

women. Ms. Carpenter, Mrs. Goodman, Ms. Yearwood and the other brave women of the WASP were pioneers for the dedicated women who serve in our military today and for all who face prejudice in pursuit of equality.

REPEAL TONNAGE TAX'S 30-DAY
LIMIT ON DOMESTIC OPERATIONS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, U.S.-flag ships that compete in international trade face many disadvantages. The U.S. tax code should not be one of them. Today I am introducing legislation that will help smooth the seas for U.S.-flag shippers and increase their international competitiveness.

The version of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 that passed both the House and Senate provided for the application of a "tonnage tax" based on the tonnage of a vessel, rather than taxing the U.S. vessel's international income at corporate tax rates. In the conference process on that legislation, however, new language was inserted which states that a U.S. vessel cannot use the tonnage tax on its income from international operations if that vessel also operates in U.S. domestic commerce for more than 30 days per year.

This 30-day limitation dramatically limits the availability of the tonnage tax for those U.S. ships that operate in both domestic and international trade and hinders their competitiveness in foreign commerce. It is important to recognize that ships operating in U.S. domestic trade already have significant cost disadvantages. The inability of domestic operators to use the tonnage tax for their international service is a further burden on their competitive position in foreign commerce. Foreign registered ships now carry 97 percent of the imports and exports moving in United States international trade. These foreign vessels are not held to the higher Coast Guard operating standards that apply to American-registered ships and foreign vessels are virtually untaxed.

Adding to the perversity of the provision, in December 2006, Congress repealed the 30-day limit on domestic trading for approximately 50 ships operating in the Great Lakes. There are 13 U.S.-flag vessels outside of these Great Lakes ships that remain caught in these tax provisions. In the interest of providing equity to these 13 vessels, this legislation would repeal the 30-day limit on domestic operations, enabling these vessels to also utilize the tonnage tax on their international income. Under this legislation, these ships will continue to pay the normal 35 percent U.S. corporate tax rate on their income for operations in domestic commerce.

Repeal of the tonnage tax's 30-day limit on domestic operations is a necessary step toward providing tax equity between U.S.-flag and foreign flag vessels. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2009
VIRGINIA HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 2009 Virginia Human Rights Awards. These awards were presented during a recent ceremony hosted jointly with the Prince William County Human Rights Commission.

Prince William County has long been an area of growth in our Northern Virginia region. As the county population grew in the early 1990s and the demographics shifted, the Board of County Supervisors recognized the need for a study to examine the county's ability to respond to increasing population diversity. The result of the study was the creation of a Human Rights Ordinance prohibiting discriminatory practices based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, marital status or disability in employment, housing, public accommodations, education and credit in Prince William County. When the Board of County Supervisors established the Human Rights Ordinance in September of 1992, it created the Human Rights Commission to ensure that "each citizen is treated fairly, provided equal protection of the law and equal opportunity to participate in the benefits, rights, and privileges of community life."

The recipients of this year's awards have exhibited a devotion to "[eliminating] discrimination through civil and human rights law enforcement and [establishing] equal opportunity for all persons within the county through advocacy and education."

The recipients of the Prince William Human Rights Awards are Betty Covington from Prince William Public Schools and Dexter Fox with Unity in the Community.

The Virginia Human Rights Commissioner of the Year is Victor Dunbar, Chairman of the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission.

The Staff Member of the Year is Annie Carroll, Deputy Director of the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission.

The Virginia Human Rights Commemorative Award for contributions to human rights through the signing of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts will be made posthumously to President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding the efforts of these individuals on behalf of harmony and equality in our communities. We are a happier, safer society when we promote fairness and justice. I would like to extend my unconditional support for the Human Rights Commission's mission and my deepest appreciation to those who take up the cause of human and civil rights.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding congressionally directed ap-

propriation projects I sponsored as part of H.R. 2847, FY 2010 Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.

Agency/Account: U.S. EPA—State and Tribal Assistance Grant

Amount: \$439,065

Requesting Entity: City of Petersburg, P.O. Box 326 Petersburg, Texas 79250

Funding will enable the city of Petersburg to continue supplying quality drinking water to its residents. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has ordered the city to replace one of its elevated water tanks or place it offline or the city will be forced to pay penalties and fines. Loss of a water tank will reduce the water supply, as well as drop the water pressure which is important for fire fighting. Without a stable water supply, the city of Petersburg will not be able to maintain economic growth. The total cost of this project is \$798,300.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. 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. 2996, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman TIM MURPHY

Bill Number: H.R. 2996, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: State and Tribal Assistance Grant Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Findlay Township Municipal Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: 1271 Route 30, Clinton, PA 15026-1537

Amount: \$500,000

Description of Request: to replace old and undersized water transmission lines, and to expand and upgrade the water and sewer infrastructure, to benefit the entire Township of Findlay in economic development and job creation, fire safety and environmental protection.

The water and sewer upgrades and expansion will serve businesses—and the 21,310 jobs being created—at three business parks in the Pittsburgh International Airport Corridor: the Chapman Commerce Center; the Clinton Commerce Park and the Route 30 Industrial Site. Furthermore, annual tax revenue generated at the three business parks is projected to be \$48.7 million. In terms of fire safety, the project will replace old and undersized water transmission lines to provide adequate fire flow for the entire township, including residents and businesses. In terms of environmental protection, the project will rectify a concern of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection that the sanitary sewer system capacity from Enlow Road to the Moon Township Interceptor must be expanded to adequately convey additional flow.

I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of me or my spouse.