

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Member requesting: Congressman Gus M. BILIRAKIS

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Name of requesting entity: Hillsborough Community College

Address of requesting entity: 39 Columbia Drive, Tampa, Florida 33606

Description: The \$200,000 will be used to help HCC obtain a state-of-the-art firearms training simulator for its Public Safety Training Center. This funding is justified because the COPS law enforcement technology program is designed to help incorporate new technology in crime-fighting efforts.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Name of requesting entity: City of Plant City

Address of requesting entity: 502 West Reynolds Street, Plant City, Florida 33563

Description: The \$300,000 will be used to help the Plant City Police Department obtain a fully-functional mobile incident command post. This funding is justified because the COPS law enforcement technology program is designed to help incorporate new technology in crime-fighting efforts.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Operations and Maintenance

Name of requesting entity: Tampa Port Authority

Address of requesting entity: 1101 Channelside Drive, Tampa, Florida 33602

Description: The \$4,224,000 will be used for needed periodic dredging in the 70 miles of federal channel of Tampa Harbor. This funding is justified because of federal interests in maintaining the safety and navigability of federal waterways.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: HRSA Health Facilities and Services

Name of requesting entity: BayCare Health System

Address of requesting entity: 16331 Bay Vista Drive, Clearwater, FL 33760

Description: The \$523,000 will be used to develop a medication point-of-entry for physicians in support of BayCare's electronic health record initiative. This funding is justified because HRSA health facility and service funds are designated for health care and construction programs to improve the delivery of health care services.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: HRSA Health Facilities and Services

Name of requesting entity: University Community Hospital/Pepin Heart Hospital

Address of requesting entity: 3100 East Fletcher Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33613

Description: The \$238,000 will be used to obtain a magnetic navigation system to help

improve patient care, physician training, and clinical research within its cardiovascular center. This funding is justified because HRSA health facility and service funds are designated for health care and construction programs to improve the delivery of health care services.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: HRSA Health Facilities and Services

Name of requesting entity: University of South Florida College of Education

Address of requesting entity: 4202 East Fowler Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33620

Description: The \$190,000 will be used to provide continuing education and a database for the public on available cancer clinical trials to improve patient outcomes. This funding is justified because HRSA health facility and service funds are designated for health care and construction programs to improve the delivery of health care services.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Name of requesting entity: City of Clearwater, Florida

Address of requesting entity: 112 South Osceola Avenue, Clearwater, Florida 33756

Description: The \$237,500 will be used for infrastructure improvements to revitalize downtown Clearwater. This funding is justified because HUD economic development funds are specified to help local governments improve public infrastructure and increase economic development.

Bill number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation and Community and System Preservation

Name of requesting entity: City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

Address of requesting entity: 324 East Pine Street, Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Description: The \$380,000 will be used to provide street reconstruction and enhancements along Lemon Street and increase residential and commercial development. This funding is justified because Federal Highway Administration Transportation, Community, and System Preservation program is designed to provide funds to local governments to implement strategies to improve the efficiency of their transportation systems and encourage private sector development.

CARIBBEAN ECONOMIC CRISIS—IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPPORT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to acknowledge the importance of the United States' presence in the Caribbean during these difficult economic times and to enter into the record an editorial from the *Carib News* by Basil Wilson entitled "Jamaica and the World Economy."

As the world deals with the difficult economic challenges, there needs to be a renewed economic commitment to the Caribbean nations, who are also suffering from the spiraling effect of the weakened world economy.

For many years, the United States has cultivated a relationship with the Caribbean that

involved a strong history of generous remittances and a prospering reciprocal trade relationship. As a result, both the U.S. and the Caribbean have benefited.

The United States must continue to uphold strong trading ties with the Caribbean islands to make certain their Gross Domestic Product is not greatly compromised. This is also not the time to decrease our level of relief efforts in the Caribbean community. We must understand that an economic decline in the First World results in an economic catastrophe in these Caribbean areas.

As the world tries to gain control of the warring economic calamity, let us not forget that our neighbors and friends in the Western Hemisphere are also dealing with the adverse effects of the global economy. It is especially during these times when there is a greater reliance on the Caribbean Diaspora's kindness and compassion to sustain the economic viability of their families. The U.S. government needs to be aware of the needs of the governments in the region for assistance in providing a necessary social safety net.

TRIBUTE TO HANS SMITH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Hans Smith of Fresno, California who passed away at the age of 66 years old. Hans is survived by his wife Janet and his sons Chris and Esben along with their families.

Hans was born on February 16, 1942 in Sacramento, California to Frank and Josephine Smith. Hans grew up in Sacramento and attended local schools graduating from Sacramento High School in 1959. He next graduated from Fresno State University with a degree in Industrial Technology. Upon graduating he went to work for IBM in San Jose, California. While at Fresno State he met his future wife, Janet. Following Janet's graduation, they married and made their home in Los Gatos, California. While living in Los Gatos, Hans and Janet had their two sons, Chris and Esben. Wanting to raise their children in a less stressful environment, Hans and Janet moved to Raisin City, California in 1975. Hans became a farmer when he and Janet bought 40 acres of prunes.

Hans worked for his father-in-law, who was also a farmer, while getting his own farm started. Hans' farm was truly a family farm. Hans and his wife and sons could often be found working together in the orchard. Hans joined Sunsweet Growers in 1975. He remained a loyal Sunsweet grower for the next 33 years. Hans planted another 80 acres of prunes in 1980. When the new orchard came into production, Hans was able to stop working for his father-in-law. The farm was still a family affair with Hans and his sons taking care of most of the work.

Hans was elected to the Board of Directors of Sunsweet Growers in 1985. He served on the board for the next 23 years, until his death. Hans was a tireless promoter for the prune industry and Sunsweet in particular. He was always available to any grower who had questions about prunes. He gave help and advice to many growers when they entered into