

activity for understanding, solidarity and social cohesion.

We also call upon the global community, international and regional organizations, states and governments all over the world to:

Actively support the process of intercivilizational dialogue; exert sustainable efforts towards creating a culture of peace, strengthening its principles as a firm basis of international politics and the life of all people; work to establish a more fair world, to consolidate international law and justice, and to implement UN resolutions and signed international agreements, and to find effective means of establishing peace and security all over the world; heed the voices of victims of oppression and terrorism and use all means to seek a just settlement of the existing conflicts, thus addressing the grievances that nurture violence; reject totally the development, production and possession of weapons of mass destruction and promote the strengthening of non-proliferation regimes; respect and protect the sanctity of religious symbols and places and take appropriate measures.

Based upon the abovementioned, we, the leaders of world and traditional religions, resolved to:

Take concrete collective measures for encouraging and highlighting positive perceptions of inter-religious relations by organizing joint meetings, seminars and addresses in the mass media, the Internet and other places of influence; strongly promote inter-religious tolerance among younger generations to make them more devoted to dialogue and encourage them recognize universal values; integrate questions of the dialogue between civilizations and religions into curricula at all educational levels with a view to helping young people to respect and understand religious and cultural difference without hostility; use our spiritual influence, authority and resources to further establish peace, security, stability and contacts between each other in order to make a combined contribution to the prevention and resolution of disputes among different religious communities; offer our experience and best efforts to governments and people or groups and powers involved into conflicts in order to assist them in easing tensions, forming where appropriate joint delegations to conduct negotiations with them; commit to make efforts to promote and realize the goals stated in this Declaration, and to assign the Congress Secretariat to propose a plan for the best possible translation of these recommendations into reality; conduct the Congress of religions on a permanent basis and hold the third Congress of the leaders of world and traditional religions in 2009. For the Secretariat to present proposals on time and place of the next forum; bring to the attention of the General Assembly of the United Nations the conceptual and practical role performed by the Congress in promoting dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions and its considerable achievements in interreligious understanding, inviting support for the further activity of the Congress.

THE EASTERN NEW MEXICO
RURAL WATER SYSTEM ACT OF
2006

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Eastern New Mex-

ico Rural Water System Act of 2006. This is companion legislation to a bill being introduced today by Senator DOMENICI and Senator BINGAMAN.

This legislation is very similar to H.R. 4623, which I introduced during the 108th Congress. It contains, however, slight revisions that were suggested during hearings held both in the House and the Senate in 2004. There has long been a recognized need for a reliable and safe supply of potable water for eastern New Mexico.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, the recognized need goes back to the late 1950's when the New Mexico Legislature and Interstate Stream Commission authorized the construction of a dam on the Canadian River, thus establishing the Ute Reservoir. Soon after construction, numerous Congressionally-authorized studies were conducted to explore the feasibility of a project that would utilize the Ute Reservoir as a reliable water supply for communities in eastern New Mexico. Finally, in the late 1990's, several communities, concerned about the increasingly urgent need, came together to begin planning for the development of a regional water system.

Out of those meetings came the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Supply Authority. The ENMRWS, as it is known, consists of six communities and two counties in eastern New Mexico. This Authority has expeditiously and effectively finalized the studies and planning necessary to move forward with this project.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we build upon the efforts of the citizens of eastern New Mexico who have both proven the critical need and completed the necessary steps that must form the basis for a project of this magnitude. This project is not new and the need for water is becoming increasingly more urgent. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation and help provide a positive, long-term solution to a pressing water need in the rural West.

HONORING PAM BALDWIN OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH
SERVICE

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my thanks and best wishes to Pamela Baldwin, a lawyer who served in the American Law Division of the Congressional Research Service, CRS, for many years, and who, like me, is now retiring.

Pam's title at CRS was Legislative Attorney, and her specialty was environmental law, and it often seemed that her specialty was all of environmental law. She was a trusted advisor to the Congress, in general, and to me and my staff, in particular, on a dizzying array of issues—the National Environmental Policy Act, endangered species, wilderness and public lands, oil and gas drilling, forestry, mining, and coastal land use.

And she worked on all of these issues the same way—painstakingly, tirelessly, drawing on deep knowledge and with an unswerving dedication to objective analysis. She knew both the theory of law and how it was being applied in practice by federal agencies. And she could discuss complex and abstruse legal

matters in a way that even a Congressman could understand.

In short, in a time of deep partisan and ideological division, Pam was exactly the kind of expert we needed—someone who knew the facts and was willing to state them, no matter how much pressure she faced to do otherwise. And she was always willing to make herself available, on a moment's notice, seven days a week, to help inform the policy process. That's not an exaggeration. In fact, Pam had been hoping to retire for several months already, but had been asked to stay on. My staff made sure to take full advantage of the extra time and kept her busy during these recent months.

She did all of this with unfailing good humor, a wry sense of the world, and a constant ability to be surprised but not thrown by what might turn up in legislation.

Pam played an invaluable role at CRS, and the Nation is better for it. This is not the time to list the number of questionable provisions that might have made it into law if not for Pam's analysis, but they are many. Not just the Congress, but the Nation, owes her a debt of gratitude. My staff and I will miss her greatly, but we will remember what we have learned from her. I wish her the best in retirement.

WEST END FIRE COMPANY #3
100TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor West End Fire Company #3 as its members and community celebrate the Company's 100th anniversary.

The West End Fire Company #3 of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania was established as a result of the disastrous Preseverance Knitting Mill fire of 1906. The community's leaders decided that they could no longer rely on outside help in time of emergency and needed to create their own company. On October 16, 1906, the West End Fire Company was formed.

This Company has transitioned from using a barn and horse-drawn fire equipment to its first official hose cart donated by the Phoenix Hose, Hook, and Ladder Company No. 1. The original members of the Company were able to pull together funds to purchase its first lot and, within 2 years, a fire house made from Chester County limestone was established on the corner of W. Bridge Street and Pennsylvania Ave. The Company continued to grow, adding an ambulance service in 1917, and finally incorporating female firefighters into service in 1985. The West End Fire Company #3 is to this day on cutting edge of safety by constantly adding new equipment, training new members, and providing Phoenixville with countless hours of community service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the West End Fire Company #3 of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania as they celebrate its 100th anniversary and in extending best wishes and heartfelt congratulations for 100 years of exemplary community service and volunteerism in protecting the lives and property of Phoenixville area citizens.