

for my district and beyond. For this reason, I have consistently advocated for funding, which has been included in this appropriations act, to operate the International Trade Center at the UTB International Technology Education and Commerce Campus (ITECC) which houses all of the services required to conduct international trade including: international law, accounting, banking, insurance, logistics services, export-import marketing services, U.S. customs, government trade services and industry showrooms for specific target sectors such as medical, communications, and computer technology.

I am very supportive of this initiative as well as provisions included in the bill to strengthen America's financial institutions through more robust regulatory enforcement and fraud detection capabilities, investment in economic development programs for underserved communities and small businesses, and many other important programs.

Among the most important provisions of the bill is funding that supports \$28 billion in new lending to help small businesses in South Texas and throughout the nation that have been unable to obtain credit and much-needed business loans due to the economic downturn. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and we owe it to them to make this lending available.

I want to make clear that my vote for this bill reflects solely my support for the aforementioned priorities. I have consistently voted against using federal funds to support abortion services and am pleased that this bill upholds those limitations so that my constituents' tax dollars are not used in a way inconsistent with their moral beliefs.

My vote in favor of H.R. 3170 reflects my commitment to fund this nation's economic priorities and help our South Texas communities and small businesses in the midst of a deep recession.

REPRESENTATIVE GWYN GREEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the services of Colorado State Representative Gwyn Green who will retire this year from Colorado's State Legislature.

Representative Green has been in Colorado's State Legislature since 2004, and in that time has fought hard for the protection of children from sexual predators, as well as, for the prevention of abuse of disabled adults. Her passionate speeches and constant dedication to service have earned her the reputation of "The Fighting Granny," on Colorado's Capital Hill. It was with this commitment and drive that her work ethic and passion for the people of Colorado will be most remembered.

In addition to her service in the Colorado State Legislature, Representative Green has earned such awards as the Colorado Association of Public Health's Distinguished Legislator of the Year, the Colorado Society of Clinical Social Workers Advocate of the Year, and was

the Distinguished Legislator for the National Association of Social Workers. These accomplishments display her passion and commitment in serving the people of Colorado.

I extend my deepest thanks once again to Representative Green for her time and service to Colorado. I have no doubt her efforts within the Colorado State Legislature have made impacts on the State of Colorado and on our country.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to yet another Appropriations bill that we are forced to debate under a structured rule. Had important amendments been permitted to come to the Floor, Members would have had an opportunity to change the destructive policies this bill contains. Most importantly, for the first time in over a decade, this Congress will lift the ban on funding abortions in the District of Columbia. We will now have tax dollars from across this nation flowing into our nation's capital for ending the life of unborn children. Simply put, a vote for this bill is a vote for the destruction of innocent life.

I am also concerned that this bill is silent on the issue of marriage. After unprecedented action by the DC City Council to redefine marriage, this Congress has neglected its responsibility to protect traditional marriage.

Finally Mr. Chair, this bill continues the runaway federal spending that more than anything else has characterized this Appropriations process, and frankly, this entire Congress. At a time when Americans are facing extraordinary challenges, the federal government is running up record deficits and accumulating debt that our kids and grandkids may never be able to repay. Substantive amendments that would have given Members a real choice in spending priorities and funding levels have been prohibited. The American people deserve better. It is time for this Congress to start putting our fiscal house back in order and to protect the timeless values that millions of Americans hold dear; namely, life and family. This bill falls far short and I encourage a "no" vote.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE AMIA ATTACK

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res 156, a

resolution condemning the attack on the AMIA center in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1994.

Let me begin by thanking the gentlelady from Florida, the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN, for her steadfast leadership on this issue.

I am proud that we have worked together in a bipartisan manner on issues in the Western Hemisphere and on anti-terrorism issues, such as this resolution.

Fifteen years ago, Hezbollah terrorists affiliated with Iran killed 85 people and wounded 300 others in the bombing of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association, known in Argentina as AMIA.

And, for the past fifteen years, the people of Argentina have been waiting for justice to be served. Though the international police, Interpol, has issued warrants for several individuals, these individuals remain at large in places such as Iran, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

While holding the perpetrators accountable will not bring back their loved ones, it could give some closure of justice to the victims' families.

On this anniversary, I would urge the government of Argentina to remain committed to seeing justice for this horrible tragedy and moreover, I would urge those countries who are holding the perpetrators of these attacks to hand over these individuals immediately and let justice be served.

The timing of this resolution is crucial. For the past several years, in my opinion, we have not been as engaged as we could have been in issues in Latin America.

During that time period, other countries have come in to fill the void. Iran's growing relationship with some countries in the region, including multilateral agreements on energy and industry worth billions of dollars, could be dangerous because of Iran's ominous history in the area, including their involvement in the AMIA attack.

Eliminating the threat of terrorism and its state sponsors is not just in the best interest of the United States. The United States and Central and Latin America have an aligned interest to make our hemisphere safer.

For that reason, I believe it is important to highlight one crucial provision of this legislation. Currently, very few countries in the Western Hemisphere have acknowledged the danger that Hezbollah poses to our region. According to the New York Police Department and several anti-terrorism experts, Hezbollah could pose a bigger threat than Al Qaeda. I join the gentlelady from Florida, Ms. Roselehtinen in urging governments in the Western Hemisphere to adopt legislation designating Hezbollah as a terrorist organization and punishing those who provide support for their terrorist activities.

I hope that this resolution serves as a signal to our friends and neighbors in Central and Latin America that the United States is committed to a safer hemisphere, free from the mutual threat of terrorism.

I congratulate the ranking member of the Committee, Ms. Roselehtinen for her commitment to a safer hemisphere, and of course, I send my condolences to the Argentine people and those who lost loved ones fifteen years ago in the AMIA bombing.