

RECOGNIZING THE ALLIANCE OF
ILLINOIS JUDGES

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the formation of a new judicial association—the Alliance of Illinois Judges, AIJ, which has been established to address lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues in the judiciary and the legal system as a whole.

Founded by the Lesbian and Gay Judges of the Circuit Court of Cook County, the Alliance of Illinois Judges will serve to assist judges, lawyers and law students; to make sure that LGBT individuals interacting with the legal system are treated with respect and without regard to their sexual orientation or gender identity; and to help people in the LGBT community better understand how the courts and the legal system work.

The Alliance of Illinois Judges has also been set up to advocate for their members. The formation of All reminds us that lesbian and gay judges in Illinois—like lesbian and gay employees all over the country—are treated differently than their heterosexual counterparts. All intends to address these inequities.

In the last 15 years, the judiciary in Illinois and in Cook County has been transformed by the addition of many highly talented and dedicated gay and lesbian judges. Their presence in Cook County has brought about a sea change in attitudes in one of the largest consolidated court systems in the world.

In 1993, Cook County and Illinois took a giant step forward when Judge Tom Chiola, one of the founding members of AIJ, was elected not only as the first openly gay judge but also as the first openly gay elected official in Illinois. Then, in 1996, Judge Sebastian Patti was elected in a countywide election in Cook County, the second largest county in the nation. And in 1999, Nancy Katz, the first lesbian judge, was elected an Associate Judge of the Cook County Circuit Court. This month the Alliance of Illinois Judges is being launched with 16 founding members.

Madam Speaker, I want to offer my very best wishes to the Alliance of Illinois Judges and to all its members. The professional achievements of these individuals, their enormous contributions to the civic life of Chicago, Cook County and Illinois and their dedication to the legal profession remind us once again, especially during Gay Pride Month, of what we as a nation owe to lesbian and gay Americans and to the entire LGBT community.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2892, The FY 2010 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act:

Heartland Preparedness Center, Wichita, Kansas. This bill includes \$500,000 in FEMA

State and Local Programs funding to the City of Wichita, Kansas, for the Heartland Preparedness Center. This emergency operations center will be the primary coordination center in the event of a disaster for local, county, state and federal emergency response personnel and officials. Facility enhancements and equipment are needed to increase the communication, cooperation, training and response capabilities of the Wichita Police Dept, Sedgwick Co Sheriff, Kansas Army Nat'l Guard and USMC. Jointly locating the partnering entities will enhance the overall level of cooperation, coordination and preparation for various emergencies, and provide for more efficient use of resources, including training time and costs.

HONORING THE 37TH
ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 37th anniversary of Title IX. This landmark legislation prohibits sex discrimination in educational programs and activities that receive federal funding, and has expanded educational and career opportunities for countless young women and girls across the United States.

This legislation is most famous for creating opportunities for women in athletics, but this legislation has done so much more. It is hard to imagine a time when women couldn't enroll in any college or university they wanted, had no chance of getting an athletic scholarship, and were steered away from classes in math and science in favor of home economics. But that was the United States before Title IX. This legislation works to address inequality and injustice in all areas of women's lives, from access to higher education, career training and advancement, and gender stereotyping and sexual harassment in schools, just to name a few.

In large part due to Title IX, more women are receiving higher degrees than at any time in the past, more each year are entering traditionally male dominated fields, and hundreds of thousands of girls are living happier and healthier lives because they have the opportunity to be part of a sports team and have strong women role models to look up to.

Yet despite the demonstrated positive impact of Title IX, opponents have tried to weaken this critical legislation. In 2005, the Department of Education issued a Title IX policy clarification that allows schools to use a less rigorous, e-mail based survey method to prove compliance. If enough young women simply deleted the mass e-mail, that was taken to mean that they were not interested in sports, and sports programs for girls could be cut. Men did not face the same burden, revealing a huge double standard while men's interest in sports was taken for granted, women's had to be proven.

What these actions seem to imply is that Title IX's work is done. I have worked to protect and promote women's rights since my very first day in Congress, and I look forward to the time when there is complete gender equality in the United States. But that day is not today.

While Title IX has undoubtedly opened doors for women faculty in higher education, women still make up just 36% of associate professors and 21% of full professors. Only 2.4% of full professors are women of color. Women only receive 20% of computer science and engineering-related Bachelor's degrees, and a joint study by the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine found that women who are interested in science and engineering careers are lost at every educational transition, and those who do enter these fields very likely to face severe discrimination throughout their careers.

The Obama Administration has already made an admirable start in tackling barriers to women's success by promoting work-family balance, establishing the White House Council on Women and Girls, and signing into law the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Strengthening Title IX enforcement at the Department of Education would bolster the progress that has already been made in advancing women's rights, while helping to address the inequalities that remain in so many areas.

Those of us with daughters will probably remember promising them that they can be whatever they want to be when they grow up. Title IX works to make this a reality. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 37th anniversary of Title IX and acknowledging the essential role it has played in expanding opportunities for women and girls in the United States.

INTRODUCING THE FAMILIES FOR
ORPHANS ACT OF 2009

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, today my colleague Rep. DIANE WATSON and I are introducing the Families for Orphans Act of 2009. This bicameral, bi-partisan bill seeks to provide children in the United States and around the world the best opportunity for the full development of his or her potential by growing up in a permanent family.

Despite good efforts of countless governments and nongovernmental organizations, the number of children growing up without parents is at epidemic levels. Thus, these children are forced to live on the streets, in child-headed households or in institutions, hardly the nurturing environments needed for these children to reach their full potential as productive citizens of the world. Permanency is one of the most important things we can offer children and is something that every child craves.

The United States has long been interested in developing a global strategy for providing permanent parental care for orphans; however, we still lack a clear diplomatic authority to represent these interests. This bill aims to establish the Office of Orphan Policy, Development and Diplomacy, a specialized office in the Department of State. A specially appointed Coordinator would head this office, which would be responsible for developing and implementing comprehensive, evidence-based strategy to support the preservation of families and the provision of permanent families and for orphans. As our diplomats work with countries to prevent terrorism and child trafficking,

this office is one more service we can offer. Our government will now be set up to identify and develop government infrastructures, services and programs that help forge permanent family care in different cultures. The ultimate goal is to find children permanent families with the focus on legally-recognized relationships between responsible adults and children without parents. It also provides resources for preserving families, seeking social, therapeutic and financial programs and services designed to enable birth families to provide safe, permanent, and nurturing care to their children and strengthen and support families at risk of dissolution, separation or domestic violence.

The bill establishes a minimum set of standards for the preservation of families and provision of permanent care by foreign governments. These standards are designed to ensure that partner countries are making the necessary steps to reduce the number of abandoned children, to reunify children with family when possible, and to promote adoption and guardianship when appropriate.

The millions of children growing up without parents have a devastating impact on society across the globe. Without a permanent family, the risk of suicide, homelessness, an incomplete education, and teen pregnancy is all far greater. Every child deserves to grow up in a loving family. This bill is a giant step to ensuring just that for all the children of the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 18, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall Nos. 364, No. 384, No. 406.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 364—"no"—Price of Georgia Amendment No. 96; rollcall No. 384—"yes"—Mollohan of West Virginia Amendment No. 11; and rollcall No. 406—"yes"—Obey of Wisconsin Amendment.

Madam Speaker, on June 19, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall Nos. 410, 418.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 410—"yes"—Providing for consideration of H.R. 2918, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch FY 2010 and rollcall No. 418—"yes"—Impeaching Samuel B. Kent, judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, for high crimes and misdemeanors

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 2996, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010: \$500,000 is provided in H.R.

2996 from the EPA STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project to separate the combined sewers and replace the aging water main in the Eastside portion of the City of Grand Rapids. The funding was requested by the City of Grand Rapids, 300 Monroe Ave. NW., Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Additional funding for this project will be covered by the City's Sewer System and Water System revenue bonds. This project is of national significance and a good use of taxpayer dollars because it will contribute to the cleanup of the Great Lakes, a nationally important water source which suffers from water quality and quantity degradation. This aggressive program and dedication of limited resources will result in the complete elimination of the city's combined sewer overflows to the Grand River and Lake Michigan in 10 years.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. RANDY FORBES

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Research and Development, Defense Wide, Joint Experimentation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Office of Commonwealth Preparedness, Commonwealth of Virginia

Address of Requesting Entity: Patrick Henry Building, 1111 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23218

Description of Request: Provides \$2,700,000 for a Tidewater Full-Scale Exercise, to enhance the Commonwealth of Virginia's interdiction, response and recovery capabilities to a WMD event through the conduct of a multi-agency, maritime Full-Scale Exercise, utilizing the experience and unique capabilities of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Asymmetric Warfare (CAW) and Old Dominion University's Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC).

Requesting Member: Congressman J. RANDY FORBES

Bill Number: H.R. 2647

Account: Military Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Fort Lee
Address of Requesting Entity: 3901 A Avenue, Fort Lee, VA 23801

Description of Request: Provides \$5,000,000 in the Defense Access Road (DAR) Program which provides a means for the military to pay a share of the cost of public highway improvements necessary to mitigate an unusual impact of a defense activity. This project would fund a roundabout at Adams Avenue at the entrance to Fort Lee to alleviate traffic congestion and improve vehicular and pedestrian safety, following the installation's growth resulting from the 2005 BRAC Round.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I secured as part of H.R. 2847, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEOFF DAVIS

Bill Number: H.R. 2892

Account: Predisaster Mitigation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Brooksville

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 216, 201 Government Street, Brooksville, KY 41004

Description of Request: Appropriate \$18,500 to purchase an emergency generator for the City Fire Department/Community Center and City office building. This facility is the only emergency shelter area within the City of Brooksville. The generator will allow for this critical facility to serve as a shelter and emergency operations center during times of hardship and disaster, such as the ice storm in Kentucky in early 2009. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because completion of the project will ensure appropriate emergency management and protection the local community during significant weather events and emergencies.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK M. FARMER

HON. HEATH SCHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Jack M. Farmer, a distinguished member of our Western North Carolina community. Mr. Farmer dedicated his life to benefitting his community, and it was with great communal sadness that we mourned Mr. Farmer when he passed away on September 26, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Leming Farmer, his sons, Bruce Alan Farmer and Phillip Marlowe Farmer, and 6 grandchildren.

Mr. Farmer was born on July 8, 1937, in Haywood County, North Carolina. A graduate of the Florida School of Forestry, he went on to serve as the District Ranger of North Carolina District 9 for 37 years. Because of his outstanding service, Mr. Farmer was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2000 by Governor Jim Hunt. The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is one of the most prominent awards presented by the Governor of North Carolina, only available to those who have dedicated over 30 years of service to the state.

In addition to his forestry service, Mr. Farmer was actively involved in his community. He was instrumental in the establishment of Pinnacle Park, a 1,100 acre public park filled with frequently-used hiking trails. Mr. Farmer also served on the Jackson County Green Ways Committee, on the Board of Directors of Cullowhee Fire Department, and as the President of the Jackson County Habitat for Humanity. Additionally, Mr. Farmer worked with