

HONORING HUGHSON POLICE
CHIEF JANET RASMUSSEN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Hughson Police Chief Janet Rasmussen, who rose through the ranks to become the County of Stanislaus and the City of Hughson's First Female Chief nearly 7 years ago, announced her retirement as of July 30, 2011; after serving in law enforcement for 36 years; and

Chief Rasmussen started her law enforcement career as a Volunteer Dispatcher-Clerk in April 1975, School Resource Officer and Matron-Dispatcher-Clerk in May 1976, and Dispatcher-Clerk in June 1977 through January 1982, Explorer Advisor in January 1979 through January 1982; and Reserve Police officer in January 1979 through January 1982; and

Janet Rasmussen continued her career serving in the Tulare County Sheriffs Department, hired by the Corcoran Police Department in 1976, Tulare Police Department in 1977, Tulare Sheriff's Department in 1982; and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in 1991; while attending College of the Sequoias and receiving her Associates of Science in Criminal Justice in 1981, becoming a P.O.S.T Graduate in 2002, and completing her Bachelors of Science program in 2006; and

Janet Rasmussen was selected as the First Woman Narcotics Detective in Tulare County and First Woman Sergeant to serve in patrol, the First Female selected in Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department, the First Woman Instructor for Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department at the Ray Simon Regional Training Center Police Academy for Firearms, Weaponless Defense, Expandable Baton, Oleoresin Capsicum; the First Woman Team Leader for a Hostage Negotiation Team and in 2005 was selected as the First Woman in Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department serving as Chief of Police for the City of Hughson; and

Allowed attendance only by invitation and through an extensive nomination process she was the 2nd Woman in Stanislaus County to attend the FBI National Academy graduating in 2007, whereby only 12,000 women out of 39,000 attended the academy since its inception in 1935; and during the Chief's tenure in Stanislaus County, Criminal and gang activity remained at a level that placed Hughson as one of the safest communities in the Stanislaus County compared to communities in the area; and

Chief Rasmussen was very active in various organizations and extended her service to society by participating and volunteering in various organization such as serving as Governing Board Member—Stanislaus County Association of Law Enforcement Executive; Joint Powers Advisory Board Member for the Stanislaus County Drug Enforcement Agency; Advisory Board Member for the Stanislaus County Domestic Preparedness Task Force and Joint Board Member for the Office of Emergency Services Operational Area County; and a Member of the FBI National Academy Association; receiving AAA Auto Theft Recovery Award; and the Excellence in Law Enforcement and Public Safety Award.

Chief Rasmussen has been an outstanding and highly effective Police Chief whose quiet and steady leadership is an excellent example to us all of how to serve humanity.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to law enforcement and the Hughson Community by Chief of Police Janet Rasmussen and hereby wish her continued success in her retirement.

THE INTERRELIGIOUS TASK
FORCE ON CENTRAL AMERICA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the InterReligious Task Force on Central America on the occasion of its 30th anniversary.

Since its inception, the IRTF has strived to promote peace, justice, human rights, and nonviolence in Central America by raising awareness in Northeast Ohio. It has constantly sought out policies that support anti-militarism, environmental human rights, economic justice, ending the exploitation of labor, and the promotion of fair trade in Central America.

In 1987, the IRTF started the Rapid Response Network for Human Rights, which allowed volunteers to write letters in order to protest urgent human rights abuses. Originally conceived to respond to human rights abuses in Guatemala, this service is currently available for all Central American nations and Columbia.

The IRTF has also worked to expose the negative effects of globalization in Central America. These effects include ecological destruction, privatization of utilities and other public services, a decrease in labor standards, and the disruption of local populations by large multi-national corporations. Through its efforts to promote fair trade, Northeast Ohio is now one of the largest markets for fair trade coffee in the United States.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the InterReligious Task Force on Central America, an organization whose policies work to improve conditions for the oppressed peoples in Central America, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOSPICE
AND PALLIATIVE CARE NURSES
ASSOCIATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a nurse of many years, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Hospice and Palliative Care Nurses Association (HPNA) on the occasion of its 25th anniversary (1986–2011). Representing nearly 10,000 members across the United States, HPNA is now the nation's largest and oldest professional nursing organization dedicated to promoting excellence in hospice and palliative nursing care. Since 1986 HPNA has played an

important role in promoting excellence among palliative nursing professionals through evidence-based educational tools, specialty resources, visionary collaboration, and professional networking. The important role that these nurses play in the lives of individuals and their families is worthy of celebration, and I add my voice to those honoring the organization's 25 years of service.

As my colleagues may know, nurses now comprise the largest group of health professionals with approximately 2.9 million providers offering essential care to patients in a variety of settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, community or public health areas, schools, workplaces and home care. Nurses represent the public interest and not a special interest. The contributions made by the practice and science of nursing are significant, and in collaboration with other healthcare professionals, significantly improves the quality of our nation's health care system. Simply put, nurses are involved in every aspect of health care, including end of life care. The field of hospice and palliative care nursing is instrumental in treating the person and taking into account the medical, social, psychological, and spiritual needs of a patient and their family at the end of life. This key field of nursing emphasizes quality of life at life's end, and for that I am grateful. Hospice is a covered benefit under Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans. I applaud HPNA, for educating families and the public regarding these important considerations and care options.

Again, I commend the work, dedication and commitment of the hospice and palliative care nurses and the HPNA to improve the quality of life for individuals and their families at the end of life. I look forward to continuing to work with my fellow nurses in this important field as well as the critical patient population and families that they serve.

HONORING RACHEL ANSZELOWICZ

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an extraordinary constituent of mine, Rachel Anszelowicz.

Rachel visited my office recently to tell me about how difficult it is to live with type 1 diabetes. She told me about the painful glucose monitors and burdensome insulin pumps that she and other children with juvenile diabetes use to manage their disease. And, she told me about her increased risk as an adult for, among other ailments, kidney failure and heart disease. As a 2011 Children's Congress delegate from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Rachel spoke with a poise and maturity beyond her 13 years.

In her fight with the disease, Rachel is not alone. As many as twenty-six million Americans have diabetes, which ultimately accounts for \$174 billion in health care costs in the United States, and twenty-two percent of hospital inpatient days. If we are to bring down this country's rising health care costs, then new cost effective and high quality treatments for chronic diseases like diabetes will be a critical part of that effort.

Research by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and other clinical experts

has indicated that an artificial pancreas could be a potentially transformative tool to manage type 1 diabetes. By automatically controlling blood glucose levels, it would drastically improve the quality of life for those like Rachel Anszelowicz who struggle daily with the disease.

There is currently no “quick-fix” or lasting solution for type 1 diabetes. There is no cure. So, for Rachel and my other constituents with juvenile diabetes, I will continue to support the research necessary to translate these and other innovations from lab tested to in daily use by patients.

JOBS AND ENERGY PERMITTING
ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2021) to amend the Clean Air Act regarding air pollution from Outer Continental Shelf activity:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2021, the incorrectly named Jobs and Energy Permitting Act of 2011, which, aside from creating no jobs, merely permits major offshore oil companies to skirt reasonable clean-air standards, leading to greater health hazards and a poisoned environment for my constituents in California and others living on America's coastlines.

Under the Clean Air Act of 1990, large, offshore projects that emit more than 250 tons of an air pollutant are subject to pre-construction air pollution permits, just like any on-shore installation, such as a factory. Oil rigs and their support ships are subject to regulations based on the amount of pollution they distribute into the air and the surrounding ocean.

H.R. 2021 declares that pollution regulations shall apply “solely with respect to the impacts in the corresponding onshore area.” This means that the ocean and all the area from the oil rig to the breakers will not be properly taken into account when a company prepares its environmental impact reports. Near-shore areas with extensive human activity such as fishing and boating sites will not matter. Companies will be regulated according to how much they pollute at long distances, allowing them to pump more toxins into the air.

We all know that air pollution contributes to adverse health effects and environmental degradation. Nowhere is this more obvious than in my home state of California where toxic air pollution is consistently linked to cancer and birth defects. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the City of Los Angeles, where my 37th Congressional District is located, has some of the highest levels of cancer-related toxic air pollutants in the country. The Clean Air Act itself was a direct response to the issues of air quality in major American cities such as Los Angeles, and I cannot support a bill that undoes efforts which have improved the quality of life for so many of my constituents.

As a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure representing a major port city, I authored the Diesel Emis-

sions Reduction Act, DERA, of 2010, which was passed in the 111th Congress. DERA provides economic incentives to retrofit commercial diesel engines, making them cleaner and more efficient without threatening trade. Instead of letting offshore drillers pollute more, we should focus on technologies and procedures that lessen their environmental impact.

I believe that, in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon disaster, offshore oil drillers should be held to the highest standards. To this end, I will soon introduce the Securing Health for Ocean Resources and Environment, SHORE, Act, which will ensure that offshore drilling operations prepare comprehensive disaster mitigation and clean-up plans before they ever begin operations.

Under H.R. 2021, the weak regulations the Republicans are attempting to establish would not even be in effect until “the period between when drilling commences at a location and when drilling ends at that location.” Support vessels, which produce the majority of emissions at these sites, would not have to apply any pollution controls or be factored into environmental impact statements. These provisions will effectively prevent the EPA and state authorities from addressing serious sources of pollution from offshore oil and gas sites.

In addition to recklessly cutting critical safeguards to air pollutants, this legislation will remove any authority for EPA's Environmental Appeals Board to review permit decisions for offshore exploration activities. Stakeholders who wish to challenge an EPA permit would have to do so through costly litigation through the DC Circuit Court of Appeals. Furthermore, it cuts down the time allotted for public review and places similar time constraints on state and local hearing boards.

In summary, this destructive bill would remove basic safeguards to toxic pollutants and restrict procedures used to challenge oil companies who drill in sensitive areas. There are similar operations going on just off shore from my district, and I cannot tell my constituents that I sat idly by while Congress allowed more toxic substances to fill our air and threaten our environment. I urge my colleagues to vote for the health of the American people and oppose this legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SLOVENIAN STATEHOOD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 20th anniversary of Slovenian Statehood. I am also pleased to be joined by the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia, Mr. Jure Zmauc, his wife, Mrs. Janja Zmauc, and Dr. Bostjan Zeks, Minister for Slovenes Abroad, to celebrate Slovenian Statehood Day.

The twenty-fifth of June is Slovenian Statehood Day, an annual celebration of Slovenia's independence and the sovereignty it gained in 1991. It is a commemoration of the struggles and triumphs of the people of Slovenia. It also serves as an opportunity for residents of northeast Ohio to celebrate the customs, tradi-

tions and contributions of Slovenian Americans to our community.

This year's celebration of Slovenian Statehood Day begins with a reception at the Slovenian Museum and Archives where a special exhibit depicting the role of Americans of Slovenian heritage that worked to gain independence will be on display. Later in the evening the city of Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and Councilmen Michael Polensek and Joe Cimperman will host an event that will feature musical performances by Raine Austen and the Men's Chorus Mi smo Mi.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the 20th anniversary of Slovenian Statehood. Slovenia has grown in many facets over the years and should be recognized for its prosperity.

IN HONOR OF FATHER MARTIN MORONEY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in recognition of Father Martin Moroney. He has served as a pastor in Northern California and the Sacramento area since he came to this country in 1967. As his friends and family celebrate his retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his dedication and leadership.

Born in County Clare in western Ireland, Father Moroney grew up in a small town on his family's farm. He loved the countryside of Ireland, but later felt very much at home in Northern California and the Sacramento area's cities and open spaces.

Father Moroney spent his 12 twelve years in the United States as an assistant pastor in several parishes, beginning with St. Mel's in Fair Oaks and St. Anthony's in Mt. Shasta. In 1970 he moved to St. Theresa's in South Lake Tahoe, and 6 years later he began to serve at Sacred Heart in Sacramento. In 1978 he transferred to All Hallows on 14th Avenue.

As Father Moroney gained experience in these welcoming parishes, he began to take on larger responsibilities. He became pastor of St. John's in Quincy; there he led his own parish as well as nearby Greenville's mission church. For 12 years, he happily served as spiritual leader for these two Plumas County communities.

In 1993, Father Moroney was asked to move to Rancho Cordova, where he has remained as pastor up until his retirement. The St. John Vianney parish in Rancho Cordova was very welcoming and quickly grew to love and respect him as their pastor. Father Moroney has dedicated his work and service to guide the church's followers for 18 years. During that time he has reached out to the Hispanic community and launched a program of Spanish-language masses. Furthermore, he recently oversaw the addition of monthly Indonesian-language masses to celebrate the Indonesian community in the area.

When Father Moroney first came to St. John Vianney's, the church had a \$200,000 debt. As he retires, Father Moroney is happy to report that the debt has been completely paid off. He is also ecstatic that the church's school fund has grown so much that the interest earned is helping support the school.