

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. E. MORGAN WILLIAMS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tremendous friend of the people of Ukraine and the Ukrainian-American community, who is to be honored this coming Sunday, May 17, 2009.

Mr. E. Morgan Williams was born in Kansas, and holds a bachelors degree from Ottawa University, Ottawa, Canada, and a masters degree in economics from the University of Kansas. Mr. Williams moved to Washington in 1977 to serve Senator Bob Dole as a staffer on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

In 1992, as senior advisor to a major food system development project in Russia and Ukraine, Mr. Williams worked with U.S. agribusinesses that were investing in the former Soviet Union. Then, from 1997 to 1999, Mr. Williams was the President and CEO of a private agricultural input finance company in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Since 1992, Mr. Williams has worked toward the recognition and acknowledgement of the Holodomor as one of the world's greatest tragedies. He has made pivotal contributions to the world-wide commemoration of the 75th anniversary of this genocide, including being the founder and trustee of a "Holodomor: Through the Eyes of Ukrainian Artists" Exhibition and Education Collection. This collection is composed of original artworks by Ukrainian artists about the Soviet-induced starvation of 1932–1933 that resulted in the death of millions of Ukrainians.

In his current capacity as president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council (USUBC), Mr. Williams has expanded the membership of this important entity to over 100 major U.S. corporations. He has developed this important organization into an advocate for better business laws and practices and provides vital business news to U.S. businesses that have interests in Ukraine.

In February of 2008, he was appointed to the new Council of Investors (COI) created by Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Mr. Williams also serves as a representative of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council.

For this outstanding service and body of work, Mr. Williams will be honored by the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Federation of America on Sunday, May 17, 2009 at the Alexander B. Chernyk Gallery at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in praising the exemplary achievements of Mr. E. Morgan Williams for and on behalf of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. May his dedication and tireless work ethic be an inspiration to us all.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2009

Project Name: Drydock ALABAMA Pier Relocation

Requesting Member: Congressman JO BONNER

Bill Number: FY09 War Supplemental Appropriations Bill

Account: CH 5 GPs

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Atlantic Marine Alabama, LLC

Address of Requesting Entity: Main Gate, Dunlap Drive, Mobile, AL 36602

Description of Request: \$0 will be utilized to create 350 U.S. shipyard jobs. Atlantic Marine, a company with shipyards in Florida and Alabama, Mississippi, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, owns the dry-dock ALABAMA. A dry-dock is a piece of floating construction equipment used to raise and lower ships. The ALABAMA has been moored at Atlantic Marine's Mobile, Alabama facility for over 15 years after it was purchased from another U.S. shipyard that acquired it over a quarter of a century ago from a foreign manufacturer.

Atlantic Marine is currently constructing three Jones Act compliant ships for a Texas-based customer that will use the ships to transport petroleum. The Jones Act requires all "vessels" that move from one point in the U.S. to another to be built in the U.S. To safely launch these ships, Atlantic Marine must move the ship onto the dry-dock ALABAMA. The dry-dock containing the newly constructed ship must then be shifted less than 100 yards to an adjacent pier within the shipyard to launch the ship.

Unfortunately, Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) recently determined that this incidental movement of a foreign-built dry-dock within the shipyard violates the Jones Act, leaving the shipyard without a viable method of launching the ships. This interpretation by CBP is clearly not within the commonly understood attributes of the Jones Act. It is debatable whether a dry-dock is a "vessel", and the determination of moving the dry-dock from one pier in a shipyard to another pier in the same shipyard constitutes two points in the U.S. is questionable. This amendment is supported by the International Organization of Masters, Mates, and Pilots (MM&P), the 6,800 member union representing the domestic maritime industry and America's Merchant Marine.

This provision (a Jones Act waiver for the dry-dock ALABAMA) will create 350 shipyard jobs and the newly constructed Jones Act ships (once launched) will be crewed by 225 U.S. merchant mariners, all without any cost of the taxpayer.

HATE CRIMES AGAINST SIKH AMERICANS

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2009

Mr. POLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to address an issue that does not receive enough attention from my colleagues—the very real evil of hate crimes against Sikh Americans. This is a timely issue, considering our passage yesterday of H.R. 1913, which expands hate crimes protection to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered Americans, among others. It is appalling that a particular group of loyal, patriotic Americans is targeted for attack and ridicule because of the peaceful observance of their faith.

Sikh communities continue to live in fear of hate crimes. Since September 11, 2001, the Justice Department has investigated over 800 incidents of biased attacks against Sikh, Arab, Muslim, and South Asian Americans. More than 40 of these investigations resulted in criminal conviction. Tragically, however, the true extent of hate crimes against Sikh Americans and others may be grossly underreported. Because of the politically sensitive nature of these attacks and the intimidation in many communities, persecuted minorities often do not bring this abuse to the attention of law enforcement. If hate crimes against Sikh Americans and other post-9/11 communities do not come to light, there is a danger that the gravity of the problem will escape the attention of lawmakers and law enforcement officials and continue to leave our communities vulnerable to bias attacks in the future. We cannot let this slip through the cracks!

In the days after the attacks of September 11, 2001, there was an enormous backlash against the Arab and Muslim American communities. The Sikh community was often confused for Arabs or Muslims. Identified by their conspicuous items of faith, Sikhs became easy targets for anyone wishing to take out their rage. Hundreds of incidents of intimidation and violence brought national attention to the problem. As time has passed, however, few people take note of the isolated, but still insidious hate crimes that affect Sikh Americans every year.

Just this year, in Queens, New York, a 21 year-old Sikh man was viciously attacked by hooligans who pelted him with racial epithets as they pulled on his beard and hair. He survived, but not before they had stabbed him in the eye, depriving him not only of his sight, but of his dignity. His story is too common. Last year, in New Jersey, a Sikh boy's turban was set on fire and scalp and hair burned while he was participating in school activity. His attacker was expelled, but charged simply with mischief. The list goes on and on. From Sikh Americans beaten and bloodied as they go out for a jog to cab drivers being murdered in cold blood, each act of violence chips away at the freedom of every American.

• 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.

If we do not stand up for one another, who will? I stand up today for Sikh Americans and, indeed, all those who are singled out for who they are or what they believe. While these attacks were based on the mistaken belief that Sikhs are Muslims or Arabs, attacks on any such group are un-American and threaten the freedom we all work to protect. I urge my colleagues to keep a careful eye on attacks such as these. We must not ignore the problem. We must confront it, call it what it is, and work to make sure these kinds of attacks never happen again. When they do, we must make these bigots famous, and punish them to the fullest extent of the law.

INTRODUCTION OF NET OPERATING LOSS CARRYBACK BILL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2009

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce legislation to help millions of American workers keep their jobs in this difficult economy. This bill provides a simple change in the rules for businesses with net operating losses. Already, businesses can carry these losses back or forward to offset taxes paid in more profitable years. This provision helps businesses smooth out the inevitable ups and downs of our economy.

You would be hard pressed to find an economist now that would say the recession we are currently in is not one of the worst on record. In fact, almost all the economic data we can gather shows it is as bad as it has been since the Great Depression. Congress has already responded with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act earlier this year,

which did include a provision for businesses to carry back losses incurred in 2008 and 2009 for 5 years, instead of 2. However, at the last minute, this legislation was limited only to small businesses.

I support broad and general net operating loss relief and am filing legislation today to do so. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by my friend and Ways and Means colleague, Mr. TIBERI from Ohio. Our bill is based on the budget proposal made by President Obama just this week. While the Administration has indicated the legislation the President supports is that which earlier passed in the Senate, officials have also said they do not support limits of certain industries to claim this relief from operating losses. I believe that is the right approach, but until we have clear guidance from the Administration, the bill I am filing today mirrors that which was filed in the Senate.

Just this week, I was visited by one business that did not qualify under the stimulus bill—Brookstone. Any traveler will be happy to share with you their favorite Brookstone product—talking alarm clocks or compact hair dryers. Their stores are in most major airports now. But this 45-year old company, founded in my home State of Massachusetts, had a loss last year for the first time in the company's history. That loss impacts not only the bottom line, but its ability to restock inventory, and its ability to borrow money based on inventory. For many American businesses, like Brookstone, net operating loss relief can be a life-line to help a struggling business through a historic economic downturn.

With consumer confidence at its lowest level ever, retailers across the country have been hurting. Retailers lost 535,000 jobs last year and 2009 is sure to rival that number. And the bad news just keeps on coming. Today, about 2,000 auto dealerships around the country will be eliminated. That's about 60 jobs at each dealership, averaging \$50,000 a year for those

workers. These are difficult times for American businesses, and we can offer a life-line with this bill. I hope my colleagues will join us in this effort to provide modest relief through a simple accounting change for businesses with true operating losses.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, after what I thought was a successful attempt to cast my vote supporting the H.R. 2346, the War Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009, I learned the next day my vote was not recorded.

I fully support this year's war supplemental. Whether serving in the Army, Navy, Marines, or Air Force, the men and women who serve are key enablers in fighting the Global War on Terror. It's important we give them, and their families, what they need to continue their success in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as at home.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am committed to doing everything I can to protecting our nation and communities. I am working to protect and expand the role of Fairchild Air Force Base, including securing the next generation of air refueling tankers.

I could not be more proud of the veterans, active duty and military families who call Eastern Washington home. I thank them for their service and am committed to doing everything I can to support them.