

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### THE INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL 9-1-1 EDUCATION MONTH

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2007*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to introduce a resolution to establish a National 9-1-1 Education Month.

Forty years ago President Johnson's Commission on Law Enforcement and Justice recommended that a single, nationwide telephone number be established for reporting emergencies—9-1-1. Since then, 9-1-1 has been used by millions of people across the country to quickly and efficiently contact their local fire and police departments, as well as report emergencies in their communities. Over 200 million emergency calls are made each year through 6,000 9-1-1 public safety answering points serving more than 3,000 counties.

As the connection between the eyes and ears of the public and the emergency response system in the U.S., 9-1-1 answering points are often the first to know of emergencies caused by natural disasters to national security threats, making 9-1-1 a vital homeland security asset.

Educating people of all ages and backgrounds about 9-1-1 is crucial to the effectiveness of our emergency response system. It is especially important for vulnerable populations . . . children, the deaf and hard of hearing, and those with limited English skills . . . to understand and feel comfortable with using 9-1-1.

A National 9-1-1 Education Month will encourage the development of public awareness events, advertising to the public, targeted outreach to schools, and training activities for parents and teachers. The deaf and hard of hearing are increasingly using text, video and instant messaging to access 9-1-1 operators. With such an effective and comprehensive emergency network, everyone deserves to learn how to access it.

As co-chairs of the E9-1-1 Caucus, Mr. SHIMKUS and I understand the importance of the 9-1-1 emergency network to the public safety and security of our country and this resolution will help to ensure that all Americans can access these critical services in an emergency. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting a National 9-1-1 Education Month.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 27, 2007*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2643) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Chairman, I wish to voice my support for a very important program to Eastern Washington, the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program.

The PILT program is essential for the livelihood of our rural communities in Eastern Washington. Ferry County is 86 percent publicly owned. The PILT funding that Ferry County receives accounts for nearly two thirds of their budget to provide essential services.

The government owns 73 percent of Okanogan County. More impressive is the amount of land owned by the public—over one and a half million acres. According to the Okanogan County Assessor, the loss in property taxes amounts to more than \$4.5 million every year. That's a loss of funding for police, search and rescue, and emergency management.

I could continue to list additional examples since all 12 counties I represent receive funding from this program, but I want to describe the importance from someone who is on the ground and impacted by these decisions, Stevens County Treasurer Sue Harnasch.

She wrote, "The Federal Government has long recognized and accepted that Federal land holdings are a burden on local governments and that funding is necessary to provide services needed to access and use those lands. County taxpayers have been left to fend for themselves, subsidizing public services on Federal land with local property taxes."

Let's stop placing the burden on local communities and start keeping our promise.

### HONORING THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S VARSITY CREW TEAM

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2007*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Men's Varsity Eight Crew team, who represented the United States in the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup at the Henley Royal Regatta in England on July 4, 2007.

I had the honor of meeting these tremendous students on May 12, 2007, after they won the Virginia Scholastic Championship, the first of their many victories during their outstanding season. The Thomas Jefferson Colonials' Varsity Eight earned an invitation to the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup after finishing a flawless season with a gold medal at the Scholastic Rowing Association of America National Championships in Camden, New Jersey. The TJ Crew Team also added the prestigious Statesbury Cup Regatta in Philadelphia to their list of victories after finishing first

among 850 boats from 177 schools in the world's largest high school rowing event.

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology was established in 1985 as a Virginia Governor's School for Math, Science and Technology. Thomas Jefferson leads the Nation in SAT scores, National Merit Semifinalists, and advance placement credits earned. This highly selective program serves over 1,800 students from Fairfax and surrounding counties in Northern Virginia. No student is selected on the basis of athletic ability, and no one on the dynastical crew had even rowed before coming to T.J. Despite the State's longest school day and most demanding science and mathematics program, the TJ varsity men's crew practice diligently every afternoon at Sandy Run Regional Park on the Occoquan River.

Even with all their athletic success, the team's eight seniors have a truly impressive academic record with five National Merit Finalists, two Eagle Scouts, and one INTEL Science Fair Semi-Finalist. For their exemplary academic and athletic achievements, I would like to extend my most heartfelt congratulations to Ben Ranard, Dan Muir, Tom DellaFera, Lee Rumpf, Ty Otto, Marcos Carzolio, Christian Klein, Will Zeng, Raja Goel and Colin Haas. These young men are led by the varsity coach Jim Granger and assistant coach Andrew Fiebig.

After concluding a remarkable season in the U.S., the TJ Crew team ventured into international waters this summer to compete for the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup at the annual Henley Royal Regatta in Oxfordshire, England. In a championship dominated by British schools, TJ aimed to become America's first public high school to win the international title in over 38 years. The TJ Crew team got off to a strong start in the first round and continued to gain momentum as they upset England's Winchester College to break through to the "elite" eight. Despite their best efforts, TJ's bid for the Princess Elizabeth Cup fell short after a heart-rending defeat to Brentwood College School, the Canadian national champions.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Thomas Jefferson High School Men's Varsity Eight Crew for their remarkable success this season.

### RECOGNIZING DELLA E. MOSES

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Della E. Moses of Elmo, Missouri. Della celebrated her 99th birthday on July 10, 2007 and it is my privilege to offer her my warmest regards on achieving this important milestone. Della is a fine citizen of Missouri and the Elmo community. It is an honor to represent Della in the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.