

Americans, I believe that we have a shared responsibility to work to ensure clean air, clean water and a healthy environment for today but also for future generations. However, we also know that the national energy tax proposal which passed the House is not the way to do it. Being good stewards of our planet should not be a partisan issue; it is something that benefits us all.

As I have said from the start, H.R. 2454 is nothing more than a backdoor attempt to implement a massive national energy tax that will result in higher energy prices, less jobs, and a greater dependence on foreign sources of oil. The oil and gas industry employs 1.8 million people across the nation and represents a large portion of the economy in my district. I cannot support any bill that will eliminate these jobs or ship them overseas.

I also remain deeply concerned that the bill, if enacted into law, will force American manufacturers and other energy intensive industries to relocate to other countries such as China or India. These countries are not subject to limits on greenhouse gas emissions, and H.R. 2454 would place the United States at a competitive disadvantage.

Families and small businesses already are struggling during this recession, and increasing their direct and indirect energy costs to the tune of thousands of dollars per year will only make matters worse. Given our troubled economy, Congress should reject plans for a national energy tax through this deeply flawed bill and work across party lines on a plan to create jobs, lower energy costs, and establish a cleaner, more reliable energy future.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership standards, I am submitting the following information regarding projects I received funding for as part of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$147,000 for Improving the Sustainable Production of Specialty Crops (Improved Fruit Practices). This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer money because the research will be used to assist growers in producing high quality fruit, dry beans, and sugar beets with environmentally sound, safe, and effective pest control methods and management approaches. Approximately, \$91,140 is for salaries and expenses, and \$55,860 is for lab maintenance and equipment. In addition to the federal funds provided by this grant, this re-

search is supported by personnel, equipment, and facilities funded by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station and Michigan State University Extension.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$346,000 for Controlling Fire Blight Disease of Apple Trees. This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer money because the research will be used to develop blight-resistant varieties and new, environmentally responsible control strategies to combat this disease. This grant will be split between Michigan (which receives approximately 36 percent) and New York (which receives approximately 64 percent). For Michigan, approximately \$99,648 is for the salaries of laboratory and field research personal; and \$24,912 is for materials and supplies. Michigan State University is working to obtain funding from the Michigan Apple Committee, the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, project GREEN, and from other industry sources.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$266,000 for Sustainable Agriculture: Expanding and Refining the Ecosystem Base (Sustainable Agriculture). This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer money because the research will be used to assist farmers on sustainable agriculture practices, which will help farmers manage their crops for improved yields, while reducing fertilizer and pesticide use, and stemming nutrient losses to ground and surface water. Organic farming concepts are also addressed. Approximately, \$151,000 is for salaries of researchers; \$15,000 is for travel expenses; \$10,000 is for farmer stipends; \$25,000 is for materials and supplies; and \$65,000 is for communication and outreach. Michigan State University expects to leverage at least \$150,000 in state, local, and private funds to expand the impacts of the special grant.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$346,000 for Phytophthora Capsici research. This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer

money because the research will be used to study the fungal-like pathogen that lives in the soil and causes plants to rot. Vegetables such as cucumbers, pumpkins, squash, watermelon, cantaloupe, tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, eggplants and lima and snap beans are particularly susceptible to rot caused by Phytophthora. This funding will go towards salaries of researchers, laboratory and field equipment, travel expenses, and publication or results. This program receives other federal/state/local/industry funding.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Account: Conservation Operations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Great Lakes Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: 2805 S. Industrial Hwy, Suite 100, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6791

Description of Request: This bill provides \$404,000 for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, which was authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill. This funding is a valuable use of taxpayer money because it will protect and improve Great Lakes water quality by controlling erosion and sedimentation; limiting the input of associated nutrients and toxic contaminants; and minimizing off-site sources of damage to harbors, streams, fish and wildlife habitat, recreational facilities and the Basin's system of public works.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 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. 2997, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman TIM MURPHY

Bill Number: H.R. 2997, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Business Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence

Address of Requesting Entity: Posvar Hall, Room 1800, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Amount: \$500,000

Description of Request: The funding will be used to address the needs of the agricultural sector in the region to improve business practices, marketing strategies, and profit management. The University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Business Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence will develop a model agricultural entrepreneurship program for sustainable agricultural production in emerging areas such as hydroponics and soilless controlled environment agriculture.

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

I took extreme care to ensure that these projects are well vetted and strongly supported within the community. The University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Business Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence appropriation is of particular interest to my district and importance to my constituents.

IN CELEBRATION OF PASTOR
JOHN RICE FOR 39 YEARS OF
SERVICE AS PASTOR

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the service of Pastor John Rice of Chicago Heights, Illinois. Pastor Rice has served his boyhood church, St. Bethel, for 39 years. Since he began his tenure, St. Bethel has flourished, with its membership growing to over 300 families. The church has been able to undertake many new projects under

Pastor Rice's leadership, including the construction of the Bethel Community Center. The construction of the community center and the growth of the church would not have been possible without the tireless efforts and faith of Pastor Rice.

I have had the good fortune of working with Pastor Rice and have seen his work first hand. He has touched many lives, including the underprivileged, for whom he is a tireless champion. St. Bethel Church and the community of Chicago Heights are long indebted to Pastor Rice for his great service.

On June 28, 2009, Pastor Rice will be honored at St. Bethel. He will be accepting much deserved praise on that day. It is with great pride that I recognize all of his many accomplishments and wish him a continued success.

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 328 to H.R. 2410, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 taken on June 10, 2009. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I am strongly opposed to the irresponsible spending increases contained in the bill and favored a Republican substitute which was offered at the committee level which saved nearly \$2.84 billion dollars, while tightening sanctions against Iran, adding new measures to increase foreign military funding for Israel, and supporting missile defense for Israel. In a time of national financial uncertainty, I believe it is irresponsible to create unnecessary new programs and pass such large funding increases. In addition, I have significant concerns about the potential for taxpayer funded abortions that could result from the passage of this legislation.