville to Miami, Florida

Amount Funded: \$4,019,000

Account: Corps of Engineers, O&M

Contact: David Roach, Executive Director, Florida Inland Navigation District

Address: 1314 Marcinski Road, Jupiter, Florida 33477

Description: Funds would be used to dredge the IWW in two locations: (1) Matanzas Inlet (St. Johns County) and in the vicinity of St. Augustine. In addition, funds would be used to (1) restore a Dredged Material Management Area in St. Johns County and (2) construct a Dredged Material Management Area in Indian River County. The organization does not have a local match requirement with the Corps of Engineers.

Project: Miami River Maintenance Dredging Project

Amount Funded: \$10,043,000

Account: Corps of Engineers, O&M

Contact: Eric Olafson, Assistant Director, Miami-Dade County

Address: 444 North Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Description: This request is for the final phase of the Miami River Dredging Project to restore authorized depth and width to the navigation channel. This project, funded by the US Army Corps of Engineers with a coalition of local sponsors led by Miami-Dade County, removes contaminated sediments from the Miami River, Florida's 4th largest port with an economic value of \$4 billion. The local sponsor has exceeded all match requirements.

Project: Lower Keys Shuttle Bus Facilities

Amount Funded: \$950,000

Account: Transportation, Bus and Bus Facilities

Contact: Jim Scholl, City Manager, City of Key West

Address: 525 Angela Street, Key West, Florida 33140

Description: Federal funds will assist the City in its efforts to improve the City's bus facilities. Specifically, funding will provide a

modern maintenance facility to assist in improved bus facilities as well as passenger amenities such as waiting areas, bus transfer areas and ticketing areas

Project: Atlantic Greenway Corridor Network

Amount Funded: \$570,000

Account: Transportation, TCSP

Contact: Kevin Crowder, City of Miami Beach

Address: 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Description: Through the development of the Atlantic Corridor Greenway Network, the City of Miami Beach is creating a regional alternative transportation network which will interconnect key intermodal centers, area business districts, cultural/tourism centers, residential neighborhoods, parking facilities, parks, schools and the beaches. The Network will be comprised of a citywide system of bicycle/pedestrian accessways, enhanced public transit facilities, expanded bus service and innovative regional parking improvement programs.

Project: Little Venice Road Improvement Project, Phase II

Amount Funded: \$95,000

Account: Transportation, TCSP

Contact: Clyde Burnett, City Manager, City of Marathon

Address: 9805 Overseas Highway, Marathon, Florida 33050

Description: The proposed project includes the installation of drainage and retention structures to minimize the destructive impacts from serious weather events. Additionally, the project proposes the installation of an asphaltic overlay for all road surfaces in the immediate area. This area constitutes 95th Streets to 117th Street south of the highway and connecting cross streets.

Project: Pedestrian Bridges in Coral Gables, Florida

Amount Funded: \$142,500

Account: HUD, EDI

Contact: Maria Jimenez, Interim City Manager, City of Coral Gables

Address: 405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33144

Description: The requested federal funding will be used to build pedestrian bridges next to the Hardee, Granada and Maynada bridges where vehicular traffic has created safety concerns for crossing pedestrians and cyclists. These new bridges will allow for more efficient and safer traffic flow throughout the City. Improved pedestrian safety along busy roadways in the City of Coral Gables will be the benefit of this project.

Project: Barry University Community Health and Minority Medicine Project

Amount Funded: \$95,000

Account: DOE-Higher Education

Contact: Ann Paton, VP for Institutional Advancement

Address: 11300 NE 2nd Avenue, Miami Shores, Florida 33161

Description: Funding will be utilized to expand current lab facilities at Barry University's center for community health.

Project: Jackson Health System Facilities and Equipment

Amount Funded: \$190,000

Account: HHS—HRSA

Contact: Jeanette Nunez, VP

Address: 1611 NW 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136

Description: Funding will be used to upgrade Jackson Health System's information

technology infrastructure. Jackson is a fully integrated health care system with 3 major hospitals, 12 primary care centers, 16 school-based clinics, a mental health facility, 2 mobile health vans and a major health plan. Jackson is also the primary safety net provider in Miami-Dade County.

Project: Mercy Hospital Equipment Upgrades

Amount Funded: \$95,000

Account: HHS-HRSA

Contact: Lois Blume, Grants Coordinator, Mercy Foundation

Address: 3663 South Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33133

Description: Mercy Hospital in Miami is seeking funding to upgrade equipment in three key healthcare areas: advanced cardiac video imaging technology, cardiac mapping technology, anesthesia machines, and a sterilization machine for surgical equipment.

Project: Miami-Dade College Medical Center Nursing Program Equipment

Amount Funded: \$95,000

Account: HHS-HRSA

Contact: Joe Pena, Director of Federal Relations

Address: 300 NW 2nd Avenue, Suite 1402, Miami, Florida 33132

Description: To address a growing demand for healthcare professionals, Miami Dade College (MDC) School of Nursing requires additional programs and advanced training equipment in order to expand their successful nursing program.

HONORING KIRKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Kirksville High School wrestling team for winning the Class 2 A Missouri State Championship in February.

Not only did the Kirksville High Tigers cap off an impressive season with a state championship, but they dominated in winning their conference and district titles.

The city of Kirksville should take pride in their high school wrestling team, who won the school's third state sports championship.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the Kirksville High Tigers for an outstanding season and a job well done!

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a milestone for a prestigious institution of higher learning in Oklahoma. Rogers State University, with campuses located in Claremore, Bartlesville, and Pryor is turning 100 years old this month.

Founded in 1909, Rogers State University has been a center of excellence and learning for thousands of Oklahomans.

In 1998, the Oklahoma Legislature solidified the role of Rogers State University as a world class regional university by granting them full accreditation. RSU is one of only two universities in the state of Oklahoma to offer both associate of arts and bachelors degrees in various disciplines.

Rogers State University is one of the fastest-growing universities in Oklahoma. Over the last eight years Rogers State University's enrollment has jumped 70 percent. At one time RSU's enrollment registered just over 400, but in recent years it has swelled to boast a diverse student body of 4,000.

RSU is a national leader and pioneer in online learning. They are the first public university in the state of Oklahoma to offer associate and bachelor degrees completely online.

In athletics, the future looks just as promising for Rogers State. A few years ago, the RSU Hillcats gained acceptance into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, NAIA. RSU currently fields a multitude of athletic teams and competes in the Sooner Athletic Conference.

During their university's Centennial this year, the Hillcats won the Sooner Athletic Conference championship in men's basketball, and represented their school this month as the No. 1 seed in the NAIA Championship Tournament. In 2008, just their first year of Sooner Athletic Conference play, the RSU women's soccer team earned a conference championship.

RSU is the only university in Oklahoma to operate a full-power public television station. It also operates a radio station, and boasts a 120-acre nature conservatory located on the main campus in Claremore.

The university has also added significantly to their university infrastructure and facilities. Recently, the school opened a \$13 million Student Services Center at its main campus and a \$1.3 million expansion that will double the size of the campus at the Pryor location.

In these times of limited educational dollars, it is important for the United States Congress to remember the local and regional universities that educate so many of our citizens and allow them to benefit both the future of their family and our entire society. Rogers State University is an enormous asset to eastern Oklahoma and I come to the floor today to honor all they do.

Happy Birthday Rogers State University!

TRIBUTE TO MRS. NANCY DAWKINS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Nancy Dawkins, who will be recognized by the Heritage Trail Advisory Committee in collaboration with the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation, Liberty City Trust and the City of Miami for her invaluable service to the residents of Liberty City and the City of Miami. Mrs. Dawkins' generosity and community activism in the fields of education, counseling and leadership development serve as hallmarks to her unwavering dedication to the South Florida community and the 17th Congressional District.

Mrs. Dawkins, a teacher in the Miami-Dade County Public School System for 35 years, has been at the forefront of various community endeavors. She co-authored the program concept that became the COPE school program for pregnant teenagers, served as a career and occupational specialist at Booker T. Washington Middle School and was a former early childhood education instructor of Miami-Dade College North Campus. Among her many awards and accolades throughout the years, Mrs. Dawkins has received the Dade Heritage Trust Plaque for Outstanding Contribution in Promoting Commemorative Services, the Miami Police Department's Recognition Plaque for Community Service and the Metropolitan Dade County Appreciation Plaque from former Mayor Stephen P. Clark.

As a tireless activist devoted to the advancement of equality and human rights, Mrs. Dawkins received The Miami Herald's Spirit of Excellence Award. She currently serves on the board of the Children's Home Society and has been a driving force in the largest African-American chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons, AARP, in the northwestern Miami community where she actively participates by attending state and national conventions.

Throughout the years Mrs. Dawkins has served as a charter member, organizer and past president of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, South Florida chapter, which has spearheaded the establishment of several nationally recognized programs for children who provide countless hours of volunteer community service. Moreover, Mrs. Dawkins sought out summer jobs for her students in order to broaden their experiences in cultural affairs and in her continued activism, encouraged her students at Miami-Dade Community College to establish early childhood centers.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. Nancy Dawkins' tremendous humanitarian efforts and overwhelming dedication to our South Florida community. I wish her every happiness and continued success.

HAITIAN DEPORTATIONS—A HUMANITARIAN OPPORTUNITY GONE UNNOTICED

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to acknowledge the unjust and inhumane treatment of 30,000 Haitians living in the United States who have been threatened with deportation. These Haitian nationals have contributed to our society for several years as hard-working, law-abiding tax-payers and are now being asked to return to a country that is in no position to support them.

Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere and it has furthermore been ravaged by natural disasters during the last year. The impact of hurricanes and floods has been devastating to the Haitian economy and has resulted in an unprecedented level of suffering requiring emergency assistance for the people of Haiti. The idea of sending thousands of refugees into such a desperate situation is so inhumane as to be unthinkable.

The UN estimates the lives of approximately 800,000 have been affected by the storms of the previous year. These people have no viable country to return to—what is the rationale behind sending an additional 30,000 people back to a country that already has close to a million displaced individuals? This is a Bush policy that needs to be reconsidered—it is uncertain who would support such a policy that threatens an already fragile environment.

The humanitarian thing to do would be to offer these Haitians Temporary Protection Status (TPS) which is consistent with concessions given to other countries given the same circumstances. In the past, we have made this compromise with countries such as El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras, even as recent as 2008. This is blatantly inconsistent with the treatment given to Haitian immigrants despite the fact that economic and social conditions are worse, in addition to the reality that the country has not overcome the recent floods and hurricanes. Considering the compelling humanitarian reasons against returning Haitians to a homeland that cannot now support them, I must wonder what the real motives behind such a policy are.

It is unfortunate to see the treatment of these Haitians by the United States government given the fact that Haiti has had such a rich, long history with the United States. During the American Revolution about 750 Haitian freemen fought alongside colonial troops against the British in the Siege of Savannah in 1779. This level of sacrifice by a country should not be forgotten, especially during times of need.

The defeat of the French Napoleon Army by the Haitians, albeit indirectly, helped America expand its territories towards the West with the Louisiana Purchase. At the time, Haiti was the producer of 40 percent of the world's sugar, was the most profitable colony the French owned and in fact the wealthiest and most flourishing of the slave colonies in the Caribbean. This was a tremendous loss to the French, and as a result was forced to sell off some of their land. The outcome for the US was significant—the land included in the purchase comprised of around 23% of the territory of the United States today.

The historical relationship and the humanitarian concerns are important facts to consider before deporting this group of Haitian refugees. Also consider that the Haitian economy has become increasingly reliant on the money sent by the Haitian Diaspora living abroad. Haiti's remittances make up one-third of their GDP and no other national group anywhere in the world sends money home in higher proportions. These 30,000 Haitians should be allowed to remain in this country and continue to send remittances to their homeland, while still paying their tax dollars and helping our economy grow.

Madam Speaker, I hope that our government will make the right decision and allow this country, a friend of ours, to rebound from these tragic natural disasters. As an example to the world, we must not let this humanitarian opportunity go unnoticed.

OWYHEE INITIATIVE

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senator CRAPO for his efforts in creating Idaho's newest wilderness areas in the Owyhee region of Southwestern Idaho. The designation of wilderness in Idaho is long overdue, as it has been nearly thirty years since the late Senator Frank Church created the River of No Return Wilderness.

I applaud the Senator for having the patience and perseverance to develop the compromises he has made with numerous ranchers, county officials, sportsman groups and conservation groups. The years of effort he put into creating this legislation are a testament to just how special these lands are. It is assured that Idahoans will be enjoying these unspoiled vistas and areas for generations to come.

There are numerous individuals in Idaho to congratulate for their hard work. I won't name them all, but Fred Grant, Chad Gibson, Brenda Richards and Craig Gherke put a lot of effort into this process. In addition, John Hoehne and Layne Bangerter of Senator CRAPO's staff did tremendous staff work on the ground in Idaho. If they and so many others didn't commit themselves to the Owyhee initiative, there would have been nothing to work with here in D.C.

Finally, I saw first hand here in Washington how this legislation could not have been completed without the efforts of Peter Fischer on Senator CRAPO's staff, David Brooks on Senator BINGAMAN's staff, and Marcia Argust with the Campaign for America's Wilderness. Their commitment and belief in the product developed in Idaho made it possible for this legislation to move forward.

Idaho can be proud of the work that Senator CRAPO, his staff and its stakeholders have done in creating the Owyhee legislation.

THE TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2009

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Telework Improvements Act of 2009. Telework allows workers to perform their duties and responsibilities from home or at another work site removed from their regular place of employment. The Telework Improvements Act encourages a uniform and consistent telework policy across the federal government, while imposing strict oversight and accountability that will ensure the success of this pragmatic yet innovative workforce management policy.

First and foremost, this bill is about good government. According to an estimate by the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service, in the next five years approximately 550,000 federal employees—almost 30 percent of the federal workforce—will leave government, largely through retirement. Broadband and other technological advances have made remote work

arrangements widely possible and the government should use telework as a powerful recruitment and retention tool to compete with more highly paid private sector jobs. The flexibility that telework provides will make a career in government more attractive to the next generation of civil servants.

Telework will also help mitigate congestion in high-traffic areas such as the National Capital Region—reducing carbon emissions from vehicles and improving the quality of life for all commuters. I commute from my home in Towson, Maryland to our nation's capital, tracing the length of my district. Each day, I sit in suffocating traffic with thousands of federal employees and other commuters. The gridlock results in lost productivity, less time spent with families, and pollution that poisons our air and alters our climate. If we offer an innovative alternative so that some in the federal workforce can avoid these commutes through telework, not only will we improve their quality of life, we will relieve the overall strain on our regional transportation infrastructure and improve the daily commute for all area workers.

Select agencies within the federal government like the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Defense Information Systems Agency, and the General Services Administration have shown strong leadership—from agency heads down to individual managers—by putting in place an efficient and effective telework policy. They have demonstrated extraordinary results and are a template for other agencies to follow. But even though telework has been available to federal employees for over a decade, there are no uniform policies in place. Agencies are hampered by a lack of guidance and training for federal employees who wish to telework. Uneven application among managers and supervisors has too often rendered telework policies ineffective. Finally, the absence of uniform data collection and meaningful oversight make the best practices employed by agencies with effective telework programs all but impossible to implement elsewhere in government.

To address these flaws, the Telework Improvements Act of 2009 will: instruct the Office of Personnel Management to develop a uniform, government-wide telework policy for federal employees; ensure that federal employees who wish to telework and are eligible to telework are able to do so for at least 20 percent of the hours they work in a two-week work period; designate a Telework Managing Officer within every agency and department to oversee telework; provide greater access to and opportunities for telework training and education to both employees and supervisors, while providing employees electing to telework with greater protection against discriminatory punitive treatment by supervisors and managers; require the Office of Personnel Management to compile government-wide data on telework; and require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate agency compliance, produce an annual report to Congress and make that report publicly available on the internet.

In closing, I would like to salute Congressman FRANK WOLF for his vision and tireless advocacy for telework in the federal government. Over the last decade, he has put telework on the map as a management option within the federal workforce and I thank him for his leadership.

I would also like to thank Congressman GERRY CONNOLLY for joining Congressman

WOLF and myself in writing this legislation. Though Congressman CONNOLLY is new to this body, he is not new to telework. As Chairman of the Fairfax County, Virginia Board of Supervisors, Congressman CONNOLLY instituted a far-reaching telework policy—performing a great service to the employees of Fairfax County and offering a model solution for the federal government.

Finally, I would like to thank Congressman DANNY K. DAVIS for his support. Congressman DAVIS and I introduced a similar piece of legislation in the 110th Congress. As chairman of the Federal Workforce Subcommittee of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the Congressman shepherded this crucial legislation through the House of Representatives, but unfortunately the measure stalled in the Senate. We are hopeful that we will get a bill to the President's desk during the 111th Congress.

Madam Speaker, the federal government should lead the way as a model employer and embrace innovative personnel policies that increase productivity while striking the right balance between family and work. By enacting the Telework Improvements Act, we have the opportunity to bolster the federal workforce, reduce traffic and carbon emissions, and improve the quality of life for our dedicated civil servants all in one fell swoop. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this pragmatic, commonsense legislation.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER NASA ADMINISTRATOR DR. MICHAEL D. GRIFFIN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the aerospace and aeronautics communities, and to our country, have been exceptional. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has been fortunate to have a dynamic and dedicated leader who has given his time and talent to advance U.S. interests in space, science and aeronautics. On January 20, 2009, Administrator Michael Griffin concluded nearly four years of service as the NASA Administrator.

Dr. Griffin was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate as the 11th Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He began his term on April 14, 2005. As Administrator, Mike led the NASA team and managed its resources to advance the U.S. Vision for Space Exploration which included returning the space shuttle to flight, completing assembly of the International Space Station and development of the Ares rocket and Orion crew vehicle to return us to the moon and eventually to Mars.

Prior to his tenure with NASA, Griffin served as Space Department Head at Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland. He was previously President and Chief Operating Officer of In-Q-Tel, Inc., and also served in several positions within Orbital Sciences Corporation, Dulles, Virginia, including Chief Executive Officer of Orbital's Ma-

gellan Systems division and General Manager of the Space Systems Group. Griffin also previously served as chief engineer and as associate administrator for exploration at NASA, and as deputy for technology at the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization.

Mike Griffin is a true rocket scientist and has the post-secondary degrees to prove it. He received a bachelor's degree in physics from Johns Hopkins University; a master's degree in aerospace science from Catholic University of America; a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from the University of Maryland; a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Southern California; a master's degree in applied physics from Johns Hopkins University; a master's degree in business administration from Loyola College; and a master's degree in Civil Engineering from George Washington University.

Mike Griffin is a certified flight instructor with instrument and multiengine ratings. In addition, he is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and International Academy of Astronautics, an Honorary Fellow of the American Astronautical Society, a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and a previous adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University, and George Washington University, where he taught courses in spacecraft design, applied mathematics, guidance and navigation, compressible flow, computational fluid dynamics, spacecraft attitude control, astrodynamics and introductory aerospace engineering. He is the lead author of more than two dozen technical papers, as well as the textbook, "Space Vehicle Design." Mike is also the recipient of the Department of Defense's Distinguished Public Service Medal, the highest award given to a non-government employee.

Mike has demonstrated his ongoing passion for NASA and provided tremendous leadership for the agency in the Second Space Age. I am proud to call Mike a fellow American and friend. I know that many people around the country are grateful for his service and join me in saluting his many achievements. Whatever the future holds for him, Godspeed Mike Griffin.

CONGRATULATIONS LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, during this year's Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) convention, which took place March 4th to 8th in Birmingham, Alabama, South Carolina's own Lexington High School earned runner-up honors for their production of "Scooter Thomas Makes It To The Top Of The World" in the High School Theatre Festival. Three Lexington High School students won recognition for their roles in the production: William Vaughan won the Best Actor Award; Luke Whitmire won the Best Supporting Actor Award; and, Danielle Peterson won the Best Assistant Director Award.

In November 2008, Lexington High School took top honors at the South Carolina Theatre Association's festival which earned them a

spot in the Southeastern Theatre Conference. The play, "Scooter Thomas Makes It To The Top Of The World," written by Peter Parnell, tells the story of Dennis who travels to the funeral of his childhood friend Scooter Thomas and reflects on their relationship and the decisions they made growing up.

I wish to commend all the students involved in this production—including Lachlan Medley, stage manager; Johnny Hawley, sound and light technician; Justin Hall, master set builder; Shelly Skelly, light technician; stage hands Elliott Carter and Bradley Cockrell—as well as their director and drama teacher, Leslie Dellinger. Congratulations to Lexington High School, under the professional leadership of Principal B. Creig Tyler, for their continued dedication and support of the arts and to the success of our students and community.

HOUSING CRISIS IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that the housing crisis continues to devastate communities across the country.

By all measures my district has been among the hardest hit by the foreclosure epidemic and the recession.

Constituents in Merced, California, near my hometown of Atwater, are suffering from 19.9% unemployment, the highest rate of foreclosures in the nation, and a loss of 70% of their home equity over the last three years.

They are experiencing an economic tsunami that will leave the Central Valley struggling for many years to come.

I am working on an effort to devise an Economic Disaster Area designation.

So places like my district, whose communities have been disproportionately affected by the country's recession, can receive the additional federal funding they need to keep from falling off the map.

The future of my constituents and my district is in jeopardy.

That is why I am asking my colleagues to support me in my efforts to create this Economic Disaster Area designation and to help my constituents and the entire Central Valley recover from this economic downturn.

MORRIS TOMORROW CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the Twenty Fifth Anniversary of Morris Tomorrow of Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant organization that I am proud to represent.

Morris Tomorrow's primary mission includes focusing attention on issues of regional significance, promoting public discussion, facilitating consensus towards viable solutions, and serving as a catalyst for implementation. Founded

as Morris 2000 in 1984, the organization has managed to successfully bridge environment and business interests, working to further both causes to the mutual benefit of both.

Morris Tomorrow has established several high-profile programs that have helped define issues facing Morris County and the surrounding area. Among the programs is Midday Morris, a quarterly lecture series targeted toward business, government, civic and education leaders; Building Cross-Cultural Communities, works to address issues faced by our immigrant communities; Morris Summit, brings together local leaders from our business, government, education and nonprofit communities to explore quality of life issues. Additionally, three organizations that have proved essential to the watershed management issues that are vital to the area are offshoots of Morris Tomorrow—the Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee, the Rockaway River Watershed Cabinet, and the Raritan Highlands Compact.

We are privileged to have such a dynamic and dedicated non-profit organization in Morris County.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Morris tomorrow on the celebration of its 25 years serving Morris County.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks received as part of H.R. 1105, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Name of the Requesting Member: LEE TERRY.

The bill number: H.R. 1105, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Project Name: Special Olympics Educational Programs.

Amount Requested: \$6,000,000.

The legal name and address of requesting entity: 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games 8801 F Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68127.

Description of earmark: The request I made was for the 2010 Special Olympics USA National Games to assist in funding the Special Olympics' Second USA National Games. This money would be spent on logistics, security, transportation, housing and meals for athletes during the 2010 games in Nebraska. It is my understanding that this project, which included my name as a requestor, is for Special Olympics educational programs that can be integrated into classroom instruction and for activities to increase the participation of individuals with intellectual disabilities, as authorized under the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD'S 48TH INFANTRY BRIGADE BRAVO COMPANY SECOND BATTALION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Georgia National Guard's 48th Infantry Brigade Bravo Company Second Battalion, which will soon deploy for a yearlong mission to train and mentor members of the Afghan National Army.

The Bravo Company Second Battalion, based out of Newnan in Georgia's 3rd Congressional District, has trained intensely at Fort Gordon in Augusta, Fort Polk in Louisiana and Fort Stewart in southeast Georgia leading up to its deployment.

These 130 U.S. soldiers will do a great job serving their nation and assisting the Afghans in building their own proud military. They bring with them to Afghanistan a wealth of expertise and battle-tested experience.

Half of the soldiers deployed to Iraq in 2005–2006, a time of intense fighting with insurgents, and the unit suffered heavy losses. As today's unit carries on the fight, they remember and honor their fallen comrades.

On April 13, the unit will ship off to Camp Shelby, MS, before heading to their overseas destination. I look forward to taking part in community events to see them off and give them the honor and gratitude they and their families so richly deserve.

Georgians in the 3rd District are proud to have these patriots as neighbors. The soldiers of the 48th Infantry Brigade put themselves on the front lines to defend our nation and protect our freedom. The families they leave behind sacrifice just as much. We pray that God blesses their mission and watches over them until their safe return to Georgia and their loving families.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO GIVE DC CITIZENS A PLACE IN STATUARY HALL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a bill today to permit two statues honoring citizens of the District of Columbia in Statuary Hall in the Capitol, just as statues honoring citizens of States are placed in the historic hall. This legislation would allow the city to offer two statues to the Congress on behalf of D.C. residents. This bill is important to ensure equal treatment for the residents of the District of Columbia with the residents of the 50 States, who already have statues representing them in Statuary Hall.

The D.C. statues would likely be of Frederick Douglass and Pierre L'Enfant, known for their contributions to the city and to the Nation, who were selected by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities through a

public process. The D.C. statues could help cure the diversity embarrassment of statues in the Capitol. When the Capitol Visitors Center (CVC) opened in December, many were surprised and embarrassed that even in the part of the CVC Congress named Emancipation Hall, to honor the slaves and free blacks who helped build the Capitol, there were no statues of African Americans. It also is an embarrassment, and an indefensible one at that, that the 600,000 American citizens who live in the nation's capital have no statues of their own, while all 50 States have statues.

On August 10, 2006, the D.C. Commission on Arts and Humanities began the process of creating the two statues to be placed in Statuary Hall, when the Commission chose Frederick Douglass and Pierre L'Enfant as the two prominent residents whose statues would represent the District of Columbia. The Commission also hired two Washington area sculptors, Steven Weitzman and Gordon Kay, to work on the sculptures of Frederick Douglass and Pierre L'Enfant. Both statues were placed in the lobby of One Judiciary Square, a District government building.

Douglass (1818–1895) was born a slave in Maryland and became a District resident in the 1870s. He held diplomatic and District appointments and is considered to be the Father of the Civil Rights Movement. Douglass also displayed his talents as an orator and journalist throughout his life here. His home in southeast Washington is a national monument that attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.

L'Enfant (1754–1825), an architect, engineer and soldier, left France to serve in the American Revolution. George Washington chose L'Enfant to design the new federal city of Washington, D.C. He became a U.S. citizen and spent the remainder of his life in D.C., implementing the plan that made the Nation's capital the beautiful city it is today.

The District of Columbia was born with the Nation itself over 200 years ago. Throughout these two centuries, the city has created its very own rich and uniquely American history. In the Congress, we undermine the Nation's efforts to spread full democracy around the world. While D.C. residents have not yet obtained the same political equality and voting rights as the citizens of the States, they have all the responsibilities of the citizens of the States, including paying all Federal taxes and serving in all the Nation's wars. Today, when our residents are serving in Iraq, the least we should do is to give this city its rightful and equal place in the Capitol.

The statues would offer District residents the opportunity to enjoy the same pride that all other citizens experience when they come to their Capitol—the opportunity to view memorials that commemorate the efforts of residents who have made significant contributions to their jurisdiction and to American history.

The statue bill I introduce today is part of our "Free and Equal D.C." series, which includes the D.C. House Voting Rights Act, bills for budget autonomy and legislative autonomy, an elected district attorney position, and other bills designed to ensure that District residents, who pay Federal taxes and fight in wars like other Americans, are granted the same privileges as other Americans.

TRIBUTE TO ROBIN TORELLO

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robin Torello, a resident of San Leandro, California. Ms. Torello has been selected as the 2009 Woman of the Year for the 10th Senatorial District, represented by California State Senator Ellen Corbett.

Since 1987, in conjunction with Women's History Month, California Senators and Assembly Members invite one woman from their respective districts to the Capitol in Sacramento to be recognized as Woman of the Year in a formal ceremony on the floors of the Senate and Assembly. I am proud to share with my colleagues in the House of Representatives that Robin Torello was so chosen.

Robin Torello continues to serve as a role model for women in her community and generations to come. She has distinguished herself professionally in the area of employee benefits. She has vast knowledge and experience in this area and currently serves as a Senior Associate Consultant in the San Francisco office of Mercer. Ms. Torello identifies client-employee benefit program needs and works with clients for appropriate solutions. Ms. Torello utilizes her exemplary skills, expertise and experience in such specific areas as plan design development and implementation, renewal negotiations, financial analysis, legislative compliance, project management, and strategic planning.

In addition to her professional responsibilities, Ms. Torello is active in the community and serves as an executive board member and chair of several organizations. She has given much of her time and effort in fostering participation in the political process, engaging the public on important issues, developing candidate recruitment and training programs, and increasing voter education.

Ms. Torello earned a Bachelor of Science degree in history and political science from Central Connecticut State College in 1974 and received a Master of Public Administration degree from California State University, Hayward in 1986. She also holds a life agent license issued by the California Department of Insurance.

I am pleased to recognize the achievements of Robin Torello as she receives the California Woman of the Year award. I join California State Senator Ellen Corbett in commending Ms. Torello on her outstanding record of professional and civic leadership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I intended to vote "nay" on rollcall vote 140 to H.R. 1388 taken on March 18, 2009. The CONGRESSIONAL RECORD currently lists me as an "aye" vote on this measure. As a conservative, I cannot support the federal government paying individuals

to volunteer their time, especially in a period of record federal deficits and budget constraints facing American families.

CLAIRTON BEARS WPIAL
CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Clairton Bears on a stellar high school football season.

For the first time in their school's history, the Bears reached the State championship game. This accomplishment topped an undefeated regular season and a WPIAL title.

These great accomplishments were the result of fantastic coaching and consistently outstanding performances by the team's staff and players.

The staff consisted of head coach Tom Nola and assistant coaches Mike LeDonne, Demonje Rosser, Remondo Williams, Tim Borkowski, John DeMarco, Tony St. Angelo, Tony Ferrare, and Wayne Wade.

The players consisted of 9 seniors—Malcolm Ford, Troy Webb, Andrew Currington, CJ Hammonds, Kailon Lyons, Eyan Johnson, Lance Meade, David Spence, and Taylor Wright as well as underclassmen Kevin Weatherspoon, Deontae Howard, Josh Page, Brandon Small, Eddie Ball, Remondo Williams, Desimon Green, Trenton Coles, Julian McLean, Bishop Neal, Geron Johnson, Devante Dockery, Kevin Poindexter, Devante Gardlock, Marcus Nash, Antwon Thompson, Brian Boyd, Carvan Thompson, Donzel Daniels, Chanze James, Keith Craven, Devonte Doss, Marquis Norris, Shawn Thomas, Ezekial Williams, and Wesley Sutton. The hard work, dedication, and teamwork these young men displayed throughout the season produced a once in a lifetime opportunity for the graduating seniors to play in the big game before leaving their high school.

Pittsburgh once again has lived up to its name as the "City of Champions" producing a great team like the Clairton Bears. I wish the Bears and their program success in the seasons to follow and congratulate them once again on a fantastic season.

TRIBUTE TO THE BELL COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM
2008–2009

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2008–2009 Bell County High School Football Team, who captured the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Class 4–A State Championship Title. The tremendous athletes should be proud of their talent and ability, and know that I am honored to recognize their athletic achievement.

Bell County has a long history of great football teams. The Bobcats have defeated formi-

dable opponents in years past and gone on to win multiple championships, along with district and regional titles. This year's State Championship should come as no surprise given the drive and dedication in each of the team's players.

The Bell County Bobcats defeated a tough team from Bullitt East, winning 15–13 in the State final. More than six thousand fans filled the Cardinal Stadium to witness these focused young men put their athletic ability and knowledge of the game to the highest test. The Bobcats dominated the second half of the football game, scoring 15 unanswered points and stopping a two-point conversion attempt by the young men of Bullitt East with a mere ten seconds left.

This Championship Title reflects the wisdom of their coach, Dudley Hilton. Coach Hilton led the Bobcats to their first undefeated season with 15 straight wins and the team's second State Title. The team's unwavering determination was demonstrated in the last three games of this season's playoffs when each time they came back from behind to claim victory. These experiences and life lessons learned on the field will be carried on after the game and continue to shape these athletes into young men of promise and outstanding character.

It is my hope that this Championship will inspire not only young men on this team, but younger generations, to have the same determination when they face obstacles later in life. Commitment, courage and character was demonstrated by each and every one of these teammates and these qualities will bring continued success both on and off the field.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring coach Dudley Hilton and the Bell County High School 2008–2009 Football Team as the KHSAA Class 4A State Champions. Bell County's continued success has helped to shape the lives of so many students and members of the community, and I congratulate them and wish them all the best in the years to come.

INTRODUCING THE FAMILY LEAVE
INSURANCE ACT OF 2009

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today with Representatives GEORGE MILLER, LYNN WOOLSEY, and CAROLYN MALONEY to introduce the Family Leave Insurance Act of 2009. This legislation will support our nation's working families by providing 12 weeks of paid leave for all workers to care for a sick family member, bond with a new child, deal with the military deployment of a family member, or recover from their own serious illness.

Sixteen years ago, Congress passed the landmark Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to provide job-protected leave for new parents and individuals caring for ill family members. Since then, more than 100 million families have benefited from this law. While the FMLA has proved vitally important for many families, it remains incomplete because it requires only unpaid leave and applies only to companies with 50 or more employees—less than half the workforce.

Millions of men and women are not protected by the FMLA or simply cannot afford to

take unpaid leave—especially in these tough economic times. A recent study found that about 75 percent of FMLA-eligible workers did not take leave because they could not afford it—and according to the Department of Labor, only 8 percent of private employers provide paid leave. This is taking a toll on families—a report in 1999 by the President's Council of Economic Advisers found that since 1969, children have lost 22 hours per week with their parents.

The United States is nearly alone in the world in not providing some type of paid family leave. Only three other countries—Liberia, Papua New Guinea, and Swaziland—fail to provide security for new parents or those caring for a loved one. The Family Leave Insurance Act would bring the United States up to date with the rest of the world and allow millions of workers to take care of their families while still being able to make ends meet.

Paid leave provides real benefits for children and families. A Harvard School of Public Health study found that the education and health of children improves substantially when parents have work flexibility and paid leave. When parents are able to act as caregivers for a sick child, hospital stays are reduced by 31 percent. Parental involvement is also associated with higher achievement in language and math, improved behavior, and lower dropout rates.

Paid leave is also a boon to businesses and workers. For workers, paid leave means employment and financial security and improved job satisfaction. For businesses, paid leave means less turnover and increased productivity. Research indicates that 98 percent of employees return to work for the same employer after taking family and medical leave.

My home state of California has led the country in providing access to paid leave (albeit only six weeks) and flexible use of sick days. This law has helped California's families and businesses. According to a Harvard study, California had a lower rate of foreclosures than other states due to income loss arising from a personal illness or the need to care for a sick household member. Despite initial protest by California's business community against the paid leave law, most employers now agree that this investment in their workers is also a wise investment for their business. The Family Leave Insurance Act builds on California's successful experience to enact a federal paid leave law.

More specifically, the bill:

Provides all workers with 12 weeks of paid leave over a 12-month period to care for a new child, provide for an ill family member (including a domestic partner or the child of a domestic partner), treat their own illness, or deal with an exigency caused by the deployment of a member of the military;

Creates a new trust fund to run the program. It is financed equally by employers and employees, who will each contribute 0.2% of employee wages;

Progressively tiers the benefits so that low wage workers (earning less than \$30,000) will receive full or near full salary replacement, middle income workers (\$30,000–\$60,000) receive 55% wage replacement, and higher earners (over \$60,000) receive 40–45%, with the benefit capped at approximately \$800 per week;

Administers the program through the Department of Labor, which will contract with

states to administer the program (similar to how the Unemployment Insurance program is run).

The FMLA has helped individuals meet their employment and family obligations without jeopardizing their job. Now—more than ever—workers' financial obligations must be provided the same security. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor the Family Leave Insurance Act. All workers deserve the chance to care for their families and still be able to pay the bills.

RECOGNIZING 188TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with several of my colleagues this evening in celebrating the 188th anniversary of Greek Independence from the Ottoman Empire. Tonight is also a celebration of a society that represents, in a historical sense, the origins of what we call Western culture, and, in a contemporary sense, one of the staunchest defenders of Western society and values.

In celebrating this anniversary, I am reminded of comments made nearly two centuries ago, by Massachusetts Congressman Daniel Webster. Congressman Webster spoke of the noble fight that would end 400 years of rule by the Ottoman Empire.

Webster stated, 'These [Greek] people, a people of intelligence, ingenuity, refinement, spirit, and enterprise, have been for centuries under the atrocious and unparalleled Tartarian barbarism that ever oppressed the human race.'

The world has greatly benefited from Greek civilization and owes to them the values of democracy that we hold dear. In the years since Greek Independence, Americans and Greeks have grown ever closer, bound by ties of strategic and military alliance, common values of democracy, individual freedom, human rights and close personal friendship.

Mr. Speaker, while we celebrate Greek Independence this evening, it's also important we recognize that Greeks continue to battle oppression from present day Turkey in Cyprus and that Greeks living in Turkey today continue to face discrimination.

Just as Greece gained its independence 188 years ago this month, it is now important that our nation work with the United Nations and with the government of Cyprus to once again unify the island and protect the rights of Greeks everywhere.

Over the past few years, I have become deeply concerned that our government's actions and policies towards Cyprus will make it more difficult to reunify a nation that has been broken apart for more than three decades. I was disappointed that the previous administration's U.S. Department of State opened its fly zone with the occupied part of Cyprus. I was also concerned that the State Department resumed trade with the occupied north through ports that were declared closed after the invasion in 1974. This action ignored Cyprus' domestic law, as well as international law that prohibits entering Cyprus through an illegal port in the north.

Mr. Speaker, we now have a new Administration and a new Secretary of State. I am encouraged that we can take tangible steps to solve the problems in Cyprus through reunifying the Country. I will continue to encourage Secretary Clinton to take a historic look at the Cyprus problem over the past 34 years. It's important to look at this problem through the perspective of three decades of illegal actions on the Turkish side.

As we celebrate Greek Independence and the cultural gifts that the Greek community has given to the world, I remain deeply dismayed by Turkey's continued discrimination against Greeks today in Turkey. I am glad that Secretary Clinton, on her recent visit to Turkey, discussed the issues of Ankara's refusal to recognize the Ecumenical status of the Greek Orthodox Patriarch. The United States cannot let Turkey continue these abuses of religious freedoms.

The Department of State's 2008 Human Rights Report on Turkey lists a litany of abuses including systematic dismantling of property rights, limited education opportunities, and vandalism of religious properties of Greeks living in Turkey. This report shows that minorities are treated like second-class citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that the United States can reverse its prior path. We must work with the international community to ensure that one day soon, like Greece, the island of Cyprus will be unified and free. We must work to make sure that Greeks do not face discrimination in Turkey.

Tonight, I applaud the determination Greek's showed 188 years ago to overcome the Ottoman Empire, and restore democracy in the place of its birth.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE M. RICE ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I rise to congratulate my good friend Florence Rice as she joins her family, long time friends, and the Harlem community together in celebration of her 90th Birthday. This momentous and joyous occasion is being celebrated with an extraordinary affair today at Noon in the Church of the Intercession in my beloved village of Harlem.

Florence M. Rice was born on March 22, 1919 in Buffalo, New York. She is the founder of the Harlem Consumer Education Council. During her childhood, Rice spent several years in the Colored Orphan Asylum and in several foster homes in New York. Upon completion of the eighth grade, Rice left school for work as a domestic seamstress where she became a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. Rice spoke out against the discriminatory practices against African American and Latino workers. She participated in Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.'s 1962 congressional hearing, which probed dressmaker union's policies and after testifying, she was blacklisted.

In the 1960s, Rice founded the Harlem Consumer Education Council, waging a war

against corporations who discriminated against African Americans and other minorities. The Council organized many successful New York City boycotts and picket lines against grocery stores, furniture stores, and individuals found to be overcharging minorities. Rice's biggest victory was against the New York State Public Service Commission, forcing New York Telephone to stop charging low income residents pre-installation fees. The Harlem Consumer Education Council investigated over 100,000 complaints.

Appointed Special Consultant to the Consumer Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Board in the 1970s, Rice also taught consumer education at Malcolm-King College and has lectured to thousands at her workshops and seminars. In the 1990s, Rice was responsible for the Bell Atlantic Technology Center in Harlem. The center is dedicated to educating business people, students, senior citizens and other customers about the latest advances in telecommunication technologies. She has lectured in several countries, including South Africa where she was named a delegate in the first World Consumer Congress.

Florence continues to work as the first lady of consumer education in my beloved Village of Harlem. She is famed for her 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 her. I consider myself fortunate to have the opportunity to observe and experience her example as a personal inspiration.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Florence Rice on her historic 90th Birthday. Her constant dedication and commitment to our community is worthy of the highest esteem.

HONORING ST. FRANCIS BORGIA
BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Francis Borgia Boys Basketball team for winning the Class 4 A Missouri State Championship on March 14th.

The Knights were hungry for a win and that hunger showed.

Armed with a tenacious defense that forced 17 turnovers and fueled by their high-powered offense, the Knights walked away with a convincing 59-41 victory over the Kearney Bulldogs.

The young men and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and the playoffs.

And it just goes to show that a strong defense is the foundation for a winning offense.

I ask that you join me in recognizing the St. Francis Borgia Knights for a job well done!

IN TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
GEORGE NAPOLITANO

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to George Napolitano, who passed away last week after a courageous battle with cancer. George was a great friend, a dedicated community leader and a devoted family man. He was one of the best men I have ever known. People loved George. He was kind, good-hearted, compassionate and hard-working. He will be sorely missed. To know George, was to love him. He was one of the world's really good people.

George made a lifelong commitment to community service. No matter how many other obligations he had, he could always be counted on to pitch in and take an active role. He was a member of the Tri-State Italian American Congress, a charter member of the Sons of Italy in Manhattan which he proudly served as President and a charter member of the Knights of Columbus where he was instrumental in coordinating the Youth Program. He was very active in the Powhatan Democratic Club, most recently serving as District Leader for the club. While his daughter attended high school, he was Chairman of the Parents' Association of St. Vincent Ferrer High School. For his work as a Lector and Eucharist Minister and his commitment to the Holy Name Society he was honored by the Brooklyn Diocesan Union.

He was particularly active in the Holy Name Society of the Immaculate Conception Parish. During his tenure as President, the organization experienced unprecedented growth. He also co-chaired numerous Holy Name Society dinner dances which raised funds for grants for graduating students. His hard work and selfless dedication made a real difference in the lives of many young people and community members. For his many contributions, in 2002 he was named Man of the Year and presented with an award at their annual dinner dance.

George was eventually offered an opportunity to make his community activism a career. For ten years, George worked as a legislative aide to former Assemblyman Denis J. Butler. Most recently, he joined my staff and, at the time of his death, he was managing my Queens office. He was a truly dedicated community leader who really understood what was going on in the neighborhood he served. My constituents knew that George would always offer them good advice and assistance. After he became ill, George remained deeply involved in community affairs. He attended every community meeting he could and remained active right up to the end.

George was born and raised in the Little Italy section of New York City. He attended St. Patrick's Old Cathedral School and All Hallows High School before matriculating at St. John's University where he completed his BA. Following his study at St. John's, Mr. Napolitano began working in the financial sector. In 1960, he left business to serve his country in the military. Stationed in Ft. Rucker, Alabama he was placed in charge of the Officers Payroll Department. Typically, he used his time to become involved in the community life on the

base. He coached the base's Little League team to a State Championship. George was granted an honorable discharge as Sergeant and completed an additional four years reserve training. After his service, Mr. Napolitano returned to his career in the private sector working again in the financial district before beginning a career in real estate and insurance. Along with his many other commitments, Mr. Napolitano also operates his own real estate and insurance business in Queens, New York. George leaves behind his beloved wife, Carol, his four children, Deana, Denise, Catherine, and Robert, and several grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and career of a truly good man, George Napolitano.

HONORING GARNER "MACK"
GOODE FOR HIS LONG SERVICE
TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Garner "Mack" Goode, a long-time leader in West Tennessee, who is retiring this month after more than four decades on the Crockett County Election Commission and who continues to serve our area in many other capacities.

Governor Buford Ellington and the State Board of Election Supervisors first appointed Mack as a Democratic member of the Commission of Elections for Crockett County in 1967. He has remained on the board for 41 years.

Mack is also Chairman of the Gibson Electric Membership Cooperative Board of Trustees, which is important to rural communities all across West Tennessee. Mack's family has been involved in West Tennessee farming for decades, and Mack continues to manage 900 acres of crops. He also spent 42 years at the Bank of Alamo, including in the position of President and CEO. Mack served for 15 years on the Crockett County Board of Education and nine years on the Alamo City School Board. He has also served as Alamo City Alderman, a member of the Alamo/Crockett County Rotary Club and a member of the Alamo Jaycees.

Mack has done a considerable amount of volunteer work in our area over the years, including 32 years with the Crockett County Rescue Squad and 26 years with the Alamo Fire Department. He has served on the Crockett County Emergency Management Board, as a Partner in Education for Alamo City School, as a supporter of various charitable organizations and as co-founder of the Mack and Mary June Goode "Special Needs Fund for Alamo City School" Foundation.

In between his community service and farming, Mack enjoys spending time with his wife Mary June Goode and their family. Their children are Bobby and Melinda Goode, and Reecha Black. Their grandchildren are Brandi and Rick Wilson, Garner and Rachel Goode, Jenna Black, Crockett Goode and Jessie Black. They have three great grandchildren, Lee Wilson, Mary Wilson and Luke Wilson. Mack is also an avid hunter, fisherman and golfer.

We know that as Mack will continue to be active in our community. His leadership and counsel will remain important to us as we work together to help increase industrial development in Crockett County and across rural West Tennessee.

Madam Speaker, I hope you and our colleagues will join me as we thank Mack Goode for his long community service, congratulate him on his 41 years on the Crockett County Elections Commission and wish him and his family all the best.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF FOUNTAIN HILLS COUNCILMEMBER
KEITH McMAHAN

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Councilmember Keith McMahan of Fountain Hills and to recognize the many significant contributions he made to our community.

On March 17 Keith passed away of natural causes at the age of 70.

During the time he lived in Fountain Hills, Keith was a strong force behind the growth and prosperity of the town. Keith served as the advertising and tourism chairman while also serving on their Board of Directors for the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce for many years. In addition to serving as a member of the Town Council, Keith was a local small business owner and formed his own advertising agency in 1991 to cater to area clients. Keith was even named "Business Person of the Year" by the Chamber of Commerce in 1997.

Keith is well-known for his leadership abilities not only within the Town Council, but in the Fountain Hills community as well. Most notably, he was an active member of the Fountain Hills Civic Association, Fountain Hills Historical Society Board of Directors, and the Fountain Hills School Board. In addition, Keith participated extensively in the Fountain Festival held by the Chamber of Commerce, helping out on 30 different occasions.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commemorating the life of Keith McMahan's life and remembering the strong and positive impact he left on his community and the many people who knew and loved him.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. BARTLETT. 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, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro Ecology

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 169
124 Wry Narrows Dr, Queenstown, MD 21658

Description of Request: This program was \$499,000 funding to be used for research that specifically addresses the recommendations contained in the Maryland Statewide Plan for Agricultural Policy and Resource Plan Ensuring a Sustainable Forest Future.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Conservation Operations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Natural Resources Conservation Services

Address of Requesting Entity: 14th and Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250

Description of Request: Chesapeake Bay Activities. This program was funded \$3,998,000. Since 2003 the AG. Appropriations bill has included an earmark for the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland. Although this earmark has previously not been in addition to state funds, the Task Force encourages the committee to make this request additive.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: National Institute of Standards and Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: UMBC Nano Center

Address of Requesting Entity: College Park, MD

Description of Request: Nanotechnology Research and Development. Funded \$2,000,000 Develop ultrafast dynamics technologies with fundamentally expand the scope of nanotechnology. The funding would be used for research and technology.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Blue Crab Advanced Research Consortium at UMBI

Address of Requesting Entity: 701 East Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202

Description of Request: Blue Crab Research Funding \$50,000. Funds research and aquaculture for restoring the blue crabs. The Blue Crab Advanced Research Consortium was created to address the sharp decline in Blue Crab harvests in the Chesapeake Bay.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office

Address of Requesting Entity: 410 Severn Ave, Annapolis, MD 21403

Description of Request: Oyster Habitat Funding \$4,600,000. This project would fund native oyster restoration in both Maryland and Virginia portions of the Chesapeake Bay.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: NOAA National Weather Service Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Maryland

Address of Requesting Entity: College Park Maryland 20742

Description of Request: Climate Impacts Funding \$1,000,000 to advance and integrate all essential elements in climate change science, economics and policy, and bring the resulting models and tools to bear on issues of climate impacts and adaptation in the Mid Atlantic Region.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity:

Address of Requesting Entity:

Description of Request: Virginia Trawling Survey funding \$150,000. Virginia Trawling

Survey, this survey completed at Institute of Marine Science, provides the longest time series of fisheries monitoring data in the Chesapeake Bay.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Frederick County Sheriffs Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 Airport Drive East, Frederick, MD 21701

Description of Request: Funding \$500,000 Frederick County Sheriffs Office Automated Fingerprint Identification. Funding would be used for purchasing 10 handheld biometric identification units with mugshot capability and providing for an automated fingerprint, facial recognition and biometric identifiers.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Harford County Executive

Address of Requesting Entity: 220 S. Main St, Bel Air, MD

Description of Request: Public Safety Network Technology Upgrades Funded \$365,000. Purchase and implement equipment designed to expand and enhance the capabilities of the Harford County Public Safety Network. The total cost is \$1,454,242 and Harford County has committed \$1,091,017 to support this project. By enhancing interoperability communications capabilities, Harford County can improve its ability to protect its resident's as well as public safety personnel.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hagerstown, Office of City Administrator

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 East Franklin St., Hagerstown, MD 21740

Description of Request: Funding \$300,000. City of Hagerstown drinking water system. The funding would replace the two transmission mains that provide service directly to Zone 1 and currently to the West End Reservoir.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: MRT-Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: MD Dept of Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 580 Taylor Ave Annapolis MD 21401

Description of Request: Funded \$2,000,000 Continue efforts by the Army Corps of Engineers to design and build oyster reefs in the Chesapeake Bay. Activities include construction of oyster bars and reeds, rehabilitation of existing marginal habitat and construction of oyster hatcheries.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EERE-Other

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Frostburg State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Department of Physics and Engineering, Frostburg, MD

Description of Request: Funding \$856,350 Construction of the Sustainable Energy Research Facility (SERF) Phase 2 will provide additional funding to finish the construction and allow purchase of research equipment and appointment of staff to study the effectiveness of sustainable energy in the Appalachia. SERF is a residential type green building.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hagerstown

Address of Requesting Entity: Hagerstown, MD

Description of Request: Funded \$100,000. The program will offer assistance needed to develop minorities and women into successful business owners. The city developed the program to create opportunities and increase their number, magnitude and success rate. Hagerstown plans an aggressive outreach and support program designed to increase the number of minority and women owned businesses in the City.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Planning, Research and Development

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Assistant Secretary of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 548 7201 Corporate Center Dr., Hanover, MD 21076

Description of Request: Funding \$712,500. To continue work on the upgrading of 5.3 miles of I-70 Improvement, this project will address safety concerns and relieve congestion on a heavily traveled roadway.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation Planning, Research and Development

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Assistant Secretary of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 548 7201 Corporate Center Dr. Hanover, MD 21076

Description of Request: Funding \$95,000 Upgrade I-81 Improvements between the West Virginia and Pennsylvania state lines to improve safety and reduce congestion. This project will address safety concerns and relieve congestion on a heavily traveled roadway.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation Planning, Research and Development

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Director of Economics Development City of Frederick

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 North Court Street, Frederick MD 21701

Description of Request: Funding \$285,000 US 15 and Catocin Mountain Highway Construction of a full grade separated urban diamond interchange at the intersection of US 15 and Catocin Mountain Highway with Christophers Crossing/Monocacy Boulevard. This is one of the primary access points to Fort Detrick.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation Planning, Research and Development

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hagerstown, City Engineer

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 E. Franklin St. Hagerstown, MD 21740

Description of Request: Funding \$380,000 Eastern Boulevard Widening and grade separation from MD RT64 to Antietam Blvd. This will result in better traffic flow and will eliminate congestion at the current Eastern Blvd/North Ave/Potomac Street intersection

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation Planning, Research and Development

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Board of County Commissioners of Washington Co., MD

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 W. Washington St. Hagerstown, MD 21740

Description of Request: Funding \$95,000 Hagerstown Area Northeast By-Pass Project is

to conduct a planned level analysis for the construction of the Hagerstown MD vicinity. This highway would connect to I-70 on the east and I-81 toward the north.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Frederick Community College and Carroll Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, MD 21702

Description of Request: Funding \$143,000 used for construction of laboratories and classrooms, staff salaries and leasing costs. Howard, Frederick and Carroll Community Colleges are partnering with health providers to offer education in specific health care fields in Mt. Airy, Maryland. The facility would be known as the Mid-Maryland Community College Allied Healthcare Education Center.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

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

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Washington County Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 251 East Antietam Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Description of Request: Funding \$285,000 Purchase new Angioplasty room, upgrading technology would help address the growing need for Angioplasty procedures in the Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia Region.

CONGRATULATING MARIE MAIER OF HOPE TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marie A. Maier of Hope Township, New Jersey as she reaches an amazing milestone in life and celebrates her 100th birthday on Thursday, March 26, 2009 with her family, friends and local community and governmental leaders.

I have personally known Marie Maier for many years and she has always been a wonderful inspiration to everyone around her. This is exceptionally so for members of her family, her friends and her neighbors.

Marie A. Kroener was born on March 26, 1909 in New York City to Henry and Evan Kroener. On November 29, 1933, she was married to Hermann R. Maier and she enjoyed an outstanding business career as a legal assistant for what is now modern day Texaco. She also served as an accountant for her husband's business, Educational Placements, and worked in her father's restaurant and microbrewery on Staten Island.

Marie and her husband founded Educational Products Company, which manufactured the first plastic cookie cutters in the United States and they further distinguished themselves as the owners-operators of the renowned Land of Make Believe, which is the oldest and largest water and amusement park in New Jersey.

Additionally, Marie has given generously of her time, talents and resources to a wide range of civic and community organizations, including as one of the founding members of

the Sussex and North Warren Girls Scouts Council and President of North Warren Girl Scouts Council, as Past President of the Hope Historical Society and as an active and tireless member of the Blair Women's Club.

Marie takes pride in her children and she takes especial delight in her two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. As she observes the important milestone of her 100th birthday, her family, friends and community leaders are especially appreciative of her valuable and irreplaceable presence in their lives.

Marie Maier continues to make amazing contributions to her family and to her community.

It is my pleasure to congratulate her on her 100th birthday and to share her wonderful life story with my colleagues in the United States Congress and with the American people.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EARL LLOYD

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and acknowledge the achievements of a trailblazer in the National Basketball Association. Earl Lloyd retired to Cumberland County, Tennessee, in my Congressional District after a distinguished career as a basketball player and coach and with a historic superlative: the first African American to play in the NBA.

After a promising start at West Virginia, Mr. Lloyd was drafted to play with the Washington Capitols in the NBA. Soon thereafter, he signed with the Syracuse Nationals. In 1955, after three years with the Nationals, Mr. Lloyd set another milestone by helping to lead his team to an NBA Championship, making him one of the first two African Americans to win a Championship. Players and sportscasters nicknamed Mr. Lloyd "The Big Cat" for his height and speed, and he finished his playing career with an average of 8.4 points and 6.4 rebounds per game.

With an enviable career in the NBA behind him, Mr. Lloyd continued on in the NBA as an assistant coach with the Detroit Pistons. Years later, after marrying and raising two children, Mr. Lloyd marked another first for African Americans when he was promoted as a non-playing coach with the Detroit Pistons.

Chicago sportscaster Johnny Kerr once remarked in Sports Illustrated that if people know who Jackie Robinson is, why don't they know about Earl Lloyd? Mr. Lloyd might say that his achievement went unnoticed because basketball, as a sport, had yet to really capture the attention of a wide American audience. People who know Mr. Lloyd well, however, will speak to his humility in the face of all he has accomplished.

I ask that my colleagues rise with me today to recognize the life's work of a trailblazer who did so much for his sport and for African Americans across the country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. 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, Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Interior, Environmental Protection Agency

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Baton Rouge

Address of Requesting Entity: 222 St. Louis Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Description of Request: City of East Baton Rouge for Sewer System Improvements. East Baton Rouge Parish, under a consent decree with the EPA for sewer system overflows, is replacing and repairing much of its outdated and deteriorating decades-old sewer system. As part of this effort, the Parish is rehabilitating, upgrading, and/or replacing many of the major sanitary sewer trunk lines and pump stations transporting flow to the South Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWWTP). The SWWTP services an area of approximately 44,000 acres with a population of approximately 210,000 people, and has a plant design capacity of 120MGD. The Service area comprises much of the southern portion of the Parish, including portions of Downtown Baton Rouge, the Baton Rouge Community College, and Louisiana State University. This area is experiencing significant population growth due to the effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as ongoing regional development. The City/Parish has already expended approximately \$500,000,000 in improvements to all three of its sanitary sewer collection and treatment facilities, and is scheduled to expend another \$1,200,000,000 to address the system's sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) issues under the consent decree. Improvements in the SWWTP service area are necessary to meet sewer disposal needs and to protect the public health.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Interior, Environmental Protection Agency

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of West Monroe

Address of Requesting Entity: 2305 North 7th Street, West Monroe, LA 71291

Description of Request: City of Monroe, Monroe Wastewater Treatment System. Treatment of Wastewater to Drinking Water Quality for Sparta Aquifer Preservation & Industry Reuse saves the overdraw of the Sparta Aquifer by recycling existing Wastewater and plans for additional flow. This project cuts the deficit of Sparta by about half. It will benefit 14 parishes in NE Louisiana that use the Sparta and will limit most of the Municipal Discharge into the Ouachita River.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Agricultural Research Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Delta Nutrition Initiative, Little Rock, AR. Louisiana ranks 4th in adult obesity and the obesity rate for children have tripled over the past 3 decades. Due to this, childhood obesity prevention in Louisiana has become the LSU AgCenter's Family and Consumer Sciences Extension and Outreach Division's focus. We are requesting \$705,000 dollars to implement the USDA Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program (FVSP) in selected schools. This program will expand nutrition education outreach and applied research already being implemented by an established grassroots network of Extension educators in every parish. Underway is a tri-state initiative, Delta HOPE, to address childhood obesity in the poverty-stricken Delta region of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas. The AgCenter also has a public-private partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana to conduct and evaluate an interactive educational program called Smart Bodies to teach children how to build strong bodies and develop active minds. Federal dollars will be used to leverage state and private dollars to implement and evaluate the USDA FVSP. Grants will be given to selected public schools participating in Smart Bodies to purchase fruits and vegetables for students to consume throughout the school day. This program will not only improve children's health behaviors, but increase consumption of agricultural commodities

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Agricultural Research Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Formosan Subterranean Termites Research, New Orleans, LA. The Formosan subterranean termite has infested 32 of the 64 parishes in Louisiana, with the most severe infestations in the New Orleans and Lake Charles areas. This insect has caused millions of dollars worth of damage with an astonishing \$300 million impact in New Orleans alone. Clearly, it is the most costly pest in the state and the management of this termite is essential to Louisiana's economic well-being. For the last seven years, the LSU AgCenter has participated in the USDA/ARS project, Operation Fullstop. The AgCenter is the lead agency in management programs for this termite in the French Quarter and 16 public schools in Orleans and Jefferson parishes. From the \$31,800,000 appropriation to ARS, the AgCenter has received approximately \$8.5 million since the initial appropriation in FY 1998. Sixty-four percent (64%) or (\$6,874,724) of these funds has been pass-through money to the pest control operators and thirty-six percent (36%) or (\$2,770,606) has been used to conduct research and extension educational programs. During the past year, the AgCenter received \$1,340,006. Of that amount, \$282,163, or approximately twenty-one and one-half percent (21.5%), was for research and extension activities. The remaining \$1,057,843, or seventy-eight and one half percent (78.5%), was for the PCO operators. We are requesting an increase to \$500,000 to expand our research

and extension programs. Research would focus on improved termite detection systems, evaluation of wood treatment products for protecting building materials, and enhancement of bait technology among others. Extension would continue to provide the critical tasks of educating the citizenry on all aspects of integrated pest management (IPM) of structural pests.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Blackbird Management, Louisiana. Blackbird depredation of rice is a serious economic problem facing rice producers in Louisiana. Depredation of rice occurs at planting and just prior to harvest; however, the most serious problem is depredation of rice seed and seedlings at planting. Yield losses due to blackbird depredation have been estimated to vary from 77 million pounds in 1995 to slightly over 93 million pounds in 2002. Economic losses associated with blackbird damage have been estimated to average \$9.3 million annually from 1995 to 2002. Damage does not occur uniformly across the state; consequently, severe economic losses may be experienced by some producers due to the concentration of blackbirds in a given area. The use of DRC-1339 has resulted in reducing the extent of damage and the magnitude of economic loss. DRC-1339 is a selective avicide specific to blackbirds, grackles, and starlings. As a result, reduction in blackbird damage to rice is achieved with little or no effect upon other bird species.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Aquaculture, LA. Louisiana contains one of the most diverse aquaculture industries in the U.S. The state continues to lead the nation in production of crawfish, oyster, alligator, and pet turtle sales. Catfish production has declined in recent years but is still important. The total farm-gate value of aquaculture production in 2008 exceeded \$188.6 million. Research is needed to: 1) enhance crawfish harvesting technology and efficiency and to improve crawfish broodstock reproduction, 2) to further develop tools to facilitate genetic improvement of cultured finfish, 3) to determine alternatives to catfish and other fish cultivation methods and production systems including polyculture, which reduce off-flavor and improve fish health, 4) to further refine finfish nutrition and feeding practices so that feed cost are reduced and water quality is improved, 5) to further protect cultured aquatic species from disease, and 6) to develop new value-added aquaculture food products and waste by-products.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Biomaterials from Sugar Cane, LA. The major objective of this project is to develop and validate an integrated technology that will convert low-value bagasse, cane leaves and tops, and molasses into a high value product mix including ethanol, specialty chemicals, biomaterials and animal feed for a sugar based biorefinery. The LSU AgCenter will accomplish this by improving, integrating, and optimizing collective technologies in biomass pretreatment, hydrolysis, sugar refining and biological and thermochemical conversion. The conversion of 500,000 tons per year of bagasse and molasses (total raw materials cost of \$23 million) into value-added products using the proposed technologies would generate \$240 million in annual revenue and make a substantial contribution to Louisiana's economy through expanding the sugar industry. The project is a major opportunity to showcase the impact of science and technology in augmenting Louisiana's economic base.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Tillage, Silviculture, Waste Management, LA. This special grant addresses critical environmental concerns in Louisiana. Alternatives to traditional tillage in southwest Louisiana rice production are needed to improve floodwater quality, reduce soil erosion, and reduce production costs. Stand establishment and early-season plant density have been shown to be critical components of a reduced tillage system. Development of herbicide-resistant rice varieties has allowed drill seeding of rice, which increases flexibility with nutrient and vegetation management. However, the effect of rotational crops on rice grain yield and soil physical condition is not well understood and requires more research. Cotton and corn production are major components of the agricultural economy in northeast Louisiana. Reduced tillage practices and herbicide tolerant crops are being adopted to sustain soil productivity and reduce surface water contamination and are improving production efficiency. However, conservation tillage systems provide a favorable microenvironment for insect populations, which have the potential to limit economic value. Basic biological information is needed on insect population dynamics in reduced tillage systems. The animal waste management component of this project will develop data and systems that allow proper use of waste products and lagoon effluent in two areas of the state. The dairy industry in southeast Louisiana and the poultry industry in north Louisiana will benefit from research on pasture runoff, background indicator organisms, optimum land disposal rates for poultry litter, and new uses for poultry litter particularly as it relates to forest productivity. Enhanced research on Best Management Practices (BMPs) will help reduce both point and non-

point source discharges associated with crop, animal, and timber production activities.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Wetland Plants, LA. Since the 1930s, 1,000,000 acres of Louisiana wetlands have been lost by human activities and natural forces such as the hurricanes of 2005. This directly affects U.S. security, navigation, energy consumption, and food supply. The potential for loss of life, industry, ecosystems, and infrastructure is enormous. The Coastal Plants Program (CPP) represents a major commitment to focus proven scientific technologies and outreach capabilities on issues critical to restore the coastal wetlands of Louisiana. This program combines the expertise of AgCenter plant breeders, ecologists, and other plant and soil scientists to facilitate the development and utilization of improved native plant resources to preserve remaining marshes and stabilize those that are being re-created. This project will develop strategies for genetic improvement leading to the economic and rapid establishment of critically important wetland plant species over large areas of threatened and reclaimed coastal wetlands. Native populations will be characterized and a genetic improvement program conducted to develop superior varieties/populations with enhanced value in the restoration and protection of wetlands. Plant cloning and molecular biology will facilitate genetic characterization and genetic improvement and provide superior plant materials to Louisiana's developing commercial wetland plant and seed industry. On-site marsh research will address issues concerning beneficial use of dredge material, sediment nourishment of deteriorating wetlands, and factors influencing vegetative response.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: AG, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 25203 Baton Rouge, LA 70894

Description of Request: Best Management Practices and Master Farmer Special Research Grant with LSD, LA. Of more than 2,000 agricultural producers trained through Louisiana's Master Farmer program, 65 have completed the third tier of the program which ends with certification from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. This represents a high benchmark in performance, which requires completion of eight hours of classroom instruction, participation in a Model Farm field tour, and development and implementation of an NRCS Resource Management System plan to address potential or occurring pollution. With the assistance of USDA programs and other technical assistance, these producers have installed research-based BMPs to address environmental issues. These certified producers manage more than 15,000 acres of Louisiana farmland, all within a 50-mile radius of 303d listed impaired state wa-

ters. In addition, multi-state collaboration has resulted in the development of a template by the Louisiana Master Farmer Program that can be used by other states to develop similar programs, focusing on curriculum development, implementation and lessons learned. Land area impacted by targeted programs is 928,507 acres.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Financial Services, SBA

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Baton Rouge

Address of Requesting Entity: 222 St. Louis Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Description of Request: City of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for small business investment initiative technical assistance. Baton Rouge's population growth following the economic devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita provides an opportunity to expand small businesses and micro-enterprises. Baton Rouge is partnering with Seedco Financial and Southern University on a new initiative to provide minority- and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs) assistance to bridge the financing gap that affects many existing and emerging M/WBEs. Seedco will provide loans to these businesses through the Small Business Loan Fund for real estate expansion, working capital, and/or start up costs. The program will connect M/WBEs to large-scale developments currently being undertaken by the City/Parish and other local stakeholders in Old South, Mid-City, and Downtown Baton Rouge, neighborhoods with a poverty rate of over 35% and a median household income of \$17,867. This request is to fund comprehensive technical assistance, including debt and financial management, marketing, and cost-cutting strategies, to enable M/WBEs to use the financial assistance offered by the City/Parish's partners. Technical assistance will be provided through workshops and intensive, one-on-one sessions by local, grassroots, and nonprofit development corporations trained by Seedco Financial to provide services to borrowers and prospective borrowers. Graduate students at Southern University's School of Business also will deliver business planning and financial management assistance through structured sessions supervised by university professors.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Financial Services, SBA

Legal Name of Requesting Entity:

Address of Requesting Entity:

Description of Request: Northeast Louisiana Business and Community Development Center. The University of Louisiana at Monroe College of Business and Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC) propose to advance entrepreneurship and support economic development by further development and expansion of the Northeast Louisiana Business and Community Development Center which provides a regional business incubator/accelerator and community development services. The center will contain a multi-purpose incubator and provide regional, rural outreach for community development such as training for community leaders to enhance their ability to create effective economic development plans that include entrepreneurship. The center provides research reports for projects to

communities. To expand the reach of the Center, we anticipate creating virtual services and possible distributed service locations in the rural areas of the service region of the University. Expanded services are possible through a potential partnership with the recently created Center for Rural Initiatives. The expected outcome will be a new focus on entrepreneurship that brings the expertise and resources of the university to rural communities and a facility to nurture entrepreneurs and grow businesses. Community leaders and elected officials will receive training on budgeting, strategic planning, marketing, and accessing community development information. New businesses will be started, with a better chance of survival, and jobs will be created.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: THUD, Airport Improvement Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Monroe

Address of Requesting Entity: Monroe, LA

Description of Request: Monroe Regional Airport, New Terminal, LA. This historic airport, birthplace of Delta Airlines, serves the needs of Ouachita Parish and eleven neighboring parishes with a combined population of 325,000 people. The airport currently processes approximately 225,000 passengers a year. Forecasts project a 47 percent increase in activity over the next 20 years. Analysis projects the need for a new terminal at twice the size of the current facility. It would accommodate growth in passengers, provide the latest security features, improve energy efficiency, and be easily expandable for further growth beyond 20 years. This request for FY09 would fund the first phase of Terminal building construction.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: THUD, Buses and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana Public Transit Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 2817 Canal Street New Orleans, LA 70119

Description of Request: Louisiana Statewide Buses and Bus Facility, LA. The request is for funds to replace obsolete buses & vans, Facilities and transit terminals.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: THUD, Surface Transportation Priorities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 94245, Baton Rouge LA 70804

Description of Request: 4-Laning of Hwy 84 from Vidalia to Toledo Bend, LA. The funding would be used to widen US 84 to four lanes from its junction with LA 3037 to the junction of LA 124

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: THUD, Surface Transportation Priorities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delta Highway 65 Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: 103 Rue Toulouse, West Monroe, LA 71291

Description of Request: Delta Highway 65 Study/Expansion, LA. It has been determined that an expansion of LA State Hwy. 65 from Alexandria, LA to I-40 in Arkansas will promote Economic Development within the Delta. Also, it will provide for an Emergency Evacuation Route on the West side of the Mississippi River. The project has few obstacles to overcome and can result in a "4-fold" return; alleviating poverty, providing a needed north/south connector in LA and provide development opportunities within the poorest region of the U.S.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: THUD, Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Baton Rouge

Address of Requesting Entity: 222 St. Louis Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Description of Request: I-10 Pecue Lane Interchange, Baton Rouge, LA. The southern portions of East Baton Rouge Parish and adjoining Ascension Parish have experienced significant population growth and expansion in recent years. As a result, traffic volumes have dramatically increased along the I-10 corridor from the I-10/I-12 split east into Ascension Parish. Development in this area is expected to continue to grow, including the construction of a major medical complex nearby, which will further increase traffic volumes. Additional access to and from the Interstate is needed along the I-10 corridor to accommodate these changing travel patterns and increased traffic. Pecue Lane has been identified as a strategic route that can enhance connectivity within this region and provide access to I-10. This project will reduce congestion and improve safety in this part of the City/Parish. An access request for this interchange has been presented to both the LADOTD and FHWA and is currently under review. A rural diamond interchange configuration has been selected for this location to facilitate the connectivity to the existing Pecue Lane overpass. FY 2009 funding will be used complete environmental studies and design.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: THUD, EDI

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Alexandria

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 71, Alexandria, LA 71309

Description of Request: Alexandria Riverfront Multi-Site Development, LA for the redevelopment of the Alexandria Riverfront. The City of Alexandria requests consideration of RIVER, (Riverfront Improvement Venture and Essential Recreation), a cultural, community-up approach to the re-development of the riverfront area of Alexandria-Pineville. Following the model city of Chattanooga, Alexandria-Pineville would benefit from a planned redevelopment of the riverfronts facing each other located alongside both cities. The identities of the cities are tied directly to the riverfronts and history surrounding the areas. The economic engines development along the Red River at Alexandria, which has the largest inland port in the continental United States, creates state-wide economic development opportunities. The proposed works would serve downtown, mid-city, and Garden District busi-

nesses, future retail tenants, downtown hotels, the Riverfront Convention Center, various public buildings such as City Hall, and various other public buildings and improvements. The choices expand other choices for transportation, employment and housing (through mixed-use and other opportunities) and value long-range, regional considerations of sustainability.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana Tech University

Address of Requesting Entity: Ruston, LA

Description of Request: Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA for a program in K-12 cyberspace education in cooperation with members of the Consortium for Education, Research and Technology of North Louisiana. The Cyberspace Cyberspace Science and Engineering project will empower K-12 education in North Louisiana and increase the nation's supply of cyber-security professionals. The project is a joint venture between the College of Engineering and Science, College of Liberal Arts, SciTEC in College of Education. It will: Foster development of partnerships with K-12 institutions. Develop and implement innovative curricula related to Cyberspace. Enhance the cyber-infrastructure related to delivering educational content. Improve STEM teacher preparation. Implement professional development opportunities for in-service teachers. Promote student and faculty development. Promote partnerships with business and industry through collaboration with the Cyber Innovation Center.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 4950 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Description of Request: Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, Baton Rouge, LA to expand early detection cancer screenings. This MBPCC program is designed for life-saving cancer screenings with the goal of expanding its outreach services to the medically underserved public in the greater Baton Rouge and Hammond and Covington areas. These areas include Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Point Coupee, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana and Washington parishes located in the Louisiana Cancer Control Partnership (LCCP) Regions 2 and 9. MBP began its comprehensive outreach program in 2002 through its CARE Network. In 2007, the program screened the 20,000th person for free. Although cancer incidence rates in Louisiana are comparable to national averages, Louisiana has one of the highest death rates from cancer in the country. For example, African American women have breast cancer incidence rates similar to the national rate but have mortality rates 19 percent higher. The Louisiana Tumor Registry which collects statewide data on all newly-diagnosed malignancies and cancer deaths, reports that one reason for the high death rate is inadequate cancer screening for early detection resulting in late stage diagnosis. Additional funding

would allow MBP to provide more services to those in need.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: St. Francis Cabrini Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 3330 Masonic Drive Alexandria, LA 71301

Description of Request: CHRISTUS St. Francis Cabrini Hospital, Alexandria, LA for a pre-natal clinic, including facilities and equipment. CHRISTUS St. Francis Cabrini Pre-Natal Clinic: CHRISTUS is seeking funding to help support a new pre-natal clinic which will provide care to low income women with the goal of reducing infant mortality and promoting pregnancy wellness here in Louisiana which consistently ranks among the worst states in the nation for high infant mortality (10.4 deaths per 1000 live births in 2004). The center will be available to all women but focused primarily on those with low income, those who are uninsured, and those in the Medicaid population. Three associates will staff the center—nurse practitioner, a licensed practical nurse, and a clerk. The nurse practitioner will collaborate with a medical director to provide prenatal care as well as early and ongoing risk assessment to prevent and recognize conditions associated with maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: St. Francis Cabrini Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 3330 Masonic Drive Alexandria, LA 71301

Description of Request: CHRISTUS St. Francis Cabrini Hospital, Alexandria, LA for a school dental hygiene program. The Seal a Smile program brings dentists and dental hygienists for four elementary schools where children in the 1st, 2nd, and 6th grades receive treatment which helps prevent cavities. Money would help the program return to the four schools visited this year (to treat a whole new group of children) and bring the program to two more schools at which school-based health clinics opened just this year. In addition, CHRISTUS will employ a dentist with a mobile dental unit from a Federally Qualified Center to do x-rays, fillings, and restorative dentistry at one of the four elementary schools with a school-based health clinic. These funds would enable the mobile dental unit to also serve the other three elementary schools. Our community services division will soon own portable dental equipment, but needs funding for a dentist to do the same restorative dentistry at the other three schools.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana Primary Care Association, Inc

Address of Requesting Entity: 4550 N BLVD Suite 120 Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Description of Request: Louisiana Primary Care Association, Inc., Baton Rouge, LA for purchase of equipment. Even with the one

time state appropriations of approximately \$40 million, Louisiana's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) will still be challenged with the need for operational funds to offset expenses incurred for the growing population of the uninsured. The total cost per user/patient for Louisiana's Health Center patients is \$372 (inclusive of primary care and dental services). According to the 2006 Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) Uniform Data System (UDS) report, Louisiana's health centers served approximately 45% uninsured persons of the total 128,507 users (an increase of 2% from the previous year). LPCA is requesting \$5,000,000 to assist their 22 grantee members with the acquisition of needed healthcare equipment for various centers which may include the implementation of electronic medical records for centers not currently using them. LPCA will use these funds to leverage and solicit additional resources to offset expenses. Commitment letters incorporating detailed budgets and narratives will be required by LPCA to insure accountability from all participating members and will be maintained at LPCA for auditing purposes.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Louisiana at Monroe

Address of Requesting Entity: Monroe, LA

Description of Request: University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA for facilities and equipment. ULM seeks funding for a new 10,000 square foot Animal Research Facility/Vivarium for the College of Pharmacy. The facility will support research of cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, and other neurological diseases. The research facility is a specially designed building type, which accommodates specially controlled environments for the care and maintenance of experimental animals. The facilities are vital to the support of proper, safe, and humane research. The Association for Accreditation and Assessment of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) provides criteria and a certification process helping assure both accurate experimental results and safe and humane treatment of research animals.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Louisiana at Monroe

Address of Requesting Entity: Monroe, LA

Description of Request: University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, LA for purchase of a mobile dental unit, including equipment. This mobile unit, serving the delta area of Louisiana, would enhance the teaching capabilities of the dental hygiene program and would provide critically needed services to underserved patients who lack the financial resources and/or transportation to obtain proper dental care. The unit would be staffed by a dentist, dental assistant, dental hygienist and dental hygiene students who would work with local public health offices to coordinate services.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Health and Human Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Xavier University

Address of Requesting Entity: New Orleans, LA

Description of Request: Xavier University, New Orleans, LA, for facilities and equipment. The goal of this project is to construct an addition to Xavier's College of Pharmacy and expansion of Xavier's Clinical Trials Unit. Expansion of the College of Pharmacy will increase Xavier's ability to provide pharmaceutical companies with well-educated graduates as employees. Xavier is a leader in graduating bio-science and pharmaceutical professionals. For more than a decade, Xavier ranked first nationally in the number of African American students earning bachelors degrees in biology, physics, and the physical sciences overall.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: LHHS, Department of Labor

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Southeastern Louisiana University

Address of Requesting Entity: Hammond, LA

Description of Request: Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA for a job training initiative. Southeastern Louisiana University requests funding to expand its pilot initiative to provide a one-stop economic/workforce development and community planning/smart growth assistance to meet the needs of post-Katrina southeast Louisiana. A recent addition to the effort is smart-growth community planning. Rapid population growth in the region pre and post-Katrina has accelerated the need for better planning in order to maintain and enhance the quality of life in the area. The Southeast Louisiana Business Center, in conjunction with the Southeastern Social Science Research Center, has initiated outreach to area communities in order to provide smart growth assistance. Southeastern proposes to expand this initiative in order to increase services and reach more communities across southeast Louisiana.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Commerce

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana State University

Address of Requesting Entity: Baton Rouge, LA

Description of Request: Louisiana State University A&M to provide more information for a geodetic reference system to aid land planning in Louisiana. The Louisiana Geodetic Spatial Reference Center (LGSRC) is currently a joint partnership between Louisiana State University (LSU) and the National Geodetic Survey (NGS). NGS is an office of NOAA's National Ocean Service and is tasked with maintaining the nation's system of monuments for surveying and positioning. LGSRC is a legal extension of the NGS within the State of Louisiana and surrounding Gulf States and will use GULFNET as the backbone for its regional system of positioning monuments. Accurate and precise positioning data and information is the basis for all things geospatial. A strong capability in geodesy, topographic engineering, and surveying is thus essential to the success of the Center. LSU is at the technological cutting edge in these fields and will

host, staff, manage, and operate the Center on the LSU Baton Rouge campus. In 1997, Louisiana State University began construction of GULFNET, a geodetic reference system spanning coastal Louisiana using GPS technologies. Originally designed to support high precision measurement of subsidence, the system was also designed to support a whole host of other activities. This system consists of three continuously operating stations and 24 episodic campaign targets and is supported by contracts with the National Science Foundation and the Louisiana Board of Regents. GULFNET will provide public and private sector users with data and an information stream that will meet several currently unmet needs and requirements for lateral positioning and height information.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Commerce

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Southern Shrimp Alliance

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1577 Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Description of Request: National Marine Fisheries Service Shrimp Industry Fishing Effort Research Continuation. In January 2008, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued a final rule implementing a comprehensive management regime for achieving new statutory mandates under the Magnuson-Stevens Act to end overfishing and rebuild the red snapper stock in the Gulf of Mexico. A primary component of this plan is a substantial reduction in the bycatch of juvenile red snapper in the shrimp fishery that must be achieved through a large reduction in shrimp fishing effort in juvenile red snapper habitat areas. Failure to achieve the necessary reduction in shrimp fishing effort triggers a closure of the shrimp fishery in these areas. Consequently, the ability to accurately measure where and when shrimp fishing effort occurs each year is not only critical to achieving statutory red snapper conservation objectives, it is absolutely crucial to the future survival of the Gulf shrimp fishery. Widely supported by industry, environmental community and federal & State fishery management agencies.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office

Address of Requesting Entity: 828 S. Irma Blvd. Gonzales, LA 70737

Description of Request: Ascension Parish Sheriff, Law Enforcement Training Equipment. Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office owns and operates one of the premier law enforcement law training facilities in the Gulf region. Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies use this facility for various training purposes. The sheriff's office is in need of funding to continue to offer these services.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Baton Rouge

Address of Requesting Entity: 222 St. Louis Street Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Description of Request: East Baton Rouge Parish to upgrade law enforcement tech-

nologies. Federal funding will support city-wide expansion of a program to equip law enforcement officers with the latest in mobile data technology. Laptop computers in 400 marked patrol cars will be linked over a 700/800mhz RF network. Local funding will be used to purchase software and equipment to allow connectivity and initial Wireless Access Points to transmit the data. Federal funding will expand this wireless mesh network, adding Wireless Access Point locations throughout the City/Parish. Wi-fi capabilities will increase the speed and availability of the network and help law enforcement officers in the field prevent and solve crimes by sharing information in real time. FY09 funding will also support city-wide roll-out of a camera monitoring system. The City/Parish has begun to implement a canopy system that uses wireless camera installations to monitor critical infrastructure and other hot points throughout the City/Parish. Cameras will be equipped with state-of-the-art ShotSpotter technology, which provides real-time notification of gunshot events, as well as precise event data, such as a shooter's location. Further expansion of this project will allow the City/Parish to place cameras in newly developing high-crime areas.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Jackson Parish

Address of Requesting Entity: 500 E. Court Street, Room 100 Jonesboro, LA 71251

Description of Request: Jackson Parish Sheriff Department Training Complex. Funding would be used to construct a pistol/rifle range and a training building.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lincoln Parish

Address of Requesting Entity: 201 N. Vienna, Ruston, LA 71270

Description of Request: North Louisiana GIS Consortium. Law enforcement agencies are increasingly turning to Pictometry's new visual intelligence tools that permit users to instantly see up to 12 different views of any feature in their jurisdiction. Pictometry, a small, US-owned technology firm creates libraries of a revolutionary new form of digital, full color aerial imagery and geo-spatial information. Pictometry captures every square foot of an area from as many as twelve directions. While Pictometry libraries consist of orthogonal (straight down) images like ordinary aerial imaging, over 80% of the images are oblique (taken from angles) so that features can be easily seen in their entirety. These images reveal the front, back, and sides of objects of interest rather than just their tops. Within seconds, a law enforcement officer can literally view and analyze any house, building, intersection, fire hydrant, tree or any feature in the county from their laptop, workstation, or mobile device.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana Sheriff's Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 1175 Nicholson Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Description of Request: Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, Louisiana Methamphetamine Task Force. This grant funding will be used for the continuation of a Multi-Parish Methamphetamine Task Force (Louisiana Methamphetamine Task Force) formed in 2004. The parishes involved are Claiborne, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, Vernon, Webster, and Winn. The grant money will be used to continue paying the new personnel hired for the task force, the payment of overtime to law enforcement officers directly involved in the Methamphetamine Task Force, increase the number of new hires, to purchase new equipment which will be specifically directed toward the deterrence, location and destruction of methamphetamine labs. Additionally five percent (5%) of this request will be used to continue paying the grant administrator.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, Department of Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana District Attorney's Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 1645 Nicholson Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Description of Request: Louisiana District Attorney's Association to support an early intervention program for at-risk elementary students. The Prosecutor's Early Intervention Program (PEIP) is a proven prevention-based program, developed by the 16th Judicial District, that creates a conduit between the home, school, social service agencies and the legal system in order to quickly identify and intervene with elementary children who are exhibiting behavioral and/or school performance problems. Children have become more successful in school academically, behavioral problems in the classroom have declined and there has been a decrease in juvenile court filings.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: CJS, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Thurgood Marshall College Fund

Address of Requesting Entity: 80 Maiden Lane Suite 2204 New York, NY 10038

Description of Request: Thurgood Marshall College Fund to recruit minority students who will pursue careers in the sciences. This program will Assist NASA in its efforts to recruit minority students who will pursue careers in energy sciences. TMCF seeks to continue this nation's mission to produce more minority students in the areas of math and science. Moreover, TMCF is continuing to produce more leaders advocating economic development with a sustained focus of educating the nation's workforce and providing state-of-the-art instruction, facilities and curriculum.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

Legal Name of Requesting Entity:

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Bayou Sorrel Lock, LA. Bayou Sorrel Lock (Intracoastal Waterway Locks) in the East Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee, a main-line feature of the MR&T, is critical for flood protection and inland navigation. The funds would be used to advance

preconstruction, engineering and design completion by two years. Authorization: Section 601 of WRDA 1986 (PL 99-662)

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Comite River (Diversification Project), LA. This project was created to ameliorate flood losses in the Baton Rouge Urbanized Area. Since this project began, federal funding has not been adequate and the project construction schedule had to be extended from 2011 to 2016 in accordance with USACE estimates. This is caused by the inadequate annual funding that allows only the absolute minimum work to keep the project alive. \$18,000,000 is necessary to adequately fund construction related work for the project and continue development of plans and specifications.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

Legal Name of Requesting Entity:

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Lock Replacement, LA. The EIS for the IHNC Lock replacement is being redone under court order and will be completed in December 2008. The additional funds will be used to resume lock design and award west levee contract to complete construction by 2018. This is a critical lock in the GIWW system and is the #1 priority of the Inland Waterways Users Board (IWUB).

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Red River Waterway Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 709, Shreveport, LA 71162

Description of Request: J. Bennett Johnston Waterway, LA. The project is located in central and northwest Louisiana and provides for a 9-by 200-foot navigation channel extending about 236 miles from the Mississippi River through Old River and Red River to the vicinity of Shreveport, LA. Five locks and adjacent dams provide a lift of about 141 feet. Facilities to provide recreation and fish and wildlife development are also an integral part of the project. Although the project is open to navigation, refinements to the channel alignment are necessary to improve the safety and reliability of the navigation channel as well as to reduce maintenance dredging costs. These refinements consist of reinforcing or capping out existing revetments as well as adding additional contraction structures (dikes) to improve navigation conditions. WRDA 2007 increased the authorized cost for mitigation to \$33,912,000 allowing the purchase of cleared or agricultural lands for reforestation.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Bayou Desiard, Monroe, LA. Bayou DeSiard is located within Ouachita Parish in northeastern Louisiana near the city of Monroe. Prior to the construction of the Ouachita River levee system, the bayou was a flowing stream that drained into the Ouachita River just north of Monroe. It is currently a 28-mile-long impoundment.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Frazier/Whitehouse Oxbow Lake Weir, LA. Frazier/Whitehouse Oxbow Lake is located in east-central Louisiana, adjacent to Lindy C. Boggs Lock and Dam. The project provides for an overtopping closing to maintain minimum water levels during period of low water. Completion of the proposed project would result in positive environmental benefits by partially restoring historical lake water levels and the associated fish and wildlife habitat.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Lake St. Joseph, Tensas Parish, LA. Lake St. Joseph, an abandoned oxbow of the Mississippi River, is located in northeast Louisiana in Tensas Parish, 4 miles north of St. Joseph, LA. The lake is a shallow lake, 3 to 4 feet deep, due to sedimentation and subject to fish kills during prolonged periods of hot weather.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Alexandria to the Gulf, LA. Funding in the amount of \$790,000 is necessary to complete remaining work for the Feasibility Study and advance the PED. Authorization: HR 23 July 1997.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Morganza to the Gulf, LA. Funding in the amount of \$8,000,000 would be used to continue Pre-Construction and Design work and \$10,000,000 would be

used for construction activities authorized under WRDA 2007. Authorization: WRDA 2007 (P.L. 110-114), Sec 1001 (24).

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Spring Bayou, LA. The study area includes the Spring Bayou, LA, area, and any adjacent parishes that impact the area. The Spring Bayou Area is comprised of several U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuges and state wildlife management areas, along with adjacent lands that have traditionally been recognized as one of the most significant fish and wildlife and wetland ecosystems in the South.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Mississippi River Levees, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN. Funding in the amount of \$54,100,000 is necessary to properly fund construction for the raising of deficient portions of the Mississippi River Levees. Funds can also be used for the construction of a museum and interpretive site.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Baton Rouge Harbor, Devil Swamp, LA. This project is to maintain depth of the slack water channel for commercial barge traffic. Authorization: Flood control Act 1948; Sect 201, P.L. 858

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Tensas Basin, Boeuf and Tensas Rivers, AR & LA. The flood control project is located in central and northeast Louisiana and southeast Arkansas and includes the Lake Chicot pumping plant. Funds are requested to continue operation and maintenance of project features and to repair bell housing; maintain Big Bayou weirs; replace Motor Control Center at Lake Chicot pumping plant; paint and repair operators; prepare plans and specifications for Lake Chicot access road; and construct Lake Chicot access road.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Tensas Basis, Red River Backwater, LA. The project is located in central and northeast Louisiana. For Operations and Maintenance

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Atchafalaya River and Bayous Chene, Boeuf & Black, LA. For operations and Maintenance.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Red River Waterway Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 709, Shreveport, LA 71162

Description of Request: J. Bennett Johnston Waterway, LA. The project is located in central and northwest Louisiana and provides for 9-by 200-foot navigation extending about 236 miles from the Mississippi River through Old River and Red River to the vicinity of Shreveport, Louisiana. Five locks and adjacent dams provide a lift of approximately 141 feet. The project also provides for realigning the banks of the Red River from the Mississippi River to Shreveport by means of dredging, cutoffs, and training works and stabilizing its banks by means of revetments, dikes, and other methods.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Lake Providence Harbor, LA. Lake Providence Harbor is an inland harbor, located along the Mississippi River in East Carroll Parish, Louisiana. Without maintenance dredging funds, this harbor will lose project dimensions requiring the port to be shut down during the busiest time of the year when crops are harvested and shipped. This harbor services many small communities and farmers in Louisiana. The project was constructed in 1980 and has been maintained annually. The loss of navigation will have significant adverse economic impacts on the region.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Madison Parish Port, LA. Madison Parish Port is a fast water, shallow draft port, located on the Mississippi

River in Madison Parish, Louisiana. Without maintenance dredging funds, this port will lose project dimensions requiring the port to be shut down during the busiest time of the year when crops are harvested and shipped. This port services many small communities and farmers in Louisiana. The project was constructed in 1980 and has been maintained annually. The loss of navigation will have significant adverse economic impacts on the region.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers

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

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: Mississippi River, Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico, LA. Operation and maintenance funds for the Mississippi River Ship Channel Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico are not adequate to keep international commerce moving without delays and light loadings. Additional funds are needed to repair pile dikes, foreshore dikes and jet-ties and some residual damage to structures from Hurricane Katrina.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Department of Energy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Louisiana Tech University

Address of Requesting Entity: Ruston, La
Description of Request: Bionanotechnology; Research and Commercialization (LA). Three biorefinery projects will help invigorate the economy in North Louisiana and decrease the entire nation's dependency on fossil fuels. Louisiana Tech has world class expertise including algae to biodiesel, cellulosic ethanol, and nanoengineered fischer-tropsch catalysts.

A TRIBUTE TO CONSTANCE V.
HAY-ALLEYNE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Constance V. Hay-Alleyne.

Constance has lived life as a goal oriented and knowledgeable Registered Nurse with ambitious and humanitarian social motivations. Constance is well known in the Panamanian and Caribbean communities. Her delightful intellectual curiosity has served her professional growth well. She holds a BSN and MSN degrees from Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, New York and Georgetown University, in Washington D.C., respectively. She has distinguished herself as a competent Nurse Manager and Administrator for over three decades, in the Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Washington D.C. areas. In 1981, she joined the United States Army Nurses Corps, served as a Captain, active duty and in reserve.

At home, Constance has raised her four children to love and respect everyone especially their elders. She insufflated in them positive outlooks in life and motivation to do "as much as they can" with care and dignity. It

could not be otherwise since this has been an inheritance from her parents: John who died at the age of 114 and Imogene, at age 82. Faithful to that motto, she has been involved in many other activities such as a mediator at the Fafe Horizon Brooklyn Mediation Center, as a Board Member of the Community Board 5 and as the Chair for Education and Training for Tashia's Life, a lupus foundation.

She was miraculously rescued from the September 11, 2001 disaster at WTI. This encounter made her redefine her mission on earth, realizing that God had saved her life for some special purpose. She serves the Lord at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Canarsie, Brooklyn, where she functions as a Lay Ecinencial Minister, as well as a Vestry.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Hay-Alleyne has received numerous awards and recognitions including: being featured in "Who's Who?" in Nursing in Cambridge.

IN RECOGNITION OF AREA
HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS
(AHECs)

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the contributions of the nation's Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) and applaud the vitally important healthcare workforce programs they conduct to improve access to healthcare for medically underserved individuals.

AHECs, established by Congress in 1971 as one of the Title VII Health Professions Training programs, are the workforce development, training and education machine for the nation's healthcare safety net programs. Across the nation, 54 AHEC programs and more than 200 affiliated AHEC centers collaborate with over 120 medical schools and 600 nursing and allied health programs to improve the quality, geographic distribution and diversity of the primary care workforce.

Last year, AHECs facilitated the placement of more than 44,000 health professional students in almost 17,000 community-based practice settings nationwide including community health centers, rural health clinics, critical access hospitals, tribal clinics and public health departments. To address the growing shortage of health care professionals in America, nearly 102,000 students received more than 20 hours of health career exposure, information, and academic enhancement to prepare them for health professions training programs.

The University of South Florida's AHEC Program connects students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health. The USF AHEC Program inspires youth to choose a career in the health professions with its health career camps, mentoring programs, college preparatory courses and more. USF focuses on recruiting more minority and disadvantaged youth into health careers because as the nation's population becomes more diverse, it is important that the health care workforce reflects that diversity. AHECs in the Tampa Bay area are dedicated to community service and committed to enhancing the lives of Florida's most vulnerable

populations who often go without health care due to geographic isolation and economic or social status. Local AHECs work tirelessly to ensure that no Floridian is without timely access to quality health care, and last year alone more than 1,700 medical students from the USF AHECs provided more than 215,000 hours of care to an estimated 350,000 patients.

Not only have AHECs have supported the education of future professionals, but they have supported more than 400,000 health professionals caring for the medically underserved with programs designed to enhance their skills, knowledge, and quality of care. AHECs have awarded 1.1 million contact hours of continuing education programs to current health professionals. AHECs extend the academic resources of health professions training programs into rural and medically underserved communities throughout the United States by creating partnerships between the health science centers that train health professions students, residents, faculty, and practitioners and the local providers that care for our nation's increasing number of medically underserved citizens.

Madam Speaker, through community-based interdisciplinary training programs, AHECs identify, inspire, recruit, educate, and retain a health care workforce committed to underserved populations. To that end, I would like to take this opportunity to officially recognize National AHEC Week, March 23 through March 27, 2009.

A TRIBUTE TO GLORIA COOKE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gloria Cooke, President of the AARP National Organization and community activist.

Gloria Cooke was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. Gloria attended Franklin K. Lane High School, and completed her education at Kingsborough College where she majored in computer technology.

Ms. Cooke attends Mt. Zion Baptist Church faithfully, under the direction of Pastor Dan Craig.

Gloria was a care giver for her mother and brother before they expired.

Gloria's love of her life is her only son Charles.

Ms. Cooke entered into the work force and became a leader in the banking industry for a period of 36 years. She worked for Bankers Trust for 25 years, and Chase Manhattan. She also is a member of Penn Wortman Senior Center. Gloria is a community activist and enjoys volunteering to help her community, neighbors and friends to help them in anyway she can.

Ms. Cooke is the President of the AARP National Organization; she was given the position in the AARP Chapter which was founded by Director of Penn Wortman and Pink Senior Center Liz Sanders. The AARP Chapter serves the East New York community.

Her favorite hobby is travelling to the Caribbean Islands at least three times a year which inspired her to become a travel agent.

A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA NICOLE HOWARD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Nicole Howard, a Health Department Representative and distinguished public servant.

Barbara Howard is a Health Department Representative for the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Public Health Detailing Program. The Public Health Detailing Program works with primary health care providers to improve patient care around key public health challenges in the areas of NYC with healthcare disparities. Ms. Howard provides medical providers with clinical tools and patient education materials via one-on-one relationships to improve health outcomes in the community.

Barbara Nicole Howard was born in the Bronx, New York to Henry and Barbara Howard. The family moved to Staten Island shortly thereafter due to the need for a larger apartment and the 1970's housing shortage. Through the years, she volunteered at soup kitchens, homeless shelters, HIV/AIDS programs, special needs children's organizations, and hospitals; developing a heart for servicing the community.

Ms. Howard obtained a Bachelor's of Art Degree in Sociology and a minor in Urban Affairs from Hunter College. After completing her studies, she worked in Brooklyn for the Legal Aid Society as a Forensic Social Work Assistant finding alternatives to incarceration for clients. She was then afforded the opportunity to work with the NYC Health and Hospital Corporation's Discharge Planning Program at Riker's Island for the mentally ill population as a Discharge Planner. She also had several promotions and worked as Supervisor of Discharge Planning / Community Liason. Ms. Howard enrolled in Baruch College's Executive Master of Public Administration program. Afterwards, Ms. Howard recommitted to public service as Provider Liason for the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Early Intervention Program. After three years with the Early Intervention Program, Ms. Howard devoted herself to public health and began to work with the Public Health Detailing Program.

Although, she continues to live in Staten Island, Ms. Howard has made Brooklyn her second home. She works, worships, and has many friends within Brooklyn. Ms. Howard is currently an active member of the Brooklyn Tabernacle in downtown Brooklyn.

A TRIBUTE TO VANESSA HUGHES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vanessa Hughes.

Vanessa Hughes was born August 17, 1959 to Rose and Leonard Reid Sr. She is the middle of five children and has two surviving brothers, Jeffrey and Bruce, one sister Shelissa, and a deceased brother Leonard Jr.

Ms. Hughes attended neighboring schools, P.S. 260 and JHS 211. She has worked to support her community throughout her life. Known for her energy and enthusiasm, Ms. Hughes is the founder of the Community Based Operations for All Neighborhoods, a community civic group whose motto is "Building Better Communities One Block at a Time."

The need for community, social, recreational and education programs was the structure for the implementation of C.B.O.F.A.N. A strong advocate of children oriented activities and programs, Ms. Hughes implemented an "Annual Mardi Gras Health and Awareness" event which brought local programs such as the public library, Office of Environmental Management and Parks Department to the community to explain the services they offer.

As the current Grievance Committee Chairperson of the Breuklen Tenant Association, Ms. Hughes acts as a liaison between the community residents and the management of the Breukelen Housing Development by keeping abreast of the needs of the community and forwarding them to the proper people to have them resolved.

As a community activist, Ms. Hughes can be found working with the Breukelen Community Head Start Program, Breukelen Community Center, elected officials, neighborhood businesses and her C.B.O.F.A.N. to ensure that the needs of her community are met for the betterment of the community.

Please join me Madam Speaker in recognizing Vanessa Hughes' passion for public service.

A TRIBUTE TO LEORA KEITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Leora Keith.

Mrs. Leora Keith is a widow and mother of four biological daughters. She is the adoptive mother of two and a past foster mother. She is a retired early childhood educator who served thirty seven years with the New York City Board of Education. Mrs. Keith encouraged countless children and their families, as she guided them towards successful careers.

Mrs. Keith has been a member of the Upper Room Full Gospel Baptist Church for more than thirty years, where she has served on the Usher Board, as church clerk, worked with the youth and sings in the Senior Choir. Through her work with her congregation, she has inspired many with her commitment to family, community and church.

Mrs. Keith is affiliated with the Order of Eastern Star under the Star of Bethlehem Grand Chapter where she held the titles of Matron and a Deputy Grand Matron. She is a lifelong member of the National Council of Negro Women Inc., where she served as Vice President of the Brooklyn section. A member of the Brooklyn Reading Association, The New York Alliance of Black School Educators, Board member of the Nascent Victorian Place Cultural Center, which is a non-profit multi-cultural center, dedicated to building links between communities. She is currently President of Tompkins Houses Resident Association Inc., where she partners with the Fresh Air

Fund and Literacy Teen Reading partner program. Mrs. Keith is also a member of the Cabs Home Attendants Service Inc., and Continuous Quality Improvement committee.

Leora Keith received a Bachelor Degree in Professional Studies from Pace University's Manhattan campus with a concentration in reading. She has master credits from Touro Graduate School of Education and Psychology in Early Childhood and Special Education.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the extraordinary level of passion and commitment towards the betterment of our youth that Leora Keith has given us.

A TRIBUTE TO CARMEN LOURDES MARTINEZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Carmen Lourdes Martinez, Director of the Community Action Center in the Office of the New York City Comptroller.

Carmen was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; she immigrated to Brooklyn, New York at the age of eight and is a product of the New York City public school system. She is a graduate of the City University of New York, having obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Medgar Evers College and continued her graduate studies in Public Administration at Brooklyn College.

Carmen is currently Director of the Community Action Center in the Office of New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr. Since joining the office on May 18, 1992, Carmen has rendered service to over 87,000 constituents, run the Comptroller's Foreclosure Intervention Hotline, and served as Management Co-Chair of the Comptroller's Quality of Work Life, Employees Recognition Committee.

Carmen's many personal awards and recognitions include: Aegis Society, Inc. The Federation of African-American Civil Service Organizations, Inc. Merit Award; National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education Distinguished Alumni Award; Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Inc. 21st Century Visionary Award; Brooklyn Borough President Outstanding Achievement Award; Bedford Stuyvesant Community Legal Services Corporation Outreach Self-Help Program Valedictorian and Outstanding Scholarship Award.

Outside of work, Carmen volunteers her time to grassroots activities designed to advance the community. She is a Charter Member and a member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Metropolis Lions Club; a Charter Member and former member of the Board of Directors of the Central Brooklyn Federal Credit Union; Former Member of the Board of Directors of the Central Brooklyn Partnership; participant in the New York City Department of Education's Kids and the Power of Work Program and volunteers as a judge for the New York City Working in Support of Education, Quality of Life Program. Recently Carmen completed her third term as President of the Alumni Association of Medgar Evers College.

Carmen reared three children as a single mother, Grace M. Benjamin, Harry "Jamie"

Martinez-Benjamin and Xiomara L. Maloney and is the proud grandmother of three.

A TRIBUTE ROSEMARIE ARMSTEAD-LOWERY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rosemarie Armstead-Lowery, educator and community activist.

Rosemarie Armstead-Lowery has always been a child of her community. Community has shielded her, nurtured her, and allowed her the freedom to be herself in a world where the expectations of others often times limit one's horizon. The major influences of her life have been family and Church and they, in that order, are responsible for much of who she has become. For the last sixty of her seventy years, she has found her niche in serving that community that has nurtured her. She has been teaching the youngsters of her community for almost fifty years. Rosemarie has been a Day Care director at the Horace E. Greene Day Care Center in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn at a time of transition for child care. She implemented a change in school-age programming which made her center one of the model programs for city wide school-age programs.

After her directorship in daycare, Ms. Lowery returned to the classroom in the public school where she spent the next 12 years nurturing the students in her care at P. 335 in the Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. She considered her job to be a facilitator, one who made learning both possible and enjoyable. It was her responsibility to show youngsters that learning was fun and that they could soar beyond their wildest dreams if they were willing to put forth the effort. Rosemarie was judged a nonconformist by some of her peers because of her unorthodox methods for reaching her students, but in the end the success of her students was her vindication.

In 1988, Ms. Lowery decided to embark on a venture of her own and opened The Learning Center of Bedford Stuyvesant in a brownstone in Bedford Stuyvesant. The independent school was in response to the desire of parents for an alternative to the public school. The individualization of the learning process for each student was its strength. The program was based on an eleven month curriculum where travel was an important component. The students were encouraged to study and become part of the culture they visited. They have traveled to Canada, Alaska, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Washington D.C., Virginia and around the local tri-state area. Unfortunately, the Learning Center closed at the end of its twentieth year because Ms. Lowery has turned yet another page.

In the summer of 2007, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn/Queens created a new tri-Church configuration by combining the parishes of Holy Rosary, our Lady of Victory, and St. Peter Claver into a new tri-church Parish called St. Martin de Porres. Ms Lowery was hired as the Temporalities Manager. Her function is to act as a business manager of the newly formed Parish. She is currently responsible for the fiscal and temporal care of the

Parish and its facilities. Times change, and circumstances along with them, but the opportunity to meet life head-on continues to present itself each day and for this she is eternally grateful.

A TRIBUTE TO RUTH SIBLER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ruth Sibling, a dedicated public servant for 26 years.

Ruth Sibling is a volunteer at Public School 273 in New York City. She was born in Brooklyn, New York and has lived in Brooklyn for seventy-three years.

Ms. Sibling has worked diligently for the Teamster's Union for the 26 years prior to her retirement, and death of her husband, Mr. Sibling. Following her retirement, Ms. Sibling volunteered with P.S. 273 to assist in the library.

Ms. Sibling considers volunteering in school the "love of her life", along with her children and grand-children, and brings a constant youthful insightfulness to her volunteer work.

Madam Speaker, Please join me in recognizing Ruth Sibling for her time and dedication to public service.

A TRIBUTE TO ZENOBIA C. WHITE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Zenobia White.

Zenobia always knew that after high school she wanted to do something meaningful. After successfully completing four years at Beach Channel High School in Far Rockaway, New York with honors, she enlisted with the United States Army as an Army Supply Specialist and served four years in Germany.

After leaving the Army, Zenobia worked for the New York City Corrections Department working in prison complexes across the city including Riker's Island, Brooklyn's Men's House of Detention and Kings County Hospital's prison ward.

Zenobia White married James White and the couple had two children, Daryl and Jameha White.

Ms. White continued to work for New York City with the Health and Hospital Corporation and the Metro Plus Health Plan. In this position she enrolled over two hundred families for the East New York D&TC. As a recognized community activist, she joined the community board of the East New York D&TC, where she remains active.

Ms. White now works as a Medicare sales representative for the Emblem health plan, where working for senior citizens has become one of her greatest joys.

Zenobia White holds the position of Vice President for Sister Sister In-law, a women's group which assists and mentors young women in their communities.

Please join me, Madam Speaker, in recognizing Ms. White's proven record in service to her community.

A TRIBUTE TO AWILDA ROSARIO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Awilda Rosario, a woman committed to the dignified care of the aging in her community.

Awilda Rosario was born in Fajardo, Puerto Rico on December 3, 1951. She grew up with her mother, step-father and three sisters. Early on she was irresistibly attracted to reading and learning about the world and how people live. During her high school years, inspired by her Spanish Literature teachers, she discovered her love for human studies. After graduating from high school in the town of Loiza, she attended the University of Puerto Rico where she completed a Bachelors degree in Spanish Literature with a minor in Sociology.

After teaching Spanish Literature at the high school level, Ms. Rosario decided to immigrate to New York, invited by one of her cousins who already lived there. Once in New York, she started to connect with her ex-classmates and friends who helped her land her first job.

Because there are no accidents, that first job was as a Caseworker at Diana Jones Senior Center in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Her position afforded her the opportunity to work with community groups to advocate on behalf of the elderly.

At that moment, just emerging from the 70's, the New York City Department for the Aging was not as yet the developed and diverse agency that it is today. The needs of the minority elderly, especially those unable to understand the complexity of the benefits and entitlement programs went mostly unmet. Many minority elderly individuals simply did not apply for benefit programs because they did not know they existed. Even if they knew, they didn't know how to apply for them. For this reason, she joined forces with Mr. Ed Mendez-Santiago, who would later be appointed the Commissioner for the New York City Department for the Aging. The organization he founded, the Spanish Speaking Elderly Council-Raices, became a forerunner for advocacy and expansion of services that made benefits and entitlement programs accessible to the minority elderly. She held the position of Chairperson of the Board for a good number of years.

After a few years of working as a caseworker, Ms. Rosario was appointed as the Director of the North Brooklyn meals-on-wheels program, also funded by the Department for the Aging and sponsored by Wartburg Lutheran Home for the Aging. During that time Ms. Rosario became very active with the community and served as a member of the Board of Directors of several organizations including the New York State Office for the Aging, Vision for the Blind, East New York Interagency Council and the Brownsville-Ocean Hill Interagency Council.

After completing her Masters in Social Work and Administration at Hunter College, Wartburg Lutheran offered her the position of Director of Adult Day Health Care program which she held until several years ago. After 21 years with Wartburg, Ms. Rosario came to work with Brooklyn United Methodist Church Home to serve as Director of their Adult Day Care Program. As always, she continues to enjoy her work with the elderly and with those whose needs can be met by the services offered by this program. She is grateful to Brooklyn United Methodist for the opportunity to continue working with the community and doing what she likes.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine Federal school meal programs, focusing on nutrition for kids in schools. SR-328A

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To continue hearings to examine health insurance industry practices. SR-253

Finance
To hold an oversight hearing to examine a six month update on the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, focusing on the progress it has made since the financial crisis of the 1990s, the financial management challenges in the years

ahead, and the steps that are being taken to address those challenges. SD-342

Environment and Public Works
Water and Wildlife Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Environmental Protection Agency's role in promoting water use efficiency. SD-406

2:15 p.m.
Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Economic Policy Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine lessons from the New Deal. SD-538

2:45 p.m.
Foreign Relations
Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the return and resettlement of displaced Iraqis. SD-419

APRIL 1

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine United States policy toward Afghanistan and Pakistan. SD-106

Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Karen Gordon Mills, of Maine, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. SR-428A

10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Clean Air and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's renewable fuel standard. SD-406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-430

Appropriations
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine assistance for civilian casualties of war. SD-138

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of W. Scott Gould, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs. SR-418

2 p.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations. SR-328A

2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, and Ronald H. Weich, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice. SD-226

Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the implementation of Wounded Warrior policies and programs. SD-106

APRIL 2

10 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine recovery and reinvestment spending. SD-342

APRIL 22

2:30 p.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine pending health related legislation. SR-418

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine pending benefits related legislation. SR-418

MAY 21

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
Business meeting to markup pending legislation. SR-418