

Mr. Chesbro began his long and distinguished public service as a member of the Arcata City Council in 1974, where he fought to protect the environment and to promote social justice. He served as a member of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors from 1980 to 1990, where he served with distinction as an effective and powerful advocate for local government, protecting California's coastline and northern California's water resources.

He served on many boards and commissions, was a founding member of the North Coast Environmental Center and the Arcata Community Recycling Center. His leadership role in advocating for community recycling led to his being appointed to serve on the State of California Integrated Waste Management Board for 8 years. His service resulted in many projects around the state that bear the imprint of his commitment to recycle, reuse and clean-up.

Senator Chesbro was elected to the State Senate in 1998 as the representative for the Second Senate District of California, which encompasses a portion of the state's North Coast and the North Bay counties of Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma, and Solano. During his tenure he has become a statewide leader in the area of healthcare, mental health and developmental disabilities; resource, fisheries and coastal protection; school facilities funding; and veterans' affairs.

A California native, Wes attended California State University, Humboldt and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of San Francisco. He is married to Cindy Chesbro and is the proud father of Alan and Collin.

Senator Chesbro is being honored for his contribution to one of our nation's most precious rights—participation in the political system. He is being recognized for his outstanding contribution to the political process by the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee as "Democrat of the Year, 2006." His active commitment to the preservation of our political liberty is an example for all of his many admirers.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Senator Wesley Chesbro for his contributions and service to our country.

HONORING 21 YEARS OF HEAT'S ON

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor "Heat's On," a partnership between Union Pipefitters and the Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association that has been helping those in need for 21 years.

Winters are cold in Minnesota, and home heating is a basic necessity. Over the past two decades, St. Paul Pipefitters Local 455, Minneapolis Pipefitters Local 539 and local contractors come together each fall to volunteer their skills and time to inspect and fix furnaces, flues and smoke alarms for low-income senior citizens and disabled homeowners. Thankfully, most of these visits turn up no serious problems. However, when inspections do not go smoothly, these professionals are able to provide the help needed.

Volunteers sometimes uncover major problems. On average, 10 homes out of the 400 homes inspected each year have furnaces that must be replaced, and many of these homeowners cannot afford the expense. This year, pipefitters and contractors have come together yet again to establish a fund to help these homeowners with the cost of furnace replacement.

Thanks to the outstanding Heat's On partnership, thousands of senior citizens and disabled Minnesotans have been able to remain safe in their homes. Just as important, they have a sense of relief knowing that their homes will be warm and comfortable as cold weather approaches.

I am proud to live in a community that cares—where union workers come together with small businesses for the good of our neighbors. This is a partnership that makes sense, which is why it has served as a model for other communities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending all of the volunteers from St. Paul Pipefitters Local 455, Minneapolis Pipefitters Local 539 and the Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association for 21 years of Heat's On.

TRIBUTE TO CLEVELAND-CLIFFS (CCI)

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an important industry in my district that has been responsible for creating thousands of jobs in Michigan and for the settlement of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. On October 2nd, Cleveland-Cliffs, CCI, will celebrate the milestone of 50 years of iron ore pellet production and 500 million tons of iron ore pellets produced.

Even in its earliest days, Cleveland-Cliffs' history was characterized by pioneering risk-taking. Cleveland-Cliffs brought electrical power to Michigan's Upper Peninsula by introducing electric haulage equipment at the Cleveland Lake Mine in 1892. Cleveland-Cliffs created the first geological department for an iron mining company in the Lake Superior region in Ishpeming, Michigan in 1900. In 1910, the company built the region's first hydro-electric plant.

However, it was not until the middle of the 20th century that Cleveland-Cliffs made what is perhaps the company's most valuable contribution, iron ore pellets. In the 1940s, it became apparent that the iron ore of the Marquette area that Cleveland-Cliffs had relied upon were being depleted. While the Marquette Iron Range still had millions of tons of leaner ores, a method had not yet been invented for making this leaner ore usable in blast furnaces. Once more, Cleveland-Cliffs exhibited leadership and innovation. Partnering with the U.S. Bureau of Mines, Cleveland-Cliffs researchers developed a technique for concentrating low-grade iron ore and pelletizing it to provide high-quality iron ore pellets for use in steel production in the company's blast furnaces.

In 1956, CCI put this innovative technique into practice, producing its first iron ore pellets at the Eagle Mills pellet plant near Negaunee,

Michigan, just west of Marquette. While these first pellets were crude by today's standards, the pellets could be used in the blast furnaces to make a high grade steel and they opened the way for the development of the pellet making operations of today.

The process of pelletizing low-grade iron ore revolutionized the iron ore business. Without this process, thousands of jobs in Michigan might never have been created and Marquette County would have missed out on billions of direct economic impact from these mines. Today, Cleveland-Cliffs is the largest producer of iron ore pellets in North America.

This year, Cleveland-Cliffs reached another historic milestone. Celebrating the 500 millionth ton total is an important tribute to not only the Cleveland-Cliffs company, but also to the working men and women who have kept the pelletizing and mining operations running smoothly and productively over the past 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, from the beginning of its operations in Michigan's Upper Peninsula to its innovation of the iron ore pelletizing process to the present day, Cleveland-Cliffs has demonstrated leadership and a forward thinking trailblazing spirit. As this great company marks this important occasion, I would ask that you and the U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting the past and present employees of Cleveland-Cliffs, CCI's entrepreneurial spirit, their steady growth, their innovations, and their contributions to the economy of the Great Lakes region.

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE MODERNIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 5825, the "Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act."

Yet again, the Republican Majority has brought legislation to the Floor that disregards the rights of American citizens. H.R. 5825 would give the executive branch broad discretion to eavesdrop on Americans without judicial review or sufficient oversight from Congress.

Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, we have learned more and more about the secret programs run by this Administration that violated long-standing U.S. laws and policies. I know that we all agree that obtaining intelligence to prevent terrorist attacks is a high priority. However, innocent Americans should not have to worry that their phones have been tapped or their emails are being read.

It is a shame that the bill before us today leaves out the sensible provisions of the bipartisan Schiff-Flake-Harman-Ingalls substitute which would require congressional oversight of surveillance programs, extends from 72 hours to seven days the amount of time allowed to initiate surveillance in an urgent situation before going to the FISA court for a warrant, and increase the speed of the FISA process.

We should be standing up for the Constitution today and not passing legislation that tramples all over it.

I urge my colleagues to vote no.