

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE  
"JAKE" JACOBSEN

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Nevada State Senator Lawrence "Jake" Jacobsen, who passed away on Wednesday, July 26, 2006.

Jake, who made his home in Minden, NV, retired from the legislature in 2002 as the longest-serving legislator in Nevada history, having served 16 years in the Assembly and 24 in the Senate. Over his long and distinguished career, Jake must have been proudest of his work on behalf of the state's veterans and the Department of Corrections honor camp system, and his fight for preservation of the Stewart Indian School and Marlette Lake. Jake was also a volunteer firefighter in Carson Valley for more than 50 years, and has fought several fires side-by-side with Forest Service personnel. As president of the Minden Engine Company for 25 years and a lawmaker for 40 years, Jake has supported firefighting and preserved funding for fire crews.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of former state Senator Lawrence "Jake" Jacobsen. In his long and distinguished career as a legislator in the State Senate he touched countless lives. He was a good friend, one whom I had the pleasure of serving with for 8 years. He will be greatly missed by all the citizens of Nevada.

THE AVAILABILITY OF AVIAN FLU  
RESEARCH DATA

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached letter along with my colleagues to the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding avian flu data on July 6, 2006.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, July 6, 2006.

Mr. MIKE LEAVITT,  
Secretary, Department of Health and Human  
Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY LEAVITT: As the looming threat of a pandemic flu continues, the need to take cost effective and time-saving steps to boost our capacity and response speed is vital. The free flow of information, in particular, can accelerate research, and the development of vaccines, saving lives. In the case of Avian Flu, the very properties we fear the most—the ease with which the virus is transmitted and its ability to kill its host—are encoded in the virus' genome. Yet the genetic sequences are currently only immediately available to a select group of researchers, a practice which is hampering and delaying our ability to respond to the threat of the pandemic influenza. We will need as many scientific eyes as possible examining the problem.

Though an adequate response to a future pandemic will require the cooperation of all involved countries, the US should show leadership commensurate with its expertise and wealth. We therefore applaud your request of the World Health Assembly, the decision making body of the World Health Organization, that they "pledge with me to abide by four principles of pandemic preparedness: Transparency, rapid reporting, data sharing, and scientific cooperation."

We ask that you set these principles into motion by requiring data from HHS-funded research on avian influenza and genetic sequences, in particular, to be promptly deposited in a publicly accessible repository such as GenBank, the sequence database of the National Institutes of Health. Researchers for the Human Genome Project published their sequences in a public database within 24 hours. Calls for the immediate deposition of sequence data have come from some of the most renowned scientists in the world in the field of avian influenza.

Some scientists and countries are reluctant to release their genetic and clinical data for fear of loss of scientific credit or that the information will be used to create a technology, such as a vaccine, that will then be priced out of their reach. In particular, certain countries are refusing to release their sequences. Unfortunately, those countries are reported to include several current or past hot spots for H5N1. These concerns can be satisfied. There are already public databases holding tens of thousands of genetic sequences that have intellectual property protections in place to prevent just such problems. While many countries may have policies in place to prevent the open sharing of such information, stressing the importance of rapid response worldwide is vital.

In the event of a pandemic, the public will need to be able to trust that their government and scientists are acting with the transparency, speed and cooperation you requested. The United States can take this opportunity to take on a critical leadership role.

Sincerely,  
Dennis J. Kucinich, Sheila Jackson-Lee,  
Jim McDermott, John Conyers, Jr.,  
Wayne T. Gilchrest, Tammy Baldwin,  
Diana DeGette, Ellen O. Tauscher,  
Lynn C. Woolsey, John W. Olver, Major  
R. Owens, Barbara Lee, Dale E. Kildee,  
William J. Jefferson, Madeleine Z.  
Bordallo, Bernie Sanders.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be on the House floor for rollcall votes 412 and 413. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on both votes.

HONORING CHANNEL LOGISTICS,  
LLC

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor Channel Logistics, LLC for their recent achievement in maritime domain and seaport security.

On April 1, 2006, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers presented their Annual Corporate Innovation Award to Channel Logistics, LLC during the Institute's annual awards dinner in Philadelphia. The award recognizes the company's development of the Computer Assisted Threat Evaluation System. This system evaluates potential maritime and port security threats among ships, crew and cargo entering our ports. It is able to evaluate threats by analyzing information contained within maritime databases through the processes of data fusion, pattern and choke point mapping.

This technology plays an important role in uncovering possible terrorist threats to our vulnerable maritime and port infrastructures. I am proud that Camden, NJ-based Channel Logistics, LLC is a leader in developing innovative technologies designed to secure our country and ports, and I congratulate them on receiving the IEEE's distinguished Annual Corporate Innovation Award.

HONORING BOB BRAUER

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and work of Robert Brauer of Berkeley, CA. A visionary and courageous public servant, Bob has dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. Bob's unwavering commitment to social justice has inspired me and many others to dedicate our lives to this struggle, and has impacted the lives of countless others in California's 9th Congressional District and across our country. This month Bob "retires" after a lifetime of working for the advancement of a more just and equitable society for us all, and today I join our entire community in saluting him for his public exemplary service.

Bob's dedication to public service has been evident since he was a young adult. After graduating in 1960 from the University of California, Berkeley, where he met his wife Penny, Bob was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. He was stationed in El Paso, TX, in the Strategic Air Command, and served there until 1963 when he left the Air Force as a Captain.

Upon completion of his service in the Air Force, Bob and his family, which by then included his wife, a son, and two young daughters, returned to Berkeley, CA, where he began a new job as an Assistant Personnel

• 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.

Officer at Wells Fargo Bank, where he was an integral part of Wells Fargo's participation in the industry-wide effort in California to integrate women and minorities into parts of the workforce in which they were dramatically underrepresented.

Following that job, Bob became the Skills Bank Director for the Bay Area Urban League, a role in which he was responsible for creating job opportunities for and placing minorities in jobs that had historically been inaccessible to them. During this time, Bob was also very active in civic and political affairs, serving in leadership positions in a number of local organizations, and with his wife Penny, he was very active in local political campaigns. Bob was appointed to the Recreation and Parks Commission by then-Berkeley City Council member Ron Dellums, and around that time he was also named as President of the Catholic Interracial Council of the Diocese of Oakland. He and his wife continued their activism in the farm workers' and civil rights struggles, the anti-Vietnam War movement and other local issues related to the ongoing fight for social justice.

In 1969, Bob became the Regional Director of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance (OFCC), Department of Labor, and soon became the OFCC Assistant Director in Washington, DC. In this role he helped to develop the national plan to integrate the construction trades, as well as the Philadelphia Plan's goals and timetables for women and minorities. Bob and his family, which by that time had grown considerably, moved to Bethesda, MD.

In 1971, the Secretary of Labor nominated Bob and the American Political Science Association (APSA) selected him to be an APSA Congressional Fellow, and he spent the next year working in the office of his friend, the newly elected Congressman Ron Dellums of California's then 7th District. At the end of his fellowship he left the Department of Labor and joined Mr. Dellums' staff.

This marked the beginning of what would become more than two decades of distinguished service to California's now-9th Congressional District and to our country. Bob would serve as Special Counsel to Congressman Dellums and for the House District of Columbia Committee during Mr. Dellums' chairmanship. In 1993, Bob became a Senior Professional Staff Member on the House Armed Services Committee when Mr. Dellums became the HASC Chairman.

Bob was an integral part not only of the personal office and Committee staffs, but he played a major role in supporting Mr. Dellums' many policy initiatives during those years. At the DC Committee, Bob helped implement bold initiatives to use the Committee as a vehicle for promulgating solutions to some of the District's, and the Nation's, most important urban problems: mass transportation, pension reform, health care and infant mortality and education reform, among others. Among his most notable activities were his work on the investigation of the U.S. Intelligence Community undertaken by the Pike Select Committee, the successful authorization of the 50-foot federal channel dredging project at the Port of Oakland, and the construction of the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building in Oakland. Bob was also centrally involved in the drafting and passage of Mr. Dellums' incredibly important anti-apartheid bill in the House of Representa-

tives in the 1980s, a bill which became law over the veto of then-President Reagan. Throughout his time in Washington, Bob was also actively involved in international human rights issues, traveling as a peace observer several times to wartorn countries in Central America in the 1970s and 1980s, at the risk of his own life. On the HASC staff he played a significant role in maintaining Mr. Dellums' excellent working relationships with both sides of the aisle and assisting Mr. Dellums to accomplish one of the House's most exemplary chairmanships.

I met Bob during his early years in Congressman Dellums' personal office. I was then an intern for Congressman Dellums. I will never forget the way he supported and guided me, and helped me to not only become engaged in politics and policy, but also to become an effective advocate for social justice. For over 30 years, Bob has been a willing mentor, an advisor, a teacher and a friend, and serving the 9th Congressional District and our country alongside him has been and continues to be a great honor.

Bob worked for Congressman Dellums until the end of 1996. In 1997, Bob became Special Assistant to the President of California State University, Hayward, where he played a crucial role in the sizeable structural improvements, enrollment increases, and expansion of that campus into a leading institution in our state. During that time he has also continued to serve our community in numerous other roles, such as a volunteer Board member of the Chabot Observatory and Science Center, where he was responsible for raising close to \$60 million to build a new facility in Oakland.

Bob recently retired from the renamed CSU East Bay, and today I would like to add my voice to the countless others that are expressing their congratulations and their gratitude to this extraordinary individual for his tireless work and ceaseless advocacy for social justice and equality of opportunity in the United States and around the world. On behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I am humbled to honor Bob Brauer for his extraordinary service to our community, and to wish him the very best as he begins the next chapter in his life of conviction, character, and integrity.

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RECOGNIZING DELLA HOERL  
HUECKER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mrs. Della Hoerl Huecker of Booneville, MO. As a long time citizen of Bunceton, MO, and then Booneville, Mrs. Byrd will be celebrating her 90th birthday on August 14, 2006. She has seen many events over the past 90 years and awoke each day with a strong sense of family and community that improved the lives of everyone she has touched. Her life should be celebrated with the same joy and excitement in which she gives back to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Mrs. Della Hoerl Huecker. Throughout her 90 years, she has always given back more than was expected of her.

Her life is an inspiration to many and I am proud to serve her in the United States Congress.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHAD  
CHRISTOFFERSON

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Chad Christofferson, who has served my office—and more importantly, the American people—with distinction for the past 2 years.

Chad started in my office as a legislative correspondent in 2004. His organizational skills and ability to effectively respond to constituent concerns earned him a promotion the following year to the legislative staff of the U.S. House Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce and Agency Organization, which I chair.

In his current role, Chad has worked on many issues, but particularly of note, he has become one of our lead staffers on the Subcommittee's health initiatives. He has gained respect among leaders of the healthcare community by his quick grasp and thorough knowledge of complex health information technology matters that have gone into crafting the Federal Family Health Information Technology Act, a bill I introduced giving Federal employees electronic access to their own health records maintained under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program. This legislation has a simple goal—to save lives by reducing medical errors.

Chad's work has been exemplary, and he is driven by personal devotion to integrity and public service. In fact, it is his commitment to improving the lives of others and his work on our health information technology legislation that led to his recent decision to pursue a career in medicine. And so, Chad is heading home to Utah, where this fall he will enroll in the school of pharmacology at Brigham Young University.

I have spoken of Chad's dedication and professionalism, which by themselves are deserving of thanks and recognition. He will continue to be a servant to others by fighting disease and illness, and, in so doing will reaffirm the values that make America the land of hope and opportunity to the world. I wish him Godspeed.

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THE RESEARCH AGENDA FOR  
NIEHS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached letter along with my colleagues to the Director of the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences regarding environmental health research on July 11, 2006.