## INTRODUCTION OF THE INSULAR AREAS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACT

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would provide greater access to an important tool for the development and growth of small businesses in Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). My legislation would expand the areas currently designated by the Small Business Administration (SBA) as Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZones) to cover the insular areas in their entirety. Not only would this legislation provide an important tool for small business growth in these economically disadvantaged areas, it would correct issues of implementation related to the current one-size-fits all criteria for designating HUBZones. This criteria disadvantages small businesses in the insular areas.

Currently, only those zones in the insular areas designated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development as ''qualified census tracts,'' are recognized by the SBA as HUBZones. Many additional zones in the insular areas would also be designated HUBZones under the program's ''qualified 'non-metropolitan county'" criteria, as is the case in the 50 States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, if not for technical issues of implementation. A principal factor of eligibility under the ''qualified 'nonmetropolitan county'" criteria is a high level of unemployment in a given county. The insular areas do not subdivide into counties, nor does the Bureau of Labor Statistics collect Local Area Unemployment Statistics for Guam. Therefore, firms located in a number of financially distressed areas in these jurisdictions are deprived of the opportunity to participate in the HUBZone program, as no alternative formula is used for the ''qualified 'nonmetropolitan county' '' criteria in the insular areas.

The purpose of this legislation is to support economic self-sufficiency in Guam and the insular areas by helping small businesses located in these jurisdictions to effectively compete for federal contract work. Over the past several years, the SBA's HUBZone program has been one of the most successful vehicles for directing federal contracts and subcontracting dollars to locally-owned small businesses. I am confident that the expertise exists among small businesses in the insular areas to successfully meet federal contracting needs, particularly for local projects. Universal HUBZone designation throughout the insular areas would provide incentives for federal agencies to utilize local firms. Considering the relative geographic isolation and unique economic challenges encountered in these areas, and the problems associated with implementing all provisions of the law in the insular areas, it makes sense to designate the entirety of these jurisdictions as HUBZones.

I look forward to working with Mr. MANZULLO and Ms. Velázquez on this legislation.

## DENTON'S LINK BUS SYSTEM NAMED OUTSTANDING

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Denton's Link bus system, located in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for its recognition as an ''Outstanding Metropolitan Transit System'' for 2004 by the Texas Transportation Association.

Denton's Link won the award for increasing its ridership by more than fourfold from 2003 to 2004. With better routes and an influx of new riders from the local universities—Texas Woman's University and University of North Texas—Link has helped limit congestion on our streets. The ''Outstanding Metropolitan Transit Award'' is given for designing and implementing programs that demonstrate innovative concepts or effect problem-solving techniques. But a company must not only initiate these programs but also successfully implement the techniques. The Texas Transportation Association also awards transit systems that enhance safety measures, make their operating systems more efficient and improve customer service.

Denton's Link sets a wonderful model for other Texas public transit systems looking to make improvements. I am proud of the Denton public transportation system and citizens of Denton who continued to better their community through the use of Denton's Link.

## HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF GUADALUPE COUNTY COMMISSIONER JUDY COPE

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedication of Guadalupe County Commissioner Judy Cope for her civic service.

Judy Cope graduated from MacArthur High in San Antonio, and went on to attend the College of the Mainland, receiving a degree in criminal justice. She has put her training to work as a special investigator, compliance officer, gang issues coordinator, and concealed handgun instructor.

Commissioner Cope's experience has not been limited to law enforcement; she has held positions in various different fields. Early in her career she worked as an accountant, owned a feed and tack store, assisted with operations at her husband's construction company, and held a state real estate license for 21 years.

She now puts this tremendous diversity of experience to work for the citizens of Guadalupe County. She is a strong believer in government transparency and accountability, and she has worked hard to help the public be more involved in county government.

Mr. Speaker, Guadalupe County Commissioner Judy Cope's efforts to enforce the law, forge community ties, and open government to the public are worthy of praise, and I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize her work publicly.

## RECOGNITION OF ARMY SPECIALIST JACOB PALMATIER

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Army Specialist Jacob Palmatier who was recently killed in action fighting for freedom in Iraq.

Palmatier was a 29-year-old from Springfield, Illinois who served as an Army Specialist assigned to the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Benning, GA. Palmatier went to Springfield's Lutheran High School and later entered Illinois College, where he graduated magna cum laude with a degree in English. He excelled in languages, learning to speak fluent Japanese as well as some Norwegian, Russian and French. He had been in Iraq for less than a month when he was killed outside of Baghdad by a roadside bomb.

Palmatier is survived by his wife Bridget of Rochester whom he married in 2003 and his parents David and Margaret Palmatier of Springfield. I am proud of the service this young man gave to our country and the service his fellow troops perform every day. Not enough can be said about Army Spc Palmatier. It is troops like him that are risking their lives day in and day out to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

## A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO JOHN KAUFFMAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to Mr. John Kauffman, upon his retirement as the Managing Editor of the Advertiser-Tribune Newspaper in Tiffin, Ohio.

John Kauffman, like many young Americans, entered his adulthood by proudly serving his country as a member of the United States Navy. After John's enlistment, he attended and graduated from The Ohio State University where he was an integral part of the student newspaper, The Lantern.

Upon graduation, John embarked on his journalistic career at the Ypsilanti Press in Michigan and later served as Editor of the Kenton Times. Then in 1981, John accepted his current position as Managing Editor of the Advertiser-Tribune where he has provided constant leadership.

Drawing upon his past experiences, John has brought stability and journalistic integrity to a newspaper which has seen tremendous changes. As Managing Editor, John remained cognizant of the Advertiser-Tribune's rich history which can be traced to 1832 with the beginnings of the Seneca Advertiser and its predecessor, the Seneca Patriot. With this rich

history in mind, John has displayed great leadership by effectively communicating the mission at hand and adapting to the ever changing world around him.

Through John's drive and leadership, the Advertiser-Tribune instituted a Sunday edition in 1989, daily publishing in 1990 and converted to a morning publishing cycle in 1992. After 23 years of distinguished service to the residents of Tiffin and Seneca County, John leaves behind the legacy of a paper inspired by dedication and compassion.

In addition to John Kauffman's commitment to the Advertiser-Tribune, he has shown an unwavering desire to be an active participant in his community. Whether it is his activity in his local church, or his participation in the League of Women Voters' candidates' night, John has continued to lead by example.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Mr. John Kauffman. Our communities are well served by having such honorable and giving citizens, like John, who care about their well being and stability. We wish John and his family all the best as we pay tribute to one of Ohio's finest citizens.

## HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF GUADALUPE COUNTY JUDGE DONALD SCHRAUB

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor County Judge Donald L. Schraub for his years of contribution to the Guadalupe County community as an educator, business professional and county judge.

Born in LaVernia, Texas, Judge Schraub graduated from LaVernia High School. He attended the University of Texas at Austin and earned a Bachelors Degree in Zoology and a Teaching Certificate.

Before becoming an elected official, Schraub committed years in education and business. Judge Schraub started as a biology teacher in Midland, Texas before returning to the Seguin Independent School District to teach Earth Science. After getting a Master's degree in Education, Schraub continued to serve the school district by becoming a school counselor.

Schraub then worked 12 years for the Wholesale Beverage Distribution Company. Following his retirement from business, Schraub returned to be a school counselor in the Nixon Independent School District.

As the current Guadalupe County Judge, Schraub has aimed to provide a stable, well balanced fiscal base for the county while insuring the needs of the taxpayer are met. In the Alamo Area Council of Governments, Judge Schraub serves on the Housing Finance, Planning and Program Development, and Rural Area Judges Committees.

In his spare time, Judge Schraub likes to hunt, fish, and go camping. Married to his wife Gloria for 16 years, Schraub and his family also enjoy attending the local Christ Lutheran Church. His family has attended the same Christ Lutheran Church for four generations.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Judge Donald L. Schraub, and to thank him for his years of public service and positive influence on both the young and old of our community.

## RECOGNIZING JESSICA POPE'S APPOINTMENT TO THE DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATIONAL CLUBS OF AMERICA'S INTERNATIONAL TEAM

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Jessica Pope of Little Elm High School, located in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for her win of the Distributive Education Clubs of America's (DECA) state competition. Winning this competition puts her on DECA's International Team competing in Anaheim, California later this spring.

I congratulate Jessica Pope for this outstanding achievement. Jessica first had to qualify for the state competition through a series of tests and district competitions. At the state competition, Jessica excelled past the 100-question test plus a role-playing event, which Jessica completed in front of a panel of judges. Out of about 150 contestants in Jessica's event, she was named one of the top nine.

Jessica's teacher, Diana Reynolds, also deserves recognition because she urged Jessica to compete at the Distributive Education Clubs of America events. Teachers, like Ms. Reynolds, encourage our youth to perform at their highest potential helping to build a better America.

I am proud of the education system in Texas, especially our involved parents and teachers at Little Elm High School, who commit their lives and time to fostering growth in their students. Jessica is a stellar example of how our combined efforts are paying off. Congratulations to Jessica, her parents, Diana Reynolds and Little Elm High School.

## INTRODUCING THE AMERICAN SOVEREIGNTY RESTORATION ACT OF 2005

### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2005*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the American Sovereignty Restoration Act. I submitted this bill, which would end United States membership in the United Nations, in the 106th, 107th, and 108th Congresses and if anything, conditions have made its relevance and importance more evident now than ever. The United Nations assault on the sovereignty of the United States proceeds apace; it shows no signs of slowing. Mr. Speaker, since I last introduced this measure, the United Nations has been embroiled in scandal after scandal, from the Oil for Food Scandal to several recent particularly appalling sex scandals.

The United States has wasted more than 30 billion taxpayer dollars on the United Nations and has received in return only contempt from an organization that scoffs at traditional notions of limited government and sovereignty.

Indeed, even though the United States pays the lion's share of the UN budget, UN bureaucrats are still not satisfied. They want direct access to U.S. taxpayer money with out the U.S. government middleman. A current example of this determination to tax American citizens is the Law of the Sea Treaty. The "International Seabed Authority" created by the Law of the Sea Treaty would have the authority to—for the first time in history—impose taxes on American businesses and citizens. This treaty may be ratified at any time by the U.S. Senate and UN taxation of Americans will become a reality.

This legislation would represent a comprehensive and complete U.S. withdrawal from the United Nations. It repeals the United Nations Participation Act of 1945 and other related laws. It directs the President to terminate U.S. participation in the United Nations, including any organ, specialized agency, commission, or other affiliated body. It requires closure of the U.S. Mission to the UN.

The legislation also prohibits the authorization of funds for the U.S. assessed or voluntary contribution to the UN; the authorization of funds for any U.S. contribution to any UN military operation; and the expenditure of funds to support the participation of U.S. armed forces as part of any UN military or peacekeeping operation. Finally, this legislation bars U.S. armed forces from serving under UN command.

The U.S. Congress, by passing H.R. 1146, and the U.S. President, by signing H.R. 1146, will heed the wise counsel of our first President, George Washington, when he advised his countrymen to "steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world," lest the nation's security and liberties be compromised by endless and overriding international commitments. I urge my colleagues to support this measure and I hope for its quick consideration.

In considering the recent United Nations meetings and the United States' relation to that organization and its affront to U.S. sovereignty, we would all do well to again read carefully Professor Herbert W. Titus' paper on the United Nations from which I have provided this excerpt:

> It is commonly assumed that the Charter of the United Nations is a treaty. It is not. Instead, the Charter of the United Nations is a constitution. As such, it is illegitimate, having created a supranational government, deriving its powers not from the consent of the governed (the people of the United States of America and peoples of other member nations) but from the consent of the peoples' government officials who have no authority to bind either the American people nor any other nation's people to any terms of the Charter of the United Nations.
>
> By definition, a treaty is a contract between or among independent and sovereign nations, obligatory on the signatories only when made by competent governing authorities in accordance with the powers constitutionally conferred upon them. I Kent, Commentaries on American Law 163 (1826); Burdick, The Law of the American Constitution section 34 (1922). Even the United Nations Treaty Collection states that a treaty is (1) a binding instrument creating legal rights and duties; (2) concluded by states or international organizations with treaty-making power; (3) governed by international law.
>
> By contrast, a charter is a constitution creating a civil government for a unified nation or nations and establishing the authority of that government. Although the United