

HONORING THE MURCHISON AND  
LAPOYNER INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN HENDER-  
SON COUNTY, TEXAS

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the Murchison and LaPoyner Independent School Districts in Henderson County, Texas for excellence in education.

Education is a fundamental part of the development of our Nation's youth. The Texas Education Agency recently released the 2007 annual performance ratings for schools across Texas. It is notable that the Murchison and LaPoyner school districts were able to increase their rating to "recognized"—which is the second-highest possible rating.

Their performance illustrates the commitment and dedication of the administrators, teachers, and staff who provide students with a quality education. In particular, I would like to recognize the work of Superintendents Scott Beene and Eugene Buford.

Madam Speaker, as the Representative for Henderson County, I would like to commend the Murchison and LaPoyner Independent School Districts for their continued achievements in education.

INTRODUCTION OF THE METH-  
AMPHETAMINE BEST PRACTICES  
ACT OF 2007

**HON. STEVAN PEARCE**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. PEARCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about the terrible and destructive drug called Methamphetamine, or meth as it is more commonly known. Meth is destroying our kids, families and communities all over the country. The meth scourge is particularly devastating in my district, the 2nd district of New Mexico.

Over the past year and a half, I have conducted over 50 town hall, school, church and community meth awareness visits. We all have a responsibility to educate our communities, parents, teachers and families about the dangers of this drug. Prevention, education and support of our law enforcement personnel are fundamental to fighting meth. However, the fight cannot stop there. We must provide those individuals who are addicted to meth the best available treatment. We must do everything we can to ensure that treatment centers and programs that are equipped with the best practices and methods to ensure long-term success for people fighting to be free of this terrible addictive drug.

Unfortunately, very little is understood in the treatment community about the Best Practices for treating this addiction. I have spent the past few months talking to the treatment professionals throughout my district. Repeatedly I heard that no one knows what the best practices are or what tools are needed for treating meth addiction. While there are successful programs, there is no uniform understanding

of the best methods to ensure long term success. Research on treating this addiction must be undertaken in order to provide our treatment professionals, doctors and recovering addicts with the best possible chance for success.

To achieve that goal and give our treatment professionals the tools they need I am introducing the "Methamphetamine Best Practices Act of 2007" to direct the National Institute of Health to conduct a survey of research available to find the best practices for treating a methamphetamine addiction. In addition, I am asking NIH to report to Congress this information and tell us what other research may be necessary. It is imperative that we equip our treatment centers and communities with the necessary information to be successful in combating methamphetamines.

Madam Speaker, we cannot stop meth use here in Congress. We can, however, give our communities the tools to win this fight. This legislation today will give our treatment professionals another weapon in their arsenal to fight meth in our communities. I want to thank my colleagues Representatives LEONARD BOSWELL, ZACH WAMP, DARLENE HOOLEY, and MICHAEL MICHAUD for joining me as original co-sponsors of this effort. I strongly urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

POETIC JUSTICE FOR RAMOS AND  
COMPEAN

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, when I was elected to Congress, I had an idea of how things worked in Washington. But after just a short while, I realized commonsense thinking wasn't exactly the "norm." In fact, it was going to take some creative thinking to get things done. For over a year now, I have been one of the ones leading the charge to free Border Agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean. I think our Government prosecuted them for doing their job and gave a drug smuggler a free pass. After trying things the old way—I decided it was time for some Poetic Justice, time to turn the tables and put a new twist on an old idea.

Last week, I, along with TOM TANCREDO and DUNCAN HUNTER, sponsored an amendment to the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations bill to withhold funding from the Federal Bureau of Prisons to incarcerate Ramos and Compean. This effort to free these American heroes was supported across party lines and passed overwhelmingly by a voice vote.

Since repeated efforts to have them pardoned or their sentences commuted have gone unrecognized, I set out to find other ways for justice to prevail. By withholding funding to the Prison System specifically for the incarceration of Ramos and Compean, we have "tied the hands that fund them." This does not change the outcome of their sentence, but it will allow them to remain free while their case makes its way through the appeals process.

As anyone knows that has followed this case, the administration has been less than supportive of the idea of a pardon or commutation. The idea of attaching this onto an

appropriations bill is that the President isn't likely to veto the entire spending bill funding Federal law enforcement agencies because of this one amendment. Sometimes a little creative thinking allows you to beat them at their own game and save taxpayer money in the process.

As a former judge, I believe that it is important to uphold the law and I rarely argue with a jury's decision. However, the jury in this case wasn't privy to all of the facts and these two men were found guilty based on a partial presentation of the whole truth. You see, the prosecution's star witness was an illegal drug dealer who was fleeing Ramos and Compean after he brought in a million dollars worth of dope. The jury knew that, but what they didn't know was that he was given full immunity for that crime and an unlimited-use visa to come and go across the border unchecked anytime he pleased. And most important, another fact the U.S. attorney's office fought to keep the jury from hearing, was that during the trial he used that "get-out-of-jail-free-card" to bring in another load of dope. This is all information that the jury needed to know to judge the credibility of the witness.

This was the first time in history that Congress has intervened in such a way in a criminal case and it was not something that any Member of Congress took lightly. The precedent we are setting in Congress is that we stand for justice and I don't believe that this is something that we are likely to see happen again. Both Houses of Congress have investigated every aspect of this case and leaders from both parties have appealed to the President to take action—that alone is a unique occurrence.

If the President can spare Scooter Libby from prison, I think it is only appropriate to extend the same consideration to our lawmen fighting to secure our borders. Until then, we in Congress will continue to do our part to see that we right this wrong any way we can. After all, justice is the one thing we should always find.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING TREFETHEN FAMILY  
VINEYARDS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Trefethen Family Vineyards for the award they have received from Decanter Magazine honoring Trefethen's 2002 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon as the best North American Red Bordeaux Varietal. This is a remarkable and worthy achievement reflecting Trefethen Family Vineyards' rich history of superb winemaking in the Napa Valley.

Trefethen Family Vineyards was established in 1968 when Gene and Katie Trefethen purchased the historic Eshcol Winery and surrounding vineyards in the Oak Knoll district to create a new estate. The family restored the original winery building, which was constructed in 1886 and is the only remaining example of a three-floor, gravity flow winery in the Napa Valley. In 1988, the old winery building was listed on the National Register of Historic places.