

HONORING ROHM AND HAAS LONE
STAR PLANT

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Rohm and Haas Lone Star Plant as they are saluted by the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce as the 2002 Industry of the Year. The Rohm and Haas Lone Star Plant is being recognized for providing critical industrial services, while continuing to make a positive impact in the Deer Park community.

Located on a thirteen acre site in Deer Park, construction of the Lone Star Plant began in 1995, with its first batch created in June of 1996 and its first shipment dispatched soon after. One of the plant's main activities is the production of polymeric emulsions, which are used in various other product applications. In addition, the Rohm and Haas Lone Star Plant manufactures approximately twenty substances that are used in the production of water-based paints, traffic paint, adhesives, caulk, as well as other household and industrial commodities.

Although the Rohm and Haas Lone Star Plant has excelled in its industrial production and processes, its presence in the community has been invaluable. The Lone Star Plant is an active member of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council, the Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the Channel Industrial Mutual Aid Organization. Two of its management team members serve in prominent community leadership positions as Director of the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce and Deer Park Educational Foundation. Additionally, many of its employees are active in the PALS mentoring program at San Jacinto Elementary School, as well as the promotion of youth sports and education in the Deer Park area.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Rohm and Haas Lone Star Plant for its many contributions made in both industry and community. I also commend the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce for their continued efforts to recognize such businesses that use their strengths and successes to better their communities.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
STEPHEN HORN

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2002

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to one of our retiring members, STEVE HORN. STEVE HORN's departure from this House is a significant loss. Many of us on the Democratic side looked to STEVE as an honest and effective advocate who worked across party lines to advance the best interests of the Los Angeles region, our state of California, and the United States.

STEVE's loss to the House perhaps is overshadowed only by the loss we will feel within the Los Angeles County delegation. Republicans and Democrats alike have come to rely on STEVE's expertise and help as a member of

both the Transportation and Government Reform Committees. He is always there to help us meet the common interests of the citizens of the Los Angeles area.

STEVE and I were classmates, elected in 1992, and we have worked together on a variety of important issues during our five terms in the House. Together, we advocated to both Democratic and Republican Administrations to ensure an effective health care safety net for Los Angeles County. We worked on transportation and economic development projects affecting the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the largest port complex in the nation. Just this year, we worked successfully for environmental funding to solve a wastewater runoff problem affecting two of our municipalities. We haven't always been successful, but our successes have far outnumbered our defeats. Southern California and Los Angeles County have benefited greatly from STEVE's willingness to work as part of a bipartisan team for the good of our constituents.

STEVE's hard work and commitment to his district have been made very evident, as I have worked this year to introduce myself to my new constituents. Everywhere I've gone I've heard nothing but praise for STEVE's representation. I have heard constantly how respected STEVE is, and how people appreciate his commitment to his district. I owe STEVE a personal debt because of the enormous assistance he has been to my staff and me as I inherit part of his congressional district, the cities of Downey and Bellflower. STEVE has explained the many issues he has worked on during his tenure in Congress. He has introduced me to local officials, business people and key community groups. He has gone the extra mile to make sure that my staff and I understand his district. STEVE didn't have to do that, and I am very grateful for his willingness to work with me.

In short, STEVE HORN's service in the House of Representatives has been distinguished and effective. I have enjoyed working with him on issues of importance of the Los Angeles area, and my respect for his work and personal integrity continues to grow as I learn more about him and the wonderful people I now have the privilege of representing.

STEVE is a class act, and he will be a hard act to follow. But I will do my best to continue the high level of representation that he has achieved and the legacy of good government that I now inherit from him. We will miss STEVE in the Los Angeles delegation, and we will miss him in the House.

Based on my experience in Downey and Bellflower, STEVE retires with the greatest reward that can be presented to him—the adulation of the constituents he has represented so ably for 10 years.

I thank STEVE HORN and commend him for his service to his district and to our nation. Ed and I wish him and Nini well in their next undertaking.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. W.J. "BILLY" TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5710, which embodies the President's

ambitious and historic proposal to create a new Department of Homeland Security. At the outset, I want to thank the Majority Leader and the Chairman of the Select Committee on Homeland Security—the gentleman from Texas, Mr. ARMEY—for taking the President's bold framework and creating a much stronger bill in close consultation with the committees of jurisdiction, including the committee I chair, the Energy and Commerce Committee, which has and will continue to have jurisdiction over many aspects of this new department and the difficult challenges it will face.

I also want to praise Governor Ridge and the White House for their flexibility and consideration of our concerns, and I think we all owe the Governor and the President a large debt of gratitude for the protection that they have given our country since 9/11.

Ever since the anthrax attacks of last year, the threat of bioterrorism has become much more of a reality, and the importance of biomedical research activities at the Department of Health and Human Services and NIH and the CDC has never been greater. This bill builds upon those great research agencies. Rather than destroying their work and taking it over and redoing it, the bill makes it clear that NIH and CDC will retain primary responsibility over human health-related research, and that the new Department itself will not engage in such R&D efforts. Rather, it will collaborate and coordinate with these two agencies in setting priorities for research on terrorist agents.

The Committee on Energy and Commerce recommended this approach because the terrorism-related research currently being performed at NIH and at the CDC is really dual-purpose in nature. It serves the priority and needs of both counterterrorism and the traditional public health system. So I want to thank the gentleman from Texas and the administration for working with us on this important change.

We also want to make clear that the bill adopts recommendations that our Committee made with respect to the public health emergency and bioterrorism grant programs run by CDC and HHS for state and local governments, leaving them where they are now so that this important work of upgrading our public health infrastructure is not interrupted.

The bill also will improve the efforts by our country's top scientists at national laboratories to develop new methods of detecting and preventing terrorist attacks, such as improved sensors to detect radiological devices and new scanners to screen luggage and cargo, a critical need as we move forward. Our current ability to screen for radiological and nuclear materials entering our ports is woefully inadequate. We are going to do something about it with this bill.

A key provision in the bill that our Committee recommended will establish a central technology clearinghouse that will assist Federal agencies, State and local governments and, even more importantly, the private sector in evaluating, implementing, and disseminating information about key homeland security technologies such as radiation and bio-weapon detectors.

Finally, the provisions in this bill dealing with the protection of our nation's critical infrastructures—most of which fall within our Committee's jurisdiction and are under the control of the private sector—are vitally important to ensure that progress in this area continues to be