

But that requires the President to nominate someone to lead our nation's international development efforts. It is critical that a USAID administrator get in place as soon as possible.

How to inspire the political will—in the U.S. and around the world—is something the child and maternal health advocacy community needs to think long and hard about.

This is an area where policy, politics, and pressure need to come together to make real change.

Unless a new model of grassroots advocacy, political engagement, lobbying of Congress and the White House, and real pressure from Americans all across this country takes place—from school children to church groups to civic organizations—I am afraid maternal and child health will stagnate as an issue and we will not be successful at appropriating the increased dollars needed to save lives.

The reality we are facing is that the political and policy success of the global HIV/AIDS community has put a real squeeze on all other global health accounts.

In the House FY2010 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill we invested \$7.8 billion for global health with seven out of every ten dollars going to HIV prevention, treatment or care. With regard to treatment, PEPFAR has created a global health entitlement program that means a person's lifetime treatment for HIV takes priority over other health investments, like child and maternal health. The cost is not only financial, but tradeoffs are being made that can be counted in lives lost—too many lives.

As Congress goes through our own domestic health care reform all of my colleagues and I have heard first hand stories from countless constituents about their challenges accessing or affording quality health care. Those stories and the people who tell them demonstrate the real need for health care reform.

Who are the mothers and fathers and children we are willing to invest our tax dollars, our energy and our ideas for to build healthier families and communities in far away places? Unless we can make these lives real—less of a statistical abstraction—tens of millions of children and millions of mothers will continue to die.

Last week Nicholas Kristof wrote in his New York Times column that “humanitarians are abjectly ineffective at selling their causes.”

He went on to say, “I also wonder if our unremitting focus on suffering and unmet needs stirs up a cloud of negative feelings that incline people to avert their eyes and hurry by. Maybe we should emphasize the many humanitarian successes, such as falling child mortality rates since 1990—which mean that 400 children's lives are saved every hour, around the clock.”

If Mr. Kristof is correct in his assessment, then we should be championing successes—every toddler who is now a teenager because of access to basic healthcare, good nutrition and clean water.

It is absolutely remarkable to know that there are circumstances in which for a few hundred dollars invested in the right place, at the right time, with the right intervention available—an illness can be prevented, an infection can be treated, a mother can deliver a child safely. Hundreds of thousands of American citizens are contributing their own money to NGOs to make a difference in the life of a family or person they don't even know. If those Americans can be mobilized to make child and maternal health a priority for President Obama and Congress then the power of the American people and our tax dollars will save lives—millions of lives.

As we all know there are many competing development challenges that require re-

sources and collectively contribute to making poor communities healthier, more successful, and better prepared to meet the opportunities of the future. Whether it is basic education, agriculture development, clean water, or maternal and child health, we need to make smart investments that produce results and demonstrate to the American people real improvements in real people's lives.

Let me conclude by asking for your ideas and suggestions about how to mobilize and inspire action from the American people, Congress, the White House, as well as foreign leaders to make maternal and child health a global priority. I would like the opportunity for a dialogue on what NGOs, donors and policy makers can do to energize, mobilize and communicate more effectively on this issue.

As all of you know, I am the author of H.R. 1410—The Newborn, Child, and Mother Survival Act—which authorizes the development of a U.S. strategy to reduce child and maternal mortality and implementation of the strategy by USAID.

It is a good bill, but it's not enough.

We need a campaign—a movement—in support of the millions of children and women's lives we can save if we only try.

We need action in Congress and parliaments in donor and developing countries.

We need to organize parents and children as activists.

We need to motivate and mobilize a political movement that will create the support for the resources to allow investments in interventions that will save lives, change communities, and transform our future.

I am committed to making pregnancy, child birth and a newborn's start in the world safe, healthy and a joy for every family—even the poorest of families in the poorest of countries.

We have a lot of work to do to make this vision a reality and I look forward to hearing you ideas about how we can get moving.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 103RD
BIRTHDAY OF MRS. PAULINE M.
ELLIOTT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the special life of Mrs. Pauline Elliott of Anniston, Alabama.

The daughter of Lena Geneva Rosamond Morrison and James Edward Morrison, Pauline Morrison Elliott was born on August 13th, 1906. Pauline is the first of six children, and today is the sole survivor of her siblings. Mrs. Pauline Morrison Elliott was married to Mr. William Hoyt Elliott of Rome, Georgia for sixty-seven years.

Mrs. Elliott was an active member in the Broadmoor Church of God serving as the clerk, a Sunday school teacher, and a member of the choir. Because of the Elliotts' dedicated service, Broadmoor Church of God added a new wing to the church in honor of Hoyt and Pauline Elliott.

Since joining Harvest Church of God, this past Mother's Day Mrs. Elliott was honored with an award for being the eldest mother in their congregation. She resides with one of her three nieces, Ms. Helen Chastain Bennett, in Anniston, Alabama.

Today I would like to wish Mrs. Pauline Elliott a very Happy 103rd Birthday.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman WALLY HERGER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Federal Highway Administration, Federal Lands (Public Lands Highways)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Butte County Association of Governments

Address of Requesting Entity: 2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100, Chico, CA 95928

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$2 million for the Forest Highway 171 widening project. This project will upgrade a 9.6 mile section of roadway that crosses federal lands between communities of Inskip and Butte Meadows from a one-lane gravel road to a paved two-lane route. These improvements are necessary to provide an emergency evacuation route for Upper Ridge residents who are surrounded by federal forest lands that have not been properly managed to mitigate the threat of catastrophic wildfire. The need for this project is greater than ever considering the Humboldt Fire and Butte Lightning Complex Fires that swept through the ridge and surrounding areas last summer destroying homes and forcing thousands of people to evacuate the area. The project will also increase the chances for effective efforts to control instances of wildfire by cutting in half the response time for fire backup support services. The total project cost is approximately \$21,000,000. The county is using its State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) dollars (approximately \$2,665,000) for the project. It has received a \$5,000,000 grant from the Federal Highway Administration's Federal Lands Highway Program, \$5,800,000 in SAFETEA-LU, \$980,000 and \$998,450 in the FY08 and FY09 appropriations bills.

VOLUNTEERING IN AMERICA 2009

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, volunteering in America 2009 found that a total of 61.8 million Americans volunteered through an organization in 2008.

For the fourth year in a row, Utah was the top volunteer state with a volunteer rate of 43.5%. With a whopping 62.9% volunteer rate, Provo, Utah again led the nation in volunteering rates from mid-sized cities.

Every day millions of Americans are helping to solve some of our toughest challenges. Instead of turning inward, Americans are responding to tough times by reaching out to help others in need.

Volunteering is a great way to address pressing community needs and the people of