

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Samford Hall, Auburn, AL 36849

Description of Request: "Auburn University Canine Program" Taxpayer justification—It is my understanding that the funding would be used for continuing support of a program to provide Alabama (AL) Law Enforcement Organizations (LEO) with state-of-the-art detector-dog team (dog and handler) training for enhancing public and, especially, school safety. The detector-dog and handler team remain the most capable tool for the interdiction of explosive materials and illicit drugs. The capability of such teams is entirely dependent upon the quality of the dog, the dog's training, and instruction of its handler. This program would make available to AL LEO the highest state-of-the-art detector dogs, training, and handler instruction. AU proposes continuation and expansion of the FY09 program to provide AL LEO access to the services of CDTC in order to enhance public and, in particular, school safety in AL communities.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I rise today to submit the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of the Homeland Security Appropriation.

The following earmark was requested by my office and is listed for funding in this bill:

CITY OF ELK GROVE—EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Requesting Member: DANIEL E. LUNGREN

Bill Number: 2010 Homeland Security Appropriation

Account: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Requesting Agency: City of Elk Grove

Agency Address: 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758

Amount: \$750,000

Description: The Emergency Operations Center will provide the necessary tools to receive, assess, and respond to a critical incident. The communications system must provide for a redundant path to ensure that both situational awareness information and strategic orders can pass into and out of the facility without interruption.

The proposed EOC will include an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). The ITS will be an important component of the EOC as it will provide a mechanism for controlling local traffic patterns to ensure transportation safety and mobility during an emergency. The system can be used to relieve traffic congestion and through the use of advanced video communications technologies, provide the Elk Grove EOC with a bird's eye view of critical intersections and roadways leading in and out of the City. Wireless video technology will also be deployed at locations determined to be "sensitive" for the purposes of Homeland Security.

The Emergency Operations Center has a clear federal nexus. As a result of such national events as 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, there has been a renewed demand for local entities around the country to focus on local preparedness and accountability during emer-

gency situations. Elk Grove is home to 140,000 residents and a likely destination for evacuees from the Sacramento and San Francisco Bay areas. In addition, the Sacramento region is subject to potential flooding due to an intricate and aged levee system. Elk Grove has multiple freight and passenger rail lines, one of the largest above-ground propane storage facilities, an airport, and two heavily traveled freeways, Interstate 5 and State Route 99. It is essential that the City of Elk Grove has an Emergency Operations Center to coordinate emergency response efforts in the event of a disaster or terrorist attack.

Having the ability to work regionally and have interoperability between different agencies is critical in the event of an emergency. With the use of advanced communications technology, Elk Grove will be able to work in concert with the County and City of Sacramento, State of California Office of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to share information and respond rapidly to any event.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, on June 15, 2009, I was delayed in returning to Washington, and missed rollcall votes numbered 336, 337, 338 and 339.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes: 336 expressing condolences to the citizens of Italy and support for the Government of Italy in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy; 337, a bill to name the Laredo Veterans Post Office; 338, Phylicia's Law; and, 339, a resolution expressing condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the catastrophic explosion at the ConAgra Foods plant in Garner, North Carolina.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately Monday night, June 15, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on H. Res. 430, H.R. 2325, H.R. 729 and H. Res. 540.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 336, on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 430, Expressing condolences to the citizens of Italy and support for the Government of Italy in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck the Abruzzo region of central Italy, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 337, on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 2325, the Laredo Veterans Post Office, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 338, on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 729, Phylicia's Law, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 339, on suspending the rules and passing H. Res.

540, Expressing condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the catastrophic explosion at the ConAgra Foods plant in Garner, North Carolina, I would have voted "aye."

THE ENHANCED SUPPLY AND PRICE REDUCTION ACT OF 2009

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation with the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and the gentleman from Vermont, Mr. WELCH, in order to provide relief for American consumers at the pump in the short term and save taxpayer dollars. Last summer, gas prices soared to record highs above \$4 per gallon. This year, American consumers are beginning to experience a bad case of déjà vu. Incredibly, today marks the 50th straight day that gas prices have risen. As a result, prices at the pump have already increased by more than one dollar a gallon since the beginning of the year. For American families who are already struggling through a down economy, these rising prices are hitting especially hard.

The Enhanced Supply and Price Reduction Act of 2009, or Enhanced SPR Act, directs the Secretary of Energy to sell 70 million barrels of light sweet crude—less than 10 percent of the total oil in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR)—and replace it with heavy crude oil over a period of five years. Swapping oil from the SPR has a proven record of lowering oil prices in the short term. In 1991, when President Bush's father deployed oil from the reserve, oil prices fell 33.4 percent in two days. In 2000, President Clinton conducted a time exchange of oil from the SPR and prices again immediately dropped by 18.7 percent. And in 2005, when President Bush himself released oil following Hurricane Katrina, prices fell 9.1 percent. That's an average drop in the price of oil of 19.2 percent.

In addition, this legislation would implement a number of recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to better use taxpayer funds. First, swapping a small percentage of light oil in the reserve for heavier crude has been recommended by the GAO to save taxpayers money. Replacing a small percentage of light oil currently in the reserve with heavy oil would also better match up with the needs of our nation's refineries and protect us against supply disruptions from unstable countries such as Venezuela.

The legislation would also implement GAO's recommendation to purchase a constant dollar value rather than constant volume of oil to fill the SPR in the future. In testimony before the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming last year, GAO testified that if the Department of Energy had taken this approach between 2001 and 2005, it would have saved American taxpayers nearly \$600 million or roughly 10 percent cost to fill the SPR during that period. Finally, the bill would authorize the Secretary to purchase and store refined petroleum product in the SPR in order to further enhance our national security.

The House has already voted in support of similar legislation in the last Congress in an