

A section that eliminates the references to divisions and counties in the statutory description of the Judicial District of North Dakota, which enables the court to better distribute the workload between two active district judges and reduce travel for litigants in the northern central area of the district.

A section that authorizes the "statement of reasons" that judges must issue upon sentencing to be filed separately with the court. Current law requires the statement to be bundled with other information in the case file distributed to the Sentencing Commission, where it can be difficult to maintain a seal related to confidential information.

A section that specifies that federal pretrial services officers can provide the same services to juveniles as they do for adult offenders. An example would be drug treatment.

And a section that applies an inflationary index to the threshold amount requiring approval by the chief judge of reimbursements for the cost of hiring expert witnesses and conducting investigations for indigent defendants. The dollar thresholds are statutorily fixed and erode over time. This means chief judges must devote greater time approving what are otherwise not genuine "high-dollar" requests.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3632 is necessary to improve the functioning of the U.S. courts, which will ultimately benefit the American people. This is a non-controversial bill and I urge my colleagues to support it.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information for project requests that I made and which were included within H.R. 2892, "Making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes."

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN

Account: TSA, Aviation Security

Project Amount: \$1,250,000.00

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: National Safe Skies Alliance, 110 McGhee Tyson Boulevard, Suite 201, Alcoa, Tennessee 37701

Description of Request: This funding will be used to create a research and training center that will provide critical improvised explosives recognition training to TSA Transportation Security Officers, law enforcement personnel, fire fighters, emergency services personnel, first responders and others.

IRAN SANCTIONS ENABLING ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, for many years, I have advocated for high-level, diplo-

matic negotiations between the United States and Iran without preconditions. Under the previous administration I was compelled to do so with fervor due to the use of reckless saber rattling that accomplished nothing save for heightened tensions between our two nations.

I opposed this bill because I do not believe that additional economic sanctions at this time support U.S. actions to engage Iran diplomatically. Furthermore, it sends a mixed message: On one hand, the U.S. President wishes to engage in diplomacy. On the other hand, the U.S. Congress is punishing Iran during diplomatic engagement.

During my time in Congress, I have called for the kind of diplomatic dialogue that the U.S. and Iran engaged in for the first time in three decades on October 1st, 2009. These negotiations brought together not just Iran and the U.S. but France, Great Britain, Russia, China and Germany.

The talks proved a successful beginning to reinstating U.S. diplomatic ties with Iran. The two countries now have a foundation from which we can build. This must be nurtured so that mutual understanding and opportunities for collective action can be had on even the most difficult issues such as the Iranian nuclear program, Iraq and the protection of human rights. Additional economic sanctions only serve to threaten further engagement.

I question the wisdom of bringing a sanctions bill before this body when, after 30 years of isolationism and antagonism, the Obama Administration is finally beginning a new path forward with respect to diplomatic engagement to bring Iran into the international community in a way that promotes international security.

In the past, sanctions have had little impact on influencing the behavior and decisions of the Iranian government who have managed to remain insulated from the intended effects of sanctions. Instead it has been the people of Iran who bear the brunt of the impact.

I do not think it is the intention of this body to punish the Iranian people; particularly in light of their bravery following the elections of June 12th. It is clear that the people of Iran desire change and are willing to endure that which is necessary to achieve it through peaceful means. We must support their actions by doing all that we can to ensure their voices are heard rather than passing legislation that is intended to cause further harm to their economy.

Passage of this bill fails to recognize the sensitivity and importance of the dialogue that was begun on October 1st. And it fails to support the bravery of the Iranian people who will be the ones to feel the impact of the legislation. I oppose the legislation.

HONORING RICHARD LONG

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Richard Long, a lifelong champion of the American labor movement, my mentor, counsel and dear friend on the occasion his retirement from the United Auto Workers where he served as National Community Action Program (CAP) Director for the past nine years.

This year, Dick retires from a 46-year-long career which began in 1963 at the former Pontiac Motor Division in Pontiac, Michigan, where he first became a proud member of UAW Local 653. Over the ensuing years as Dick advanced on the shop floor, he also advanced and deepened his involvement in the UAW, which would chart his personal and professional trajectory for the next 40-plus years.

Some years later in 1987, Dick was elected Vice President of his UAW local and the following year he was elected its president. His leadership, commitment and talent was fully recognized in 1998, when then-UAW President Stephen Yokich named Dick his Administrative Assistant and, again, in 2000 when Dick was appointed National CAP Director. I remember well my pride and optimism when I learned that Dick had been appointed National CAP Director. For many years, Dick had mentored and counseled me so ably and devotedly; I was certain that in his new role, he would educate and organize others with as much verve and dedication as I had experienced.

As CAP Director, Dick was well-suited to the role and charge of "developing and advancing policies that improve social and economic conditions and enrich the quality of life for all people." By any account, Dick made a powerful impression on the State and National political landscape. His effectiveness was rooted in his ability to be equally comfortable working on the national stage or alongside grassroots volunteers in a makeshift office space.

Dick's contributions to the community and commitment to civil rights and social justice have been his personal and professional legacy. Whether in his role as a local president, supporting Oakland University with his wife Jackie, National CAP Director, or working on behalf of the many community organizations he champions, Dick has worked to create a better future for America's families and workers. For that legacy and commitment, he is much admired by me and many others.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my salute today to an important and formative figure in my life: Richard Long, a man to whom I am deeply indebted for his friendship and good counsel and a man whose 46 years of untiring work on behalf of America's working families and the ideals of social justice should be heartily commended and passionately emulated by each of us.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PIRAN TALKINGTON OF WOODBRIDGE, VA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize twelve-year-old Piran Talkington of Woodbridge, Va. On June 24, 2007, Piran successfully executed the Heimlich maneuver to save the life of his four-year-old sister Caitlyn. Just 10 years old at the time, Piran showed remarkable composure by calmly employing this life saving technique.

As a Cub Scout in Pack 289 of Woodbridge, Piran learned basic life-saving skills as part of his training to become a Boy Scout. Piran's attentiveness during these lessons proved invaluable when he was able to unblock his