

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM HOWARD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brooklyn resident William Howard. Mr. Howard was born in Sumter, South Carolina. He is the second eldest of four boys.

Mr. Howard attended Lincoln High School in South Carolina. Following his graduation from high school, he answered a call to service; honorably serving in the United States Air Force for four-and-a-half years reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant. Mr. Howard later attended Knoxville College in Knoxville, Tennessee. After leaving college, he returned to New York accepting a civil service job with the New York City Transit Authority where he worked for 28 years, finally retiring as a Superintendent of Administration.

Mr. Howard is a member of the Mt. Zion Methodist Church in Sumter, and often attends St. Anthony Baptist Church in Brooklyn. He is active in the community serving as Chair of the fund raising committee of the Unity Democratic Club he is also active in the Club's Men's Council. Mr. Howard serves as a member of the NAACP, and is a 33rd Degree Mason in Tyree Grand Lodge. He is the Commander of the George P. Davis American Legion Post 116 in Brooklyn, New York. He is on the Board of Officers for the National New York Transit Retirees, and is the founder and president of the Flatbush Depot Alumni Society.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. William Howard's life of honor and service to the community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great citizen as well as his contribution to New York City and our great Nation.

A MAN OF PRINCIPLE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a letter to the editor of the Carteret County News-Times by General John Batiste titled, "A Man of Principle." General Batiste commanded the 1st Infantry Division in Iraq and in this letter he rightfully praises one of the most courageous Members of Congress, my friend Rep. WALTER JONES of North Carolina. Rep. JONES, correctly observes General Batiste, is a man of principle and well understands the dilemma we face in Iraq. It is very encouraging for me to read the words of the highly experienced General Batiste affirming the correctness of Congressman JONES' position on Iraq, because I share Rep. JONES views about this very difficult situation we find ourselves. I also salute Rep. JONES for his courage and his determination to seek the truth.

[From the Carteret County News-Times, May 25, 2007]

A MAN OF PRINCIPLE

ROCHESTER, N.Y.,

May 22, 2007

TO THE EDITOR: Congressman Walter Jones of North Carolina's 3rd District deserves our

unqualified support. He is a man of principle and well understands the dilemma we face in Iraq to include the fatally flawed strategy that took us to war in March 2003; the failure to modify the same strategy over time; the administration's continued reliance on the military without the necessary diplomatic, political, and economic components fundamental to a successful strategy; the administration's failure to mobilize the nation to deal with global Islamic extremism; and the dire straits our great soldiers and Marines find themselves in today.

Indeed, our Army and Marine Corps, the best fighting formations our country has ever fielded, are at a breaking point with little to show for it because of the reckless behavior of the current administration.

Walter Jones gets it. He personifies patriotism. He understands the American way of war.

I base this judgment on personal experience, a 31-year career in the Army, two combat tours in Iraq, many years of service in Balkans peace enforcement in both Bosnia and Kosovo and service in the Pentagon before, during and after Sept. 11th, 2001. I am a lifelong Republican. I respect Walter Jones for his moral courage and resolve to get things right.

I met Congressman Jones in his office in the Rayburn Office Building some eight months ago. I was impressed then with his grasp of the situation in Iraq and his unqualified love of country and support for our military. Indeed, for the last five years, he is one of only several congressional Republicans who have embraced their constitutional responsibilities to overwatch and hold accountable our executive branch of government. He asks the tough questions and never backs down. The vast majority of our party has long since abrogated this incredibly important aspect of their duty. He well represents his constituents and the best interests of both our country and our military. As President Gerald Ford once said, "Truth is the glue that holds our government together." Since our first meeting eight months ago, my respect of Walter Jones has multiplied tenfold.

People often ask me to describe how they can help get the country back on track. The answer almost invariably boils down to exercising the right to vote and casting one's vote for the candidate who understands the issues and has the moral courage to do the right thing. I have now expanded that answer to elect more public servants like Congressman Walter Jones of North Carolina. Our nation desperately needs members of Congress with his character, commitment, and resolve. I salute Walter Jones as a man of principle with the courage of his convictions.

JOHN BATISTE,
Maj. Gen. USA (Ret.)

MARKET INCENTIVES FOR BIOBASED PRODUCTS ACT OF 2007

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce a bill today related to Federal procurement of biobased products and the labeling of such products, known as the Market Incentives for Biobased Products Act of 2007. The Federal Government serves a vital role in promoting new technologies and products by creating a market as the country's largest consumer.

This bill, which will amend section 9002 of the Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, will require the Secretary of Agriculture to set biobased product procurement guidelines for Federal agencies. A stronger biobased procurement program will help strengthen rural communities and uplift our Nation's farmers by creating new jobs and new markets. Additionally, by replacing petroleum-based products with bio-based products, this program will decrease our Nation's dependence on foreign oil and protect the environment.

Just as the mandate to purchase recycled paper spurred the growth of that industry, we can do the same with biobased products. Although it took 12 years for the EPA to establish guidelines for recycled paper, all 50 States followed suit and it has become a mainstream product whose quality has improved vastly over the years. While the USDA has made great strides in establishing the BioPreferred Program, I hope this bill will stimulate expansion of biobased product use in a timely manner.

This bill also requires the Secretary to establish labeling requirements for finished products and intermediate ingredients in consultation with Federal agencies, producers of biobased products, and various interested organizations within 90 days of enactment. Setting uniform labeling standards will aid in purchasing decisions, dissemination of products, and eventually build consumer confidence in bio-based products.

Finally, this bill sets reporting requirements so Congress can ensure the progress of the procurement and labeling program. I believe that proper oversight is essential to guarantee forward movement of this program and conscientious use of taxpayer dollars.

By setting high goals and standards, this body can pave the way for the expansion of a burgeoning industry, and have positive affects our farmers, our environment, and our national security.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. EARNEST FLOWERS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Earnest Flowers, a career Financial Advisor who has worked for security houses and alongside investment banks since 1994.

Mr. Flowers joined Whales Securities after two years of training. There he became a vice-president of private client services and a top producer. While at Whales, he participated in finding various Initial Public Offerings (IPO's) including the World Heart Corporation, and Take-Two Interactive Software Incorporated.

Mr. Flowers was recruited in 2000 by his former manager to join Ladenburg, Thalmann & Company, Incorporated, the second oldest firm on Wall Street. In 2002, Mr. Flowers went independent and has since provided wealth management through firms such as the Concord Equity Group, the Investors Capital Corporation and most recently, Aura Financial Services.

Mr. Flower's independence has allowed him to raise capital and work on alternative