

ON INTRODUCTION OF THE TERRORIST RESPONSE TAX EXEMPTION ACT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I rise with my colleague, Congressman VITO FOSSELLA of New York, to introduce the Terrorist Response Tax Exemption Act, which would provide our first responders with the tax benefits that they deserve for serving on the front lines of our war against terrorism.

As we speak, men and women are putting their lives at risk to fight terrorist threats both abroad and at home. For the American military personnel who are overseas, the federal government currently excludes from taxable income the salary they receive in any month they serve in a combat zone. This is a suitable recognition of the increased risk in which they place themselves to protect our freedoms and of the increased burdens on their families given that risk.

But, today, we know that the men and women who serve as fire, rescue, and police personnel can be just as much at risk. Terrorists have brought the frontlines into our communities, and it is these first responders that are first on the scene, first to assess the situation, and first to respond to the needs of the victims. As the World Trade Center attack has proven, they are just as much in jeopardy of losing their lives as the soldiers and sailors engaged overseas—perhaps even more so as our military technology advances. They and their families deserve the same tax benefits for serving in terrorist attack zones.

That is precisely what the Terrorist Response Tax Exemption Act does. It exempts from federal income the basic pay that a uniformed civilian employee earns for any month in which they serve the public in a terrorist attack zone. It provides well-deserved recognition of the hard and dangerous work that these individuals perform. The Senate companion bill, S. 1446, has already been endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and other organizations that represent our public safety personnel.

It is not that we anticipate that this tax incentive will encourage this kind of heroic public service. In fact, we know for a fact that these men and women perform their duties out of a sense of honor and an overwhelming desire to help others in need. But, we should show them our gratitude with more than words of thanks. I encourage my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANTHONY T. CAPOZZOLO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life and

memory of Anthony T. "Capps" Capozzolo, a man who always sought to brighten the horizons for others, especially through increasing educational opportunities.

Born at his father's dairy farm in Pueblo, Colorado, Capps learned what hard work was at a very early age. At one time, he sold newspapers while attending school and tending to the chores of his family's farm. Capps followed his heart, however, and proved to be a fantastic dancer. At the age of 18, Capps left Pueblo and joined his brother in California where he pursued his passion for dancing. It was here that he met his dance partner, Theresa Harmon, who would eventually become his wife. The couple performed in numerous reputable studios like Columbia Pictures and MGM. Capps and Theresa also worked to help raise money for charitable contributions.

Beyond his dancing performances, Capps served his community whenever he could. He was a charter member of the Assistance League in Palm Springs, California, the Desert Hospital Auxiliary and the Opera Guild of the Desert to name only a few. Upon the death of his wife Theresa, he founded a gallery of art at St. Martin's Abbey and College in Lacy, Washington. Furthermore, Capps became a generous donor to the performing arts at the University of Southern Colorado and funded a scholarship and various activities of the University. In August of 1998, his honorable service to others was recognized with the 1998 Pope John XXIII award offered by the Italian Catholic Federation, which recognizes community achievements, civic involvement and religious vitality.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony Capozzolo was an honorable man who will be remembered by many. At this time, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding contributions that Capps made and recognize his selfless acts of kindness. He truly was an example for others to emulate. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the Capozzolo family during this time of remembrance and I would like them to know that my thoughts and prayers are with them now and for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ONE EARTH ONE PEOPLE ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize One Earth One People, an organization in Cincinnati, Ohio that will celebrate its 10th Anniversary on October 26, 2001.

One Earth One People was founded by Jane Church in October, 1990. Jane continues to serve as its president, and she has played a key role in making this innovative nonprofit environmental education organization such a success.

The vision of One Earth One People is to "network youth around the world via Interactive Telecommunications to prepare them to preserve their local and global environment." And, its mission is to work with all sectors and

ethnic groups, "offering students hands-on educational experiences to increase their scientific knowledge, enhance their communication, leadership and other lifelong skills and attitudes to protect the environment through sharing, cooperation and cultural understanding."

Although One Earth One People is based in Cincinnati, its work can be seen throughout Ohio, across our nation and around the world. Some of its activities and accomplishments include: running 21 student workshops in local elementary, middle and high schools; publishing "The OEOP Newsletter," which is read by over 1,500 area teachers, students, community organizations and supporters; and attending several seminars and conferences held by Earth Day USA and the United Nations Environment Programme.

One Earth One People's work also includes the Youth Cloth Bag Project, which encourages consumers to use reusable cloth bags when they shop. Just this year, the Youth Cloth Bag Project was expanded so that schools that sell cloth bags can use the proceeds to help preserve wildlife habitats in Adams County, Ohio and in the Maya Mountain Marine Corridor in Belize.

I have enjoyed meeting with the participants involved in One Earth One People. It provides young people with valuable knowledge about the environment and how to work together as team players and communicators. It also offers hands-on experience in organizing, problem solving, decision making and other important life skills.

Mr. Speaker, One Earth One People has been an effective organization in the Cincinnati area. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking its members for their dedication to our environment and in congratulating the organization on 10 years of community service.

Patriot Act of 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, the House was scheduled to take up H.R. 2975, a bill to give law enforcement greater latitude in finding and combating terrorism. The version that was scheduled to come to the floor was the result of bipartisan negotiations between the Republicans and Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee. The Committee was careful in crafting this bill, since any effort to give law enforcement these greater investigatory powers has an impact on the civil liberties of all Americans.

However, Friday morning, the House Rules Committee reported a measure providing for debate of H.R. 2975 that inserted a substitute measure still warm from printing. With the exception of the Members of Congress directly involved in the substitute's drafting, the majority of the Members of the House had little idea what the 175 pages of this bill would do to our laws. It is crucial that our legislative branch of government has adequate time to scrutinize and debate legislation that could have a drastic effect on the privacy and civil rights of our people.

This bill would dramatically alter our existing wiretap laws under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). FISA sets the bar for obtaining a wiretap order to investigate foreign agents much lower than laws governing regular domestic criminal investigations. In the past, the courts have held that the Fourth Amendment's prohibition on unreasonable search and seizure protects our citizens from surveillance without probable cause, except in cases concerning foreign intelligence operations. Surveillance under FISA is granted by a secret court whose decisions and proceedings are not part of the public record, and those being wiretapped never know that such an order has been granted, and have no way to appeal the court's decision.

Presently, a wiretap under FISA can be obtained if the target is suspected of being an agent of a foreign power, without probable cause. The bill passed by the House would allow a person to be secretly wiretapped under the easier FISA rules as long as foreign intelligence is at least one component of the investigation. This means that Americans not suspected of being spies can now be placed under surveillance as if they are foreign agents, without the usual protections of the Fourth Amendment. So, without probable cause, the government would be able to secretly authorize wiretaps to trace the calls made to the person being monitored, as well as monitor their Internet activity. Although the bill says that the Internet surveillance is limited to the address visited but not the content, all a government agency has to do to capture content is to use the Internet address information gathered and visit the site in question.

Not only does this allow American intelligence agencies to spy on Americans, but the bill authorizes the sharing of information gathered with other federal agencies without judicial authorization. This means American intelligence agencies like the Central Intelligence Agency would be able to collect information from other agencies about the activities of our citizens. Also, under this bill's more relaxed rules, FISA can be used to authorize "black bag" searches, which would allow the government to secretly enter a person's home without their knowledge and remove or copy documents and other items.

Another troubling provision grants the authority to the secret court established by FISA to allow the Federal Bureau of Investigation to obtain individuals' financial and personal records without that person's consent or knowledge. Because this would be done under the relaxed requirements of FISA, the judge's order is sufficient to allow the FBI to obtain personal information without probable cause, yet another instance where the bill goes around the Fourth Amendment.

The bill the House was scheduled to consider would sunset most surveillance provisions in 2003, when Congress could review and then renew these changes if necessary. The bill that was actually taken up would sunset its surveillance provisions in 2004, and allow the President to further extend the sunset provisions by an additional two years, which would effectively be a five-year sunset provision.

It has been said that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. While this may be

true, it is also true that our civil liberties are what sets America apart from other nations. Although the House-passed measure contained language to sunset some of the bill's provisions, I fear that once this line is crossed, we will never be able to go back. Without adequate discussion of this bill's merits and effects on our rights, I could not support this measure. I hope that the House-Senate conference committee will carefully consider the impact this legislation could have on our lives, and make corrections so that I can support the final version of this bill that we send to the President to become the law of the land.

INTEL ACHIEVES ENVIRONMENTAL SUCCESS

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform my colleagues that Intel New Mexico has become the first Excellence Award winner as part of my home state's Green Zia Environmental Excellence program. This is a significant achievement.

The Green Zia program was launched three years ago, but no business had ever been named an Excellence Award winner, which is the program's highest honor. For the past two years, Intel New Mexico had won the program's Achievement Award.

This award would not have been possible without the support of every employee of Intel New Mexico. Indeed, the company has a fully-integrated, prevention-based environmental management system in place throughout their site in New Mexico. Some of the company's major environmental achievements include: a water conservation rate of more than 50 percent; a recycling rate of 78 percent for solid waste with only 22 percent going to a landfill; and a 20 percent reduction in volatile organic compound emissions from last year.

The company also has strong environmental programs for employees, including commute reduction, recycling, and several volunteer programs in which employees directly contribute.

Mr. Speaker, Intel is one of the largest employers in my state, and I am pleased at the fine example they have set for other businesses. The crowning achievement of Intel New Mexico's efforts in environmental stewardship is proving that environmental protection is good business, that sound environmental practices are good for business, and that the environment is everyone's business.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD MIUCCIO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, the vicious attack unleashed on our country on September 11, 2001 left tears in many American's eyes.

Many people were victims in this tragedy and as the recovery efforts continue, many innocent citizens are being uncovered amidst the bricks and steel of the collapsed buildings. On that day, Richard Miuccio was killed at the hands of this terrible and malicious assault. I would like to take a moment to pay tribute and recognize the life of Richard.

Richard was born on May 23, 1946 and was raised on Staten Island in New York. This city served as his residence for his entire life. Thirty-four years ago he married his childhood sweetheart, Joyce Black, and they became the proud parents of three children—Owen, Laura and Thomas. Rich was employed for thirty-five years with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance and served as the Auditor Supervisor in the last years of his employment. He served honorably in the United States Army and from 1967 to 1968 Rich served in active duty in the war in Vietnam.

St. Mary's Church on Staten Island always held a special place in Rich's heart and he was a member of the church for 20 years. Faith played an integral part for Richard and his family and they routinely attended services for solace. Richard was battling prostate cancer and his fight proved victorious. He credited much of this to his faith and his family.

Mr. Speaker, Rich will always be remembered as a man who had a quick smile and a gentle spirit. His passing leaves an emptiness in the lives of those who knew and loved him. Rich will always remain in our hearts and in our prayers. While the flag of our great nation flies high, the lives of those who were lost in this incident will never be forgotten. I would like to stand together with this body and offer our deepest sympathies to Richard's family at this time of remembrance. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPTAIN JAY JAHNKE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Houston Fire Department Captain Jay H. Jahnke. A 20-year veteran of the department, Jahnke, aged 40, died in the line of duty on the morning of Saturday, October 13, 2001.

Captain Jahnke and the three other fire fighters were attempting to help residents trapped by choking smoke and flames escape a fire that had broken out in a high-rise apartment building. After carrying over 100 pounds of equipment up five flights of stairs, in full gear including breathing apparatus, they found themselves trapped by the blaze. The crew sent in to rescue Capt. Jahnke and his men were also temporarily trapped by the fury and intensity of this fire before being rescued. While no other fire fighters were killed, several others were injured.

Due to the rapid response and quick action of the Houston Fire Department, only one resident died in this fire. Three fire fighters and 12 residents were hospitalized for smoke inhalation or burns. 300 residents were left homeless by this fierce blaze.