

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the exchange of letters between Chairman CONYERS and myself be made part of the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,  
Washington, DC, November 15, 2007.

Hon. TOM LANTOS,  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LANTOS: In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H.R. 3887, the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Reauthorization Act of 2007, the Committee on the Judiciary agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within the rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 3887 at this time, the Committee on the Judiciary does not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this important anti-slavery legislation, and requests your support if such a request is made.

I would appreciate your including this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JOHN CONYERS, JR.,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, DC, November 15, 2007.

Hon. JOHN CONYERS, JR.,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3887, the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Reauthorization Act of 2007.

I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation. I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary. I acknowledge that the Committee will not formally consider the bill and agree that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee over subject matter contained in this bill or similar legislation.

Further, as to any House-Senate conference on the bill, I understand that your committee reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees for consideration of portions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction.

I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during the consideration of House debate on H.R. 3887, and I look forward to working with you on this important legislation. If you wish to

discuss this matter further, please contact me or have your staff contact my staff.

Cordially,

TOM LANTOS,  
Chairman.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE HENRY HYDE OF ILLINOIS

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2007*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sadness over the passing of our former colleague and friend, Henry Hyde, and my respect for his decades of public service on behalf of the people of Illinois.

Representative Hyde was known throughout the country as a man of strong beliefs, a public servant who fought hard for his convictions with eloquence and passion. Those of us in the House of Representatives—especially those of us served with him in the Illinois delegation—also knew him as a gentleman. Disagreements on some issues never prevented him from working with a colleague on other matters.

I was one who often disagreed with Congressman Hyde, but we were always able to talk about our differences and work together on bipartisan issues, such as investigating the causes of oil and gasoline price increases in the Chicago market, ending the genocide in Sudan and the AIDS epidemic in Africa, fighting global poverty and the proliferation of destabilizing nuclear weapons, and addressing gun violence. I always felt that I could reach out to Congressman Hyde and have an open and beneficial discussion, even on the most controversial issues. He was the only person who ever called me "Janny," a private nickname I enjoyed.

Congressman Hyde was born in Rogers Park, Chicago and went to St. George High School in Evanston. He was first elected to Congress in 1974, after already having had a distinguished career as a lawyer, World War II veteran, and member of the Illinois General Assembly. He served the 6th District of Illinois for 32 years, never forgetting his roots, his responsibilities or his values. He will be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2007*

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD votes I would have cast had I been present for rollcall votes 1086 through 1126. I was absent on November 14th, November 15th, and December 4th, due to a death in the family.

If I were present I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 1086, "yea" on rollcall vote 1087, "yea" on rollcall vote 1088, "yea" on roll call vote 1089, "yea" on rollcall vote 1090, "yea" on rollcall vote 1091, "yea" on rollcall

vote 1092, "nay" on rollcall vote 1093, "nay" on rollcall vote 1094, "yea" on rollcall vote 1095, "nay" on roll call vote 1096, "nay" on rollcall vote 1097, "nay" on rollcall vote 1098, "nay" on rollcall vote 1099, "yea" on rollcall vote 1100, "yea" on rollcall vote 1101, "yea" on rollcall vote 1102, "nay" on roll call vote 1103, "nay" on rollcall vote 1104, "yea" on rollcall vote 1105, "yea" on rollcall vote 1106, "yea" on rollcall vote 1107, "nay" on rollcall vote 1108, "nay" on rollcall vote 1109, "nay" on roll call vote 1110, "nay" on rollcall vote 1111, "nay" on rollcall vote 1112, "nay" on rollcall vote 1113, "yea" on rollcall vote 1114, "yea" on rollcall vote 1115, "yea" on rollcall vote 1116, "yea" on roll call vote 1117, "yea" on rollcall vote 1118, "yea" on rollcall vote 1119, "nay" on rollcall vote 1120, "yea" on rollcall vote 1121, "nay" on rollcall vote 1122, "yea" on rollcall vote 1123, "yea" on roll call vote 1124, "yea" on rollcall vote 1125, and "yea" on rollcall vote 1126.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER ROY DAVID GILBERT, III

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2007*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize and congratulate Officer Roy David Gilbert, III for being named the 2007 Police Officer of the Year by Parade magazine and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

A resident of Waterford, MI, Officer Gilbert has described the day he was sworn in as an officer of the Detroit Police Department seven years ago as one of the happiest of his life. Last year, however, Officer Gilbert was faced with one of the darkest. On December 30, 2006, while patrolling Detroit's Western District, Officer Gilbert and his partner Officer John McKee spotted a vehicle that had been carjacked earlier that evening. While in pursuit, Officer McKee was shot and wounded in the face and abdomen.

Officer Gilbert courageously moved between his partner and the suspect, and even after being knocked down by a bullet, he returned fire and took down the assailant. As a result of Officer Gilbert's actions, Officer McKee's life was saved, and in October of this year he was able to return to the police force. Officer Gilbert was awarded the Medal of Valor, the Detroit Police Department's highest honor for bravery and was recognized by Parade magazine and the International Association of Chiefs of Police as the Officer of the Year.

For over 40 years, Parade magazine and the International Association of Chiefs of Police have recognized the law enforcement officer whose deeds embody the intrepid spirit and altruism that Officer Gilbert has displayed. Even today as he is honored by Waterford Township, Officer Gilbert still says he was just "doing what partners are supposed to do."

Madam Speaker, Officer Gilbert epitomizes the bravery and selflessness that we see in our law enforcement officers everyday. His heroic actions saved the life of a fellow officer and made our streets safer. I commend him for his achievements and wish him continued success in his service.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATION OF  
THE NEW CAMPUS OF THE  
FRISCH SCHOOL

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the faculty, parents, and students at the Frisch School in Paramus New Jersey in celebrating the dedication of their new campus. The new 14-acre property will help this yeshiva continue to practice educational excellence and instill hundreds of young people each year with sustenance for their minds, bodies, and souls.

Since its founding in 1972 by Rabbi Menachem Meier and Alfred Frisch, the school has grown from a student body of a mere dozen to more than 620. The Frisch School curriculum is rigorous—offering a steady course of core subjects as well as a wide variety of advanced placement classes. Students leave Frisch well versed in history, liberal arts, science and math, and the cultural arts. But, they also leave well versed in Judaic heritage and values. As a college preparatory school, students often go on to higher education, well-prepared by their Frisch experience. And, each year, a good portion of the student body goes to Israel to spend a year in study as well.

The new Henry & Esther Swieca Family Campus, Mordecai & Monique Katz Academic Building, and Zayat Athletic Center are the result of hard work by a dedicated community of parents, faculty, and students. The extraordinary generosity of dozens of families has enabled the School to literally double its size and provide even more educational opportunities to its students.

The Frisch School counts among its notable alumni Elie Katz, Mayor of Teaneck; Arthur Lenk, Israeli Ambassador to Azerbaijan; and Rabbi Daniel Nevins, Dean of the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Under the guidance of its President, David Rauch; its Principal, Dr. Kalman Stein; and its Executive Director, Elaine Weitzman, I am certain that still more leaders will emerge from the Frisch School ranks, and I look forward to seeing the wonderful contributions they make to our community and our society.

AMERICA'S HISTORICAL AND  
NATURAL LEGACY STUDY ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2007*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3998, "America's Historical and Natural Legacy Study Act." At the outset, I want to thank Chairman RAHALL and Chairman GRIJALVA for bringing this bill to the floor and for their work in crafting a broad package of studies that will help us to preserve our natural and historical heritage.

In particular, I am pleased that the Chairmen included a study of the Rim of the Valley Corridor in southern California. This bill is an important milestone in my 7-year effort to di-

rect the Department of the Interior to study alternatives for protecting the mountains and canyons in southern California that are part of the Rim of the Valley Corridor, as designated by the State of California.

This environmentally sensitive area is located in one of the most densely populated areas in the United States. The greater southern California metropolitan region has the Nation's second-largest urban concentration; about 1 in every 10 Americans lives in this region. At the same time, this area has one of the lowest ratios of park-and-recreation-lands per thousand-population of any area in the country. So this rapidly growing urban region is extremely underserved in terms of open space needs. Unless action is taken soon, this situation will only worsen as the region continues to grow.

The Rim of the Valley Corridor is an ecologically significant, contiguous region that consists of parts of the Santa Monica Mountains, Santa Susanna Mountains, San Gabriel Mountains, Verdugo Mountains, San Rafael Hills, and adjacent connector areas to the Los Padres and San Bernadino National Forests. This corridor system is an example of the world's most endangered habitat area, the Mediterranean chaparral ecosystem.

Parts of the Rim of the Valley Corridor are already managed within the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and the Angeles National Forest. Yet, with increasing development and population pressures, the future of the Corridor is threatened. It is in danger of becoming reduced to isolated pockets of open space, irreversibly destroying its connectivity. The contiguous nature of these open spaces is potentially critical to help preserve the integrity of its ecosystems.

The State of California has adopted the Rim of the Valley Master Plan, and local governments within the Rim of the Valley Corridor have made significant progress toward protecting the unique natural and recreational resources of the area. However, these efforts have been hampered by a lack of financial resources, technical assistance, and resource management expertise that can only be provided by the Federal Government.

Since Congress set aside the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Areas in 1978, federal, state and local authorities have worked in remarkable cooperation to manage what is the world's largest urban park. Now, nearly three decades later and in the face of tremendous projected population growth and development pressures, Congress, by passing this bill, again will have the opportunity to study ways to help safeguard and supplement the existing state and local parks, open space and recreational opportunities in southern California.

I hope that the Congress will seize the opportunity to order the Department of Interior to study of alternatives for protecting some of the most beautiful land in southern California for future generations of Americans to enjoy. The Rim of the Valley is a special place and we owe it to our children to develop a long-range plan that will balance preservation, recreation, and the needs and rights of those living in and around the area to be studied.

Again, Chairman RAHALL and Chairman GRIJALVA, thank you for your support for the Rim of the Valley Corridor study and for all of your work to preserve America's natural splendor.

RECOGNIZING WORK OF CONGRES-  
SIONAL MEN'S HEALTH CAUCUS

**HON. VITO FOSSELLA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2007*

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, as a founding member of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus I am very pleased to report a groundswell of activity occurring as I speak today across the country related to men's health education, outreach, awareness, and screening. This focus and attention is long overdue. New data provide alarming statistics about a gradual decline in men's health. In fact, men are living on average about 5 years less than their female counterparts, men are leading in 9 out of 10 top causes of death, 1 in 2 men in their lifetime will be diagnosed with cancer compared to 1 in 3 women, and as women enter retirement (65–69 years of age) approximately 15 percent are widows due to the premature death/disability of men.

I am proud to work with the Men's Health Network, MHN, to raise awareness of men's health; they, for over 15 years, have taken the lead nationally in setting best practices, creating grassroots networks and activism, and providing health services to men and their families where they live, work, play, and pray.

Under their leadership we are seeing symposia, screening events, and campaigns launched all across the country aimed at reversing the negative trends in men's health. In November and December of 2007 alone, they have led community/neighborhood development efforts resulting in a Massachusetts Symposium on Men's Health, Louisiana Symposium on Men's Health, Florida Smoking Policy Symposium, "Healthy Sunday" church screening at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Baton Rouge, LA, and will launch a Women Against Prostate Cancer organization in conjunction with the Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center. Each of these programs and initiatives makes it a priority to empower men, women, and their families to live healthier lifestyles. These efforts are engineered to reach underserved populations who don't have access to health services or health education materials.

Women Against Prostate Cancer is a new organization, founded by Men's Health Network in conjunction with the Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center, that is developing a grassroots network of women volunteers who have been adversely affected by prostate cancer. The National Cancer Institute estimates 219,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, resulting in more than 27,000 deaths this year. Meanwhile, the state symposia create opportunities for networking for men's health and community outreach organizations throughout the State(s), as well as encourage preventative health measures and physician and patient dialogue.

Actions like these can save lives and, more importantly, American families. I along with my colleagues belonging to the Congressional Men's Health Caucus am proud to support these continued efforts while continually stressing the need to establish an Office of Men's Health within the Department of Health and Human Services.