

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO WATERFORD TOWNSHIP AT THE TIME OF ITS TRICENTENNIAL

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize Waterford Township and its citizens during this celebration of its 300th birthday. This yearlong celebration, with its kickoff parade and pageant, circus, tree lighting ceremony, ecumenical service, anniversary "Sweetheart Reception" for the 65 couples in the township who have been married 50 years or longer, and now, the Finale Fair, pays tribute to the contributions of the 11,000 residents of this 37-square-mile community, located in the Third Congressional District of New Jersey.

Lands encompassed by the original Township of Waterford later became Atlantic County in 1837 and Camden County in 1844. Additional lands were used to form what is now known as Cherry Hill. Land given from Waterford Township provided for the creation of Chesilhurst Borough and Voorhees Township, and the enlargement of the county of Burlington.

Originally viewed by the early settlers of Philadelphia as a place of fresh air in the pines, it was the location of many summer homes for city folk. Today, it is the only community in Camden County to lie totally under the protection of the Pinelands Preservation Act. The Wharton State Forest, its open spaces, streams, and wildlife are an integral part of the charm and beauty of this community.

However, it is the people of Waterford Township who have made this community grow and prosper. The support of the township's civic organizations such as the Rotary, Fire Company, schools, churches, and the Tri-Centennial Committee, demonstrates the commitment of its residents to the betterment of their community.

It will be the people of Waterford Township who will protect and ensure its continued prosperity as it begins its fourth century. Their sharing and showing the spirit of pride in their heritage and their community today sets them apart and holds them together. To them, I pay tribute.

COMMENDING STUDENTS FROM WAIAKEA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize the stellar performance of Waiakea High School students from Hilo, HI in the We the People—The Citizen and the Con-

stitution national competition. The outstanding performance of these students against 49 other schools from across the Nation demonstrated a thorough grasp of the fundamental principles embodied in the U.S. Constitution.

I commend the Waiakea High School students and their teacher, Patrick Marquart for their commitment and dedication to learning about the freedoms and responsibilities which the Constitution and Bill of Rights bestows on us all. The district coordinator, Helen Kobayashi, and the State coordinator, Sharon Kaohi also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The We the People program, supported and funded by Congress, is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

This program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective of the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I am proud of Waiakea High School's achievement in reaching the national finals, and of their outstanding performance in the national competition.

My congratulations to: Elijah Clark, Brienne Colton, Deborah Dacallo, Lannis Enriques, Jeffrey Fuke, Chatney Gram, Rhiannon Kauwa, Ian Kawamoto, Joy Kobayashi, Janelle Kuroda, Christine Miyasaki, Jill Nagashima, Celina Nelson, Shane Okimoto, Brandon Tenn, Malia Uyehara, and Kristy Yamamoto.

THOUGHTFUL WORDS ON WETLANDS

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, the absolute chaos unleashed by the current section 404 wetlands program in the 1972 Clean Water Act is excellently documented in the following editorial, which appeared in the Lewistown Sentinel, a newspaper in my Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. Indeed, the word "wetlands" is not even mentioned in the main provisions of the original 1972 act. Instead, abuses and distortions that exist currently in the wetlands regulatory program stem from just 10 words in original 1972 legislation: "The discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters."

It is from this simple phrase that bureaucrats and judges have created what is so eloquently written described in the editorial's concluding paragraph. This editorial provides a

good overview of the issue and I commend it to my colleagues and all people interested in the wetlands debate.

[From the Lewistown Sentinel, May 31, 1995]

CLEAN WATER BILL IS SOLID LEGISLATION

Two years ago last week, conservationist Bill Ellen was released from the federal prison at Petersburg, Va., after serving a six-month sentence for allegedly violating wetland regulations.

Ellen ran afoul of the Environmental Protection Agency in the course of building a wildlife preserve, where he was the project supervisor.

A couple of loads of clean fill were placed on land so dry that his crews were spraying water on the ground to reduce dust for safety reasons. But overly broad regulations—upon which even assorted federal and state agencies did not agree at the time—called the spot wet, at least by the EPA's lights.

If revisions to the Clean Water Act adopted by the House of Representatives this week become law, there won't be any more Bill Ellen cases. The legislation requires the Army Corps of Engineers—the primary wetlands agency—and the Department of Agriculture to write new regulations, this time with real definitions that would put wetlands into three categories according to their ecological importance. Land in the least significant category could be used for other purposes, whereas land in the most significant category would be tightly restricted. Property owners might be entitled to just compensation in such instances.

Rep. Bud Shuster is a sponsor of the bill, which passed the House in a 240-185 bipartisan vote. Shuster, whose district includes Mifflin and Juniata counties, is chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Central Pennsylvania's congressman has spent a good bit of time lately defending the bill against broadsides from the Clinton administration. The White House is threatening a veto. In a public relations campaign against the bill, they're calling it "The Polluters' Protection Act," which is utter nonsense.

Among other points, Shuster has correctly pointed out that the bill contains many points that align with Clinton's own blueprint for federal reform. He also noted that the bill received support from the bipartisan National Governors' Association, which Clinton once headed.

"The president read from a script handed him by the environmental extremists," Shuster said. "This is a common-sense bill written and supported by an overwhelming bipartisan majority of House members."

Shuster is right on the money. Like him, we can't see the logic in Clinton's attack. He's missing the real question at hand, which is whether environmental regulation in this country is going to be governed by rule of law or by arbitrary bureaucrats.

Americans are entitled, through their elected representatives, to define what is important and what's not and to set down some clear definitions.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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