

IN HONOR OF GEORGE SMITH

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate an important member of New Jersey's 3rd District, Mr. George Smith. Mr. Smith, 79, was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics for his work developing technology that is the basis of digital photography.

Mr. Smith worked at Bell Laboratories until his retirement in 1986. He was born in 1930 in White Plains, New York, served in the United States Navy, and briefly studied mathematics before switching to physics. In 1959, he earned his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Mr. Smith currently resides in Waretown in Ocean County, NJ.

George Smith was awarded the 2009 Nobel Prize in physics along with colleague Willard Boyle for their work creating an image semiconducting circuit, or charge coupled device, CCD. Their research laid the foundation for digital images and lightning-fast communication by developing fiber-optic cable and the sensor found at the heart of digital cameras. They share their prize with Hong Kong professor Kuen Kao for his work on fiber optics.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Mr. George Smith for his much deserved Nobel Prize. May his dedication and innovative thinking serve as a model for all those who seek to achieve original solutions within their respective fields.

HONORING THOMAS O'BRIEN UPON
BEING NAMED THE NEW YORK
STATE PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of my constituent, Brentwood High School Principal Thomas O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien has been recognized as the New York State Principal of the Year by the School Administrators Association of New York State. This award is given annually to a school administrator "who has set the pace, character, and quality of education for the children in his or her school."

Mr. O'Brien has served as an educator for 38 years, 14 in his current position—all within the Brentwood School District. He was recognized for his outstanding work at Brentwood High School, where he worked successfully to move the school from the New York State Department of Education's list of "Schools in Need of Improvement" to the list of "Schools in Good Standing."

I congratulate him on this accomplishment and applaud his long record of contributions to education on Long Island.

REGARDING S. 1707, THE ENHANCING PARTNERSHIP WITH PAKISTAN ACT OF 2009

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, the following is an explanation of S. 1707, the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009. The final text of the legislation reflects an agreement reached by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. The purpose of this Explanatory Statement is to facilitate accurate interpretation of the text and to ensure faithful implementation of its provisions in accordance with the intentions of the legislation.

The core intent of the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act is to demonstrate the American people's long-term commitment to the people of Pakistan. The United States values its friendship with the Pakistani people and honors the great sacrifices made by Pakistani security forces in the fight against extremism, and the legislation reflects the goals shared by our two governments.

The legislation does not seek in any way to compromise Pakistan's sovereignty, impinge on Pakistan's national security interests, or micromanage any aspect of Pakistani military or civilian operations. There are no conditions on Pakistan attached to the authorization of \$7.5 billion in non-military aid. The only requirements on this funding are financial accountability measures that Congress is imposing on the U.S. executive branch, to ensure that this assistance supports programs that most benefit the Pakistani people.

SUMMARY OF CONGRESSIONAL INTENT

The Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 (the "Act") establishes a legislative foundation for a strengthened partnership between the United States and Pakistan, based on a shared commitment to improving the living conditions of the people of Pakistan through strengthening democracy and the rule of law, sustainable economic development, and combating terrorism and extremism. It is the intent of Congress to strengthen the long-term people-to-people relationship between the United States and Pakistan by investing directly in the needs of the Pakistani people. This legislation is intended to fortify a lasting partnership with Pakistan based on mutual trust.

The overall level of economic assistance authorized annually by this legislation is tripled over FY 2008 U.S. funding levels, with the bulk of aid intended for projects such as schools, roads, medical clinics, and infrastructure development. The funds directly authorized by this Act—\$1.5 billion in economic and development assistance annually for five years, with a similar amount envisioned for a subsequent five years—place no conditions on the Government of Pakistan. The only requirements are accountability measures placed on the United States executive branch to ensure that the aid directly benefits the Pakistani people.

This Act fully recognizes and respects the independence of Pakistan as a sovereign nation. The purpose of this Act is to forge a closer collaborative relationship between Pakistan and the United States, not to dictate the na-

tional policy or impinge on the sovereignty of Pakistan in any way. Any interpretation of this Act which suggests that the United States does not fully recognize and respect the sovereignty of Pakistan would be directly contrary to Congressional intent.

The certifications in the Act regarding certain limited forms of security assistance are consistent with previous Congressional legislation regarding security assistance to Pakistan and other nations. In all cases, they align with the aims of, and serve to reinforce the publicly-articulated positions of, the democratically-elected Government of Pakistan, and Pakistani military leaders, to combat extremists and militants.

SECTIONS 1-4: STRENGTHENING A RELATIONSHIP
FOUNDED ON MUTUAL RESPECT

Sections 1-4 establish the framework and context for the legislative provisions that follow. The Findings and the Statement of Principles demonstrate an unequivocal appreciation for the friendship of the Pakistani people, and for the sacrifices made by the Pakistani security forces and people in fighting extremism. The Findings in Section 3 include:

Section 3(1): "Congress finds the following: The people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the United States share a long history of friendship and comity, and the interests of both nations are well-served by strengthening and deepening this friendship."

Section 3(4): "Pakistan is a major non-NATO ally of the United States and has been a valuable partner in the battle against al Qaeda and the Taliban, but much more remains to be accomplished by both nations. The struggle against al Qaeda, the Taliban, and affiliated terrorist groups has led to the deaths of several thousand Pakistani civilians and members of the security forces of Pakistan over the past seven years."

The Statement of Principles in Section 4 include:

Section 4(1): "Pakistan is a critical friend and ally to the United States, both in times of strife and in times of peace, and the two countries share many common goals, including combating terrorism and violent radicalism, solidifying democracy and rule of law in Pakistan, and promoting the social and economic development of Pakistan."

Section 4(4): "The United States supports Pakistan's struggle against extremist elements and recognizes the profound sacrifice made by Pakistan in the fight against terrorism, including the loss of more than 1,900 soldiers and police since 2001 in combat with al Qaeda, the Taliban, and other extremist and terrorist groups."

TITLE I: DEMOCRATIC, ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE FOR PAKISTAN

This Title contains the core intention of this legislation: To make a long-term commitment to the people of Pakistan by tripling non-military assistance, free of any conditions on the Pakistani government. The purposes set forth for the \$7.5 billion that is authorized here are all intended to reflect the expressed priorities of the Pakistani people. Specifically, Section 101(a) provides that:

"The President is authorized to provide assistance to Pakistan to support the consolidation of democratic institutions; to support the expansion of rule of law, build the capacity of government institutions, and promote respect for internationally-recognized human rights; to promote economic freedoms and sustainable economic development; to support investment in people, including those displaced in on-going counter-insurgency operations; and to strengthen public diplomacy."