

language to the omnibus. Supporting the FERC's exclusive jurisdiction over the siting and approval of LNG terminals is an extremely important decision that is worthy of a full debate in Congress. By including controversial language in an omnibus at the end of the 108th session of Congress, there is no opportunity to amend or strip the bill of this or other, harmful provisions. I hope that my colleagues will join me in more closely examining the full impact of this issue on every state in the next Congress. I look forward to an open debate that will include the input of those citizens and local officials who are most affected by the inclusion of this language in the omnibus. Thank you.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND TYRONE
CHESS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Tyrone Chess for his deep commitment to serving others. Reverend Chess was honored at the Holy Ghost Tabernacle's Tenth Annual Banquet Anniversary celebration on November 7, 2004, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Throughout the years, Reverend Chess has provided a strong spiritual foundation for the members of his community. As pastor and founder of the Holy Ghost Tabernacle Ministries, he has spent years attending to the spiritual needs of his congregants. His tireless service and willingness to help people in need has helped to enrich the lives of so many.

For more than 21 years, he has been active in community and civic affairs, where he has held a variety of leadership positions. Reverend Chess served as the political and social chairperson of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, and is currently the division director for the Hudson County Consumer Affairs and Constituent Services Divisions.

Reverend Chess was born in Jersey City, New Jersey. He attended Essex County College and the American Fellowship Seminary, and received his bachelor's degree in theology from the Adonai Temple Christian Center Bible Institute. He and his wife, Martha, are the proud parents of five children.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Reverend Tyrone Chess for his outstanding spiritual leadership and years of service to his congregation and community in Jersey City, New Jersey.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I wish to extend to Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian my congratulations on the occasion of the Republic of China's National Day which was celebrated on October 10th.

Under President Chen's leadership, Taiwan's economy continues to grow and people

continue to enjoy high standards of living. To bolster Taiwan's economy, President Chen has improved Taiwan's trade relations with the People's Republic of China. Moreover, President Chen continues to work for an early breakthrough in Taiwan's dialogue with the PRC.

In the meantime, Taiwan's relationship with the United States is becoming ever stronger. Bilateral trade between Taiwan and the United States topped \$65 billion last year and Taiwan is our eighth largest trading partner. Taiwan and the United States share many values in common such as attachment to freedom; democracy and human rights.

I would like to personally thank President Chen for his support of our war against global terrorism and developmental assistance to a number of African nations.

To President Chen I say "good luck and good fortune". I remain hopeful that our relations will continue to be strengthened in 2005. Certainly, the able leadership of Ambassador David Lee has helped to further our relations with the government and people of Taiwan.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in reluctant support of the FY 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. I am disappointed that we are only now finishing the nine appropriations bills that should have been completed months ago. I am even more disappointed that this bill is inadequate in meeting the Nation's education, health care, and environment needs. It is outrageous that anti-environmental and anti-choice provisions have been slipped into this legislation without previous consideration by this House.

I will vote for this bill today because it is \$4 billion closer to meeting our Nation's investment responsibilities that would be in the case under a continuing resolution of last year's funding levels. While this bill includes \$14 billion more for our top domestic priorities, this increase pales in comparison to the \$280 billion in tax cuts for this year alone.

Congress must work to do a better job of balancing our priorities. I will continue to work to ensure that we make responsible investments for working families in the future.

BOB DIX, PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant who has served this institution with distinction.

During the 108th Congress, Bob Dix served as my staff director on the Government Reform Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census. In that capacity, Bob assembled

a remarkable team of experts that assisted the subcommittee in conducting oversight on a number of areas crucial to our domestic and national security.

Over a period of 17 months, the subcommittee held 39 substantive hearings, ranging from the implementation of the President's Management Agenda and E-Gov initiatives to the threats posed at our Nation's airlines and seaports. Bob was the lead staff member of my Corporate Information Security Working Group, which was a public/private partnership that was tasked with creating a uniform set of safe-practice information security standards for businesses, government and consumers. In the process, Bob has distinguished himself as a leading expert on the cutting edge technology issues of our times.

Bob Dix has accepted the position of Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Development for Citadel Security Software, Inc., and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his service to the subcommittee and his commitment to public service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUBLIC MUSEUM OF GRAND RAPIDS, MI

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Public Museum of Grand Rapids, Michigan, located in Michigan's Third Congressional District, which I represent.

The Public Museum of Grand Rapids is a collections-based educational organization that explores and celebrates the world and our place in it. It seeks to educate and delight the public, contribute to the well-being of its community, and enhance the quality of life in west Michigan.

Founded in 1854, the Public Museum has been owned and operated by the city of Grand Rapids since 1906, serving a broad regional audience of all ages. It is Michigan's oldest museum open to the public and the State's third largest museum, hosting visitors annually from every Michigan county, U.S. State and Canadian province and many foreign countries.

The Public Museum's beginnings date back to December 17, 1854, when a group of amateur historians, scientists, and collectors of antiquities gathered to form the Grand Rapids Lyceum of Natural History. By 1868, the Lyceum had allied itself with a group of interested high school students to form an actual museum with rooms open for "public inspection" in the city's Central High School. Increasingly, the museum shifted away from the display of natural curiosities and oddities, and acquired systematic collections that were useful tools in teaching about human culture and the natural world. A new name was adopted that emphasized the museum's expanded educational role as an operation of the Board of Education: The Kent Scientific Institute Museum. By 1917, the museum occupied two adjacent mansions in the downtown area, was a chartered department of municipal government, and had developed a huge lending program of instructional materials and mounted specimens and artifacts for use in schools.