

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DEL MARTIN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues in Congress, and with great personal sadness, I rise to pay tribute to a highly esteemed and loved community leader who died on August 27th. Del Martin was a remarkable woman, an eloquent organizer for civil rights and human dignity. Del helped create and shape the modern lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender and feminist movements. She was endowed with extraordinary courage, persistence, intelligence, humor, and grace. She refused to be silenced by fear and never stopped fighting for equality.

Del Martin and her beloved partner, in work as in life, of 50 years, Phyllis Lyon were married at San Francisco City Hall on June 16, 2008. They were the first same-sex couple to wed in San Francisco after the California Superior Court's landmark decision to affirm marriage equality. This was Del Martin's, last public political act, and we would not have won marriage equality in California without their leadership and example.

I have proudly talked about Del and Phyllis on two occasions on this House floor—first in 1996 as I spoke in strong opposition to the ill-named Defense of Marriage Act, then 10 years later against the constitutional amendment to prohibit same-sex marriage. I told my colleagues about their love, happiness and commitment to each other which continue to be a source of strength and inspiration to all who know them. I asked my colleagues to explain how their relationship was a threat to anyone's marriage and why Del and Phyllis should not be treated equally under the law. I am grateful that they allowed me to share their personal history to show that these malicious and discriminatory measures were counter to the ideals of liberty, freedom, and equality for which this Nation stands.

Del and Phyllis were pioneering activists for lesbian and gay rights and women's rights. They fought and triumphed in many battles and made history for the LGBT community in our city, our State and our Nation. In the 1950s, they cofounded the first national lesbian rights organization in the United States, the "Daughters of Bilitis," long before the gay rights movement took hold. They published a monthly newsletter, *The Ladder*, and the book *Lesbian/Woman* which generated new media visibility and political engagement for the nascent gay rights movement. They cofounded the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, the first gay political club in the United States.

Del Martin's publication of *Battered Wives* in 1976 was a watershed moment in the movement against domestic violence. She cofounded the Coalition for Justice for Battered Women, La Casa de las Madres, and the California Coalition against Domestic Violence. Lyon-Martin Health Services, the San Fran-

cisco clinic named for Del and Phyllis that provides quality health care to women and transgender people, will stand as a testament to their generous spirit and pioneering commitment.

In 1995 Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN and I named Del and Phyllis to the White House Conference on Aging where they advocated for LGBT people to be included explicitly in aging policies.

I hope it is a comfort to Phyllis, their daughter Kendra Mon, and their grandchildren and vast extended family of friends that so many people mourn her loss and will hold Del in their hearts forever.

STATEMENT ON GAS PRICES AND ENERGY IN THE 14TH DISTRICT

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to record my strong and enthusiastic support for achieving independence from foreign oil, continuing our work in moving forward on comprehensive energy policy reform, and finding new alternatives to develop cheap, clean, and renewable energy. Recently, the House of Representatives passed a bipartisan, comprehensive energy bill, which I had the honor of supporting. But when it comes to providing more solutions to overcome our energy crisis, there is still much more to be done.

Earlier this month, on Labor Day, I met with constituents from Illinois' 14th District at the DeKalb Oasis on Ronald Reagan Memorial Tollway to hear what they had to say about how gas prices and our current energy policy affected them.

While passing the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act was an excellent first step, I firmly believe that we need more relief from high gas prices, and we need a comprehensive energy policy overhaul that provides solutions for the short, medium, and long term. As statements from my constituents show, I am not alone in this concern.

Much of what I heard was familiar. They told me gas prices are too much and are spiraling out of control. They told me they are forced to make new, tough choices as consumers on groceries, transportation, and the other costs of daily life. They told me while they try to cut their spending, there is almost nothing left to cut. They told me that because of gas prices they have to work more at a second job, or the business that employs them can no longer do so because business costs are increasing as well.

I am entering some of what I heard on Labor Day into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not because the testimony I heard is a surprise, but because it is a wake-up call. We need more bipartisan solutions, and need

them now. We cannot afford to wait. I have repeatedly shown my support for solutions that increase supply, and decrease demand while also pursuing research and development of clean, affordable, alternative energy sources that would make our Nation energy independent. These are solutions I supported when I voted for the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act, and these are solutions I firmly believe we should continue to pursue.

Here are some things I heard from constituent about how gas and energy prices are affecting them.

"How are gas prices affecting my family? Well, first of all I am an educator who could not afford to have a family, not even years ago . . . I have a full-time job, and I now have three part-time jobs so I can pay all my bills. I cut back on travel expenses, which is one expense I could control. I am working more hours at one of my part-time jobs. I never forgot lesson taught by President Carter—I keep my house in the 60s during the winter and 80 degrees in the summer. I do everything I can to keep the house insulated in the summer and winter. I cut back on eating out and on food expenses in general, but not to the point of knowingly putting my health at risk by eating cheaper, but fatty foods."—Kay, DeKalb, IL

"I actually have a car at home, well kind of I paid for half of the vehicle. My sister was driving it while I was here at school, and now that my sister has gone away to college my parents are just taking us off the insurance. They're just keeping the car in the garage," Amanda, of DeKalb, IL, explained to me.

I asked her why she left her car unused. She said it was an expense she could not afford.

"My parents don't think I'd be able to maintain working and paying for the high prices of gas, but you know everything with having to maintain repairs, whatever need be but that gets really expensive so we just thought it would be better off not doing anything."

Amanda was not alone in finding that gas prices and college-related costs very limiting. Gas prices restricted her roommate's options in commuting as well as compounding other expenses like the cost of school and raising a family.

"It's just shopping and whatever, I would like to go home. NIU is nicknamed the suitcase school because so many kids just come for the week and then they go home, but I don't have the ability to do that, I can't go back and work all the time because everything is expensive," Hillary, DeKalb, IL, said.

Hillary pointed out another common sentiment is not just the cost increase of gas prices, but also the speed at which they increased.

"It's kind of a gradual thing of course; our economy being in the status that it is right now and with gas prices rising. It's like everything is happening at once," Hillary continued. "My tuition has gone up and Northern was actually the only school I could afford, even though I'm

• 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.

a veteran. This is the only school that I could afford, and then on top of that, it's like tuition is rising. My mom is a single mom with a bunch of kids, with gas prices and everything—it's hard."

I am proud to submit the concerns of my constituents into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for all to see, hear, and recognize.

RECOGNIZING THE RIEGELSVILLE
FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Riegelsville Fire Company for 110 years of distinguished service to the Riegelsville, Durham and Nockamixon communities. On September 27, 2008, they will not only be celebrating this anniversary, but also welcoming their newest fire engine, Engine 42-1.

In 1898 the Phoenix Fire Company formed as a bucket brigade, named after the first piece of equipment they bought—a Phoenix Steam Pumper. Later in 1918 they changed the name and became incorporated as Community Fire Company #1.

Today, 90 years later, they are still protecting the families in this community with the same honor and selfless service.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing the Riegelsville Fire Department for their 110 years of service to communities in Bucks County. I am honored to serve as their Congressman.

IN HONOR OF JIM MANGIA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jim Mangia, distinguished philanthropist and entrepreneur, whose health centers have provided free medical, dental and mental health services to thousands of children and adults in Los Angeles for over forty years.

Jim Mangia is the President and CEO of St. John's Well Child and Family Center (SJWCFC) and a leading expert on environmental health issues faced by economically disadvantaged communities in Los Angeles, California. He recently opened his eleventh non-profit health care clinic in downtown Los Angeles, forty years after opening his first clinic. St. John's Well Child and Family Centers have grown to a family of eleven non-profit health centers providing free health services to children and adults. Since the founding of the first St. John's Well Child and Family Center, his clinics have served over sixty-thousand patients a year. According to statistics provided by St. John's, more than ninety-seven percent of the patients who have visited the clinics live below the poverty level and almost half of all residents have no health insurance. Mr. Mangia has led the effort on discourse regarding environmental health and has co-authored an article outlining the effects of slum housing on children's health.

Mr. Mangia's dedication to treating and raising awareness of environmental health issues reaches far beyond his leadership in SJWCFC. He has testified before Congress numerous times and works intimately with a number of local school boards to ensure that the health needs of children from economically disadvantaged communities are being met.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Jim Mangia, and in recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of communities of need. May his inspiration and genius be an example for all of us to follow.

COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS,
ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would like the record to show that I oppose this bill. I am concerned that this bill is a continuation of the lopsided "sanctions-only" approach to Iran that only undermines the potential for constructive engagement through diplomacy.

Iran poses a particular challenge because as much as we are horrified by the regime's support for terrorism, threatened by its nuclear adventurism, and troubled by the lack of democracy and human rights, we also know that the Iranian people are as opposed to foreign manipulation as they are to authoritarian rule and that both the Iranian and American people want to avoid war.

The steps that the Iranian regime should take are clear. They should stop their support for terrorism, end their development of nuclear weapons capability, and begin the process of free, fair, and open elections. But it is naïve to think that the United States can merely tell them what to do, sanction them for not doing it, and expect success. We need, instead, to develop a smart, strong and constructive plan to deny Iran nuclear weapons and halt its support for terrorists, to help keep us and our allies secure.

The first place to look for lessons is our success with Libya, where a unified international front convinced one of the world's most dangerous state-sponsors of terror to give up its nuclear weapons program in exchange for the benefits of membership in the international community. Iran must be given a similar choice and we must provide both credible incentives for negotiations to work and muscular sanctions if they fail.

This bill offers a piecemeal approach: sanctions without credible negotiations. I oppose it and other short-sighted efforts in our approach to Iran.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, to provide open disclosure, I am submitting the following information for publi-

cation in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding a project that I support for inclusion in the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2009.

I believe funding to clean up the Hanford site in Washington State, and the Department of Energy's other Environmental Management sites across the country, is a fundamental federal obligation, not an earmark as it is labeled in this bill. However, because it has been so labeled in the Committee report, I voluntarily submit to the House an explanation and justification of this funding in an effort to provide as much public disclosure as possible on congressionally directed funding and earmarks. The \$10 million programmatic increase provided for in the bill will be used for the Department of Energy's Environmental Management program at the Hanford Site in Fiscal Year 2009. The entity to receive the funding is the U.S. Department of Energy located at 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20585. The Federal Government has a legal and moral obligation to clean up the massive wastes and contamination it created at Hanford during the Manhattan Project, World War II and the Cold War. Funding to clean up Hanford is not a luxury sought by myself or my constituents, it is an essential responsibility of the United States government. The over 500-square-mile Hanford site is the world's largest and most complex environmental cleanup project, and the Federal Government must keep its commitment to clean it up. No matching funds are required.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DANA ROHRABACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of the House amendment to H.R. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009."

Requesting Member: DANA ROHRABACHER.

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: RDTE, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Boeing Company.

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 516, St. Louis, MO 63166.

Description of Request: I requested \$2,320,000 to allow the Department of Defense to test and certify the Precision Container Aerial Delivery System (PCADS). PCADS is a tool to apply existing military air-drop capabilities to extinguish wildfires. It consists of containerized water bladders that are compatible with all U.S. military cargo aircraft, thereby enabling all military cargo aircraft to serve as firefighters. This will vastly increase the number of aerial firefighting aircraft available to State and Federal fire fighting agencies. The water bladders are delivered at a safe altitude above the fire, and ripped open prior to striking the ground, thus delivering water, gel, or agent with maximum effect. This request is for the testing of the program and will be the last time funds are needed for testing.

HONORING DEKLAN LOUIS
KENNEDY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Deklan Louis Kennedy of Blue Springs, Missouri. Deklan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Deklan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Deklan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Deklan Louis Kennedy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE VALUABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS OF NICARAGUAN-AMERICANS

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the contributions of our Nation's Nicaraguan-American population. The South Florida community that I represent is blessed to have many of these hard-working and talented individuals. Their contributions to our community's success and growth are a testament to their dedication and service.

It is fitting that this recognition occurs in the month of September. The rapid growth of Nicaraguan immigrants started in September 1972 following a devastating earthquake. The largest group of refugees arrived on our shores in September 1979 as they escaped the communist Sandinista regime.

Out of this tragedy came the triumph of a people who were determined not be victims of circumstance. They took charge of their life and decided to make a better life for themselves and their children in our great country. They have contributed to the fabric of American society and helped strengthen the ties between both our nations.

During the next Congressional session, I will be introducing a resolution to designate September as Nicaraguan-American Heritage month. It is a fitting tribute for a people who have truly realized their own American dream.

HONORING VARTKESS BALIAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Vartkess Balian. Mr. Balian

epitomized the life of a community leader. His contributions enriched the lives of countless Armenians and Armenian Americans. He will be remembered for his graciousness, compassion, and ingenuity.

Vartkess Balian grew up in Beirut, Lebanon, in a family that taught him to value his Armenian ancestry. When he moved to the United States, he brought his love of being Armenian to his new home. Championing Armenian issues, Mr. Balian served in various leadership positions at the Armenian General Benevolent Union. Through his generosity and interest in enhancing the lives of Armenian youth, he and his wife, Rita Balian, spearheaded the AGBU's successful New York Summer Intern Program, giving hundreds of Armenian college students the opportunity for professional development and international experience in the United States.

Mr. Balian also served as president of the Tekeyan Cultural Association. During this time he established the Vartkess and Rita Balian Press Award to foster excellence in the field of journalism by giving grants to promising correspondents. Dedicating himself to education, Mr. Balian helped found the Friends of Yerevan State University. This organization has raised millions of dollars to improve university facilities and provide for scholarship endowment funds.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Vartkess Balian, and extending our sincere condolences and deep appreciation to Mrs. Rita Balian. Mr. Balian's efforts will continue to benefit and inspire Armenian youth and his many international colleagues and friends for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, on the evening of September 28, 2008, I was unable to vote due to illness and missed three Rollcall Votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall number 666, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1514; "yea" on Rollcall number 667, on agreeing to H. Res. 1514; and "yea" on Rollcall number 668, on passage of S. 2840.

Additionally, due to illness, I missed five Rollcall Votes on September 29, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 669, passage of S. 906; "yea" on Rollcall number 670, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1517; "yea" on Rollcall number 671 on agreeing to H. Res. 1517; "yea" on Rollcall number 672 on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 440; and "nay" on Rollcall number 673 on the motion to adjourn.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LARRY M. WADE,
SR.

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Larry M. Wade, Sr., a distin-

guished individual who recently became the State Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW, Department of Pennsylvania. As State Commander, he is responsible for Pennsylvania's 29 districts and over 550 posts. He works with Pennsylvania's line officers to ensure the operations and programs of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Pennsylvania. He also represents Pennsylvania's V.F.W. on a national level and serves on a number of commissions working tirelessly on behalf of our Nation's veterans. Mr. Wade has also served his country honorably in the United States Navy, where he served three tours of duty in Vietnam.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Wade started working in the V.F.W. Post 7377 in Sankertown, Pennsylvania, where he still lives with his wife Debra. As Post Commander, he was honored as an All-State Commander for five consecutive years. Furthermore, he was previously honored as the Cambria County Veteran of the Year. In addition to holding positions at the post level, Mr. Wade has also held office at the county, district, and State levels. Before being named the State Commander, he held the positions of Department Senior Vice Commander, Department Junior Vice Commander, and Community Activities Chairman.

Madam Speaker, the Veterans of Foreign Wars is a strong advocate on behalf of our Nation's veterans and is particularly strong in Pennsylvania. Mr. Wade's leadership will help to ensure that the V.F.W. will continue in its central mission. I wish to conclude my remarks by congratulating Mr. Wade on his outstanding accomplishment.

HONORING THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR BEHAVIOR CHANGE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 11th Anniversary of a professional organization dedicated to improving the lives of adolescents in Southeastern Pennsylvania with autism and other developmental disabilities.

The Institute for Behavior Change of Coatesville, Chester County was founded in 1997 by Dr. Steven Kosor, a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist. Dr. Kosor's vision was an Institute that would recruit and train those providing quality in-school and in-home psychological treatment and behavioral support to children.

Since the Institute's inception, its dedicated staff has served more than 500 children throughout Philadelphia and the surrounding Chester, Delaware and Montgomery Counties.

The Institute will commemorate its 11th Anniversary during a conference at the Eden Resort in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on November 21, 2008.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in celebrating this special milestone for The Institute for Behavior Change and thanking the staff for its outstanding professionalism and commitment to helping youth with developmental disabilities fulfill their maximum potential.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR
COOPERATION APPROVAL AND
NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCE-
MENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, my friend and colleague from California, Chairman BERMAN, has work tirelessly over the last year to make this deal better. He has been a great champion of nonproliferation in this House, and he has led many efforts to prod and question the Bush administration on the negotiations with India—pressing for a deal that would enhance our relationship with the world's largest democracy while protecting the global nonproliferation regime and our interests around world. Unfortunately, the administration resisted many of his efforts, and those of others, and I am forced to oppose the final package.

I believe that our relationship with India is one of our most important. Our interests are inextricably linked, and our economies draw ever closer. In the past, that relationship has been strained by the issue of nuclear proliferation—India never signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and continues to build nuclear weapons. The agreement we vote on today began as a valiant attempt to bring India into the nuclear mainstream, while binding our business communities closer together. Unfortunately, it has ended with an agreement that falls short of either goal: the safeguards are not strong enough, the incentive for other nations to proliferate is too great, and while opening India's nuclear market to the world, it places American companies at a competitive disadvantage compared to French and Russian firms.

Even worse, the "deal" is not really a deal at all. The Indian government and the Administration have been issuing contradictory statements about it for the past year. This is not a problem of each side interpreting the treaty differently—the two sides have apparently signed two different treaties. The next time India has a new government, which could be as early as this winter, it may withdraw from the agreement, and the net result of all of this negotiation will be to allow foreign companies to sell nuclear technology to India. No nonproliferation goals would be accomplished, no new business would be generated for American companies, and no new relationship with India would be achieved.

So, I have a few questions for the administration, which have not been answered, and I think they're important questions to consider as we vote on this proposal.

When the administration realized that the Indians would not accept a deal that punished them if they decided to test a nuclear weapon, a requirement of the Hyde Act, why did they continue to negotiate?

When it became clear that the real winners in this deal were the Russians and other nuclear powers that indiscriminately and irresponsibly sell nuclear technology around the world, why didn't we pull out?

When the administration realized that this deal might undermine the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, a treaty that has succeeded in dramatically limiting the number of

nuclear nations, why did they not take steps to strengthen other nonproliferation efforts?

When it became clear that we couldn't get the assurances we needed to stem proliferation, why didn't we shift gears and produce a deal in renewable energy, information technology, or another area that would bring actual benefits to the American economy without harming our national security?

Some proponents of the deal have said that it brings India into the nonproliferation mainstream. But in fact, India remains free to test nuclear weapons, has not agreed to abide by the Nonproliferation Treaty, has not signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and will only allow international inspectors access to a few of their civilian power plants. That is not the mainstream.

India has become a vital partner in a world that has grown dangerous and unpredictable. But tragically, an agreement in any other field would have brought us more, without seriously weakening our efforts to prevent a nuclear arms race in the Middle East and South Asia.

As a strong supporter of improving our relationship with India, but a firm advocate of nonproliferation, I cannot support this agreement, and I must urge my colleagues to oppose it as well.

RECOGNIZING COUNTY SUPER-
VISOR TIM SMITH OF SONOMA
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, to recognize and honor Tim Smith, who is retiring after serving for 20 years on the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. Upon his retirement, Supervisor Smith will have earned the distinction of being the longest continuously serving supervisor in the county's history.

Supervisor Smith began his service to our country as a Navy radioman in Vietnam. When he returned from Vietnam, he attended Sonoma State University, where he graduated with a B.A. in Political Science in 1976.

Shortly thereafter, he joined the staff of State Assemblyman Doug Bosco and continued as his district director when the Assemblyman was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Supervisor Smith was elected to the Board in 1988. As Supervisor, he provided constituent services to 95,000 people in the Third District. The Board also sets the policy direction for the \$700 million annual budget and 3,500 county employees, works extensively with the legislative delegation on legislative and regulatory issues and serves on many regional and local agencies, commissions and boards.

Just a few of these agencies, commissions and boards include the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, the National Association of Counties, the California Association of Counties, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Sonoma County Community Development Commission and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

In his spare time, he has been a volunteer, advocate or fundraiser for many non-profit or-

ganizations, including the Volunteer Center, United Way, Day of Caring, the Hate Free Community Project, the Valley of the Moon Children's Home, the Heart Association and the Sonoma County Climate Protection Campaign.

Supervisor Smith intends to spend his well earned leisure time traveling with his wife, Suzanne, enjoying his hobbies of golf and fly fishing, and spending more time with his 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Supervisor Smith leaves a distinguished record of public service and a lasting reputation as a problem solver who always had the best interests of the people of Sonoma County in mind as he worked on their behalf. We will miss our partnership with him but know he will continue to be a strong advocate for his community. It is appropriate that we honor and acknowledge him today for his lifetime of public service.

HONORING GARRETT ELLSWORTH
MOORE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Garrett Ellsworth Moore of Kansas City, Missouri. Garrett is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1378, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Garrett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Garrett has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Garrett Ellsworth Moore for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE NELSON FAMILY
OF COMPANIES

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to recognize and honor the Nelson Family of Companies, which has been selected as the Business of the Year by the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The Nelson Family of Companies is an independently owned group of businesses that provide a wide variety of full-time and contract-staffing services as well as software and support services designed to facilitate workforce management.

The first of the "Nelson Companies" opened in 1970 in San Rafael. In 1989 a corporate office was established in Sonoma. The companies currently employ more than 300 people in 25 offices throughout northern California.

In addition to being a major employer itself in Sonoma and providing support services to other local businesses, the Nelson family has been an active participant in community organizations and events. Primary beneficiaries have been the Hanna Boys Center and Sonoma Valley Hospital. The companies have also been sponsors or supporters of the Sonoma Jazz Festival, the Charles Schwab Cup Champion's Tour event at Sonoma Golf Club, the Sonoma Wine Harvest Auction and Festival, the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association annual walk, the Blood Bank of the Redwoods annual blood drive, the Valley of the Moon Boys & Girls Club and the Valley of the Moon Teen Center and the Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance.

Madam Speaker, local businesses in the small communities throughout our two Congressional districts are much more than employers. They are the backbone of a support system for projects, non-profit organizations and civic events that would not be successful without their involvement. No organization better exemplifies this commitment than the Nelson Family of Companies. It is therefore appropriate for us to honor Chairman Gary D. Nelson and his leadership team and employees, both past and present, for their great work throughout the years.

HONORING RICHARD LACOSSE ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE UPPER PENINSULA LABOR HALL OF FAME

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Richard (Dick) LaCrosse on his induction into Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame. A resident of Escanaba, Michigan, Mr. LaCrosse will be honored at the U.P. Labor Hall of Fame Induction Banquet on October 11, 2008. I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring Mr. LaCrosse on this momentous occasion.

Richard LaCrosse began his career in 1969 when he went to work at Mead Paper in Escanaba, Michigan. He joined United Paperworkers International Union, UPIU, Local 110, which is now United Steelworkers, USW, Local 2-21. Dick LaCrosse quickly became actively involved in his local union and soon became a shop steward. He was appointed to the position of Chief Steward and vice president in June 1978 and was elected president of the local union in January 1981. In August 1983, he was appointed to the position of international representative.

During his 25 years with the International Union he served at one time or another as: a member of the Delta County Trades and Labor Council; member of the Board of Directors of the Upper Peninsula Labor/Management Council, including a term as its president; chairman of the Niagara of Wisconsin Jointly Trusted Pension Plan; trustee of PACE International Union's Pension Plan; member of the Board of Directors of the Upper Peninsula Private Industry Council; treasurer of the Upper Peninsula Safety Council; member of the Governor's Task Force on Education;

member of Michigan's School to Work Committee; member of the Delta/Schoolcraft Education Advisory Development Board; member of the UPIU/Scott Paper Joint Advisory Committee; steward of the Representatives and Organizers Union; member of the Advisory Planning Committee of Northern Michigan University's Labor Education Division; planning commissioner for the city of Escanaba; member of the Delta County Economic Development Alliance Board; member of the USW/SCA Joint Advisory Committee; executive board member of the Michigan and Wisconsin State AFL-CIO. Mr. LaCrosse has also been a guest instructor on labor issues at Northern Michigan University, Bay de Noc Community College and several area high schools.

In 2003, at the first convention of PACE International Union, Mr. LaCrosse was elected vice president and regional director of Region 10, which was the largest region in PACE. In 2005, PACE International Union merged with the United Steelworkers of America to become the USW International Union, the largest industrial union in the nation. On March 1, 2006, he was installed as international vice president with responsibility for national paper bargaining in the newly merged union. Mr. LaCrosse retired from the USW on March 1, 2008.

Madam Speaker, Richard LaCrosse has spent a career advocating for the rights of his colleagues. Dick's years of service have no doubt made an impact on countless workers across the country. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring and thanking Richard LaCrosse as he received a well-deserved induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame.

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF THE MAGHREB

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am placing in the record today the summary of an exceptionally important study on improving the global and regional economic immigration of the Maghreb.

This study was a collaborative effort of Ambassador Start Eizenstat and Dr. Cary Clyde Hufbauer. It highlights the critical importance of U.S. involvement in building a prosperous and stable Maghreb.

A draft of the full report is posted on-line by the Peterson Institute for International Economics at www.iie.com.

PROSPECTS FOR GREATER GLOBAL AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION IN THE MAGHREB: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PETERSON INSTITUTE, IFPRI, AND IEMED

On May 29, 2008, the Peterson Institute for International Economics held an event to announce the results of a number of studies that examine, from both a macroeconomic and sectoral perspective, the barriers to and potential benefits of economic integration among the countries of the Maghreb, as well as between the region and the broader world economy. The two macroeconomic studies were performed by the Peterson Institute and the International Food Policy Research Institute ("IFPRI"). The sectoral studies were performed by the European Institute

for the Mediterranean ("IEMED"). A final Report will be published in October 2008.

The studies generally show that integration among the countries of the region would yield increased trade and investment. Greater increases in trade and investment, however, would come from such regional integration combined with stronger links between the region and the global economy. The studies also demonstrate the importance of reducing non-tariff barriers to trade and investment, as well as the pursuit of regulatory harmonization to create a more positive investment climate. Finally, the experts from the three institutes who presented their findings offered specific policy recommendations for the United States and European Union, as well as sector-specific recommendations for the regional economy.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

The core objective of closer ties between the United States, European Union, and the Maghreb is to transform the Maghreb economies, including by encouraging new industries and services, new jobs, and increased rates of growth. The United States and European Union should work with the Maghreb countries to enhance integration through bilateral trade or investment agreements or in companion agreements.

Aid for Technical Assistance and Capacity Building: The United States and European Union can help improve the business climate in the Maghreb by assisting with the acceleration of reforms. Such aid could encourage the harmonization of investment and regulatory regimes throughout the region to the highest standards provided for in bilateral trade agreements, promote sector-specific investment and regulatory reforms, assist in the development of transnational networks for transportation and energy infrastructure, and provide the best technology for ensuring that cross-border shipments can be processed efficiently and securely.

Tariffs: The United States and European Union could work with their Maghreb partners to negotiate lower tariffs, or no tariffs, on selected products imported from other Maghreb countries.

Rules of Origin: In the European Union's Euro-Med Partnership, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia apply full cumulation between themselves and diagonal cumulation with the other pan-European countries. This approach could be extended to Libya and Mauritania. The United States and its Maghreb partners, building on the U.S.-Morocco free trade agreement, could negotiate agreements similar to the Qualified Industrial Zone ("QIZ") program with Jordan and Egypt or allow for the cumulation of inputs across the Maghreb.

Encouraging Sectoral Cooperation: The United States and the European Union could focus on how they can best stimulate regional cooperation at the sectoral level. Possible areas for collaboration with the countries of the Maghreb are highlighted below.

SECTORAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The countries of the region, with the support of the United States and European Union, should work together to increase intraregional integration in the major sectors of the regional economy, which include energy, banking, transportation, and agriculture and food.

Energy: It is not clear whether each Maghreb country will be able to mobilize, on its own, the necessary means to meet increased energy demands that will accompany increased regional population and economic growth. Consequently, a regional response is necessary. First, the flow of energy through

the region is critical. For example, electricity constraints could be dealt with by optimizing the exploitation of electric interconnections that already exist between countries. Second, sustainable development should be favored to limit environmental constraints and to strengthen energy supply, for example by implementing renewable energy industries such as wind and solar. Finally, a global action plan could seek collaborative efforts on power generation, refining, transportation and distribution, and chemical manufacturing by creating global companies to gain access to European, U.S., and other markets.

Banking: The regional banking sector presents notable contrasts, with some countries possessing modern banking systems, while those of others have regressed since the 1960s. Regional banks are not necessarily relied upon to properly manage assets, which results in a loss of capital from the region. Banks are over-liquid, and credit is not readily available. In short, capital is not mobilized for development. A regional financial institution could transform unused liquidity into long-term financial instruments for saving and investment. Such an institution could build upon the future privatization of the Algerian banking system to create two regional banks with shareholding in all countries of the region, a mandate to encourage intraregional transactions, and a mandate to ensure currency convertibility.

Transportation: The countries of the region inherited an institutional framework that regulated transportation infrastructure based on the French model that de-emphasized competition. The failures of that model became apparent in the 1980s. Although Maghreb countries were slow to treat logistics as a strategic means of competitive leverage, monopolies have now been dismantled, and competition prevails. Morocco has an open skies agreement with Europe, and Royal Air Maroc has a strong network in West Africa. The first harbor ready to receive ultra-large carriers opened in Tangiers in 2007. Because the value of transportation infrastructure, including these projects, depends on the extent of the network, the Morocco-Algeria border desperately needs to be reopened. National networks currently end in cul de sacs, and duplicate infrastructure—for example the ports of Nador and Ghazaouet on either side of the border Morocco-Algeria border—has been developed. Both are examples of substantial inefficiency.

Agriculture and Food: The countries of the Maghreb are close in distance, are close in agricultural production, share similar patterns of consumption, and share problems including aridity, water scarcity, and volatility in agricultural GDP. Despite these similarities, there are substantial differences among the countries in agricultural and food policies, in terms of subsidies, norms, and enforcement. Regional similarities in this sector allow for economies of scale, the potential for vertical integration, risk-sharing for “discovering” new markets and new products, regulatory harmonization to increase quality and decrease smuggling, and collective responses to the need for resource conservation.

HONORING MARIAN LONNING

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. HULSHOF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marian Lonning, a special

woman who has devoted her time, talents, and life to individuals with developmental disabilities. Mrs. Lonning, a proud parent, grandparent, and great-grandparent, will soon be recognized by Community Living for her tireless efforts to improve services for people with disabilities. I want to associate myself with the recognition provided by Community Living.

Community Living, a not-for-profit agency in St. Charles County providing life-enriching services for people with disabilities, will present the award to Mrs. Lonning on October 18, 2008, at the organization's annual Legacy Ball. The Legacy Award is presented to an individual whose outstanding service to people with disabilities and the community as a whole leaves a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Before coming to Missouri, Mrs. Lonning worked with people with developmental disabilities as a nurse and teacher. She and her husband, James, moved to St. Charles County in July 1968 from Kalamazoo, MI, and we are lucky to have her.

In February 1969, Mrs. Lonning opened a Day Activity Center for children with developmental disabilities in the basement of Boonslick Christian Church in St. Charles. She had been approached by Jane Crider about starting a day program for children with severe developmental disabilities who were unable to pass the test for Boonslick State School. With the help of an assistant, Mrs. Lonning ran the center 3 days per week, serving 8 to 10 children.

In 1974, the Day Activity Center transitioned to providing services for adults after Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 passed and children at the center were able to go to school. Additionally, Mrs. Lonning started the Day Activity Center Auxiliary, a support group for the parents of the center's participants, which still exists today.

Mrs. Lonning served on the Senate Bill 40 Committee to help approve a countrywide property tax to provide and fund services for people with development disabilities. In 1977, the committee's efforts proved successful when the tax passed. Because of the Senate Bill 40's passage, the Day Activity Center was able to expand and was later taken under the wings of Community Living, Inc., when it was incorporated in 1978.

The center eventually began providing service 5 days per week and hired more staff, including special education teachers. In 1980, a second center was opened in O'Fallon.

Mrs. Lonning served as Director of the Day Activity Centers, now known as Support Services for Adults (SSA), until her retirement in 1989.

In her retirement, Mrs. Lonning has remained active in championing those with disabilities, serving for 3 years on the Handicapped Facilities Board, now the Developmental Disabilities Resource Board, the entity that was created as a result of the Senate Bill 40 tax. She also served for three terms on Community Living's Board of Directors, serving as president, vice president, secretary, and as an executive committee member.

Today I want to shine a spotlight on not only Mrs. Lonning's great and many achievements, but also on the vital role that we all play in ensuring that all children and particularly those with disabilities receive the best education possible.

Mrs. Lonning believes firmly in providing quality services to people with disabilities

throughout their lives, and today her vision has become a reality. Mrs. Lonning has said that she has always felt that God put her where he needed her to be. Furthermore, the motto from her alma mater, Pine Rest Nursing School, has guided her work throughout the years: “It's only one life, it will soon be passed, only what's done for Christ will last.”

For these reasons, I am privileged to stand before this body and congratulate Mrs. Lonning on her receipt of this prestigious award.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE
SONOMA COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON, to honor and acknowledge the Sonoma County Medical Association, SCMA. The SCMA will celebrate its 150th anniversary on November 11, 2008.

Recently discovered documents place the first call to organize the forerunner to the SCMA on April 10, 1858, with the creation of a constitution and by-laws. The group went through at least two subsequent reorganizations, the latter being in 1888, which had long been considered by medical historians to be the original founding date of the organization.

From 1888 to 1910 the Sonoma County Medical Society, as it was then called, held monthly meetings around such topics as “The Emotions in Their Relationship to Disease” and “Bubonic Plague: Keeping it Out of Sonoma County.” In 1906, the association elected its first woman president, Dr. Anabel Stuart. During both World Wars, 29 percent of the medical society's membership served our country in uniform.

Since 1951, the SCMA has had only 5 full-time administrators or executive directors. Josephine Quayle served as “general helper” until her retirement in 1963. She was succeeded by Norman Brown, who served from 1960 to 1982. Roger Brown served from 1983 to 1989, followed by Tom Wagner from 1989 to 2000 and Cynthia Melody from 2000 to the present.

Over the years, the SCMA has made numerous contributions to the health of Sonoma County. In 1962, the SCMA coordinated a “Knock Out Polio” campaign that resulted in 92.3 percent of the county's population being immunized. From the mid-1970s to the late 1990s, the SCMA created several other affiliated companies that helped increase medical services to county residents, including the Specialty Physicians Association and the Children's Health Network. And, in 2000, the SCMA returned to its roots as a self-sustaining, non-profit county medical association supporting physicians and their efforts to enhance the health of the community.

Madam Speaker, the SMCA has a long history of assisting physicians practicing in Sonoma County and of preserving the well being of county residents. It is appropriate that we honor this distinguished organization and its members for their past accomplishments and wish them well as they continue to work

on behalf of the physicians and residents of Sonoma County.

COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 26, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased that the House recently considered and passed H.R. 7112, a bill that expands the Iran Sanctions Act and authorizes state and local governments to divest from certain companies that hold Iranian assets.

The timing of this legislation could not be more appropriate. This past week, the president of Iran visited the United Nations in New York City and gave two addresses. Not surprisingly, he took advantage of the platform and condemned “a small but deceitful number of people called Zionists” for using their influence in Europe and the U.S. in “a deceitful, complex, and furtive manner.” He also referred to “Zionist murders” and accused Jews of having an “underhanded” role in the crisis in Georgia.

But President Ahmadinejad didn’t limit his attacks to Israelis. He boasted that “the Amer-

ican empire. . . is reaching the end of the road.” Clearly, Tehran has malicious intentions and especially detests the United States and Israel. That’s why H.R. 7112 is critical to improving our national security and stability. While Iran points out alleged flaws in American and Israeli policy, it continues to defy the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty, numerous U.N. Security Council resolutions, and International Atomic Energy Agency inspections.

Of course, Iran claims to be enriching uranium for energy use, but U.N. inspectors have found elements that are constructive only in weapons. If Iran did indeed develop a nuclear bomb, the repercussions would be felt throughout the region, including in Iraq, India, Pakistan, Turkey, and Israel, as well as in the U.S. Since Iran is already supplying weapons to terrorist organizations like Hezbollah and Hamas, it is important that we act now to prevent the sale of sensitive material to Tehran.

Finally, I would also like to mention another bill that recently passed the House: H. Res. 1361. While this Resolution rightly condemns the anti-Semitic language of the 2001 Durban Conference (Durban I), I urge my fellow Members to take the next step and support my legislation, H.R. 5847 or the United Nations Durban Review Conference (Durban II) Funding Prohibition Act.

COMMENDING THE GALVESTON DAILY NEWS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I would like to commend a very determined newspaper in my district, the unsinkable Galveston Daily News. The stories of Hurricane Ike continue to be told as the area begins to recover, but the Galveston Daily News never stopped their reporting in the midst of this deadly storm. I am told the entire roof of their building was blown away, flooding the interior, leaving them with no equipment except a single working cell phone, and still, they missed not one single issue. With cooperation from other area papers, the Herald Zeitung in New Braunfels for layout and the Victoria Advocate for printing, every single issue promised readers will be available to them, even if some homes have been impossible to deliver to. I am also told that many reporters and employees of the paper endured heavy personal losses. They obviously consider their roles as communicators within and for the community of Galveston not as a mere job, but as a personal calling. It is devoted Texans and Americans like those at the Galveston Daily News that make this country work, and I applaud them.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference.

This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this infor-

mation, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 30, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.