

Southeastern United States. The Consortium reduces economic risks and improves social well-being by providing climate information that is integral to agricultural decision-making. The program seeks to develop flood forecasting methods to help farmers and producers plan for reducing risks of economic losses and environmental damage; develop partnerships and methods for incorporating climate forecasts and other climate information into agricultural and water policy decisions; and begin development of a prototype decision support system for the application of climate forecasts to water resource management, especially for agricultural water use.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I was on official leave of absence from the U.S. House of Representatives on account of illness and unable to vote on rollcall vote 420 to H.R. 1016 Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009 taken on June 23, 2009. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "aye."

I strongly support our nation's servicemen and women and their families and realize the debt of gratitude that our nation owes the men and women who defend our country. As Representative for the first Congressional District of Oklahoma, I remain committed to providing them with the resources necessary to ensure they receive the funding and care they deserve. My colleagues and constituents can rest assured that I will continue to support initiatives which ensure those who serve our country to guard our freedom are treated with nothing less than the highest level of dignity and respect.

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, our nation takes a historic step toward a clean energy economy. The American Clean Energy and Security (ACES) Act will revolutionize American energy policy, combat climate change, and provide a unique opportunity to revive our economy and create millions of clean energy jobs.

Some key provisions of the bill include a requirement for electric utilities to meet 20 percent of their electricity demand through renewable energy sources and energy efficiency by 2020, a cap-and-trade global warming reduction plan designed to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 17 percent by 2020, and a new building efficiency standard requiring new buildings to be 30 percent more efficient by 2012 and 50 percent by 2016. These and other provisions will encourage new renewable requirements for utilities, stud-

ies and incentives regarding new carbon capture and sequestration technologies, energy efficiency incentives for homes and buildings, and grants for green jobs.

In my home state of New York, clean-energy investments will create tens of thousands of jobs. A total of \$150 billion in clean-energy investments across the country is estimated to result in about \$10 billion in investment revenue and 109,000 jobs in New York State. These additional jobs in the New York labor market would have brought the state's unemployment rate down to 4.3 percent from its actual 2008 level of 5.4 percent.

In addition to creating millions of new jobs, the ACES Act will make our nation more energy independent. Under this legislation, we can significantly reduce our dependence on foreign oil by promoting renewable energy, including wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass energy. New clean energy and energy efficiency technologies, along with more efficient vehicles, will also help reduce our need for oil.

Now, you'll hear some say that this bill will tax individuals for using energy. The truth is that the energy-efficiency and consumer protection provisions in the ACES Act will actually cut the electricity bill for an average New Yorker by around \$5.60 every month. In these tough economic times, the ACES Act is both environmentally sound and economically responsible.

I thank Chairmen WAXMAN and MARKEY and Speaker PELOSI for their leadership in negotiating this important bill, and I am pleased to vote in favor of it.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on member requests, I am submitting the following information regarding the earmarks I received as part of the FY10 Agriculture Appropriations Bill:

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY

Bill Number: H.R. 2997, FY10 Agriculture Appropriations Bill

Account: Special Research Grants

Project Name: Drought Mitigation

Amount: \$469,000

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: University of Nebraska-Lincoln located at 202 Agricultural Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583

Description: This funding is for the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) which conducts research and educational programs on drought mitigation and planning for drought. The project has assisted numerous states and municipalities in developing drought plans and implementing drought response action teams. The Center has received national visibility for providing information on the severity of drought throughout the United States. Both print and electronic mass media routinely use Center produced materials in their news stories on the drought.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information for project requests that I made and which were included within H.R. 2997, "Making appropriations for the Departments of Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes."

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture—SRG

Project Amount: \$1,000,000

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Tennessee, 114 Morgan Hall, 2621 Morgan Circle, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996.

Description of Request: This funding will be used for producing crop plants that can be used directly as early-warning sentinels for the detection of plant diseases.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I was on official leave of absence from the U.S. House of Representatives on account of illness and unable to vote on rollcall vote 460 to H.R. 2647, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 taken on June 25, 2009. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "aye."

I strongly support our nation's servicemen and women and their families and realize the debt of gratitude that our nation owes the men and women who defend our country. As Representative for the first Congressional District of Oklahoma, I remain committed to providing them with the resources necessary to ensure they receive the funding and care they deserve. My colleagues and constituents can rest assured that I will continue to support initiatives which ensure those who serve our country to guard our freedom are treated with nothing less than the highest level of dignity and respect.

HONORING THE LSU AGCENTER RICE RESEARCH STATION

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the LSU AgCenter Rice Research Station in Acadia Parish, Louisiana, situated 2 miles east of Crowley, which celebrated its 100th year in operation on July 1.

Since 1909, the Rice Research Station continues to provide invaluable information, innovative techniques and new varieties of rice to