

SPEECH OF

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, section 430, Atchafalaya River, Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black, Louisiana: Nothing in this section should be interpreted so as to delay the immediate implementation of solutions to improve navigation on the Atchafalaya River, Bayous Chene, Boeuf, and Black project as provided under existing authorities and directives.

Section 433, Lake Pontchartrain Seawall: The Corps should take into account the cost savings and benefits to the entire Lake Pontchartrain Hurricane Protection and Flood Control project when determining justification for modifications and rehabilitation to the seawall. Prior cost savings and benefits provided by the seawall should be taken into account when determining whether structural modifications and rehabilitation of the seawall are justified.

Section 530, Urbanized Peak Flood Management, New Jersey: Activities authorized by this section should be carried out in coordination with qualified academic institutions, such as the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). Conferees are also aware that NJIT has expressed interest in having its campus serve as the location for such research efforts.

Section 532, Upper Mohawk River Basin, New York: This important project has the potential to provide not just flood control and wildlife habitat (through wetlands restoration) but also water quality improvements and other environmental benefits.

Title VI, Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan: First, the provision recognizes the importance of the modified water deliveries project authorized by the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989 by presuming that this project is completed.

While the primary purpose of the modified water deliveries project is to restore natural flows to the Everglades, it contains a number of provisions to provide critical flood control and property rights protections to private landowners potentially impacted by the projects.

Nothing in WRDA 2000 should be interpreted to diminish statutory protections to landowners in section 104 of Public Law 101-229.

Second, section 601(h)(3)(C)(ii) addresses the limitation on the applicability of programmatic regulations. Nothing in this paragraph affects the public's ability to participate and comment on the development of project implementation reports, project cooperation agreements, operation manuals, and any other documents relating to the development, implementation, and management of individual features of the Everglades restoration plan. In addition, nothing in this provision expands any agency's authority.

The Corps should undertake a significant public education and outreach effort to describe the Everglades project. I encourage the Corps to work closely with nonfederal institu-

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

November 13, 2000

tions that have the respect of the community. I understand one such institution is the Museum of Discovery and Science in Fort Lauderdale, which has entered into an agreement with the south Florida ecosystem restoration task force to provide public education and outreach in conjunction with the restoration effort. As my colleague Representative CLAY SHAW mentioned during consideration of the house bill, the Museum of Discovery and Science is situated to carry out these functions through a planned facility and exhibition. I urge the Corps to work closely with the museum and to provide financial and technical assistance to ensure visitors to south Florida have a fair and balanced understanding of the comprehensive Everglades restoration plan.

Oklahoma-Tribal Commission: The managers find that the economic trends in southeastern Oklahoma related to unemployment and per capita income are not conducive to local economic development, and efforts to improve the management of water in the region would have a positive influence on the local economy, help reverse these trends, and improve the lives of local residents. The managers believe that State of Oklahoma, the Choctaw Nation, Oklahoma, and the Chickasaw Nation, Oklahoma, should establish a State-Tribal Commission composed equally of representatives of such nations and residents of the water basins within the boundaries of such nations for the purpose of administering and distributing from the sale of water any benefits and net revenues to the tribes and local entities within the respective basins; any sale of water to entities outside the basins should be consistent with the procedures and requirements established by the commission; and if requested, the secretary should provide assistance, as appropriate, to facilitate the efforts of the commission. Such a commission focusing on the Kiamichi River Basin and other basins within the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations would allow all entities (State of Oklahoma, Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, and residents of local basin(s)) to work cooperatively to see that the benefits and revenues being generated from the sale/use of water to entities outside the respective basins are distributed in an agreeable manner.

Mr. Speaker, many staff worked for many days and months on this landmark and legislation. At the risk of omitting some, I'd like to thank a few by name: Jack Schenendorf, Mike Strachn, Roger Nober, John Anderson, Donna Campbell, Corry Marshall, Sara Gray, Susan Bodine, Carrie Jelsma, Ben Grumbles, Ken Kopocis, Art Chan, and Pam Keller of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; Tom Gibson, Stephanie Daigle, Chelsea Henderson Maxwell, Ann Loomis, Jo-Ellen Darcy, Peter Washburn, Catherine Cyr, and C.K. Lee of the Senate; and Larry Prather, Gary Campbell, Milton Rider, and Bill Schmitz of the Corps of Engineers.

SECTION 1422 OF H.R. 4868

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2000

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4868, as amended by H. Res. 644 which passed the

House and Senate, contains a provision in section 1422 of the bill relating to petroleum and petroleum derivatives. These remarks explain the need for that provision.

In 1990 Congress simplified duty drawback for the petroleum industry by creating a separate section, 1313(p), under the drawback laws. For purposes of duty drawback, a finished petroleum derivative or a qualified article is commercially interchangeable under Subsection 1313(p) of the Tariff Act of 1930 based on Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) headings or subheadings listed within that subsection. As a result, petroleum derivatives are considered to be of the same kind and quality and commercially interchangeable by virtue of matching the HTS classification codes for imports and exports.

In some instances, one or more petroleum derivatives, or products, are listed under a single HTS classification, making those derivatives commercially interchangeable under 1313(p). This long-standing practice is threatened by future modifications of the HTS that would split several products out from under a single HTS classification by creating new and separate HTS classifications, or categories, for those products. Such a "split" would inadvertently disallow drawback under Subsection 1313(p) for certain qualified articles that are now considered commercially interchangeable.

Section 1422 of H.R. 4868 addresses the "split" issue by ensuring that certain qualified articles remain commercially interchangeable as modifications to the HTS are made in which petroleum derivatives are split from single into separate HTS classifications or subheadings. Specifically, Section 1422 provides that any products that are currently commercially interchangeable will remain so based on those products' HTS subheading or classification as in effect on January 1, 2000. Thus, the language of Section 1422 would ensure that products or articles that are currently commercially interchangeable shall continue to be commercially interchangeable, irrespective of whether the HTS is modified and those same articles are split and listed under separate HTS subheadings. This section does not affect any future tariff simplification that would combine certain articles or products under a single eight-digit HTS subheading and thus make those products commercially interchangeable under 1313(p).

HONORING THE FIFTIETH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE RUSSIAN
AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY
OF CLEVELAND**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Russian American Cultural Society of Cleveland. This wonderful organization has been unifying the Russian population of Cleveland and celebrating the spirit of community since 1950.

The history of Cleveland's extraordinary Russian population begins in the post World

War II era. The first wave of immigrants left Russia after the civil war in the early 1920's and settled in France and Yugoslavia. Following World War II, many of these Russian immigrants left war-torn Europe and headed for the United States. A second wave of immigration came when a number of displaced Russian citizens chose to make a new start in the U.S. rather than return to the Soviet Union for repatriation. Of the thousands of Russian citizens who came to America in the 1940's, many chose Cleveland, Ohio as the city where they would begin their new lives.

Once settled in Cleveland, these Russian immigrants joined together in an admirable effort to preserve their valued Russian tradition, language, culture, and Orthodoxy. They took their first bold steps toward carrying on their Russian heritage in 1950 with the founding of the Russian American Cultural Society of Cleveland and the St. Sergius of Radonesh Russian Orthodox Church.

Due to the strong ethnic bond which the Cultural Society provided, its activity and membership grew exponentially. The society's most active years came under the region of Mr. G. Mesernicky, who was president during the 1960's and 70's. Under his leadership, the society operated a Russian language school, a radio program, a newsletter, and a youth group. It is clear that the society has succeeded in achieving its commendable goal of preserving Russian tradition in the city of Cleveland. To this day, they continue to bring Russian-Americans together for various cultural and social events, including picnics, concerts, lectures, plays, and most notably, the annual Tatiana Ball.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in congratulating the Russian American Cultural Society on its Golden Anniversary. They have made a lasting contribution to the city of Cleveland, and I wish them many more years of continued success.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
CONGRESSMAN SIDNEY YATES

HON. WAYNE T. GILCREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2000

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, Sid Yates—his tenure in Congress embodied knowledge, humility, and tolerance, the pillars that support the essence of democracy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2000

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2000, I was unavoidably delayed in traveling to Washington, DC, as a result of a mechanical problem with an airplane. As a result, I was unable to attend three votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "Yea" on rollcall vote No. 519, the Pipeline

Safety Improvement Act (S. 2438); "yea" on rollcall vote No. 520, allowing for the contribution of certain rollover distributions to accounts in the Thrift Savings Plan and to eliminate certain waiting period requirements for participating in the Thrift Savings Plan (H.R. 208); "yea" on rollcall vote No. 521, the Lupus Research and Care Amendments (H.R. 762).

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 2796,
WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to thank Congressman BOB FRANKS and Congressman BOB MENENDEZ for including critical flood control research funding in the 2000 Water Resources Development Act for the State of New Jersey.

This issue is a matter of great importance to each of our districts and all of our constituents. Our home state is confronted with an array of complex challenges related to the environment and economic development. However, one issue in particular, the over development of land, is of special concern because of its impact on our watersheds and floodplains, and economic activity throughout the state.

As many of my colleagues already know, this past August vast parts of northern New Jersey were devastated by flooding caused by severe rainfall. The resulting natural disaster threatened countless homes, bridges and roads, not to mention the health, safety and welfare of area residents. The total figure for damages in Sussex and Morris Counties has been estimated at over \$50 million, and area residents are still fighting to restore some degree of normalcy to their lives.

While the threat of future floods continues to plague the region, one New Jersey institution is taking concrete steps to prevent another catastrophe. The New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) has been studying the challenges posed by flooding and stormwater flows for some time, and is interested in forming a multi-agency federal partnership to continue this important research.

NJIT is one of our state's premier research institutions and is uniquely equipped to carry out this critical stormwater research. The university has a long and distinguished tradition of responding to difficult public-policy challenges such as environmental emissions standards, aircraft noise, traffic congestion and alternative energy.

More broadly, NJIT has demonstrated an institutional ability to direct its intellectual resources to the examination of problems beyond academia, and its commitment to research allows it to serve as a resource for unbiased technological information and analysis.

An excellent opportunity for NJIT to partner with the federal government and solve the difficult problem of flood control has presented itself in the 2000 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

At the request of Congressman BOB FRANKS and Congressman BOB MENENDEZ, the final

version of this important legislation includes a provision directing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop and implement a stormwater flood control project in New Jersey and report back to Congress within three years on its progress.

While the Corps of Engineers is familiar with this problem at the national level, it does not have the firsthand knowledge and experience in New Jersey that NJIT has accrued in its 119 years of service. I know that Congressman FRANKS and MENENDEZ have already submitted statements requesting NJIT participate in this important research, and I urge the Army Corps to agree to their proposal. Including NJIT's expertise and experience in this research effort is a logical step and would greatly benefit the Army Corps, as well as significantly improve the project's chances of success.

I urge the New York District of Corps of Engineers to work closely with my colleagues and me to ensure NJIT's full participation in this study. By working together, we can create a nexus between the considerable flood control expertise of the Army Corps and NJIT, and finally solve this difficult problem for the people of New Jersey. I hope my colleagues will support efforts towards this end.

HONORING MURRAY LENDER ON
HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to a community leader, a philanthropist, a humanitarian, and a great friend, Murray Lender, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

Murray's father, Harry Lender, introduced bagels to the people of this country. Murray continued that tradition as chairman of Lender's Bagel Bakery, the world's largest bagel bakery. He revolutionized the bagel industry when he began the process of freezing bagels in the late 1950s, bringing to life his father's dream of "a bagel on every table." His astute business sense was recognized by the National Frozen Food Association, which inducted him into the Frozen Food Hall of Fame, only the sixth person to be so honored. He also received the International Deli-Bakery Association's Hall of Fame Award and has been selected Man of the Year by numerous industry associations. But these achievements are dwarfed by what Murray has done for the people of Greater New Haven, of Connecticut, and of his country through his myriad of philanthropic and humanitarian works.

Murray's efforts in New Haven have truly been exceptional. He and his family have given generously of their time and resources to Quinnipiac University. Murray was given the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1991. His family's efforts have provided students with a top-notch business program that allows students to benefit from the practical knowledge, business acumen, and impressive record of success that Murray and his family have achieved. In 1997, Murray was awarded an