

The Corps' expertise in dredging and sediment management is valuable for the planning and designing of contaminated sediment cleanups. State and local agencies from 25 RAPs in Indiana (Grand Calumet River), Ohio (Black, Maumee and Cuyahoga Rivers), New York (Buffalo River, Eighteen Mile Creek, Rochester Embayment and St. Lawrence River), Michigan (Deer Lake, Torch Lake, Muskegon Lake and White Lake; River Raisin, Rouge, Saginaw, St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, and Clinton Rivers), Minnesota (St. Louis River), Wisconsin (Milwaukee Bay, Menominee, Sheboygan, and Fox Rivers), and Pennsylvania (Presque Isle Bay) have requested funding.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 519

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking Congressman BART STUPAK, for introducing this legislation. Every year on July 1st, I look forward to officially celebrating the establishment of Canada and all of her wonderful accomplishments. Canada has proven to be one of this nation's most trusted allies and as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I personally work closely with Canadian officials to ensure the 5,500-mile border that we share remains secure. In this era of heightened security, the United States and Canada have renewed cooperative efforts to safeguard the movement of people and goods, improve information-sharing, and strengthen border infrastructure and technology across the border.

In a world in which too many nations still choose conflict over cooperation, and erect barriers instead of bridges, the U.S.-Canadian partnership has been and must ever be a model for others, and the foundation on which to build a common future. Indeed, our relationship is centered on a shared continent, shared values, shared aspirations, and real respect for our differences.

Over the years, our nations have forged the most comprehensive ties of any two nations on Earth. They bind not only our governments, but also our economies, our cultures, and our people. From NORAD to NAFTA, Canadians and Americans have seized opportunities to provide for our common security and prosperity. We've tackled tough problems from acid rain and water pollution to differences over beer and grain in the spirit of friendship and in pragmatism.

Addressing the Canadian parliament 50 years ago, President Truman declared that the success of the U.S.-Canadian relationship was due to "one part proximity, and nine parts good will and common sense." Good will and common sense remain the foundation of our friendship.

In Texas, the territory of the Consulate General in Dallas and the Canadian Consulate in Houston encompasses five states with over 36 million people. Bilateral trade with the region is over \$30 billion each year; therefore I am very aware of how important a strong trade relationship is for both countries.

Specifically the cities of Alberta and Houston share a number of distinguishing features

which make them sister cities. Over the past 10 years Alberta has had the strongest economy in Canada, with an average rate of growth of 3.7 per cent per year, while Houston continues to thrive as the energy capital of the United States. Canada is the U.S. most important trading partner, with over \$570 billion dollars in goods and services being traded between the two countries in 2006. Canada and the U.S. enjoy an interdependent energy relationship, trading oil, natural gas, coal, and electricity. Canada has a reported 178.8 billion barrels of oil reserves as of 2006, second only to Saudi Arabia. Over 95% of these reserves are in oil sands deposits in Alberta. Moreover, Canadian oil sands in Alberta have made Canada the largest exporter of oil to the U.S. and have helped alleviate our dependence on foreign sources of oil from parts of the world which geopolitically face much more risks than our neighbor to the north. Recent proposals by Canadian companies such as Enbridge and Altex to build oil pipelines from Alberta to Houston seem very promising, and I look forward to the progress they make. These 2,000 mile pipelines, which are targeted to be in service by 2010, will send over 500,000 barrels of oil per day.

I would like to congratulate Canada on its many accomplishments over the years and remain appreciative to the people and Government of Canada for their long history of friendship and cooperation with the people and Government of the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit a record of how I would have voted on July 10, 2009 when I was unavoidably detained.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 526; "yes" on rollcall No. 527; "no" on rollcall No. 528; "yes" on rollcall No. 529.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 9, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall No. 506 and No. 511.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 506—no—Flake of Arizona Part D Amendment No. 4; rollcall No. 511—yes—Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3082, FY 2010 Military Con-

struction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

As we welcome our returning valiant soldiers from abroad and near, let us not forget what they so desperately need.

Their fight is not over once they return home.

Congress has a responsibility to provide for our sons and daughters that we send overseas.

Today, this bill will provide for much needed funding assistance for our soldiers who continue to struggle with PTSD and other mental health illnesses.

We will fund 28 new Vet Centers and 30 new Community Based Outpatient Centers to provide readjustment aid to those returning veterans and their families, because we must fight for them like they have fought for us.

This bill will help house those homeless and low-income veterans, who may otherwise be left in the cold and in the streets.

I am especially pleased with the funding to add 1,200 necessary personnel to streamline the process of veterans' claims to ensure that all our men and women are properly taken care of.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the passage of H.R. 3082, and recognize that veteran care must and should be a priority.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of H. Con. Res. 127, which recognizes the significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

As a child of Jamaican parents, I understand the importance of recognizing the influence Caribbean cultures continues to have on all facets of these United States. Growing up, my parents, who hail from Jamaica, instilled in me a strong appreciation for their Caribbean values. As a result of my upbringing, I have adopted a strong work ethic and tremendous pride in my heritage. As a parent, I have passed on these same values to my own children, so they will develop a sense of pride in their Caribbean heritage and acknowledge the many roles Caribbean people play in shaping this nation. I whole-heartedly support this resolution that commemorates Caribbean heritage, history, culture and contributions to the United States.

In her 1970 autobiography, Shirley Chismol, the first black woman elected to Congress, credited her success to the education she received while attending school in Barbados. She wrote, "Years later I would know what an important gift my parents had given me by seeing to it that I had my early education in the strict, traditional, British-style schools of Barbados. If I speak and write easily now, that early education is the main reason."

This is a nation built by immigrants. From as early as the 17th century there have been individuals from the Caribbean Islands, working here in the United States as indentured servants in the colony of Jamestown, Virginia.