

of 99 total counties presidentially declared disaster areas. This flooding particularly devastated the City of Cedar Rapids. In addition to having nearly all of their critical government and public facilities damaged, the flooding also severely damaged the city's main public library.

The Cedar Rapids Library was an 83,961 square foot facility, owned by the city which also housed city staff. The main Library contained 150,000 volumes in the Adult Collection and 100,000 volumes in the Children's Collections, all of which are currently displaced.

After two appeals from the city, FEMA continues to state that the city's library is not eligible for temporary relocation assistance despite the fact that the Stafford Act provides for "provision of temporary facilities for schools and other essential community services." The Stafford Act also includes libraries in the definition of private nonprofit facilities and states that they provide essential services of a governmental nature to the general public.

As a former educator myself, I know the critical role libraries play in education. Since the floods of 2008, I have also seen the essential public services they provide to nearly all aspects of severely damaged communities.

In fact, FEMA itself directs disaster victims to their local library to use the internet to apply for federal disaster assistance. Public libraries also allow citizens to look for jobs, or seek other support services needed in the aftermath of disasters such as the flooding in Iowa. Libraries have certainly evolved to become more than collections of books and periodicals.

In modern-day communities, they are a vital communication hub, providing access to computers and the internet for individuals that may not be able to afford their own, and in a disaster, to those whose own property was damaged or destroyed. Further, the library is a partner with our school systems, providing research materials to students and supporting class instructional programs.

Many libraries also become a disaster recovery center for their community, and a point of distribution for meals and supplies needed during a disaster.

I urge FEMA to reconsider their internal policies and reexamine how libraries are defined in the Stafford Act in order to assist not only the Cedar Rapids Library, but other libraries that may be damaged and displaced by natural disasters in the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. EUGENE C. GED

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an outstanding American, Dr. Eugene C. Ged, who was recognized by the St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center Foundation with the 2009 William F. Johnson Award for his decades of service to his community.

Eugene was born in St. Joseph's Hospital, Paterson, and has spent the majority of his life in the city and its surrounding areas. He attended grammar school at St. George's, and went on to high school at St. John's. He received his undergraduate degree at the Uni-

versity of Pennsylvania and then earned his medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine. He served his internship and residency at St. Vincent's and a fellowship in cardiology at St. Michael's Medical Center. Soon, he was back to serve his hometown and the surrounding communities, joining St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center as an attending physician in cardiology. He also practiced at North Jersey Internal Medicine Associates.

Dr. Ged has worked hard to stay at the forefront of new practices in his field, and to help St. Joseph's to do the same. He performed the first-ever angiogram at St. Joseph's. He has served as a respected member, and later as vice president, of the medical board.

After his retirement from private practice, Dr. Ged sought to continue to give back to the Paterson community, his patients and his colleagues. Working with the late Don Alois, Dr. Ged spearheaded the creation of a non-profit entity for the hospital so that funds could be raised for crucial programs and facilities. In 1982, he worked with the other founding members to create the St. Joseph's Foundation, of which he would later serve as president. He was also the founder of the annual Charity Ball. Thirty-three years ago, the Charity Ball was held at Westmount Country Club and raised \$50,000. Now, the Charity Ball is still the most important benefit for St. Joseph's and raises more than one million dollars annually.

After his retirement from practicing medicine, Dr. Ged joined his brother George at Travel Forum, Inc., a full service travel business located in Totowa, New Jersey. He has since retired from the company. He now resides in Wyckoff, New Jersey and Naples, Florida with his wife, Erika. They have seven children and nine grandchildren.

The job of a United States congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated community servants like Dr. Eugene Ged.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, everyone involved in the St. Joseph's Foundation, Eugene's family and friends and me in recognizing Dr. Eugene C. Ged's outstanding service to his community.

THE FISA AMENDMENTS ACT OF
2009 SECTION-BY-SECTION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, the FISA Amendments Act of 2009 would amend FISA to protect the constitutional rights of Americans while ensuring that the government has the powers it needs to fight terrorism and collect intelligence.

SECTION 1—SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the FISA Amendments Act of 2009.

SECTION 2—TELECOMMUNICATIONS IMMUNITY

The bill would repeal the retroactive immunity provision in the FISA Amendments Act, leaving it to the courts to determine whether any telephone companies that complied with the illegal warrantless wiretapping program acted properly under the

laws in effect at the time and therefore deserve immunity. It would retain limitations on liability for acting in compliance with FISA, the criminal surveillance laws, the Protect America Act and the FISA Amendments Act.

SECTION 3—BULK COLLECTION

The bill retains the new authorities provided in the FISA Amendments Act but builds in additional safeguards to protect the rights of innocent Americans. The bill would prevent the government from using the warrantless collection authorities of the FISA Amendments Act to conduct "bulk collection," which could include the collection of the contents of all communications between the United States and the rest of the world. It would do so by requiring that the government have some foreign intelligence interest in the overseas party to the communications it is collecting. Bulk collection raises serious constitutional questions, and it could permit data mining of massive quantities of communications of Americans.

SECTION 4—REVERSE TARGETING

The bill would place additional limits on the warrantless collection authorities of the FISA Amendments Act to ensure that they are not used as a pretext when the government's real goal is to target the Americans with whom the ostensible foreign target is communicating. It would require a FISA Court order if the government is wiretapping a person overseas but "a significant purpose" of the surveillance is to collect the communications of the person in the United States with whom the person overseas is communicating.

SECTION 5—USE OF UNLAWFULLY OBTAINED INFORMATION

The bill would limit the government's use of information about U.S. persons that is obtained under FISA Amendments Act procedures that the FISA Court later determines to be unlawful, while still giving the FISA Court flexibility to allow such information to be used in appropriate cases. This provides a basic incentive for the government to target foreign agents overseas rather than innocent Americans here in the United States. It is similar to the existing law that limits the use of information collected pursuant to FISA's emergency authority if the FISA Court determines after the fact that the FISA standard was not met.

SECTION 6—PROTECTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OF AMERICANS

The bill would permit unfettered acquisition of foreign-to-foreign communications and of communications of suspected terrorists into or out of the United States, while creating safeguards for communications not related to terrorism that the government knows have one end in the United States. Specifically:

When the government knows in advance that a foreign target is communicating with someone in the United States, it can acquire that communication if it involves terrorism, if someone's safety is at stake, or with a court order.

When the government does not know in advance with whom a foreign target is communicating, it can acquire all of that target's communications, without individualized court review. If the government later realizes that it has acquired a communication with one end in the U.S., it must segregate that communication in a separate database. It can then access, analyze and disseminate that communication if the communication involves terrorism, if someone's safety is at stake, or if the government has obtained a court order.