

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MR. CHRIS BLUM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Chris Blum, FAA Regional Administrator for Central Region, on the occasion of his retirement after 38 years of serving the FAA.

Chris began his career in 1970 as a controller at the Miami Air Traffic Control Center. He has since served in various management positions in the FAA's Southern, Central and Great Lakes Regions. In April 2005, he was asked to handle two regions—Central and Great Lakes. This resulted in a twelve-state span, and was a first for the FAA. He was also responsible for such high volume and high visibility facilities as Chicago O'Hare. In 2008, Chris was detailed as the Acting Administrator for Regions and Center Operations, Washington, DC.

Chris has earned the gratitude and respect of his fellow colleagues and fellow citizens. His life's dedication and hard work should serve as an example to the rest of us on how we can better serve each other and our great nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Mr. Chris Blum for his dedicated service. I know Chris's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking him for his commitment to others and wishing him happiness and good health in his retirement.

**HONORING THE TOWN OF TRURO,
MASSACHUSETTS ON ITS 300TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today so that my colleagues in the House of Representatives can join me in congratulating the Town of Truro, Massachusetts on the 300th anniversary of its incorporation. Since its founding, Truro has enjoyed a reputation as a diverse and culturally rich town, whose welcoming residents and awe-inspiring landscapes are famous throughout New England.

Truro's history harks back to November 1620, when the Pilgrims visited the area while their ship, the Mayflower, was anchored in what is now Provincetown Harbor. It was here that the Pilgrims found their first fresh water, and on Corn Hill, overlooking Cape Cod Bay, the voyagers found a cache of seed corn belonging to the natives which they stole to provide seed for their own spring crop. Determining that the land here was unsuitable for their purposes, the Pilgrims continued up the coast of the Cape to present-day Eastham and then ventured across the Bay to Plimoth.

On July 16, 1709, the Town of Truro gained its independence. Formerly a part of Eastham, the nascent Town encompassed the district previously known as Pamet.

During the Revolutionary War, Truro's militia demonstrated remarkable skill and bravery in keeping the British at bay. Once, the members marched in a circular formation behind a barrier dune to convey the impression that there was a large force assembled ready to defend the town. At the time, Provincetown Harbor was controlled by the British, and there was no protection for Truro save its own meager militia.

Truro has a long and distinguished seafaring history, and at one time had a shipyard which produced large vessels in the Pamet River basin. Truro whalers sailing from other ports ventured as far as the Arctic and the Falkland Islands. Ultimately, the Town of Truro's intrepid and expert whalers helped spur an industry that became profitable and culturally significant throughout coastal New England.

In fact, much of Truro's economy was once dependent on the sea. Truro's men were whalers, and the shipyard built large commercial vessels to sustain their activities. There were several try works in town to render the whale blubber into lamp oil, and salt works dotted the shores and hillsides, providing much-needed salt to preserve the catch. These industries—along with subsistence and commercial farming—have been replaced largely by the seasonal tourist industry that currently fuels the local economy.

Today, slightly more than 2,100 residents call Truro home year-round. During the summer months, the tiny Town's population swells by an estimated 17,000 to 18,000 people anxious to experience the breathtaking scenery for which Truro is known. More than half of its landmass is within the Cape Cod National Seashore. Truro's beaches stretch unbroken between its borders, offering water access for swimming, fishing, and boating.

The first lighthouse—what many consider an icon of Cape Cod—was built in Truro at Highland in 1797. At the time, the numerous shoals off the "great backside" claimed many ships as the prevailing winds and waves drove vessels to the shore. This original lighthouse was declared unsafe in 1857 and a new tower, still standing and still in-use, was built to replace it.

Truro, with its glorious sunsets; noisy, storm-surf-beaten beaches; tranquil, sunny berry-laden hills; deliciously refreshing freshwater springs; adventuresome paths; and acres of protected National Seashore land, has been home or temporary haven to politicians, musicians, puppeteers, pirates, poets, and ordinary folks. Its people are hardy and resilient. Tradesmen and professionals, artists and writers, bards and photographers, fishermen and farmers, retirees and schoolchildren all contribute to the unique fabric of the Town's community. Some grew up here; many others have chosen this special place as their home.

It is with pleasure and pride that I join Truro's residents on this auspicious day to celebrate all the achievements the Town has accomplished, and all those to come. Happy birthday, Truro. May the years ahead be ever prosperous and bright.

**CONGRATULATING PAUL GIBLIN,
PATTI EPLER, AND RYAN
GABRIELSON RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2009 PULITZER PRIZE FOR
LOCAL REPORTING**

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three Arizona journalists, Paul Giblin, Patti Epler, and Ryan Gabrielson, for earning the most prestigious honor in their profession, the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Local Reporting. Their hard work and dedicated effort on behalf of The East Valley Tribune are deserving of recognition and should be a source of pride for the people of Arizona.

The Pulitzer Prize for Local Reporting was first awarded in 1948 to honor journalists who display innovation and knowledge of their communities while reporting on important local issues. The Pulitzer Prize Committee offers each winner a \$10,000 award and a commemorative certificate, but more important is these journalists have earned the respect and admiration of their peers and the public.

Paul, Patti, and Ryan have set a new standard for all Arizona journalists with their commitment to excellence through their exhaustive in-depth reporting on the impact of immigration enforcement in Arizona. Despite facing tough conditions with the downsizing of the newspaper industry—both Paul Giblin and Patti Epler have since been laid off by The Tribune—these individuals have reminded us all that investigative journalism is still vital to shedding light on and informing the public about significant issues that face the nation today.

It is only the fourth time in Arizona's history that a local media organization has won a Pulitzer Prize. More significantly, it represents only the second occasion that a Pulitzer Prize has been awarded in Arizona for reporting.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Paul, Patti, and Ryan's achievement and their continued service to journalism in the public interest.

ADRIAN MURPHY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Adrian Murphy who has received the Arvada Wheat

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Adrian Murphy is a 7th grader at Wheat Ridge Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Adrian Murphy is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Adrian Murphy for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 627) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today to show my support for H.R. 627, the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights Act of 2009.

For months, we've worked to get banks lending money again and now, it is essential that we level the playing field between cardholders and card issuers.

Americans are struggling in the midst of our economic downturn and they deserve tough new protections against excessive credit card fees, sky-high interest rates, and unfair, in-comprehensible agreements that credit card companies revise at will.

By enforcing new transparency and accountability in this industry, our constituents will have a renewed faith in the credit card industry, which I believe is an essential step towards our economic recovery and faith in our system.

I am pleased to be an original co-sponsor of this bill because it is imperative to protect consumers against arbitrary interest rate increases, early pre-payment penalties, due date gimmicks and excessive fees.

We have focused so much time on helping banks, and this bill will help all Americans.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I want to express my concern regarding the \$3.5 trillion

Federal budget, S. Con. Res. 13, passed by the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday.

The size of the deficit in this budget, some \$1.7 trillion for one year, is almost beyond comprehension. This could be a prescription for future debt disaster for our Nation's finances. Even the United States can go bankrupt if we continue spending at this rate.

In the first 100 days of the new administration, Congress and the administration have run up more debt than the entire 8 years of the Bush Administration. The spending in the first three months includes a \$787 billion so-called stimulus, \$406 billion Omnibus increasing discretionary spending by 10% this year and hundreds of billions in TARP dollars.

Not only does the 2010 budget represent astronomical deficit spending, it also raises taxes by \$1.5 trillion (that's trillion) dollars.

At some point soon this deficit spending, taxation and increased national indebtedness will have dramatic and negative consequences for our Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "PREPARE ALL KIDS ACT" OF 2009

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the "Prepare All Kids Act," which would assist states in providing at least one year of high quality pre-kindergarten to children. The plan calls for a new federal investment to be accompanied by matching funds from the states.

Introduced in the Senate by my colleague on the Joint Economic Committee, Sen. CASEY of Pennsylvania, I am happy to be introducing this House companion bill along with original cosponsors Reps. SCHWARTZ, FATTAH, HINCHEY, and HIRONO.

President Obama has made the expansion of high quality early education programs a major pillar of his educational reform agenda—and for good reason. Decades of research and data have proven the enormous benefits of investing in high quality early childhood development and education programs, such as higher high school graduation rates, lower need for special education, and lower rates of teen pregnancy, criminal activity, and dependence on public assistance programs. In fact, for every \$1 invested in high quality early education, the nation saves up to \$17 due to lower crime and decreased welfare and other entitlement spending.

Clearly, children are our Nation's greatest resource. The "Prepare All Kids Act" is not only the right thing to do for our children; it's a wise investment in our future.

ANGEL BREWER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Angel Brewer who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Angel

Brewer is a 7th grader at Wheat Ridge Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Angel Brewer is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Angel Brewer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

A BILL TO IMPROVE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND OVERALL DECISION-MAKING AT THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I, along with Mr. STEARNS, introduce legislation designed to reform some of the Federal Communications Commission's byzantine regulatory processes. As the pace of competition and technological change increases in our country's communications markets, sound decision-making at the FCC and faith in how it makes those decisions become all the more important. Not only are the issues far more complex, they affect far more Americans and American businesses than ever before. The bill would do much to improve the quality of the FCC's decisions and the country's trust in the agency.

First, the bill would codify the not-so-radical notion that the FCC should let the public see proposed rules before it adopts them, and should provide everyone with a realistic amount of time to comment. If the FCC expects the American people and the regulated community to respect its decisions, I don't think it is too much to ask the FCC to show some respect for them in return. Not only will this improve everyone's confidence in the FCC's decisions, it will improve the decisions themselves, both because the agency will be forced to exert more rigor in developing policy, and because the public and the regulated community can often be the source of the best ideas. Secrecy breeds both inefficiency and distrust, and the FCC already has enough of both. Thus, the bill requires the FCC to provide at least 30 days for comments and 30 days for replies on published language of proposed rules.

Letting the sun shine in and the public have a say on what they see won't be worth much unless the commissioners are provided a reasonable amount of time to review the comments and evaluate any proposed decision document. The bill therefore requires at least 30 days after the submission of reply comments, as well as an adequate amount of time for Commission review of a draft document, before the FCC renders a decision.

Nor is it unreasonable for those waiting on a decision to know when resolution will come,