

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the people of El Salvador as they head to the polls this weekend to elect a new president.

Over the past years, the people of El Salvador have shown great resilience as they transformed their economy. From the privatization of state enterprises, to trade and financial liberalization, to the adoption of the United States dollar as its official currency, El Salvador and its people have chosen freedom and prosperity over communism and repression.

Madam Speaker, the relationship between the people of El Salvador and of the United States has been a strong one. The Salvadorian government was a faithful ally in the war in Iraq where they once had as many as 6000 soldiers supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

We in the United States also have stood by our friends in El Salvador. For example, through the Millennium Challenge Corporation, El Salvador is currently receiving \$461 million of investment in projects including education, public services, agricultural production, rural business development, and transportation infrastructure.

In addition, El Salvador receives nearly \$4 billion a year in remittances—almost 20% of its annual gross domestic product—from several million Salvadorans living in the United States.

And, even more important for our national security interests is that El Salvador is host to the United States Navy's primary Forward Operating Location (FOL) in Central America which is used to monitor and intercept drug traffic.

Madam Speaker, these examples reveal why this approaching election is so fundamental, and why it will have a great impact on the future direction of El Salvador and the relationship with the United States.

The two primary presidential candidates are Rodrigo Avila of the National Republican Alliance (ARENA) party and Mauricio Funes of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) party.

Madam Speaker, the FMLN is a party that was formed from communist guerrillas that fought against the El Salvador government in one of the last battles in the Cold War. Nearly 70,000 people were killed during the 12-year war in El Salvador and brutal atrocities were committed by the FMLN.

Today the FMLN and its communist candidates—with funding from Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez—have fought hard to manipulate the democratic process in El Salvador in order to take at the ballot box what they couldn't by force.

The FMLN has actively worked to undermine United States policy in the region by, among other things, openly supporting terrorist organizations such as the FARC in Colombia. And the FMLN candidate for vice president, Sanchez Ceren, is a known militant and guerrilla commander who staunchly opposes the United States.

Should the FMLN win this Sunday, El Salvador likely would quickly become a satellite and proxy of Venezuela, Russia, and perhaps Iran. While we must always work and stand with our allies in the region, a government in El Salvador that is run by the FMLN and its cronies would clearly undermine the good relationship the current government in El Salvador has with the United States.

Our close relationship with El Salvador is based on mutual respect for freedom and the rule of law. This relationship has allowed our people and our governments to work together in the past several years towards common goals.

As we look to the future, we must weigh the potential ramifications of this election and its impact on our relations—more importantly, the longstanding and open policies related to TPS and the flow of remittances.

Madam Speaker, the stakes are high this weekend for the people of El Salvador. As they go to the polls to select their next president and, more importantly, the future direction of their nation, I urge them to reject the FMLN and the failed ideas of the past.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

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

Requesting Member: Congressman STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Partnership for Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 3441 North Ridge West, Ashtabula, Ohio 44005 USA

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$285,000 for academic enrichment activities across all seven Ashtabula County school districts. Partnership for Education is a 503(c) organization that was created in 1999 from the collaboration and commitment among local community and stakeholder support groups, primarily the Civic Development Corporation of Ashtabula County, the Ashtabula Foundation, the Ashtabula County Education Partnership, and the Growth Partnership Education Committee, to improve student learning and sup-

port professional development to help schools improve their planning and deployment capabilities. Approximately, \$211,000 is for program implementation, \$66,500 is for materials and supplies, and \$7,500 is for auditing and program evaluation. The Civic Development Corporation of Ashtabula County has pledged \$500,000; the Ashtabula Foundation has committed \$75,000.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. SOUDER. 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—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Member: Rep. MARK SOUDER

Bill: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project Name: Clinton Street Bridge Replacement

Entity: City of Fort Wayne

Address: 1 Main Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Amount: \$2,000,000

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: Fort Wayne is the terminus of U.S. Route 27, known locally as Clinton Street as the highway winds through downtown. As a federal highway and a historic highway as designated by the Indiana House of Representatives, this roadway should be supported with local, state, and federal resources. Each day, almost 27,000 cars drive along Clinton Street and cross over the St. Mary's River on an obsolete 1964 bridge that has growing maintenance costs and a sufficiency rating of 64.6 out of 100, which merits concern. Further, poor decisions during its initial construction have led to debris traps in front of the piers that support the structure, blocking water passage and limiting any possible recreational use of the river. The project is necessary to repair essential infrastructure and the economic development of the region.

Finance Plan: The city will finance 20 percent of the project, a total of \$1.62 million, while additional funding of \$1.42 million was approved in the Fiscal Year 2008 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$8.1 million. These funds will be used for the replacement of the bridge over the St. Mary's River in downtown Fort Wayne.

Member: Rep. MARK SOUDER

Bill: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project Name: Watersystems/Wellcare

Entity: Water Systems Council

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: Clean drinking water is essential for a community to flourish. The use of federal

• 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.

funds in this program are necessary to protect the well drinking water of over 21 million American citizens. As a national nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring individuals receive safe water from household wells and small water systems, this organization deals with a vast constituency and provides essential services that make it possible for commerce and communities to thrive.

Finance Plan: The funds in this program will go to provide clean water for over 21 million Americans.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. 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, FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER ROSKAM

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, National Projects, Safe Schools and Citizenship Education, Economic Education Exchange Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Center for Civic Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 5145 Douglas Fir Road, Calabasas, CA 91302

Description of Request: I rise in support of funding I helped secure in H.R. 1105, the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, for the Cooperative Education Exchange Program activities under the Education for Democracy Act. The Cooperative Education Exchange Program in economics is an important one that provides American educators the opportunity to join their counterparts from countries making the transition to a market economy. This provides these emerging areas with the benefit of assistance to education leaders in those foreign countries. It also provides the tremendous opportunity for us to have a voice in shaping these rising economies, and enabling us to think afresh about our own system, giving us the added benefit of enhanced critical self-evaluation. I am proud to support this program that has cast a wide influence—teachers and students from 43 states and DC have been able to engage teachers and students from more than 30 emerging democracies on the principles and institutions of a market economy and their interaction with a democracy.

HONORING THE CAMELOT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program (CNWP) of Fairfax County, Virginia.

In the 30 years since its inception, the CNWP has achieved great success, helping

lower the general crime rate in its community. As the former Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I can personally attest to the program's accomplishments.

The CNWP boasts the largest number of volunteers in Northern Virginia. These volunteers have committed themselves to informing local police of suspicious activities. While it is financially and logistically impossible to place a police officer on every street corner, the CNWP has provided Fairfax County with an effective alternative. CNWP volunteers have become the eyes and ears of local police, deterring crime and saving taxpayers millions of dollars.

Those who take the time to cast a watchful eye on their surroundings ensure a safer, friendlier place to live. Through committed neighborhood watch, CNWP participants have proven that community involvement can make a difference.

It is important to note that CNWP has embraced neighborhood diversity. Participants have bridged culture and language gaps in the name of collective security. By recognizing shared community values, the CNWP has facilitated improved understanding and relations between individuals from a variety of backgrounds.

One of the greatest assets of the CNWP is its ability to bring neighbors together. In that spirit I am proud to recognize Mr. Paul Cevey, CNWP founder and Coordinator for the first 12 years; Mr. Dave Shoner, his successor who for the next 11 years continued to mold the program into the great success it is today; and Mr. Frank Vajda who continues the great CNWP tradition.

Years of CNWP success have merited several notable accolades. The Fairfax County Mason District Police Department has recognized the CNWP as one of the most effective crime reduction units in the county. The Virginia Crime Prevention Association has recognized the CNWP as the Best Neighborhood Watch in Virginia.

The CNWP is the oldest, continuously active Neighborhood Watch Group in the United States. This highly accomplished neighborhood program serves as an impressive model for other organizations across the nation.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program for 30 years of dedicated service to its community. Programs like the CNWP are vital in our efforts to combat crime. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the CNWP's past accomplishments and in wishing the program continued success in the many years to come.

CONGRATULATING TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY ON THE RENOVATIONS OF THE MAXINE AND EDWARD L. BAKER BUILDING

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Texas Wesleyan University on their efforts for the Rosedale Revitalization Project and the completed renovations of the Maxine and Edward L. Baker Building.

A historical building located at the corner of Rosedale and Wesleyan Streets, the \$1.2 million renovation of the 5,000 square-foot-space provides a community meeting room, offices and a café. The building has been named in honor of Maxine and Edward L. Baker, parents of Wesleyan Trustee Louella Baker Martin. She and her husband Nick Martin, Fort Worth philanthropists, have been generous supporters of the University. Ed Baker served as chairman of the Texas Wesleyan Board of Trustees fifty years earlier and his father, James B. Baker, served as a trustee beginning in 1894, extending the Baker family commitment to service for over a century. And with the help of federal funding that I secured which acted like a down-payment, and local efforts to multiply that funding, the university is now using the money to renovate locations like the Baker Building.

The project was made possible through the Rosedale Revitalization Initiative. Founded in 1890 in Fort Worth, Texas Wesleyan University is a United Methodist institution dedicated to the education of students in the region and beyond. The University offers a wide range of degrees for undergraduate and graduate students and educates international students from 29 countries.

I congratulate Texas Wesleyan University as it continues to progress as a distinguished and diverse educational institution assisting with the revitalization efforts of Rosedale Street, and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Friday, March 6, 2009, I was not present for three recorded votes. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted the following way: rollcall No. 107, "nay"; rollcall No. 108, "yea"; rollcall No. 109, "yea".

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL PATRICIA C. LEWIS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brigadier General Patricia C. Lewis. As her 30-year career in the United States Air Force draws to a close, I would like to draw attention to some of her accomplishments and contributions to our great nation.

Brigadier General Patricia C. Lewis is Assistant Surgeon General, Strategic Medical Plans and Programs, and Chief of the Medical Service Corps. Educated at the University of Philippines in Manila, she received a direct commission in the Air Force Medical Service Corps upon completing her Master's degree. In her distinguished career, she has served at Headquarters Air Force Material Command as Chief of Programs and Evaluations in the Office of the Command Surgeon, and at Headquarters U.S. Air Force as Chief of Personnel,

Training and Medical Programs. She has also served as executive officer to the Air Force Surgeon General and Director of Medical Operations for Headquarters Air Force Inspection Agency. Her commands include the 1st Medical Support Squadron at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, and 366th Medical Group at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. Prior to her current assignment, General Lewis was Commander of the Air Force Medical Support Agency, a field operating agency which reports to the Air Force Surgeon General.

In her career, General Lewis has been awarded a Legion of Merit, a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, a Defense Meritorious Service Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, an Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, and an Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. She was also recognized in 1994 by an Air Force Commitment to Service Award for her tireless work with the Medical Service Corps.

General Lewis has served her career with dedication and honor in the service of her country. Her direct support of medical planning and programming efforts for the United States Air Force Medical Service has greatly enhanced the medical capability needed to ensure success in the war on terrorism. In addition, as the Chief of the Medical Service Corps, she has directly impacted the careers of hundreds of health care executives in the Corps and will influence several generations beyond the tenure of her career.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Brigadier General Patricia C. Lewis for her lifetime of hard work in the service of our country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the House passed version of H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT
Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Provision: Division I, Title I Department of Transportation, Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clemson University

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 Brackett Hall Box 5702 Clemson University Clemson, SC 29634

Description of Request: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide \$285,000 in funding for roadway improvements aimed at addressing current safety concerns for the Clemson University Advanced Materials Center in Anderson County, SC. Funds will be used principally for signage and road visibility, particularly at night and during inclement weather. These improvements are important to the continued development of the Center, which is dedicated to the research and development of advanced materials, technology transfer thru IP migration from the laboratory to the boardroom for everything from commercial to military applications, and also to support existing

industry. This request is consistent with the intended purpose of ensuring efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade for the Federal Highway Administration's Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) Program as authorized under Section 1117 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU, Public Law 109-203). The State of South Carolina has committed \$4 million to this project and private industry has committed an additional \$5.3 million.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 2009 Omnibus.

Requesting Member: Congressman ED WHITFIELD

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Section 205

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nashville Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: Nashville, TN

Description of Request: The funds will be used for engineering and design of a dry-dam on the South Fork of the Little Ricer, which would reduce 100 year flood levels in the City by 2.6–4.9 feet. This will protect the safety and security of the citizens in the vicinity of the flood zone. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ED WHITFIELD

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Economic Development Initiatives (EDI)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clinton County, KY

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 South Cross Street, Albany, KY 42602

Description of Request: The funds (\$142,500) will be used to establish a Clinton County Community Senior Wellness Center to serve the needs of the elderly community to further enhance the quality of life in the rural community at the Senior Center. The center will serve as a facility to enable seniors to receive health and educational services in the community. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. 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, FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN BOOZMAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: EERE

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, 2404 North University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72207; Arkansas State University College of Agriculture, PO Box 1080, State University, AR 72647; College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia, 101 Conner Hall, Athens, GA 30602

Address of Requesting Entity: see above

Description of Request: The funding of \$1,900,300 will be used to help industry expand to commercial production of cellulosic ethanol and to develop viable feedstock production and alternative uses for by-products.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN BOOZMAN

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Arkansas

Address of Requesting Entity: 119 Ozark Hall, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Description of Request: The funding of \$475,750 will be used to purchase additional testing instrumentation, materials and alternate energy storage and transmission prototype development for the University of Arkansas's electric test facility.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Education Award winner is Elizabeth Stitley of Somerville. She currently serves as a supervisor of Allied Health Programs at Somerset County Technology Institute since 2003.

In this capacity, Elizabeth has spearheaded the growth of the program, which now offers two full-time, day practical nursing programs and an evening program. She was instrumental in adding a new skills laboratory with a task-training center that will soon be equipped with cameras.

Elizabeth has served as president of the Practical Nurse Educators Council and of the New Jersey League for Nursing, and received the league's 2004 President's Award. She also is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the international nursing honor society.

I am pleased to congratulate Elizabeth Stitley for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL
GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE
OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 38, "Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service", introduced by Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, of the District of Columbia. I would also like to thank Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON for her leadership on this.

Everyday, men and women from all over the nation put their lives on the line to protect the freedoms that we all enjoy. They have taken an oath to serve and protect us from dangers both seen and unseen, and do so with distinction and great diligence. This very brave group of people put aside all fears and inhibitions, risking their health, well-being, and comfort of their families to serve in a capacity that few desire. I believe it to be a worthy honor to have the Capitol grounds used for the memorial services.

Many believe that police officers have the most stress filled jobs. There's no question that police officers experience stressful situations with more frequency than most people. While municipalities hire and pay individual policemen, they seldom consider that the entire family endures the pains of the job, many of which have a deleterious affect on the family. The job and family simultaneously creates an environment that can be managed by few. Given the many sacrifices officers make during their lives for our rights and privileges, the burdens on the family should be few and minimized. Using the Capitol grounds for memorial services offers appreciation to not only the officer, but to the entire family, which they so graciously deserve.

Washington, DC, our nation's capital, is filled with memorials and museums that help us to remember the countless sacrifices that men and women have made for the freedoms of our great nation. We are a nation who knows the importance of erecting these symbols to help us remember those who fought and died for the greater good.

The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S., the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people.

The Veteran's Memorial, which is a gleaming black granite wall etched with the names of the 60,000 soldiers who died in Vietnam or remain missing in action. While it does nothing to diminish the tears of families who visit year after year; however, it permanently helps them recognize that their dying was not in vain and that the government of the United States remembers their sacrifice.

There are veterans and other exceptional individuals buried at Arlington National Cemetery from the Revolutionary War to the present military action in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since May of 1864, Arlington has been a fully operational National Cemetery. Today, the ceme-

tery performs services for military casualties from the Iraqi and Afghanistan war fronts, as well as the aging World War II veterans.

This country has a long history of recognizing soldiers who have fallen fighting foreign threats. This country must also recognize those who fall fighting domestic threats. Therefore, I stand in support of H. Con. Res. 38, "Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service."

RECOGNIZING BEVERLY ECKERT
FOR 9/11 VICTIMS WORK

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 201, which recognizes the life of Beverly Eckert, a co-founder of "Voices of September 11th" and the widow of Sean Rooney, who was killed in the Twin Towers on September 11th.

Ms. Eckert worked tirelessly for "Voices of September 11th," an advocacy and support group of widows, mothers, and children of the victims of 9/11, which served as a driving force for intelligence and homeland security in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001. After the attacks, Beverly Eckert focused all of her emotions into organized advocacy for government accountability and future transparency to make our Nation more secure. Ms. Eckert was faced with opposition and indifference, but she continued to press forward in her fact-finding and preventative efforts.

Her strong, constant voice led to the creation of the National Commission on Terrorists Attack Upon the United States—or the 9/11 Commission. After the Commission's formation, Eckert continued her mission by participating in hearings and demanding implementation of the Commission's recommendations. During testimony as a member of the 9/11 Commission's Family Steering Committee, Eckert praised the Commission for their efforts to completely inform the public as to the failures on September 11th through public hearings and reports. She also warned Congressional members and the White House in regards to the Commission's recommendations that, unlike other commission recommendations, implementation of 9/11 Commission recommendations would be necessary because "there is no shelf on which they can be hidden." To that end she successfully pushed for the passage of the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007."

In conclusion, Beverly Eckert was a tenacious citizen who nudged and prodded the leaders of this Nation to look at their mistakes and implement the steps to correct them. Ms. Eckert was not interested in partisanship, fear-mongering, or saber-rattling. She was a woman who made sure that the death of her husband and those who died on September 11th would not be in vain. In that process, she reinforced the message that you can make a difference and that we, as a nation, should not give into the fear of terrorism.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution and formally recognize Ms. Beverly Eckert

for her continued work to ensure that the victims and families of the September 11th attacks are never forgotten and to ensure that our country is protected from such attacks in the future.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING NA-
TIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST
PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 9, 2009

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 210, Recognizing the importance of the National School Lunch Program and commend my colleague, Rep. GWEN MOORE for bringing this measure before the House.

This important program provides breakfast to over 8 million children through either free or reduced-price meals in approximately 16,000 schools. With the current economic crisis, working families are facing challenges they never expected. Last week, the Department of Labor announced the U.S. economy lost 651,000 jobs in February, and the unemployment rate hit 8.1 percent, its highest point in since 1983. These job losses make it even harder for some families to feed their children—so they turn to schools for help. We know that children who live in families that experience hunger have been shown to be more likely to have lower math scores, face an increased likelihood of repeating a grade, and receive more special education services.

We've learned over the years that making breakfast widely available through different venues, such as in the classroom, or as students exit their school bus, or outside the classroom, has been shown to diminish the stigma of receiving free or reduced-price breakfast, which often prevents eligible students from getting a traditional breakfast in school cafeterias.

Providing breakfast in the classroom can improve attentiveness and academic performance, while reducing tardiness and disciplinary referrals. Students who eat a complete breakfast have been shown to make fewer mistakes and work faster in math exercises than those who eat a partial breakfast. Students who skip breakfast are more likely to have difficulty distinguishing among similar images, show increased errors, and have slower memory recall. Studies have shown that access to nutritious programs such as the National School Lunch Program and National School Breakfast Program helps to create a strong learning environment for children and helps to improve children's concentration in the classroom.

Mr. Speaker, this is an incredibly important program with a well-documented track record of success. I'm pleased to add my voice of support for the National School Breakfast Program and I will be working with my colleagues to make sure that we provide the resources necessary to provide the benefits of this program to every hungry child who needs breakfast at school.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker:
Requesting Member: Representative ADAM H. PUTNAM

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Account: FY09 Financial Services appropriations bill, Small Business Account

Project Funding Amount: \$298,257

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Department of Citrus

Address of Requesting Entity: Post Office Box 148, Lakeland, FL 33802

Description of Request: In order for small business citrus operations to remain viable in an ever competitive marketplace and lessen their reliance on manual labor, an effective mechanical harvesting technology must be developed. These small business operations are currently at competitive disadvantage, as they are one of the last sectors for which mechanization has become an effective alternative. Such technology is critical for the future economic survival of Florida's small business-run citrus operations.

For this reason, funding is sought for the benefit of citrus small business operators, directed to the Florida Department of Citrus, to continue completion of the development of a mechanical harvesting abscission compound, through the FY2009 Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Public Service Award winner is Pamela Ely of Bridgewater. She is a founding member of the Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Pamela served on the organization's board of trustees for three years and as president for three years.

She has been the organization's executive director for the past decade, and has made substantial contributions to the organization's growth and success.

I am pleased to congratulate Pamela Ely for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

EL SALVADOR ELECTIONS

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, El Salvador is a good friend and ally of the United States. After we suffered the attacks of 9–11, most Salvadorans kept us in their prayers . . . But one group felt differently.

The Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), an extreme left-wing party, issued a communiqué that the U.S., for its policies, was itself to blame for being attacked. The U.S. Embassy publicly denounced the FMLN's declaration.

Four days after 9/11, the FMLN had a march in their capital city to celebrate the attack by Al-Qaeda and to burn the American flag. The leader of that march was Salvador Sanchez Ceren, who today is the FMLN's candidate for Vice President. The FMLN political party in El Salvador supports designated terrorist organizations, such as the FARC and State Sponsors of Terror, such as Iran and Cuba.

The FMLN has a long history of hostility towards us. If the FMLN should take power in El Salvador, it will be urgent for Congress to review our policies in order to assure the national security of the United States. Under current law, the election of a pro-terrorism party in El Salvador would have real consequences. Since the 9/11 attacks, the U.S. has enacted stronger tools to fight terrorism and those who funnel money to support it.

I want to make clear that these actions would not be punitive; they are not meant to chastise Salvadorans, but the U.S. will not aid sponsors of terrorism. We have an obligation to protect the U.S. and our citizens against those seeking to do us harm.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES MARINE CORPORAL JAVIER ALVA-REZ

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize former United States Marine Corporal Javier Alvarez, who January of this year was awarded the Silver Star for his gallantry in Iraq.

As a Squad Leader with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit near New Ubaydi, Iraq, Corporal Alvarez joined other U.S. and Coalition forces attempting to stem the flow of foreign fighters and insurgents in Operation STEEL CURTAIN. Corporal Alvarez and his platoon were attacked by frontal and flanking fire from four, well-fortified enemy positions.

Braving certain peril, Corporal Alvarez courageously led his squad one-hundred meters through withering automatic weapons fire to reinforce his Platoon Commander and other Marines. Although wounded, Corporal Alvarez continued to lead his Marines in close combat with the enemy, while aiding in the evacuation of other Marines. While reloading his weapon, an enemy grenade was thrown in the midst of

Corporal Alvarez and his squad. Selflessly and without regard to his own well being, he grabbed the grenade and began to throw it back at the enemy when it detonated.

Severely injured by the blast, Corporal Alvarez was evacuated by his Platoon Sergeant. His valiant efforts and those of his fellow Marines resulted in the deaths of 18 enemy insurgents and undoubtedly saved the lives of numerous Marines and Sailors.

His citation reads in part, "Corporal Alvarez's indomitable spirit, dauntless initiative and heroism were an inspiration to those with whom he served. By his outstanding display of decisive leadership, unlimited courage in the face of heavy enemy fire, and total devotion to duty, Corporal Alvarez reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service."

Our Nation owes him a debt of gratitude and remembers his fellow Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen who have paid the ultimate price in Iraq and Afghanistan.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Management Award winner is Nandita Kamdar of Branchburg. She is currently vice president at Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor in Warren and in charge of the mechanical-engineering department.

Nandita earned her MBA in management from Rutgers. She holds multiple engineering licenses in New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania and California.

I am pleased to congratulate Nandita Kamdar for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

MAKE HEALTH CARE A PRIORITY

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, the New Democrat Coalition including myself met with President Obama at the White House to discuss legislative strategy including the looming crisis of health care.

Missourians I represent expect their leaders to talk straight and provide common-sense solutions. President Obama and the new Congress have been doing just that. This year we

have sought solutions to cover the more than 47 million Americans without health care.

Already this year we have dramatically increased health care coverage for low-income and uninsured children.

We've also modernized the health care system to lower costs and save lives by investing in Health Information Technology systems.

It is reassuring to see that the President's budget puts aside more than \$630 billion over the next 10 years to reform health care, reduce Medicare overpayments to private insurers, and reduce drug prices. By tackling this issue we can rein in the high costs that are a drag on the entire economy.

The commitment by the New Dems and President Obama to health care is working to not only do the right thing but to ensure America and its children remain competitive in today's global economy.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON STEM CELL RESEARCH

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, this Tuesday marked an historic day for science and medical research efforts across our country as President Obama lifted the ban on federally funded stem cell research enacted in 2001. With this executive order, the President has restored the federal government's commitment to funding promising medical research with the potential to treat and cure some of the most debilitating human diseases.

One of the great promises of stem cells is their potential for use in developing new therapies for life altering diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and Parkinson's. Stem cell research offers the hope of a better life to millions of Americans, and by supporting this research we will open the door for groundbreaking discoveries at research facilities like Scripps Florida. The President has been clear that stem cell research in this country will not be undertaken lightly, and will only be conducted in the most responsible, ethical manner possible, with strict guidelines to prevent misuse and abuse.

Funding stem cell research is also a great investment in our future, not only from a personal health standpoint but from an economical and cost-efficiency perspective. Finding cures and therapies may reduce the cost of hospitalization and other expensive components of our health care system. By increasing our investment in stem cell research, we can also retain and attract some of the best and brightest scientists that have, up to now, been stifled by restrictions on which stem cell lines they may use for their research. The United States has always been a world leader in science and technology, and with this ban lifted, we can once again conduct the most cutting-edge research right here in the U.S. that will bring the next big breakthroughs in the world of medicine.

From juvenile diabetes to paralysis, the potential of stem cell research in all of its forms presents one of humanity's greatest leaps toward the ultimate goal of preserving, prolonging and improving the quality of our lives. As a strong advocate of this research, I com-

mend the President for his commitment to funding comprehensive stem cell research in the United States.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

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The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Business Award winner is Ann Minzner Conley, the vice president of Loss Control Services for Chubb Commercial Insurance.

Ann is the company's executive-liability specialist. She mentors young adults considering careers in science and engineering, and also coaches youth soccer and plays on the Basking Ridge Mavericks women's soccer team.

I am pleased to congratulate Ann Minzner Conley on her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD M. SCHOELL

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Richard M. Schoell, Executive Director of the Office of Governmental Relations at the University of Illinois. Rick recently announced his retirement from the University after spending 22 years of dedicated time and effort ensuring that the University of Illinois remains one of the premier research institutions in the world.

I have known Rick for every one of those 22 years through my time as a State Representative in Illinois and as a Member of Congress, where I have been honored to be able to represent the University of Illinois' campus at Urbana-Champaign. His work ethic, dedication, and professionalism have been a reflection of his overall character and he will be sorely missed, not only on campus, but in my office as well.

Rick, I wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you these past 22 years.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN MARVIN WESTBERG

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN. Madam Speaker, last Friday, at Ft. Logan National Cemetery in Colorado, Captain Marvin Westberg was laid to his rest with full honors. He passed away February 18 at the age of 87.

Captain Westberg attended what is now the University of Northern Colorado, in Greeley. He then joined the United States Navy, spending 22 years on active duty. He served in both WWII and the Korea War. After retiring from the United States Navy in 1964, he started a second long career with United Airlines.

I have spoken to Marv on several occasions. Among the best stories he told was about one instance when he was training a young pilot to fly. Marv fired up his trademark pipe in the cockpit and gave the trainee a command, to which the trainee replied, "Can't see sir, too much smoke, sir!" Marv never forgot that the trainee was the elder George Bush. Marv also witnessed the surrender of Japan from his ship, anchored next to the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo harbor, on September 2, 1945.

Madam Speaker, our nation and our liberties are built from the service of men and women like Captain Marvin Westberg. He contributed his talents and abilities to our national defense, to our nation's economy, to our political system, and to the life of his friends and neighbors. I just wanted to take a small moment to recognize his service, and his career.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

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The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Journalism Award winner is Alice Steinbacher of Bernardsville, where she is an accomplished writer.

Alice began her career in marketing, radio, advertising, public relations and publishing in 1970 as marketing assistant at John Blair and Co. in New York City.

In 1979, she opened her own agency, Steinbacher Advertising.

She published Renaissance Morristown. Alice edits and publishes Chapter II for the seniors of the Somerset Hills.

I am pleased to congratulate Alice Steinbacher for her outstanding efforts and

share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

**YIMBY AWARD TO STEVEN
GARTRELL**

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, March 8th, I had the privilege of addressing one of the most worthwhile organizations in the district that I am privileged to represent—CAN-DO. Led by Josephine McNeil, CAN-DO does extraordinarily important work in trying to get affordable housing of various sorts—rental, ownership, group homes—placed in the City of Newton, where I live. This requires a great deal of work, both in compiling together the finances at a time when money was not adequate for these purposes, and in dealing with neighborhood resistance which generally turns out to have been unjustified, but which was nonetheless strong in some cases.

In addition to being able at that event to praise the work of Josephine McNeil, I had the chance to share the evening's speaking program with Steven Gartrell, who is just retiring as Director of the Housing and Community Development program in the City of Newton. He won the YIMBY Award from the organization: the "Yes, In My Back Yard!" honor. As the Community Development Director for the City of Newton for many years, Steve Gartrell exemplified public service that was compassionate and responsible. Under his leadership, serving several mayors, the city spent its community development block grant money wisely and well. Steve Gartrell did the most good that it was possible to do with the funds made available to him from the federal government. I am glad to be able to point to the expenditure of community development funds under Mr. Gartrell as an example of how government at the federal level can best enable good work at the local level, and I congratulate Steve Gartrell for this well-deserved award, and Josephine McNeil for recognizing him by granting it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, March 5, 2009, I was not present for a recorded vote. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

Roll No. 106—yea.

EL SALVADOR ELECTIONS

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, El Salvador is a good friend of the United States.

And after we suffered the attacks of 9/11, most Salvadorans kept us in their prayers. But one group felt differently.

The FMLN, a pro terrorist, Left wing party in El Salvador, issued a communiqué that the U.S., because of its policies, was itself to blame for being attacked. The U.S. embassy publicly denounced that declaration, yet the FMLN is now poised to possibly enter into the government in El Salvador.

Four days after 9/11, the FMLN had a march in their capital city to celebrate the 9/11 attack by Al-Qaeda and to burn the American flag. The leader of that march was Salvador Sanchez Ceren, who today is the FMLN's candidate for El Salvadoran Vice President.

El Salvador's election is on Sunday. If an ally of Al-Qaeda and Iran comes to power in El Salvador, the national security interests of the United States will require certain immigration restrictions and controls over the flow of the \$4 billion in annual remittances sent from the U.S. back home to El Salvador.

Let me note, that my purpose is not to punish Salvadorans, but if a pro-terrorism government takes power, it will be imperative to review our policies in order to protect the national security of the United States.

STATEMENT ON UNITED STATES POLICY REGARDING THE FMLN, TEMPORARY PROTECTED IMMIGRATION STATUS, MONEY TRANSFERS AND U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

NEW WORLD REALITY OF TERRORISM

The global offensive waged by terror groups against the United States and the free world obliges our nation to make strong decisions to help assure our own security.

REMITTANCES AN ISSUE OF U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

The U.S. government, in permitting or prohibiting unregulated remittances from the United States to a foreign country, must concern itself above all with the national security of the United States.

Policy decisions regarding monetary remittances to foreign countries must now be evaluated with special attention paid to the degree of confidence and effective cooperation that exists with the counterpart government.

It has been determined through a number of official investigations that some of the same groups that direct terror campaigns against us and our allies may help finance those campaigns with money acquired in the United States and then transferred out of the country.

REMITTANCES DESTINED FOR TERRORIST GROUPS MUST BE BLOCKED AND SEIZED

To fight this threat, tougher laws have been enacted and effective law enforcement efforts have been able to block and seize funds originating in the United States that were destined for foreign terrorist groups. Toward that end, international and bi-lateral cooperation is of the utmost importance.

Ample legal precedent exists to shut down U.S.-based organizations that send money or material support, directly or indirectly, to terrorist entities, and to seize their assets. The FBI and Department of the Treasury have done so on several occasions since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

COUNTRY POLICY ON REMITTANCES AND PRO-TERRORIST REGIMES

The country policy regarding the unregulated flow of remittances should be urgently reviewed and, in most cases, those remittances must be immediately terminated, if a pro-terrorism party wins power or enters the government of a country.

THE FMLN AS A PRO-TERRORIST PARTY

The Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), a political party in El Salvador, can be considered a pro-terrorist party because of its support for designated terrorist organizations, such as the FARC, for state sponsors of terror, such as Cuba and Iran, and for the public participation by some of its leaders, including its current candidate for Vice President, in a pro-Al Qaeda rally where the U.S. flag was burned, this taking place immediately after September 11, 2001. The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador was forced to condemn the written public statements related to the September 11th attacks that were issued by the FMLN and blamed the U.S. for causing itself to be attacked because of its international policies.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FMLN

The FMLN was created in 1980, with the direct help of Fidel Castro, as an armed subversive communist organization that sought the violent overthrow of the Government of El Salvador in order to replace it with a pro-Castro Marxist-Leninist regime. After years of armed aggression and terrorism, which included the murder of four U.S. Marines in El Salvador as well as other U.S. citizens, the FMLN signed a peace agreement in 1992 that brought the war to an end and led to the participation of the FMLN in the political process.

CURRENT ACTIONS OF THE FMLN

The FMLN continues to participate actively in international gatherings with violent and radical anti-U.S. groups and terrorist organizations. The FMLN contains clandestine armed groups that have been linked to violent actions in El Salvador, including the murder of a policeman and an attack on a presidential convoy.

The FMLN maintains direct ties with terrorist organizations. This relationship was confirmed by electronic records left by the Colombian narco-guerrilla terrorist group the FARC on a laptop computer used by one of the group's leaders. The emails found show that a key figure of El Salvador's FMLN, Jose Luis Merino (alias "Ramiro"), assisted the FARC in contacting international arms dealers for the purpose of obtaining weapons.

Purges in the FMLN have left the party under the complete control of its most hard-line communist leaders. The FMLN is also known to organize in the United States among the Salvadoran immigrant community.

EXCELLENT CURRENT RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND EL SALVADOR

It must be emphasized that the United States has very good relations with the current government of El Salvador, led by the party ARENA. This friendship is based on confidence, shared values, mutually beneficial international policies and strong personal relationships.

Excellent bi-lateral relations permit a high-level of cooperation on important national security matters. El Salvador provides military and intelligence cooperation and was one of the longest-serving members of coalition that sent armed forces to post-war Iraq. El Salvador is also a valued ally in the war on drugs, providing the United States with an important Forward Operating Location in Central America.

TPS BASED ON EXCELLENT STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP

In the context of excellent relations and close cooperation, the U.S. government was able to grant and extend TPS for the benefit of nearly 300,000 Salvadorans now living and working in the United States. For similar

reasons, the U.S. government has not had special concerns about the source and use of the nearly \$4 billion in remittances sent last year by Salvadorans in the United States to their home country, allowing the free movement of that large sum. The government of El Salvador has shown itself to be a reliable and trustworthy counterpart regarding U.S. national security.

CURRENT U.S. POLICY ON REMITTANCES TO EL SALVADOR IS BASED ON A STRONG STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP

In the context of excellent relations and close cooperation, the U.S. government has not had special security concerns about the source and use of nearly 4 billion dollars per year (2008) sent by Salvadorans in the United States to their home country. The current government of El Salvador has shown itself to be a reliable and trustworthy counterpart regarding U.S. national security.

FMLN IN GOVERNMENT RADICALLY CHANGES THE EQUATION

If the FMLN enters the government of El Salvador following the presidential elections scheduled for March 2009, it will mean a radical termination of the conditions that underlie the unrestricted movement of billions of dollars a year and that permitted the granting of TPS in the first place and its continued renewal. The U.S. government would have no reliable counterpart to satisfy legitimate national security concerns, especially those regarding the threat posed by pro-terrorist groups and the providing of funding for those groups.

FMLN IN GOVERNMENT COULD REQUIRE TERMINATION OF TPS

Therefore, if the FMLN enters the government in El Salvador it will be necessary for the U.S. authorities to consider all available information regarding the ties of the FMLN to violent anti-U.S. groups and designated terrorist groups and, on that basis, proceed toward the immediate termination of TPS for El Salvador.

FMLN IN GOVERNMENT COULD REQUIRE CONTROL OF REMITTANCES

In many instances, pro-terrorist groups conduct fundraising in the United States, and special controls and restrictions on the flow of funds have been applied where necessary. Given the pro-terrorist nature of the FMLN and its ties to designated terrorist groups, if the FMLN enters the government in El Salvador, it will be urgent to apply special controls to the flow of remittances from the United States to El Salvador, a sum that is currently \$4 billion per year.

This review would examine and consider the termination of the flow of money remittances to El Salvador, either from our country, in our currency, or using our financial system and our means of land- and space-based telecommunications.

U.S. PROHIBITION ON DESIGNATED FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS

The U.S. Department of State has expressed the ramifications, based on U.S. law, of the designation of foreign terrorist organizations (FTO):

It is unlawful for a person in the United States or subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to knowingly provide "material support or resources" to a designated FTO. (The term "material support or resources" is defined in 18 U.S.C. §2339A(b)(1) as "any property, tangible or intangible, or service, including currency or monetary instruments or financial securities, financial services, lodging, training, expert advice or assistance, safehouses, false documentation or identification, communications equipment, facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel (1 or more individuals

who may be or include oneself), and transportation, except medicine or religious materials."

18 U.S.C. §2339A(b)(2) provides that for these purposes "the term 'training' means instruction or teaching designed to impart a specific skill, as opposed to general knowledge." 18 U.S.C. §2339A(b)(3) further provides that for these purposes "the term 'expert advice or assistance' means advice or assistance derived from scientific, technical or other specialized knowledge."

Representatives and members of a designated FTO, if they are aliens, are inadmissible to and, in certain circumstances, removable from the United States (see 8 U.S.C. §§1182 (a)(3)(B)(i)(IV)-(V), 1227 (a)(1)(A)).

Any U.S. financial institution that becomes aware that it has possession of or control over funds in which a designated FTO or its agent has an interest must retain possession of or control over the funds and report the funds to the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

FMLN IN GOVERNMENT WOULD FORCE A CHANGE IN U.S. IMMIGRATION PRACTICES REGARDING EL SALVADOR

Since the 1980s, the United States has maintained a lenient immigration policy toward Latin Americans, particularly Central Americans, and has not significantly enforced its laws. In the past decade, successive Salvadoran governments, offering Washington credible assurances of security and intelligence cooperation, have asked the U.S. for continued leniency toward their citizens who enter and work in the United States illegally. However, if a pro-terrorist party enters government in El Salvador that creates a radically different strategic reality and the U.S. will be compelled to change its immigration enforcement policy.

PRO-TERRORIST PRACTICES BY FMLN MAKE IT AN UNTRUSTWORTHY COUNTERPART

Based on the intimate relations between the FMLN and narco-guerrilla FARC terrorist organization in Colombia, if the FMLN were to enter government in El Salvador, the U.S. will have no alternative but to apply maximum lawful security measures to Salvadoran nationals living and working in the country illegally without valid identification, visas, work permits, and related papers.

The Department of the Treasury may be forced to use its legal authority to monitor, control, delay, or terminate the movement of remittances and other money transfers to El Salvador, and the Department of Homeland Security may be compelled to end TPS and to undertake a massive review of Salvadoran nationals residing in or entering the U.S. unlawfully.

TO RAPIDLY TERMINATE THE FLOW OF REMITTANCES, HOMELAND SECURITY MUST PREPARE A CONTINGENCY PLAN

The United States must be prepared to apply, on an urgent basis, the full array of legal instruments available should circumstances after the Salvadoran election require the urgent termination of the flow of remittances to that country. Under U.S. law and in accordance with our national security policies, the immediate responsibility for preparing these plans resides with the Department of Homeland Security, working in conjunction with the Department of the Treasury and other agencies of the U.S. government.

FACTS ABOUT THE FMLN LEADERSHIP

Leadership of FMLN is hostile to U.S. FMLN, in power, would follow anti-U.S. agenda of Venezuela's radical president Hugo Chavez and join Cuba, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras in pro-Chavez axis. Flags of Venezuela, Cuba and Iran are carried at FMLN rallies.

Chavez helps finance FMLN campaign by selling cut-rate diesel fuel to FMLN's "ALBA PETROLEOS". Reselling the fuel (20% of the diesel sold in El Salvador) gives FMLN profit estimated at \$20 mn.

SALVADOR SANCHEZ CEREN is FMLN's candidate for Vice President. In 2001, four days after 9-11, Salvador Sánchez Cerén led march in San Salvador that celebrated attacks by Al-Qaeda and burned American flags. FMLN issued a communiqué that the U.S., for its policies, was itself to blame for being attacked.

Sánchez Cerén is the FMLN commanding general whose alias was "Leonel Gonzalez". Between 1986 and 1990, he approved 1,200-1,500 assassinations according to investigation reported by John R. Thomson in the Washington Times (November 2008). Cerén, a hard-core communist, purged party leaders seen as insufficiently radical. He and Merino dominate (and if necessary could eliminate) Mauricio Funes, their figurehead presidential candidate.

JOSE LUIS MERINO (code name "Ramiro"), de-facto leader of FMLN, helped arrange the diesel fuel deal with Chavez. In 2005 interview, Merino said El Salvador should model itself after Chavez's Venezuela, and that USSR was "one of the most just" political systems on earth.

FMLN, like Chavez, is ally of designated terrorist groups and of state sponsors of terror, including FARC, Cuba and Iran. FMLN contains clandestine armed groups (BPJ, 'El Limon', BRES), that stage violent actions, killed a policeman, and attacked presidential convoy.

FARC (Colombian narco-terrorists) Merino is implicated in arms trafficking with FARC. In raid on a rebel camp last year, Colombian military seized computer of FARC leader Raul Reyes. An e-mail from Iván Márquez, FARC guerrillas' primary contact with the Venezuelan government, showed Merino to be the link with certain arms dealers.

IRAN Chavez introduced FMLN and Iran at meetings in Nicaragua. With flights from El Salvador to 10 U.S. cities and large FMLN network in the United States, Salvador would be important beachhead for Iran, a state sponsor of terror. Iran opened large embassy in Nicaragua and is building relations with Honduras.

CUBA FMLN is close ally of Cuba, a state sponsor of terror. Castro played key role creating FMLN as an armed revolutionary force, uniting five Salvadoran extremist groups under one banner.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17 women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Health Services Award winner is Barbara Tofani of Hillsborough, where she currently works as a registered nurse.

Since 2005, Barbara has been the director of the Hunterdon Regional Cancer Center in Raritan Township.

As director of The Center for Nursing and Health Careers from 2001–05, she was responsible for developing and implementing a strategic plan to address the health care workforce shortage in New Jersey.

I am pleased to congratulate Barbara Tofani for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

SUPPORTING ARKANSAS
FIREFIGHTERS

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of America's firefighters.

Not a day goes by that I don't read or hear a story of the dangers and sacrifices our firefighters face to protect us. We are so blessed to have such great men and women who are dedicated to ensuring our safety.

The work that they do in our communities is an important job that requires our commitment to help provide funds for resources and training that enables them to perform their jobs as best as they can. I have been proud to support Arkansas's firefighters in the past by helping to secure grant funding and that work will continue.

Last year when the barracks at Fort Chaffee caught fire, our firefighters braved high winds to contain the fire and protect our communities. That blaze required the help of numerous firefighters including men and women who volunteer their time to help keep us out of harm's way.

According to the National Volunteer Fire Council, the biggest challenges facing volunteer fire departments and emergency services are retention and recruitment. We can help ease those hurdles with new legislation that offers incentives to those who are at the forefront of fires. The Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention Act and the Volunteer Firefighter/EMS Gas Price Relief Act show our appreciation for the work that is imperative to protecting our rural communities.

Firefighters put their lives on the line for their fellow citizens, and my appreciation for these Americans who help protect us is immeasurable. I urge the House Committee on Ways and Means to consider these bills, and for Congress to offer more support to all of the men and women who serve our communities with such valor.

RECOGNIZING NEW SOURCE
BROADBAND COMPANY ON THEIR
GRAND OPENING AND RIBBON
CUTTING

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize New Source

Broadband for their far-sighted provision of high speed Internet services to rural areas.

New Source Broadband Company is a pioneer in the high speed Internet industry as they are reaching customers that larger companies have deemed unprofitable. This company has earned my respect for remembering that rural communities should not be left behind in the Information Age. Farmers, ranchers, lake-area inhabitants, and other country dwellers now have immediate access to online communities and knowledge databases thanks to the innovation and concern of this company. New Source Broadband Company will be opening their third office and continues to expand their service capacity to rural areas.

Madam Speaker, I commend the management and employees of New Source Broadband Company for the positive professional contribution they have made to rural communities, notably constituents within the Twenty-Sixth District of Texas. I warmly congratulate New Source Broadband Company upon the opening of their third store and wish them continued business growth.

HONORING CELE PETERSON ON
HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to pay tribute today to Cele Peterson, a resident of Tucson, Arizona who on March 14, 2009, celebrates her 100 birthday.

Ms. Peterson is the founder and owner of a dress store that has been an integral part of the Tucson business community for generations. But to call Ms. Peterson a dressmaker or even a businesswoman fails to capture how important this woman is to countless Southern Arizonans who have been touched by her kindness and good works.

It is impossible to imagine what Tucson would be like without Ms. Peterson's presence over these many years. Through her hard work and generosity, she helped define and shape our city. Her caring spirit and actions are an inspiration to all of us.

Our world today is very different from the one Ms. Peterson entered 100 years ago, on March 14, 1909. Then, much of Europe was still ruled by kings and queens. A czar presided over Russia, a sultan based in Constantinople dominated the Middle East, and William Howard Taft occupied the White House. In 1909 the first Lincoln-head penny went into circulation, the Wright Brothers delivered the first military plane to the army, and two American explorers, Robert Peary and Matthew Hansen, declared they were the first to reach the North Pole.

The year Ms. Peterson was born saw the U.S. Navy open a new base at Pearl Harbor, a Ford Model T win the first transcontinental motorcar race, Sir Thomas Lipton begin packaging tea in New York, and the White Star Line start construction of the *Titanic*. It was the year Barry Goldwater, Errol Flynn and Douglas Fairbanks were born and the year the artist Frederic Remington and the Apache leader Geronimo died.

Ms. Peterson's life-long connection to Arizona began when the State of Arizona was

born, in 1912. As a three-year old girl she moved with her family to Bisbee, then a thriving mining town. The population of the entire state in 1912 was around 200,000. Tucson had 14,000 residents and Phoenix—now the fifth largest city in the United States—had a population of 11,000. The Mexican Revolution had begun two years earlier and Ms. Peterson recalls climbing the hills around Bisbee to watch the revolution take place on the other side of the border.

When Ms. Peterson launched her business in 1930, our country was at the threshold of the Great Depression and it was not long before her two business partners backed out of the venture. Ms. Peterson, however, did not give up. She stuck to it and not only survived, but thrived.

For nearly 80 years, Ms. Peterson's merchandise and designs have been at the forefront of the fashion world. Her business has endured decades of ever-changing trends and economic ups and downs.

Today, Cele Peterson's retail store is still going strong in Tucson. Her daughters are managing the business but Cele still comes to the store to greet customers and make sure that her tradition of great service is maintained. Over the years, Ms. Peterson has dressed an untold number of women from all walks of life. Among them are a host of well-known celebrities, such as Elizabeth Taylor and Lady Astor.

Ms. Peterson's accomplishments go far beyond the realm of hems, pleats and necklines. She is a greatly admired and dynamic civic leader who has had a hand in the establishment of some Tucson's finest community organizations. She helped found the Arizona Theatre Company, the Arizona Opera Company, the Tucson Children's Museum and, perhaps most significantly, Casa de los Niños. Casa de los Niños' mission is to support children and families to both prevent child abuse and treat children who are victims of abuse. When the unmet needs of abused children were brought to her attention, Ms. Peterson offered up a three-bedroom house so that the new organization could begin its work. When it opened in 1973, it was the first shelter of its kind in the country.

As Tucson celebrates the 100th birthday of Cele Peterson, it is worth noting that 2009 also marks the centennial of the birth of Wallace Stegner. This great writer of the American West once noted that "creation is a knack which is empowered by practice, and like almost any skill, it is lost if you don't practice it."

Cele Peterson never stopped practicing her knack for creation and in the process she helped build a caring community. For all that she has done we owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Thank you Cele for setting such a fine example of citizenship for all of us to follow.

Happy Birthday to you!

SENDING THE WRONG MESSAGE
ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I would like to share with our colleagues an editorial from

yesterday's Washington Post highlighting Secretary of State Clinton's disappointing start on human rights. In referencing some of her recent comments, the editorial rightly notes, "Ms. Clinton is doing a disservice to her own department—and sending a message to rulers around the world that their abuses won't be taken seriously by this U.S. administration." Secretary Clinton is sending the wrong message on human rights.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 10, 2009]
SOME FRIENDS

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton continues to devalue and undermine the U.S. diplomatic tradition of human rights advocacy. On her first foreign trip, to Asia, she was dismissive about raising human rights concerns with China's communist government, saying "those issues can't interfere" with economic, security or environmental matters. In last week's visit to the Middle East and Europe, she undercut the State Department's own reporting regarding two problematic American allies: Egypt and Turkey.

According to State's latest report on Egypt, issued Feb. 25, "the government's respect for human rights remained poor" during 2008 "and serious abuses continued in many areas." It cited torture by security forces and a decline in freedom of the press, association and religion. Ms. Clinton was asked about those conclusions during an interview she gave to the al-Arabiya satellite network in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Her reply contained no expression of concern about the deteriorating situation. "We issue these reports on every country," she said. "We hope that it will be taken in the spirit in which it is offered, that we all have room for improvement."

Ms. Clinton was then asked whether there would be any connection between the report and a prospective invitation to President Hosni Mubarak to visit Washington. "It is not in any way connected," she replied, adding: "I really consider President and Mrs. Mubarak to be friends of my family. So I hope to see him often here in Egypt and in the United States." Ms. Clinton's words will be treasured by al-Qaeda recruiters and anti-American propagandists throughout the Middle East. She appears oblivious to how offensive such statements are to the millions of Egyptians who loathe Mr. Mubarak's oppressive government and blame the United States for propping it up.

The new secretary of state delivered a similar shock in Turkey to liberal supporters of press freedom, now under siege by the government of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. According to the State Department report, "senior government officials, including Prime Minister Erdogan, made statements during the year strongly criticizing the press and media business figures, particularly following the publishing of reports on alleged corruption . . . connected to the ruling party." That was an understatement: In fact, Mr. Erdogan's government has mounted an ugly campaign against one of Turkey's largest media conglomerates, presenting it with a \$500 million tax bill in a maneuver that has been compared to Russia's treatment of independent media.

Ms. Clinton was asked by a Turkish journalist what she told Mr. Erdogan when he complained about the State Department report. She answered: "Well, my reaction was that we put out this report every year, and I fully understand . . . no politician ever likes the press criticizing them." "Overall," she concluded, "we think that Turkey has made tremendous progress in freedom of speech and freedom of religion and human rights, and we're proud of that."

In fact, as the State Department has documented, Turkey is retreating on freedom of speech. In Egypt, the human rights situation also is getting worse rather than better. By minimizing those facts, Ms. Clinton is doing a disservice to her own department—and sending a message to rulers around the world that their abuses won't be taken seriously by this U.S. administration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 115, I was on the floor and voting, but due to mechanical error, my vote was not recorded. I would have voted "yes."

MARY ELLEN ROZZELL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Ellen Rozzell, former President of the National Association of Professional Surplus Lines Offices (NAPSLO), who passed away unexpectedly on March 3, 2009, while attending a NAPSLO conference in Palm Springs, California.

Mary Ellen was a respected, beloved leader. The President of Continental/Marmorstein & Malone Insurance Agency in Paramus, New Jersey, she began working in the insurance business with the Marmorstein Agency some forty years ago. Mary Ellen served as President of New Jersey Surplus Lines Association (NJSLA) from 1989–1990, and was named as NJSLA honoree of the year in 1992 due to her outstanding contribution to the New Jersey Surplus Lines Industry. She also served on the New Jersey Insurance Commissioner's Producer Advisory Council, and with the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

Her warmth, openness, honesty and good nature made everyone who met her feel immediately comfortable. These qualities served her very well in life, with family and friends, and in her remarkable career where she rose through the ranks with hard work and honesty. She was always prepared for the trials of life and business and the often difficult decisions required by both. She embraced responsibility, expected accountability and never failed those who depended on her.

All who knew her benefited by her example.

Her family has established the Mary Ellen Rozzell Foundation for AVM Research so that friends and colleagues might contribute to arteriovenous malformation research in Mary Ellen's name.

I extend my sympathy to her family and those close to her. She will be missed greatly by everyone she touched.

TRIBUTE TO LLOYD SMITH

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and thank my Chief of Staff, Lloyd Smith, for 28 years of service to the Emerson family and to the Eighth Congressional District. Since 1981, Lloyd has served the people of Southern Missouri and the institution of Congress. In the political landscape of our state, he is a fixture. His name is inseparable from the term of service first of my late husband Bill Emerson in Congress from 1981 to 1996 and then, from 1996 until now.

Lloyd has left the ranks of my staff from time to time in order to give others the benefit of his policy experience and political know-how. Those lucky to enlist him have never been the worse for it.

To my staff, Lloyd is their leader. He inspires them, rallies them, guides them and motivates them. He brings out the best in them, and though he shares in all of their successes he freely gives them all of the credit.

Though he is important to many people for many reasons, to me Lloyd is also a great and dear friend. I have long valued Lloyd's strategic mind, his intellect and his insight—which truly drive our congressional office. Lloyd thinks in terms of big ideas, but he never neglects the details. This combination of brave creativity and studious diligence is rare, and the easy smile and gentle charm of this man from East Prairie, Missouri, belies the depth of his dedication to the office.

And in thanking Lloyd for his years of service, I must also express my deepest gratitude to his wonderful wife, Marlys, and his three amazing children, Trista, Sam and Tiffany. They have made sacrifices, too, so their husband and father could work the long, stressful hours this job demands. They also share the credit for Lloyd's ability to stay positive and optimistic, week after week, year after year, decade after decade.

As he moves on to new challenges, I wish Lloyd the very best of luck. I cannot quantify the immense debt owed to him by Missouri's Eighth Congressional District, by this nation, and by me for his faithful service. I commend him to the U.S. House of Representatives today, and I thank him for his friendship always.

COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING WOMEN OF SOMERSET COUNTY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Women's History Month, and I would like to congratulate a number of outstanding women who will be recognized at the Somerset County's Commission on the Status of Women awards in New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District.

The Commission presents awards annually in celebration of National Women's History Month in March. This year there are 17

women being honored, including entrepreneurs, educators and hometown heroes whose community service is considered extraordinary.

This year's Social Services Award winner is Barbara Schlichting of Stockton. She has worked for Somerset Treatment Services in Somerville for 32 years, first as a counselor, then as a supervisor, and now as executive director.

Barbara has worked with countless staff and clients to provide quality and meaningful services in the field of drug and alcohol counseling and psychiatric services.

She works tirelessly to secure grants for those with tremendous hardships and runs a successful agency that provides sometimes-difficult-to-find services. The agency's many counselors over the years also have benefited from Barbara's knowledge and dedication.

I am pleased to congratulate Barbara Schlichting for her outstanding efforts and share her good work with my colleagues in the United States Congress and the American people.

HONORING THE SAINT JOSEPH COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Chamber of Commerce of St. Joseph County in celebration of its 100th anniversary.

The founding fathers of the Chamber of Commerce realized that as a business community their collective actions would have a much greater impact than those actions taken individually. In order to make their community stronger, both locally and nationally, they would need the business community engaged in all areas of commerce.

Today, the Chamber is immersed in all areas of business, education, and legislative affairs, and it continues to deeply involve itself in the community at large. This is critical to Saint Joseph County residents today, since cities across the land are facing profound issues such as unemployment, budget cuts, and an increase in school drop-out rates.

As a response to these challenges, the Chambers of Commerce across the country have taken on far more active roles within their communities. While still involved in the important networking events that encourage collaboration between the current and future generations of business professionals, the Chamber's role has become far more participatory in the critical issues facing our community. To this effect, the Chamber is partnering with the South Bend Community School Corporation and government officials, as well as with business and community leaders, to lead the school system in a new, dynamic direction.

Two years ago, The Chamber formed the Business Growth Initiative, which proactively addresses and resolves key issues that will help businesses grow and expand in the city of South Bend. Also, the chamber recognized the need to retain and attract young professionals in our community. The Young Profes-

sionals Network (YPN) was created to help address key issues for young professionals living in and relocating to the area.

Many programs have been initiated and conducted with the Chamber taking the lead role, such as the Manufacturing Summit, which addressed the issue of education and the development of a workforce that is technologically advanced; Green Community initiatives, an entrepreneurial forum; and the South Bend/Mishawaka Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Whether it is an issue of advanced business, community, or education, the Chamber is prepared to make a difference now and for the next 100 years. They continue to advance their community and help its citizens make a difference by allowing their voices to be heard. Consequently, I salute the Chamber of Commerce of St. Joseph County on its 100th anniversary and wish them continued success.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SILVER SPRINGS-MARTIN LUTHER SCHOOL

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Silver Springs-Martin Luther School on its 150th Anniversary and to recognize the tremendous dedication of staff, administrators, Board of Trustees and supporters of this outstanding facility.

Founded in 1859 in Philadelphia with just one dollar and gritty determination to serve orphaned children, the 36-acre campus in Plymouth Meeting, Montgomery County provides a home, treatment, education and a variety of services to very special, traumatized children and their families.

The extremely dedicated and talented staff at Silver Springs-Martin Luther School, combined with the excellent foster family care, special education school and family resource services, help so many wonderful children overcome the steep challenges they face in their early years.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the Silver Springs-Martin Luther School for reaching this extraordinary milestone and in commending the exemplary efforts of the staff, administrators, Board of Trustees and supporters in providing a nurturing and healing environment so that children facing long odds can achieve their full potential.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR MIKE

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a dear friend and one of Connecticut's most dynamic and charismatic leaders. He was known universally as Mayor Mike. A great light left us when Michael J. Peters passed away on January 4, 2009. His engaging personality, his great sense of humor and his devotion to his

city, his friends and his family, will forever endure.

I was fortunate to know him and to be a direct beneficiary of his friendship and loyalty. I was equally honored to be at his funeral surrounded by friends, family and dignitaries, but it was through the remarks of his sister Geraldine and his son Chris that the essence of this great and beloved man was captured. Madam Speaker, I submit to the record of this great Nation these eulogies of Mayor Mike Peters of Hartford, Connecticut, a great American and a great example of devotion and service above self, done with a smile.

EULOGY GIVEN BY CHRIS PETERS

Good morning. I would first like to say on behalf of my mother, my brother, my sister and my entire extended family thank you so much for such a genuine and unbelievable outpour of support over the last several weeks. Your prayers and well wishes helped us all get through this difficult time.

My father was an example to us children of what hard work is and what it takes to raise a family. For most of our childhood my dad worked two jobs to support our family and to give us a roof over our heads. His main and most notable career was as a firefighter but with the schedule being as it was for a firefighter he had days off that allowed him to bring in additional income. One such job was delivering oil for John McCarthy Oil. Although it was against the oil company's policy, my father would often bring me on deliveries with him and he would let me hold the nozzle as we filled the tanks at people's homes. I remember once the tank had overflowed and I was sprayed from head to toe with fuel . . . that was the end of that. I think he realized at that point why there was such a policy but because he worked so often, any chance he had to hang out with us he took advantage, even if it meant bringing me to work and dousing me in a highly flammable liquid.

Having a firefighter as a father was such a cool thing as a kid. It's most kids' dream to be a firefighter when they grow up and having him work at Engine 15 right up the street from where we grew up; I was able to show off all the time. Bring my friends into the firehouse and look at the trucks and watch him slide down the pole. He gave us so much to be proud of way before he ever became the Mayor.

He was an umpire for our little league in the south end (he had a very tight strike zone by the way) and was instrumental in organizing fund raisers for the league and helped shape my love for baseball by making sure my brother David and I were Yankee fans at a very early age. I've been told (mostly by him) that he was quite the ball player when he was younger. I think he was proud of my 4 year career in the McGinley Craffa little league and he was happy to get 4 more years out of David, who by the way, was much better than I. Watching a Yankee game with him on a warm summer night, windows open and a warm summer breeze blowing in, is something my brother and I will sorely miss.

His bond with my sister Michelle was something very special between a daughter and her father. In High School, Michelle did what a lot of young teenage girls do; she gave our father a lot of grey hairs. Although we joke about the trouble Michelle got into, truth is she wasn't all that bad. Now that I look back on it, it was more the concern my father had for her and the love he felt for his only daughter. Those years of rebellion helped shape a very special bond between the two of them. My father's love and commitment to making sure he showed her the way

helped shape Michelle into the incredible person she is. A fantastic mother whose children will most certainly miss their Gampy.

As my brother and sister and I got older my father transformed into something different. He became our friend, someone you could tell anything to. He was my best friend, the person you wanted to do things with, anything, go to a game, dinner or just drive around the city and talk about anything.

He married his high school sweetheart Jeannette and if you're not familiar with their relationship I can tell you theirs is one of true love and dedication. My mother spent every day in the hospital over the last 3 months with my father. She has sacrificed so much to sit with him and root him on. She is truly a Saint who lost her true love. My heart will forever be broken for her.

Most of you here today know how he lived. Vibrant, larger than life, caring, loving and concerned for anyone who needed help. He loved to laugh and make people laugh. He had an incredible ability to find the positive in any situation. Always optimistic with a heart bigger than the city. He kept his home phone number listed after he became the Mayor, he would get all kinds of calls at all hours of the day and night and he would always return the call. No matter how strange the request. One night around midnight or so, he got a call from a woman on Yale St. whose cat was stuck in a tree, she knew my dad was a firefighter and begged him to call the fire department and get them to her house to retrieve her cat from the tree. My father calmed her down from the comfort of his bed, told her the fire department doesn't really do that sort of thing and she should go to bed and that her cat will come down on its own and then he asked her "by the way, have you ever seen the skeleton of a cat in a tree before?" The point was well taken and sure enough he called her back the next morning and her cat was ok. This was how he lived, finding humor in situations, compassionate towards the needs of others no matter how extraordinary the request. This is how he lived, with a smile on his face and love in his heart. Now I would like to tell you a little bit about how he died.

(adlibbed)

I want you all to know that my father died peacefully this past Sunday surrounded by his family, we were all there and I believe this gave him great comfort. We believe he is in a better place now, no longer suffering.

Over the last few days many people have been telling me how sorry they are about my father's passing but I'm deeply sorry for all of you as well. I feel like we are all in the same boat. Not only did my family lose a father, grandfather, brother, uncle, husband but we all lost a true champion, a best friend and a confidant. The pain in my heart is no greater than yours. I know this because he meant so much to so many and together we will all heal by remembering him as he was. Happy-go-lucky Mike.

His legacy should be carried out by supporting Hartford, eating in its restaurants (hint, hint . . . plug) and getting involved, seeing something that's wrong and doing something about it. He always said no matter if you live in Wethersfield or West Hartford, Simsbury or Rocky Hill, this is your city. We all need to harness his enthusiasm and do our part no matter how big or small because that's truly what he would want. God Bless you Dad and Go Hartford.

EULOGY GIVEN BY GERALDINE SULLIVAN

There were two princes born on Nov. 14, 1948; Prince Charles and our prince, Michael Paul Peters, the firstborn son of Christine and Paul. Michael, Paula, Eleanor, Robert and I were raised in an apartment down the

street, at 189 Campfield Avenue, surrounded by a loving, extended family. This is the neighborhood where my grandfather owned a tailor shop, where we attended church before gathering for late afternoon meals, and where my parents instilled values in each of us that would carry throughout our lives: the importance of family, respect, compassion, and humor. Despite our family's limited resources, envy was not tolerated. Ultimately, my brother Michael exemplified these values better than any of us, even though he had his own unique way of showing it.

At a young age Mike was able to come up with creative solutions to solve life's most difficult problems. I remember when Michael first entered kindergarden at Naylor School. On his way to and from school, there was a group of first grade thugs who would taunt Mike and threaten him. When he told my parents about the situation, my father spent the evening teaching him how to box and defend himself when attacked. It was a priceless father-son moment. The next day, my father rushed home from work to hear the news. When asked if he was bullied again, Mike answered, "No". My father proudly asked, "Well . . . what happened?" Mike was equally proud when he responded, "I took a different route home from school". That was my brother's way throughout his life. He thought of creative solutions. For example, he worked closely with Don Walsh to develop Mayor Mike's Companies for Kids, where they raised \$1 million for youth programs in Hartford.

Another one of Mike's greatest attributes was his ability to treat all people with respect. My father, Paul, was unusual for his time in his ability to reach across racial and economic barriers to show respect for others. In fact, he was so concerned about respect, he enlisted Michael to attend proms and dances with any girl who had circumstances that prevented her from having a date. My parents' friends soon learned of this, so when someone's daughter was left without a date to the prom, they called Paul and Christine. Michael attended proms and dances all around the region. Even though renting a tux and buying flowers was difficult on a meager family budget, Mike put on his tux and attended without complaint. He treated every girl like she was the prom queen. He always had an amazing gift of making people feel special, as witnessed by us over the last few days. Our family has been overwhelmed by the tremendous outpouring from people of all races, ages, and socioeconomic backgrounds and their stories about our brother. Throughout his life, Mike made powerful connections with people because he treated them with dignity and respect.

A third attribute that I'd like to mention about my brother was his ability to get the job done. I remember when he had a paper route, delivering the afternoon paper of the Hartford Times. Every evening when we sat down to dinner, the phone rang with people looking for papers that were never delivered. My father lectured him every night about the importance of being reliable and having a good work ethic. Eventually the phone stopped ringing during dinner and my father was proud that his son finally learned good business practices. Then one day, my parents were driving home from work and their car was stopped at the light on the corner of Preston and Campfield Avenue. When my father looked out the window, he saw the top of the green city sand box slowly rise. Michael was hiding inside and peering out at the exact same moment. They quickly realized that Mike franchised out his route to ten workers while he laid in a sand box hiding and still managed to make a profit. As mayor, Mike knew how to enlist the talents

of various people to get the job done. His work with John Wardlaw, federal agencies, and community groups resulted in tremendous improvements in the quality of public housing in Hartford.

There are countless stories about Mike's childhood, his days as a fireman, and of course, as mayor of Hartford. The best way to honor him is to share his stories, laugh often, and live by these same attributes that defined my brother: love of family, respect for all, and compassion towards others. One of his favorite sayings was, "you don't have the biggest house on the block by tearing everyone else's house down". Michael could not stand seeing people treated unfairly, and at times he took on unpopular political battles to correct what he felt was wrong. To continue his legacy, have the courage to stand up against injustice and work together to make Hartford, this city that Mike loved with his heart and soul, a place where all people are treated with dignity and respect.

In closing, I'd like to take a minute to say something, on behalf of my entire family about the love of Mike's life, our sister Jeannette. They met in high school and were perfect for each other from the moment they met. Although he loved to go out and be social, while she was content sitting home under a blanket watching her favorite shows, they had deep love and respect for one another. Jeannette has always been the light of my brother's life. Her unwavering devotion was especially obvious over the last three months. She was there with him, by his side . . . holding his hand . . . praying with him. In the last few weeks, when he couldn't speak, his eyes would search the room looking for her, and he only found peace and comfort when he found her. They're the perfect love story and she remained by his side until his last moments on earth. Jeannette, we love you and thank you for making our brother so happy.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN L. HELGERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 37 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of great integrity and an unerring sense of humor, Mr. John Helgerson, on the occasion of his retirement after 37 distinguished years in the Intelligence Community.

During the last seven years as CIA Inspector General, John has demonstrated the unfailing courage, sense of fairness and independent judgment that Congress envisioned when it created the position of Inspector General. Under his leadership, the Office of the Inspector General grappled with some of the thorniest issues in the Intelligence Community. John is one of those rare few individuals who is always willing to speak truth to power.

Prior to becoming Inspector General, John served as Chairman of the National Intelligence Council, Deputy Director of the former National Imagery and Mapping Agency, now the National Geospatial Agency, and Deputy Director for Intelligence at CIA. There are few individuals in the Intelligence Community with as wide-ranging and distinguished experience as John. Our country is better-informed and safer as a result of his service.

In his retirement announcement, John noted that the country's first Inspector General was appointed by General George Washington to be the "eyes, ears, and conscience of the commander." We are truly fortunate that CIA, and the Intelligence Community as a whole, had John's eyes, ears and conscience throughout his career. We will miss his intelligence, insight and honesty.

As Chairman of the Intelligence Committee, I have come to trust and rely on John's good judgment in a variety of sensitive situations. I thank him for working with me to ensure that his office and my committee maintained a professional, productive relationship. I wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. 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 FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Representative DENNY REHBERG

The Bill Number: H.R. 1105

The Account: DOJ—COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Project: Missoula Public Safety Operations and Training Center

Amount: \$750,000

Description: The entity to receive funding for this project is the County of Missoula at 200 West Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802. Funding would be used in development and construction of a multi-use facility for local law enforcement, fire, and public health agencies.

Requesting Member: Representative DENNY REHBERG

The Bill Number: H.R. 1105

The Account: Impact Aid

Project: Heart Butte School District

Amount: \$91,000

Description: The entity to receive funding for this project is Heart Butte School District located at Heart Butte School Road in Heart Butte, MT 59448. Impact Aid is a program designed to ensure military children, children residing on Indian lands, and children residing on federally-owned low rent housing facilities receive a quality education by helping school districts, which have lost tax revenue as a result of the federal presence in their district.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, Pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the follow information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California Department of Food and Agriculture

Address of Requesting Entity: 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$581,000 in order to augment local and state contributions to the California County Pest Detection Augmentation Program, and would be used to establish dog teams at strategic locations throughout California. The dog, its handler, and support staff would perform inspection and investigation of incoming shipments, as well as the evaluation of the potential for broad infestation. The California County Pest Detection Augmentation Program is a locally-led inspection program that focuses on agricultural and plant material entering the state at its various points of entry.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California Department of Food and Agriculture

Address of Requesting Entity: 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$693,000 to help local and state officials detect dozens of threatening pest species, which if left unchecked, could result in an enormously costly and damaging agricultural infestation. Facilitating a vibrant trade in agricultural commodities is good for American farmers and consumers alike. But to maintain food security for the nation and to protect California's natural environment from infestation by invasive species, prudent investments in pest detection at all levels of government must continue.

DIVISION C—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACTS 2009

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Reclamation District 2140

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 758, Hamilton City, CA 95951

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$832,000 to enable the Corps of Engineers to complete Preconstruction Engineering and Design (PED) for this ecosystem restoration and flood control project. The Hamilton City, CA flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration project (P.L. 110–114, Sec. 1001(8)) will provide significantly enhanced flood protection to 2,600 area residents and nearby agricultural lands, and will restore approximately 1500 acres of riparian habitat along the Sacramento River. Of the total cost (\$3,359,000), \$840,000 will be borne by the non-federal sponsors.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of California, Department of Water Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$48,000 to investigate the feasibility of in-

creasing the level of flood protection for the urbanized area in the City of Woodland, and possibly some nearby unincorporated lands in Yolo County, from a 1 in 10-year level of flood protection to greater than 1 in 100-year level of flood protection. The non-federal sponsors will share 50% of the total project cost.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of California, Department of Water Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$669,000 to enable the Corps to complete the Sutter feasibility study and allow state and local interests to initiate corrective work identified by the Corps' study using state and local funds. The non-federal share of the total project cost (estimated \$8,258,000) is estimated to be \$4,100,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of California, Department of Water Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$1,914,000 to be coupled with dedicated State of California funds and enable the Corps of Engineers to complete the project's Limited Reevaluation Report and continue construction and mitigation work for this flood protection effort. This important project includes levee repair and reconstruction along the Sacramento and Feather Rivers, specifically consisting of installation of landside berms with toe drains, ditch relocation, embankment modification, and slurry cut-off walls to address seepage and levee boil issues which threaten the performance of flood control structures that protect close to \$100 million worth of public infrastructure and private property.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of California, Department of Water Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$22,967,000 for the Sacramento River Bank Protection Project. This project is located within the limits of the existing Sacramento River Flood Control Project (SRFCP) in Northern California. The integrity of various sections of Sacramento River and tributary levees has become seriously eroded, so much so that the State of California issued a statewide emergency declaration to address the levee deficiencies. Much progress has been made to correct the system's weak points, due to support from Congress, the Administration, and the State of California. Additional federal and state funding is required to continue corrective work throughout the Sacramento River system. \$163,000,000 of the total project cost (\$510,700,000) will be borne by the non-federal sponsors.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: 344 East Laurel Street, Willows, CA

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$600,000 to accelerate work on correcting deficiencies in the Gradient Facility and to initiate bank stabilization work in the vicinity of River Mile 208. The Corps of Engineers was a critical project participant in the construction of a large, state-of-the-art fish screen and pumping facility along the Sacramento River at Hamilton City, CA. Specifically, the Corps constructed a "Gradient Facility" within the mainstem of the river in order to stabilize the river's surface level and ensure optimal effectiveness of the new screened diversion. Recent surveys have uncovered various deficiencies at the project area during low river flows. As many as 298 "high spots" have been identified where the Gradient Facility breaks the surface of the water and creates a hazard for boaters. In addition, significant bank erosion is also occurring within the vicinity of the fish screen project. Left unchecked, this erosion could jeopardize the operability of the pumping station.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Yuba County Water Agency

Address of Requesting Entity: 1220 F Street, Marysville, CA 95901

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3,110,000 to strengthen the federal levee system up to a 200-year level flood protection for communities in Yuba County, California. To date, local interests and the State of California have invested \$145,000,000 in the project, and anticipate an additional expenditure of up to \$215,000,000. With total project costs estimated to be approximately \$400,000,000, the only anticipated federal construction contribution will be \$33,000,000 for improvements to the Marysville ring levee, a figure that is well below the authorized 65–35 percent cost-share ratio. When completed, the Yuba River project will provide the highest levee of flood protection for any community in California's Central Valley.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Bureau of Reclamation, California Bay Delta Ecosystem Restoration Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Family Water Alliance

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 365, Maxwell, CA 95955

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$2,000,000 to facilitate the screening of small water diversions (fewer than 100 cubic feet per second) throughout the Sacramento Valley. Section 103(d)(6)(iii) of the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (P.L. 108–361) authorizes the Secretary to participate in fish screen and fish passage improvement projects as part of the larger Ecosystem Restoration program established under the CALFED program.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northern California Water Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 335, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$4,000,000 for additional screening of large agricultural diversions. Section 3406 (b)(21) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (P.L. 102–575) requires the Bureau of Reclamation to work with state and local partners to protect federally protected aquatic species through the screening of major water diversions throughout the CVP system. USBR and its local partners have achieved considerable accomplishments under this program in recent years. The Meridian Farms Water Company and the Natomas Mutual Water Company in Northern California are each working to consolidate and screen major water diversion facilities on the Sacramento River in order to preserve reliable water supplies for agriculture and managed wetlands and remain in compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources, Central Valley Project, Sacramento River Division

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Northern California Water Association; Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority; Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 335, Sacramento, CA 95814 (NCWA); PO Box 1025, Willows, CA 95988 (TCCA); 344 East Laurel Street, Willows, CA (GCID)

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$6,449,000, which of the funds provided: \$1,200,000 is to be coupled with state and local investments for the Sacramento Valley Integrated Plan in order to seek a better understanding of the process for groundwater recharge and production from the main aquifer system in the area; and \$2,900,000 is for the Red Bluff Diversion Dam to ensure reliable water deliveries for over 120,000 acres of mostly small and mid-sized farms, and will greatly complement other restoration projects throughout the CVP aimed at improving anadromous fish populations. Funding is also provided for the Hamilton city pumping plant and other programmatic purposes.

DIVISION I—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Transportation, Federal Lands (Public Lands Highways)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Butte County Association of Governments

Address of Requesting Entity: 2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100, Chico, CA 95928

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$998,450 to upgrade a 9.6 mile section of roadway that crosses federal lands between communities of Inskip and Butte Meadows from a one-lane gravel road to a paved two-lane route. Fire danger in this area is extremely high with high volumes of very dense fuel sources. These improvements are nec-

essary to provide Upper Ridge residents, recreational visitors, and emergency vehicles with an emergency evacuation route in the event of a catastrophic wildfire. It will also increase the chances for effective efforts to control instances of wildfire by cutting in half the response time for fire backup support services. The project is estimated to cost \$19,000,000 over the next three construction seasons. The county is using its State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) dollars (approximately \$1,892,000) for funding environmental, design, and right of way construction and support. The project has received \$5,000,000 from the Federal Highway Administration's Federal Lands Highway Program. It has also received \$5,800,000 in SAFETEA-LU, and \$980,000 in last year's appropriations bill for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

CONGRATULATING THE FORT WORTH TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fort Worth Transportation Authority, who celebrated their Silver Anniversary in November. This outstanding group of people has made the city of Fort Worth a leader in Texas transportation.

The "T", as it is commonly known, was officially formed on November 8, 1983, when Fort Worth voters approved its passed a referendum on its creation with over 55% support. Over the years, service was extended to other nearby townships. In 1991, Lake Worth joined The "T", and in 1992, Blue Mound and Richland Hills joined. In 2001, the Trinity Railway Express (TRE), a joint effort with DART of Dallas, connected the two cities, allowing riders to travel the 35 miles from one downtown to the other on a single train, and also connecting the two cities to DFW International Airport. The TRE is currently the tenth-most ridden commuter rail in the country with nearly 9 million annual passenger trips.

The "T" serves Fort Worth and the surrounding partnering communities with 36 bus routes operated and maintained from their facilities at 1600 E. Lancaster Avenue at the entrance to the 26th District. It also runs a carpool and vanpool service, allowing people who live close to one another to reduce the cost, and the exhaust emissions, of their daily commutes. Finally, it operates a Mobility Impaired Transportation Service, which provides vehicles, drivers, and passenger assistance to those who require it.

With the completion of the Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC), The "T" has provided the downtown connection between bus service, the TRE, and Amtrak and an instrumental resource to the thriving business core of Fort Worth. Future plans for new Commuter rail for Southwest and Northeast Tarrant County will further connect participating cities with DFW airport. Also, development to address congestion in communities such as Arlington and the explosive growth found in communities in the Alliance area provides further

support to The “T” in providing additional commuter rail routes and other transit solutions.

Again, I commend The “T” for its leadership in improving public transportation in and around Fort Worth. I am proud to represent its management and employees in the 26th District of Texas, and I wish them continued success with local and regional transportation solutions over the next quarter century as they transform Fort Worth into a worldwide leader in comprehensive public transportation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Monday, March 9, 2009, and Tuesday, March 10, 2009, I was not present for 6 recorded votes. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted the following way: Roll No. 110—“yea”; Roll No. 111—“yea”; Roll No. 112—“yea”; Roll No. 113—“nay”; Roll No. 114—“yea”; and Roll No. 115—“yea”.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MILLARD FULLER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to the life and legacy of Mr. Millard Fuller, and his steadfast service in giving back to the world.

Mr. Fuller was born in Lanett, Alabama. As many folks know, he dedicated his life to serving others through his Christian housing ministries, Habitat for Humanity, which built 200,000 homes in 100 countries, and later The Fuller Center for Housing. In recognition of his lifelong service, in 1996, Mr. Fuller was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton.

Mr. Fuller passed away on February 3rd 2009, at the age of 74. On March 14, 2009, a celebration of his life will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

I am honored to recognize this inspirational philanthropist who spent his lifetime helping others in need. It is my hope his memory will serve as an example of how we all should live.

HONORING COLORADO COMMISSIONERS OF AGRICULTURE FOR THEIR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. BETSY MARKEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture, Mr. John Stulp and

former Commissioners Mr. Don Ament, Mr. Tom Kourlis, Mr. Steve Horn, Mr. Peter Decker, Mr. Tim Schultz, Mr. Evan Goulding, Mr. Morgan Smith, Mr. Roy Romer, the late Mr. Clinton Jeffers, the late Mr. John Orcutt, and the late Mr. Paul Swisher for their service and leadership.

The foundation of Colorado’s history was built by the farmers and ranchers who dedicated their lives to settling the land. Today producers continue to be a fundamental pillar of our state’s communities. Over 30 million acres in Colorado are dedicated to agriculture and our producers work endlessly to provide our nation with a safe and reliable food supply. Under the guidance of those who have served as Commissioner of Agriculture, Colorado’s farmers and ranchers have been able to efficiently transfer food from their fields to our tables.

Over the years, Colorado agriculture has survived economic strain, destructive weather and severe drought. The unyielding leadership of all our Commissioners has ensured that our food supply would be secure even in the face of hardships. They have worked to develop the sustainable farming programs that serve our rural communities and strived to overcome the challenges that were presented to them. March 20, 2009 is National Agriculture Day, celebrating producers across the country. I would like to honor the Commissioners who have led Colorado’s agriculture community towards a thriving future and thank them for their dedication.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 2009 Omnibus.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

Requesting Member: Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Justice, Byrne Discretionary Grants account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: National Police Athletic/Activities League

Address of Requesting Entity: 658 West Indiantown Road, Suite #201, Jupiter, FL 33458

Description of Request: I have secured \$400,000 to develop and maintain a national youth crime prevention that promotes interaction and trust between law enforcement officers and youth. Primary focus on underserved communities where there are high incidences of youth crime. Funding will also be used towards the creation of pilot program to address gang related crime in several states; including FL, MD, NJ, OH, CA, PA and TX.

RONALD H. BROWN UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 837, the “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building”. I would like to thank my colleague CHARLIE RANGEL for introducing this legislation. H.R. 837 moves to designate the federal building at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York as the Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building.

Former United States Secretary of Commerce under President Clinton, Ronald Brown, has always been a dedicated U.S. servant. Born in Washington, DC, he quickly showed an interest in public service, as a young man he was a member of the African-American social and philanthropic organization. Brown also worked for the Jack and Jill foundation, an organization that works to help children to have cultural opportunities, develop leadership skills, and form social networks even in a segregated society.

Having not only a passion for public service Brown had a strong desire to serve his country as well. In 1962 upon graduation of Middlebury College he enlisted in the army, where he served in Korea and Europe.

Upon being discharged Brown joined the National Urban League, an organization that aims at advocating on behalf of African Americans and against racial discrimination in the United States. He would excel within the organization where he moved all the way up to Deputy Executive Director for Programs and Governmental Affairs. Following his service with the National Urban League, he immediately began fighting for another great American public servant, EDWARD M. KENNEDY. Brown served as campaign manager for the now second most senior member of the United States Senate.

After running KENNEDY’s successful Senate campaign, Brown began a string of political occupations that include lobbying for the law firm Patton, Boggs & Blow, Head of the Jesse Jackson convention team for the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta. Finally Brown was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee in February of 1989. Tragically, on April 3, 1996 on an official trade mission, his plane carrying him and 34 other passengers struck a mountain while attempting a procedural landing.

Ronald H. Brown was a man that dedicated his entire life to bettering the lives of others. Whether it be young African Americans in New York, fighting for the freedom of all Americans in some of the worlds most dangerous battlefields, or working day in and out to help promote and excel the careers of others whose ideals and policies he believed would better the nation. Brown’s is a story that deserves to be recognized everyday. I feel designating a building in his name is the perfect way to recognize this true American public servant. This building will stand long after generations have gone and will hopefully remind all generations to come, that a dedicated spirit

and a devotion to country are qualities that deserve recognition.

Mr. Speaker I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 837, designating the federal building at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building". To recognize a great American man who devoted his life to the betterment of his country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF JAMES "J."
RALPH LUNDY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of long-time Indian River County civic leader and humanitarian, James "J." Ralph Lundy, who died on February 27 at the age of 90. During this most difficult time, I want to extend my thoughts and prayers to his family. I hope that Mr. Lundy's family takes comfort in knowing that his memory and legacy of philanthropy will live on within the Gifford community and in Indian River County for generations to come. Mr. Lundy always put others first, and extended a helping hand to all those in need.

Mr. Lundy first came to Indian River County in the 1950s as a reporter for the Jacksonville Journal to cover Dodgers baseball legend Jackie Robinson. Later, he became production manager at the Press Journal where he wrote a column about the community for the paper. In 1963, Mr. Lundy started the community radio show entitled, "Gospel Caravan," one of the longest-running gospel music programs in Florida, and later created the program "Give them their flowers," as a way to honor lesser-known community leaders before they died.

Mr. Lundy's love for the Gifford community and activism earned him the title "Gifford's spokesman." He spent about 30 years as president of the Gifford Progressive Civic League, and in that time, made significant contributions to the lives of the people of Gifford. Mr. Lundy pushed county officials to install traffic lights to increase public safety, established a voting precinct and the Gifford Community Center to bolster community pride, and brought clean water to Gifford to improve its residents' health. In 1988, he helped establish Our Father's Table Soup Kitchen to provide meals for the community's most needy.

In 2007, Mr. Lundy won the Jefferson Award, a national award that recognizes individual public service contributions.

Madam Speaker, through all of these roles, J. Ralph Lundy had an indelible impact on the spirit and well-being of his community, and touched the lives of many in Indian River County. He will be remembered for his heart, compassion, and dedication to his fellow man. I am fortunate to have known him and will miss him dearly.

CALIFORNIA'S 49TH DISTRICT
PROJECTS FUNDED IN THE
FY2009 OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, when I submitted my appropriation funding requests in March, 2008, the problems plaguing our Nation's banking and financial sectors were just starting to come to light. Few could foresee just how bad our economic situation would become. While I strongly opposed the action, the previous Congress spent over \$700 billion in TARP funding to bailout the banking sector. This Congress just approved a nearly \$800 billion stimulus bill that ultimately provides more money for social services than it does for job producing highway and infrastructure projects.

Overall, President Obama's spending priorities have more than tripled the federal budget deficit for fiscal year 2009 (FY09), ballooning it to \$1.7 trillion. As a result, the state of our nation's finances is dire, and our federal spending plan does not in any way bear an appropriate relationship to the state of our nation's economy. The federal deficit has increased 385% over FY08 and 1089% over FY07 levels. Spending decisions are occurring within this body without regard to available revenue or the harm that such irresponsible fiscal policies do to the economy and to future generations that, ultimately, will get stuck with the bill.

I am highly disappointed that, faced with the enormity of the current federal deficit and the unprecedented amount of federal spending that has occurred, the House and Senate Leadership and Appropriators did not take the opportunity to start showing fiscal restraint by removing Congressional Earmarks from the fiscal year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act. When I made the below mentioned requests last year for projects in my Congressional district I believed they would provide necessary benefits to the local community and had a federal interest. I also believed that they were worthy of the limited federal funds that were available. That time, however, has passed. Member's need to think of the future of this Nation, rise above their own self-interests, and advocate for the removal of all earmarks from all present and future appropriations bills until we get the federal deficit under control.

Congressional Appropriation project requests I made in 2008 in the H.R. 1105, FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act included:

SAN LUIS REY RIVER

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the San Luis Rey River Flood Protection Project, which includes the clearing of vegetation from the San Luis Rey River to protect the levee, the city of Oceanside's bridges, utilities, and public from threatened flooding. It is an authorized project and has received funding in previous Congresses.

MURRIETA CREEK, CA

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the project, which will be constructed in four distinct phases, will include a 250 acre deten-

tion basin to attenuate flows from the over-150 square mile watershed and, once completed, will reduce citizens' and businesses' exposure to flooding that requires many of them to carry flood insurance. The project will create seven miles of soft earthen channelization as well as the development of a continuous riparian habitat corridor throughout the length of the project. The riparian corridor can become a safe home for several listed endangered species that have already been found to exist nearby. The channel will not only facilitate species movement and connectivity to existing wildlife preserves, but will also create an extensive natural wetlands system that can efficiently remove contaminants from stream flows and help ensure improved water quality for local residents and soldiers stationed at the Camp Pendleton Marine Base.

SOUTH PERRIS PROJECT—PERRIS II DESALTER

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the project, which will produce potable water from otherwise unusable groundwater through the construction of a five million gallons per day reverse osmosis desalter in the Perris South Groundwater Sub-basin. In addition to reducing future demand for imported water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Colorado River, project benefits include salinity management for expanded water recycling and protection of high-quality groundwater in basins adjacent to the Perris South Groundwater Sub-basin. The Perris II Desalter is a vital component of Eastern Municipal Water District's (EMWD) Desalination Program, which will ultimately generate up to 14,000 acre-feet per year of potable water and remove up to 50,000 tons of salt out of the basin every year. This project will help push this water district towards its goal of drought-proofing its region and providing reliability and flexibility to its water supply.

SANTA MARGARITA RIVER CONJUNCTIVE USE PROJECT

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the project, which provides for enhanced recharge and recovery from the groundwater basin on Camp Pendleton and will provide a water supply for both Camp Pendleton and Fallbrook, resolving a long-standing water rights dispute between the United States and Fallbrook. In 1954, the Bureau of Reclamation was authorized to construct a dam on the Santa Margarita River for \$22 million (approximately \$333 million in 2008 dollars) with a yield of 14–16,000 acre-feet. This funding will complete a final design that is financially feasible, environmentally beneficial and result in the preservation of the entire Santa Margarita River from Temecula to the Pacific Ocean, while simultaneously providing 16,000 acre-feet per year of vitally needed local water to coastal Southern California.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SAMP, CA

Recognizing the interdependence between the area's future transportation, habitat, open space and land-use/housing needs, Riverside County, working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has undertaken a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) for the San Jacinto & Upper Santa Margarita watersheds to determine how best to balance these factors for the future benefit of the area. To that end, in 2003, the County adopted a new General Plan and Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) to address regional conservation

and development plans that protect entire communities of native plants and animals, while streamlining the process for compatible economic development in other areas. When the SAMP is completed, the Corps will establish an abbreviated or expedited regulatory permitting process under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to complement the Master Streambed Alteration Agreement the California Department of Fish and Game is currently preparing. Altogether, these new processes will allow for increased planning and smart development that will benefit the region well into the future.

OCEANSIDE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATIVE—GANG PREVENTION PROGRAM CITY OF OCEANSIDE, CA

The bill includes funding for this program through the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee. The goal of the Oceanside Community Safety Partnership Collaborative (OCSPC) is to provide intense intervention to divert youths away from gang membership. The second component of the program is to have North County Lifeline, a local nonprofit organization that provides diversion services in the City, offer more intensive services to those participants in their Juvenile Diversion Program when areas of additional need are identified, i.e., alcohol and drug issues. Youth would further be referred to Community Interfaith, another local service provider, for vocational and educational services when needed.

LAKE ELSINORE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER—CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE, CALIFORNIA

The bill includes funding for this project through the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee. The funds will be used to equip a new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Lake Elsinore. The City of Lake Elsinore provides a unique service to the entirety of southern California because of the lake and the City's central location. During the recent wildfires, for instance, the City and lake served as the base for Hawaii-Mars water tankers which were used to fight fires throughout the entire region. The proposed EOC, which is set to be housed in a secure location within the police headquarters, will be used to manage the lake as an emergency resource as well as to provide the City and surrounding community with a base of operations during any emergency.

REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM UPGRADE—COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The Sheriff's continued vision is to increase and improve data sharing, automate officer alerts and notifications, improve disaster preparedness, and deliver of more intelligence to officers and first-responders. The Sheriff's Department, with assistance from Federal and local agencies has, over several years, undertaken technology projects targeting this vision. These enhancements provide law enforcement with rapid access to critical information and knowledge with less human intervention producing quicker results with greater accuracy.

This phase of the SdLaw Infrastructure Program will expand the search and aggregation of intelligence from even more data repositories, add additional business logic, further automate data mapping and workflow, further improving visualization of the information resulting from this convergence of data from State, Local, and Federal systems and now with the inclusion of County justice case management systems.

WEST VISTA WAY

The bill includes funding for this project through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations subcommittee. This project will enhance the development and traffic flow along W. Vista Way and reduce congestion on State Route 78. The project consists of approximately 2 miles of road widening (including right-of-way acquisitions), utility undergrounding, drainage and sewer upgrades. The project also includes intersection signalization, bus stops and other transit facilities, including Park-And-Ride lots, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and a safety barrier between the adjacent freeway and the street. The project limits extend from Melrose Drive on the east to Thunder Drive on the west, at the boundary with the city of Oceanside.

RAILROAD CANYON/INTERSTATE 15 INTERCHANGE

The bill includes funding for this project through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations subcommittee. The funding would be used for right-of-way acquisition for an improved interchange on Interstate 15 at Railroad Canyon Road. Railroad Canyon Road serves as a connector route between I-15 and I-215 in Southwest Riverside County. The current interchange with I-15 serves approximately 50,000 vehicles per day and in its current condition, during peak hours of travel, vehicles are backing onto the freeway mainline in both the north and southbound directions. The level of service at the intersections adjacent to this interchange is rated Service-F.

FRENCH VALLEY AIRPORT

The bill includes funding through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations subcommittee for a feasibility study for the French Valley Airport to determine the necessary improvements and viability of an expansion of the airport to ensure safety of the neighboring communities. The project will review and analyze the feasibility of expanding the airport to accommodate large, private jets. This will greatly enhance the region's economic development and tourism opportunities.

MIRACOSTA COLLEGE FOUNDATION

The bill includes funding through the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee for the MiraCosta College Foundation located in Vista, California. MiraCosta College is developing a national model project to meet the educational needs of both active-duty and exiting Navy corpsmen and army medics. The project creates military-specific assessment and instructional tools that will acknowledge that service members' military training while preparing them to meet state licensing requirements to enter the civilian nursing field. This unique project helps fill a national nursing shortage need and helps transitioning military personnel to find high-paying, skilled civilian employment.

VISTA COMMUNITY CLINIC

The bill includes funding through the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee for the Vista Community Clinic located in the 49th Congressional District in Vista, California. Due to increased demand, Vista Community Clinic is constructing a new 12,000 square foot community health center facility providing obstetrics, pediatrics, family

and internal medicine, pharmacy, health education to low-income, uninsured residents of North San Diego County. This new site will serve 16,000 patients in 50,000 medical visits annually. Ninety-five percent of Vista Community Clinic patients have an income qualifying them as low to moderate income by federal standards, making no more than \$42,000 annually for a family of four. Nearly 50% of Vista Community Clinic patients are children who do not have any form of health insurance. Given that one in every 19 people living in the United States now relies on a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration funded clinic for primary care, this funding for construction and equipment purchases is critical to providing increasing access and expanding health services.

TRIBUTE TO JAROSLAW DUZYJ

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of an important community leader and a good friend, Jaroslaw Duzyj, who passed away on Wednesday, March 4, 2009 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease.

Mr. Duzyj was a leader of a very strong and vibrant Ukrainian community in Michigan, and was a founding member of the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Michigan. He was born in 1923 in Peremysl, Ukraine and was one of 10 children. At the age of 19 he was arrested by the Nazis and sentenced to death. Miraculously, he survived five Nazi concentration camps before being liberated on April 15, 1945.

Mr. Duzyj immigrated to the United States in 1949 with little money and limited ability to speak English. He found work at Ford Motor Company and began establishing strong roots in the community. He married his beloved wife, Olga and they went on to raise three children, and now have seven grandchildren.

Throughout his life he continuously worked to promote Ukrainian causes and also display his love for America. His passion and unwavering dedication allowed him to participate in several unique and prestigious events. In 1991, he was invited to a personal audience with Pope John Paul II, and on his 70th birthday he received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal from the Pope. He also had the distinct honor to meet with two sitting U.S. Presidents. In 1984, as former president of the Ukrainian-American Republican Association, he chaired a reception for President Ronald Reagan at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, and was a guest of President Bill Clinton at a state dinner honoring the president of the Ukraine.

Mr. Duzyj also experienced personal success as a business owner, as he became co-owner and president of Cylectron, which made high-precision parts for rocket and aircraft engines. In 1992 he started a company called Envotech Systems, which builds mobile laboratories for the detection and control of nuclear matter in the environment. In 1995, he became a partner in Crocus Co. in Ukraine, a company that manufactured road building machinery. In 1996, Michigan Governor John

Engler named him to Michigan's Bilateral Trade Team to the Ukraine.

Mr. Duzyj cared deeply about higher education. He and Olga donated \$100,000 to establish a fund at Harvard University to enable the Ukrainian Institute to publish significant works on the history of the Ukraine. He also published several books about Ukrainian history, geography, and the Ukrainian genocide of 1932–33. In 2005 he was honored as Ukrainian of the Year by the Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor for the role he played in the business community, with higher education and his church.

The experiences Mr. Duzyj endured early in life and the triumphs and selflessness he displayed through his entire life are truly inspirational. Mr. Duzyj is a shining example of what the American success story is all about. Today, I join with Mr. Duzyj's family, friends and the extended family of the Ukrainian community, in both mourning his loss, celebrating his life and honoring him for all the good work he did for others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I unfortunately missed one recorded vote on the House floor on Wednesday, February 25, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Rollcall vote No. 84 (On Ordering the Previous Question to H. Res. 184).

TRIBUTE TO NEW MOUNT MORIAH INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor New Mount Moriah International Church for 20 years of service to the greater Pontiac community. New Mount Moriah International Church was organized on April 9, 1989 by Pastor Richard Leaks, Jr. in Pontiac Michigan and on April 16, 1989 held its first service at the Bowen Center in Pontiac, with forty-nine faithful chartering members.

On April 7, 1990, the membership unanimously elected Bishop William H. Murphy, Jr. as pastor. Under his capable leadership, New Mount Moriah International Church has flourished and is now home to over fifteen hundred active members and is still growing. New Mount Moriah International Church now consists of three locations; their charter location in Pontiac a beautiful facility at 313 East Walton Boulevard, one in Detroit, and a third newest location in Mt. Clemens.

Madam Speaker, the positive impact of the New Mount Moriah faith community can be seen across the greater Pontiac area in more ways than we can count, and we can expect many more years of success from this wonderful institution.

NATIONAL MALL REVITALIZATION AND DESIGNATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Mall Revitalization and Designation Act. The National Mall is one of Washington's best known and most treasured sites, but also is the District's most neglected and undervalued. The Mall lacks everything that a majestic natural wonder deserves, from an official identity to necessary amenities. My bill (1) authorizes the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) to officially designate and expand the boundaries of the Mall and (2) requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit a plan to enhance visitor enjoyment and cultural experiences within 180 days of passage of the bill.

I worked closely with NCPC and other agencies in framing the bill. It would give the NCPC the responsibility and the necessary flexibility to designate the Mall area for the first time since its creation and to expand the Mall area when appropriate. The bill requires the NCPC, to accommodate future commemorative works and cultural institutions, working with key federal and local agencies, and with participation from the public and recognized national leaders in culture and development.

Frustrated at continually fighting off proposals for new monuments, museums, and memorials, on the crowded Mall space, I asked the NCPC to devise a Mall preservation plan five years ago. In 2003, Congress amended the Commemorative Works Act to enact the NCPC's designation of a no-build zone where no new memorials can be built. This action was helpful in quelling some but by no means all of the demand from groups and individuals for placement on what they view as the Mall. The bill spells out the needed authority to preserve the no-build zone while expanding the mall to accommodate commemorative works.

The NCPC and the Commission on Fine Arts (FAC) are working on the National Capital Framework Plan and already have shown they can identify sites near the existing Mall which are suitable for new memorials, including East Potomac Park, a part of the Mall area that is seldom viewed as integral to the more familiar space between the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial; Banneker Overlook, the grounds around RFK Stadium, the Kennedy Center Plaza site and the new South Capitol gateways. Five new prestigious memorials are scheduled for such sites, including the Eisenhower Memorial and the U.S. Air Force Memorial.

I appreciate that NCPC and the FAC work closely with the District of Columbia in designating off-Mall sites for new monuments. The District welcomes the expanded Mall into appropriate neighborhoods, enhancing the work of the District of Columbia government and local organizations such as Cultural Tourism that offer historic tours of District neighborhoods in developing the tourism that is vital to the city's economy. Additional Mall sites for various monuments also complement the creation of entire new neighborhoods now underway near the Mall particularly the District's redevelopment of the Southwest waterfront and

my own work on the Southeast Federal Center, now known as The Yards, that is to become a mixed use public-private development and waterfront park.

A second and important goal of the bill is to make the Mall a living, breathing, active place where things happen and visitors can be comfortable. The bill seeks to achieve this vibrancy by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to submit a plan, in consultation with the appropriate federal agencies, and leaders in culture and development and the public, to "enhance visitor enjoyment, amenities, cultural experiences in and the vitality of (the National Mall)." Bordered by world class cultural institutions, the Mall itself has been reduced to a lawn with only a few—too few—ordinary benches and a couple of fast food restaurants. The Mall lacks the most basic amenities appropriate to such an area including restrooms, shelter and informal places to gather and interesting places to eat. When it rains, there are no places to stay dry on the Mall and when the humidity reaches sky high, there are few places to rest and have a cold drink. Nevertheless, in writing this bill I was compelled to recognize today's reality that funds to make the Mall the 21st century destination it deserves to become are simply not available, and will not become available in the near future until the deficit and other priorities make room. Yet, the Mall needs a total makeover for the 21st century to be worthy of L'Enfant's vision for the city he planned and the MacMillan Plan that is largely responsible for the space between the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial that is known today as the Mall. However, we must move now to begin to do all we can to rescue this space from its present dull and uninviting condition, damaged by heavy use and often used as no more than a pass-through, despite its magnificent potential. With the necessary imagination, a plan to make the Mall a welcoming place with cultural and other amenities envisioned by the bill is achievable now.

I am pleased that Chip Akridge and the Trust for the National Mall have embarked upon an ambitious fundraising effort to bring the private sector into the revitalization of the National Mall. The Congress started to do its part last year when, at my request, Chairman GRIJALVA held the first hearing in decades on the National Mall and this bill, and in FY10 Congress included \$10 million for the sinking Jefferson Memorial and \$135 million above 2008, to continue the 10 year initiative to upgrade our National Parks before the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016. The National Park Service is also prepared to meet the requirements of this bill as they progress on their own National Mall plan and the National Capitol Planning Commission with its final National Capitol Framework plan on April 2nd, 2009. The private sector, the executive and legislative branch all recognize the need for repair and revitalization of our National Mall and no event signified the need like the largest gathering in the Mall's history with almost two million people at President Obama's inauguration.

The Mall Designation and Revitalization Act is the first step in an effort to begin to give the Mall its due after decades of neglect and indifference. The bill begins at the beginning—defining for the first time what we mean by the Mall, allowing for expansion of its natural contours, and taking the first steps to breathe life into a space that is meant for people to enjoy.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 16

10 a.m. Foreign Relations To hold closed hearings to receive a briefing on global counterterrorism efforts. SVC-217

MARCH 17

9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine United States Southern Command, United States Northern Command, United States Africa Command, and United States Transportation Command. SH-216
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine perspectives on modernizing insurance regulation. SD-538

10 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold oversight hearings to examine energy development on public lands and the outer Continental Shelf. SD-366

Finance To hold hearings to examine tax issues related to fraud schemes and an update on offshore tax evasion legislation. SD-215

10:30 a.m. United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control
Judiciary Crime and Drugs Subcommittee To hold joint hearings to examine law enforcement responses to Mexican drug cartels. SD-226

MARCH 18

9:30 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine nuclear energy development. SD-366

Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. 334, Cannon Building

10 a.m. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Business meeting to consider S. 277, to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to expand and improve opportunities for service. SD-430

Judiciary To hold hearings to examine the National Academy of Science's report Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward. SD-226

2:45 p.m. Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the incidence of suicides of United States Servicemembers and initiatives within

the Department of Defense to prevent military suicides. SR-232A

MARCH 19

9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine United States Pacific Command, United States Strategic Command, and United States Forces Korea. SH-216

10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine cybersecurity, focusing on assessing our vulnerabilities and developing an effective defense. SR-253

MARCH 25

9:30 a.m. Judiciary To hold oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SH-216

Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine State-of-the-Art information technology (IT) solutions for Veterans' Affairs benefits delivery. SR-418

2:30 p.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on NextGen and the benefits of modernization. SR-253

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 17

10 a.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine a strategy for global counterterrorism. SD-419