

will create jobs and wealth. The only question is, who will benefit. Will America lead the way as we have in all other scientific advancements? Will we be the pioneers and producers? Or, will we relegate ourselves to mere consumers who send our fortunes around the world?

The question is whether America will continue to lead the world in scientific breakthroughs or take a backseat to other countries.

We can already read articles in our daily newspapers that tell us of the commitments other countries have made to this research and the subsequent advancements they have made. Two years ago, China announced plans for the construction of a massive stem cell complex in Tianjin, which is scheduled for completion in 2010. One of their professors claimed, "We are not that far behind [the West] anymore." We have come a long way from the shocking news eight years ago that researchers in Scotland cloned Dolly the Sheep to the promising news just last week that researchers in South Korea produced 11 new embryonic stem cell lines that were genetic matches to patients with devastating diseases and ailments. Increasingly we are reading about advances that occur in other places around the world. Some of these advances raise ethical concerns, but because they do not occur on our shores, we do not have a say over the ethical standards and considerations that accompany the research.

I do not intend to imply that nothing is happening in America. To the contrary, many scientists, many of them in my own district, are working feverishly to find new cures for various diseases. I understand that some Americans object to embryonic stem cell research. However, many thoughtful, principled persons from all of our Nation's religious and ethical traditions support embryonic stem cell research. Self-anointed moralists should not jeopardize the health of our loved ones and the economic future of our country.

We will not know for another decade just how far we have fallen behind the rest of the world. I am including for the record just a small list of scientific breakthroughs using these procedures that have been made in other countries. We have waited long enough to expand our Nation's restrictive policy. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting yes for H.R. 810.

STEM CELLS—MAY 2005

1997

Scotland—An embryologist at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh created a lamb using DNA from adult sheep—known to the world as Dolly the Sheep

2002

Singapore—Researchers grow human embryonic stems cells without using animal cells to protect them.

2003

Japan and Scotland—Researchers identify a gene in embryonic stem cells that allows them to regenerate and develop into any kind of cell.

2004

Israel—Researchers develop human embryonic stem cells into beating heart cells.

Israel—Scientists coax embryonic stem cells to become nerve cells that when transplanted into rats with symptoms of Parkinson's alleviate some of the symptoms.

Israel and Chicago—Teams from Israel and Chicago develop disease-specific embryonic stems cell lines from embryos carrying genetic disorder.

South Korea—Researchers produce a human embryonic stem cell line through somatic cell nuclear transfer.

2005 (JUST LAST WEEK)

South Korea—Scientists create stem cell lines that are tailored to match the DNA of patients with medical conditions, creating 11 new lines from patients with spinal cord injuries and juvenile diabetes—putting the promise of effective treatments within reach.

RECOGNIZING ADRIAN ANTHONY REMPILLO EVANGELISTA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Midshipman Adrian Anthony Rempillo Evangelista on his graduation from the United States Naval Academy and his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps on Friday, May 27, 2005. Adrian hails from our sister island to the north, Tinian. He is a young man of character and determination who, if his past success is any indication, has a promising future ahead.

Adrian has distinguished himself during his four years at the Naval Academy, where he will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology. Most Marine Corps officers seek positions in the infantry, but for Adrian—who marches to a different beat—Navy familiarization training has convinced him that Marine Corps aviation provides the greatest challenge and fulfillment. Following completion of his training in Quantico, Virginia, Adrian plans on pursuing a career as a Marine pilot and will attend flight school in Pensacola, Florida.

Adrian was an outstanding athlete at the Naval Academy. As the 2005 Brigade Boxing Champion at the 139 pound weight class, Adrian went on to become the 2005 Midwest Regional Champion. He finished his collegiate boxing career by placing third at the National Collegiate Boxing Championship held in Colorado Springs, Colorado earlier this year, earning All-American Collegiate Boxing Team honors from the National Collegiate Boxing Association.

Midshipman Evangelista's parents are Antonio and Evelyn Evangelista and he is the oldest of four children. He is a graduate of Tinian High School. We all share in the pride that the people of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands have in Adrian Evangelista's accomplishments.

Semper Fidelis!

THE FASTER AND SMARTER FUNDING FOR FIRST RESPONDERS ACT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that I will be voting for H.R. 1544, the Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responder Act with the expectation that this bill's

serious flaws will be fixed in conference negotiations with the Senate.

Our police, firefighter and other emergency service officers are routinely putting themselves at risk in order to ensure our safety. As a strong supporter of our nation's first responders, I believe it is imperative that the federal government provide these fine, brave public servants the resources they need to properly respond to threats of terrorism.

Unfortunately, the current system for distributing grants to first responders does not allocate funding in a timely fashion. According to the Department of Homeland Security, only about 48 percent of the funding obligated to the State of North Dakota between 2002 and 2004 has actually been spent to support first responders' efforts to prepare for and respond to terrorist attacks, leaving about \$20.6 million to still be spent. H.R. 1544 addresses this issue by streamlining the funding process for terrorism preparedness grants and moving the planning to the front end of the application process. By restructuring this process, it is predicted that the time it takes to get funds from the federal government to the local entity will be shortened by about 6 months.

However, I have deep concerns regarding the minimum funding levels provided in H.R. 1544. Every state and city needs to have some minimum infrastructure for emergency response. Unfortunately, the minimum funding levels provided in H.R. 1544 do not go far enough to ensure that a rural state such as North Dakota will be provided the resources needed to develop and maintain a safe, emergency response infrastructure. Seeing that we do not know where terrorists will strike next, it is important that all communities possess properly trained first responders who are equipped with the appropriate equipment and technology to prevent, prepare for and respond to acts of terrorism. Despite my objections to H.R. 1544's minimum funding levels, I am going to vote for this bill based on the expectation that the minimum guarantee will be increased during negotiations with the Senate.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ELEANOR FORD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eleanor Ford, Executive Director of the Hartsville-Trousdale County Chamber of Commerce and Roastee of the Trousdale Reading, Education, Arts, Drama and Science (READS) Benefit Roast, Thursday, May 26, 2005.

Eleanor has quite a large list of individual accomplishments, as well as numerous contributions to the Hartsville, Tennessee community. She was a florist for 32 years, an instructor at Volunteer State Community College in Hendersonville, Tennessee, Brownie Scout Troop Leader, President of the PTA, during which time she brought a music instructor into the school system, and the first woman to serve on a jury in Trousdale County. Eleanor was chosen as the first Ms. Senior Tennessee in 1991 and was in the Top Ten in Atlantic City. She later served as Board Chairman for Ms. Tennessee Senior.