

Region. His devotion to animals is exemplified in his service as the development chair for Pet Project. His dedication to education is clear from his membership on the Allen University Presidential Advisory Board and Junior Achievement. His commitment to social causes runs the gamut from his chairmanship of the Alston Wilkes Foundation and membership on Habitat for Humanity's board. And these only touch the surface of his many current associations, and the 50 previous boards and commissions on which he has served.

Sam's list of awards is just as impressive. Back in 1978, the Columbia Record recognized him as one of 10 for the Future. Obviously that prophecy has been fulfilled. He has won numerous awards for his contributions to the arts, for his philanthropy, and for his community service. Governor Dick Riley bestowed South Carolina's highest honor, the Order of the Palmetto, on Sam in 1985. More than two decades later, Sam is continuing his life-long dedication to his community and its people.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me in applauding Samuel Tenenbaum for his lifetime of service. As my father, a fundamentalist minister, once counseled me, "the world would much rather see a sermon than to hear one." Sam has been providing a living example of the Golden Rule his entire life, and his recognition as the Humanitarian of the Year is just another affirmation of his leadership and compassion.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR (RETIRED)
GEORGE SMALL

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a constituent of mine, Major, Retired, George Small. At 98 years of age, Major Small is the oldest living survivor of the Bataan Death March in the State of Nevada.

Major Small entered active duty for the U.S. Army on April 25, 1941 where he trained to be a Chemical Warfare Officer. He was assigned stateside until he was transferred to Manila, Philippines 6 weeks before the start of World War II and came to Bataan on December 24, 1941 where he was assigned to the 31st Infantry. The 31st was involved in the intense fighting until their surrender on April 9, 1942. After the Bataan Death march, Major Small spent 3 years and 5 months as a POW in five different camps until his liberation on September 10, 1945.

Major Small was discharged from the Army on November 26, 1946 and remained in the Army Reserve until his retirement on March 1, 1968. Major Small earned the American Defense Service Medal, with bronze star, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, with 2 bronze stars, the Distinguished Unit Badge, with 2 oak leaf clusters, the Combat Infantry Badge, The Philippine Liberation Ribbon, with bronze star, the WWII Victory Medal, and the POW Medal.

Please join me in congratulating this great Nevanadan for the sacrifices he has made for this country and to extend him our wishes for continued health and prosperity as he celebrates his 98th birthday. Congratulations, Major George Small.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA
MCGREGOR

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young constituent of mine, Alexandra McGregor, and to speak to her efforts to support our troops, both at home and aboard.

A few weeks ago I came across a story of a young girl starting a grassroots effort, for a "National Support the Troops Day." After watching a news report of a fallen soldier; Alexandra was inspired to contact her local, State, and Federal officials with her idea. I stand here today because of Alexandra and her efforts.

Throughout the calendar year Americans set aside days to honor great patriots, leaders, and fallen soldiers who have given their lives to defend the freedom that Americans cherish. These men and women should be honored and I, like all of my colleagues, honor their memory with my work in this great body. However, we as Americans do not have an official day to salute our active-duty soldiers. Today, there are over one million men and women who serve our country. These brave individuals deserve our respect and admiration for their courage to protect all Americans.

With Alexandra as my inspiration, today I am introducing a resolution that would mark March 26th, "Support The Troops Day." With this resolution I ask all Americans to participate in a moment of silence on March 26th to honor the hard work and accomplishments of our soldiers both at home and aboard.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAINT VASILIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN PEABODY, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, to honor the 100th anniversary of the Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church in Peabody, Massachusetts. The local Greek population, with St. Vasilios as one of its bedrock institutions, has been and continues to be a vital part of the Peabody community.

The first Greek immigrants arrived in Peabody at the turn of the last century. As their numbers increased, they pooled their resources to buy their first property, a simple wooden building on Walnut Street which they modeled into a house of worship. On February 26, 1906, they were incorporated and chartered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, naming their parish "St. Vasilios."

By 1912, the parish relocated to a larger property on what is now called Paleologos Street. There they built a new church, and soon after built a school for teaching their children Greek culture and language. This was only the sixth such school in the United

States, and it has operated without interruption ever since. The Byzantine style church which was completed on the site and dedicated in 1917 remains a house of worship to this day.

This week in my district, thousands of Hellenic American families will commemorate the 100th anniversary of St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church with religious services and festivities. I congratulate the clergy and the congregation of St. Vasilios for reaching this noteworthy milestone. The church continues to be a vibrant part of the Greek community in Peabody, serving as a house of worship and a gathering place. The church provides a vital link to the past and to the Greek homeland, its culture and religion. Through its school and the celebration of the rich heritage and language of Greece, the people of St. Vasilios are ensuring that the values and traditions upon which the church was founded will live on for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 5, 6, 7, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF THE FOREIGN INVESTMENT SECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support the Foreign Investment Security Improvement Act of 2006, a bill to make certain that there is a full and complete investigation into the national security implications of the proposed acquisition of U.S. port terminal operations by Dubai Ports (DP) World—and to ensure Congress' crucial oversight role with respect to this transaction. I introduce this legislation today with support of my Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, the Honorable BENNY THOMPSON, and 80 bipartisan colleagues.

This legislation, and the message it sends about the importance of the national security concerns with the proposed deal, is crucial given what appears to be the cursory review of the serious national security questions that exist regarding the acquisition of port terminal operations by a company that is wholly-owned by the Government of Dubai.

SERIOUS NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS EXIST OVER DP WORLD ACQUISITION

On February 13, 2006, shareholders from Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Navigation Co. (P&O) approved an acquisition proposal from DP World, a port operations company owned by the government of Dubai, a member of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The deal would position DP World to conduct terminal operations at six U.S. ports: the Port of New York and New Jersey, the Port of New Orleans, the Port of Miami, the Port of Baltimore, the Port of Philadelphia, and the Port of New-ark.

I have serious concerns over the national security implications of the proposed takeover of U.S. port operations by a government who less than five years ago was documented as having significant ties to terrorism. As the 9/11 Commission reported, money used to carry out the September 11th attacks was funneled through UAE banks, many of the hijackers traveled to the U.S. from the UAE, at least one of the hijackers was born in the UAE, and the UAE was used as a crossroads for the shipment of nuclear material to Iran.

I recognize that the UAE has provided significant assistance to our efforts in the War on Terror since 9/11. I commend the UAE for its willingness to be an ally in the War on Terror, including military cooperation, intelligence sharing and money laundering prevention and I encourage its continued efforts in securing our world. However, these positive commitments do not mean that we should ignore the real security concerns that exist with respect to this transaction.

Late last year, DP World and P&O requested that the Committee for Financial Investment in the United States (CFIUS) review the transaction for national security concerns. CFIUS, an interagency committee chaired by the Department of Treasury and with members from twelve other agencies, was established by Executive Order in 1975 and assigned to carry out the national security reviews mandated under Section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950. Current law requires CFIUS to review proposed foreign acquisitions to evaluate national security concerns during a 30-day initial review period. If national security concerns remain after this initial review period, the statute requires a more thorough 45-day investigation, followed by a Presidential evaluation of the proposed transaction. In the case of DP World, the Committee incredibly raised no national security objections to the proposed deal after a 30-day review period, and the more detailed 45-day investigation was not triggered.

Members of Congress, state and local officials responsible for port security and the public at large were understandably shocked to first learn from press reports that this transaction had been approved in thirty days, without a formal investigation and without any attempt by the Administration to provide basic information on the deal in advance. I was also shocked to learn that the CFIUS approval was made by mid-level officials and that senior decision makers in the Administration—including the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary Homeland Security and the President of the United States—were not informed until they became aware of the CFIUS approval via press reports. It also appears that state and local officials who oversee the affected ports were never consulted or otherwise informed of the DP World acquisition.

In response to considerable public pressure over the past few weeks, the Administration and DP World have come forward to offer only limited information on the details of the 30-day CFIUS review, the national security concerns examined, and the measures taken to address those concerns. For informed judgments to be made, significantly more information is needed.

DP World and the Administration recently announced an agreement to subject the DP World deal to a 45-day CFIUS investigation. While this announcement is a step in the right direction there remain a number of serious questions about the company and its security practices that must be answered before the deal can proceed. Congress must be made aware of the findings so that we can be certain our nation's homeland security is not being undermined.

As this 45-day investigation begins, more questions exist than answers. I stress that this 45-day investigation must not be viewed as a 45-day campaign to "educate" Congress on the limited work that has already been done by CFIUS. I am troubled by recent statements of senior administration officials that suggest that the focus of these 45 days should be on addressing so-called misconceptions of Congress. Rather, this 45-day review must be vigorously pursued by all relevant federal agencies to scrutinize the work that has been done on the proposed DP World transaction, conduct additional reviews where appropriate, and extract additional commitments from the company where necessary.

Consistent with the legislation I introduce today, I expect CFIUS to review U.S. Coast Guard assessments of foreign ports where DP World operates, perform background checks of DP World officers and security personnel, and to provide a thorough review of national security and port security impacts—in consultation with state and local officials responsible for port security. It is essential that CFIUS recognize the significant concerns that exist regarding U.S. critical infrastructure—an area of national security that has not traditionally been recognized in the CFIUS process. I expect CFIUS to fully investigate the financing and control of DP World, including the involvement of UAE and Dubai government officials in company operations particularly current and former government officials that may have ties to terrorist organizations and/or the Taliban. I expect that CFIUS will review the company structure and the potential for terrorist sympathizers to infiltrate company operations—including port operations in the U.S. We must take all appropriate steps to ensure that al-Qa'ida and other terrorist organizations are not learning about our vulnerabilities based on access to DP World operations.

Finally, I urge CFIUS to make clear that this 45-day investigation is a serious, thorough review that will address all relevant national security concerns and to assert the right of the President to block the deal or extract additional assurances should national security concerns require such actions. It is crucial that the President make clear that CFIUS will not prejudge the results of this investigation.

CONGRESS MUST STAND READY TO ACT

While I am encouraged by recent developments taken to voluntarily begin an investigation, I believe Congress must nonetheless stand ready to act pending the results of the 45-day investigation. The Foreign Investment Security Improvement Act of 2006 would impose an immediate suspension of existing CFIUS approval of the DP World transaction granted on January 17, 2006; require a 45-day CFIUS investigation of the DP World transaction, to include (1) a review of U.S. Coast

Guard assessments of foreign ports where DP World operates, (2) background checks of DP World officers and security personnel, (3) an evaluation of the impact of port security by DP World's control of U.S. port operations, and (4) consultation with the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Secretary of Homeland Security and State and local officials, an evaluation of the impact on national security of DP World operations at affected U.S. ports. Following the 45-day review, the bill would require, within fifteen days, a report to Congress providing the detailed findings of the investigation and the Presidential determination. Congress would then have 30 days to reverse an approval of the transaction through legislation.

At a minimum, CFIUS should use this legislation to inform its investigation and subsequent notification of Congress. As Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I intend to work with my Committee Members to aggressively scrutinize the findings of CFIUS following its investigation, including a thorough review of the intelligence assessments utilized.

BROADER CONCERNS EXIST WITH THE CFIUS PROCESS

While the legislation introduced today only addresses the short-term concerns with the CFIUS review of the DP World transaction, I believe the current controversy has revealed that the larger CFIUS review framework is broken. Beyond the review of the proposed DP World transaction, I want to make clear that I intend to work with my colleagues in the Congress to conduct a comprehensive review of the CFIUS process and ensure that the Federal Government's review of foreign investments properly account for the security concerns of a post-9/11 world. I specifically note several concerns that I have with respect to the CFIUS process:

The current statute was enacted at the end of the cold war in the 1980s, when encouraging foreign investment was a priority. The 9/11 attacks changed our thinking and highlighted the need to more carefully scrutinize national security concerns.

Current CFIUS practices effectively nullify the statute's requirement for a more extensive investigation where national security concerns are raised with respect to a transaction involving a foreign government-controlled entity.

Current CFIUS practices create an incentive to avoid the formal 45-day investigation and subsequent Presidential decision because of a perceived negative impact on foreign investment and a conflict with the U.S. open investment policy.

The compressed 30-day initial review period effectively provides CFIUS with only 23 days to review all national security issues presented by a proposed transaction.

"National security" is defined narrowly under CFIUS regulations, and does not explicitly embrace concerns over U.S. critical infrastructure. While the Departments of Homeland Security, Justice and Defense have moved to utilize an expanded view of national security, there is concern that many of the CFIUS members rely on an overly constrained "pre-9/11" view of national security.

From 1997 through 2004, CFIUS received notices for 451 proposed or completed acquisitions. The committee initiated only eight investigations during that period.

Enforcement of assurances provided during CFIUS review is the responsibility of the agency requesting those assurances. It is not clear whether sufficient resources are devoted to ensure parties to a transaction live up to their commitments.

Congress is only notified when a full 45-day investigation and Presidential decision are completed. The lack of notification has led to the situation where the concerns of senior Administration officials, Members of Congress and the general public cannot be expressed until after a deal is done. This lack of transparency must change.

Possible long-term CFIUS reforms to consider include the following:

Elevate the Secretary of Homeland Security to serve as co-chair of CFIUS (the Secretary of the Treasury is the current chair) to increase emphasis on security issues;

Abolish the current statutory interpretation by CFIUS by imposing a standard 75-day review, rather than the two-tiered 30/45 day structure, providing additional time for review and removing the negative stigma associated with an investigation;

Expand Congressional notification and oversight with respect to CFIUS reviews;

Revise the statutory factors to be considered in CFIUS national security reviews to include critical infrastructure concerns; and

Require vigorous agency oversight and enforcement of letters of assurance provided by parties to a transaction.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my Ranking Member, Mr. Thompson, for his support in developing this legislation, and I look forward to working with him to ensure that our national security is not undermined by the proposed DP World acquisition. I urge the Administration to be diligent in investigating this transaction and to recognize Congress' important role in safeguarding our national security.

HONORING AIRMAN ALECIA GOOD FOR HER AIR FORCE SERVICE

HON. CATHY McMORRIS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Miss McMORRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously recognize Senior Airman Alecia Good for her bravery and heroism while serving to protect our freedoms. Airman Good was recently deployed from the 92nd Communication Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base to the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa. On February 17, 2006, Airman Good gave her life with eight Marines and another Air Force Airman when two U.S. Marine Corps helicopters crashed into the Gulf of Aden off the coast of northern Djibouti.

Airman Good was known to her family and friends at Fairchild for her positive outlook on life. She loved her country and was proud to serve it. In December, she volunteered to deploy to Africa. Her mission was to provide satellite communication support for United States military personnel training allied countries how to defend themselves against terrorism. The Joint Task Force also worked with families in

humanitarian efforts such as drilling wells, vaccinating herds, or raising crops.

Today, her family, friends, and country say their final goodbye to Airman Good. She leaves a daughter, Tabitha, who has her mother's magnificent smile.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Senior Airman Alecia Good for fearlessly sacrificing her own life in order to protect our freedoms from the evils of terrorism. I invite my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence for Airman Good as well as all of the men and women who lost their lives in the recent helicopter crash while serving in the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa mission.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF LIBBY JOHNSON

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Libby Johnson for her tremendous service to Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District while working in my Washington, D.C., office.

After serving as my executive assistant, the Sumner County native is moving on to greener pastures. Her last day is today, and although my staff and I are sad to see Libby go, we are glad she has taken a job that will further her career and is worthy of her incredible abilities.

Libby's conscientious work ethic and incomparable enthusiasm have served her well in the fast-paced world of Congress. Those same abilities also have gained her the respect of her colleagues. Now, she will share her tremendous abilities and experience with a new employer, who should be ecstatic over having found such a fine person.

As busy as she has been, Libby always took time to say a kind word to those around her. It seems she has never met a stranger during her time on the Hill. With her vivacious personality and contagious smile, she certainly has made a lasting impression on virtually everyone she has met.

Libby, you have endeared yourself to me and my staff. We will miss you and wish you well in your future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KEKAHA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Kekaha Federal Credit Union on winning the 2005 Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Award.

Chartered in 1938 to serve the employees of the Kekaha Sugar Company, the Kekaha Federal Credit Union has expanded its membership to include all businesses and individuals throughout the island of Kauai. It also acts as a Community Development Credit Union, catering to the financial needs of low-income individuals. The Kekaha Federal Credit Union has over 1,500 members.

In January 2004, the Kekaha Federal Credit Union initiated a partnership with the Kekaha

Elementary School to support and encourage student achievement and raise school-wide standardized test scores. Kekaha Elementary School serves a community of 3,700 residents, dominated by low-income, native Hawaiian and immigrant families. At the school, 11 percent of the student body speak English as a second language, 49 percent are Native Hawaiian (a historically disadvantaged group), and 62 percent qualify for free or reduced lunches due to low-income status. Many students live in single-parent homes or face situations that are not conducive to learning.

As part of their partnership, the credit union and the school established the Maximum Communication Journal program, also known as the MAX Program. The MAX Program has become the cornerstone to learning at the school, as students must keep a journal of class activities and homework, including notes and notices from teachers and the school. Each student is then required to have his/her parents or guardians read and sign the MAX notebook each week. This ensures communication between the students, parents, teachers, and the school.

With the incentive of prizes that include boogie boards, movie passes and bicycles, students are instructed to write in their MAX journals and have their parents read and sign it every week. In order to earn a chance to win a prize, students have to write in their MAX journals and have their parents read and sign it every week. Prizes were also given to the class with the highest percentage of completed and signed journals. Prizes are given at the school's monthly assembly. Often, parents and guardians attend these assemblies.

By all measures, this program has been a great success. The program's goal of 80 percent student participation has been achieved for the past four semesters and, more importantly, Kekaha Elementary School has achieved passing levels in the State of Hawaii standardized tests each of the last two times the tests have been administered.

Students and parents alike are excited and have a sense of accomplishment. Billy Smith, the principal of Kekaha Elementary School, explained: "The celebration assemblies are fun and crazy. Parents are invited to attend and the kids are happy and excited." Students have become more responsible as they see tangible results for their MAX participation.

Dora Maxwell is recognized as one of the original pioneers of the credit union movement. This award was created to promote social responsibility among credit unions by formally recognizing and celebrating their social achievements. The Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Recognition Award is awarded to credit unions, based on seven asset-size categories, and to specific chapters for outstanding social responsibility projects in the community in which they are located.

I want to recognize and commend Kekaha Federal Credit Union not only for sponsoring this important and innovative program, but for receiving this national recognition by the Credit Union National Association. This award is just another example of the great work and strong personal relationships that our credit unions provide their respective communities, and represents a perfect union of the very best of credit unions and community service.