

levels of Girl Scouting; corresponding facilitator guides to help the volunteers and other activities to ensure that this program is successful.

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS HAS NO RESET
BUTTON

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights exactly 61 years ago. This document was born on the ashes of a global war which saw the murder of over six million Jewish people during the Holocaust and the deaths of over 60 million people around the world.

Just when it seemed that humanity was irrevocably lost in the global devastation of this conflict, some of the greatest leaders of their time, such as Eleanor Roosevelt, came together at the United Nations to enshrine a common human bond of individual dreams and aspirations protected by defined rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. While formally a resolution, not a treaty, its provisions are part of every legally binding international instrument which sets out to protect human rights.

Today, 61 years after its adoption, the catalog of defined rights has withstood the test of time, but the full implementation of those rights is as elusive as ever. The language and the context in which we discuss these rights today may have changed, but the urgency and importance to protect them globally has not. Terms such as internet freedom, global war on terror, environmental devastation, water-boarding, Guantanamo, corporate social responsibility, food security, women's rights and the Responsibility to Protect are just a few of those modern terms which put in sharp focus the relevance of those rights set forth in this document 61 years ago.

During that period, the United States was a leader among nations in defining and defending those rights and spearheaded international consensus and agreements. More recently, however, we seem to have either forgotten the hard-won lessons of that period or at least have misapplied them.

Instead of holding on tighter to our beliefs and commitments after the 9/11 attacks, we were willing to consider these sacred values impediments to our national sovereignty and infringements on our right to defend our country. Instead of heeding the admonition of one of the greatest American Presidents—another Roosevelt—who led this nation through the Great Depression and defeated the most evil regime in human history, that “the only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” we abandoned our human rights commitments at home. Faced with an unknown and secretive enemy, fear drove us to suspend important legal protections, to re-define the meaning of torture, to engage in extraordinary renditions of individuals utilizing poor human rights records of other countries, and we created with Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo monuments to that failed policy that still serve as recruiting tools for extremists all over the world. All the while

we harshly criticized friends and foes alike if they disagreed with us, and set on an international course of democracy promotion, which was of the “either you are with us, or you are against us” nature.

To regain our international standing and reputation, and in recognition of the fact that we can only defeat terrorism with the support of the relevant local populations, we have recently undertaken significant diplomatic efforts to repair our international relationships. We have announced the closure of Guantanamo, and have ruled out enhanced interrogation techniques, have passed hate crimes legislation at home and have joined the Human Rights Council. While important parts of these objectives have yet to be achieved, the American public and the international community have rightfully applauded these important and difficult initiatives.

But while we have made domestic human rights gains, we now stand to lose our human rights bearings abroad. With ambiguous statements and actions the United States has sent signals to repressive regimes that human rights may no longer feature prominently in our foreign relations and that there is the possibility of a “fresh start,” which can be triggered by a magical “reset button.” While I strongly support the direct engagement of repressive regimes around the globe, I am equally convinced that past human rights records cannot be “reset,” or glossed over. The Universal Declaration does not provide for a “reset button” for gross human rights violations, nor do any of the international human rights treaties. Repressive regimes will only seriously engage the United States and the international community on important human rights issues if we take a principled stand, both in public and in private, which is based on accountability. We owe justice to human rights victims, be that in Sudan, Burma, China, North Korea, Russia or anywhere else in the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on December 9, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 945 and rollcall No. 946. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 945: “yes”—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives, markets, and for other purposes

Rollcall No. 946: “yes”—To eliminate an unused lighthouse reservation, provide management consistency by bringing the rocks and small islands along the coast of Orange County, California, and meet the original congressional intent of preserving Orange County's rocks and small islands, and for other purposes

INTRODUCING THE COMMON
SENSE TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2009

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer legislation to address the needs of Americans across the country who have been unnecessarily burdened by taxes, entitled “The Common Sense Tax Relief Act of 2009.”

As you all are well aware, Americans are extremely concerned with the current state of the economy and they are looking to their government to foster an economic environment that promotes growth.

At a time when Congress is considering health care and energy bills that will significantly raise taxes on all Americans, we must be cognizant of the fact that overall tax bills keep rising.

Over the past year, unprecedented spending on government programs through the so-called “stimulus bill” and the bloated Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 has produced, at best, modest signs of recovery.

Americans have felt a great deal of uncertainty as their jobs remain in jeopardy and they are unsure as to what additional financial burden will be levied upon them by the federal government.

I represent a state that currently has the highest tax burden in the nation, and to add insult to injury, New Jersey receives the least amount of federal dollars back from Washington per taxpayer.

Every weekend that I am back in my district, I hear from constituents who have had enough with being taxed by a government that has made no effort to follow these constituents lead in getting their financial houses in order.

For this reason, I have offered the Common Sense Tax Relief Act of 2009. This legislation seeks to make permanent several widely supported tax credits that will directly benefit families and small businesses seeking relief, clarity and certainly in their financial planning.

To assist families, this bill will make permanent the child tax credit and the marriage penalty relief tax credit. To assist in the advancement of education, this bill will make permanent the teacher tax deduction, and the tuition deduction. And to assist small business and families seeking to plan their financial futures, the bill makes permanent the current capital gains and dividends tax rates and eliminates the “death tax.”

Madam Speaker, I urge the immediate consideration of this important legislation that will help propel our economy forward and provide significant relief to all of our constituents.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. HARPER. 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. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: Monticello Readiness Center
 Project Amount: \$14,350,000
 Agency: Army National Guard
 Account: MILCON
 Recipient and Address: 74 Old Highway 27, Monticello, MS 39654

Description of Request: The Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 106th Brigade Support Battalion is located in a completely inadequate facility in Monticello, MS. This facility can no longer adequately accommodate a National Guard unit due to its lack of space and the outdated utilities. The existing facility is 55 years old and has been determined to be structurally unsound and infeasible for rehabilitation. Overall, the numerous current deficiencies affect the training of this unit in an adverse manner, in that essential mobilization training cannot be accomplished in a satisfactory manner. FY10 Funds will be used to replace the armory.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: Jackson-Evers International Airport airfield improvements
 Project Amount: \$2,375,000
 Agency: Federal Aviation Administration
 Account: Airport Improvement Program
 Recipient and Address: Jackson-Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, MS 39298

Description of Request: Jackson-Evers International Airport is in need of essential airfield infrastructure improvements that involve rehabilitation and replacement of security systems and airfield erosion and drainage systems.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: East Metropolitan Corridor, MS

Project Amount: \$2,750,000
 Agency: Federal Highway Administration
 Account: Surface Transportation Priorities
 Recipient and Address: City of Flowood, P.O. Box 320069, Flowood, MS 39232

Description of Request: Funds will be used to finish pre-construction activities. The East Metropolitan Corridor is 5 miles in length and links Interstate 20, at the Crossgates Interchange in Brandon, MS with Lakeland Drive at its intersection with Old Fannin Road in Flowood, MS.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: Lake Harbour Drive, MS
 Project Amount: \$1,500,000
 Agency: Federal Highway Administration
 Account: Surface Transportation Priorities
 Recipient and Address: City of Ridgeland, P.O. Box 217, Ridgeland, MS 39158

Description of Request: Construction of the Lake Harbour Drive extension will provide a major east-west corridor through the City of Ridgeland that will traverse the significant physical barriers that now bisect the City and impede safe and efficient access, emergency service, economic development and commercial activity.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: MSU for community planning and development
 Project Amount: \$500,000
 Agency: Housing and Urban Development
 Account: Neighborhood Initiatives
 Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 6301, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: FY 10 funds will continue an aggressive program of basic infrastructure improvements on the Mississippi State University main campus in Starkville, Mississippi.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: Expansion of the Research, Technology and Economic Development Park
 Project Amount: \$6,000,000
 Agency: Department of Commerce
 Account: National Institute of Standards and Technology
 Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 6363, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: Mississippi State University proposes construction of Phase II of the Research,

Technology and Economic Development Park. This will provide high quality infrastructure together with office and laboratory space for small high technology companies to locate in close proximity to Mississippi State University.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: NOAA Northern Gulf Institute
 Project Amount: \$4,500,000
 Agency: Department of Commerce
 Account: NOAA—ORF
 Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 9627, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: The NGI defines the Northern Gulf of Mexico region as the upland and watershed, coastal zone, and coastal ocean areas from the Sabine River, LA in the west to the Suwannee River, FL in the east. The Northern Gulf is a rich and interdependent natural environment of great complexity and is important to the region and the nation. The riverine-dominated Northern Gulf ecosystems are under pressure from increasing population and coastal development, impacts from severe storms and climate variability, inland watershed and coastal wetlands degradation, and many other factors. NGI has chosen an approach to Northern Gulf Region issues, problems and opportunities that is closely aligned with NOAA's strategic and research priorities and its user-community. This approach is science driven, regionally focused, and coordinated with other Gulf of Mexico Basin activities, and seeks whenever appropriate to promote the application of its results to support decision makers and policy development.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: MSU Cyber Crime Initiative and National Consortium for Digital Forensics Training

Project Amount: \$1,500,000
 Agency: Department of Justice
 Account: OJP-Byrne

Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 9637, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: The National Forensics Training Center (FTC) provides needed no cost digital forensics investigation training to state and local law enforcement officials nation-wide. Law enforcement students are provided lodging, meals, and training at no cost. The FTC maintains a highly trained instructor staff, two classrooms, and a mobile lab for training purposes. A Full suite of digital forensics short course classes are offered which expose law enforcement and judicial officials to technical techniques in digital investigations and current search and seizure laws applicable to electronic evidence. The project also supports the State of Mississippi Cyber Crime Fusion Center managed by the State Attorney General, a one of a kind Federal/State/Local cooperative effort, addressing cyber crime. Other partners in this effort have included Jackson State University and the University of Mississippi's National Center for Justice and Rule of Law. Since the FTC began operation in late 2005, more than 2100 law enforcement students have participated in its training from 22 states. The demand for this training is increasing every year.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for the development of an early childhood teacher education delivery system

Project Amount: \$750,000
 Agency: Department of Education
 Account: Elementary and Secondary Education

Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, Early Childhood Institute, P.O. Box 6013, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: Funding would be used to create and pilot a new early childhood teacher delivery system to improve the quality of instruction and prevent attrition of teachers in early care and education centers.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288
 Project Name: Mississippi Museum of National Science Foundation, Jackson, MS for educational outreach programs
 Project Amount: \$220,000
 Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services

Account: Museums and Libraries
 Recipient and Address: Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Foundation, 2148 Riverside Drive, Jackson, MS 39202

Description of Request: Funding would be used for the acquisition of education outreach vans and equipment so the museum's science literacy programs can reach approximately 120,000 students throughout the state; and for biological database services to assist land managers and economic developers to improve their efficiency and effectiveness by providing tools to streamline planning and permitting processes.

INTRODUCTION OF SMALL
BREWERS' EXCISE TAX BILL**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to promote American jobs. Over 30 years ago, Congress worried that a few industry giants would dominate the domestic beer industry, squeezing out local and regional brewers. In response, Congress reduced the tax rate on beer produced by small brewers. That differential has led to the creation of thousands of craft brewers, who are small business owners and employers in our communities. However, the consolidation at the top of the market has continued.

Today, the two top players in the beer market, which are global companies, control more than 90% of American beer production. Clearly, we need to do more to foster and promote growth for these small, independent American brewers. That is why I am filing legislation today, along with my Committee colleague and friend from Texas, Mr. BRADY, to provide a more graduated rate of excise tax on beer produced domestically by small brewers. Our bill provides two benefits to small brewers. First, for those who produce less than 60,000 barrels per year, the current excise tax rate is cut in half to \$3.50 per barrel. Second, for those who produce more than 60,000 but less than 6 million barrels, still well short of the industry giants, they will enjoy the same tax break on the first 60,000 barrels but will pay a tax rate of \$16 per barrel rather than the current \$18 per barrel on the amount over 60,000 and less than 2 million. Any barrel over that threshold will continue to be taxed at the current \$18 rate.

This legislation has the support of the Brewers Association, representing more than 1,500 small and independent brewers in America, including 85 regional breweries that produce between 15,000 and 2 million barrels per year, 470 microbreweries that produce less than 15,000 barrels per year, and 961 brewpubs that sell 25% or more of their beer on site. These small brewers employ more than 100,000 workers, generating more than \$3 billion in wages. Their dedication to craft brewing has led to a renaissance in flavorful beer here in America and more respect for American brewers abroad. However, they still lack the economies of scale in marketing, advertising, production, promotion and distribution that the giants of the industry enjoy.

As the landscape of the beer market continues to change, we should revisit these tax provisions to provide for further growth of these smaller brewers. We should continue the effort we started more than 30 years ago to nurture a diverse and competitive market and promote small domestic producers to keep this American industry thriving. These are good jobs in our local communities that protect American craftsmanship. I urge our colleagues to join us in this effort.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. MACK. 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. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010.

Project Name: Interstate 75/Collier Boulevard/SR 84 Interchange Improvements

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: Federal Highway Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$800,000: The current interchange serves the east Naples area, Golden Gate City, and Marco Island, and is the closest interchange from the east to the City of Naples. The funding will be utilized for capacity improvements at the Interstate 75/Collier Boulevard/SR 84 Interchange and will improve traffic flow in the region.

Project Name: FGCU Impact of Freshwater Flow into Coastal Waters—FGCU Coastal Watershed Institute

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: Higher Education (includes FIPSE)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd., South, Fort Myers, FL 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$350,000; Florida's coast is a principal economic driver, attracting millions of tourists and thousands of residents to the coastal communities of Southwest Florida. Proper management of the freshwater that the coastal environment receives is critical to preventing toxic algal blooms and negative impacts on recreational and commercial fisheries. FGCU is requesting federal funding for their Coastal Watershed Institute to address the impacts associated with changes in the freshwater flows into the area. This project is geared to students learning about future management of our fragile ecosystems.

Project Name: Emergency Services Technology, Collier County, Florida

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: DOJ/COPS

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, Florida 34112

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$800,000 will be utilized for the acquisition of public safety technology equipment for the Collier County Emergency Services Center. The funding is important because it will help to better equip Collier County's emergency service providers to respond to

events that could endanger the safety and citizens of Collier County, Florida.

Project Name: FGCU Law Enforcement and Public Safety

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: DOJ/OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd, South, Fort Myers, Florida 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$200,000 will be utilized for the development of tools for training and processing crime scenes for use by law enforcement and public safety officials. This work will be done at the Florida Gulf Coast University in its Law Enforcement and Public Safety Department.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF MARTIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA SHERIFF'S DEPUTY CHARLES DOUGLAS BROWN, JR.

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I report that a law officer was killed in the line of duty in my Congressional District on Tuesday, December 8, 2009. Thirty-eight-year-old Martin County Sheriff's Deputy Charles "Charlie" Douglas Brown, Jr. was killed in an exchange of gunfire while on duty.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2009 as the entire community mourns his untimely death. He is survived by his wife, Cindy, and their two daughters, Morgan and Carlie. He was a member of Maple Grove Christian Church.

Sheriff's Deputy Brown was a U.S. Marine veteran having served in Desert Storm. He served as a member of the U.S. Marines Honor Guard and was recognized with the Elegance Medal. He also assisted with the Katrina disaster in New Orleans, Louisiana and the Tsunami Disaster in Thailand. He was a K9 officer serving with his faithful dog H2.

He had a great love of fishing and hunting, and he was well liked by his fellow officers and throughout the community.

As a nation, we have lost more than 20,000 officers in the line of duty over the course of our history. Mr. Brown was the 115th law officer killed in the line duty this year, and the seventh officer killed in the line of duty in North Carolina.

Despite the constant threats of harm and danger, day after day, and year after year, dedicated professionals, like Mr. Brown, make the sacrifices for their communities, without asking for thanks or praise.

Sheriff's Deputy Brown unwaveringly upheld the values that make this country great—duty honor, sacrifice. Those values and their sacrifice are a somber reminder that the freedoms that we share do not come without a cost.

He and his fellow officers who will carry on this essential work deserve our strong support