

I also will be working with the esteemed Chairman of the Committee on the Budget, Chairman JOHN SPRATT, to include language in the Budget Resolution to support the FLAME Act.

Madam Speaker, catastrophic, emergency wildland fires can cause tragic loss of life and property. I am proud to be joined in introducing the FLAME Act today by my colleagues Rep. NORM DICKS, Rep. RAÚL GRIJALVA, Rep. MIKE SIMPSON, Rep. GREG WALDEN, and Senators JEFF BINGAMAN and LISA MURKOWSKI. In the other body, I look forward to working together towards enactment this Congress to ensure that our country has the necessary tools to combat catastrophic, emergency wildland fires.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding that my district received as part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 (H.R. 1105).

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, SRG

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Address of Requesting Entity: 700 Experiment Station Red, Lake Alford, Florida 33850

Description of Project: This project will continue vital citrus canker and greening research.

Amount: \$1,217,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lee County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 398, Fort Myers, FL 33902

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Funds: United States Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Entity Receiving Funds: 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314

Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized for reimbursement for beach renourishment for the Gasparilla Segment in Lee County, Florida.

Amount: \$191,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, O&M

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: West Coast Inland Navigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 East Miami Avenue, Venice, FL 34285

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Funds: United States Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Entity Receiving Funds: 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314

Description of Request: This funding will be utilized for maintenance dredging along the

Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Lee County, Sarasota County, and Manatee County, Florida.

Amount: \$2,076,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, O&M

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, FL 34112

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Funds: United States Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Entity Receiving Funds: 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314

Description of Request: This funding will be utilized for dredging the Gordon River Pass in Collier County, Florida. The dredging is necessary because shoaling has diminished the water depth in the channel.

Amount: \$597,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd., S., Fort Myers, Florida 33965

Description of Request: This funding will be utilized for the development of tools for training and processing crime scenes for use by law enforcement and public safety officials. This work will be done at the Florida Gulf Coast University in its Law Enforcement and Public Safety department.

Amount: \$150,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, Florida

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, Florida 34112

Description of Request: The funding will be utilized for the acquisition of public safety technology equipment for the Collier County Emergency Services Center. The funding is important because it will help to better equip Collier County's emergency service providers to respond to events that could endanger the safety of the citizens of Collier County, Florida.

Amount: \$350,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Environmental Protection Agency, STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lee County, Florida

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 398, Ft. Myers, Florida 33902

Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized for water and sewer system improvements in Lee County, Florida. The project will help to ensure that Lee County's water and sewer system is environmentally sound and provides the highest level of safety and service to the people of Lee County.

Amount: \$275,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, Higher Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd, S., Fort Myers, Florida 33965

Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized by the Florida Gulf Coast University in order to conduct a study of how coastal watersheds respond to changing freshwater flow.

Amount: \$333,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Transportation, Buses and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lee County Transit (LeeTran)

Address of Requesting Entity: 6035 Landing View Road, Fort Myers, Florida 33907

Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized to purchase new buses and replace existing buses in LeeTran's fleet. Buses stand as an important mode of transportation for a large number of citizens in Lee County. As a result, this funding will help LeeTran to better accommodate the crucial need for reliable and environmentally clean mass transit in Lee County, Florida.

Amount: \$475,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Transportation, Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, FL 34112

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Funds: Florida Department of Transportation

Address of Entity Receiving Funds: 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized to improve Interstate 75/ Collier Boulevard/SR 84 in Collier County, Florida. The improvements are necessary to help this important stretch of road meet the requirements necessary to fulfill the regions commercial and transport needs.

Amount: \$570,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Transportation, Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Charlotte County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 18500 Murdock Circle, Suite 536, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Legal Name of Entity Receiving Funds: Florida Department of Transportation

Address of Entity Receiving Funds: 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized for design and expansion of the Burnt Store Road to a four-lane divided arterial with shoulders to enhance the overall safety of the road. Burnt Store Road is a very important transportation artery that doubles as an evacuation route.

Amount: \$380,000

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 1105
 Account: Economic Development Initiatives
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Trust for Thomas Edison & Henry Ford Winter Estates, Inc.
 Address of Requesting Entity: 2350 McGregor Boulevard, Fort Myers, Florida 33901
 Description of Request: The requested funding will be utilized for the restoration of the Edison and Ford Estates research laboratory.
 Amount: \$142,500

IN RECOGNITION OF SOCCER TEAM AT URSULINE ACADEMY OF DALLAS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the soccer team at Ursuline Academy of Dallas on winning the prestigious TAPPS 5A State Championship title for the 19th consecutive year.

At the Mata Stadium in San Antonio, Ursuline and Nolan Catholic High School of Fort Worth battled for the State Championship title for the eighth consecutive year. In this final game, Ursuline successfully defended its title with a score of 2 to 1. Both goals were scored in the first half by Sophie Campise. Led by Head Coach Jamie Cantrell, these young ladies committed themselves to a tradition of winning and dedicated countless hours practicing to hone their ability to perform as a team. This prestigious title of State Champion speaks loudly of their discipline and hard work.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our heartfelt congratulations to the members of the soccer team for their well deserved victory. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit how I would have voted on March 9, 2009, when I was tending to a family commitment, for which the timing was not flexible.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 110; "yes" on rollcall No. 111; "yes" on rollcall No. 111.

IN CELEBRATION OF EBBY HALLIDAY'S 98TH BIRTHDAY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true Dallas icon and a legendary woman that has changed the real estate industry, Ebby Halliday Acers. She cele-

brates her ninety-eighth birthday on March 9th.

Ebby first arrived in Dallas in 1938 and soon after owned and ran her own boutique called Ebby's Hats. After being approached by a developer in 1945, Ebby went from selling hats to selling houses. Together with her beloved husband, Maurice Acers, Ebby Halliday Realtors was founded. The company's inventory began with fifty-two houses on the old Walnut Hill Golf Course in North Dallas, but has steadily grown year after year into one of the most successful and widely recognized real estate firms in the country. Aside from her entrepreneurial spirit, her success can be attributed to the great care and attention she gives to her employees and agents as well as her buyers. This personal touch includes nurturing talent as well as meeting with new employees, making them feel welcomed. Over the course of her career she has received numerous awards such as the Horatio Alger Award in 2005 and the Visionary Award from Foundation Fighting Blindness and the Linz Award in 2008.

Aside from her professional achievements, Ebby is also known for her philanthropic spirit. She has generously given of her time and effort in addition to monetary contributions. Many nonprofit organizations and causes such as St. Paul Medical Center, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and the Communities Foundation of Texas have benefitted greatly from her love for and dedication to her community. There is no doubt that the great City of Dallas is a better place because of her.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our heartfelt congratulations to Ebby as she celebrates her ninety-eighth birthday. I wish Ebby many more years of health, happiness, and prosperity. May we all strive to have the same generosity and dedication that she exemplifies.

RECOGNIZING THE STATE NEWS FOR 100 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the State News at Michigan State University as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

The State News was founded in 1909 as the Holcad in order to defend the Michigan Agricultural College against a series of articles and critical remarks published in the Lansing Journal. In 1925, as the Michigan Agricultural College changed its name to Michigan State College, the Holcad became the Michigan State News. In 1971, the State News became a 501(c)3 organization, run independently of the university.

Each year, the State News employs hundreds of students, training them in the areas of reporting, photography, design, and advertising that are critical to a career in journalism. Throughout its 100 years, the State News has served as a way for students to connect to each other on campus, voice opinions, and act as a watchdog for the East Lansing community.

Madam Speaker, a commitment to journalism is the foundation for creating a more in-

formed citizen body. I wish to extend my gratitude to The State News for its achievements, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing its 100 years in serving the East Lansing community as a successful student-run newspaper.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately on Friday March 6, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on Approving the Journal, the Motion to Recommit on H.J. Res. 38, and H.J. Res. 38 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 107, on Approving the Journal, I would have voted "aye".

Had I been present for rollcall No. 108, on the Motion to Recommit on H.J. Res. 38, the Continuing Resolution, extending it through the end of Fiscal Year 2009, I would have voted "aye".

Had I been present for rollcall No. 109, on passing H.J. Res. 38, the Continuing Resolution through March 11, 2009, I would have voted "nay". It is high time we buckled down and got our work done in a timely fashion and in an open and transparent process. This Omnibus Appropriations bill is long overdue, but at the same time we should not be throwing a bill on the House floor that has been cobbled together by a select few Democrats behind closed doors. The result is what we witnessed in the Senate where it could not pass by the time the current CR expired and the need arose to pass another short term CR through March 11, 2009. This process needs reform and it is my hope that the FY2010 Appropriations process will move under regular order and by the start of the new fiscal year on October 1, 2009.

IN RECOGNITION OF J.L. LONG MIDDLE SCHOOL CELEBRATING ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor J.L. Long Middle School in Dallas, Texas which will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on April 2, 2009.

Initially established as the second junior high school in Dallas, J.L. Long first opened its doors to 550 students in 1933. Over the course of its history, this school has educated thousands of bright young minds, providing them with a firm foundation for success. In 2006, its student body expanded to include sixth graders. The J.L. Long science team was named state champion in the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school years while the math team consistently placed in the top six in the state for the past several years. Aside from its many academic accomplishments, J.L. Long Middle School boasts an impressive history and record of parental involvement. The Works