

rural co-ops. This important provision equitably distributes free allowances between Midwestern states and coastal states, as well as prevents excessive increases in energy costs for my constituents.

Finally, I would like to thank my friends from Iowa, Representatives LEONARD BOSWELL and BRUCE BRALEY, for working to include a provision which adds renewable fuel pipelines to the list of projects eligible for the Department of Energy Loan Guarantee Program. As the representative of a district that produces corn ethanol, biodiesel, and other biofuels, the creation of renewable fuel pipelines would create thousands of local jobs and guarantee efficient and affordable transportation of Midwest energy to the parts of the U.S. which consume the most fuels.

The American Clean Energy and Security Act is broad in scope, focusing on necessary improvements in clean energy and energy efficiency. I hope my colleagues realize that the cost of inaction will be much, much greater if the United States fails to enact a bill that reforms our energy and environmental policies. I encourage its fast passage as it will create millions of jobs, stimulate our economy, and protect our environment.

SALUTING THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, AND THE WINNERS OF THE DEAR LADY LIBERTY ESSAY CONTEST

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of five young people who demonstrate the best of our Nation's values. This not only includes understanding what it means to be a patriotic American, but also understanding what it means to keep a connection with your parents, your grandparents and your great grandparents.

I want to thank these exceptional New Yorkers for taking the time to submit their essays and for understanding what it means to celebrate our country and to celebrate the Statue of Liberty. As the first public visitors to walk up the steps to the crown the Statue of Liberty since September 11th, 2001, I asked these young essayists to try and remember the millions of new Americans that came by that beautiful Lady and what it meant for them.

The Statue of Liberty is more than just a tourist site, it is something that connects us with our immigrant tradition. It is one of those symbols that unify us as Americans. We often are drawn to focusing on our weaknesses, our foibles and our conflicts, but it's good every so often to take a deep breath and remember some of the things that we have to be grateful for. These students and the dozens like them that submitted essays to the Daily News are to be celebrated for taking the time to help us remember why America is great.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Daily News for keeping the reopening of the crown of the Statue of Liberty on the front page and hammering away in 23 editorials when the Statue of Liberty was closed. You know, as with any campaign, it is not one person banging a drum, it is our whole community. And the Daily News jumped in there

when it was time to figure out how to raise money to reopen the Statue of Liberty, and then when it became clear that the National Park Service was doing worse than dragging their feet, but refusing to open it, the Daily News wouldn't let up. And every time, whether it was passing an amendment or having hearings, every time I ran up this hill in Washington, I knew I had the Daily News behind me. And I think every one else knew—they were either going to be on that Daily News bandwagon, or under it.

When the Statue of Liberty was closed after the tragic events of 9/11, it symbolized Americans coming to terms with new threats, but while every other national monument reopened, the crown remained closed. With the reopening of the Crown on July 4, we were able to once again show our appreciation for the diversity that has always been the foundation of our Nation's strength.

To recognize these young patriots I submit the following essays.

DEAR LADY LIBERTY,

The Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island are both very important in U.S. history because they both changed the lives of many people in and out of the U.S.A. Ellis Island gave great opportunities and hope to people in other countries.

If Ellis Island was never created, then the dreamers (from other countries) who wanted so desperately to come to America and be an American, wouldn't have had their dreams come true. In addition, without Ellis Island, America wouldn't have experienced new cultures, new food and of course new religions.

Personally, to me Lady Liberty expresses the freedom of our beautiful country. With her hand up in the air, holding that torch, she shows that we have won the battle for our freedom! As you can see, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty will always be an important part of American history.

MONA PLATT.

DEAR LADY LIBERTY,

My name is Anthony Guarino, I am 8 years old. I live in Brooklyn, New York, and I am proud of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

The Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island are important to me because it represents the most important thing that makes our country great and it is "Freedom." The Statue of Liberty is a symbol that all dreams are possible. Ellis Island is important to me because it was a welcoming place for all people wanting the American dream.

Thanks to Ellis Island, my great-grandparents were able to come from Italy by boat, with one thing in mind: an opportunity to improve their children's lives and the lives of their future grandchildren. My great-grandparents' dream of coming to Ellis Island gave me opportunities that many people can only dream of.

I am thankful to France because the Statue of Liberty was their gift of friendship to us. I am thankful to the Statue of Liberty because she gave this friendship back to many other people from different countries all over the world.

I will always be proud when I look at the Statue of Liberty and remember, because of her, I am a proud American.

ANTHONY GUARINO.

DEAR LADY LIBERTY,

I first saw you in the pictures my mom sent me, when I was in the Philippines, three years ago. You looked marvelous! Now when I visit you and see you, I am so proud because I feel that you are my friend.

To me, you are a remembrance of freedom, justice and friendship. You remind me of the

Philippine and American history, when the U.S. returned full leadership to the Filipino people. You remind me of a respectful friendship and intense bonding when my great-grandfather was fighting side by side with the American soldiers during World War II.

You and Ellis Island have a soft spot in my heart. As an immigrant, Ellis Island symbolizes the main gate of liberty and hope. It reminds me of my family's struggle, courage and determination to leave my country and find a future here in the U.S.

Lady Liberty, I feel so proud watching you, being near you and being a part of history. Continue to inspire.

God Bless the USA!

NICA GARANA.

DEAR LADY LIBERTY,

The Statue of Liberty is important to me because I know it is the first thing that my great-grandmother saw when she came to this country. She was only 12 years old, my exact age, and she was fleeing Poland, a country where she was being persecuted.

Poland was not a friendly country for the Jews, like my great-grandmother. She constantly had to worry about being beaten up by policemen for no reason. There were often "pogroms," which were when the people of the town decided to invade the Jewish areas and ransack the homes and kill Jews for no reason as well. The Jews lived in constant fear of being attacked, robbed or killed just because they were Jewish.

My great-grandmother wanted to live in a country and raise her children in a place where there was freedom and no fear. She knew she could walk the streets here with a clear head and a hope for opportunity. When my great-grandmother looked at Lady Liberty, she saw a beautiful woman who held out her arm to welcome her and tell her that her children, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren would live freely and thrive here. So when my great-grandmother saw Lady Liberty and smiled at her, I am sure she felt the statue smiling back at her for more reasons than one.

ALLAN MARCUS.

DEAR LADY LIBERTY,

The Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, home to New York Harbor, hold much importance to me.

I know that millions of people, including my own ancestors from Ireland and Italy who arrived by boat in the late 1800s and early 1900s, made their first stop in this country right on Ellis Island. For all those newcomers, the sight of that beautiful, tall, green statue signified the end of their long, grueling journey and, at the same time, the beginning of a new and opportunistic life here in America.

But for me personally, each time I see that statue, whether I'm crossing the Verrazano Bridge or riding to Manhattan on a ferry, the Lady in the Harbor makes me feel like I'm home, and home here in New York surely is the greatest place to be; how lucky I am.

JULIET SULLIVAN.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following: in regards to Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.