

often penalized for activities that are actually happening south of the border and beyond their control.

At least partially due to the heavy regulatory and environmental compliance burdens, electrical generation facilities are locating in Mexico. While some companies are building power plants that meet U.S. standards, for which they should be commended, other companies are choosing to operate dirty plants as opposed to incurring the additional cost of installing the best available emission control devices.

As a result, I am reintroducing the Southern Border Air Quality Protection Act. This bill takes an immediate and important step in acknowledging that we must consider air pollution a regional issue that does not respect international boundaries. My legislation will prohibit the export of natural gas to any electricity generation facility located in Mexico and within 50 miles of the U.S. that does not meet the air pollution emission rate requirements in the nearest U.S. air quality control region. In addition, the legislation includes a grandfathering clause so that any plants put in service before December 31, 2002 are exempted from this law.

This bill is necessary to protect our border communities from rapidly increasing emissions from unregulated, substandard power plants that leave U.S. communities vulnerable to Federal regulatory sanctions. If a plant isn't good enough to build and operate five miles inside the border in California, then it shouldn't be good enough to operate five miles across the border in Mexico.

I realize this is a first step and that more work must be done to create cross border air quality zones. I look forward to working with the appropriate U.S. agencies and the Mexican government to implement such binational agreements. In the meantime, this legislation is immediately necessary for the protection of our border communities and I urge all my colleagues to join me in this effort to ensure the clean air throughout the region.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS MORSE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Louis Morse, clerk of Cato Township, who earned the Master Municipal Clerk designation in 2002 through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Mr. Morse was recognized with this honor for his exemplary performance as a municipal clerk at the local, state, national and global levels.

Mr. Morse received the highest level of education achievable for municipal clerks through the Master Municipal Clerk Academy, to which he demonstrated that he actively pursued educational and professional activities and remained informed about current events in local government. In addition, he completed coursework and earned academy points by attending professional seminars and workshops, teaching advertisement writing in the profession and participating in professional meetings and conferences.

Making a personal commitment to life-long learning and mentoring, Mr. Morse continues

to serve his community through his extraordinary service. He truly makes the effort to go well beyond his regular duties.

I am honored today to recognize Mr. Morse as an outstanding citizen whose admirable qualities make him an outstanding role model to all who know him.

THE HOUSING BOND AND CREDIT MODERNIZATION AND FAIRNESS ACT

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleague and friend, Representative AMO HOUGHTON, in reintroducing legislation to make three important changes to two of the most popular and efficient housing programs before Congress: the Mortgage Revenue Bond (MRB) program and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program.

First, this bill repeals the Ten-Year Rule, a provision of the MRB program that restricts states from using homeowner mortgage payments to make new mortgages to qualified purchasers. This provision is obsolete and detrimental to the program. Every day, states lose millions of dollars in financing for first-time homebuyer mortgages due to this handcuffing provision. Our bill removes this unnecessarily restrictive provision to allow states to finance additional lower income mortgages.

Next, the bill replaces the present limit on the purchase price of the homes these mortgages can finance. The plain fact is there are no reliable comprehensive data that exist to determine average area home prices. The current price limits were issued in 1994 based on 1993 data and are well below current home price levels in most parts of the country. We propose a simpler formula limiting the purchase price to three and a half times the qualifying income under the program. This will work to preserve the goals of current law while providing a realistic limit on the program for almost all areas of the nation.

Finally, the bill facilitates lower income apartment production in rural areas by allowing states to use the greater of statewide median incomes or area median incomes as the basis for the income limits in the Housing Credit program. It is clear that the current rules do not provide sufficient incentives to build apartments in very low-income rural areas. Our bill addresses this by applying to the Housing Credit program the same methodology used in the MRB Program to determine qualifying income levels.

This bill is identical to the one 360 of our House colleagues cosponsored in the last Congress, which earned the support of the National Governors Association and every major national housing organization along the way.

Mr. Houghton and I believe these changes will ensure a strong, effective housing program that will meet the needs of our constituents now and well into the future. We ask for your support to ensure that these important provisions are enacted as part of tax legislation this year.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY MAZZOCHI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Anthony Mazzochi, a champion of the labor movement. Through his compassion, dedication, and commitment he improved the lives of the working men and women of the Nation. His hope brought those who toil in the factories and fields across the country together and gave them a voice and the empowering recognition that they cannot go unnoticed in the social, economic, or political arenas.

Anthony Mazzochi began his life in Brooklyn, New York. The struggles of the working class were brought to his attention at a young age when his father, a unionized garment worker, lost the family home due to medical bills for his wife who died of cancer when Anthony Mazzochi was 6 years old. Anthony Mazzochi served in World War II as an Army combat veteran, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and was one of the first soldiers to reach the Nazi death camps. Upon returning to the U.S. he worked as a steelworker, an autoworker and in construction.

In the 1950s Anthony Mazzochi began his work in the labor movement with the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union and fought for one of the first dental insurance contract for workers. He later became the local OCAW president. Over the years he took on more roles within the union and eventually became the union's health and safety director from 1979 to 1981 and the secretary-treasurer from 1988 until he retired in 1991.

Anthony Mazzochi was instrumental in the fight to create the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and pass the National Gas Pipeline Safety Act, among other legislation. He also led the effort to highlight the plight of Karen Silkwood, a worker who blew the whistle on health and safety problems at a Kerr-McGee nuclear facility.

He was innovative in extending the labor cause to art, education and activism. To educate union members he established Alice Hamilton College. Anthony Mazzochi was the publisher of "New Solutions" an environmental and occupational health policy publication. He helped commission a play about Karen Silkwood performed at the Attic Theatre in Detroit in 1993. He also created an internship program that brought awareness to medical and public health students about workplace conditions.

Anthony Mazzochi established the Labor Party Advocates in 1991 in an effort to build support for a national labor party. In 1996, with 1,400 union leaders, he organized a meeting in Cleveland to establish the Labor Party. He never lost hope that support for a national movement to improve conditions of workers was present in the country.

Anthony Mazzochi received the Presidential Citation for outstanding contributions to public health from the American Public Health Association in 1983; the Alice Hamilton Award from that organization in 1987; and was cited by Ms. Magazine in 1982 as one of the "40 Male Heroes of the Decade" for his work organizing the effort that exposed the forced sterilization of women workers at American Cyanamid.

Anthony Mazzochi was a working class intellectual and a renaissance man. While the country underwent unsteady and unpredictable periods over the last several decades his vision and optimism remained unwavering. Anthony Mazzochi embraced the human spirit in its totality and invited people to join in fighting for justice. Countless have joined and will continue to join as his indelible and inspirational legacy lives on. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Anthony Mazzochi.

RECOGNITION OF THE DOMINICAN
AMERICAN NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Dominican American National Roundtable as it celebrates five years of serving the interests of the Dominican community living throughout the United States.

During its first five years, the Dominican American National Roundtable has assisted the Dominican community living in the United States with immigration issues and voter registration drives. It has also established a Dominican internship program, opened its permanent office in Washington, DC, and held five national conferences. In the future, the Dominican American National Roundtable plans to host varied events throughout the country such as Dominican American Business Legislative meetings, and, of course, their annual conference. The Roundtable is also putting together the Dominican Leadership Institute.

I also take this opportunity to recognize the President of the Dominican American National Roundtable, Margarita Cepeda-Leonardo, 1st Vice President, Sid Wilson, 2nd Vice President, State Senator Juan Pichardo, and all the former Presidents, Vice Presidents and current and past members of the Dominican American National Roundtable Board.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Dominican American National Roundtable for its tremendous achievements with the certainty that it will continue to make valuable contributions to the Dominican community. I join the Dominican community in the United States in applauding its continued successes.

H.R. 11, THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in today in support of H.R. 11, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Reauthorization Act, which we are considering today under suspension of the rules.

It is a shame that Congressional leadership allowed any lapse in the authority to write new flood insurance policies by the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) under the Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA). However, I am relieved that the lapse in authority, which began December 31, 2002, is shortly coming to an end. Thousands of my constituents are mandatory and voluntary participants in the NFIP, and they deserve the convenience of renewing and beginning new policies without interference from Congressional inaction.

I would like to commend FEMA and the underwriters for the efforts that they have made to reach out to homeowners and warn them of the problem and lead them to solutions. Hopefully, the Senate will take up this legislation immediately and send it to the President, and Congress will not allow this situation to occur again. The NFIP is an absolutely critical program for my constituents and millions of other homeowners, with flooding causing billions of dollars of damage nationwide every year. Since affordable flood insurance is not a sustainable business for the private insurance industry, it is essential that Congress support the NFIP.

Mr. Speaker, we need to come together and take care of business for the millions of Americans who live in the floodplain or other flood hazard areas. It is our duty to ensure the smooth operation of the National Flood Insurance Program, and we have already delayed too long. I urge my colleagues to suspend the rules and approve H.R. 11, the National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorization Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENISE L. MAJETTE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, regarding the vote on the rule for the unemployment insurance, had I been able to vote, I would have voted "no." I was on the floor at the time of the vote but was unable to vote within the time allotted.

DO NOT TRANSPORT GEMS LANDFILL POLLUTANTS TO CCMUA

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to comment on the legislative intent of the Comprehensive Environment Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and specifically on the cleanup of a Superfund site in my district, the Gloucester Environmental Management Services (GEMS) landfill (EPA Facility ID NJD980529192).

I strongly oppose the transport of pollutants from the GEMS landfill through sewer lines to the Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA). I continue to believe that the only responsible option is for the GEMS Trust to build an on-site treatment facility that can treat the contaminated water to the highest standards possible. Further, I call on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and CCMUA to step up and protect the public interest by insisting on on-site treatment, and only on-site treatment of the con-

taminants in the landfill. According to a letter from EPA Region 2 Administrator Jane Kenney dated November 25, 2002, the CCMUA is under no legal obligation to accept contaminants from GEMS. As such, I continue to urge the CCMUA heed the call of the local community and reject any discharge from GEMS.

The intent of Superfund is to hold polluters responsible for cleaning up the damage they have caused to a community. There is no plausible reason that a publicly financed municipal utility authority should be involved in the remediation process. Furthermore, committing the CCMUA to the long term burden of processing unpredictable wastewater is inconsistent with New Jersey's efforts to meet federal Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) initiatives as prescribed in the Clean Water Act.

Proponents of the CCMUA treatment option cite water quality tests that satisfy permit requirements for discharge to the CCMUA. I believe that this testing is inadequate evidence to send the GEMS pollutants off-site. It is likely that the customary "grab samples" will miss radioactive "spikes" and that the heavier radio isotopes will flocculate in the sludge, which is destined to be sent back into a community as part of the state's controversial "beneficial use" land application sludge policy. It is also predictable that under current testing and notification procedures, there will be a significant lapse of time from when a problem is detected, its source is determined, the flow to the sewer plant halted, and byproduct recipients are notified. I am convinced that this testing and monitoring regime will not fully protect the community.

Insufficient review has been given to the synergistic and cumulative effects of discharges to CCMUA. Needless to say, any costs related to the disruption of the CCMUA system, environmental impairment and legal defenses, will immediately be a pass through cost to the CCMUA rate payers and ultimately, to New Jersey taxpayers in general. This is a risk that I am not will to pass on to my constituents.

The GEMS Landfill has exposed our community to hazardous material for almost 50 years. Today, approximately 38,000 of my constituents live within a three mile radius of the GEMS Landfill, some as close as 300 feet. Unfortunately the community has not been adequately involved in the decision making process. Many of my constituents have contacted me with their concerns about GEMS and to outline their difficulty in obtaining information about the remediation.

Although the landfill has been closed for 22 years, amazingly we are still grappling with how to cleanup the site. The GEMS Trust should not get away with a band aid solution to a major environmental hazard. My constituents have suffered long enough. I sincerely hope that the EPA, NJDEP and constituents meet the responsibility they have to the public and to public health by supporting the construction of a treatment facility that will contain the pollution and treat it on-site rather than spread it around the community by sending it to the constituents. If, however, they do not do so, I am prepared to pursue any avenue necessary—including legislation or litigation or both—to block this unwelcome and risky plan.