

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Sabine Neches Navigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 778, Nederland, TX 77627

Description of Request: I, and President Obama, have jointly secured \$13,399,000 in funding to help maintain the Sabine-Neches Waterway at its current authorized dimensions of a 40-foot channel depth for inland channels to Port Arthur and Beaumont and a 500-foot width in the Port Arthur Canal and a 400-foot width in the Neches River Channel to Beaumont.

Requesting Member: Congressman TED POE

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Corps of Engineers, Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Chambers Liberty Counties Navigation District

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 857, Liberty, TX 77575

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,996,000 in funding to help maintain the Trinity River Project which is a 47 mile shallow draft waterway beginning at the Anahuac Channel to the Port of Liberty. The Navigation District needs shallow draft barge access to support the current industrial residents at the Port of Liberty and to attract new business.

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY HOBART ELKS LODGE 1152

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration and enthusiasm that I call attention to Hobart Elks Lodge 1152 in recognition of their 100th anniversary. Having served their Northwest Indiana surroundings with their charitable efforts, Lodge 1152 is to be commended. The always-prospering establishment

will be commemorating this magnificent milestone on July 25, 2009. Not only will this small community be celebrating the longstanding history of their lodge, but they will be celebrating the spirit of Elksdom everywhere.

Since its humble beginning in 1909, the Elks of Gary have been an ambitious bunch and have grown considerably since the time of their first establishment. Beginning with the meeting of thirty-four pioneers, the Gary Lodge 1152 was founded under its first Exalted Ruler, William P. Gleason. After hosting their gatherings in the Feuer building for more than a year, the Gary Elks felt it was time to expand and began construction of a building at 610 Washington Street, which would become home to the Lodge's meetings for the next seventeen years.

They remained there until 1928 when a new three story lodge was built at 8th Avenue and Broadway, which was necessary to comfortably accommodate their increasing civic activities. Among the perks of this new location was the WJKS radio station that very quickly became a tenant of the new establishment, based on an agreement that the broadcasting company would air an eleven o'clock toast nationally and nightly. Elks from as far as Alaska would begin gathering around local turrets to pay respect to their Absent Brothers, thankful to the Gary Lodge for its commitment to sustaining the National Elk community. Due to woes of the Great Depression, the Elks of Gary sold their building and relocated to 633 Washington Street until 1942, when they again moved to a more convenient location at 5th and Jefferson. Assisted by some of the Elks' skilled craftsmen and volunteers, the new building was refurbished to reflect the glory of the Gary Elks.

After 60 years in Gary, members of Lodge 1152 were relocated to the City of Hobart. It was there that they claimed their sanctuary on 61st Avenue. After about a year of construction, the first initiation was held on December 4, 1970. As an improved Hobart Lodge 1152, the Elks flourished so dramatically that they grew too large for the walls of their current structure, and henceforth built their latest addition, the Jubilee Room.

As the Elks of Hobart grew in number, so did their charitable contributions to the city. Such support was allocated to Boy Scout troops, Soccer Shoot and Hoop Shoot programs, and scholarship-worthy students throughout the region. This philanthropy was also expressed through contributions to organizations such as the Elks National Foundation, Cancer Fund, and Parade of Nickels. Additionally, the Hobart Elks have been actively involved with the veterans of Northwest Indiana, namely through their annual Flag Day Celebration.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating the Hobart Elks Lodge 1152 on its centennial celebration. Through the years, the establishment's members have graced us with their patriotism and benevolence, and I am truly honored to represent them in Washington, D.C.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL RYAN C. MCGHEE, U.S. ARMY, OF FREDERICKSBURG, VA

### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Corporal Ryan C. McGhee of Fredericksburg, Virginia for his service and selfless sacrifice to his country.

Ryan McGhee's interest in the military dated back to his days playing soldier as a child. By the time he was ready to graduate from high school, football had become his passion. Pat Tillman, a famous football player turned soldier was among those that Ryan held in high regard. Like Pat Tillman, Ryan was killed in service to his country, like Pat Tillman, Ryan was a fine football player with a bright future. The parallels between these two men are unmistakable. Two athletes, two patriots, two men who chose to forego a life of relative comfort for a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. Nothing captures the spirit of our nation's warriors better than the illustration of selfless service provided by Ryan C. McGhee.

Ryan was born in Pittsburg and lived in Springfield, Vermont before moving to Fredericksburg, Virginia just prior to his sophomore year of high school. He and his brother Zachary grew up as active youths, enjoying snowboarding, skateboarding, and trick bike riding. Ryan and Zachary loved playing soldier. These two brothers progressed from playing soldier as boys to wearing the uniform as men.

An exceptional athlete, Ryan was the captain of the football team at Massaponax High School in Fredericksburg. This captain of the football team met his future fiancé not long after arriving in Virginia. Ashleigh Mitchell and Ryan McGhee were engaged to be married in the spring of 2010. The picture perfect love story of the captain of the football team and the cheerleader had jumped from the pages of the story book into reality.

Ryan's dedication to the service of his nation had called him to service in the United States Army. His competitive nature led him to the 3rd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment at Ft. Benning, Georgia where he served as a rifleman and grenadier before serving as a weapons squad team leader with Company D. Prior to his deployment to Iraq, he had already distinguished himself as a seasoned combat veteran, serving three tours in Afghanistan.

Ryan C. McGhee was called home on May 13, 2009 after being wounded when his unit came in contact with enemy forces while conducting combat operations in Central Iraq. He brightened the lives of his Fiance: Ashleigh Mitchell of Fredericksburg, Virginia; Father: Steven M. McGhee, and stepmother Kristie J. McGhee of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; Mother: Sherrie Battle-McGhee, of Knoxville, Tennessee; Brothers: Sgt. Zachary McGhee,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Noah, and Gabriel; Sisters: Jasmine and Elsie McGhee; Paternal Grandparents: Mike and Roberta McGhee of Newport News, Virginia; Maternal Grandparents: Dr. and Mrs. William C. Battle of Knoxville, Tennessee; and countless others.

Ryan was truly an exceptional man, athlete, and soldier. His short but impactful life will forever highlight the virtue of those service men and women with whom Ryan now shares a common bond. He leaves behind a family proud of all that he had accomplished throughout his life and service in the military. His valor and service cost him his life, but his sacrifice will live on forever among the many dedicated heroes this nation has sent abroad to defend freedom. We can only thank his loved ones for sharing the company of this remarkable young man.

My condolences and prayers go out to Ryan's family, and I offer them my deepest sympathies and most heartfelt thanks for the service, sacrifice, and example of their soldier, Corporal Ryan C. McGhee. He was respected and admired by those around him, and continually performed above and beyond all expectations while serving his country. Because of his efforts, the liberty of this country is made more secure.

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Chair, after careful consideration of H.R. 3170, it is with great regret that I announce my opposition to this bill as a result of its careless disregard for human life.

Historically, there has been a restriction on government-funded abortion in Washington, DC. Language known as the Dornan Amendment, which prohibited both federally and locally appropriated funds from being used to pay for abortions, has always been adopted in prior-year versions of H.R. 3170. However, in a break from this longstanding tradition, the majority chose instead to include language that does not prohibit local taxpayer funding for abortion services. In effect, Congress is breaking with history and allowing taxpayer funded abortions where they were previously prohibited.

I was extremely disappointed that H.R. 3170 included this language, especially since it also contains provisions that I strongly support. For example, I applaud bipartisan efforts to include language protecting the state franchise rights of GM and Chrysler auto dealers. Over 3,000 of these small business owners will ultimately be left behind as a result of the restructuring plans supported by the Obama Administration and recently approved in hasty federal bankruptcy court proceedings. Given that the rights of these auto dealers were not fairly rep-

resented in GM and Chrysler's bankruptcy proceedings, I support providing some kind of legislative remedy to these stakeholders.

Unfortunately, the Majority blocked consideration of an amendment that would have eliminated the language allowing taxpayer funding of abortion services in H.R. 3170 and allowing Members to vote for the bill on its merits. This cynical political move forced those of us opposed to taxpayer-funded abortions to vote against this bill, also implying opposition to helping our auto dealers. Let me be clear that my vote against this bill in no way implies my opposition to protecting the rights of the auto dealers left behind in GM and Chrysler's bankruptcy proceedings.

In short, I really hoped to take this opportunity to support our nation's auto dealers. Because H.R. 3170 effectively legalized taxpayer-funded abortion services, I could not support it.

#### HONORING THE ROLE OF AMERICAN WORKERS IN PUTTING MAN ON THE MOON

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the key role American workers played in putting man on the moon and to honor their respective contributions to mankind.

On September 12, 1962 President John F. Kennedy challenged America to "go to the moon in this decade . . . not because it is easy but because it is hard." Long Islanders heard this call, rolled up their sleeves and made that dream a reality. I am proud of the Long Islanders who produced the Grumman-built Lunar Module nicknamed "the Eagle" which achieved its rightful fame when astronaut Neil Armstrong announced to the world that, "the Eagle has landed."

America landed on the moon on July 20, 1969 and the men and women of Long Island got us there.

July 2009 is the 40th anniversary of mankind landing on the moon, an eternal tribute to America's engineering genius that sits some 235,000 miles away on the lunar surface. The Grumman-built Lunar Module is a permanent symbol of the collective efforts of the hard-working American men and women who met President Kennedy's call to achieve the impossible.

During the height of the Cold War, a significant portion of the Nation's scientific and technological genius was turned not to weapons but to space exploration.

Forty years later, we honor the ingenuity and tenacity of all Americans that answered President Kennedy's call to reach to the heavens and thank them for their historic contributions to mankind.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN G. FULLER

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great Alaskan, Mr. John (Jack) G. Fuller, an outstanding soldier, legislator and Alaskan. Mr. Fuller served our country in the Marine Corps, the Michigan National Guard, the Alaskan National Guard and as a Representative to the Alaskan Legislature. His abilities and dedication have been recognized by all who have served with him, and earned him the opinion of others as irreplaceable.

Jack Fuller began his military career with the 21st Regiment of the Third Marine Division in the Pacific Theatre of World War II, in Guam and at Iwo Jima. It was at Iwo Jima that he was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity. Whilst serving as a Sergeant on February 23, 1945, Mr. Fuller took command of his unit when all its officers were dead or wounded and enabled his platoon to continue the attack. Following this he was promoted to Second Lieutenant.

Following World War II, Mr. Fuller returned to Michigan and joined the Michigan National Guard. During this period he excelled and successfully graduated from the Armor Officer Basic and Advanced courses and the Command and General Staff College. He was eventually granted a permanent commission.

In 1964, Jack Fuller moved to Alaska, with the intention of teaching at the Bureau of Indian Affairs schools on St. Lawrence Island. He also enlisted in the First Scout Battalion, an Eskimo division of the Alaskan National Guard, based in Nome. Jack worked his way up, reaching the rank of Battalion Commander. While under his command, the unit was evaluated as excellent during JACK FROST 1977. Mr. Fuller was further awarded the Legion of Merit, the third highest award of the Army for the outstanding skill, initiative and professionalism he displayed as a Commander. He was the first officer of the Alaskan National Guard to achieve this honor and his dedication to the battalion earned him the admiration of those he served with.

Upon retirement from the Alaskan National Guard in 1978, Mr. Fuller turned to a new challenge and was elected to the Alaskan Legislature as a Representative for District 22, where he served for eight years. In 1986, Mr. Fuller was one of the first to be recruited for the Alaska Defense Force upon its creation, where he used his many skills to aid the State in times of emergency. He also contributed to the State through his work as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Norton. Sound Health Corporation. In recent times Mr. Fuller has also served as President of the Wasilla Senior Center. Regardless of the task at hand, Jack Fuller has committed himself fully to serving others.

On behalf of The United States of America, I extend my thanks and appreciation to Jack Fuller, for his dedication and service to the Great State of Alaska and the entire country. His achievements in both military and civilian life are remarkable and deserve our recognition here, today.

COMMUNIST CHINA MUST END THE  
RUTHLESS PERSECUTION OF  
FALUN GONG

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, through their annual rally this week, Falun Gong practitioners and sympathizers have focused international attention on the horrible suffering of so many Falun Gong practitioners in Communist China. At that rally, I stood in warm, heartfelt solidarity with them and I will continue to do so until the Chinese people are free. On the occasion of this rally denouncing 10 years of persecution against the Falun Gong, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the names of several students, professors and lawyers who have suffered for their opposition to Communist China's brutal tyranny.

Currently, twelve professors and students from the prestigious Tsinghua University are known to be detained in Communist China under deplorable conditions due to their Falun Gong beliefs:

1. Mr. Bai Rongchun
2. Ms. Zhu Tong
3. Ms. Cong Dayang
4. Ms. Liu Zhimei
5. Ms. Yao Yue
6. Mr. Meng Jun
7. Mr. Wang Xin
8. Mr. Wang Weiyu
9. Mr. Yu Chao
10. Mr. Zang Lianjun
11. Mr. Yuping
12. Mr. Bao Weizhong

I would also like to commend and thank the handful of brave human rights lawyers who have accepted the challenge of representing Falun Gong adherents, as well as other oppressed citizens, and who themselves have been subjected to harassment, disbarment, detention and even torture as a result. Madam Speaker, these attorneys have taken an enormous risk for their fellow countrymen and I commend and admire their honorable efforts:

1. Zhang Kai
2. Li Chunfu
3. Wei Liangyue
4. Tang Jitian
5. Lan Zhixue
6. Jiang Tianyong
7. Li Heping
8. Li Xiongbing
9. Li Fangping
10. Pu Zhiqiang
11. Zhang Kai
12. Jiang Tianyong
13. Li Heping
14. Li Xiongbing
15. Li Chunfu
16. Wang Yajun of Globe-Law in Beijing
17. Cheng Hai
18. Tang Jitian
19. Yang Huiwen of Anhui Law Firm in Beijing
20. Xie Yanyi
21. Li Dunyong of Gongxin Law Firm in Beijing
22. Wen Haibo
23. Liu Wei of Shunhe Law Firm in Beijing
24. Zhang Lihui of Beijing G&G (Giant and Goal) Law Firm in Beijing

25. Li Jinglin of Jiurui Law Firm in Beijing
  26. Wei Liangyue of Jiaodian Law Firm in Heilongjiang
  27. Yang Zaixin of Baijuming Law Firm in Guangxi
  28. Sun Wenbing of Xinhe Law Firm
- Most recently, sometime between July 2 and July 8, these three brave lawyers were arrested for their efforts to defend Falun Gong practitioners:

29. Ruping Liu
30. Wang
31. Wang Ping Yonghang

Madam Speaker, the ruthless, despicable persecution against Falun Gong practitioners and other oppressed minorities must end and these brave prisoners of conscience must be released immediately.

**EARMARK DECLARATION**

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 17, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on project funding, I am submitting the following information regarding project funding I requested as part of Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill—H.R. 3183:

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3183—Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill  
Account: Department of Energy—EERE  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Eastern Illinois University  
Address of Requesting Entity: 600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, Illinois 61920  
Description of Request: \$1,000,000 for Eastern Illinois University to replace the campus central thermal plant with a biomass-fired combined heat and power center. Of this amount \$1,000,000 will purchase equipment for the new plant.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3183—Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill  
Account: Department of Energy—EERE  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Heartland Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 1500 West Raab Road, Normal, Illinois 61761  
Description of Request: \$250,000 for the Illinois Community College Sustainability Network which will strengthen Illinois community colleges' capacity to promote and provide energy education and sustainable practices across Illinois. Of this amount, \$173,040 is for energy efficiency and green job training personnel; \$77,040 is for supplies and material support.

Requesting Member: TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3183—Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill  
Account: Department of Energy—EERE  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Richland Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: One College Park, Decatur, Illinois 62521  
Description of Request: \$500,000 for Richland Community College to expand on the existing biofuels degree program in an effort to provide a more comprehensive bioenergy program to include biodiesel, bioethanol, and

other bioenergies in coordination with renewable energy programs. Of this amount \$500,000 is for equipment.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Chair, as with many bills debated in Congress, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2010 (H.R. 3170) contained some good and some bad provisions. This spending bill funds many important functions of the federal government, including the Department of the Treasury (one of the first four original Cabinet agencies created by the new U.S. government in 1789) and various smaller agencies that are involved in the financial services industry such as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the Small Business Administration (SBA). In addition, H.R. 3170 funds the Executive Office of the President, the Judiciary (the Third Branch of federal government), and the District of Columbia.

As an original co-sponsor of the Automobile Dealer Economic Rights Restoration Act of 2009 (H.R. 2743), I was extremely pleased that House Committee Appropriations Committee Chairman, DAVID OBEY, and the House Democratic leadership agreed, in a bipartisan fashion, to adopt and protect an amendment offered by my good friend and colleague, Representative STEVE LATOURETTE of Ohio. The LaTourette amendment essentially inserted the language contained in H.R. 2743 into H.R. 3170. The LaTourette amendment would restore the status quo ante for automobile dealerships that were callously terminated by General Motors and Chrysler during their bankruptcy proceedings in blatant disregard to the dealership's contractual rights, state franchise laws, and just plain human decency. Normally, the Rules of the House prohibit the inclusion of language that changes statutory law on spending bills. But because the situation faces automobile dealers is such an exigent circumstance, I agreed with the House leadership that the LaTourette provision should be an exception to the regular rules governing the debate on appropriations bills. I strongly support the retention of the LaTourette amendment throughout the rest of the legislative process.

However, when confronted with many other provisions in H.R. 3170, I could not vote in support of the overall bill. Unfortunately, the House Democratic leadership prevented the consideration of other amendments that could have corrected the major flaws in other parts of this legislation. H.R. 3170 continues the pattern in almost every other appropriations bill in spending well over the rate of inflation.

The rest of the nation is expected to reign in their pocketbooks during times of economic uncertainty; yet the federal government keeps on spending. Specifically, H.R. 3170 proposes to spend \$1.5 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 or 6.4 percent over the FY 2009 funding level.

One of those new spending priorities in H.R. 3170 is to restore a federal loan subsidy in the SBA's 7(a) guaranteed business lending program, costing \$80 million a year. When I was Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, I was proud of my work to finally restore stability and predictability to the 7(a) program by removing it from the uncertainties of the annual appropriations process. In the past, the 7(a) program temporarily closed and then re-opened with severe restrictions on several occasions because Congress did not pass the annual spending bill covering the SBA account by the start of the new fiscal year (October 1st). The funding from the previous fiscal year simply ran out. After the annual federal subsidy was removed in 2004, more small businesses were helped by the 7(a) program, growing from a \$9.5 billion loan program serving 72,000 small businesses a year in 2004 to a \$13.5 billion program serving nearly 93,000 small businesses a year by the time I left the chairmanship in 2007. This was accomplished by a slight adjustment in the fees charged to the users of the 7(a) program. This fee adjustment resulted in an average additional \$10 a month increase in the loan repayment. In addition, the SBA received \$375 million in the so-called "economic stimulus" package last February for a federal small business loan subsidy in order to lower fees and increase the government guarantee rate. These funds have yet to be fully expended and are expected to last well into FY 2010. There was no need to pile another \$80 million on top of the money the SBA already has received for this purpose.

In addition, H.R. 3170 reverses a decade-old policy that restricts all public funds to pay for abortions in the District of Columbia. I am amazed that in spite all the rhetoric to encourage people who are pro-choice and pro-life to work together in a spirit of cooperation to lower the number of abortions in this nation, the Democratic-controlled House reinstates a public subsidy that will only encourage more abortions to be performed in the nation's capital. H.R. 3170 also removes ban on legalizing medical marijuana in the District of Columbia. It also gradually eliminates the D.C. school voucher experiment by prohibiting new enrollees from participating in a school choice option in one of the worst public school systems in the nation.

Thus, I regretfully decided to vote against H.R. 3170, notwithstanding my strong support for the LaTourette provision to restore the rights of terminated automobile dealers, because of the overspending in the bill and the new publicly-financed incentive to encourage more abortions in the nation's capital.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information re-

garding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638 Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, And Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009 (109th Congress)

Requesting Member: SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

Bill Number: H.R. 2638—Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, And Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009

Account: Defense O&M Army

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: HMS Technologies

Address of Requesting Entity: 206 West Burke St., Martinsburg, WV 25401

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$1,200,000: The National Veterans Technology Consortium (NVTC) is comprised of Veterans and business leaders who have joined to create careers in information technology (IT) for Service Disabled and other Veterans. NVTC has teamed with the Army Publishing Directorate (APD) to develop a proof-of-concept program to digitize, tag, and database Army records and operational material in order to meet Army regulatory requirements and achieve APD's mission.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBERT E. LATTA

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Section 205

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Village of Ottawa

Address of Requesting Entity: 136 North Oak Street, Ottawa, OH 45875

Description of Request: \$217,000 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for funding regarding the Village of Ottawa Flood Control and Mitigation Reconnaissance and Feasibility Studies. Funding would be used to complete the Section 205 Feasibility Study of flood risk management plans for the Blanchard River at Ottawa, Ohio. The funding would fulfill the Federal share needed to complete the Feasibility Study. In addition, the funds would be used to begin the design and implementation following the Section 205 Feasibility Study of flood risk management plans for the Blanchard River at Village of Ottawa, Ohio. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBERT E. LATTA

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Section 205

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Village of Findlay

Address of Requesting Entity: 518 Dorney Plaza, Room 310, Findlay, OH 45840

Description of Request: \$248,000 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for funding regarding the Village of Findlay Flood Control and Mitigation Reconnaissance and Feasibility Studies. Funding would be used to complete the Section 205 Feasibility Study of flood risk management plans for the Blanchard River at Findlay, Ohio. The funding would fulfill the Federal share needed to complete the Feasibility Study. In addition, the funds would be used to begin the design and implementation following the Section 205 Feasibility Study of flood risk management plans for the Blanchard River at Findlay, Ohio. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBERT E. LATTA

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Construction; Ohio Environmental Infrastructure OH

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Village of Polk, Ashland County, Ohio

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 East Congress Street, P.O. Box 206, Polk, OH 44866

Description of Request: \$400,000 for the design, construction, and operation of a centralized collection and treatment system. The Village is under Ohio EPA Findings and Orders to address a large number of failing household septic systems in the Village. The collection will consist of a combination gravity/pressure sewer system, potentially two (2) lift stations, 50,000 gallons per day (gpd) average daily design flow (ADF) package extended aeration wastewater treatment plant suitable for direct discharge to Katotawa Creek. The existing on-lot systems will be demolished when the replacement system is available. The Village has 357 residents, with 129 homes and businesses. A recent income survey conducted by the Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program confirmed that the Village's Median Household Income has dropped significantly since the last census, and is now only \$35,000. An earlier survey conducted in 2007 also showed that the Village qualifies for CDBG funding with a Low-to-Moderate-Income (LMI) percentage over 60%. USDA Rural Development has advised the Village it needs to obtain additional grants in order to be funded by their program. Design engineering is underway. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBERT E. LATTA

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Construction; Ohio Environmental Infrastructure OH

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Village of Risingsun, Northwestern Water and Sewer District, Wood County, Ohio

Address of Requesting Entity: 12560 Middleton Pike, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Description of Request: \$400,000 for extension of a public water main to provide fire protection and drinking water to the residents of Risingsun, Ohio. The Village of Risingsun &

US 23 corridor, including Lakota School, relies on private wells for water supply. Recent testing of groundwater indicates petroleum hydrocarbon contamination in several area wells. This project will greatly impact the environment by improving drinking water and fire protection in the Village and surrounding area. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ROBERT E. LATTA

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: U.S. Department of Energy; Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Bowling Green State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 106 University Hall, Bowling Green, OH 43403

Description of Request: \$1,000,000 for the Coastal Ohio Wind Project: Removing Barriers to Great Lakes Offshore Wind Energy Development. Funding would be used to support a workforce for Bowling Green State University to undertake the design parameter data gathering while the University of Toledo undertakes development of the advanced concept offshore Wind Turbine Generators (WTG). The long term goal is to reduce the cost of installation, operation and maintenance of WTG's on Lake Erie, in order to jumpstart offshore development of the Great Lakes and to support the transition from rust-belt to green-belt manufacturing. The project will build on a proven two bladed, teetered hub WTG design. This phase of the project will design a foundation and tower structure capable of surviving the severe wind, wave and ice loading conditions on Lake Erie. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

#### TRIBUTE TO SAI YANG

#### HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Sai Yang, a passionate and determined woman, a wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Sai was the matriarch of the Chang family and influential in the lives of not only her own children and grandchildren, but that of her entire community. Sai was also the mother-in-law of my good friend, Senator Mee Moua of St. Paul.

Sai was born in 1934 to Cha Doua Yang and Ying Kue in the remote jungle village of Nhu Ka in Laos.

After the United States left Laos in May of 1975, Sai and her family sought refuge in the jungles and remote villages of Laos for several years before finally arriving on freedom's shore in Thailand in 1979.

After six months in a Thai refugee camp, Sai's family was granted political asylum to the United States and arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii on February 1, 1980. A year later, her family moved to Minnesota.

In her new life in the U.S., Sai learned how to read and write in her native Hmong language and in conversational English. In 1997, she became a U.S. Citizen. She subsequently voted in five presidential elections and helped

to elect her daughter-in-law Mee Moua to the Minnesota State Senate; the highest among elected officials in the United States.

In 1995, Sai was chosen as part of the delegation of Hmong American women who attended the United Nation's Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.

Sai Yang passed away on July 7, 2009 in St. Paul and is survived by five sons, three daughters, 39 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren, a brother, a sister, and the extended Chang and Yang families in Minnesota, across the U.S. and other countries.

Sai Yang enriched many lives and she will be missed dearly by all who knew her.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL MARK E. STRATTON, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, OF STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Mark E. Stratton, United States Air Force, of Stafford, Virginia, for his service and supreme sacrifice for our nation.

Lieutenant Colonel Stratton graduated from Foley High School in Foley, Alabama, and then went on to attend Texas A&M University. There, he served as a member of the Corps of Cadets and graduated with a degree in Political Science. Following graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

Throughout his remarkable career, Lieutenant Colonel Stratton served with honor and distinction as a communications officer, pilot, senior navigator, and staff officer. Some of Lieutenant Colonel Stratton's duty assignments include executive assistant to the 55th Wing commander in Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, student at the Joint Advanced Warfighting School, Taiwan desk officer on the Joint Staff, and executive assistant to the deputy director for Asia. In addition to his professional military career, Lieutenant Colonel Stratton was an active member of Stafford Baptist Church in Stafford Virginia, where he served as a beloved Sunday school teacher.

Tragically, on May 26, 2009, Lieutenant Colonel Stratton made the ultimate sacrifice for this great nation while serving as the Commanding Officer of the Panjshir Provincial Reconstruction Team in Afghanistan. Just as many of America's heroes have taken up arms when the nation needed them, Lieutenant Colonel Stratton dedicated himself to the cause of our values, freedoms, and way of life. His valor and determination cost him his life, but his sacrifice will endure forever among the many dedicated heroes the United States has sent abroad to preserve liberty and freedom.

Lieutenant Colonel Stratton is remembered by his friends and family as a man of unquestionable character and loyalty. He was excited about the initiative he was leading in Afghanistan. In an e-mail to a friend he described the work of building roads, schools, canals and clinics as the best job of his Air Force career. It is easy to see why his friends describe him as someone who loved God, his family, his

friends, and his country fervently. This is the caliber of a man that truly leads our nation's men and women in uniform with passion and purpose.

Lieutenant Colonel Stratton is survived by his wife, Jennifer Stratton and his children, Delaney, Jake and A.J. My condolences and prayers go out to Mark's family, and I offer them my deepest sympathies and most heartfelt thanks for the service, sacrifice, and example of their hero, Lieutenant Colonel Mark Stratton.

#### LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 40TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the city of Lakewood, Colorado on their fortieth birthday.

For forty years, the city of Lakewood has celebrated its birthday in an arts and music celebration appropriately named Lakewood on Parade. Families from all parts of the city and surrounding areas come together with their friends and neighbors to enjoy this celebration. I, myself, along with my family, have attended Lakewood on Parade for many years. I am honored to recognize the Lakewood on Parade birthday celebration for helping Lakewood bring families together to enjoy this beautiful city.

Lakewood is the fourth largest city in Colorado and is located just west of Denver, in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. It is home to many historical sites of the old West making it a city rich in history. Families, friends, and neighbors truly live in a special place in Colorado and it is reflected in the Lakewood on Parade birthday celebration.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the city of Lakewood for achieving their fortieth birthday.

#### RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE PETE GEREN

#### HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of our former colleague Pete Geren as he steps down as Secretary of the Army.

Secretary Geren, a quiet and thoughtful leader, fulfilled the duties of his office with superb competence and compassion. Of his many achievements, his initiative to combat military sexual trauma deserves particular recognition. Secretary Geren called the epidemic of rape and sexual assault within the ranks of the Army "fratricide." He viewed its elimination as of equal consequence to the challenge of racially integrating the armed forces.

Last year, Secretary Geren launched the I. A.M. Strong campaign, a five-year program designed to eradicate rape and sexual assault in the Army. Secretary Geren was unwavering in his efforts to tackle this important issue. As he explained, "we're the United States Army and we live our values."

Prior to joining the Defense Department, Secretary Geren represented Texas' 12th District for four terms. During that time, we worked together on the Armed Services committee, where he served with distinction. He also served on the Science & Technology and the Public Works & Transportation Committees.

Secretary Geren's strength of character and visionary leadership has resulted in a better Army and a safer nation. I thank him for his extraordinary service to country, and look forward to applauding whatever new and exciting chapter he now begins.

#### HONORING GERALD GAW

#### HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable leader in the Clinton Community, Gerald Gaw.

Gerald Gaw, Superintendent of Clinton Public Schools, will be retiring this week after 32 years of service to the children of the Clinton Public School District. Gerald dedicated his career to serving his community, beginning as a middle school math teacher at the age of 27. Throughout the past thirty years, Gerald nurtured students as both a middle and high school teacher before serving as principal of first the Clinton middle school and then Clinton High School. In 2004, Gerald was recognized for his outstanding work when he was selected for the position of Superintendent of Schools, where he has helped the school district thrive.

Gerald was born and raised in the small Clinton community. Throughout his many years in the school district, he would often find himself teaching children whose parents had been his students or interacting with school committee members who had cared for him as a child. Gerald was committed to playing his part in the small community too, nurturing the children of Clinton for the futures that lay ahead of them. Educating children is Gerald's passion, a passion that thousands have benefited from during their time in Clinton schools.

Gerald was one of the first principals to work in the new Clinton High School and was largely responsible for the transformation of the new building into a state-of-the-art educational facility. As the MCAS standardized testing was initiated across Massachusetts, Gerald promoted high achievement throughout the school, implementing new programs intended to prepare students for success.

Among Gerald's many talents, foremost was his compassion and his ability to connect with students. Reaching out to students from difficult backgrounds or those who needed just a little extra help was a mission Gerald added on to his already long list of responsibilities as an administrator. Whether it was talking with students during lunch hour, encouraging them in the classroom, or working out with them in the gym, Gerald was known for befriending children who needed a positive presence in their lives. As principal, Gerald coached a Pop Warner football team, and even as superintendent he tried to spend as much time as possible with the children. As he enters retirement, Gerald is looking forward to going back

to the classroom as a math teacher at a college.

Gerald will be missed by the faculty and thousands of students whose lives he shaped in a multitude of ways. I wish him and his wife Carol, along with their three sons, many happy years in a well deserved retirement.

Madam Speaker, I know all of my colleagues join me in thanking this remarkable man for his many years of dedication to the people of the Clinton.

#### INTRODUCING A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR HAITIAN NATIONALS CURRENTLY RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a concurrent resolution expressing support for temporary protected status for Haitian nationals currently residing in the United States, and for other purposes.

The creation of TPS was intended to serve as the statutory embodiment of a safe haven for those who are fleeing—or reluctant to return to—a potentially dangerous situation in their country of origin.

According to section 244(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1990, TPS may be granted when: there is ongoing armed conflict posing a serious threat to personal safety; it is requested by a foreign state that temporarily cannot handle the return of nationals due to environmental disaster; or extraordinary and temporary conditions in a foreign state exist which prevent aliens from returning.

Haiti has continued to meet all three of these requirements, and yet, not once have Haitian nationals been granted TPS.

Last summer, only a few months after deadly food riots led to the removal of the country's Prime Minister, Haiti was ravaged by four back-to-back natural disasters. Thousands lost their homes, many were left starving and isolated from humanitarian assistance, nearly 800 lives were taken, and over 300 people remain missing.

How dire must the situation in Haiti become before the United States is willing to extend this helping hand to Haiti as it has done for other nations under similar circumstances?

The Haitian government's ability to provide basic governmental services—clean water, education, passable roads and basic health care—remains severely compromised by these natural disasters. Repatriating Haitians at this time imposes an additional burden on government resources that are already stretched too thin and poses a serious danger to deportees' personal safety. Further, with hurricane season well underway, the Haitian people will only slip further into despair when another storm inevitably hits their nation.

Concerning stability and overall safety, Haiti is still in dire need of an adequate policing force to maintain order and halt the escalation in kidnappings that are plaguing the nation.

As of today, the Department of State's current travel warning advises Americans that

current conditions in Haiti make it unsafe to travel due to the potential for looting, the possibility of random violent crime, and the serious threat of kidnapping for ransom.

Madam Speaker, if it is unsafe for our citizens to travel to Haiti, then those same conditions should make it much too dangerous and inappropriate to forcibly repatriate Haitians at this time. It is unfortunate and appalling that our current immigration policies hold such harmful double standards.

I want to make it very clear that I acknowledge and heartily congratulate Haiti's efforts toward recovery and to a stable democratic government. However, President Prival's nascent democratic government still faces immense challenges with regards to rebuilding Haiti's police and judicial institutions to achieve the fair and prompt tackling of the ongoing political and criminal violence.

In addition to safety and human rights considerations, halting the deportation of Haitians is also an economic matter.

Under the law, TPS beneficiaries are eligible to obtain work authorization permits. The ability for Haitian nationals to legally work in the United States puts them in a position to contribute to their country's recovery and development until such time when it is safe for them to return to Haiti.

Madam Speaker, the Haitian Diaspora has always played a pivotal role in assisting Haiti. It is widely known that Haitians residing in the United States often work three jobs to send money back to Haiti each month. Many Haitians in the United States often send remittances to support family members, and others travel home to lend their expertise toward rebuilding and humanitarian efforts.

Designating Haiti under TPS status would preserve and increase remittances—totaling approximately a third of Haiti's GDP—from the Haitian Diaspora to relatives and communities in Haiti that are key for welfare, survival, and recovery.

Haiti is more dependent than any other country on remittances with nearly a billion dollars a year sent home by Haitians in the United States. In fact, remittances to Haiti far exceed foreign aid.

Now, many Haitian nationals in the United States who previously sustained relatives in Haiti through remittances are being deported, further depriving Haiti of an important source of financial aid that is well-positioned to assist when based here in the United States.

Madam Speaker, there are currently five countries that are protected under the TPS provision: Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Somalia, and Sudan. By refusing to give Haiti the TPS designation, our inequitable immigration policies continue to send the message that the safety of Haitian lives is not a priority compared to that of Salvadoran, Honduran, or Sudanese lives.

We must act to change this perception. Our immigration policies have to change. They must reflect fairness and treat Haitians equally to Nicaraguans, Hondurans, and Salvadorans whose deportations are suspended and who are allowed to work and support their families back home.

Granting Haitians TPS is necessary to achieve fundamental fairness in our treatment of Haitian immigrants and remedy the accurate and widespread perception that U.S. policy has discriminated against them.

Madam Speaker, we cannot deny Haiti this opportunity to help stabilize its economy, recover from devastating natural disasters, rebuild its political and economic institutions, and provide a future of hope for Haiti's people.

I ask my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT AND FOOD SAFETY INFORMATION ACT OF 2009

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce the Consumer Product and Food Safety Information Act.

This very simple bill creates a comprehensive information process to notify American consumers about food and product recalls. It seems that practically every week there is another product or food recall, but there's no single, comprehensive, federal resource to relay this information to consumers. As a result, many Americans are rightfully concerned and confused about what products might endanger the lives of their loved ones.

In the 110th Congress after a steady stream of countless food and product recalls, I co-chaired a Ways and Means joint Oversight and Trade subcommittee hearing on Import Safety. In that hearing, we learned that there is no collective federal public information process to inform Americans about food and product safety recalls. Instead there is an expectation that press releases and Internet announcements with moderate outreach efforts are sufficient communication tools.

This legislation is not about creating a new bureaucracy; the sole purpose is to establish a process. We must provide consumers with single resources—through various media phone, print, Internet, and radio—to learn exactly what toys are safe for their children, what food is safe to eat, what beds are safe to sleep in, and what medicines won't compromise their health. The Consumer Product and Food Safety Information Act of 2009 presents a clear plan to relay accurate and timely information to all consumers—regardless of age, income or location.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this basic, common-sense legislation. I want to make sure that my constituents—parents, senior citizens, those who have access to the Internet, those who prefer newspapers and libraries—are provided with universal, consistent information about what foods and products are harmful to themselves and their loved ones.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to state that I was on an official leave of absence from the U.S. House of Representatives on account

of the funeral of a close personal friend and unable to vote on rollcall votes Nos. 548 through 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Nos. 548 through 551, 554 through 569, and 572, and "nay" on Nos. 552, 553, 570, and 571.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Republican Conference standards on earmarks, I submit the following information regarding a project included at my request in H.R. 3183, the Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman JIM JORDAN (OH-04) Bill: H.R. 3183

Account: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Section 205 (Flood Damage Reduction)

Requesting entity: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District (1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, New York 14207)

Description: The City of Findlay, Ohio, saw three of its worst floods in history in just a 13-month period in 2007–08. These floods devastated the city, causing significant damage to the downtown business district and displacing hundreds of residents. The Army Corps of Engineers has worked diligently since the January 2007 flood toward developing flood damage reduction plans. I requested \$248,000 to complete the Section 205 feasibility study and begin design and implementation work.

I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

#### NORTH BEND

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the City North Bend, Washington, for reaching its centennial year in 2009.

North Bend, located in the north end of the Eighth District of Washington State, is beautifully situated near the entrance of the Cascade Mountains with majestic Mount Si providing a stunning backdrop. Residents and tourists of all ages enjoy the many outdoor activities this natural, rural setting has to offer, including skiing, hiking, camping, hunting, fishing and swimming. The residents of North Bend are truly caring people who will continue to lead North Bend in protecting their unique rural setting while encouraging residential and business development. I commend Mayor Ken Hearing for his leadership of this town of 4,700.

The Eighth District is a more vibrant area because of North Bend and I rise today to commend the citizens past and present on their success in reaching this milestone.

#### ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday July 15, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3183) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I join my colleagues in opposition to the Flake Amendment to H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2010.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I believe it is our duty to work with our colleagues across the aisle in crafting a bill that helps our country in times of economic peril. In a political climate where energy sources and technology have become a central focal point, we must do everything in our power to do what is in the best interest of the constituents in our respective districts, and indeed, the nation as well. This amendment, however, is not in the best interest of our constituents.

The Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research (CPBR), Inc., which is based in the State of Georgia, is an organization which specializes in the transfer of plant biotechnologies from the research laboratory to the marketplace, and in the process, provides expanded economic opportunities through university research. CPBR's research programs and activities are undertaken cooperatively with major colleges and universities around the nation, including Albany State University, which is located in my Congressional district.

In its short history, the CPBR has produced over 2.5 U.S. Patents with every \$1 million dollars of federal funding provided. Through CPBR, every federal dollar is matched at a rate of 130% with non-federal funds. Additionally, the organization has a commercialization rate on successful projects which is over 210% higher than what universities get on their own.

The amendment offered by Congressman FLAKE frankly represents a gross lack of judgment, particularly given the enormous benefits we are continuing to gain as a result of the CPBR's research activities and tangible results being put in practice.

The CPBR has successfully worked with a number of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) through its HBCU and Minority Institutions Research Fellowship Program. This program provides peer reviewed projects at these colleges and universities which, has in turn, sparked development and growth between the faculty and students.

This also broadens its interaction with its private sector partners, who work closely with the CPBR and its researchers, to carry out the transfer research and technology into the production of new and improved agricultural and manufacturing processes and products. Keep in mind, these are new products which were created and developed by students and researchers at Universities around the country.

These industrial innovations create thousands of new jobs and strengthen our national



economy. One example of CPBR's research is the current use of *Miscanthus* as a feedstock for bio-ethanol and other industrial chemicals—a discovery which is currently used to reduce pollution from petroleum-based products throughout the energy industry. This is a clear example of the contributions which this group has made in moving our nation toward energy independence and improved technological efficiency.

We are all aware that advancing energy technology is one of the most important issues we face today. It is an issue that many feel very passionate about and affects the pockets of all of us and our constituents.

So it is essential that we continue to support activities of worthy organizations such as CPBR.

Mr. Chair, in closing, the enormity and size of the challenges facing communities impacted by the energy crisis is overwhelming. Funding for the work of the CPBR is worthy of continuation, and I would urge my colleagues to oppose the Flake amendment.

### HONORING TEXAS COACH NEAL QUILLIN

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, every day America's youth are guided, counseled and taught life lessons by their school coaches. These kids learn what it means to persevere through the tough times and the difference between right and wrong from these revered advisors.

Coach Neal Quillin is one such coach. He has any been a pillar of the Houston area community for years and has pushed many young men and women to be the best and never take losing for an answer. A true Texan Hero, Coach Quillin grew up in the Lone Star State and received his BA and Masters from Stephen F. Austin University. He has a list of honors and awards that any coach would dream of including a 4A State Football Championship, multiple state football tournament appearances, and has won 11 district championships. He has received the honor of Coach of the year multiple times by the Houston Chronicle, the Houston Post, and the Houston Touchdown Club. The most outstanding thing about this man is not his own accomplishments—it is what he has done for his players and students. Coach Quillin has coached ten NFL players and has served as a mentor to Texas' students for 44 years. Coach Quillin has served 12 Texas schools as a Coach and was at Humble High School for 15 years. He is currently the defensive line coach at Atascocita High School.

Today, July 22, Coach Quillin will receive one of the biggest honors a coach can—he will be inducted into the Texas High School Coaches Association. I would like to congratulate Coach Neal Quillin on his lifetime of community service and thank him for helping to make Texas a great place for students to learn and athletes to excel.

And that's just the way it is.

### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Project Name: Naples to Big Marco Pass  
Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3183—the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Corps of Engineers; O&M  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, Florida 34112

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$1,500,000; The Gordon River and Naples Bay flow into Gordon Pass. This is the most significant Pass in the county and supports the commercial fishing, stone crab harvesting, sport fishing and tourism industries. The Pass also supports the County's marinas and is used by residential boaters. Typically, the Pass is dredged every four or five years. It was last dredged in 2002 and needs to be dredged this year because shoaling diminishes the water depth in the channel.

Project Name: Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Caloosahatchee R to Anclote R, Florida

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK, Congressman VERN BUCHANAN, Congressman C.W. BILL YOUNG

Bill Number: H.R. 3183—the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Corps of Engineers; O&M  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lee County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 2115 Second Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$780,000; This project would provide for maintenance dredging in four areas of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GICW). The areas in need of maintenance dredging include the mouth of Caloosahatchee River (Miserable Mile in Lee County) and the Boca Grande Bayou area (Miller's Marina in Lee County) of the GICW.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF THE REUNIFICATION OF CYPRUS

#### HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that a historic opportunity to unify the island Cyprus was missed on April 24, 2004 when 76 percent of Greek Cypriots in separate simultaneous referenda in both sides of the island rejected the U.N. comprehensive settlement plan, known as the Annan Plan.

After the referenda, the Greek Cypriots became a full member of the European Union,

while the social, economic and political isolation of the Turkish Cypriots still continues despite their affirmative vote in the referenda with a 65 percent majority.

Until the recent change in leadership in South Cyprus in February 2008 the issue was at a virtual standstill; however, in September 2008, Greek Cypriot leader Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat, launched full-fledged negotiations to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem. The negotiations which were revived thanks to the insistence of the Turkish Cypriot side have been welcomed by the international community, including the United States, the European Union and others.

Hopes are high among the international community that a mutually acceptable settlement might be reached. In order to promote the spirit of goodwill generated during the recent meetings, I encourage this body to support the two Cypriot leaders as they work toward reunification.

On July 20th the Turkish Cypriots commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Turkish peace operation which prevented an attempt by Greece to annex the island. Although peace prevails in Cyprus today, the social, economic and political development of the Turkish Cypriots have been restricted for more than four decades.

Despite their continued commitment to achieving a just and lasting settlement that respects the political equality of the two peoples on the island, the Turkish Cypriot people are still waiting for the international community to honor the promises it made to them that their isolation would be lifted.

Madam Speaker, if the process is to move forward toward a lasting settlement it is important that the United States Congress recognize the unwavering commitment of the Turkish Cypriot people to unify the island and encourage the lifting of the isolation.

### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 3170, the FY 10 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act. This bill provides much-needed funding for key financial institutions and many other important priorities, and includes appropriations that will directly benefit my district's economic development.

I would like to thank my colleagues for their leadership on this bill, and particularly Representative JOSÉ SERRANO for his guidance and support for the University of Texas at Brownsville's International Trade Center.

Brownsville's strategic proximity to Mexico and its multiple seaports has endowed it with unique potential for international trade and development that will have far-reaching benefits



for my district and beyond. For this reason, I have consistently advocated for funding, which has been included in this appropriations act, to operate the International Trade Center at the UTB International Technology Education and Commerce Campus (ITECC) which houses all of the services required to conduct international trade including: international law, accounting, banking, insurance, logistics services, export-import marketing services, U.S. customs, government trade services and industry showrooms for specific target sectors such as medical, communications, and computer technology.

I am very supportive of this initiative as well as provisions included in the bill to strengthen America's financial institutions through more robust regulatory enforcement and fraud detection capabilities, investment in economic development programs for underserved communities and small businesses, and many other important programs.

Among the most important provisions of the bill is funding that supports \$28 billion in new lending to help small businesses in South Texas and throughout the nation that have been unable to obtain credit and much-needed business loans due to the economic downturn. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and we owe it to them to make this lending available.

I want to make clear that my vote for this bill reflects solely my support for the aforementioned priorities. I have consistently voted against using federal funds to support abortion services and am pleased that this bill upholds those limitations so that my constituents' tax dollars are not used in a way inconsistent with their moral beliefs.

My vote in favor of H.R. 3170 reflects my commitment to fund this nation's economic priorities and help our South Texas communities and small businesses in the midst of a deep recession.

REPRESENTATIVE GWYN GREEN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the services of Colorado State Representative Gwyn Green who will retire this year from Colorado's State Legislature.

Representative Green has been in Colorado's State Legislature since 2004, and in that time has fought hard for the protection of children from sexual predators, as well as, for the prevention of abuse of disabled adults. Her passionate speeches and constant dedication to service have earned her the reputation of "The Fighting Granny," on Colorado's Capital Hill. It was with this commitment and drive that her work ethic and passion for the people of Colorado will be most remembered.

In addition to her service in the Colorado State Legislature, Representative Green has earned such awards as the Colorado Association of Public Health's Distinguished Legislator of the Year, the Colorado Society of Clinical Social Workers Advocate of the Year, and was

the Distinguished Legislator for the National Association of Social Workers. These accomplishments display her passion and commitment in serving the people of Colorado.

I extend my deepest thanks once again to Representative Green for her time and service to Colorado. I have no doubt her efforts within the Colorado State Legislature have made impacts on the State of Colorado and on our country.

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to yet another Appropriations bill that we are forced to debate under a structured rule. Had important amendments been permitted to come to the Floor, Members would have had an opportunity to change the destructive policies this bill contains. Most importantly, for the first time in over a decade, this Congress will lift the ban on funding abortions in the District of Columbia. We will now have tax dollars from across this nation flowing into our nation's capital for ending the life of unborn children. Simply put, a vote for this bill is a vote for the destruction of innocent life.

I am also concerned that this bill is silent on the issue of marriage. After unprecedented action by the DC City Council to redefine marriage, this Congress has neglected its responsibility to protect traditional marriage.

Finally Mr. Chair, this bill continues the runaway federal spending that more than anything else has characterized this Appropriations process, and frankly, this entire Congress. At a time when Americans are facing extraordinary challenges, the federal government is running up record deficits and accumulating debt that our kids and grandkids may never be able to repay. Substantive amendments that would have given Members a real choice in spending priorities and funding levels have been prohibited. The American people deserve better. It is time for this Congress to start putting our fiscal house back in order and to protect the timeless values that millions of Americans hold dear; namely, life and family. This bill falls far short and I encourage a "no" vote.

#### REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE AMIA ATTACK

**HON. RON KLEIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res 156, a

resolution condemning the attack on the AMIA center in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1994.

Let me begin by thanking the gentlelady from Florida, the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN, for her steadfast leadership on this issue.

I am proud that we have worked together in a bipartisan manner on issues in the Western Hemisphere and on anti-terrorism issues, such as this resolution.

Fifteen years ago, Hezbollah terrorists affiliated with Iran killed 85 people and wounded 300 others in the bombing of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association, known in Argentina as AMIA.

And, for the past fifteen years, the people of Argentina have been waiting for justice to be served. Though the international police, Interpol, has issued warrants for several individuals, these individuals remain at large in places such as Iran, Saudi Arabia and Syria.

While holding the perpetrators accountable will not bring back their loved ones, it could give some closure of justice to the victims' families.

On this anniversary, I would urge the government of Argentina to remain committed to seeing justice for this horrible tragedy and moreover, I would urge those countries who are holding the perpetrators of these attacks to hand over these individuals immediately and let justice be served.

The timing of this resolution is crucial. For the past several years, in my opinion, we have not been as engaged as we could have been in issues in Latin America.

During that time period, other countries have come in to fill the void. Iran's growing relationship with some countries in the region, including multilateral agreements on energy and industry worth billions of dollars, could be dangerous because of Iran's ominous history in the area, including their involvement in the AMIA attack.

Eliminating the threat of terrorism and its state sponsors is not just in the best interest of the United States. The United States and Central and Latin America have an aligned interest to make our hemisphere safer.

For that reason, I believe it is important to highlight one crucial provision of this legislation. Currently, very few countries in the Western Hemisphere have acknowledged the danger that Hezbollah poses to our region. According to the New York Police Department and several anti-terrorism experts, Hezbollah could pose a bigger threat than Al Qaeda. I join the gentlelady from Florida, Ms. Roselehtinen in urging governments in the Western Hemisphere to adopt legislation designating Hezbollah as a terrorist organization and punishing those who provide support for their terrorist activities.

I hope that this resolution serves as a signal to our friends and neighbors in Central and Latin America that the United States is committed to a safer hemisphere, free from the mutual threat of terrorism.

I congratulate the ranking member of the Committee, Ms. Roselehtinen for her commitment to a safer hemisphere, and of course, I send my condolences to the Argentine people and those who lost loved ones fifteen years ago in the AMIA bombing.

## TRIBUTE TO BOB MORRISON

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to an old friend and long-time public servant, Hugh Robert "Bob" Morrison, who served as the elected Treasurer of the City of Falls Church, Virginia from 1993–2006. In the cause of full disclosure, Bob was also the Treasurer of my election campaign. Bob was the epitome of a public citizen, a husband and father who served his community in public office, but also helped to create his and our community of Falls Church through his professional and volunteer services and commitments—despite multiple battles with cancer to which he finally succumbed this week.

One of the attributes of this remarkable leader was how he used the skills he learned in his youth and his service to our country to benefit our community in Northern Virginia.

In his freshman year in high school, Bob took a course in printing. He gained a skill that he applied throughout his life and made him instrumental in the planning and establishment of the Falls Church News-Press in 1991. Bob worked closely with editor and owner Nicholas F. Benton to create the first successful newspaper to serve Falls Church. Similarly, it was about this time that he discovered photography, a passion that never left him, but has surely enriched all the rest of us.

In 1961, Bob enlisted in the U.S. Army. After training, he was assigned to a NATO support base in Fontainebleau, France, where his duties included post photographer. It was in France that Bob met a fellow American whom he married; they had a son before they divorced.

After his honorable discharge in 1964, Bob moved to this region, Takoma Park in Washington, D.C., where he enrolled at Howard University and, to help support his child and pay his tuition, answered an ad in The Washington Post for a night job as a page layout technician with the National Geographic Society—a position where he worked full time from 5 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. in page layout then as proofreader for five years, going to classes during the day.

He graduated from Howard University with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in English and minoring in philosophy, in June of 1969. Armed with his degree, he successfully applied to an opening as a writer for National Geographic. Bob's first byline came two years later with an essay on the urban environment for an ecology book. It was followed by seven more National Geographic books for which Bob was a contributing author. He also co-authored America's Atlantic Isles. His assignments took him to the Caribbean, several European countries, and 48 states. (He missed Alaska and South Dakota, which he later visited.)

Bob's achievements and tenacity were recognized with his name on the National Geographic Society's masthead. He was said to have been one of the youngest ever to achieve such an honor. He also served as managing editor for Educational Filmstrips, edited the questions for the first National Geography Bee, and brought the first IBM-PCs

and Macs to National Geographic word processing, layout, and other editorial uses.

In 1971 Morrison sold a photo to the Society that ran as a full page in a book. He decided to use the unexpected windfall toward buying a kilt and looked for places to wear it, so happening onto Scottish Country Dancing. That soon became a hobby, with lasting consequences. It was through this new hobby that he met Meredith. Their friendship deepened, and they were married in 1979.

Bob and Meredith went from country Scottish dancing to foster parenting training, after which they began providing temporary care for infants. In 1988 a little rascal arrived who grabbed their hearts, and they adopted Justin in 1991. Justin needed a sister. Elizabeth was a bundle of joy with a will of iron, and she was adopted in 1992. One of the great blessings that came from their adoption was being led to Galloway United Methodist Church, where Morrison served on the Finance Committee for many years and learned the skills that made him such a successful public elected official later on. Bob also became active with Falls Church Community TV, in recognition of which he was appointed to the Board of Directors of The Falls Church Cable Access Corporation and served there for 19 years.

All these activities whetted his interest in serving in public office. He had been active in Democratic politics and began to look for an entry to public service. He defeated three other candidates in his first campaign, and he was unopposed in the next three—so appreciated was his service.

He continued his longtime hobby of photography after he retired from the Treasurer's Office in 2006, taking the time to take thousands of pictures in his community. He especially enjoyed shooting sports; his Web site has more than 10,000 pictures of George Mason High School activities, mostly of football and basketball. He served as an official photographer for The National Catholic Prayer Breakfast, the Capital Fringe Festival, and the DC Divas. Some of these jobs came from friends made at TIVA, an area association of independent video and film professionals, where he served on the Board of Directors for several years. He volunteered often at DC Central Kitchen, photographing their Capital Food Fight, and received their Volunteer of the Year award in 2005. Morrison was especially proud of his contributions to their cookbook, Feeding the Soul of the City. He also worked as a publicity agent and set photographer. After he finished photography on Come What May, the producer asked him to play the role of a retired Supreme Court Justice, for which he received his first and only screen acting credits.

In 2006, he was diagnosed with colon cancer, which prompted his retirement as Falls Church's Treasurer and this week took him from us. But he has left a legacy which, like his tens of thousands of photographs, will keep him in our hearts forever. His multiple talents and convictions made him a servant to the people of our region, and he left us all richer for many, many contributions.

HONORING LAURA COHEN  
APELBAUM**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend my constituent Laura Cohen Apelbaum on her 15 outstanding years as Executive Director of the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington.

Laura's leadership, creativity and vision have profoundly benefitted the Jewish Historical Society. Under her guidance, the organization has grown in numerous ways, from the size of its staff and facilities to the breadth of its educational programming, to the resources of its extraordinary archive—making it the premier source in our region for Washington Jewish history.

Laura has a passion that distinguished her among her colleagues early on in her career. Within a short time of assuming her position with the Jewish Historical Society, she became President of the Council of American Jewish Museums—the first national President of this Council to come from an institution of such limited size and resources.

In addition to leading the growth and success of the Jewish Historical Society, Laura championed the preservation campaign of the historic synagogue at 6th & I Streets, N.W. The synagogue's restoration has enabled the Society to complete a Historic Structures Report and an Interpretive Plan to implement a permanent installation in the synagogue. Laura also guided the development of the award-winning exhibition and companion guide Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community. This work, and the 22 other exhibitions developed under her tenure, have reawakened pride in our community's past and provided countless individuals in our area and across the country with a new and deeper understanding of Jewish life throughout the centuries in Washington.

Laura's commitment to the Jewish community goes beyond activities in the Washington, D.C. area. In 2006 she worked with Congress to establish the first Jewish American Heritage Month to acknowledge the contributions of Jewish Americans.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Laura Cohen Apelbaum for her 15 years of accomplishments. My appreciation extends as well to her husband, Perry Apelbaum, to her children Benji and Sara, and to her parents, Faye and Sheldon Cohen. I am proud to represent Laura and her family in the U.S. Congress and am honored to extend my congratulations and appreciation to her today.

CONGRATULATING AND THANKING  
APPALACHIAN CHRISTIAN VIL-  
LAGE IN JOHNSON CITY TEN-  
NESSEE**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank Appalachian Christian Village for 55 years of excellence and care. As the first retirement community in Johnson City, I applaud all the amazing

things they've accomplished throughout these very special years.

Life at the communities of Appalachian Christian Village offers exceptional opportunities for new experiences, new friendships, and a new way of life.

Madam Speaker, this community has become one of the most favorable places to retire in the country in terms of the crime rate, cost-of-living, and access to excellent medical services, among other components.

I am so thankful to have this wonderful community in Washington County. Their presence is a tremendous contribution. I wish all of those at Appalachian Christian Village another successful 55 years.

I am proud to represent all at Appalachian Christian Village in Congress, and I will continue to protect the values of the constituency while I am in office.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I regretfully missed the following rollcall votes on July 13–16, 2009 due to a prior family commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on rollcall votes 533, 534, 535, 536, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, and “nay” on rollcall votes 530, 531, 532, & 537.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, this afternoon I had to miss rollcall votes on account of a dinner that I was attending in honor of a long-time friend, Dr. Norm Mayer. Dr. Mayer is the former Emergency Room Director for the Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. He is unfortunately battling Lou Gehrig's disease (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), and tonight's dinner is in honor of Dr. Mayer and his relentless battle against this debilitating disease. In addition, the dinner will also raise funds to help others in the Greensboro area, who are also battling against Lou Gehrig's disease.

#### WILKESON CENTENNIAL

### HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the City of Wilkeson, Washington, for reaching its centennial year in 2009.

Wilkeson is located on the timber-lined Carbon River at the doorstep of Mount Rainier. This small town of 450 residents has a rich economic history in timber and sandstone mining. In fact, the sandstone used to build the

Washington State Capitol came from Wilkeson. Samuel Wilkeson, a railroad pioneer and the City's namesake, called the forests of Mount Rainier and the Cascade Mountains the “most enchanting forests on the globe.” Most tellingly, the City's rich history is still visible: five properties in Wilkeson can be found on Washington's historical register. Mayor Janet Kepka should be proud of the City she leads.

I am proud to represent such a community and sincerely congratulate the City of Wilkeson on this tremendous achievement.

#### FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

### HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3170) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3170, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for 2010. This bill passed the House of Representatives on July 16, 2009, over my objection, by a vote of 219–208.

I opposed H.R. 3170 because the bill adopts the Obama Administration's proposal to allow publically funded abortion in the District of Columbia. The “Dornan Amendment,” which has been included annually in this appropriations bill since 1996, prevents the use of any congressionally appropriated funds for elective abortions in the District. H.R. 3170 repeals this prohibition and replaces it with a meaningless watered-down restriction that applies only to funds specifically contributed for “federal” program purposes. Because “federal” and “local” funds are commingled in the District, separating them is a mere book-keeping exercise. By simply designating the funds that pay for abortions as “local” funds, D.C. will be able to fund abortion on demand.

Stripping the Dornan Amendment from financial services appropriations bill is unacceptable. Our nation's capital already has one of the highest abortion rates in the country. Removing the Dornan Amendment from the bill will certainly increase those numbers, especially among teenagers.

President Obama has repeatedly vowed that his goal is to reduce the number of abortions in our country. I question how providing taxpayer funding for abortions will somehow reduce the number of abortions. More than 40% of all pregnancies in the District already end in abortion. Even the Guttmacher Institute, an organization founded by a division of Planned Parenthood, reports that when public funding is not available, 30% fewer women in the covered population have abortions. This means that 30% of babies whose mothers receive government subsidized health care survive because of abortion funding restrictions. No administration or lawmaker can support this policy change and still claim to support reducing abortions.

Washington, D.C. has a troubled history when it comes to abortion funding. In the

1980s, when D.C. funded abortion, the District had one of the most permissive policies in the nation. A full D.C. abortion funding ban was enacted in 1989. In 1994, when the funding ban was lifted, D.C. took \$1 million away from the Medical Charities fund, which was created to help AIDS patients, to instead pay for abortion. Then, the District needed additional funds to make up for the funds lost to abortion. After that, when the abortion funding ban was reinstated in 1996, the city continued to fund abortions in violation of the law for two more years.

Including the Dornan Amendment in the Financial Services appropriations bill is a logical means to help reduce abortions, a common cause of both the Republican and Democratic parties, and protect our most vulnerable citizens. Directing taxpayer dollars to fund abortions is a clear violation of many Americans' deeply held beliefs and is simply bad public policy. For this reason, I stand in opposition to H.R. 3170.

#### REINTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL PARENTS CORPS ACT

### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce the National Parents Corps Act of 2009. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a community to protect a family.

Unfortunately today, American families in every corner of our country are working harder and longer hours to just make ends meet. They labor frantically to keep food on the table, gas in the tank, and a roof over their heads. As you can imagine the troubled economy makes it especially hard for parents to fully shepherd their children through those critical formative years. Study after study shows how vulnerable pre-teen and teenage young people are to developing life-long, harmful behaviors such as smoking and drug abuse.

The National Parents Corps Act of 2009 helps address this problem, by providing parents with the resources necessary to organize and protect their children in unique but proven methods. This legislation will create a national network of parent leaders who will educate and mobilize other parents in their children's schools. These full-time, professional parents will serve as liaisons between teachers, parents, and administrators to build much-needed safety nets among police, social workers and community based organizations in schools across our country.

The program has proven successful in both identifying and preventing dangerous behaviors and trends among their middle and high school children. Thousands of parents were recruited, and their collective efforts resulted in significant decreases in criminal activity, dropouts, and disciplinary problems in their schools and communities.

Madam Speaker, we must adapt our methods to better address the challenges facing American families. This legislation is a common-sense, modern way of building families and communities to support our most vital assets—our youth. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the National Parents Corps Act of 2009. It is an investment in the core of our society.

40TH WHEAT RIDGE CARNATION  
FESTIVAL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival on their 40th Anniversary.

For forty years, the city of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, has celebrated their rich heritage with this three day event. Families from all parts of the city and surrounding areas come together with their friends and neighbors to enjoy this festival. I, myself, along with my family, have taken part in all aspects of this festival including the pancake breakfast, the parade and the amazing fireworks display. I am honored to recognize the Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival on achieving this long standing tradition for forty years.

The city of Wheat Ridge, Colorado, is a true gem in the metro area as it is home to several national historical sites including the Richards-Hart Estate and the Old Soddy building. Families, friends, and neighbors truly live in a special place in Colorado and it is reflected in this Festival as it is rich in history and strong in purpose of bringing families in the community together.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival on their 40th Anniversary.

**EARMARK DECLARATION**

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Republican Conference standards on earmarks, I submit the following information regarding a project included at my request in H.R. 3082, the Fiscal Year 2010 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman JIM JORDAN (OH-04)

Bill: H.R. 3082

Account: Air National Guard

Requesting entity: Ohio Air National Guard/Mansfield Lahm Air National Guard Base

Project title: Ohio Air National Guard RED HORSE Beddown

Description: In 2008, a 200-person detachment of the 200th RED HORSE (Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers) Squadron was activated

at Mansfield Lahm Airport (1947 Harrington Memorial Road, Mansfield, Ohio). The detachment currently operates out of facilities that are too small and not configured for its mission; as a result, important training missions are often postponed, resulting in a reduced level of readiness.

\$11.4 million in funding for RED HORSE beddown facilities at the airport has already been programmed by the Pentagon for funding in fiscal year 2010. These facilities will provide the detachment with the space and facilities it needs for proper readiness training.

I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

**REPORT REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 111TH CONGRESS**

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 17, 2009*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise along with my colleague Congressman BONNER to update you about the activities of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct through the end of June 2009. Below we have included a table summarizing statistics relating to the Committee's work through June 30, 2009, along with a brief summary of the Committee's accomplishments through the end of June 2009.

**ABOUT THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct is tasked with interpreting and enforcing the House's ethics rules. The Committee has sole jurisdiction over the interpretation of the Code of Official Conduct, which governs the acts of Members and staff. The Committee is the only standing House committee with equal numbers of Democratic and Republican members. The Committee's staff is required by rule to be—and it is—professional and nonpartisan.

Much, if not most, of the Committee's work is conducted confidentially. Members and staff are, by and large, prohibited from discussing the Committee's work. Confidentiality promotes compliance with the rules and, in the investigative context, permits the Committee to independently investigate matters fully without interference or undue influence.

Nevertheless, the Committee's duty to maintain confidentiality can make the Committee appear insufficiently accountable or transparent. The Committee, to the extent our confidentiality obligations permit, intends to be transparent, and it will be accountable. To that end, we are submitting the Committee's first semi-annual report on its activities.

**THE COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Committee manages five critical responsibilities:

1. **Training.** The Committee provides mandatory annual ethics training to over 10,000 employees of the House. In addition, the Committee provides additional, mandatory training for senior staff. Trainings take the form of in-person and computer-based seminars, briefings and interactive presentations. The Committee is in the process of updating its online training materials and has put into place systems for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the House's training requirements.

2. **Advice and Education.** The Committee provides both formal and informal guidance to Members and employees of the House. Through published guidance, the Committee updates the House on the ethical standards regulating the conduct of Members and staff. It also provides confidential written guidance to Members and staff on specific questions. In addition, the Committee's staff gives informal, confidential advice to Members, staff and the public every day. The Committee has recently set a goal of completing responses to written requests for advice within two weeks of submission and has made significant progress toward improving the timeliness of responses to requests for formal advice.

3. **Travel.** The Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving all privately-sponsored travel related to official duties offered to Members and staff. The Committee is in the process of reviewing its travel regulations. Exercising its oversight jurisdiction, the Committee, with the benefit of two years' experience implementing the House's travel rules, expects to revise its travel regulations in the near future.

4. **Financial Disclosure.** The Committee reviews and certifies all financial disclosure reports Members, candidates and senior staff are required to file. These are time-intensive reviews, which require the dedication of substantial staff resources to complete. The Committee is putting into place systems for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the House's financial disclosure rules.

5. **Investigations.** The Committee investigates and adjudicates allegations of impropriety and violations of House ethics rules by Members and staff. The Committee actively investigates allegations against Members and staff, using a mix of informal and formal investigative techniques to determine the validity of factual allegations, explore potential rules violations and recommend appropriate sanctions and corrective actions. Where appropriate, the Committee refers matters to federal and state law enforcement authorities.

In addition, the Committee performs other critical functions to ensure compliance with House ethics rules. Several of these functions are noted in the table below, which summarizes the Committee's activities for the first half this year.

**Semi-Annual Committee Report**

<b>Correspondence</b>		<b>Total</b>
Type	Advisory Opinions	Travel
Received (from 1/1/09 to 6/30/09)	357	921
Mailed (from 1/1/09 to 6/30/09)	311	848
≤ 2 week turnaround from 5/1/09 to 6/30/09	80.32% (49 out of 61)	
≤ 2 week turnaround from 1/1/09 to 4/29/09	39.04% (98 out of 251)	
<b>Informal Advice and Inquiries (5/1/09 to 6/30/09)</b>		<b>Total</b>
Phone Calls	2,876	
Emails	813	
<b>Training (1/1/09 to 6/30/09)</b>		<b>Total</b>
Total # of House employees	10,553 (as of June 30, 2009)	
Employees having completed training (as of 6/30/09)	2,861	
Training briefings (scheduled training sessions)	20	
Targeted briefings (briefings for individual House offices)	34	
<b>Investigations</b>		<b>Total</b>
Investigative Subcommittees carried over from the 110th Congress	1	
Investigative Subcommittees commenced during the 111th Congress	1	
Investigative matters carried over from the 110th Congress	11	
Investigative matters commenced during the 111th Congress	15	
Publicly Disclosed Resolutions	2	
Confidential Resolutions	2	
Referrals from the Office of Congressional Ethics	6	
Referrals from Inspectors General	2	
<b>Financial Disclosures (111th Congress)</b>		<b>Total</b>
FD Reports Filed by Members and Staff	2,083	
FD Reports Filed by Candidates	120	
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>2,203</b>	
FD Reports reviewed by temporary auditors (Pre-Screened)	1,972	
FD Reports reviewed by Committee staff (Members and Staff)	972	
FD Reports reviewed (Candidates)	12	
FD Reports still to be reviewed by Committee staff (as of 6/30/09)	988	
FD Reports not received (includes extensions not yet filed)	547	
<b>Committee Memoranda (from 1/1/09 to 6/30/09)</b>		<b>Total</b>
"Pink Sheets"	3	
Press Statements	7	
<b>Forms Received (from 1/1/09 to 6/30/09)</b>		<b>Total</b>
Recusals	14	
Negotiations	33	
Blind Trusts	2	
Legal Defense Fund	8	
Foreign Gifts and Travel Reports	10	
<b>Meetings (from 1/1/09 to 6/30/09)</b>		<b>Total</b>
Full Committee meetings	10	
Subcommittee meetings	8	
Committee Rules Working Group meetings	3	
<b>Personnel</b>		<b>Total</b>
Current Staff	15	
New Employees hired	5	

## SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

*Conforming Revisions to Committee Rules*

Revisions to House rules over the past few years required conforming amendments to the Committee's rules. The Committee did the revisions in two steps. First, the Committee adopted interim rules at its organizational meeting on February 10, 2009. The interim rules conformed the Committee's rules to the more gender-neutral language adopted in the House rules for the 111th Congress. At that time, the Committee announced that it would be conducting a more thorough review of its rules to incorporate new provisions in House Rule 11 regarding the newly established Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE).

In April 2009, the Committee formed a bipartisan working group led by Representative BEN CHANDLER and Representative JOHN KLINE to review and make recommendations for further, more substantive conforming amendments to the Committee's rules. The working group met formally three times to discuss proposed amendments to the rules. It also consulted with the Office of the Parliamentarian, House Office of Legislative Counsel, and the House General Counsel to ensure the Committee's rules revisions conform to the provisions of the House rules, applicable legislation and the Constitution. The working group's recommended revisions were ultimately adopted by Committee vote on June 9, 2009.

The revisions incorporated House Rule 11 and H. Res. 895 (110th Congress), which established the OCE and created the process by which matters are referred to the Committee from the OCE and eventually subjected to public disclosure. The Committee's rules address the three pillars underlying the creation of the OCE: promoting accountability of the Committee; increasing the transparency of the Committee; and ensuring the independence of both the Committee and the OCE.

A section-by-section summary of the conforming amendments to the Committee's rules is included immediately below.

## SUMMARY OF RULES CHANGES

**Rule 2—Definitions.** Conforms the Committee's rules to extant House rules governing the Committee's role as an investigative authority. Incorporates definitions relevant to the OCE.

**Rule 3—Advisory Opinions and Waivers.** Clarifies that the privately-sponsored travel approval process is part of the Committee's Advisory Opinion process. Permits a Member, officer or House employee to request a copy of his or her own travel approval or advisory opinion request, along with the Committee's response to the request.

**Rule 4—Financial Disclosure.** Establishes that the Committee has declined to exercise jurisdiction over review of the timeliness and completeness of financial disclosure reports filed by the Board of the OCE with the Clerk of the House. This provision promotes OCE's independence.

**Rule 7—Confidentiality.** Conforms the Committee's confidentiality provisions to the public disclosure requirements for referrals from the OCE and permits limited disclosures of Committee investigative information to the Board of the OCE when the Committee requests a referral.

**Rule 9—Quorums and Member Disqualification.** Conforms the Committee's member disqualification rule to changes made in the House Rules for the 111th Congress.

**Rule 12—Broadcasts of Committee and Subcommittee Proceedings.** Removes the provision allowing witnesses to terminate audio and video coverage consistent with the elimination of this provision in the House rules.

**Rule 14—Committee Authority to Investigate—General Policy.** Conforms the Com-

mittee's rules to extant House rules governing the Committee's role as an investigative authority. Incorporates authority to investigate, consistent with new House rules, based on referrals from the OCE.

**Rule 17—Processing of Complaints.** Removes the provision regarding member disqualification to clarify its broader application to all investigative subcommittees.

**Rule 17A—Referrals from the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics.** Incorporates provisions from new House rules detailing the Committee's process for processing referrals from the OCE, including the timeframes for required public disclosure of OCE referrals. Establishes the process the Committee will follow when it receives an OCE referral pursuant to House Rule 11, clause 3. Provides that the Committee must, in virtually all cases, make public OCE's reports and findings regarding referred matters, as well as make public statements regarding the status of the Committee's reviews of referred matters. The public disclosures follow strict timelines. The rule sets out the basic disclosure process and timeframes for disclosure in detail.

Provides that public disclosures required under the rule will be released by the Committee on the Committee's Web site.

Provides that the Committee may receive OCE referrals in two ways that trigger the disclosure process described in Committee Rule 17A. First, OCE's Board may vote to refer a matter to the Committee after completion of OCE's second-phase review. Second, the Committee may request a referral after receiving notice that OCE is reviewing a matter, provided the Committee is already investigating, or has already investigated, the matter pursuant to House Rule 11, clause 3(r). Under that House Rule, as codified in Committee Rule 17A(k), the Committee has the authority to request that OCE refer a matter to the Committee at any stage of an OCE investigation. Because a request for a referral may only come from the Committee, it requires a vote of the full Committee.

Provides that the Committee may not request a matter and then allow it to languish in secret. Treats an early referral as identical to an OCE referral made at the end of a second-stage review. Provides that, if the Committee requests a referral from the OCE, the OCE will issue a report to the Committee when it makes its referral. In early referral cases, the rule applies the same strict timelines and public disclosure requirements applicable to all other OCE referrals. The Committee must act on the matter and release a copy of OCE's report, typically within 45 days, with the possibility of one 45-day extension. Consequently, if the Committee votes to dismiss a matter after requesting an early referral from OCE, the OCE's report will become public, along with a statement from the Committee announcing dismissal of the matter. The rule fosters accountability and ensures that the actions of both the Committee and the OCE are transparent to the House and to the public. (The Committee understands that the OCE, in such cases, would not be precluded from continuing its review based on new information made available to the OCE.)

Provides that, if the Committee is unable to resolve a matter before the public disclosure timeframes run (for example, by empanelling an investigative subcommittee), referred matters will revert back to the OCE for second-phase review and possible referral of the matter to the Committee. Provides that the Committee may only request one referral of the same matter from the OCE.

**Rule 18—Committee-Initiated Inquiry or Investigation.** Conforms the Committee's rules to House rules and long-standing Committee practice. Incorporates recent House

resolutions requiring action by the Committee when a Member, officer or House employee is charged with criminal conduct.

**Rule 19—Investigative Subcommittee.** Adds a provision regarding member disqualification from investigative subcommittees to clarify its broader application to all investigative subcommittees.

**Rule 23—Adjudicatory Hearings.** Clarifies that member disqualification from adjudicatory subcommittees is also governed by the general member disqualification rule, consistent with the House rule revisions in the 111th Congress.

*Staffing*

Effective May 1, 2009, the Committee appointed a permanent staff director and chief counsel. In addition, the Committee has hired four additional staff members, including two attorneys and two investigators, three of whom will start with the Committee during July 2009. The Committee continues to actively interview additional candidates for numerous open staff positions. The addition of a permanent staff director has helped the Committee establish several significant policies (described below) that will enhance compliance with the ethical standards of the House. The addition of new staff will permit the Committee to fulfill its responsibilities in a more timely and effective manner.

*Reduction in Advisory Opinion Backlog*

At the beginning of this Congress, there was a substantial backlog of advisory opinion requests to which the Committee had yet to respond. Many of those requests were months delayed. In some cases, responses were delayed by as much as a year or more. The Committee has cleared the backlog and has established policies to improve its responsiveness to advisory opinion requests.

On May 1, 2009, the Committee established a target of responding to advisory opinion requests, where possible, within two weeks. From the beginning of the year through April 30, 2009, the Committee responded within two weeks to advisory opinion requests about 39% of the time. Since May 1, 2009, the Committee's response rate has jumped to over 80%. The policy change has greatly increased the turnaround time for responses, leading to more timely and effective advice to Members and staff on issues of concern to them. The policy also has encouraged Members and staff to seek confidential advice from the Committee before acting, promoting greater compliance with the House's ethics rules.

*Improved Data Collection and Case Management*

The Committee has significantly improved its data collection and case management. Data is being collected and monitored in ways it has not been before. For example, the Committee has for the first time started collecting much of the data included in the report above on an ongoing basis. The Committee has started tracking the length of time it takes to review advisory opinion and travel requests, allowing it to set targets for processing cases. In addition, the Committee is exploring ways to improve its processes and to expand its data collection.

*Improved Compliance Controls*

The Committee has significantly improved its processes for monitoring compliance with House rules, including the certification of mandated training for staff and the filing of financial disclosure reports. Specifically, the Committee has, since May 1, 2009, established specific policies to identify employees who, and offices that, have failed to properly certify compliance with the House's mandatory training requirements for staff. In addition, the Committee has put into place policies to identify Members and senior staff

who have failed to file financial disclosure reports. These policies will allow the Committee to notify noncompliant individuals and offices, seek corrective measures and take appropriate remedial actions.

*Annual Review of Travel Regulations*

The Committee has started its required annual review of its regulations governing pri-

vately-sponsored travel. It expects to report its findings to the House by the end of 2009.

*Investigations*

The Committee has been conscientiously fulfilling its mission to investigate alleged violations of the House's ethics rules. As can be seen from the report above, the Committee opened 15 new investigative matters

from the beginning of the year through June 30, 2009. During that time, the Committee received six referrals from the OCE. In addition, the Committee continued investigating 11 matters held over from the 110th Congress. The Committee completed four investigative matters. The resolutions in two of those matters were publicly disclosed.