

House improves its benefits to wildlife even more.

The bill's sponsor, the gentleman from New Jersey, has done yeoman service for wildlife in this country by introducing this legislation and expeditiously bringing it before the House. The amendment does three things: it promotes volunteer programs on wildlife refuges; it protects wildlife habitat by reauthorizing the highly successful North American Wetlands Conservation Act; and it improves the management of nongame species of wildlife by reauthorizing a program of Federal matching grants for such activities.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is about protecting wildlife habitat and enhancing the management of both game and nongame wildlife. We have long since reached a point where Government cannot provide all the know-how and resources adequately to protect our wildlife. By establishing a pilot program to encourage partnerships between wildlife refuges and private organizations, we create a win-win situation for wildlife. Local citizens get an opportunity to gain firsthand experience with wildlife while enjoying the simple pleasure of volunteer service. For their part, wildlife refuges get expertise from the local community, as well as goods and services that would not otherwise be available to them.

In the 7 years of its existence, the North American Wetlands Act has resulted in the protection of more than 10 million acres of wetlands in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. \$208 million in Government funds for this voluntary, nonregulatory program have been matched by more than \$420 million in non-Federal funds, conserving valuable habitat for migratory birds and many nonmigratory species as well.

Last, the amendment reauthorizes the Partnerships for Wildlife Act, which provides matching grants for nongame wildlife conservation and appreciation. A permanent source of funding, like we have for sportfish and game conservation, is sorely needed for nongame species. The States currently estimate their unmet needs for nongame management and conservation at over \$300 million annually. I hope that we have the opportunity to give permanent funding for nongame species serious consideration next session. In the meantime, we will continue doing what we can for nongame species under the Partnerships for Wildlife Program.

This is sound legislation to benefit wildlife through nonregulatory programs that leverage scarce Federal resources. I urge the House to support H.R. 1856.

SAN MATEO COUNTY, CA—CENTER
OF THE BIOSCIENCE INDUSTRY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to call to the attention of my colleagues in the Congress the significance of the biotechnology industry in San Mateo County, CA. A part of the impetus for my remarks today is the release of a recent report, "Bioscience in San Mateo County: An Industry Study," which was prepared by the Bay Area Bioscience Center in cooperation with SAMCEDA, the

San Mateo County Economic Development Association.

The bioscience research industry in San Mateo County was ushered into our area in 1976, when the founders of Genentech, a pioneer and major biotech firm, rented space and began operations in the city of South San Francisco. Today, San Mateo County is home to nearly 100 bioscience companies employing over 10,000 men and women. In the past 15 years, San Mateo County has become one of the world's most important centers for the research and the commercialization of biotechnology research and development.

The economic benefit to our local communities from bioscience companies is significant. Bioscience companies pay high wages, provide steady employment, and are environmentally clean operations. The members of its work force are well-educated and involved in their residential communities.

To win the benefits of this vibrant bioscience industry in our communities, economic development initiatives to support local bioscience companies have been undertaken by dozens of cities, counties, and States throughout the United States, as well as by Canada and many European countries. Often these recruitment efforts have targeted San Mateo County and other northern California companies with a variety of incentives. Although San Mateo County is the fortunate birthplace of the bioscience industry, there continues to be fierce competition for the industry's future growth.

In the 1950's and 1960's, California's civic and business leadership advanced the State economically by anticipating and encouraging the growth of the aerospace and the electronics industries. The basic elements of that long-term technology development strategy helped create a prosperous Silicon Valley and, more recently, benefited our State's growing bioscience industry.

According to the report "Bioscience in San Mateo County: An Industry Study," few foreign countries and only one other State (Massachusetts) can match the extent of San Mateo County's booming bioscience activity. From industry leaders like Genentech and PE Applied Biosystems Division to promising young companies like Tularik and Arris Pharmaceuticals, the county has established itself as a locale of choice for bioscience companies. One of the principal reasons for this success is the high quality of life that we enjoy on the San Francisco Peninsula.

Ironically, this same success of San Mateo County in establishing its preeminence for the bioscience industry has also created challenges to county leaders in the effort to maintain preeminence in the bioscience industry. This report is a blueprint to assist local officials, business leaders, and the citizens of San Mateo County in considering what steps should be taken to ensure that the county can benefit from the continued growth of this valuable industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the executive summary of this report be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I think that it will be useful for our colleagues in the Congress to examine this report because it provides an excellent example of cooperative local efforts to deal with the problems of attracting industry for the benefit of a community. It is my hope that the information and recommendations contained in this report can provide a focus for discussion as well as a working tool for economic devel-

opment by San Mateo County officials, public utilities companies, development authorities, and the national bioscience industry.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the last fifteen years, San Mateo County has become a locale of choice for the economically promising bioscience industry. To help ensure that the county maintains its prominence, the San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA) and several local bioscience companies asked the Bay Area Bioscience Center to conduct a Bioscience Business Environment Survey and to offer recommendations for maintaining the competitive advantages currently afforded the industry by the county.

This first-ever look at the scope of the dynamic and growing bioscience industry in San Mateo County comes at a time when the country's business community is implementing a county-wide economic development strategic plan for the retention, expansion and attraction of business through public/private partnerships. The information and recommendations contained herein are intended to provide a focus for discussion as well as a working tool for economic development efforts by county officials, public utilities, developers and the bioscience industry itself.

Selected information and recommendations are summarized on the following pages:

EMPLOYMENT

Forty survey participants expect to create 1,100 new jobs in 1997. This expansion represents a highly impressive overall employment growth rate of 15 percent.

The total operating budget of 32 bioscience companies in 1995 was more than \$1.4 billion, including an estimated \$470 million in salaries and benefits.

REAL ESTATE AND CONSTRUCTION

More than 3.7 million square feet of office, laboratory and distribution space is currently being utilized by the surveyed firms.

The rental expense incurred in San Mateo County by survey respondents for the years 1996 and 1997 is expected to be \$71 million, a 48% increase over the \$46.7 million two year total for 1994 and 1995.

Survey participants invested \$138 million in new construction in San Mateo County for the two years 1994 and 1995, not counting tenant improvements paid for by landlords. The same companies plan to devote \$186 million for construction spending in 1996 and 1997, an increase of 35%.

Facilities growth is not limited to a few large companies: More than 70% of the survey respondents planned to expand their facilities in the two year period 1996 and 1997, pending favorable financing and regulatory conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Develop an incubator initiative in San Mateo County to assist bioscience entrepreneur in their startup operations. The high cost of doing business, and in particular the challenge of finding affordable wet-lab space, is a significant deterrent to new bioscience company formation in the county. A life sciences incubator would help ensure the county's continuing preeminence in biotechnology for years to come.

Conduct a comparative analysis of the county's tax and regulatory policies vis-a-vis other leading bioscience counties in California and the nation, and initiate reforms as appropriate.

Establish within SAMCEDA a bioscience industry liaison position that will oversee all issues related to the growth of a strong bioscience industry in San Mateo County, and help implement the recommendations in this report.

Support continued efforts in education reform, particularly in improving the math and science curricula.

Work with high schools and community colleges to develop a school-to-work initiative such as a tech-prep or apprenticeship (work-based learning) program to train entry-level bioscience technical.

Expand the county's existing community and four-year college efforts to train bioscience laboratory technicians, with particular emphasis on providing minority students with access to the high-growth bioscience industry.

Work with the scientific, academic and industrial communities to increase teachers' familiarity with commercial applications of science and science-related careers for students, especially in bioscience and biotechnology. This may be done in many ways, including workshops for teachers, teacher education programs or career-oriented video presentations.

Promote lifelong training for local bioscience workers in a manner that is accessible to the workers and that offers relevant courses developed in cooperation with bioscience companies.

PROUD OF EAST TENNESSEE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I have lived in east Tennessee all my life. It is one of the most beautiful parts of our country, but what makes it really special is the people who live there.

We now have many thousands of wonderful people who have moved in from other parts of Tennessee, other States, and even many from other countries. Most of them love east Tennessee, too.

But I have to say that to me, native east Tennesseans are pretty special, unique people. Our part of the country was settled primarily by poor Scotch-Irish mountain farmers.

They and their descendants have always been proud, thrifty, hard-working, neighborly kind of people.

They have always been fiercely patriotic in time of war, but fiercely independent in times of peace. They have never really liked big government or having distant bureaucrats tell them what to do.

Maybe it has something to do with a heritage of moonshine whiskey, but they have never cared much for Federal revenue agents, and I once was told that the Federal court for east Tennessee had the lowest conviction rate in IRS cases in the entire country.

For many years I have been teased about my east Tennessee accent. Sometimes people have called us hicks and hillbillies. Once, when I was in college, a man in New York said to me in much amazement: "You're from Tennessee, and you're wearing shoes?"

Perhaps because we have been teased and ridiculed and made fun of, we have been a little defensive at times. But I also think this has made us a little bit more loyal to each other.

At any rate, we have now become a secret that has been discovered. East Tennessee has become one of the most popular places to move to in the whole country.

Invariably, the people who have moved in tell that it was not only the beauty of our area

that attracts them, but also the kindness of the people, their friendliness, their honesty, their work ethic, and so on.

I could say much more, because I am very proud of east Tennessee. It is home to me. It means family and friends and everything that is important and good to me.

I am just a visitor in Washington and even if someday I had to move to another part of our great Nation on a full-time basis, I would still tell people I was from east Tennessee.

I could go on and on, but what really prompted all this was a letter I read today in the Knoxville News-Sentinel from one of my constituents, and friend, John Mark Hancock.

In this letter, Mark, a seventh-generation east Tennessean, expresses far better than I have some of the great things about living where we do.

Because I was so touched by what he wrote, I wanted to call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

EDITOR, the News-Sentinel: I am blessed. As a seventh-generation native East Tennessean on both sides of my family, I am truly blessed for having had the opportunity to live and grow up in this area.

Many times in life we find ourselves chasing after things that are fleeting in both our personal and professional relationships, namely love and money.

In doing so, we take for granted all the little things that are so much more important—like walking, talking, seeing, hearing, touching, smelling and moving about this wonderful region of our planet.

I had the distinct pleasure and the wonderful opportunity to take my 3-year-old niece, Katie, to the Museum of Appalachia's Fall Homecoming this year.

As most of us know, it is a celebration of the fierce determination and independence of our ancestors who settled this area. It was satisfying to see the wonderment in the eyes of a new generation as we enjoyed the day together.

Listening to the strains of "Orange Blossom Special" wafting over the serene countryside, having traveled and lived all over the United States, I got a tear in my eye and a lump in my throat.

My heart and soul filled with pride upon hearing those sweet melodious tunes. They are from deep within our culture, and we should never forget what they mean to us.

That same weekend, I was privileged to witness another big University of Tennessee Volunteer football victory at the largest stadium in America. The pride in excellence of achievement, both athletically and academically, that my alma mater represents, is another part of our tremendous heritage.

The next day, I attended the harvest celebration at Dollywood and was again reminded of the bluegrass and gospel music that was born in these hills, mountains and valleys. Lyrics from "Will the Circle be Unbroken?" and "Wildwood Flower" pierced the crisp air.

It is truly a time for thanksgiving and prayerful reflection to know that there are some things in life that money cannot buy, like peace of mind and security. We race through life so rapidly oftentimes that we don't give ourselves the chance to take inventory.

The lessons our forefathers taught us in not ever giving up our faith in God and in ourselves are ones to be cherished and preserved.

In trusting love more than fear, we can love both ourselves and our neighbors. The people who settled this land knew what a great legacy they were leaving to us. The great English bard, Shakespeare, said that

love looks with the heart and not with the eyes.

We must take to heart our beautiful ability to blend with nature and fulfill the dreams of those who have gone before us. Be appreciative of living and working in the richest area of the world, rich in resources and lore, for this is worth more than anything else.

Living in East Tennessee, we are all truly blessed.

JOHN MARK HANCOCK,
Knoxville.

INTRODUCING THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 1997

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I—along with our distinguished colleague from New Jersey, Mr. LOBIONDO, and over 80 of our other House colleagues—am pleased to introduce the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1997.

I was inspired to introduce this legislation when I learned that gang members in Northwest Indiana had the protection of bulletproof vests, but that many police departments simply could not afford to buy them for their officers. In fact, figures from the U.S. Department of Justice indicate that approximately 150,000 law enforcement officers—or 25 percent of the Nation's 600,000 State and local officers—do not have access to bulletproof vests.

The legislation I am introducing today would form a partnership with State and local law enforcement agencies in order to make sure that every police officer who needs a bulletproof vest gets one. It would do so by authorizing up to \$25 million per year for a new grant program within the U.S. Department of Justice. The program would provide 50-50 matching grants to State and local law enforcement agencies to assist in purchasing bulletproof vests and body armor for their officers.

These grants would be targeted to jurisdictions where most officers do not currently have access to vests, and they are designed to be free of the red tape that often characterizes other grant programs. In order to make sure that no community is left out of the program, the matching requirement could be waived for jurisdictions that demonstrate financial hardship in meeting their half of the match.

This bipartisan bill has been endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Sheriff's Association, the International Union of Police Associations, the Police Executive Research Forum, the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, and the National Association of Police Organizations.

Far too many police officers are needlessly killed each year while serving to protect our citizens. Since 1980, 1,182 police officers have been feloniously killed by a firearm. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 42 percent of those officers could have been saved if they had been wearing bulletproof vests.

Bulletproof vests are so effective in protecting law enforcement officers from death and injury that the lives of more than 2,000 police officers have been saved because they were