

debilitating disease for which no cure has yet been developed.

Lymphedema is a blockage of lymph vessels that causes an accumulation of fluid, protein, and other cellular waste. This results in a swelling of the body in places where the blockage occurs. Though lymphedema can be passed down genetically, it most frequently occurs after surgical procedures to remove damaged lymph nodes or vessels. Often it is a tragic side-effect to cancer treatments, the highest risk occurring in breast and prostate cancer patients.

Doctors can screen for lymphedema using a number of diagnostic tools, and early detection is important to minimize the effects of this disease. Lymphedema, sadly, is not curable, but it is treatable through compression, specially designed exercises, or, in some cases, surgery.

One of my constituents, Jennifer Onks Hovatter of Johnson City, lost her husband Thomas to complications arising from lymphedema in 2007. Every year on June 18th—the day that Thomas passed away—Jennifer holds the Thomas Hovatter Lymphedema Awareness Day in memory of her husband.

I hope others will join me in tying a turquoise ribbon around their tree the weekend of June 17–19, and help Jennifer bring awareness to this chronic, debilitating disease.

HONORING CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor California State University, Fresno as the University celebrates its Centennial Anniversary Year.

Starting from humble beginnings as the Fresno Normal School, CSU, Fresno has evolved into an acclaimed university. Serving a culturally diverse student body, Fresno State has pledged to be a university accessible to students from all backgrounds with the desire to attain higher education. It is this commitment to serving all students which makes this university indispensable to the Central Valley.

Fresno State attracts both national and international attention for its many academic programs. Among the nationally acclaimed programs is the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. CSU, Fresno operates the first commercially bonded winery on any U.S. university campus, and student-produced wines have won hundreds of awards, bringing much needed interest to the Central Valley. In addition, the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology is also working to solve many of the most pressing issues in agriculture. The college has become a pioneer in water-saving irrigation techniques and equipment that has been utilized.

With 64 bachelor's, 44 master's and three doctoral subject areas, CSU, Fresno has come a long way. The University has contributed much to the economic, civic and social well-being of our community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring California State University, Fresno on its Centennial Anniversary.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the misguided Fiscal Year 2012 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. This bill puts the economic recovery at risk by cutting funding to the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, which will prevent the CFTC from implementing important reforms in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act. The bill also slashes critical food security programs aimed at protecting our most vulnerable citizens, children and seniors. The bill also cuts important food safety programs at the Food and Drug Administration.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act took the important step of bringing the vast majority of over-the-counter derivatives out of the shadows and onto regulated exchanges and clearinghouses, where the risk will be borne by the counterparties and the markets they trade on—not the taxpayer. Astonishingly, rather than providing the Commodities Future Trading Commission with the resources necessary to implement this critical reform, the new majority is proposing to slash CFTC funding by 44 percent below President Obama's request—and \$30 million below current levels. This is like telling a cop he's got seven times more territory to patrol but less money to do it with. Unable to repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform law, the Republicans are now clearly trying to starve it to death—which is a prescription for continued pain at the pump as speculators run amok in our futures markets and gouge hard-working consumers. This is a step in the wrong direction and ignores the mistakes of the past.

The cuts to food safety net programs in this legislation are devastating at a time when millions of Americans are unable to purchase food. The cuts also target the most vulnerable in our society. The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children is cut by \$650 million in this bill. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities estimates that the cuts in this bill would force WIC to turn away 200,000 to 350,000 eligible low-income women and young children next year. The bill would force WIC to turn away 3,200 to 5,600 eligible low-income women and

young children in Maryland. The USDA says WIC has saved more than 200,000 babies from dying at birth. Economists estimate that every \$1 invested in WIC saves between \$1.77 and \$3.13 in health care costs in the first 60 days after an infant's birth by reducing the instance of low-birthweight babies and improving child immunization rates. The bill also cuts food aid for low-income seniors through cuts to the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and assistance to food banks through the Emergency Food Assistance Program. According to the USDA's Economic Research Service, 50.2 million Americans lived in food-insecure households in 2009, including 17.2 million children.

The bill slashes the Food and Drug Administration by \$572 million. These cuts are 21 percent below the President's request and \$285 million or 12 percent below current funding levels. These cuts will prevent FDA from improving food safety efforts and increase the risk of food-borne illnesses. The CDC estimates that 48 million Americans get sick from contaminated food, 325,000 people are hospitalized, and 5,000 of these people die every year. E. coli outbreaks in Europe recently killed 31 people and made more than 3,000 people sick. Outbreaks like this remind us of the importance of strong food safety regulations.

I will monitor the progress of this bill in the Senate and conference. I am hopeful that future changes and improvements will give me a chance to vote on a more acceptable alternative.

HONORING DIANE HARGRAVE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Diane Hargrave of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Diane is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in Support Services.

Within her 23 years of service to the Northwest Missouri Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center, Diane has continually excelled at a complex set of responsibilities. She has assisted with five successful federal and state inspections, and has served several facility leaders on her journey to her current title as Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer. Diane holds the complete history of the facility in her hands, and has been praised for her assistance through a major leadership reorganization. Her knowledge of the facility has been instrumental for hospital leadership navigating service delivery in the complicated public mental health care setting. Diane has guided coworkers to top administrative leadership positions, while helping NMPRC maintain rigorous accreditation—and all with humor and generosity.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Diane Hargrave. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.