

The Honorable William J. Howell is the 54th Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, a nearly 400-year old institution and the oldest continuously elected law-making body in the world. First elected a delegate in 1987, he represents the 28th House District which includes parts of Stafford County and the City of Fredericksburg.

In addition to his noteworthy legislative contributions to public education and public safety, the 2007 enactment of his legislation for historic land use changes were supported by statewide and regional funding of roads, railroads, and transit. He has been a strong supporter of restoring the Chesapeake Bay and also led the effort to enact Virginia's national model program for preserving open spaces using free market principles. He has stood firmly with battlefield preservationists in many of their efforts, including those at Slaughter Pen Farm in Fredericksburg, as well as more recently at the Wilderness. And his leadership enabled the General Assembly to appropriate \$5 million in state funding for Civil War battlefield preservation.

Speaker Howell is chairman of the Virginia Sesquicentennial American Civil War Commission that is now preparing to mark the 150th Anniversary in 2011 of Virginia's entry into the Civil War. He has been twice honored by the Civil War Preservation Trust with its State Leadership Award. He was one of the overseers of the recent State Capitol renovations as well as one of the leaders in organizing the commemoration in 2007 of America's 400th Anniversary at Jamestown.

HONORING EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eisenhower High School in Rialto, California, on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary.

The students and alumni of Eisenhower High School will celebrate 50 years of continued academic excellence, October 17, 2009. This anniversary is a milestone for Rialto, California. Throughout the past 50 years, the school has provided an exemplary educational service to its students and has contributed greatly to the community.

Eisenhower first opened its doors in fall of 1959, and since then has achieved success in academics, athletics and community service while providing a high level of education. They have always been a school of inclusion and unity regardless of an individual's background.

Eisenhower High School has been able to maintain an outstanding athletic program for their students, allowing them to participate in activities that promote the values of team work, integrity, and dedication. Their athletic teams have consistently won conference titles in varied sports, including football, basketball, wrestling, and swimming. The boy's basketball team currently holds the State Championship title. With this victory they became the first California Interscholastic Federation State title holders for a school from San Bernardino County.

Pro Football Hall of Famer Ronnie Lott graduated from Eisenhower High School. He

went on to play for the San Francisco 49ers and was named to the NFL's 75th Anniversary team. Among other Eisenhower High School alumni whom have played on the professional level are Brandi Burton, David Lang, Jeff Conine, Darnell Coles, and Craig Newsome. Another distinguished alumnus is Derek Parra, Olympic Speed-Skating gold medalist and 1500 meter world record holder.

Eisenhower High School has also achieved recognition in academics and community service. They have achieved recognition on the state level as well as national recognition. Anita Ware, alumna of Eisenhower, was its first student to be awarded the prestigious Westinghouse Science Award. The school newspaper, the Eagle's Eye, received an award in 1976 for being one of the nation's best student newspapers from the National Scholastic Press Association and Quill & Scroll. Eisenhower High School was also recognized as a National Blue Ribbon and as a California Distinguished School.

Both of my sons graduated from Eisenhower High School. My son Joe Baca, Jr., served in the State Assembly and is now the Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Rialto. Jeremy Baca is an outstanding private consultant.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Eisenhower High School. Their continuing record of accomplishment is due in no small part to the teaching practices of the faculty who have guided the school through the years.

FCC'S HEAVY HAND

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit the following article.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 28, 2009]

THE FCC'S HEAVY HAND

In a speech at the Brookings Institution last week, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski promised that his agency's plan for regulating Internet service providers (ISPs) will be "fair, transparent, fact-based and data-driven."

That's nice. But Mr. Genachowski failed to convincingly answer the most important question of all: Is this intervention necessary?

Mr. Genachowski claims to have seen "breaks and cracks" in the Internet that threaten to change the "fundamental architecture of openness." He and other proponents of federal involvement cite a handful of cases they say prove that, left to their own devices, ISPs such as Comcast Corp. and AT&T will choke the free flow of information and technology. One example alluded to by the chairman: Comcast's blocking an application by BitTorrent that would allow peer-to-peer video sharing. Yet that conflict was ultimately resolved by the two companies—without FCC intervention—after Comcast's alleged bad behavior was exposed by a blogger.

Mr. Genachowski offered two proposals to combat alleged ISP misconduct. One should be embraced, the other shelved.

Mr. Genachowski is right to insist that ISPs be candid with the agency and the public about network management practices. Such disclosures are necessary. Mr. Genachowski asserted correctly, to "give

consumers the confidence of knowing that they're getting the service they've paid for" and "enable innovators to make their offerings work effectively over the Internet." Transparency should go a long way toward allaying the concerns of those who fear ISP manipulation of markets. It also puts in doubt the need for Mr. Genachowski's second, dubious offering.

Aptly dubbed an "immodest proposal" by the Free State Foundation's Randolph J. May, the FCC would prohibit ISPs from "discriminating against" different applications. Mr. Genachowski explains it this way: ISPs "cannot block or degrade lawful traffic over their networks, or pick winners by favoring some content or applications over others in the connection to subscribers' homes." In short, ISPs, which have poured billions of dollars into building infrastructure, would have little control—if any—over the kinds of information and technology flowing through their pipes.

In a slight concession, Mr. Genachowski said that the commission would consider whether to allow ISPs to offer "managed services in limited circumstances"; this approach could allow ISPs to create a two-track delivery system—one for routine traffic, the other for applications that use exorbitant amounts of bandwidth. But unneeded regulation could still interfere with their ability to manage bandwidth-hogging applications that can hamper service, especially during peak times.

Mr. Genachowski claims that the FCC "will do as much as we need to do, and no more, to ensure that the Internet remains an unfettered platform for competition, creativity and entrepreneurial activity." He will advance this goal by insisting on transparency; he will jeopardize it—and stifle further investments by ISPs—with attempts to micromanage what has been a vibrant and well-functioning marketplace.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2647, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud that H.R. 2647 contains provisions of H.R. 3403, the Supporting Military Families Act, a bill that I introduced in the House earlier this year.

In the 110th Congress, we passed and the President signed into law the first-ever changes to the Family Medical Leave Act, FMLA, permitting "next of kin" of seriously injured and ill servicemembers to take up to twenty-six weeks of unpaid leave to care for these injured and ill servicemembers. In addition, the legislation provides up to twelve weeks of leave to workers when their family servicemembers are about to be deployed overseas to attend to certain "exigencies" relating to deployment, such as arranging for alternate child care or going to a lawyer for a will.

The legislation passed in the 110th Congress was a good start, however, it has some gaps in coverage, which H.R. 2647 addresses. Under these new provisions, a next of kin can take up to twenty-six weeks of unpaid leave to care for a seriously injured or ill veteran, so long as that veteran incurred the injury or illness while on active duty and the injury or illness manifests itself within five years of the

veteran's discharge from active duty. In addition, the twelve weeks of leave for "exigencies" relating to deployment includes not only leave for families of National Guard or Reservists in support of a contingency operation, but also leave for: (1) families of regular active duty servicemembers; and (2) families of those who have been deployed overseas.

The FMLA is intended to help individuals balance their family and work obligations. So far, working people have used FMLA more than 100 million times to care for themselves and their family members. When the Act was first passed in 1993, it was a giant step and, while we need to pass legislation to provide paid leave, FMLA is still of great importance to working families.

Since a majority of military spouses work, they too must balance work and family. They work to put food on the table and support their families. But they face additional challenges because their lives are disrupted by multiple deployments, involving not only active servicemembers but those in the National Guard and Reserves as well.

Over 35,000 servicemembers have been injured—many seriously—in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. These injured warriors need substantial support and care from their families, often for long periods of time, and some permanently.

In addition, veterans of both conflicts are developing serious illnesses and injuries after they are discharged from active service. Brain injuries such as traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress syndrome are disabling conditions but often do not materialize until well after servicemembers have been discharged from active duty. A recent study by the Department of Defense estimates that 11 percent of Iraq veterans and 20 percent of Afghanistan veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome as a result of their service.

No matter where we come down on the merits of these conflicts, we must support families whose loved ones put their lives and their futures on the line for our nation. The provisions of H.R. 2647 will certainly help.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY STAFF SERGEANT JUSTIN GALLEGOS

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army Staff Sergeant Justin T. Gallegos, who was killed in action with seven fellow Soldiers as their remote outpost in mountainous eastern Afghanistan was attacked by insurgents on October 3, 2009. He leaves behind his mother, two sisters, brother and a 5-year-old son.

Born in Tucson, Arizona, Justin graduated from Tucson High School before joining the Army in 2002. Staff Sergeant Gallegos was assigned to Bravo Troop, 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

Justin was on his first deployment to Afghanistan, but he had already completed two previous deployments to Iraq, the first a one-year deployment from November 2005 to 2006

and the other a fifteen-month deployment from March 2007 to May 2008.

Since entering the Army, Justin had earned a reputation for being a good Soldier. Over his career he earned more than a dozen honors including three Purple Hearts, two Army Commendation Medals and two Army Achievement Medals. He also earned the Bronze Star for his actions that day in defending his combat outpost.

On this day, he was deployed to a remote base near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. As insurgents poured over the hilltop ridge toward his position and the base, Justin and his fellow Soldiers held their ground before the camp was partially overrun and nearly destroyed by rocket and mortar fire. The team held back hundreds of enemy fighters before ultimately succumbing to the overwhelming volume of fire.

These men fought bravely and will not be forgotten.

We remember Staff Sergeant Gallegos and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. My words cannot effectively convey the feeling of great loss nor can they offer adequate consolation. However, it is my hope that in future days, his family may take some comfort in knowing that Justin's legacy reaches beyond the desolate landscape of Afghanistan and into the hearts of a grateful nation.

This body and this country owe Justin and his family a debt of gratitude and it is vital that we remember him and his fellow servicemembers who have paid the ultimate price.

Justin is a hero both to his country and to his wonderful family. We salute his selfless service, sacrifice and bravery. May he not be forgotten and may his mission continue in the work of this body and the hearts of all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 772–774 on October 13, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

Rollcall vote No. 772, To provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to establish a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitor center, "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 773, To reauthorize the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizen Advisory Commission, "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 774, Congratulating Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., on 98 years of serving local communities and enriching the lives of collegiate men throughout the Nation, "yea."

HONORING KYLE L. REECE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle L. Reece, a very spe-

cial young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 332, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle L. Reece for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF HIRAM LODGE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating with the Hiram Lodge #7, Free & Accepted Masons, in Franklin, Tennessee, on the occasion of their bicentennial.

Hiram Lodge is home to the oldest continuous Masonic Lodge in Tennessee, predating the establishment of a Grand Lodge in the state. Located just off the square in Franklin, this beautiful structure has been home to many historical occasions—from President Andrew Jackson's negotiations with the Chickasaw Nation, to serving as a lookout post, barracks, and hospital during the Civil War. The Lodge is undertaking careful renovations to ensure this magnificent structure, the oldest Gothic Revival building in the state of Tennessee, survives for generations to come.

More importantly, however, is the role the Lodge has played in the life of the community over these past 200 years. So many of Franklin's leaders have been members of the Lodge, and to this day the Lodge is deeply involved in the civic and charitable affairs of the City.

Please join me in honoring 200 years of the Hiram Lodge's past, and celebrating this momentous occasion.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information in regards to H.R. 2892, the Fiscal Year 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON
Bill: Fiscal Year 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Act

Account: State and Local Programs
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Howell County Emergency Preparedness

Address of Requesting Entity: 3 Courthouse, West Plains, Missouri 65775

Description of Request: Provide an earmark for \$250,000 for an Emergency Operations