Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize before this House Pastor Leonard P. Buelow in observance of his 50th year in active ministry. Pastor Buelow’s service and commitment to his congregations over the last 50 years has been both admirable and inspirational. He continues to serve his parishioners with the same dedication and enthusiasm as he did when he was first ordained.

Pastor Buelow began his career in the Christian ministry by attending and graduating from Concordia Seminary in Springfield, IL, in 1954. He was ordained on September 11, 1955, and went on to serve the congregation of St. James Lutheran Church of Shawano, WI, until 1965. Then, from 1965 to 1992, Pastor Buelow led the congregation of the Redeemer Lutheran Church of Green Bay, WI. Following his service at Redeemer Lutheran, he went on to found Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church in Green Bay, WI, where he continues to serve as their full-time minister. During his tenure with these congregations, Pastor Buelow has earned the reputation of being a true leader of the church and a tireless servant of God.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Pastor Leonard P. Buelow for his years of dedicated service to the church and his congregation. His guidance and compassion will continue to be cherished for many years to come.

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, my heart and my prayers go out to all those caught in the path of Hurricane Katrina and the conditions they are suffering in its wake. Katrina was a hurricane of biblical proportions that has left thousands of people without food, clean water, shelter and medicine, particularly those people stranded in New Orleans where conditions are absolutely unlivable and public safety is virtually nonexistent. They have waited for days hoping for at least some sort of information about when they might get to escape their ravaged city and where they will go next.

With the chaos and looting that has ensued in New Orleans, it is critical that our government get in there and provide the necessary relief—not tomorrow, not next week, but right now. People are dying on the streets; the President and the Federal Government cannot afford to wait another minute.

It is excusable that the President and his administration did not act more swiftly to provide the basic necessities of survival to the victims, nor did they act swiftly to ensure the City’s public safety. As the richest nation in the world and the world’s only superpower, we ought to be ashamed. With so many troops abroad in Iraq attempting to secure a whole nation, it is excusable that we cannot secure one city on our own shores.

That is why I am高兴 that Congress acted quickly today to pass legislation providing $10.5 billion in emergency funds for the relief and recovery from Hurricane Katrina. The Supplemental Appropriations Act will deliver $10 billion in emergency aid for FEMA and $500 million for the Department of Defense.

However, this is only a down payment. FEMA is currently spending $500 million a day and under this scenario, the $10 billion for FEMA will provide only another 20 days as they continue to assess the needs of the devastated communities.

It could take months for families to find homes and establish some sort of normalcy in their day-to-day life, and I call on the President and the Federal Government to remain committed to helping people rebuild their lives. Each of us has in some way been personally touched by this horrific tragedy. For my wife Dianne and I, it was waiting for our youngest son, Evan, to make his way to our house after escaping the disaster of New Orleans. We were also saddened to learn that a family member of a parishioner at the Church I pastor, St. James United Methodist, was given refuge by a kind elderly couple after being stranded in a home surrounded by water. Fortunately, the Coast Guard rescued them all on Sunday morning. All of us have a duty to reach out to those in greatest need.

Americans will stand strong together to help our brothers and sisters in their time of dire need, and the Kansas City area is no exception. Children’s Mercy Hospital has already opened its doors to twenty-four sick children and their families flown in from New Orleans by the Missouri Air National Guard, and the Red Cross has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars from Kansas Citians. The outpouring of support from across the country has been phenomenal, and I am confident that our citizens will remain resolute until the job is done.

Mr. McDermott. Mr. Speaker, last Monday, August 29th, Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi as a Category 4 storm, with winds of over 140 miles per hour. We all know the aftermath of that terrible storm: thousands dead, more than a million refugees, billions of dollars in damage, and a major American city rendered uninhabitable. The greatest tragedy of all is that, for the most part, this could have been avoided.

The President told us that he didn’t “think anyone anticipated the breach of the levees,” a misinformed statement at best. New Orleans is the only major American city below sea level, and the Federal Government was well aware of the flooding threat to the city in the event of a hurricane. Just last July, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducted a five-day hurricane exercise simulating the effects that a powerful storm would have on New Orleans, a perfect apocalyptic simulation, 120 mile per hour wind gusts and 20 inches of rain combined to top the levees, forcing the evacuation of more than one million residents.

Yet despite the lessons learned from that exercise, the Bush administration8 wholly neglected to heed the threat.

The President slashed the funding for the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ project to control flooding in the New Orleans area, to $10.4 million, sixteenth of what local officials had said they needed. Funding for Army Corps projects have been cut across the board for the last few years by this administration and this Congress, whose reckless tax-cutting, combined with funding cuts and National Guard deployments to Iraq, have sharply increased vulnerability to natural disaster in this country. It is worth noting that more than 7,000 soldiers from the Louisiana and Mississippi National Guard are stationed in Iraq, including more than 3,000 from the 256th Brigade Combat Team based in New Orleans.

Even as the hurricane was hitting land as a Category 4 storm, the administration failed to mobilize help. Dr. Max Mayfield, Director of the National Hurricane Center, said that both Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and FEMA Director Mike Brown were made aware of the storm’s potential in the days leading up to its landfall, yet it took until Friday, September 2nd, four days after the storm hit, for any meaningful National Guard presence to arrive to relieve the burden on local Guard units, bring about law and order, and ease suffering. The first 72 hours after a disaster are the most important in terms of saving lives, and this administration completely failed in that regard.

Sadly, the 200,000 or so people who did not evacuate the city in time were overwhelmingly those who were too poor, old, or sick to leave. It is they who have suffered the most from the gross Federal Government incompetence before, during, and after the storm.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Mr. CONYERS and I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of one of the great artistic voices of our time, William Thomas “Keter” Betts of Silver Spring, Maryland. A legend in the world of jazz for over 50 years, Keter was not only a bassist of incomparable talent, but an original artist, devoted teacher, and wonderful friend. He passed away in Maryland on August 6, 2005 at the age of 77.

Keter Betts was born in 1928 in Port Chester, New York. He discovered music as a child when one day, while running an errand for his
mother, he encountered a parade and was so fascinated by the music that he followed it all over town. It was not long before he began practicing on a small drum, and eventually moved on to playing on a full set. However, in his late teens he tired of carrying his drum set up and down the stairs of his apartment building, so he switched to bass.

When he was only 19, Keter landed his first professional gig, playing for thirteen weeks in Washington, DC with saxophonist Carmen Leggio. He toured the country from 1949 through 1956, working with jazz singer Dinah Washington and actress Ruby Keeler, and hit the road for the last five years of the tour. Keter than teamed up with Charlie Byrd and Woody Herman to tour Europe and South America, before joining Ella Fitzgerald for a short tour that was the beginning of the twenty-four-year working partnership the two would share.

Over the years Keter played with many more jazz greats, such as Count Basie, Cannonball Adderley, Nat Adderley, Stan Getz, Kenny Burrell and Louis Bellson, playing venues all over the world. He was a member of the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Big Band and was inducted into the Washington Area Music Association Hall of Fame. And after playing on more than 100 recordings, Keter finally released his first solo album, Bass, Buddies & Blues in 1998, and soon followed it up with Bass, Buddies, Blues Beauty Too.

In addition to performing, Keter was a longtime instructor of music at Howard University in Washington, DC beginning in 1963. He also impacted his community as an educator through his commitment to instructing young people through various programs such as the Washington Performing Arts Society’s Concerts in Schools and Prince George’s County’s Arts Alive.

Keter Betts is widely considered to be the most accomplished and highly respected bassist in jazz history. Keter’s life and music impacted countless members of younger generations not only because of the excellence and originality he brought to his art, but because of his incredible wisdom, his insight, and his firm belief that every artist must strive to be unique and find his or her true voice.

Today Keter’s family and friends will come together to celebrate his impact not only on the world of jazz, but on the innumerable lives he touched and artistic journeys he inspired. On behalf of the 9th Congressional District of California and the 14th Congressional District of Michigan, we salute and thank Keter Betts for his invaluable contributions to jazz music, our country and our world.

U.S. ARMY SP. LAURO DELEON
HON. HENRY CUellar
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. CUellar. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army Spc. Lauro DeLeon, who died one year ago while serving as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lauro joined the Army Reserve before graduating from Floresville (Texas) High School in 2003, seeing the military as a way of financing a college education. He then enrolled at Palo Alto College that fall to pursue a degree in business, but soon learned he had been called up for active duty.

Lauro went to Baghdad as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom in February 2004. The Mojaí army was attacking the city, and Lauro’s unit was stuck in camp for three days before making its way out of the city. During that summer of 2004, Lauro surprised his family with a return home as part of a two-week leave from the Army which he won in a lottery. Lauro, a good Christian man from a good Christian family, prayed that he would be granted the opportunity to go home to his family, and his number was the last one called.

Lauro then returned to Iraq to serve with the 644th Transportation Company. On September 8, 2004, the truck Lauro was driving went over an explosive device, killing Lauro and putting the soldier with him in critical condition.

While in Iraq, both Lauro and his mother, Grace Lopez, read a chapter a day from the Bible. She passed along a message that helped Lauro make it through the tough times: “Fear is not of God; whenever you start feeling fear, tell God to remove it.” It is this faith that carried Lauro through the war, and it is this faith that continues to carry his family after his passing.

Along with all of our fallen servicemen and women, Lauro DeLeon has honored our nation by making the greatest sacrifice of all. It is the least we can do to offer these words of remembrance today. As always, our prayers remain with Lauro, his family, and all those representing our country in our Armed Forces.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 6, ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF
HON. JOE BARTON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one of the features of H.R. 6 that will make a material difference in the protection of groundwater are the provisions making key reforms to the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program. The lack of serious attention to leaking tanks has been one of the main causes of groundwater and drinking water contamination by fuel and fuel additives. I applaud our Subcommittee Chairman, PAUL GILLMOR, who authored the LUST provisions in H.R. 6 and that I have enthusiastically included in this legislation. In addition, I agree with and support his interpretation of these provisions, as outlined in his Extension of Remarks that appeared in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on July 28, 2005, on pages H6964–H6966. There are two specific provisions that deserve special mention.

First, in order to avoid the creation of unfunded mandates, the reference to Section 9508(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code in the newly created section 9014(2) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act should be considered to mean Section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code in order to reflect changes made to Title XIII, Subtitle F, Section 1362. This Section of H.R. 6 creates a new Section 9014(2) at the end of Subchapter B of Chapter 65. It amends Section 9508(c) by striking the existing subsection 9508(c)(2) and renumbering subsection 9508(c)(1) as subsection 9508(c).

As the chief author of this bill, it was never my intent to see LUST defunded and this instance should not be interpreted nor construed as nothing more than a drafting error since the historical construct and intent of the provisions in section 9014(2) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act are consistent with past versions addressing authorizations of appropriations under Subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act. Should it be necessary, I intend to immediately pursue statutory changes necessary to ensure the proper use of collected transportation fuel taxes in the LUST program under the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

Second, Section 1530 on Title XV addresses additional methods to protect groundwater, including state requirements on the use of secondary containment underground storage tank systems or conversely requiring states to use installer and manufacturer requirements. If a state chooses secondary containment, any new installation of an underground storage tank that is within 1,000 feet of community water system or potable water well must be secondarily contained. In addition, any tank or piping that is replaced on an underground storage tank that is within 1,000 feet of a community water system or potable water well must be secondarily contained. Repairs to an underground storage tank defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), do not trigger any secondary containment requirements and gasoline dispensers must also be addressed as part of the secondary containment strategy. If, however, a state chooses installer or manufacturer certification, as well as financial responsibility requirements, this section requires tank installers and manufacturers to follow professional guidelines for tank products or comply with one of the new statutory requirements that are similar to subsections (d) and (e) of 40 CFR 280.20. In addition, this section requires installers and manufacturers to maintain evidence of financial assurance to help pay corrective action costs that are directly relatable to a faulty tank part or installation. The lone exception to the financial assurance requirement is where a tank owner, who already maintains evidence of financial responsibility under Section 9003 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, is also the installer or manufacturer of the underground storage tank. I want to make clear that with respect to the financial responsibility option, the conference report references the existing financial responsibility authority contained in section 9003(d) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act that applies to owners and operators, and as such, it is the intent of this legislation that all of the authorizations under Title XV, Subtitle F, Section 1362 apply to underground storage tank installers and manufacturers in the same way that they currently apply to owners and operators of underground storage tanks.

H.R. 6 also adds a new section 3022 to Title XX of the Energy Policy Act of 1992. The new section states: “It is the sense of the Congress that Federal agencies conducting assessments of risks to human health and the environment from energy technology, production, transport, transmission, distribution, storage, use, or conservation activities shall use systematic and comprehensive means in assessing such risks, shall consider the best available science (including peer reviewed studies), and shall include a description of the