

This Congress has repeatedly passed legislation promoting Taiwan's meaningful participation in the WHO, and I am encouraged to see these efforts finally come to fruition. I am especially pleased that this development comes in the context of steady improvement in relations between Taipei and Beijing, and I applaud officials on both sides of the Taiwan Strait for their efforts to pursue peace and stability in the region.

I look forward to increased cooperation among Taiwan, the United States, and other members of the international community to share public health information and guard against global pandemics.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR WILLIAM
KERR

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the incredible life of a truly great man, Monsignor William Kerr, who died last week at the age of 68. Monsignor Kerr was known, respected and loved throughout the world and his loss will be felt around the globe.

His professional life began as a parish priest in his hometown of St. Louis, and ended as Executive Director of the Claude Pepper Center for International Dialogue in Tallahassee, Florida. In between, he spent his entire career traveling the world working for peace, fighting for human rights, and promoting education and diplomacy.

He spent the majority of his professional life in Pittsburgh, Washington, DC, and Tallahassee, home of his beloved Florida State University, where he received multiple degrees and spent the early part of his career as an adjunct faculty member and an instructor of history, in addition to his position as Catholic Campus Minister.

Throughout his life, Monsignor Kerr traveled the globe to carry out his true callings of spiritual ministry and education. His travels gave him the opportunity to meet and befriend countless dignitaries, and to advance the cause for which he dedicated his life, human rights.

He served as a vice president at Catholic University here in Washington, DC, and as president of La Roche College in McCandless, Pennsylvania.

It was at La Roche College that I first met Monsignor Kerr. As a Trustee at La Roche, I worked closely with him and witnessed firsthand his love of education and the ease with which he interacted with people, whether they be Heads of State or freshman students.

During his twelve years as president of La Roche College he created programs to educate future leaders and assist students from war-ravaged countries to get an American education. The Pacem in Terris Institute, which he created at La Roche, established a scholarship program for outstanding college age men and women from conflict and post-conflict nations, such as Bosnia and Rwanda. The students would receive an education at

La Roche to study leadership and diplomacy in return for their agreeing to return to their home country after graduation to help rebuild their nations. In all, 450 students from 21 countries received scholarships. This program fulfilled Monsignor Kerr's dream of educating the future leaders of developing regions as a way to stem conflict and promote peace.

Through this program he developed a lifelong friendship with many world leaders and throughout his life he cultivated a wide and eclectic network of friends and colleagues. And while he was comfortable hosting high profile dignitaries, Monsignor Kerr was at his best when he was among the students that he loved. It seemed that he knew the names and life details of every student he encountered during his daily walks across campus, and he could often be seen sharing laughter and camaraderie with groups of students in between their classes.

After leaving La Roche College in 2004, he returned to Washington, DC, to become the director of the Pope John Paul II Center, where he stayed until returning to Tallahassee to lead the Claude Pepper Center.

Through it all he maintained his commitment to spiritual leadership, and he continued to celebrate mass. And it was during his celebration of mass at the Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Tallahassee that he suffered the stroke that claimed his life at the age of 68.

I count myself fortunate to be one of the many that have had the opportunity to know and work with Monsignor William Kerr. He had a profound impact on my life as he did the lives of nearly everyone he encountered. His like will not be seen again, and he will be deeply missed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 234, SUPPLEMENTAL AP-
PROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note that the rule and the process leading to its presentation are flawed and consequently, the underlying bill does not adequately serve our military forces or the taxpayers of this country.

Since 2002, billions of dollars have been given to the Pakistan military and much of that amount has not been accounted for.

Pakistani military commanders continue to consider certain extremists as their "strategic assets" in their seemingly never-ending security concerns involving fears about India; and the Pakistani military continues to fail to give proper attention to Pakistan's existential threat—the very extremists who associate with and harbor Al Qaeda and are also a threat to Afghanistan, our forces in Afghanistan, and others throughout the world.

I proposed, with a number of colleagues, and believe the bill must be improved by, an amendment establishing enforceable benchmarks on U.S. military assistance to Pakistan that would lead to the articulation of reasonable expectations.

Functionally, the amendment requires that the President make reasonable determinations about the state of mutual security objectives of Pakistan and the United States before any remainder of the military assistance for Pakistan can be obligated.

It does not seek to condition any civilian assistance to Pakistan. The American people and its government are the friends of Pakistan and its people, and we fully understand the crisis nature of the economy and civil governance status. The assistance in any measure should certainly be accounted for, and should be put to effect in such a way as to ensure it maximizes benefit to the Pakistani people. America is making a long term commitment to Pakistan, its democracy and its future prosperity.

Nevertheless, with respect to military funding, specifically, the amendment requires determinations on Pakistan—through its military—to make concerted progress toward:

- (1) Ceasing of all support to groups presenting cross-border terrorist threats,
- (2) Dismantling training facilities for such groups across Pakistan,
- (3) Preventing and disrupting cross-border attacks,
- (4) Strengthening and increasing counterterrorism prosecutions and extraditions,
- (5) Degrading such groups' radio broadcast infrastructure, and
- (6) Extending Pakistan's legitimate governmental writ across its territory and the protection of all its citizens' civil and human rights without discrimination.

As an oversight forcing function, the amendment requires written justification of the President's determinations and also tasks the U.S. Government Accountability Office with providing an independent analysis of the categories requiring Presidential determination.

Additionally, the amendment includes language allowing the President to waive the requirement if such action is certified to be vital to the national security interests of the United States. Finally, there is in the amendment a process for Congress to disprove of such certification if in its judgment such action is appropriate.

We must stop just handing out cash slush funds only to witness conduct not conducive to both nations' national security.

We have a right to expect that dangerous suspected terrorists will not just be set free as has reportedly happened with the Pakistani military's complicity; and a right to expect accountability for the hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars that should be targeted to effective security for our troops in Afghanistan and people here at home.

We must ensure resources are focused on Pakistan's and America's common security interests and the only really verifiable way to have that occur is to condition any funds sent to the Pakistani military in the way set forth in the proposed amendment.

For too long our military, and our government, have dealt directly with the Pakistani military and ignored the civilian government empowering their military to circumvent democratic accountability and hindering our ability to account for our investment. The way to resolve matters in Afghanistan relies heavily on circumstances in Pakistan. The situation in Pakistan cries out for accountability if we are to successfully protect our security.

IN RECOGNITION OF PEARL ROAD
AUTO PARTS AND WRECKING

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking of the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland, Ohio, as they become the first business ever in the City of Cleveland to implement wind technology by constructing a wind turbine at their place of business. Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking, owned by the Kaplan family for four generations, will generate nearly 100% of the electricity needed to run their business from a wind turbine. I also rise in honor of Susan Spear and the entire staff of EcoWatch Ohio, who collaborated with the Kaplans to make this project become a reality.

The wind turbine will be set upon a 140-foot tower, capturing the north coast drafts high above Pearl Road near Interstate 480. For years, current owners Myron Kaplan, and his sons, Jon and Kevin, worked toward realizing their vision of constructing a wind turbine on the property. Their innovative ideas are part of the legacy of the Kaplan business and for nearly eighty years, the owners of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking have been leaders in implementing environmentally progressive practices, including solid waste reduction, fuel reduction and other recycling programs.

Moreover, the Kaplan family of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking is active in community programs and events, and has reflected an unwavering commitment to the betterment of the Old Brooklyn neighborhood. As leaders in community arts as well, from 1980 to 1990, residents gathered free of charge at the Auto Parts lot as Kaplan family hosted live theater, musical and poetry performances.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Kaplan family, the entire staff of Pearl Road Auto Parts and Wrecking, and EcoWatch Ohio, for their collective vision and persistence in being the first ever to construct a wind turbine to run a business, inspiring others to follow in their path. Whether catching gentle breezes or gale force winds rushing south across Lake Erie, the wind turbine holds the promise of clean power, renewable resources and endless possibilities in alternative energy programs and job development throughout our community and our nation.

WEBCASTER SETTLEMENT ACT OF
2009

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Chairman Conyers and my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee for reporting the Webcaster Settlement Act of 2009, a bill I introduced to clear the path for private negotiations to determine the royalty rates for the use of music over Internet radio.

The Copyright Royalty Board (CRB) is a government body tasked with determining roy-

alty rates for the use of music over Internet radio. In 2004, the CRB was tasked with determining a rate structure at the direction of Congress, and released its decision in March of 2007. The rate structure determined by the CRB substantially increased royalty fees that webcasters would be forced to pay.

Since the CRB is authorized to set and establish a royalty rate structure, stakeholders need Congressional authority to forge an agreement that the government would adopt. H.R. 2344 provides that critical authority, and allows private groups 30 days from enactment to work out a settlement amongst themselves to replace the rate structure established by the government.

Webcasters and copyright holders, including those in Washington State, like Washington's 101, WebRadioPugetSound, WildMixRadio Network.com, and Hollow Earth Radio need this legislation so they have the freedom to negotiate and craft a fair royalty rate structure for all impacted parties. Currently, Internet radio pays 47% of its annual revenue in royalty fees, a rate that will eventually crush the industry.

An estimated 42 million people tune to Internet radio on a weekly basis. Internet radio offers consumers not only entertainment value, but it serves niche markets and allows access to independent labels and artists, diversifying programming. Webcasters in Washington State allow small, local, Northwest bands an opportunity to have their music heard across the country. This bill will allow small webcasters serving those markets to continue to compete and be an outlet for minority voices.

I urge my colleagues to consider this important bill, and to help keep the music playing online.

IN HONOR OF THE SURVIVORS
AND VICTIMS OF THE PONTIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the survivors and victims of the Pontian Genocide of 1915–1923. On May 19 we remember the treacherous actions of those who murdered hundreds of thousands of Pontian Hellenes and destroyed their communities, and we remember the survivors and the fallen.

Nearly a century ago, there were large communities of Hellenes living across the Ottoman Empire. In a few short years, these communities were destroyed, and hundreds of thousands of lives were taken at the order of the Ottoman government. Hellenic Pontians had lived along the southeastern coast of the Black Sea in what is now northern Turkey for more than three millennia. The perfidious decision to destroy these peaceful communities resulted from the fear that foreign populations under Ottoman rule would join with their mother countries and destroy a crumbling empire.

During a bloody eight year reign of terror, the Ottoman government orchestrated the killing or displacement of hundreds of thousands of Greeks, Armenians and Assyrians who had been living in the Pontus region. Thousands of

people were murdered outright. The rest were uprooted and forcibly marched across the Anatolian border, without food or other provisions, to the Syrian border. Mass rapes and abductions of women and children also occurred. More than half of the Pontian population perished from violence, starvation or disease.

Roughly 400,000 Pontians refugees survived the onslaught and fled to Greece, Russia, and the United States. Despite the huge number of people who died or were displaced, most of the world paid no attention to their suffering. The fact that so many people could be murdered or removed from their homes without facing any consequences empowered future genocidal regimes to take similar actions.

One of the greatest tragedies of genocide is that the aggressors often succeed in eliminating the memory of those who fled. Few Americans today know about the Pontian Genocide. We have an obligation to honor the memory of those who died and teach our children about those dreadful times in hope that they will never be repeated. On May 19th, 2009, on the annual day of remembrance, members of the Pan-Pontian Federation will pay solemn homage to the victims. Although the genocide almost caused the extinction of the Pontian people, their traditions and culture still resonate today.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Pan-Pontian Federation as they honor the sacrifices and memory of their noble ancestors. I commend the Pan-Pontian Federation in their efforts to preserve Greek culture and history. May the victims of the Pontian Genocide rest in peace.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE JIM
HUDSON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2009

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Jim Hudson of Texarkana, Arkansas, who passed away on May 3, 2009, at the much too early age of 56. As a man of faith, a devoted husband and father, and a committed statesman, his life and legacy is an example to us all.

As a circuit judge for the 8th judicial district south serving Miller and Lafayette Counties since 1991 and as a former prosecuting attorney, Jim was one of the most fair-minded and selfless people I have had the pleasure to know. Arkansas lost a true public servant with Jim's passing and he will be deeply missed.

I knew Jim my entire adult life and was proud to call him my friend. His steadfast commitment to justice and his devotion to his community made Jim a person many of us looked up to and respected, as we witnessed Jim help countless individuals and families throughout his career in public service. He was so respected in his profession that both Arkansas's U.S. Senators Blanche Lincoln and Mark Pryor recently selected Jim as a possible nominee to fill a U.S. district judge's position in the Western District of Arkansas, a position for which he would have been perfectly suited.

Jim's cheerful personality was contagious and he was liked by all he encountered. In