

ORLANDO TEA PARTY DECLARATION MARCH 21, 2009

"When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for like minded patriotic Americans to rally as one against the powers that threaten to alter, diminish and destroy this country we love, proper respect for the opinions of our fellow citizens requires that we should clearly state the grievances that impel us to gather at this great Orlando Tea Party to protest peacefully, but passionately in the tradition of our forefathers whose Boston Tea Party resonated around the world.

The history of the present government of these United States is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having the effect of establishing an unacceptable tyranny over the citizens of these states. Let the facts be selfevident and speak for themselves, and let these grievances be heard in the halls of power in 2009, just as they were heard in the palace of King George III when they thundered forth from the text of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

BE it resolved on this 21st Day of March in the year 2009 at the great Orlando Tea Party on the shore of Lake Eola in Orlando, FL, that just as our forefathers at the Boston Tea Party protested tyranny at the hands of the British Crown, and taxation without representation, we hereby raise our voices against the arrogance and the ruinous policies of our own government . . . a government that ignores the will of "We the People" . . . a government that drowns us in debt . . . a government that forsakes the free enterprise system that had driven the engine of the greatest economy on earth, in favor of a relentless march toward socialism designed to subvert the work of the individual and encourage intrusion of government into all aspects of our lives.

And so, let the word go forth from this time and place that we are proud, freedom loving Americans who cherish individual liberty, our Constitution, and all this Nation has stood for over 233 years. We love our country and we are here to take it back!

Let us hereby resolve that we have had enough of massive government driven bailouts using our money! To our elected leaders we say, stop spending money we do not have! This is not your money! This is our money, and we demand you stop this madness! We have had enough of so-called economic stimulus plans that falsely promise we can spend ourselves back to prosperity.

We have had enough of trillion dollar spending schemes being passed without congress or "WE The People" Knowing what's in them. This is taxation without deliberation and we will not tolerate it! We have had enough of the out of control government spending that is mortgaging our future and threatening our very way of life!

We have had enough of both major parties being arrogant and unresponsive to the people they were elected to serve. We have had enough of seeing money taken unfairly from honest, hardworking Americans through excessive taxation and redistributed to people who have not earned the money. We have had enough of capitalism being targeted as the problem instead of the solution.

And, we have had enough of government being called the solution, when government is the problem! In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions to our elected officials have been answered only

by repeated injury, in fact they have been answered at all. A government so arrogant and unresponsive to its people is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. We therefore, the people of the United States of America, in general congress assembled here, on the shore of Lake Eola in Orlando, Florida, on this 21st day of March, in the year 2009, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of this city and this Nation, solemnly publish and declare that we are a free people, in this free and independent state, and we have the power and the right to demand that our government cease serving its own interest, and whatever destructive political and ideological agendas it is pursuing, and become the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, to which we are entitled as Americans. And this for the support of this declaration, what a firm reliance on divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Madam Speaker: Today, July 14th, I presented this declaration on the steps of the U.S. House and unfurled a scroll containing thousands of citizens' signatures in support of this declaration.

#### INTRODUCING THE COMPLETE AND PERMANENT PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION ACT OF 2009

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Complete and Permanent Property Tax Deduction Act of 2009. This bill makes the property tax deduction, which is scheduled to expire this year, permanent and removes all limitations on the deduction.

The Complete and Permanent Property Tax Deduction Act will help millions of Americans who struggle with high property taxes. Making the property tax deduction permanent will especially benefit senior citizens, whose homes often are the major part of their wealth, and young families struggling to cope with the costs of owning new homes. I respectfully urge my colleagues to help ensure all homeowners can continue to take advantage of the property tax deduction by cosponsoring this legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2009*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 492, 494, 495, 499, 500, 501, 502, 508, 514, 515, 517, 518, 520, 521, 524, 525, & 529, I was absent from the House due to illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA-**

OF CALIFORNIA-

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 10, 2009*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3082, the "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2010." This bill will fund our nation's military construction projects and veterans' benefits for Fiscal Year 2010.

While I supported this bill, and what it provides for our military and veterans, it is unfortunate the Democratic leadership in Congress refused to allow debate on many amendments including an amendment proposed by Rep. CONNIE MACK that would have reduced the labor costs of each construction project funded by this legislation.

Currently, federal construction projects which cost more than \$2,000 must follow Davis-Bacon wage requirements. The Davis-Bacon Act requires employers to pay workers at least the "locally prevailing wage," as determined by the Department of Labor. Of the reports investigated by the Office of Inspector General, 100% of the wage surveys, used to set the "prevailing wage," contained one or more errors.

According to the Beacon Hill Institute at Suffolk University, Davis-Bacon wage requirements over-estimate wages, inflating construction costs by almost 10%. This amounts to \$8.6 billion taxpayer waste per year. For our military and veterans, this is billions that could have been used to update the Vietnam-era quanzi-huts still in use at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base or to fix the Post 9/11 GI bill error that will unfairly reduce California veterans' education benefits.

In this time of fiscal uncertainty, Congress must set priorities and spend wisely. Shutting out debate on an archaic measure that unnecessarily increases cost moves our nation in the wrong direction.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 14, 2009*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3183, FY2010 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Requesting Member: Congresswoman McMORRIS RODGERS  
Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: Water and Related Resources  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Columbia Basin Development League  
Address of Requesting Entity: 8582 Road K, SW; Royal City, WA 99357

Description of Request: Provide an addition of \$3,000,000 for expansion of Project infrastructure to allow delivery of Project water to eligible lands. The Project aims to avoid ecological disaster by preserving the remaining

groundwater supplies for other uses, maintain the existing production base, preserve jobs, and provide long-term stability. The Federal Reclamation Columbia Basin Development Project has been the underlying driver for the economy of Central Washington.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Confederated Tribe of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Address of Requesting Entity: 73239 Confederated Way; Pendleton, OR 97801

Description of Request: Provide \$203,000 for the Walla Walla Watershed Project. The Army Corp, in conjunction with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, is focusing on the restoration and management of a viable ecosystem within the Walla Walla River Basin. The project is a high priority for the local communities and the agricultural sector because in stream flows enable the start of salmon re-introduction and a strong agricultural economy.

Requesting Member: Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: Science

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Whitworth University—

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 West Hawthorne Road; Spokane, WA 99201

Description of Request: Provide \$300,000 for the purchase of state-of-the-art STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) equipment. This equipment is necessary to prepare the general population with the levels of mathematics and science education necessary for the United States to compete.

#### IN APPRECIATION OF THE LIFE'S WORK OF JOSEPH HOUGHTELING

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER—

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, long before there was a “green” movement, even before most Americans accepted words like “ecology” and “environment” into their vocabulary, Joe Houghteling was devoting his life to making our world a cleaner, better and more sustainable place. I am sorry to say that, on June 23, after 84 years on earth, the former chairman of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission passed away, leaving behind a greener landscape and more educated citizenry.

Madam Speaker, Joseph Cannon Houghteling's life story reads like a history textbook. The great-grandson and namesake of Speaker of the House Joseph Cannon, Joe was born in San Francisco, but moved East with his family and played baseball with future president George H.W. Bush at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts.

After his studies at Bates College and College of the Holy Cross, he served in the United States Navy where he befriended future congressman—and my political mentor—Leo J. Ryan. After his service, Joe received a Bachelor of Science degree from Yale University and immediately returned home to the Bay Area.

Many Democratic leaders—and more than a few Republicans—relied on Joe's brilliance, advice and counsel on land-use, environmental protection and other issues. He attended the 1956 and 1960 Democratic Party conventions as a delegate for Adlai Stevenson and John F. Kennedy, but also advised Republican Congressman Pete McCloskey, an ardent opponent of the Vietnam War.

Governor Edmund G. “Pat” Brown appointed Joe to the State Park Commission in 1959 and the State Highway Commission in 1964. Even Governor Ronald Reagan—whom he opposed on many fronts—saw the value of Joe's service and appointed him to the Bay Conservation and Development Commission in 1971. Governor Jerry Brown then promoted him to chairman during his administration. While at BCDC, Mr. Houghteling was credited with helping save 89,000 acres of wetlands and wildlife habitat from development.

Many in Northern California know Joe Houghteling's name from the editorial page of their local newspaper. He published many community newspapers in the Bay Area, founded the Diablo Press and owned the Nevada County Nugget.

But Madam Speaker, when I think of Joe Houghteling, his many accomplishments are not what initially come to mind. Rather, it is Joe's wry smile, razor-sharp wit and generous spirit. Joe was as quick with a compliment as he was with a funny story and he never ran out of those. My thoughts are with the family he adored: his daughters—Anne, Elizabeth and Mary Houghteling; a grandson, three nieces, a nephew and most of all, his lovely wife, Judy, who recently told a reporter that Joe used to joke about having his ashes thrown upwind from a boat so that his remains would blow back into the eyes of his mourners, forcing them to shed a tear.

Madam Speaker, no one who knew Joe Houghteling needs help shedding a tear for the passing of this remarkable man. But, like mine, I imagine their tears will be accompanied by silly grins and fond memories of a man who—without a doubt—leaves this world in better shape than he found it.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership standards, the following information is submitted regarding funding received in the first district of Texas as part of H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Cypress Valley Watershed Project. The Red River Valley Association, P.O. Box 709, Shreveport, LA 71162, Corps of Engineers, Investigations Account, \$100,000 to resume the Cypress Valley Watershed study. This project examines the current and projected water resource needs of the Caddo Lake wetlands and evaluates how Lake O' the Pines reservoir could be operated to potentially meet a broader spectrum of water resources needs in one of the nation's premier natural lakes which is rapidly disappearing because of non-native invasive species.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. 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. 3170, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, FY 2010:

Requesting Member: Rep. ADAM PUTNAM (FL-12)

Bill Number: H.R. 3170

Account: Small Business Account

Project Funding Amount: \$100,000

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Department of Citrus

Address of Requesting Entity: Post Office Box 148, Lakeland, FL 33802

Description of Request: In order for small business citrus operations, in my district and throughout Florida, to remain viable in an ever competitive marketplace and lessen their reliance on manual labor, an effective mechanical harvesting technology must be developed. For this reason, funding is sought for the benefit of citrus small business operators, directed to the Florida Department of Citrus to continue completion of the development of a mechanical harvesting abscission compound. Florida citrus operators have invested over \$20 million toward this end, currently in the sixth year of a seven-year process.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information in regard to H.R. 3183, the Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill.

Project Name: Wappapello Lake, MO

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: MRT—Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Poplar Bluff, Missouri

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Oak St. Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$5,416,000 for Wappapello Lake, MO MR&T Operations and Maintenance. This funding is for routine operation and maintenance, as well as work on U.S. Highway 67. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, MR&T Operations and Maintenance Account.

Project Name: Bois Brule Drainage and Levee District, MO

Bill Number: H.R. 3183

Account: Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Bois Brule Levee and Drainage District of Perry County, MO

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 347, Perryville, MO 63775

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3,773,000 to continue work on a flood