

Americans. NACS has helped the industry experience remarkable growth, convenience store sales today are more than 1,100 times greater than when NACS was founded. Cumulatively, the U.S. convenience store industry alone serves 160 million customers per day in this country alone.

It is convenience stores that keep America's motors running. Convenience stores sell 80 percent of all the gasoline purchased in the country.

NACS represents both large businesses and small family businesses that grow America's economy. More than half of convenience stores are owned by single-store operators. NACS helps member retailers to grow their businesses, from research and marketing to human resources and management.

NACS also helps to advocate for those issues that are vital to these small business owners. From motor fuels policy, to prevention of tobacco sales to minors, to swipe fee reform, NACS is an industry leader in making sure their voices are heard.

Convenience stores provide a speed of transaction that is unparalleled, and the large number of locations and extended hours of operation have redefined convenience, whether for food, fuel or other essential items. The extended hours and flexibility of convenience stores mean that they play a vital role in the communities they serve and customers are able to quickly pick up what they want, when they need it.

Mr. Speaker, in recognizing the many contributions the National Association of Convenience Stores has made to our nation and to our history, I join my colleagues in celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 20th anniversary of Ukraine's independence from Soviet rule.

Since August 24th, 1991, the people of Ukraine have remained steadfastly focused on securing a stable democracy and a free market economy in Ukraine, and I commend them on their democratic achievements. During the 2004 Orange Revolution, I was proud to stand with hundreds of Ukrainian Americans demonstrating in front of the Embassy in Washington, wearing our orange scarves and demanding that democracy required rejection of a rigged election.

I also rise to express my deep concern over the erosion of democracy under the current Yanukovich Administration, which places the successes of the Orange Revolution in jeopardy. Reports from the April 2011 Freedom House assessment are alarming, particularly the anecdotes of the Administration's use of violence, intimidation, and selective prosecution of opposition leaders and suppression of the media.

We in the United States must continue to stand with those living under oppressive and tyrannical regimes as they struggle for their freedom.

Last week, members of the Congressional Caucus on Ukraine introduced a bipartisan

resolution to commemorate Ukraine's independence and to express strong and continued support to the Ukrainian people in their efforts toward ensuring democratic principles.

TRANSPARENCY IN REGULATORY ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS ON THE NATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2401) to require analyses of the cumulative and incremental impacts of certain rules and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, today's legislation continues the majority's relentless assault on the Clean Air Act and our nation's public health.

Let's be clear: clean air is not—and has never been—the enemy of economic growth. If history has taught us anything, it is that a healthy environment and a healthy economy go hand in hand. Since 1970, the Clean Air Act has reduced air pollutants by 60 percent while the economy has grown by over 200 percent, with economic benefits expected to reach \$2 trillion by 2010—exceeding costs by more than 30 to 1.

Rather than building on this bipartisan record of cost-effective environmental achievement, today's legislation proposes to block two of the most important Clean Air Act rules in decades: the mercury and air toxics rule and the cross-state air pollution rule.

The proposed mercury and air toxics standards would prevent more than 90% of the mercury from coal-fired power plants to be emitted into the air by 2015—and it would reduce fine particle emissions by 29 percent. More than half of the nation's coal-fired power plants already deploy the technology necessary to meet these standards, whose adoption will prevent 17,000 premature deaths and 120,000 cases of asthma a year.

The long overdue cross-state air pollution rule would require 27 upwind states to reduce their sulfur dioxide emissions by 75 percent and their nitrogen oxide emissions by 54 percent. These reductions will prevent an additional 34,000 premature deaths and 400,000 cases of asthma each year and the "good neighbor" principle it represents is especially important to downwind states like my home state of Maryland, which currently must bear the brunt of air pollution that blows in from other states.

The economic and public health benefits from both of these rules far outstrip the cost of the pollution control technology necessary to achieve them—a fact the one-sided "study" in this legislation is deliberately designed to obscure. And the pollution control technology itself will drive investment and job creation for professionals like engineers, electricians, pipefitters and boilermakers whose expertise and labor will be needed to install it. It's a clear win for our economy and a clear win for our public health.

I urge a no vote.

JOE BLAKE TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joe Blake, former Chancellor of the Colorado State University System. Since May of 2009, his leadership and influence as the first sole chancellor of the CSU System has been felt far and wide within the state of Colorado.

Before beginning his time with CSU, Mr. Blake served as the President and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce for nearly a decade. His experience with the Chamber coupled with his strong background in job creation played a pivotal role in his ability to lead CSU through tough financial times.

Under the leadership of Mr. Blake, CSU was able to accomplish many important tasks, including the establishment of a stand-alone chancellor operation, the development of its first strategic plan, and the positioning of CSU Global as a viable and integral part of the system.

CSU also launched the Commitment to Colorado, a scholarship program that ensures qualified students of all income levels have the opportunity to attend an institution of higher education. In a time where jobs are becoming scarce, nothing is more important than ensuring the young workforce has the experience, the resources, and the expertise to obtain a sustainable occupation.

Through his dedication and commitment to Colorado's system of higher learning, Mr. Blake has furthered America's objective of bettering its educational system. Mr. Blake has referred to his time as chancellor as having been "the highlight of [his] career." However, Mr. Blake's time with CSU has not yet reached its end. While he is stepping down as chancellor, he will remain with the University to promote donor and alumni relations.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Joe Blake. His leadership and dedication to CSU has benefited thousands of students and families and I thank him for all he has done for the state of Colorado.

CELEBRATING THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the First United Methodist Church of Carrollton. For 110 years, this church has been a centerpiece for spiritual growth and community outreach for the City of Carrollton.

In 1901, a group of 15 Methodists moved to Carrollton, Texas to start a ministry and formed what is known today as First United Methodist Church of Carrollton. Preaching only once a month, founding pastor Reverend John D. Major visited the congregation as the fifth church on his circuit. The congregation met in the attic of W.H. Stephens' store in downtown Carrollton, where the church developed a strong Sunday school program. By 1902,

membership had expanded to 54 and the church acquired additional property.

In the mid-1950s, the First United Methodist Church of Carrollton needed to relocate. With a generous donation from the Milburn Family Farm, First United Methodist Church secured five acres for future growth. Since 1967, First United Methodist Church has been pastored by Kenneth Carter, Dr. Paul Morell, and Rev. Jerry Simmons, and is currently under the spiritual leadership of Dr. Richard Dunagin. Throughout its history, First United Methodist has continued to place an emphasis on evangelism in the mission field by providing dental and medical care to those in need around the world. In 2001, as the church celebrated its centennial anniversary, land was provided for a new church and school. In 2004, a new worship center opened which was adorned with stained glass windows from the original sanctuary. Since 2004, the church has added a stadium and sports complex, meeting rooms, and a new sanctuary that can accommodate 1,500 people.

Over the past 110 years, First United Methodist Church of Carrollton has also started other successful ministries in the Carrollton community. For example, the Sunshine Preschool expanded into Carrollton Christian academy, which instructs students from preschool through 12th grade.

In celebrating its 110th anniversary, we recognize the positive impact that First United Methodist Church has had on the greater Carrollton area. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the rich history of First United Methodist Church of Carrollton.

MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY PROMOTION ACT OF 2011

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, this week, I re-introduced the Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Promotion Act (H.R. 2994), a bipartisan bill that will improve the research and development program for marine renewable energy. Marine energy is an emerging technology that presents great opportunities. Developing the ability to harness energy from our ocean and tidal currents to power our homes and businesses will create U.S. jobs by building a new manufacturing industry and will improve our energy security. I would like to recognize the leadership of Senator LISA MURKOWSKI who has introduced a Senate companion, which she has successfully moved through the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Further, I appreciate the support of my House colleagues Representatives DON YOUNG and THEODORE DEUTCH in working with me on this bill.

In the Puget Sound area of Washington, research and demonstration on tidal energy are underway, requiring collaboration from the private sector, universities, research institutions and public utilities. However, national leadership is needed to truly realize the benefits of commercial-scale marine hydrokinetic projects in the United States. The U.S. Department of Energy established the Northwest National

Marine Renewable Energy Center, run by the University of Washington and Oregon State University, to develop tidal and wave research projects. They are working with the private sector to demonstrate new technologies. Additionally, the Department of Energy's Marine Sciences Laboratory on the Olympic Peninsula assesses waterpower resource potential to address and remove environmental roadblocks to deployment, testing to accelerate the integration of large-scale waterpower electricity generation into the Northwest power grid, and is essential to establishing a robust basis for industrial investment based on verifiable technology performance, assured cost basis, and environmental performance.

The Marine Renewable Energy Promotion Act will accelerate these efforts by establishing a competitive research, development and demonstration program at the Department of Energy that is specifically devoted to marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy. This office will help to develop new marine renewable energy technologies, increase reliability and durability of facilities, reduce manufacturing and operating costs of the devices, help identify and address environmental impacts of marine renewable energy and make sure that such power can be integrated into the national electricity grid. Additionally, the bill will ensure that the Department of Energy works with research institutions to set up marine and hydrokinetic energy test facilities in the United States, supporting efforts underway nationwide and at the University of Washington, which are critical in our efforts to demonstrate a wide range of technologies, and evaluate the technical viability of each new and emerging type of technology at different scales.

The Electric Power Research Institute has estimated that ocean resources in the United States could generate 252 million megawatt hours of electricity, which given as much support as other types of renewable energy, could be equivalent to 6.5 percent of America's entire electricity generation. With such great potential to spur American innovation and job creation, I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 23, 2011

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, one hundred years ago, a group of women from the First Baptist Church in Nashville, TN, decided to put action to their beliefs. Purchasing land in Brentwood, TN, in 1911, the Tennessee Baptist Orphans' Home moved from borrowed space in a local hotel to a permanent home. This move began a beautiful history of dedication and service to the least and most vulnerable among us.

Approximately 200 children a year are cared for, fed, clothed, and taught about the hope found in the Almighty. As children find themselves in houses of great crisis, thanks to the care and support of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home, they soon find themselves in homes of great love. Need is the only qualification for children to find assistance and by accepting all children regardless of race,

creed, or socio-economic background, the TBCH lives fully the call of those who follow Christ.

I appreciate the great work done by the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home and all those who support its mission. From the couples who give their lives to parent other children to those whose prayers make this calling possible, all who offer their time, talents, and treasures to this great cause are helping to make the future brighter for Tennessee's children. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home and ask my colleagues to join with me in offering great thanks for the work done in protecting Tennessee's children.

TRANSPARENCY IN REGULATORY ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS ON THE NATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2401) to require analyses of the cumulative and incremental impacts of certain rules and actions of the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2401. Instead of legislation that would train Americans to get back to full employment, the majority is bringing to the floor a bill that harms the health of our nation.

This bill would endanger the health of millions of our nation's children, seniors, and sick by blocking rules to reduce cross-state air pollution and to reduce the emissions of mercury, lead, dioxin, and other toxic chemicals from power plants. H.R. 2401 would also delay future safeguards by requiring studies that only measure pollution cleanup costs while disregarding health and other benefits.

Along with many of my colleagues, I recently sent letters to the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, in support of the Power Plant Air Toxics Rule and the Cross-State Air Pollution Control Rule because of the positive impact these rules will have on the public health of our nation. Toxic air pollution from power plants remains a major unregulated source of mercury and lead in the air. Already, more than half of all coal-fired power plants use widely available pollution control technologies to meet these important standards. Once the rule is final, the remaining 44 percent will take similar steps to decrease dangerous pollutants, saving thousands of lives and avoiding tens of thousands of illnesses. It is clear that the benefits of the mercury and air toxics standards will far outweigh its costs—it is estimated that the pollution reductions required by the rule will yield health benefits of \$59 billion to \$140 billion per year (from lower health care costs and higher worker productivity), which is 5 to 13 times its costs.

Further, by delaying the Cross-State Air Pollution Control Rule this bill would allow highly polluting facilities located upwind to continue to pollute major metropolitan areas with impunity. Such sources of pollution have made it