Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I want to urge this body to reject the Bonior Amendment, to throw out all the rhetoric about how without this amendment there will be polluted water, people rushing to put oil rigs on the Great Lakes, and how oil will start gushing into the waters of Lake Michigan or Superior. This is just absolutely untrue.

What I would encourage the gentleman from Michigan to do is to work with us. We should take a look at studying the quality of those pipes that are pumping those 22,000 barrels an hour under the Great Lakes today. Let us get together and tell Canada, get off the water. Shut down those rigs that are pumping on the water as we speak. We should work together to ensure that those ships bobbing around on the Lakes carrying 5 million tons of oil are safe and don’t continue to average 20 spills each year.

Does the gentleman want to do something for the Great Lakes? Let us partner with our states and help solve this issue. The federal government should not come in and flex its muscles and tell state legislators that they really don’t know what they are doing.

I used to be an FBI agent, and when I would walk into a local police station and tell them the federal government was here to help, I can tell you I never received a warm welcome. And I can tell you that passing legislation like the Bonior Amendment ensures that Congress will not receive a warm welcome in the State halls of Lansing and other Great Lakes capitals.

Mr. Chairman, this is an important issue. It is an extremely important issue. I grew up on

The other end of this amendment goes in a direction that I hope many in this chamber find disagreeable as it deeply involves the federal government in Great Lakes decision-making. I trust my Governor. I trust the Governors of the Great Lakes States to be in charge of the water of the Great Lakes States...

As a matter of fact, underneath the Great Lakes today, there are roughly 22,000 barrels of crude oil that float per hour under the Great Lakes. There are 550 off-shore wells operated by Canadians. This bill addresses none of that. There are 5 million tons of oil bobbing around on the Great Lakes every year via cargo ship, which leads to an average of 20 spills a year on our Great Lakes. This amendment does nothing to address any of those issues.

This amendment is not about protecting the Great Lakes; instead, it is about the federal government going into the State of Michigan and making decisions about the Great Lakes. There is only one thing that can protect us from Great Lakes States. These issues have no business in this Chamber. It has all the business in the chambers in our State legislatures back home.

This is a solution that is looking for a problem. There is a package of bills in the House to address this issue in a manner that doesn’t encroach on our States’ rights. One concerns the diversion and export of Great Lakes water. Another is a resolution urging States to continue the ban on off-shore drilling in our Great Lakes and that goes after those 550 wells currently in operation in Canada.

It is important to remember that what the Federal Government can give us, they can take away. Pretty soon, maybe the faces of this Chamber will change, and maybe pretty soon the folks in this Chamber will decide that we want oil production from the Great Lakes.

And since most of the members of this Chamber do not reside in the Great Lakes Basin, nor do the Washington, DC bureaucrats overseeing federal policy, the decision may come from Washington to tap into the Great Lakes oil reserves.

There is only one thing that can protect us from that: Our state legislators and our governors of the Great Lakes States.

Mr. Chairman, I want to urge this body to reject the Bonior Amendment, to throw out all the rhetoric about how without this amendment there will be polluted water, people rushing to put oil rigs on the Great Lakes, and how oil will start gushing into the waters of Lake Michigan or Superior. This is just absolutely untrue.

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Tribute to Colonel Daniel W. Krueger

HON. MARION BERRY
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 10, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American soldier and citizen, and I am proud to recognize Colonel Daniel W. Krueger in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to the Mid-South region and our nation.

Colonel Krueger has served for the past three years as the Memphis District Commander for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and he has distinguished himself by focusing on meeting the region’s water resource needs, reducing costs, and decreasing project delivery time without sacrificing quality. His exceptional leadership skills guided the Memphis District into the 21st Century with an engaged workforce dedicated to open communications, improved safety and mission focused training.

Key projects completed under his command include: Hickman Bluff Stabilization, White’s Creek, Francis Bland Floodway, and the initial on-farm construction phase of the Grand Prairie Demonstration Project.

He has dedicated his life to serving his fellow soldiers and citizens as a leader in both his profession as an engineer and his military service, and he deserves our respect and gratitude for his contributions.

On behalf of the Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to this faithful servant, Colonel Daniel W. Krueger, on his successes and achievements.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF
HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I want to commend my colleague from Michigan today. So what is the purpose for the gentleman from Ohio talking about HOMES, the acronym by which schoolchildren learn the states of the United States? What I would encourage the gentleman from Great Lakes Basin that allows off-shore drilling, not a problem. There is not one State in the Great Lakes...