

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### INTRODUCING EASTERN NEW MEXICO RURAL WATER SYSTEM AUTHORIZATION ACT

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, today I am very pleased to introduce a bill that will authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to help communities in eastern New Mexico develop the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System, ENMRWS. A companion to this bill is being introduced today in the Senate by my colleagues Senator BINGAMAN and Senator DOMENICI. There has long been a recognized need for a reliable and safe supply of potable water for eastern New Mexico. After years of drought and ever-increasing population growth, this water supply project is now absolutely critical for the continued economic well-being of Curry, Roosevelt, and Quay counties in eastern New Mexico.

The Entrada and the Southern High Plains, or Ogallala, aquifers currently provide 100 percent of the municipal and industrial water supplies and the vast majority of agricultural water for communities in these east-central New Mexico counties. However, both the quantity and quality of these ground water reserves have declined severely in recent decades. Despite voluntary conservation efforts and improvements in agricultural water-use efficiencies, these ground water supplies will not sustain current use levels in as little as 12 years, and may be functionally depleted within 25 years.

The water supply project authorized by this legislation builds upon more than 40 years of research, planning, and design. In 1959, after recognizing the water supply problems in eastern New Mexico, the New Mexico Legislature and Interstate Stream passed an Act authorizing the State Engineer to construct a dam on the Canadian River, thus establishing the the Reservoir. Since 1966, numerous congressionally-authorized studies have investigated the feasibility of a project that would utilize the Ute Reservoir as a reliable water supply for communities in eastern New Mexico. Finally, in the late 1990s, several communities, concerned about the increasingly urgent need, came together to begin planning for the development of a regional water system.

The Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Supply Authority, consisting of nine communities in the Curry, Roosevelt and Quay counties of eastern New Mexico, was formed in 2001 to oversee the development of the ENMRWS. This authority has expeditiously and effectively finalized the studies and planning necessary to move forward with this project.

Madam Speaker, as you can see from this brief history, the citizens of eastern New Mexico have both proven the critical need and completed the necessary steps to form the basis for a project of this magnitude. This project is not new, and the need for water is

becoming increasingly more urgent. In fact, I introduced this bill with my New Mexico Colleagues in the Senate in both the 108th and 109th Congresses. In the 108th Congress the Senate Subcommittee on Water and Power in the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held a hearing on the bill, which I understand brought out some very positive support and feedback. Since that time, the need for this project has only become greater and support for the venture has continued to increase in the local communities and State government.

Without this project, it is clear that this important region will suffer economically. We cannot stand by and watch vibrant communities dissolve into western ghost towns, especially when solutions exist. I sincerely hope my colleagues will support this legislation and help provide a positive, long-term solution to a pressing water need in the rural West. This legislation represents the important next step toward addressing the overarching issue of water in the and West.

### EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING CREATION OF REFUGEE POPULATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, on April 1st, the House of Representatives approved an important piece of legislation, H. Res. 185, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of refugee populations in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region. I was proud to support the passage of this legislation because it recognized all those who have suffered during this long-standing conflict. For the first time in my memory, the House of Representatives has gone on record to say that the refugee population in the Middle East is not simply comprised of Palestinians, it is also the 850,000 Jews who have been displaced from Arab countries since the declaration of the State of Israel in 1948. The U.S.-led roadmap to peace specifically calls for an "agreed, just, fair, and realistic solution to the refugee issue;" and in my opinion, and in the unanimous and united opinion of this House, that means Jewish and non-Jewish refugees alike.

Throughout my tenure in the United States Congress, I have seen the U.S. act as a stalwart champion of human rights, and I have seen this House stand up and voice concerns about the treatment of refugees and minorities, as well as concerns on violations of basic human rights throughout the Middle East and elsewhere. As the U.S. continues to play a pivotal role in seeking an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, I urge my colleagues to continue to speak out and re-

mind the world that we must not overlook the Jewish refugee problem in our enthusiasm for peace.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to further this important effort.

### DEDICATION OF THE KATHLEEN SAVAGE BROWNING MINIATURES COLLECTION

**HON. GEOFF DAVIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, on April 8, 2008, a new educational collection will be unveiled and celebrated at the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center in Maysville, Kentucky.

Chicago's Art Institute and England's Queen Mary's Dolls' House are among the few places in the world where visitors can enjoy expansive collections of miniature buildings and artifacts and Maysville's Kentucky Gateway Museum Center now joins these distinguished institutions. The 3,300 square foot Miniatures Gallery at the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center is now home to an unrivaled collection of thousands of 1/12 scale miniatures thanks to a generous donation from Maysville native and resident Kaye Browning. The collection features historic buildings, homes and monuments, including the ancestral home of Lady Diana Spencer, the Fleece Inn in England and the Cox Building in Maysville.

This collection has been a passion of Ms. Browning's for over thirty years. Her donation to the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center represents a substantial investment in the community and is certain to bring many visitors, both young and old, to Maysville to experience this world-class collection and gallery. I thank Ms. Browning for her incredible gift to the museum and for her tremendous dedication to Maysville and the entire region. I want to thank Lou Browning, her husband and partner in this endeavor and the staff and supporters of the Kentucky Gateway Museum Center who have made it a leader in telling the story of our Commonwealth.

### THE INFANT CRIB SAFETY ACT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Infant Crib Safety Act.

I originally introduced this legislation in 1999 at the request of the Danny Foundation, a national nonprofit organization established after the tragic death of Danny Lineweaver of Alamo, Calif. At the age of 23 months, Danny was injured while trying to climb out of his

• 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.

crib. He caught his shirt on a decorative knob on the corner post of his crib and hanged himself. Though his mother was able to perform CPR the moment she found him, Danny lived in a semi-comatose state for nine years and died in 1993.

But Danny Lineweaver's parents are by no means the only ones to face this heart-breaking and preventable tragedy. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, CPSC, more than 12,300 infants and children are hospitalized—and more than 40 children die—each year as a result of injuries from unsafe cribs. These children include Amaya Jade Dummer, a 2-month-old who died of asphyxiation when she was caught in the gap between the crib railing and the side of her crib, and Garrett Davis, a 4-month-old who died at his grandparents' home when he became wedged between an added mattress and the vinyl side of his mesh crib.

Madam Speaker, cribs are the only juvenile products manufactured expressly for leaving children unattended, and the design and construction of cribs must ensure that parents can have confidence that a crib is a safe place to leave an infant. Existing CPSC mandatory standards, as well as voluntary crib safety guidelines, have been effective in addressing most safety hazards associated with new cribs. The CPSC estimates that these standards prevent hundreds of deaths annually. However, these standards and guidelines apply only to new cribs, not to the sale or commercial use of second-hand and hand-me-down cribs. Secondhand cribs, many of which predate stringent federal safety standards and have been subsequently recalled, are responsible for the majority of crib-related infant injuries and deaths.

Used cribs can have any number of dangerous features. Missing or broken parts, excessive width between slats, poorly fitting crib sheets, inadequate mattress support, and faulty latches that do not prevent unintentional crib collapse all pose serious risks to infant safety. Nearly 4 million infants are born in the United States each year, but it is estimated that only 1 to 2 million new cribs are sold. This means that millions of infants are being placed in potentially unsafe used cribs. Secondhand cribs can persist for years in the secondary market in thrift and resale stores. Many hotels and motels continue to use second hand cribs that do not meet current safety standards established by CPSC.

In 2007 alone, more than 1.5 million cribs were recalled. It is vital to ensure that these potentially dangerous products are removed from the stream of commerce. Twelve States, including my home State of California, have already adopted legislation that would make it illegal to manufacture or sell a crib that does not meet current safety standards. But children in every State deserve this basic protection.

The Infant Crib Safety Act will save lives, and give peace of mind to the millions of parents who place their infants in cribs every single day.

This legislation will accomplish four main objectives to keep our children and infants safe. First, it will bar crib makers from manufacturing, and commercial users from selling, products that do not meet the most up-to-date safety standards, including voluntary industry standards. As a result, it will keep structurally unsound, lead-containing, and otherwise un-

safe cribs out of the stream of commerce. Second, it will prohibit the use of unsafe secondhand cribs in hotels, motels, and inns. Third, it requires the Consumer Product Safety Commission to update its standards by including new rules on crib durability. Many cribs are not built to withstand the stresses that active toddlers place on them, rendering older, used cribs even less safe for infants. Durability standards will assure safe usage over time, as well as quickly identify failures in design or hardware that could lead to a hazardous crib.

And finally, the bill requires new cribs to feature labels warning against the use of potentially dangerous soft bedding, to remind parents of the risk of infant suffocation from the use of pillows, blankets, and stuffed animals.

Madam Speaker, this measure was approved by the Senate last month as part of comprehensive consumer product safety legislation, and I applaud my colleague from California, Senator FEINSTEIN, who worked to ensure its passage. Now is the time for the House to act on this vital provision.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COACH JILL YODER FOR COACHING THE HILAND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM TO WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Coach Jill Yoder showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jill Yoder was a leader and mentor for the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team; and

Whereas, Coach Yoder has been a role model for sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Coach Jill Yoder for leading the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team to winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and leadership she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 Basketball season.

**KELSIE HUTCHINSON**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kelsie Hutchinson who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Kelsie Hutchinson is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kelsie Hutchinson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard

work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kelsie Hutchinson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD my heartfelt support for H. Res. 1061, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. April 4, 1968 was a tragic day for America and the world. We lost a visionary leader whose conviction that all men and women are created equal, be brought to fruition in our time. Today I will not mourn, but celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King.

Although we have come a long way in remedying the social injustices of our country's history, we must continue to be engaged in a dialogue of racial and economic equality, and for the peace that Dr. King gave his life for. He fought for peace here in America, and he fought for peace for all around the world.

America is currently engaged in a war that has taken the lives of over 4,000 U.S. soldiers and tens of thousands of Iraqis. The uncanny similarities that the war in Iraq has with the Vietnam war must lead us to adhere to Dr. King's message of nonviolence. Dr. King spoke out against the Vietnam war even when his colleagues questioned his wisdom.

On April 4, 1967, a year to the day of his death, Dr. King addressed his colleagues at a meeting of Clergy and Laity Concerned at the Riverside Church in New York City. His speech that day was entitled Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence. His message was poignant then and speaks directly to us today.

Dr. King stated, "Somehow this madness must cease. We must stop now. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, for the world as it stands aghast at the path we have taken. I speak as an American to the leaders of my own nation. The great initiative in this war is ours. The initiative to stop it must be ours."

In order for us to continue Dr. King's legacy of peace and justice, we must take a stand to end the illegal and unjust war in Iraq. Today I reaffirm my commitment to ending this war and continuing the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.