

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF EL SALVADOR

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the people of El Salvador as they head to the polls this weekend to elect a new president.

Over the past years, the people of El Salvador have shown great resilience as they transformed their economy. From the privatization of state enterprises, to trade and financial liberalization, to the adoption of the United States dollar as its official currency, El Salvador and its people have chosen freedom and prosperity over communism and repression.

Madam Speaker, the relationship between the people of El Salvador and of the United States has been a strong one. The Salvadorian government was a faithful ally in the war in Iraq where they once had as many as 6000 soldiers supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

We in the United States also have stood by our friends in El Salvador. For example, through the Millennium Challenge Corporation, El Salvador is currently receiving \$461 million of investment in projects including education, public services, agricultural production, rural business development, and transportation infrastructure.

In addition, El Salvador receives nearly \$4 billion a year in remittances—almost 20% of its annual gross domestic product—from several million Salvadorans living in the United States.

And, even more important for our national security interests is that El Salvador is host to the United States Navy's primary Forward Operating Location (FOL) in Central America which is used to monitor and intercept drug traffic.

Madam Speaker, these examples reveal why this approaching election is so fundamental, and why it will have a great impact on the future direction of El Salvador and the relationship with the United States.

The two primary presidential candidates are Rodrigo Avila of the National Republican Alliance (ARENA) party and Mauricio Funes of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) party.

Madam Speaker, the FMLN is a party that was formed from communist guerrillas that fought against the El Salvador government in one of the last battles in the Cold War. Nearly 70,000 people were killed during the 12-year war in El Salvador and brutal atrocities were committed by the FMLN.

Today the FMLN and its communist candidates—with funding from Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez—have fought hard to manipulate the democratic process in El Salvador in order to take at the ballot box what they couldn't by force.

The FMLN has actively worked to undermine United States policy in the region by, among other things, openly supporting terrorist organizations such as the FARC in Colombia. And the FMLN candidate for vice president, Sanchez Ceren, is a known militant and guerrilla commander who staunchly opposes the United States.

Should the FMLN win this Sunday, El Salvador likely would quickly become a satellite and proxy of Venezuela, Russia, and perhaps Iran. While we must always work and stand with our allies in the region, a government in El Salvador that is run by the FMLN and its cronies would clearly undermine the good relationship the current government in El Salvador has with the United States.

Our close relationship with El Salvador is based on mutual respect for freedom and the rule of law. This relationship has allowed our people and our governments to work together in the past several years towards common goals.

As we look to the future, we must weigh the potential ramifications of this election and its impact on our relations—more importantly, the longstanding and open policies related to TPS and the flow of remittances.

Madam Speaker, the stakes are high this weekend for the people of El Salvador. As they go to the polls to select their next president and, more importantly, the future direction of their nation, I urge them to reject the FMLN and the failed ideas of the past.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Partnership for Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 3441 North Ridge West, Ashtabula, Ohio 44005 USA

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$285,000 for academic enrichment activities across all seven Ashtabula County school districts. Partnership for Education is a 503(c) organization that was created in 1999 from the collaboration and commitment among local community and stakeholder support groups, primarily the Civic Development Corporation of Ashtabula County, the Ashtabula Foundation, the Ashtabula County Education Partnership, and the Growth Partnership Education Committee, to improve student learning and sup-

port professional development to help schools improve their planning and deployment capabilities. Approximately, \$211,000 is for program implementation, \$66,500 is for materials and supplies, and \$7,500 is for auditing and program evaluation. The Civic Development Corporation of Ashtabula County has pledged \$500,000; the Ashtabula Foundation has committed \$75,000.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. SOUDER. 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. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Member: Rep. MARK SOUDER

Bill: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project Name: Clinton Street Bridge Replacement

Entity: City of Fort Wayne

Address: 1 Main Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Amount: \$2,000,000

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: Fort Wayne is the terminus of U.S. Route 27, known locally as Clinton Street as the highway winds through downtown. As a federal highway and a historic highway as designated by the Indiana House of Representatives, this roadway should be supported with local, state, and federal resources. Each day, almost 27,000 cars drive along Clinton Street and cross over the St. Mary's River on an obsolete 1964 bridge that has growing maintenance costs and a sufficiency rating of 64.6 out of 100, which merits concern. Further, poor decisions during its initial construction have led to debris traps in front of the piers that support the structure, blocking water passage and limiting any possible recreational use of the river. The project is necessary to repair essential infrastructure and the economic development of the region.

Finance Plan: The city will finance 20 percent of the project, a total of \$1.62 million, while additional funding of \$1.42 million was approved in the Fiscal Year 2008 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$8.1 million. These funds will be used for the replacement of the bridge over the St. Mary's River in downtown Fort Wayne.

Member: Rep. MARK SOUDER

Bill: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project Name: Watersystems/Wellcare

Entity: Water Systems Council

Justification for use of federal taxpayer dollars: Clean drinking water is essential for a community to flourish. The use of federal

• 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.

funds in this program are necessary to protect the well drinking water of over 21 million American citizens. As a national nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring individuals receive safe water from household wells and small water systems, this organization deals with a vast constituency and provides essential services that make it possible for commerce and communities to thrive.

Finance Plan: The funds in this program will go to provide clean water for over 21 million Americans.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. 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. 1105, FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Requesting Member: Congressman PETER ROSKAM

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, National Projects, Safe Schools and Citizenship Education, Economic Education Exchange Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Center for Civic Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 5145 Douglas Fir Road, Calabasas, CA 91302

Description of Request: I rise in support of funding I helped secure in H.R. 1105, the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, for the Cooperative Education Exchange Program activities under the Education for Democracy Act. The Cooperative Education Exchange Program in economics is an important one that provides American educators the opportunity to join their counterparts from countries making the transition to a market economy. This provides these emerging areas with the benefit of assistance to education leaders in those foreign countries. It also provides the tremendous opportunity for us to have a voice in shaping these rising economies, and enabling us to think afresh about our own system, giving us the added benefit of enhanced critical self-evaluation. I am proud to support this program that has cast a wide influence—teachers and students from 43 states and DC have been able to engage teachers and students from more than 30 emerging democracies on the principles and institutions of a market economy and their interaction with a democracy.

HONORING THE CAMELOT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program (CNWP) of Fairfax County, Virginia.

In the 30 years since its inception, the CNWP has achieved great success, helping

lower the general crime rate in its community. As the former Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I can personally attest to the program's accomplishments.

The CNWP boasts the largest number of volunteers in Northern Virginia. These volunteers have committed themselves to informing local police of suspicious activities. While it is financially and logistically impossible to place a police officer on every street corner, the CNWP has provided Fairfax County with an effective alternative. CNWP volunteers have become the eyes and ears of local police, deterring crime and saving taxpayers millions of dollars.

Those who take the time to cast a watchful eye on their surroundings ensure a safer, friendlier place to live. Through committed neighborhood watch, CNWP participants have proven that community involvement can make a difference.

It is important to note that CNWP has embraced neighborhood diversity. Participants have bridged culture and language gaps in the name of collective security. By recognizing shared community values, the CNWP has facilitated improved understanding and relations between individuals from a variety of backgrounds.

One of the greatest assets of the CNWP is its ability to bring neighbors together. In that spirit I am proud to recognize Mr. Paul Cevy, CNWP founder and Coordinator for the first 12 years; Mr. Dave Shoner, his successor who for the next 11 years continued to mold the program into the great success it is today; and Mr. Frank Vajda who continues the great CNWP tradition.

Years of CNWP success have merited several notable accolades. The Fairfax County Mason District Police Department has recognized the CNWP as one of the most effective crime reduction units in the county. The Virginia Crime Prevention Association has recognized the CNWP as the Best Neighborhood Watch in Virginia.

The CNWP is the oldest, continuously active Neighborhood Watch Group in the United States. This highly accomplished neighborhood program serves as an impressive model for other organizations across the nation.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Camelot Neighborhood Watch Program for 30 years of dedicated service to its community. Programs like the CNWP are vital in our efforts to combat crime. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the CNWP's past accomplishments and in wishing the program continued success in the many years to come.

CONGRATULATING TEXAS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY ON THE RENOVATIONS OF THE MAXINE AND EDWARD L. BAKER BUILDING

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Texas Wesleyan University on their efforts for the Rosedale Revitalization Project and the completed renovations of the Maxine and Edward L. Baker Building.

A historical building located at the corner of Rosedale and Wesleyan Streets, the \$1.2 million renovation of the 5,000 square-foot-space provides a community meeting room, offices and a café. The building has been named in honor of Maxine and Edward L. Baker, parents of Wesleyan Trustee Louella Baker Martin. She and her husband Nick Martin, Fort Worth philanthropists, have been generous supporters of the University. Ed Baker served as chairman of the Texas Wesleyan Board of Trustees fifty years earlier and his father, James B. Baker, served as a trustee beginning in 1894, extending the Baker family commitment to service for over a century. And with the help of federal funding that I secured which acted like a down-payment, and local efforts to multiply that funding, the university is now using the money to renovate locations like the Baker Building.

The project was made possible through the Rosedale Revitalization Initiative. Founded in 1890 in Fort Worth, Texas Wesleyan University is a United Methodist institution dedicated to the education of students in the region and beyond. The University offers a wide range of degrees for undergraduate and graduate students and educates international students from 29 countries.

I congratulate Texas Wesleyan University as it continues to progress as a distinguished and diverse educational institution assisting with the revitalization efforts of Rosedale Street, and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Friday, March 6, 2009, I was not present for three recorded votes. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted the following way: rollcall No. 107, "nay"; rollcall No. 108, "yea"; rollcall No. 109, "yea".

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL PATRICIA C. LEWIS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brigadier General Patricia C. Lewis. As her 30-year career in the United States Air Force draws to a close, I would like to draw attention to some of her accomplishments and contributions to our great nation.

Brigadier General Patricia C. Lewis is Assistant Surgeon General, Strategic Medical Plans and Programs, and Chief of the Medical Service Corps. Educated at the University of Philippines in Manila, she received a direct commission in the Air Force Medical Service Corps upon completing her Master's degree. In her distinguished career, she has served at Headquarters Air Force Medical Command as Chief of Programs and Evaluations in the Office of the Command Surgeon, and at Headquarters U.S. Air Force as Chief of Personnel,