

TRIBUTE TO YOUTH AND SHELTER
SERVICES OF MARSHALL COUNTY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Youth and Shelter Services of Marshall County, Iowa, on celebrating their 25th anniversary and to express my appreciation for their commitment to providing services to Iowa's youth and their families.

Over 25 years, Youth and Shelter Services has grown from just a one person staff to sixteen employees today. They began serving as a youth and run-away service but now serve school-based and home programs, which includes foster care and those on welfare as well. The agency has turned part of their focus towards prevention services to help children avoid making poor choices.

I commend Youth and Shelter Services for continuing to provide a safety net for children and dedicated service to the Marshall County community. It is an honor to represent Director David Hicks, and all current and former members of the Youth and Shelter Services team, in the United States Congress, and I wish them continued success in their future service to Marshall County youth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 22 and 23, 2008, on very urgent business. Had I been present for the twelve votes which occurred on Tuesday and Wednesday, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 6493, Rollcall vote No. 512; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1311, Rollcall vote No. 513; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1202, Rollcall vote No. 514; I would have voted "no" on the Motion to Adjourn, Rollcall vote No. 515; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1363, Rollcall vote No. 516; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1363, Rollcall vote No. 517; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 6532, Rollcall vote No. 518; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 3221, Rollcall vote No. 519; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 6545, Rollcall vote No. 520; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 6545, Rollcall vote No. 521; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1344, Rollcall vote No. 522; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1344, Rollcall vote No. 523.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to explain my reason for missing votes on July 22 and July 23, 2008. My voting percentage is over 96% for the 110th

and I rarely miss votes, but there are certain family events that cannot be missed, and for that reason, I was in Houston for the birth of our newest grandson. I am proud to report the newest grandson, as well as mother, father, and the rest of the family are doing fine.

Had I been present for votes, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall vote No. 523, H. Res. 1344, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3999—The National Highway Bridge Reconstruction and Inspection Act, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 522, H. Res. 1344, On Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 3999—The National Highway Bridge Reconstruction and Inspection Act (H.Res.1344) I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 521, H.R. 6535, Table Motion to Reconsider, National Energy Security Intelligence Act of 2008, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 520, H.R. 6535, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, National Energy Security Intelligence Act of 2008, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 519, H.R. 3221, Concur in Senate Amendment with House Amendment, Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 518, H.R. 6532, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 517, H. Res. 1363, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3221, to provide needed housing reform and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 516, H. Res. 1363, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3221, to provide needed housing reform and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 515, On Motion to Adjourn, I would have voted "nay;"

On rollcall vote No. 514, H. Res. 1202, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Supporting the goals and ideals of a National Guard Youth Challenge Day, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 513, H. Res. 1311, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Expressing support for the designation of National GEAR UP Day, I would have voted "aye;"

On rollcall vote No. 512, H.R. 6493, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Aviation Safety Enhancement Act of 2008, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATIONS TO RANDY
SMITH

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Randy M. Smith, the CEO/President of Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union, on his recent

election to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU).

For the past 21 years, Mr. Smith has dedicated his life to improving financial institutions in America, serving on the Credit Union Oversight Task Force of the Campaign for Consumer Choice, NAFCU's Legislative, Regulatory and Accounting Standards Committees and various committees of state and national credit union organizations. Currently, he is a member of the Air Education and Training Command's Community Council and the Board of Trustees of the local United Way. I am also very proud to say that he is a fellow retired officer of the United States Air Force.

As the President/CEO, Mr. Smith has focused on strengthening the way Randolph-Brooks delivers services aimed at improving the economic well being and quality of life of its members. Consistently ranked among the top 25 of the nearly 8,300 financial cooperatives, Randolph-Brooks is one of the strongest credit unions in the country with more than 265,000 members and total assets exceeding \$3 billion. Randolph-Brooks FCU was originally chartered in 1952 to serve personnel at Randolph Air Force Base but has since expanded to include employees and associates at more than 1,300 select groups and eight underserved communities in the San Antonio and Austin areas. Randolph-Brooks FCU prides itself on doing more than just conducting business in the communities they serve, instead becoming members of the community and sharing in the credit union philosophy of "people helping people." With this in mind, Randolph-Brooks provides assistance to hundreds of local charitable organizations including the Children's Miracle Network, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, USO, American Red Cross, and the Fisher House Foundation.

It is because of the good work of Mr. Smith and others like him that credit unions across the Nation have had such a tremendous impact of the lives of millions of Americans. Such service is the hallmark of the credit union movement and I know that he will bring this dedication to his service on the NAFCU Board of Directors. I wish Mr. Smith the best of luck in this new role and I look forward to working with him in this new capacity.

INTRODUCTION OF THE JAMES
ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COM-
PENSATION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, along with my colleagues, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. WEINER, I am introducing an updated version of the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which we had introduced previously in this Congress as H.R. 3543.

After conferring with Speaker PELOSI and the leadership of both committees of jurisdiction, it became clear that some changes were needed in the legislation in order to sharpen the scope of the proposal, so that the House could consider taking up the bill by the seventh anniversary of 9/11.

This bill is our best attempt, working with the City of New York, the AFL-CIO, and the local community, to put forth a bill that the House could approve, and that would also provide medical monitoring to all who are at risk of illness because of exposure to Ground Zero toxins and treatment to all who are sick, as well as compensating those who sustained economic injuries due to their exposure to Ground Zero toxins. We believe that the revised James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act does just that.

THE TURKISH MILITARY OCCUPATION OF NORTHERN CYPRUS MUST END

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, the illegal Turkish occupation of the northern region of the sovereign state of Cyprus began 34 years ago, and continues to this day.

It must end, and Turkey must remove its forces from Cyprus' territory.

Very commendable efforts are underway by the Cypriot government to achieve a reunification of Cyprus. Meetings are being held with the designated representative for the Turkish Cypriot community to discuss ways to create a federal structure that will ensure the rights and freedoms of all the people of Cyprus.

But, just as the continued illegal occupation of northern Cyprus has to end, Turkey has to play a constructive role in supporting the talks on reunification. In that regard, it is simply not helpful to have Turkish military displays in northern Cyprus, marking the anniversary of the occupation, as took place this past weekend.

It is time for the barricades to come down, for the people who had been forced from their homes decades ago to return, for those who remain missing from the time of the invasion to be accounted for, and for freedom and economic prosperity to be allowed to spread across the beautiful island-country of Cyprus.

I note the anniversary of the Turkish military invasion of Cyprus with great disappointment that the Turkish military continues its illegal occupation.

But I remain hopeful that the voices that are calling for peace and reunification of Cyprus will be heard and will prevail.

Just as the ongoing talks have already led to the reopening of Ledra Street, a key thoroughfare in Nicosia that had been closed for over 40 years, those talks can lead to reunification of all of Cyprus itself, if Turkey takes steps that will support that.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON S. 2062, NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 17, 2008

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to statements made on July 17, 2008 referencing the Cherokee Nation and the Freedmen citizenship issue in discussions on the NAHASDA bill. The Cherokee Nation is the second-largest Indian nation within U.S. borders with 280,000 citizens. I represent the largest number of Cherokees in any Congressional District—more than 95,000—and I am proud to serve as their Congressman.

I believe that, regardless of what one thinks about the merits, this is an issue for the courts, and Congress should stay out of the litigation. A current federal court case in Washington, D.C. involving these issues was filed five years ago. Last year, more than 300 people filed suit over these same issues in Cherokee Nation tribal courts. We in Congress need to let the courts do their work without interfering. The Bureau of Indian Affairs similarly has said it will take no action until the courts decide. I cannot help but note the irony that we in Congress or any legislative body generally do all we can to avoid getting involved with litigation until it is finally resolved. This issue should be treated no differently.

That is why I have worked with Chairman FRANK and others to craft compromise language that would allow the Cherokee Nation to continue receiving federal funds until the courts decide. It is not a perfect solution, as I would prefer this Congress avoid establishing the precedent that it is permissible to punish a single tribe for an internal decision. That is a dangerous slippery slope that will ultimately undermine the very meaning of sovereignty when it comes to all Indian tribes.

There is another sad irony here; if the Cherokee Nation were to lose these funds, thousands of my constituents would be hurt, including the Freedmen descendants who have been recently reinstated in the tribe and who are also my constituents. I appreciate the fact that efforts have been aimed at helping them, but the reality of the legislation falls short of that goal if funding were ever to be cut.

The consequences of losing this federal housing funding would be real, damaging and lasting. In 2008 alone, this would mean more than \$30 million. Without it, more than 7,000

low-income Cherokee families would lose their federal housing assistance. Many would lose their homes, precipitating a housing crisis in eastern Oklahoma. The State, which is already stretched, would be forced to pick up the slack. How tragic it would be if the U.S. Congress were once again responsible for removing Native Americans from their homes. Truly, the most responsible and prudent thing we can do is wait for the tribal and federal courts to decide these issues first.

TRIBUTE TO CONLEY NELSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 24, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Conley Nelson of Algona, Iowa, for his appointment to the National Pork Board.

Conley was one of five people appointed to the 15-member board at the World Pork Expo at the Iowa State Fairgrounds and will serve a three year term. The National Pork Board, which was created by Congress as part of the Pork Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act of 1985, is designed to develop budgets and award contracts to carry out projects that bring pork into the marketplace.

Conley is the general manager of the Murphy-Brown LLC Midwest operation. His large-scale operation includes 89,000 sows and markets 3.7 million hogs a year. In addition, he owns a 4,400 head wean-to-finish operation. Conley is a member of the National Checkoff's Pork Leadership Academy and serves on the Iowa Pork Producers board of directors, its Audit Committee, the Membership and Leadership Committees and the Swine Health and Animal Well-Being Committees. He is also a member of both the Kossuth County Pork Producers and Humboldt County Farm Bureau. Conley's broad range of experience and involvement in the pork industry certainly has earned him a position on the National Pork Board, and I am eager to see him excel in his role of helping pork producers across the country.

I commend Conley Nelson for his dedication to his work and congratulate him on his new nomination. I consider it an honor to represent Conley in the United States Congress, and I wish him great success while serving on the National Pork Board.