

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 30, 2015

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on November 19, 2015, the House of Representatives considered H.R. 4038, the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act. Regrettably, I was unable to be present for the vote. However, had I been present, I would have supported the final passage of H.R. 4038.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NEW ORLEANS MUSICAL LEGEND ALLEN TOUSSAINT

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 30, 2015

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Allen Toussaint, accomplished American producer, musician, songwriter and one of the most talented and prolific New Orleans musicians of my lifetime. Mr. Toussaint passed away on November 10, 2015, at the age of 77.

Mr. Toussaint was born in 1938 and grew up in the Gert Town neighborhood of New Orleans, Louisiana. As a child, he learned to play the piano through informal lessons from an elderly neighbor and picked up melodies from the radio. During his teen years in the 1950s, Mr. Toussaint performed with Earl King's band standing in for Huey "Piano" Smith. The experience launched his music career when he caught the attention of Fats Domino producer Dave Bartholomew. Mr. Toussaint first recorded in 1957 as a stand-in pianist for Fats Domino on the record, "I Want You to Know."

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Mr. Toussaint was a remarkably influential songwriter and producer. He played piano and wrote, arranged and produced a series of hits including records like Lee Dorsey's "Working in the Coal Mine," and Jessie Hill's "Ooh Poo Pah Doo." As his sound got funkier into the 70s, he wrote songs such as "Southern Nights," and produced Labelle's, "Lady Marmalade."

Mr. Toussaint's creativity was inspired by the city of New Orleans, but his impact spread beyond the Big Easy and the R&B genre. World famous rock bands, including the Rolling Stones, the Who and the Hollies, covered his song "Fortune Teller." Mr. Toussaint also collaborated with numerous renowned musicians, including Elvis Costello and Paul McCartney.

In 1998, Mr. Toussaint was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Following the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina, he wrote "The River in Reverse," which was nominated for a Grammy. In 2009 Mr. Toussaint

received a Trustees Award Grammy, and he was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 2013.

Mr. Toussaint is described as a soft-spoken embodiment of New Orleans music's rich history. Tributes have flowed in from around the world since the death of the R&B legend, evoking words of condolences for his family and praise for his work from artists as diverse as Jimmy Buffett, the Soul Rebels, Paul McCartney, Lenny Kravitz, and the Rolling Stones.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Toussaint, master craftsman of 20th-century American culture. His music will forever be ingrained in the culture and soul of New Orleans and this country.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3608

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 30, 2015

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to advocate for a bill I introduced, H.R. 3608, which would right a wrong that has impacted over 750 businesses in the United States, including in my home state of Ohio, for more than three years. My bill simply clarifies that the tax on commercial air transportation, also called the "ticket tax," doesn't apply to aircraft management services (AMS) for general aviation flights that don't use tickets.

Aviation has been a source of pride and jobs for Ohio ever since the Wright Brothers invented and built their aircraft in the state. Ohioans build aircraft engines, supply aluminum for aircraft frames, design and manufacture sophisticated avionics, and maintain and fly the planes in the largest business aircraft fleets in the country. All across America, thousands of companies use general aviation and aircraft management services to help ensure the safe and efficient operation of their aircraft.

In March 2012, the Internal Revenue Service's chief counsel released a memorandum stating that services provided in support of aviation are taxable as if the services are transportation itself. The IRS said that the ticket tax applies to AMS businesses that supply pilots, mechanics, maintenance, scheduling and navigation, and the other services provided to general aviation flights, and that is contradictory to Congressional intent.

For decades it has been clear that commercial aviation is required to pay the ticket tax, while general aviation pays the fuel tax. Congress noted this in the Airports and Airways Revenue Act of 1970, when it stated that "the fuel tax on general aviation is a measure of its use of the airway system, since general aviation . . . will not be subject to the passenger and cargo taxes." However, the chief counsel of the IRS ignored this simple statement and seeks to impose a tax where Congress expressly chose not to apply one. Additionally,

general aviation already pays taxes through the excise tax on fuel. The fuel tax is paid into the Airports and Airways Trust Fund to pay for runway maintenance and improvement and air traffic control.

The IRS can implement the tax laws, but it can't create a new tax. The IRS cannot mandate that general aviation pay the ticket tax after Congress expressly chose not to apply the tax to general aviation or AMS that help people fly their own airplane. AMS are not transportation, but rather services in support of transportation, and thus should not be taxed as transportation. For more than three years, AMS companies have tried to explain that to the IRS, but the IRS has refused to acknowledge their mistake and withdraw their opinion.

Meanwhile, businesses have been audited by the IRS and told they owe taxes based on the IRS memorandum. Many AMS companies are small businesses who cannot afford to wage multi-year arguments with the IRS. Recently the U.S. District Court in Columbus, Ohio, decided a case to prevent the IRS from collecting this tax. The court's decision states that the IRS did not provide "precise and not speculative notice" of an AMS company's potential obligation to collect the ticket tax from its customers. I'm pleased the court got it right, but if the IRS won't correct its mistake, it's time for Congress to do it for them, and in a way that will last. That's why my bill provides clarity that payments for AMS are exempt from the ticket tax. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of the bill to ensure its prompt enactment.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF REVEREND MICHAEL C. MCCARTHY, S.J.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 30, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Father Michael C. McCarthy, S.J. and wish him every blessing as he begins a new and challenging chapter in his life.

Father McCarthy, known affectionately to all as "Father Mick" has served with great distinction as Edmund Campion University Professor at Santa Clara University and Executive Director of the University's Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education for five years. In January, 2016, Father McCarthy will begin a new career at Fordham University as Vice President for Mission Integration and Planning and as Presidential Assistant for Planning.

Father McCarthy was born on July 20, 1964 in San Francisco, was raised in the City of St. Francis, and is the youngest of six children. He is a graduate of St. Ignatius College Prep in San Francisco where he received the Ignatian Award. He began his college career at Stanford University, but after entering the Jesuit Novitiate a year later he continued his education at Santa Clara University. He

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

earned his Master of Divinity at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, his BA/MA in Philosophy and Classical Literature at Oxford University, and his Ph.D. at the University of Notre Dame. He took his First Vows in August, 1985, was ordained Deacon in March 1996, Presbyterian in June 1996, and served as House Consulor of the Jesuit Community from 2007 to 2010.

During Father McCarthy's stellar years at Santa Clara he founded the "Thriving Neighbors Initiative", a community based program that serves low income minorities by providing university students to mentor and tutor elementary school children and their parents. He was also Director of the Catholic Studies Program and Associate Professor with a joint appointment in the Religious Studies and Classics Departments. He has published countless articles and book chapters and has made numerous presentations, most of them in his chosen research areas of early Christianity, early Biblical exegesis, St. Augustine, and early asceticism and spirituality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Father Michael McCarthy for his extraordinary leadership at Santa Clara University and wishing him well in his new position at Fordham University where he will undoubtedly have an exceedingly bright future. Santa Clara's great loss is Fordham's enormous gain. California, and especially Father McCarthy's 95-year-old mother, will miss him greatly, but his star is bright enough to shine on all of us from wherever he is.

AMERICAN SECURITY AGAINST
FOREIGN ENEMIES ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong solidarity with our brothers and sisters in France. I join them in their grief over the tragic events of November 13, I keep them in my thoughts and prayers, and I hope that their healing will soon begin.

In the wake of the heinous attacks in Paris and across the world, I stand here today in strong opposition to H.R. 4038, the so-called American SAFE Act. As the Ranking Member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, my top priority is to keep the American people safe. Toward that end, our nation's current review system for refugees is extensive and rigorous. Refugees are required to wait overseas for at least 18 to 24 months before they can be admitted into our country, and they enter only if they meet all vetting requirements. The current process checks biographical and biometric data against law enforcement and intelligence databases, and there is no waiver for any part of the process.

H.R. 4038 seeks to exploit the understandable fear that some Americans feel by effectively shutting down the refugee resettlement program for Syrian and Iraqi nationals, possibly for years, until a new vetting process is established. The passage of this bill will effectively close our doors to people seeking refuge from barbaric attacks like those that were committed in Paris.

I support looking for ways to strengthen the screening process our nation currently has in place. However, strengthening our refugee screening process does not mean we must turn our back on some of the globe's most vulnerable people, especially women and children. That would go against our American values and weaken our standing among our allies. This includes France, which, in spite of the horrors it experienced in Paris, has pledged to take in 30,000 refugees.

The United States has been built by people of many nations, races, and faiths, who fled hunger and persecution in search of a better life in America. We have a long history of welcoming the tired, the poor, and the huddled masses yearning to breathe free. For centuries, America has been a beacon of light and hope for those in need. Let us not dim that light in the face of fear. Let us not block the refuge that our nation can provide to the men, women, and children who suffer at the hands of extremist regimes. Let us embrace the maxim that our French brothers and sisters have shared with the world, one that exemplifies three universal values of humanity: Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity.

I urge all Members to oppose this bill.

AMERICAN SECURITY AGAINST
FOREIGN ENEMIES ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, as a lawmaker who has dedicated the last 12 years to working on issues of national security, I have spent thousands of hours in classified briefings on threats both domestic and abroad. I have traveled to dozens of terrorism hotspots around the globe, meeting with foreign dignitaries and our intelligence workers on the front lines. No one more strongly believes that our first and most important responsibility is the protection of all Americans. We must always scrutinize any foreigner who wants to enter our country for any reason.

Today, the highest level of security screening of any category traveler or immigrant belongs to refugees. Those screenings involve health checks, biometric tests to confirm identity and multiple layers of background checks along with in-person interviews by specially trained Department of Homeland Security officers. The process involves not only DHS but the National Counterterrorism Center, the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center, the State Department and the Department of Defense, each of which must certify the refugee's status at every stage. If a refugee's background or identity cannot be confirmed at any point, their application ends.

Syrian refugees receive an additional layer of screening, culminating in a process that usually takes 18 to 24 months before they set foot on U.S. soil, if they are even approved.

As a security expert, I know that most terrorists already live in the U.S. or they come via illegal means. But it would be far easier for terrorists to enter the country legally on a tourist visa or through the visa waiver program if they are citizens of eligible nations, including France and Belgium, which is where the Paris attackers were citizens.

It is important to note that the legislation under consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives applies only to Syrian and Iraqi refugees—but not refugees from other countries with known terror networks including Yemen, Nigeria and Afghanistan.

I am not convinced this bill would protect our country from foreign enemies any more than existing processes and procedures. Since 2001, only about 2,200 Syrian refugees have been admitted to the United States. Half are children and another quarter is over the age of 60. These refugees are victims of the same terrorists we are trying to defeat. Banning them would not only do nothing to strengthen our national security, it would fuel the anti-American sentiment that strengthens ISIS. The best way to address the refugee crisis is by removing the threat.

For these reasons, I oppose the American SAFE Act of 2015 and support the Secure Refugee Process Act of 2015.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUE CURRIN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 30, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sue Currin for her 34 years of exemplary service at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, the last six years as Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Currin has dedicated her life and career to providing every member of our community with quality health care.

Thanks to Ms. Currin's innovative and steadfast leadership, San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center today is the sole provider of trauma and emergency psychiatric care for the City and County of San Francisco serving a diverse patient population and offering a wide spectrum of inpatient and outpatient services. The medical center serves about 100,000 patients a year and provides 20 percent of the city's inpatient care.

Ms. Currin secured \$6 million in grant funding for a nursing internship program, a medication error reduction project, patient safety initiatives, and a transportation from hospital to home program. She was also essential in developing the Acute Care for the Elderly unit. That unit improves patient outcomes and satisfaction while shortening hospital stays and reducing nursing home admissions. Additional major achievements were the development of the first Palliative Care Program for San Francisco's underserved and the Lean Management System at the hospital. And most recently, Ms. Currin succeeded in starting construction of an acute care building that is expected to open in the spring of 2016. This new facility will be equipped with the most advanced technology that will give every San Franciscan access to the best available healthcare. It will truly be an example of a state-of-the-art 21st century hospital and an enduring reminder of all the amazing work she has done.

I deeply admire Sue Currin's perseverance, vision and dedication to others. She started at General Hospital as a student nurse in 1975 and rose through the ranks of staff nurse, nurse educator, Director of Staff Development and Quality Management, Chief Nursing Officer/Chief Operating Officer and finally CEO.