

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF PFC ADAM LEE MARION

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of sacrifice and service of PFC Adam Lee Marion of Dobson, North Carolina. Private First Class Marion, who served in the Army National Guard's 171st Engineer Company, made the ultimate sacrifice for his country last week when he fell in combat near Baghdad, Iraq.

Private First Class Marion's life exemplified the citizen-soldier ethic of the Army National Guard. He was known for his kindness and his heart for children. He loved to serve at home and in Iraq to protect the lives of these most vulnerable members of society. Taken at the age of 26, Private First Class Marion leaves a legacy of compassion, bravery and sacrifice.

His patriotism and selfless service to country is captured in his decision to deploy to Iraq with the 171st when he learned his original unit would not deploy. This is a remarkable sacrifice and a true sign of Private First Class Marion's readiness to serve his country even at the risk of his own safety.

His fellow soldiers testified to Private First Class Marion's professional skill as a soldier, his bravery in the face of danger and his sacrifice for his country. As the operator of a "Husky," a vehicle that detects improvised explosive devices for convoys, he was on the front lines in Iraq. In fact, his team helped clear IEDs from more than 100 convoy routes during his service in Iraq.

Private First Class Marion is survived by his parents Pam and Don Marion and his sister, Adrian. His sacrifice for our freedom will never be forgotten. He was a man who was acquainted with the dangers of combat and yet gave his life to a cause much greater than himself. In this and much more he is a hero and he hands down to future generations a legacy of valor, honor and the love of freedom.

Madam Speaker, my prayer is that he will long be remembered as a man who faithfully answered the call of duty to country. My thoughts and my prayers are with Private First Class Marion's family. May they know comfort of God's presence at this very difficult time. The people of North Carolina and our nation are blessed to remember him as an honored son and we mourn his passing and celebrate his life.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BIRTHDAY OF
JAMES MONROE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the 250th anniversary of the birthday of James Monroe, a First District of Virginia native. James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County on April 28, 1758, and was raised and educated in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

James Monroe attended the College of William and Mary, fought as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Continental Army, and practiced law in Fredericksburg, Virginia. As a politician, Monroe served in the Virginia Assembly, The Continental Congress, as Governor to the Commonwealth of Virginia, as a US Senator, Secretary of State and Secretary of War to President James Madison. Ultimately, James Monroe became our fifth President of the United States.

As Minister to France, Monroe helped negotiate the Louisiana Purchase. During his early years in the White House his administration was known as the "Era of Good Feelings", a time period in American political history in which partisan bitterness abated. Yet, Monroe may be best remembered for his belief that the Americas should be free from future European colonization and interference in sovereign countries' affairs. His strong opinions and principles on foreign policy came to be known as the Monroe Doctrine.

The citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia and especially America's First District express their gratitude to James Monroe, in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of his birthday. James Monroe was a loyal public servant and an exceptional statesman. His ideals and leadership qualities are such that all citizens, not only of Virginia, but the United States can admire and learn from.

As President Monroe once stated, "In this great nation there is but one order, that of the people, whose power, by a peculiarly happy improvement of the representative principle, is transferred from them, without impairing in the slightest degree their sovereignty, to bodies of their own creation, and to persons elected by themselves, in the full extent necessary for the purposes of free, enlightened, and efficient government".

INTRODUCTION OF THE JOINT
GUAM PROJECTS OVERSIGHT ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced H.R. 5931, the Joint Guam Projects Oversight Act, to ensure appropriate implementation and oversight of the realignment of military installations and the relocation of military personnel on Guam. I am joined by my colleague from Hawaii, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, in introducing this legislation.

The rebasing of military forces from Okinawa, Japan to Guam is a component of the United States-Japan Alliance Transformation and Realignment Agreement signed in May 2006. Additionally, planned for Guam is the reassignment of a significant number of airmen from Korea, the standing-up of a U.S. Army air defense battalion and improvements to Naval Base Guam. These major realignments present significant challenges and opportunities for the community on Guam.

Over the next 6 years the Department of Defense and the Government of Japan plan to spend over \$10 billion to support the realignment of units of the III Marine Expeditionary Force from Okinawa to Guam and an additional \$3 billion on upgrades and improvements at Andersen Air Force Base. The Gov-

ernment of Japan has pledged to contribute over \$6 billion to support the rebasing of units from Okinawa to Guam through direct contributions to the United States Treasury and through Special Purpose Entities (SPEs). Funding of some projects by a foreign government poses significant challenges to Congress's right and responsibility to oversee this realignment. H.R. 5931 creates a new account for the realignment to Guam. The account entitled the "Guam Defense Policy Review Initiative Account" would help the Department of Defense manage its expenditures on projects associated with the realignment of military forces on Guam.

This legislation also addresses the unique nature of the SPEs. Department of Defense officials indicate that SPEs are intended to operate in a manner similar to other public-private ventures that currently exist with respect to other projects in the United States. Our legislation expresses a Sense of Congress that the SPEs should operate as public-private ventures. It also encourages the Department of Defense to ensure that all construction projects on Guam, operated and maintained by SPEs, should meet U.S. standards. It also encourages the Department of Defense along with the Government of Japan to consider utilizing the SPEs for projects other than military housing and utility infrastructure improvements. Moreover, if the SPEs are utilized to improve utilities on Guam the improvements must be made to the overall grid operated by the Government of Guam and not solely for the benefit of military installations. Improvements to the overall utility infrastructure on Guam will be more cost-effective.

The \$13 billion investment by the Department of Defense and the Government of Japan is intended primarily for military infrastructure. However, the Government of Guam estimates that additional funds will be needed to improve civilian infrastructure, including schools, public safety, water, wastewater, utility, and road improvements to accommodate the additional population on the island. As we near the end of the Bush Administration's term it is important that the Federal Government work closely with the Government of Guam to develop Memoranda of Understanding, MOU, to ensure Federal commitments that Guam can rely on. The MOUs can be facilitated by utilizing the Interagency Group on the Insular Areas, IGIA, established by executive order of the President. The legislation includes a Sense of Congress that these MOUs must be developed to ensure that the build-up is a success. In reference to planning, the legislation also authorizes the Office of Economic Adjustment, OEA, within the Department of Defense to provide planning funds to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, CNMI. This will support appropriate planning by the Government of the CNMI for increases in population and military activity resultant from the establishment and utilization of training ranges in the CNMI. Currently, the OEA lacks the authority in law to provide planning funds to the CNMI and this provision would correct this omission in law.

It is important that military construction projects on Guam be energy friendly and meet strong environmental design standards. The legislation requires the Department of Defense to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, silver rating standards. LEED standards have been developed and

are approved by the U.S. Green Building Council. The legislation also requires the Secretary of Defense to report back to Congress on establishing a goal for energy renewability on Guam. The major construction effort supporting the build-up should be conducted in the most environmentally friendly and energy efficient manner as possible.

The legislation also prioritizes the small business community in this military build-up. The bill contains a provision that would limit the Historically Underutilized Business Zone, HUB Zone, preference for work performed in excess of 150 miles from the primary office location of a HUBZone firm. This provision would ensure that construction projects benefit the local businesses and economy. Moreover, the legislation would authorize the establishment of a Procurement Technical Assistance Center, PTAC, on Guam to help local small businesses navigate the complexities and bureaucracy of Department of Defense contracting.

Finally, the legislation will require all contractors to certify their compliance with local tax and licensing requirements. The provision grants the contracting agent within the Department of Defense the ability to withhold final payments on contracts if the contractor is found to be delinquent in paying their local tax obligations. This provision is important to ensuring the Government of Guam will be able to collect revenue from this build-up and apply such revenue to make needed improvements to civilian infrastructure.

The military build-up on Guam presents many opportunities and many challenges. I firmly believe that the legislation I have introduced today with Mr. ABERCROMBIE will help facilitate congressional oversight and accountability of build-up activities as well as provide additional tools for the local government and businesses to make this build-up a success. This legislation addresses issues important to the people of Guam and would help to ensure the success of the military build-up both for

the Department of Defense and for the people of Guam.

PRIORITIZING RESOURCES AND
ORGANIZATION FOR INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this important legislation to strengthen our nation's laws against counterfeiting and intellectual property violations which passed the House yesterday.

Article I Section 8 of our Constitution lays the framework for our nation's copyright and patent laws. It grants Congress the power to award inventors and creators, for limited periods of time, exclusive rights to their inventions and works. The founding fathers realized that this type of incentive was crucial to ensure that America would become the world's leader in innovation and creativity. As we continue our journey into the digital age, we must be sure to continue to reward our innovators with the exclusive rights to their works for limited periods of time. This incentive is still necessary to maintain America's position as the world leader in innovation.

Because the United States has been the pioneer for intellectual property protections, it is no surprise that the copyright industries are so successful and play such an increasingly crucial role in our national economy. The U.S. copyright industries have created millions of high-skilled, high-paying U.S. jobs and have contributed billions to our economy. However, the proliferation of copyright piracy and counterfeiting in America is growing and is threatening to undermine the very copyright protections our founding fathers envisioned.

In 1999, I introduced legislation with my friend, Representative ZOE LOFGREN, to prohibit the alteration or removal of product identification codes on goods or packaging, prohibit the manufacture and distribution of devices primarily used to alter or remove product identification codes, and allow the seizure of decoded goods and decoding devices.

In addition, for the better part of the past six years I have been pleased to work with retailers and law enforcement agencies to attempt to solve the growing problem of organized retail crime, which has resulted in billions of dollars of loss to retailers, has often resulted in counterfeit, diverted products being placed back on store shelves, has threatened the safety of such products as baby formula and medicine, and has been linked to major organized crime rings.

I am equally pleased to be an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4279. This legislation builds on current laws in many ways, including increasing penalties for both civil violations of copyright laws and repeat offenders, allowing treble damages in certain counterfeiting cases, and increasing the maximum penalties for trafficking in counterfeit goods when those offenses endanger public health and safety. The bill also raises the profile of intellectual property within the Administrative Branch by creating an Office of U.S. IP Enforcement Representative within the Executive Office of the President to coordinate all the various agencies and departments that work on IP enforcement issues, and to serve as the President's principal advisor for IP matters. In addition, it increases the number of IP liaisons from the PTO in U.S. embassies around the world and enhances DOJ's computer crime units to make sure they are equipped and being used to prosecute IP violations.

I believe this legislation is a major step in the right direction, and I look forward to continuing to work on this bill as it progresses through the legislative process.