

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MASON SMOAK

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2008

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay my deepest condolence to the Smoak family and to honor the passing of a great American and close friend. Mason Smoak was an outstanding human being, whose bravery and character left lasting impressions on all who knew him. This kind gentleman exemplified the meaning of leadership. Mason was loved by all in his community, a lifelong resident of Lake Placid, Florida who dedicated his life to his wife, children, and church, as well as the University of Florida his alma mater. Unfortunately, Mason passed away on Friday, June 20, 2008 at the age of 33.

His accomplishments within the agricultural community will serve as inspiration and guidance for aspiring citrus growers. Mason promoted awareness of agriculture and citrus issues in both Washington and Tallahassee, often testifying at the request of elected officials. He enjoyed fruitful partnerships with UF/IFAS and served the community as the current President of the Highlands County Citrus Growers. He was also the Chairman of the Heartland Agricultural Coalition, a Board Member of the Highlands County Habitat for Humanity and Florida Citrus Mutual's Federal Political Action Committee, and Past President of Highlands County Farm Bureau and the Florida Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers.

Florida will miss Mason's dedication and dogged determination to Florida citrus. Madam Speaker, I will miss Mason as a true friend.

DR. ALAN HARRE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and gratitude that I stand before you today to recognize the many years of dedicated service of Dr. Alan Harre. Having known Alan for many years, I can truly say that he is one of the most committed, knowledgeable, and honorable citizens in Northwest Indiana. Nowhere has his knowledge and commitment been more evident than in his faithful service as President of Valparaiso University. Alan has served Valparaiso University with two decades of dedicated leadership, and he has been a constant fixture in the Valparaiso community. For his efforts, I would like to thank him and extend my best wishes for his retirement. A celebration honoring Dr. Harre's leadership and service will be held at Strongbow Inn Restaurant in Valparaiso, Indiana, on Thursday, June 26, 2008.

Dr. Alan Harre has spent his professional career improving the quality of life at Valparaiso University. Dr. Harre's Strategic Plan set goals for the university in every aspect of campus life. During his tenure, the university has built several new facilities, including: the Center for the Arts, Kallay-Christopher Hall, the Christopher Center for Library Information and Resources, and has broken ground for a new student union. Valparaiso University has also ranked within the top four in its class in U.S. News and World Report's rankings of America's Best Colleges under Harre's leadership. Dr. Harre also contributed to the development of three new Master of Science programs and established a Valparaiso University Phi Beta Kappa honor society chapter. Perhaps Dr. Harre's greatest on-campus achievement is the increasing of the endowment fund from \$37 million to over \$200 million.

During his time at Valparaiso University, Alan has shared his unrivaled expertise and knowledge of his field with local organizations. Alan has served two terms on the Board for the Greater Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce and was named Distinguished Community Leader by the Chamber in 1998. He was a founding member of the Porter County Community Foundation and a co-founder of the non-profit group Rebuilding Together. Alan also has served as the Chairman of the Quality of Life Council, and in 2007, received the Council's Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Harre and his wife, Diane, are also creating the Alan and Diane Harre Scholarship Fund for Valparaiso University.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Alan Harre has devoted his life to improving Valparaiso University and to serving the people of Northwest Indiana. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service, perseverance, and dedication. I also ask that you join me in wishing him the best of health and happiness in the years to come.

IRVING KLOTHEN

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of a husband, father, grandfather, and Veteran, who, through hard work and determination, fulfilled the American dream. Irving Klothen, who passed away on Thursday, June 12, at age 84, believed strongly in the principles of democracy and took full advantage of his opportunities in the United States, building a prosperous family and successful career after narrowly escaping Nazi Germany.

A German Jew born shortly after the end of World War I, Irving Klothen barely avoided deportation by the Nazis when he and his parents fled their native Berlin in 1941. Mr.

Klothen displayed his strong work ethic and his resolve to make the most of his abilities as he simultaneously completed his secondary education at night school and worked full time for a picture-framing company.

In 1943, Mr. Klothen entered the U.S. Army and his service included guarding German POWs in France, where he met the love of his life, Miriam Frank. He and Miriam, another Jewish refugee from Berlin, married in 1944.

Following the war, Mr. Klothen graduated from New York University with a degree in chemical engineering and would receive several patents for his work with animal-feed additives. His expertise led to business trips that turned into family vacations with his son and wife across the globe. As an employee of American Cyanamid Co, he traveled to Europe, Latin America and Asia.

Mr. Klothen, a loving father of his son Ken and loving grandfather of Erich and Rebecca, never forgot his roots and the family he left behind to move to the United States. In 1989, he visited the Berlin Jewish School, which he attended more than four decades earlier. He committed to assisting the new German Jewish community through work at the now-Jewish High School of Berlin. Even last year, he funded a program to allow teachers from that institution to visit Jewish schools in the United States.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in paying tribute to Irving Klothen. Through his beautiful family, and his contributions to Jewish communities in America and Germany, he has left a lasting contribution that we can all admire.

FISA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6304, the FISA Amendments Act.

Two hundred and twenty-two years ago our Nation's Founders enshrined in our Constitution the values and principles upon which our Nation was founded, defining what it meant to be an American. Its first words, "We the people . . ." make clear to all that our Government derives its power from the people.

Our Nation's Founders recognized that the full definition of what it meant to be an American required a clear statement of the protection of individual liberties. The protections enshrined in the Bill of Rights cannot be waived by the President and are not statutorily amendable by Congress. Those rights belong to the people—they are, in part, what it means to be an American.

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

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