

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES I.
GRACYALNY, A DEDICATED
CIVIL SERVANT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 22, 1996

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to James I. Gracyalny, the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Jim is retiring after 35 years of Federal service.

Jim has appeared many times before the Appropriations Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies in defense of VA's budget requests. Over the years he has been of great assistance to the subcommittee in its day-to-day dealings with the Department. We have always valued his counsel.

Jim is, I believe, a truly dedicated civil servant. His high standards represent what is best about the civil service.

Mr. Gracyalny began his Federal service at the VA in 1964. During his 32 years of service with the VA he has held a variety of positions. Since 1990, he has been Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget. Throughout his career, he has been a champion of his co-workers and has provided them with the inspiration to further their education and training.

Mr. Gracyalny received his undergraduate degree at La Salle University. He received a masters in public administration from George Washington University. Jim served his country during the Korean war as a line medic in the Army and continued serving after active duty, retiring from the Army Reserve as a colonel.

Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, April 30, 1996, is Jim's last day at VA. We will miss him. I know that you join me in wishing him and his wife, Barbara, a long, happy, and healthy retirement after 35 years of distinguished Federal service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EDMUND
G. (PAT) BROWN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 22, 1996

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, on February 16, 1996, the State of California lost Edmund G. (Pat) Brown, one of its most beloved statesmen. All Californians have mourned the passing of this great leader, who was unmatched in his political skill, courageous leadership, and benevolence. He used his talents to make government an instrument of public good and his accomplishments as California's Governor from 1958 to 1966 are legendary.

Pat Brown embodied all of the qualities the American people yearn for in their elected officials. Columnist David Broder captured him in a way we can all appreciate in a column he wrote shortly after Pat died. April 21, 1996,

would have been Pat's 91st birthday. In memory of his long and rich life, I invite you to take a moment to read David Broder's words, which are reprinted below.

CALIFORNIA IS HIS MONUMENT

(By David Broder)

If California were a nation, and not just a nation-state, the visage of Edmund G. (Pat) Brown Sr. would be carved into the Sierra equivalent of Mount Rushmore. Brown, who died last week at 90, shaped his megastate as surely as the greatest of the presidents have shaped this country. Reporters who covered him during his eight years as governor, from 1958 through 1966, and visited with him over the last 30 years mourn him as one of the true blithe spirits of 20th century politics. He was the most amiable of companions, a grand storyteller who liked nothing better than to tell or hear jokes at his own expense.

For years after it happened, you could get "the Guv" laughing so hard that his eyes teared by describing to him the spectacle he made when he missed John Kennedy's campaign train during a whistle-stop tour of California's Central Valley in September 1960. Brown had introduced the candidate from the back platform in one of the Valley towns, then climbed down and began schmoozing with people in the crowd.

Engrossed in conversation, Brown missed Kennedy's cue lines for departure—a quotation from "Colonel Davenport" that staff members and reporters took as a signal to jump back aboard—and made an unsuccessful lunge for the back platform. As Kennedy joined the others laughing, the portly governor jogged down the track, puffing heavily until the train was halted so he could reboard.

But there was nothing comical about what Brown accomplished in Sacramento. Elected at a time of burgeoning population and economic growth, Brown put in place the three ingredients vital for sustaining his state's progress: improved transportation, education and water systems.

His administration built 1,000 miles of free-ways to keep the state from traffic gridlock. He opened almost a dozen new campuses of the University of California and the state colleges, giving California—for a time—the most accessible and inexpensive higher education system in the world. The Berkeley campus was one of the crown jewels of research and graduate education.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was the legislation creating the California water system. A native of San Francisco, Brown recognized that water was the issue that could deepen the long-simmering division between his own northern California, eager to protect its rich water resources, and the fast-growing but arid south.

At that time, before the Supreme Court's one-man-one-vote edict, small rural counties dominated the state Senate, where Los Angeles' millions of people had only one vote. It fell to Brown to cajole and pressure the Senate to authorize a 44-mile aqueduct that brought almost 2 billion gallons of water a day to the south, and later to obtain approval of the project in a closely fought referendum.

It was a battle that only a visionary would have waged, but Brown was a man who believed—in a way few politicians do now—that government has enormous capacity to improve life for people.

He also had an enormous capacity to enjoy people, whatever their politics. He started life as a Republican and once gained both Democratic and Republican nominations for attorney general under California's now-defunct cross-filing system.

Martin Smith, the retired political columnist of the Sacramento Bee, recalled Brown saying of Ronald Reagan, who thwarted his bid for a third term in 1966, "What an extraordinary human being. . . . Of course, I disagree with him 90 percent of the time."

Lyn Nofziger, Reagan's former press secretary, who was here helping Sen. Bob Dole, told me that just a few years ago, when he was crossing a street in Washington, "a big car rolled up, and Pat Brown rolled down the window, and asked, 'How the hell are you, Lyn?' He tied up traffic for 10 minutes just wanting to talk."

Jack Burby, who handled the press for Brown, recalled a different kind of encounter in 1963, a year after Brown beat Nixon to win his second term. The governor and Burby and their wives were having dinner at a restaurant in Paris. "The Nixons and a small entourage walked in. Pat, being Pat, wanted to jump up and lick his face. I suggested that he send him a note and invite him to join us for coffee and dessert. The waiter took the note over—and a few minutes later, the Nixon party walked past us without a word, and left the restaurant."

"It used to drive me crazy," Burby said, "that Pat had no mean streak. I would tell him, 'Even FDR got even,' but he wasn't interested in that."

The things he was interested in gave California its future. The whole state is his monument.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALLIANCE FOR
THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 22, 1996

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, an environmental organization concerned with cleaning up and preserving Maryland's greatest environmental treasure, the Chesapeake Bay.

It is very appropriate that today, Earth Day, we turn our attention to the fine job done by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. The bay is a national resource that has a profound affect on much of the east coast. It is 64,000-square-mile drainage basin—from the Finger Lakes in New York to the ports of Baltimore and Hampton Roads—provides millions of us with food, energy, recreation, and water.

Since its inception in 1971, the alliance has been dedicated to creating a healthier, cleaner bay. It has proven equal to the task. The alliance's nonadversarial approach has enabled it to work with a wide range of people for a better, cleaner bay. Over the years, the alliance has successfully rallied support from the business community, citizens groups, environmentalists, industry, scientists, farmers, sports enthusiasts, and others to preserve and restore the Chesapeake Bay.

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The alliance has accomplished its mission by establishing several important programs. The alliance's public policy program builds consensus on issues that directly affect the bay; the Information Services Program provides unbiased information about issues; and the Watershed Restoration Program gets people involved in hands-on habitat restoration work.

I urge my colleagues to acknowledge the fine work of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and to commit themselves to preserving the important programs that are so vital to the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

**PATRIOTISM IS ALIVE AND WELL
IN AMERICA**

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 22, 1996

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues and all Americans the following letter I received from Vincent E. Pellegrino, Adjutant of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 386 in Cape May, NJ. Patriotism is indeed alive and well in America.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE U.S.,

Cape May, NJ, April 1, 1996.

Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO,
Cannon House Office, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LOBIONDO: On Sunday, March 24, 1996, we both attended the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration of the Veterans of Foreign War Petrella, Repici, Caprioni, Champion Post 6257 in Belle Plain, New Jersey. The celebration was also attended by many veterans groups from the surrounding area, as well as the Gold Star Parents of Leland Champion, Jr., one of the veterans for whom this post is named.

I only wish that all of your colleagues in Congress could have been with us, to hear a very patriotic and emotional speech given by Commander Frank DiLorenzo, a veteran and Commander of Post 6257 in Belle Plain, N.J.

Commander DiLorenzo pointed out that it is no longer fashionable to salute or respect the flag of the United States, our greatest symbol of freedom. He also reminded us that Congress had refused to pass a law making it a crime to deface or destroy the American Flag.

As a veteran of World War II who served in the European theatre, I sometimes become discouraged at the direction this country is going. It appears that our Democratic system has failed, with high crime rates in our cities, failure of our children to be properly educated, families struggling to survive, high taxes, corruption in government, and a political system that appears to be in chaos. These concerns are also shared by many of my fellow veterans. We sometimes wonder if the sacrifices that were made in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon, Somalia and Desert Storm are appreciated by our fellow Americans.

On Sunday, March 24, 1996, my faith in our Democratic way of life was restored, after listening to the speech given by Commander DiLorenzo. I know that he and many other Frank DiLorenzos throughout this country will continue to carry the message that patriotism is still alive in America.

I was also encouraged as we paraded through the streets of Belle Plain, N.J. to

see American flags displayed on every home along our parade route.

Belle Plain, N.J. is a small rural community and during World War II had approximately two hundred residents. Twenty five men enlisted in the service and in 1944, Belle Plain, N.J. was notified that four of their young men, Joseph Petrella, Frank Repici, Thomas Caprioni, and Leland Champion, Jr. were killed in action. This is a close knit community where patriotism and family values are high.

Congressman LoBiondo, there are many communities like Belle Plain, N.J. in this country and my faith in the American system has been renewed.

I know that you are able to make a one minute speech in Congress before the regular session begins.

Please give your fellow Congressmen the message conveyed by Commander DiLorenzo, that patriotism still lives in America. Let them know that the sacrifices made by the residents in Belle Plain, N.J. through the four veterans Corporal Joseph Petrella, Private 1st Class Frank Repici, Private 1st Class Thomas Caprioni, and Staff Sergeant Leland Champion, Jr., who gave their lives for their country were not in vain.

God Bless Our Flag.

God Bless America.

Very truly yours,

VINCENT E. PELLEGRINO,
Adjutant.

**EARTH DAY AND AST
LEGISLATION**

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 22, 1996

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, today we commemorate the 26th anniversary of Earth Day and recommit ourselves to protecting and improving our environment. We celebrate the progress we have made in cleaning our air and our water. We recognize, however, that we still have much more to do to ensure that our natural resources are preserved and protected for future generations.

It is in this spirit of protecting and preserving our environment that I rise today to introduce legislation that will provide greater protection for our ground and surface water against leaks from aboveground petroleum storage tanks [AST's]. Currently there are approximately half a million aboveground storage tanks located throughout this country. According to the Environmental Defense Fund [EDF], between 20 and 25 percent of AST's nationwide are leaking, posing threats to our ground water and surface water.

In northern Virginia, we learned all too well the problems that leaking tanks can cause. In September 1990, a petroleum sheen was discovered in a neighborhood creek in a Fairfax, VA, community. It was the beginning of a continuing nightmare for a number of local residents, who had to live with the knowledge that more than 200,000 gallons of petroleum products had seeped into their ground water and spread underneath their community, posing risks of fire and explosion. Home values plummeted, many people living in the community suffered from respiratory ailments, and Star

Enterprise, a Texaco affiliate, spent more than \$100 million cleaning the leak and settling claims.

No one wants these leaks to occur. But, unfortunately they do. Problems with leaking AST's are not restricted to northern Virginia. Leaks have occurred across the Nation, from Anchorage, AK, to Everglades, FL.

I have introduced comprehensive AST legislation in the past to address these leaks. In this session of Congress, I have moved away from the idea of a comprehensive regulatory program for AST's. Instead of duplicating efforts undertaken by States and the petroleum industry to improve AST safety, this bill builds on and enhances those efforts.

This bill represents a commonsense approach to ensuring better management of AST's. It acknowledges that five different Federal offices currently regulate AST's and that tankowners feel overwhelmed and overburdened by duplicative regulations.

To address these concerns, the bill requires the EPA to consolidate AST offices within EPA. In performing that consolidation, EPA must review all regulations that currently apply to ASTs and eliminate those that are duplicative. This consolidation will lead to simplification of the regulatory program and will ensure that tankowners understand the current regulations with which they must comply.

By improving the organization of the current AST program we allow EPA to do more with less. We also permit tank owners the opportunity to benefit from a streamlined, understandable regulatory structure.

In 1995, the General Accounting Office conducted a study of the AST regulatory program and identified seven areas where the program needed improvement. The bill provides EPA the authority to correct those deficiencies in federal law identified by the GAO. Any new regulations must be designed in the most cost-effective manner and substantial weight must be given to current industry standards.

This needed regulatory reform will improve the effectiveness of current regulations, lead to greater prevention and containment of releases from AST's and improve the environment. This new, streamlined approach to AST regulation has been developed with the guidance and input of a diverse coalition of industry and environmental groups, from the American Petroleum Institute, to the Petroleum Marketers Association of America, to the Environmental Defense Fund. Together, we have drafted a bill which both industry and environmental groups can support.

I am proud to have both Congressman DAVIS and Congresswoman MORELLA as original cosponsors of this legislation. In addition, I want to thank Senator ROBB for his work on similar legislation which has bipartisan support in the Senate.

This bill is a commonsense proposal to help improve our environment through regulatory reform. I look forward to working with my House colleagues and with the chairman of the relevant congressional committees to ensure that this legislation becomes a reality.