

youth are tomorrow's leaders." LTIA has embraced this philosophy and is investing its resources to secure a bright future for America through conservative leadership. I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the Leadership Training Institute of America for their outstanding training of America's youth for the past 15 years.

PLANNED FLOTILLA TO GAZA

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, in May, Representative TOM COLE and I led 34 of our colleagues from the House of Representatives in sending a letter to the Prime Minister of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, urging his government to work to discourage the planned flotilla to Gaza. Earlier this month, the Turkish group IHH, one of the major organizers of the flotilla, announced that it was pulling out. This was a major victory, but other flotilla participants have opted to proceed with this provocative and unnecessary act.

The government of Israel has a right and a responsibility to protect the Israeli people. Recent events, such as the seizing of the *Victoria*, which was carrying more than 50 tons of weapons destined for Hamas militants, clearly demonstrate Israel's legitimate security concerns regarding cargo heading to Gaza.

The flotilla has nothing to do with providing aid to the people of Gaza. There are well-established avenues for getting humanitarian assistance to Gaza, but the flotilla participants' refusal to use those alternatives demonstrates that their true intention is to provoke Israel. I call on them to abandon their confrontational plans and work with Israel in allowing legitimate assistance, but not weapons, to enter Gaza.

JOBS AND ENERGY PERMITTING ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

The House on the 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. LEE. Madam Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2021.

By overriding offshore air pollution rules H.R. 2021 dirties our coasts and oceans, endangers the health of our citizens and constituents, and keeps us trapped in the quagmire of the 20th century energy economy when we should be pressing towards the 21st.

I am distressed that many of my colleagues, while consistently touting an increased role for local and state government, want to completely overrun existing state health and environmental regulations. As the California Air Resources Board expressed in testimony, this bill will "quash local control, impose tremendous new costs on state and local government and taxpayers, and disenfranchise community groups and local stakeholders."

Let us not lose sight of the fact that the Clean Air Act is first and foremost about public

health and protecting our citizens from dangerous pollution that directly threatens their health. Turning again to testimony from the California Air Resources Board, which is supported by the Boards of other states, this bill will severely limit existing protections for public health in coastal states. I would particularly note that, as allowed for in section three, ships involved in drilling activities would not have to use emissions control technology, even though these ships already comprise the vast proportion of pollution from drilling operations.

Section two of this bill demands that the pollution being disgorged by offshore drilling projects be measured at the point of its impact with the shoreline. What some of my distinguished colleagues appear to have forgotten is that we in the coastal states actually engage in activities that extend past the shore.

Let's forget for a moment the enormous implications that this measure has for climate change and environmental degradation. What section two essentially states is that the health and safety of our fishermen, boaters, and the workers engaging in the very projects that are the topic of the present debate are inconsequential. I oppose this bill so strongly because these are the people who deserve and need to be protected.

For these reasons, I offer my complete support to my colleague from California, Representative SPEIER, one of the many Members here today whose constituents will suffer directly under this provision. Her amendment to cut section two from this bill represents at least a small step toward limiting the appalling health and environmental consequences of H.R. 2021, and I support that amendment unconditionally.

My district is home to the Port of Oakland, the fourth busiest container port in the United States. Large container ships like the ones we're talking about here produce enormous amounts of pollution, and when loading and unloading at ports and docks can contribute drastic health consequences for the surrounding communities. These communities, like West Oakland in my district, are often home to poor communities and people of color, groups that remain under-represented in this body. Sacrificing their health and the health of coastal communities all around this country to increase the profits of big polluters like Shell Oil Company is flat-out wrong. I do not and will not support it.

This bill would allow the world's largest oil companies to circumvent pollution standards that have protected our air and health for decades. Rolling back environmental protections hurts my constituents, and it hurts Americans all around the country.

H.R. 2021 is bad for our health, bad for our environment, and bad for our country. I stand firmly with my colleagues in opposing this bill.

A TRIBUTE TO JULIANA OSGOOD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Juliana Osgood for being named a state winner of the Library of Congress's Letters about Literature program.

Letters about Literature is a national reading and writing program that is sponsored by the Library of Congress. The program asks students to write to the past or present author of

a book that affected their life. Nearly 70,000 young readers from across the country submitted letters last year to compete for the state-level awards for 2011.

A panel of judges that can include published authors, editors, publishers, librarians, teachers, and even state officials chose Juliana's letter as a state winner. Juliana wrote a letter to author Patricia MacLachlan to explain how MacLachlan's book, *Edward's Eyes*, affected her life. *Edward's Eyes* is a story of a family's love and loss that chronicles the difficulty of dealing with the painful moments in life. MacLachlan's acclaimed novel spoke to Juliana, and now Juliana's letter to MacLachlan has earned her recognition in her community as well as here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman demonstrates the rewards of harnessing one's talents and sharing them with the world. Juliana's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent her and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for her achievement and will wish her continued success in her future education and career.

RETIREMENT OF REV. CESSAR L. SCOTT, SR. AS EXECUTIVE MINISTER OF THE BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Cessar L. Scott, Sr., Executive Minister of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. Rev. Scott is retiring this year after 33 years of service as Executive Minister, and I would like to take this moment to recognize some of his numerous accomplishments during that time.

A native of Portsmouth, Virginia, Rev. Scott received his undergraduate degree from Virginia Union University in 1966 and his divinity degree from VUU's Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology in 1970. He also earned a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Rev. Scott first became Executive Minister of the General Convention in 1978. Founded in 1899, The Baptist General Convention of Virginia is the mission organization network, representing over 1000 churches in the Commonwealth of Virginia. As the Executive Minister, Rev. Scott coordinates the day-to-day operation of the Convention, supervising its ministries and programs. These ministries offer conferences, workshops and retreats, and provide written resources on issues like Christian Education, Men's and Women's Health, and Youth Development.

Through his work at the Baptist General Convention, Rev. Scott has also supported many other state and national institutions including: the Children's Home of Virginia Baptists, Inc; Virginia One Church, One Child Adoption Program; the Chaplain's Prison Ministry; the United Negro College Fund; National

Baptist Convention USA; the Progressive National Convention; and the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

Rev. Scott serves on many statewide and national boards including the Virginia Union University Board of Trustees, the Council for America's First Freedom, the Corporate Board of the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., and the Executive Committee of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Under the faithful leadership of Rev. Scott, the Virginia Baptist General Convention has continued its legacy as a strong, leading voice in matters of faith in the Commonwealth of Virginia. I would like to congratulate Rev. Cessar L. Scott, Sr. on the event of his retirement, and I commend him for his 33 years of service to the people of Virginia.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOE HOWRY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Joe Howry, who is retiring as Editor and Vice President of the Ventura County Star at month's end.

In my more than 30 years of public life, I have met a lot of journalists. It is fair to say that not all have gained my respect. But there is no journalist for whom I have more respect than Joe Howry.

Joe and I don't agree on everything. In fact, it's probably safe to say that we have many philosophical differences. But of all the journalists I have encountered over the decades, no one is more ethical, more objective or more professional than Joe Howry. He looks you straight in the eye, gives you a straight answer and tells you what he believes whether you like it or not. You know who he is and where he stands.

Joe's objectivity has led to a remarkable fact for an American newspaper. He has been with the Ventura County Star for more than 18 years and has been its Editor for the past seven years. During his tenure as Editor, to the best of my knowledge, at no time has he allowed an opinion to masquerade as news on the front page.

But Joe Howry's most important trait is that when Joe Howry gives you his word, Joe Howry gives you his bond. You walk away knowing it's stronger than the locks on Fort Knox.

Joe leaves The Star at a precarious time for the news media. It greatly concerns me that an important source of news and information is—if not disappearing—then greatly diminishing as Americans turn to Facebook, Twitter and blogs for their news.

I may be old-fashioned, but I like to pick up a newspaper and read it cover to cover, looking at where a story is placed to gauge the significance the editors place on an event. Except for a few stories that are highlighted on newspaper websites, such significance is mostly lost in the online world.

Joe Howry's voice will be greatly missed during this period of change.

My hope is that Joe, his wife, Andrea, and their children, Sarah, Joe Jr. and Lee, will continue to call Ventura County home—when Joe isn't fishing in Idaho, of course.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in thanking Joe Howry for his ethics, objectivity and professionalism and for being an example of what a journalist can and should be. I know they further join me in wishing him a long and healthy retirement surrounded by the love of his family and friends.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "OIL SPILL VICTIMS REDRESS ACT"

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, more than one year after the Deepwater Horizon tragedy that ultimately led to more than 4 million barrels of oil spilling into the Gulf of Mexico, the Congress has yet to enact a single legislative reform to improve the safety of offshore drilling and protect the families of the Gulf region who had their livelihoods destroyed.

Today, I am reintroducing legislation with the gentlelady from Florida, Ms. CASTOR, and the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. CONNOLLY that would help protect those Gulf Coast residents who saw their livelihoods impacted by the BP oil spill.

This legislation, the Oil Spill Victims Redress Act, would simply clarify that those who have suffered economic harm as a result of the spill can seek to pursue claims in state court from all of the companies involved. Some of the companies involved in the spill, including Haliburton and Cameron, have argued in court that the Oil Pollution Act preempts state law and, as a result, that state law claims brought by victims of the spill should be dismissed or removed to federal court. These companies have even argued that they should be exempt from all suits because they are not responsible parties as defined under the OPA.

The Oil Pollution Act already clearly provides for claims to be brought in state court and was not intended to preempt state law. The Act clearly states that "nothing in this Act . . . shall affect, or be construed or interpreted to affect or modify in any way the obligations or liabilities of any person under . . . State law, including common law."

However, in light of the legal arguments being made by the companies involved in this disaster in an attempt to limit their liability, we are introducing this legislation today that would further reaffirm the ability of citizens to seek compensation for the economic impacts of the spill in state court. We must not forget about the people of the Gulf who had their livelihoods devastated by the spill. This legislation will help protect everyone in the Gulf who has suffered economic harm as a result of the Deepwater Horizon disaster.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1(b) of the Rules of the Joint Com-

mittee on Printing, I hereby submit the Rules of the Joint Committee on Printing for the 112th Congress, as adopted by the Joint Committee during its organizational meeting on June 22, 2011.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING, 112TH CONGRESS

RULE 1.—COMMITTEE RULES

(a) The rules of the Senate and House insofar as they are applicable, shall govern the Committee.

(b) The Committee's rules shall be published in the Congressional Record as soon as possible following the Committee's organizational meeting in each odd-numbered year.

(c) Where these rules require a vote of the members of the Committee, polling of members either in writing or by telephone shall not be permitted to substitute for a vote taken at a Committee meeting, unless the ranking minority member assents to waiver of this requirement.

(d) Proposals for amending Committee rules shall be sent to all members at least one week before final action is taken thereon, unless the amendment is made by unanimous consent.

RULE 2.—REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting date of the Committee shall be the second Wednesday of every month when the House and Senate are in session. A regularly scheduled meeting need not be held if there is no business to be considered and after appropriate notification is made to the ranking minority member. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman, as he may deem necessary or at the request of the majority of the members of the Committee.

(b) If the Chairman of the Committee is not present at any meeting of the Committee, the vice-Chairman or ranking member of the majority party on the Committee who is present shall preside at the meeting.

RULE 3.—QUORUM

(a) Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, which is required for the purpose of closing meetings, promulgating Committee orders or changing the rules of the Committee.

(b) Three members shall constitute a quorum for purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

RULE 4.—PROXIES

(a) Written or telegraphic proxies of Committee members will be received and recorded on any vote taken by the Committee, except for the purpose of creating a quorum.

(b) Proxies will be allowed on any such votes for the purpose of recording a member's position on a question only when the absentee Committee member has been informed of the question and has affirmatively requested that he be recorded.

RULE 5.—OPEN AND CLOSED MEETINGS

(a) Each meeting for the transaction of business of the Committee shall be open to the public except when the Committee, in open session and with a quorum present, determines by roll call vote that all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day shall be closed to the public. No such vote shall be required to close a meeting that relates solely to internal budget or personnel matters.

(b) No person other than members of the Committee, and such congressional staff and other representatives as they may authorize, shall be present in any business session that has been closed to the public.

RULE 6.—ALTERNATING CHAIRMANSHIP AND VICE CHAIRMANSHIP BY CONGRESSES

(a) The Chairmanship and vice Chairmanship of the Committee shall alternate between the House and the Senate by Congresses: The senior member of the minority