

Sarepta a will be honored by the Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Louisiana (MEPOL), with the Fifth annual Platinum Award for Continued Excellence, PACE Award.

MEPOL, a non-profit business resource based at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, serves to provide business and technical assistance to emerging and established manufacturing firms throughout the State of Louisiana. Since 1997, MEPOL, based on a philosophy of education, encouragement, and empowerment, has worked with manufacturers such as CSP-Sarepta to increase their productivity and profitability.

**HONORING SAVAGE PRECISION
FABRICATION**

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Savage Precision Fabrication for being named the Small Business Subcontractor of the Year.

Savage Precision Fabrication, and its owner W.T. Gardner, represent the very best of the American entrepreneurial spirit. The company is a Native American and Veteran owned business, founded by W.T. Gardner and his business partner and wife, JoAnn. The company started as a one man shop fabricating sheet metal components with only \$2,000 worth of tools and equipment, and now boasts over \$4 million in annual sales, and is a preferred manufacturer in the aerospace and defense industry.

I am proud to have a company like Savage Precision in my district. Small businesses like this are what make America great, and I would again like to congratulate Savage Precision for their accomplishments and service to our country.

**HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BRAD
OWEN, RECIPIENT OF THE 2010
GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN INTER-
NATIONAL BUSINESS COMMEMO-
RATIVE AWARD**

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen for his contribution to the growth of international trade in Washington State.

Brad Owen has served as Washington State's 15th Lieutenant Governor, first elected to the position in 1996. Since taking office, Lieutenant Governor Owen has been a leader on trade, conducting many foreign trade missions and advocating for stronger economic and international ties for Washington State.

The Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce presented Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen with the 2010 George Francis Train International Business Commemorative Award on June 2, 2010. Given at the annual Tacoma Globe Awards Dinner, hosted by the

World Trade Center Tacoma, this award is presented annually to honor businesses' and individuals' contributions to the region's strong international economy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen on this impressive achievement, and celebrate his many contributions to growth of international trade in Washington State.

**RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"**

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1525, which recognizes the 50th anniversary of the classic novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which was written by Nelle Harper Lee of Monroeville, Alabama. This novel has become an American classic and every year thousands of students across the country read it and grapple with the significant moral issues that it raises.

I thank Chairman TOWNS for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I would also like to thank Congressman BONNER for introducing this important measure.

Growing up in Monroeville, Alabama, Harper Lee was no stranger to the racial injustice of the American South in the first half of the 20th Century. In 1960, she decided to publish a novel channeling the racial climate she experienced during her youth. This novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, is considered one of the greatest American novels of our time. Its depiction of racial inequality as seen through the eyes of a child offers a unique and insightful view of American race relations in the segregated South.

Madam Speaker, when I was growing up, students across the country read *To Kill a Mockingbird* in high school. While discussing the novel with one of my interns, Brittni Hamilton, I learned that she read the novel as early as middle school. I guess such a classic novel that raises such important issues about the social and moral character of our nation cannot wait until high school any longer. In any case, I am pleased that all the young people in our nation are exposed to the timeless moral lessons of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Madam Speaker, Harper Lee's novel is classic. In addition to winning a Pulitzer Prize, *To Kill a Mockingbird* has also earned Harper Lee induction into the American Academy of Arts and Letters as well as the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Since first being published in 1960, it has sold over 30 million copies. I am proud that our nation continues to cherish and appreciate this landmark literary achievement.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

**THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO:
FRIEND OR FOE?**

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of my colleagues to a letter

I recently sent to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton as well as reports from nongovernmental organizations, NGOs, regarding human rights and religious freedom in Morocco and the Moroccan occupied territory of Western Sahara.

Since March, dozens of U.S. citizens and foreign nationals have been expelled from Morocco without due process on charges of proselytism. In the wake of this action, I have repeatedly called on the board of the Millennium Challenge Corporation to suspend the \$697.5 million compact with the government of Morocco. As Americans deal with tough economic times, it is unacceptable for U.S. taxpayer dollars to continue to flow into a country which flagrantly disregards the rights of U.S. citizens.

I am continuing to press the MCC to act decisively to suspend the compact with Morocco until the government of Morocco agrees to the return of all United States citizens affected by the expulsions, thereby sending a clear message that these actions by a purported ally will not be tolerated.

Morocco's recent actions may seem surprising to many, but to those who have followed events in the Moroccan occupied territory of the Western Sahara, this is business as usual for the Moroccan government.

Yet the Obama administration has remained notably silent on these issues despite repeated calls from within the Congress to address these grave injustices. Just yesterday, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed its version of the FY 2011 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations measures which "directed the Secretary of State to submit a report not later than 45 days after the enactment of this act, detailing steps taken by the Government of Morocco in the previous 12 months on human rights, including deportation of U.S. citizens in Morocco without due process of law, and whether it is allowing all persons to advocate freely their views regarding the status and future of the Western Sahara through the exercise of their rights to peaceful expression and association, and to document violations of human rights in the territory without harassment."

I submit for the RECORD my letter to Secretary Clinton as well as reports by highly respected NGOs clearly illustrate Morocco's disregard for the basic principles of human rights and religious freedom as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, July 28, 2010.

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,

Secretary of State,

Washington DC.

DEAR SECRETARY CLINTON: I write today to express my continued concern about the situation involving Americans in Morocco and urge you to issue a strong statement in support of the American citizens whose lives have been uprooted by the Moroccan government's recent actions. I ask that either you or President Obama call on the Moroccan government to unconditionally allow all those expelled or denied reentry to return to Morocco.

Just yesterday, yet another U.S. citizen, Mike Hutchinson, was denied reentry into Morocco. This came after repeated assurances by the Moroccan government to the U.S. Embassy in Rabat that the expulsion order issued to Mr. Hutchinson last month had been suspended and he was free to reenter the country at a time of his choosing.