

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAN MEYERS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was mistakenly recorded as not voting on roll-call vote 771 on November 8, 1995. However, I had inserted my voting card in the voting machine and voted "no," but was not registered. I request that this statement appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD after the vote.

VETERANS DAY COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the men and women who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. These brave men and women fought to protect the freedoms and liberties enjoyed by every citizen of this great country. It is because of their valiant efforts that we triumphed over tyrants and dictators. It was these men and women who answered the call of our Nation to go to war. I commend these individuals for their patriotic and unselfish deeds in our Nation's time of need. We are proud of our veterans who defended the United States of America.

On November 10, 1995, the city of Montebello's Department of Parks and Recreation will join Americans across the country in concluding our commemoration of the 50th anniversary of World War II. During this year's Veterans Day ceremony we will pay tribute to the World War II veterans from the Montebello American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts.

Mr. Speaker, it is with honor and privilege that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the following veterans to whom we owe a tremendous debt:

Serving in the U.S. Army: Henry Aldana, Joe A. Alderette, Art Alvarado, Marcelino Alvarado, Richard Aragon, Gene Baldoni (E.T.O.), Henry Barrio, Ernest Bolieu, Wilfred Burnan, Albert Bustamonti, Daniel Castillo, Ralph Castillo (PAC), Oscar Celaya, John Chacon (PAC/E.T.O.), Joe Duran (E.T.O.), Telesforo Escamillo, Carlos Esqueda (E.T.O.), Alex Esquivel (E.T.O.), Robert Estrella, Jesse Flores, David Fuentes, Rosario Galindo (PAC), Alex Garcia, Manuel Garcia, Frank J. Gustelum, Fidel Guterrez, Manuel Haro, Billy Knox, Tom Laper (Army Medical Corps, E.T.O.), Marcus Lozano, Angel Magana (PAC/E.T.O.), Gregorio Martinez, Robert McGrath (PAC), Charles Meese, Joe Moreno (Army Air Force, PAC), Jack Mottola, Ernest Mungia, Leonard Mungia (Army Air Force), Al Nudo (PAC), Manuel Ocampo, Nejamin Ortega, John Osenenko (E.T.O.), Florencio Quesada, Rudolph Rangel, Alexander Renteria, Martin Renteria (E.T.O.), Phillip Rodriguez, Val Rouleau (PAC), Richard Salas (E.T.O.), Frank Saldivar (E.T.O.), Saul Sancedo, Fernando Sarabia, Charlie Seja (PAC), Joaquin Sepulveda, Robert Sera, Manuel Sevedra (PAC),

Mike Soto, Ann Vargas (WAACS), Ross Vasquez, Arturo Vega, Law Westgard (E.T.O.), and Gerald Wyckoff.

Serving in the U.S. Navy: Tony Armento, S.R. Arroyo, George Castuita, John Caudillo, Albert Couso, Wade Downing (PAC), Joseph Encinias, Robert Figuerora (IPAC/E.T.O.), Cruz Lopez, Henry Lopez (PAC), M.C. Lopez (Navy CB, PAC), Paul Mack (PAC), Father Charles Massoth, Rudolph Mezorria (PAC), Alex Sepira (E.T.O.), Richard Tafoya, Louis Tarango, Dominick Tinti (PAC), Frank Tudisco, Joe Urtusuastequi, Susanne Urtusuastequi, and Charles Weinstock (E.T.O.).

Serving in the U.S. Air Force: Ted Carmona, Fred Quinn, Joe Salas, Joseph Schifflaver (E.T.O.), D.J. Spada, and Manuel Villegas.

Serving in the U.S. Marine Corps: Ray Franco and Anieseto Gutierrez (PAC).

Serving in the U.S. Coast Guard: Kent Armstrong, Leopoldo Cruz, and Florence Marcusak.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JOSEPH A. FRANCIS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man that I deeply respect and admire for his devotion to God, for his grace and dignity, as well as for his years of valued service to the people of this community. Bishop Joseph A. Francis, who has announced his retirement from the active ministry, has been an extremely active member of the Catholic Church since he was ordained in the Society of the Divine Word in October 1950.

Bishop Francis dedicated himself to humanity. He has been generous in giving his time to people, he has a way of making everyone in his presence feel special. He has served as both a teacher and administrator in secondary schools and colleges throughout the country. He has received numerous honorary degrees and served on the boards of trustees of many fine institutions of higher learning. His resume and list of achievements are as impressive as his bearing and his humility. As a result of his work in the community, Bishop Francis has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards and commendations.

Bishop Francis has been and continues to be an advocate for the least fortunate members of our society. During his tenure in the archdiocese of Newark he touched many lives including mine and he has made an impression that we will never forget.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Bishop Joseph A. Francis, a wise man and good man who achieved great things.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM T. ATKINSON

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an accomplished international re-

searcher, William T. Atkinson of Decatur, IL. William graduated from college in 1934 with a degree in chemistry, and like most chemists of his day, he started to work in a local pharmacy. On one particular day, he displayed a simple act of kindness that changed his career and his life. When word of his kindness became known to the family of the individual he had helped, they sought to return the favor not only with money but by offering William a job at Henry Ford's research laboratory. This was a young chemist's dream come true.

This opportunity presented William a whole new world in which to invent and he did so with great success. So great was his success that one day, Mr. Ford, himself, presented William with a bag of soybeans and told his bright young chemist that they—soybeans—ought to be good for something. William immediately set forth in his quest to find some beneficial use for the soybean.

Who could know at the time that so much would come from something that seemed so simple. He developed a soy fiber that was used in automobile upholstery during World War II. From 1950 to 1965, he spent his years perfecting his discovery of a textured vegetable meatlike substance called soy protein which contains 50-percent protein and 50-percent carbohydrates, a.k.a. the veggie burger. In 1968, he won the Food for Peace Award in Paris, France, for this discovery. Today, soybean protein and its byproducts are used to help feed people around the world.

William not only excelled in the laboratory, but also in his personal life. William had a strong commitment to community and family, as an active member of Our Lady of Lourdes and the 55 Club of the church and a member of the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Last, but not least, he was the proud father of Dennis, Lois, Mary Beth, Ruth, and loving husband to Elizabeth for 57 years. William will be missed by family and friends, but will always be remembered for his many good works and his outstanding accomplishments.

LOBBYING REFORM

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge all my colleagues to support a complete ban on gifts from special interest lobbyists. Since arriving in Congress, I've made it my office policy not to accept any gifts from lobbyists or allow any of my staff to do so. Earlier this year, I was one of 32 Members who signed a Common Cause pledge saying that lobbyist gifts were forbidden in my office. Every Member should take this pledge.

It's important because the American people continue to lose faith in Congress. In addition to the intense partisan bickering and gridlock that have become the hallmarks of this institution, Americans are appalled by the cozy relationship that exists between lobbyists and Members of Congress.

They perceive—often correctly—that Members ignore the needs of the average person while bending over backwards to meet the needs of monied special interests. They feel shut out, ignored, and disengaged from the democratic process.

We need to rebuild and restore public trust in Congress and its Members. And there can be no better way to begin this process than by giving up lobbyist-provided meals, tickets, vacations, food baskets, and golf outings that have come to symbolize what's wrong with Washington and the way it operates. These gifts should be flat out eliminated. Every Member of Congress earns a generous salary. It's more than enough to live on and serve the interests of the people who are paying it—the taxpayers.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in taking the pledge to do away with gifts from lobbyists. Support the gift ban and get back to work for the people who sent us here.

GREAT PLAINS AND PANHANDLE HEALTH SERVICES

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated professionals in the home health care industry. Across the Nation, one of the great concerns is the fear of not being able to receive high-quality yet affordable health care. In the search for one of the most effective ways to provide this, one need not look to the future, but rather to our history and to the oldest tradition of health service delivery—Home Health Care. This time-honored tradition of allowing the elderly, disabled, and ill to remain in the comfort of their own homes and receive the medical assistance they need has proven to be one of the most cost-effective and beneficial prescriptions a doctor can dispense.

Allowing a patient to stay in their own familiar surroundings allows them to retain their dignity and sense of independence, while still receiving quality medical services. It also allows them to be surrounded by loved ones and family which helps to maintain the ever important family union which can play such a key role in helping to recover from an illness.

In the United States today, home health care is regaining the popularity which it once had. As the desire for this important care increases, home care agencies across the country have met the challenge and now offer a full range of valuable services from skilled nursing and social services to physical, occupational and speech therapies. Nationwide there are over 17,500 agencies which help provide home care and this proven alternative to lengthy hospital stays now accounts for an estimated \$27 billion of the resources spent on health care, as they provide services to over 7 million Americans.

This growing segment of our health care industry deserves to be recognized for its continuing effort to provide affordable and quality care to those in need. We, in Congress and throughout America, can lead the effort to recognize home care agencies and the valuable and cost-effective health care resources which they provide. I call on all Americans to support these valuable agencies and providers who work to enhance the lives of those ill and disabled who are in need of home care assistance. In so doing, I salute all who provide home health care.

RETIREMENT OF BERNICE COLEMAN-LEWIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to acknowledge the retirement of Mrs. Bernice Coleman-Lewis from the U.S. Customs Service. Bernice worked for the Customs Service for 25 years. She rose through the ranks from the position of clerk typist to ultimately become a customs liquidating officer at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

During her tenure with Customs, Bernice was instrumental in helping to ensure that the National Treasury Employee Union [NTEU] became the union for Customs employees. She also became the executive vice president of the NTEU. Bernice was also a member of the Quality Circle in Customs. Always mindful of giving back to the community, Bernice participated in the Customs mentor program for inner city youth, and served 2 years as vice president of the Sentinel Society, Inc., a minority Government employee organization.

Mrs. Lewis has also been active in community organizations, including the 835 Ocean Avenue Tenants Association. She served as the secretary of St. Catherine Chapter 758, for the order of the Eastern Star, and she became a member of Bridge Street A.M.E. Church of Brooklyn in 1994.

Now that she has retired, Bernice is attending State University of New York [SUNY], in Old Westbury, and was accepted into the education program. Mrs. Coleman-Lewis aspires to teach in the Amityville school system on the elementary level.

Bernice is a proud parent of four children, two girls, April And Raisa, and two sons, Ajene and Malik. She is also the long time companion of Nathaniel Lewis. It is my distinct pleasure and honor to introduce Mrs. Bernice Coleman-Lewis to my House colleagues.

LEGISLATION WHICH IS GOOD FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I introduce today a bill to create a win-win situation for the Federal Government and the city of Corpus Christi, TX.

Mr. Speaker, the 104th Congress has made much of reducing the size of Government, saving taxpayer dollars and moving the decision of Government back to States. The administration's reinventing government proposals accomplish the same goals. As a part of the latter, the Vice President has directed the Bureau of Reclamation to initiate a program of title transfer of water supply projects to move ownership of these projects from the Federal Government to the States or local entities.

I introduce this legislation today on behalf of the State of Texas, to create a process so the State or our public agencies may purchase and accept title to the Bureau of Reclamation

projects in the State. This bill has the full support of the Texas State legislature, which recently passed a resolution, signed by the Governor, accepting the responsibility for this process of title transfer.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, I introduce this legislation at the request of the city of Corpus Christi. The city supports title transfer and wants local responsibility for the Nueces River project, locally known as the Choke Canyon project.

In 1976, the city of Corpus Christi and the Nueces River Authority contracted with the Bureau of Reclamation for the construction of the Choke Canyon Reservoir-Nueces River project—on the Frio River near Three Rivers, TX. The primary purpose of the project was to provide an additional water supply for the city of Corpus Christi through the year 2040. Since the project was completed in 1982, however, studies have determined that the current supply to the city from the project is less than was promised, and additional water supplies will be required by the year 2003. The local sponsors are proposing that the repayment agreements be recalculated to reflect the diminished water supply from the project, as well as the expenses to the local sponsors in acquiring additional water supplies to compensate for the projected shortfall in the Choke Canyon/Lake Corpus Christi system. After reallocating project costs and/or negotiating a fair settlement of project repayment obligations, the local sponsors are prepared to initiate a project buy-out and transfer of title utilizing a discounted prepayment of their fair share of project costs.

Mr. Speaker, our local citizens are taking a very responsible approach to this situation. They are offering the Federal Government a substantial cash payment up front, they are offering to purchase and protect thousands of acres of sensitive land as mitigation for the original project and they are accepting the responsibility for the future operations and maintenance of the project. As the Corpus Christi Water Engineer James Dobson pointed out in recent Congressional hearings, there are significant benefits to the legislation I offer today:

For the Federal Government, these include: Immediate access to large amounts of capital from early payoffs; avoidance of long term liabilities for Federal share of project O&M costs; avoidance of other future liabilities; continued compliance with Federal project objectives; and reduced federal administrative expenses.

For the local sponsors the benefits include: Long range economic savings by prepayment of debt; freedom from expenses caused by excessive Federal involvement in the project management; and local decision making on resources used locally.

Mr. Speaker, I want to point out to my colleagues, I introduce this legislation on behalf of a very responsible community in terms of its approach to water resources. As Mayor Mary Rhodes recently pointed out:

I want to emphasize that we are not talking about an area that places disproportional demands on its water resources. Texas Water Development Board studies show that Corpus Christi's per capita water use is one of the lowest in the state for a major city—only 155 gallons per capita per day. Our industries are very water efficient—in the petroleum refining and petrochemical sectors, facilities in the Corpus Christi area use only 40 to 60 percent as much water per barrel of product as similar facilities in other parts of Texas.