

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
GRAND OPENING OF THE
EASTMONT COMPUTING CENTER
FOR THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Eastmont Computing Center, located in East Oakland, California, on its grand opening. This multi-million dollar computing center is a project of The Oakland Citizens Committee for Urban Renewal (OCCUR), which was established in Oakland, California in 1954 for the purpose of raising the quality of life for all of Oakland's residents, with the emphasis on serving those in the greatest need of a balanced delivery of goods, effective public policy, and services. OCCUR created the Eastmont Computing Center (ECC) to serve as a community resource on information technologies in order to provide universal computer and Internet access and employment focused training to Oakland citizens.

The Eastmont Computing Center provides cutting-edge information technology training to youth and other residents of under-served communities. The Center provides a broad range of unique skills and employment training programs to youth, senior citizens, and community-based organizations.

The Center is one of only three California recipients of the highly competitive U.S. Department of Commerce Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program grants. Additional funding for the Center is provided by a number of government, foundation, corporate and individual donors including the Eastmont Town Center, Pacific Gas and Electric, Chevron, Pacific Bell, The San Francisco Foundation, Oracle, Hewlett Packard and IBM.

I wish to commend the management and staff of the Eastmont Computing Center for their tireless work and for their diligence. It has been through their perseverance that they have garnered the resources necessary to establish and operate this training facility for the benefit of all the citizens of Oakland.

I wish to extend to the Eastmont Computing Center, its staff, donors and support volunteers sincere best wishes for success as they begin to deliver technology access and employment training services to the citizens of Oakland.

HONORING RAYDELL MOORE'S 35
YEARS AS A POSTAL UNION NATIONAL OFFICER

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues the recognition of Mr. Raydell Moore of Long Beach, California by the American Postal Union (APWU), AFL-CIO, as one of their longest serving national officers. Mr. Moore

has served APWU proudly for 35 years as a national officer in the western region.

Mr. Moore was born in Austin, Texas and received his formal education there. While in high school, he played football and was a teammate of Dick (Night-Train) Layne who later played for the Detroit Lions. Mr. Moore graduated from Tillitson College with a B.A. Degree in Chemistry.

Mr. Moore served in the U.S. Air Force beginning in 1945. After his discharge, he began his employment with the Postal Service in June 1952 and later became active with the Union in Long Beach, California.

He was the Executive Vice President of the Long Beach Local in 1963 and became Executive Vice President of the California National Postal Union in 1964.

In 1964, Mr. Moore became the National Postal Union Regional Representative and held that position until 1971, while also serving as the Long Beach Local President between 1965 and 1971. In 1971, the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO was formed and Mr. Moore was the APWU National Representative between 1971 and 1977. His position was to represent the union at regional level labor-management meetings and resolve disputes with the region on both contract interpretation and employee discipline.

In 1977, Mr. Moore was elected Western Regional Coordinator for the entire Western Region of APWU, the largest geographic area in the United States, representing 13 states and Pacific territories. Mr. Moore has been re-elected every election since then and is one of only 12 officers to serve on APWU's National Executive Board, the highest ranking authority of the APWU.

Mr. Moore has served APWU and its former unions for 35 years with distinction; one of the longest consecutive tenures in labor history. I am proud to salute him for his generous service to the union and the people of the western region of the United States.

MAJOR DRUG TRANSIT COUNTRY
ACT OF 1999, H.R. 2608

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, a front page story in last Friday's Miami Herald indicates the Administration has launched a full scale review of the role of Cuba in the drug trade. It's a review that along with many others here in the Congress we fully welcome. We look forward to seeing the Administration's conclusions on Cuba's links to drug trafficking targeting the United States.

The Miami Herald also points out that as part of the State Department's review, lawyers are having a hard time sorting out what a "major" drug transiting nation may be under federal law, and whether the designation of a "major" transit nation should take into account drugs that may just pass over Cuban skies or through its territorial waters on the way to the USA.

While a common sense interpretation of the law should assume that these illicit drugs, ei-

ther passing over the skies of Cuba or through its territorial waters should be considered a factor in determining whether a nation is a major drug transiting country that substantially impacts the U.S., there appears to be some confusion down at Foggy Bottom.

The bill I introduced today, H.R. 2608 along with Chairman BURTON is very simple, addressing this issue of the major transiting nation list determination under the Foreign Assistance Act Section 481(e) as relates to drugs headed for the USA. This bill merely clarifies that the term "through which is transported" in fact expressly includes drugs passing through the territorial airspace, land and water of a country on the way to our nation. There should be no need for any more legal resource time on this issue.

It will be my intention to move this simple, non-controversial clarification bill through the House International Relations Committee quickly.

There should be no further confusion on this matter, so that the full review of the Cuban illicit narcotics situation not be distracted by endless debate over something as obvious as drugs passing over the skies of Cuba or being dropped into or moving through Cuban waters on the way to our cities and local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the full text of the bill to clarify this situation.

H.R. 2608

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.

Section 481(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"For purposes of paragraph (5)(B), the term 'through which are transported' includes the territorial airspace, land, and water of a country."

DON'T WRITE OFF RURAL
AMERICA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, rural America is hurting these days and the rest of the country should take notice. The current period of relative economic prosperity has abandoned most sectors of the agriculture economy, often because of deliberate decisions made at the White House.

For example, U.S. trade policy presently favors manufactured products, high tech equipment, and medical supplies in exchange for easy access to American markets for foreign farmers. Nor are trade policies fair for our farmers and ranchers, Mr. Speaker. Foreign growers enjoy far easier access to our markets than we do to theirs.

Westerners tend to be closely tied to agriculture. That's why so many of my rural constituents find it hard to believe there are actually people in Washington, D.C. who harbor hostility toward them.

Just last month, Mr. Speaker, after his party voted against several rural issues, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee