

to Hurricane Katrina by requiring FEMA to assess the number of temporary housing units necessary for the agency to effectively respond to future disasters and emergencies. FEMA must, within six months, develop a plan to store any units needed for future disasters and to dispose of, through sale, transfer, donation, or other means, those units the agency does not need to keep in stock. This legislation provides FEMA the flexibility to provide temporary housing units in its current inventory to victims of disasters that do not rise to the level of a Presidential disaster declaration, if the Governor of the State certifies that there is an urgent need for the housing and meets other requirements.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3377, the "Disaster Response, Recovery, and Mitigation Enhancement Act of 2009".

# HONORING THE FORMER TEXAS STATE LEGISLATOR LEO ALVARADO, JR.

**HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2009*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my colleague in the Texas Legislature, former State Representative Leo Alvarado, Jr., of San Antonio, who passed away on June 5, 2009. I served with Mr. Alvarado at the State Capitol in Austin during the 1990s, both of us representing districts in Bexar County.

Madam Speaker, during the recently concluded 1st Called Session of the 81st Texas Legislature, the Texas House of Representatives adopted House Resolution No. 21 in memory of Mr. Alvarado, offered by my former colleague State Representative Delwin Jones of Lubbock, joined by Bexar County members Trey Martinez Fischer, Mike Villarreal, Joe Farias, Joaquin Castro, and Valerie Ryder Corte.

## THE STATE OF TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RESOLUTION H.R. NO. 21

Whereas, The passing of former state representative Leopoldo "Leo" Alvarado, Jr., on June 5, 2009, at the age of 70, has profoundly saddened the legal and legislative communities and citizens throughout San Antonio and brought a great loss to his family and friends; and

Whereas, Born in San Antonio on April 23, 1939, Leo Alvarado was the son of Maria del Refugio Parias de Alvarado and Leopoldo Alvarado, Sr.; he grew up on the West Side and graduated from Jefferson High School before enlisting in the United States Air Force; following his service to his country, he enrolled in St. Mary's University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in political science and accounting and went on to receive his law degree in 1974; and

Whereas, This dedicated community activist helped organize the J.F.K. Community Forum, which laid the groundwork for West San Antonio agencies engaged in the war on poverty, and served as a consultant to the Inner City Apostolate and as a director of the Mexican American Unity Council and of Project Health and Viable Economics; he was vice chair of the board of the Bexar County Hospital District and worked toward the purchase and reopening of Lutheran General Hospital to serve downtown residents; and

Whereas, Highly respected in his legal career, Mr. Alvarado handled many complex injury and public interest cases; he played an important role in landmark Edgewood ISO cases involving the redistribution of funds from wealthy to poorer school districts, which ultimately led to increased support for education in lower income communities; he was a partner in Weir & Alvarado, P.C., before forming Alvarado & Alvarado, P.L.L.C., with his daughter, Rosemarie Alvarado-Hawkins; and

Whereas, Mr. Alvarado was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1992 and served the people of District 116 for eight years; during his tenure, he was chair of the Freshman House Caucus and was a valued member of the civil practices, house administration, state affairs, redistricting, insurance, and judicial affairs committees; a man of principle and integrity, he worked to improve the lives of all Texans, and he introduced bills relating to high school education and redlining in the insurance industries, among numerous others; and

Whereas, A devoted and loving father, Mr. Alvarado most enjoyed spending time with his family, whom he placed first in all matters; he was also fond of hunting, fishing, playing guitar, cooking, painting, gardening, and travel; and

Whereas, Leo Alvarado leaves a legacy of accomplishments that will continue to benefit people in this state for years to come, and he will long be remembered with deep affection and admiration by all who were fortunate enough to share in the richness of his life; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2009, hereby pay tribute to the memory of Leopoldo "Leo" Alvarado, Jr., and extend sincere sympathy to the members of his family: to his brother, Carlos Alvarado; to his first wife, Gloria Acosta Farias, and their son, Leopoldo Alvarado Acosta III; to his second wife, Charlene Alvarado, and their children, Rosemarie Alvarado-Hawkins, Christina Lisa Morales, Miguel Antonio Alvarado, and Carlos Andres Alvarado; to his grandchildren, Maria and Sharet Castillejos and Evangeline and Chloe Hawkins; and to the other family members and friends of this esteemed Texan; and, be it further

*Resolved*, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for his family and that when the Texas House of Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Leopoldo "Leo" Alvarado, Jr.

Joe Straus, Speaker of the House.

I certify that H.R. No. 21 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on July 2, 2009.

Robert Haney, Chief Clerk of the House.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Congressional Responsibility and Accountability Act. This bill requires Congress to specifically authorize via legislation any proposed federal regulation that will impose costs on any individual of at least \$5,000, impose costs on a business or other private organization of at least \$10,000, or impose aggregate costs on the American people of at least \$25,000, or cause any American to lose his or her job.

According to some legal experts, at least three-quarters of all federal laws consist of regulations promulgated by federal agencies without the consent, or even the review of, Congress. Allowing unelected, and thus unaccountable, executive agencies to make law undermines democracy and violates the intent of the drafters of the Constitution to separate legislative and executive powers. The drafters of the Constitution correctly viewed separation of powers as a cornerstone of republican government and a key to protecting individual liberty from excessive and arbitrary government power.

Congress's delegation of law-making authority to unelected bureaucrats has created a system that seems to owe more to the writings of Franz Kafka than to the writings of James Madison. The volume of regulations promulgated by federal agencies and the constant introduction of new rules makes it impossible for most Americans to know with any certainty the federal laws, regulations, and rules they are required to obey. Thus, almost all Americans live with the danger that they may be hauled before a federal agency for an infraction they have no reasonable way of knowing is against the law.

While it is easy for members of Congress to complain about out of control federal bureaucrats, it was Congress that gave these agencies the ability to create laws. Since Congress created the problem of lawmaking by regulatory agencies, it is up to Congress to fix the problem and make certain that all federal laws are passed by the people's elected representatives. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Congressional Responsibility and Accountability Act.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 2009*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the Congressional Record regarding earmarks I received as part of the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Defense Appropriations Act, H.R. 3326.

(1) \$2,300,000 for the Washington National Guard for the Tactical Operations Center

Requesting Entity: Washington State Military Department, Building One, Camp Murray, WA 98430-5000

Agency: NGB/WAARNG, Domestic Operations

Account: National Guard Equipment, Army Guard—P-1/Line # 094

Funding Requested by: Rep. DAVE REICHERT, Rep. BRIAN BAIRD, and Rep. JIM McDERMOTT

Project Summary: This funding would help develop a rapidly deployable mobile command center, interoperable communications, and a forward domestic response command headquarters capable of providing defense support to civil authorities. This capability is needed to respond to state/interstate/national domestic emergencies, including terrorism and natural hazards like earthquakes, flooding, and fires. It would include tentage, vehicles, power, and communications to relocate support to any