

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOME ENERGY GENERATION ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Home Energy Generation Act, which will benefit individuals and small business owners who are currently producing their own energy, or wish to do so in the future. This legislation is a necessary incentive to help increase the use of environmentally sustainable technologies, and give Americans the independence and self-sufficiency they deserve.

The Home Energy Generation Act is a comprehensive "net metering" bill, which enables individuals who generate electricity using fuel cells or renewables such as wind, solar, or biomass, to receive credit for the surplus electricity they put back into the electricity grid. Credit for their excess energy generation is realized by allowing their electricity meter to literally run backwards when their energy unit is generating more energy than their household, farm, or small business is consuming.

In addition to net metering, the Home Energy Generation Act addresses many other barriers which can prevent Americans from generating their own electricity. This bill sets uniform national reliability and safety standards for interconnection of electricity generation units into the electricity grid, by utilizing private professional organizations. National standards are absolutely imperative to the development of reliable and affordable technology to interconnect. (It was national standards that allowed multiple companies, and consequently multiple technologies to interconnect into the once monopolized AT&T telephone system.)

The Home Energy Generation Act also allows retail electricity suppliers and utilities to count home energy generation capacity amongst their customers towards any renewable portfolio requirements.

This bill will function in the current electricity industry legislative structure, or in a deregulated electricity industry. It gives families, farms, and small businesses the same right as industrial generators by allowing home generators to sell their end of the year energy credit on the open market. Under a restructured industry, this will likely create a market for home generated power.

Although net metering is now allowed in 30 states, federal legislation is needed to create the national interconnectivity standards necessary to allow for safe and reliable interconnection, as well as to allow home generation industries to cost-effectively produce these technologies. In addition, this legislation is needed to resolve any uncertainty regarding state and local authority to implement net metering, since a state court has recently ruled that net metering requires explicit federal authority. This bill will provide that authority.

This bill is truly a bipartisan effort. It has been an honor for me to work with Both Congressmen ROSCOE BARTLETT of Maryland, and VERNON EHLERS of Michigan. In addition to these distinguished members, I would also like to thank the following original cosponsors to this important legislation: Mr. BRIAN BAIRD of Washington, Mr. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT of New York, Mr. EARL BLUMENAUER of Oregon, Mr. MERRILL COOK of Utah, Mr. PETER DEFazio of Oregon, Mr. NORMAN DICKS of Washington, Mr. LANE EVANS of Illinois, Mr. SAM FARR of California, Mr. BOB FILNER of California, Mr. MARTIN FROST of Texas, Mr. BENJAMIN GILMAN of New York, Mr. LUIS GUTIEREZ of Illinois, Mr. MAURICE HINCHEY of New York, Mr. PATRICK KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. JAMES LEACH of Iowa, Mr. JOHN LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. JIM McDERMOTT of Washington, Mr. JACK METCALF of Washington, Ms. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD of California, Ms. NANCY PELOSI of California, Mr. TED STRICKLAND of Ohio, Mr. MARK UDALL of Colorado, Mr. TOM UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. ROBERT UNDERWOOD of Guam, and Mr. BRUCE VENTO of Minnesota.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following groups who have been so helpful in crafting this legislation. They include the Solar Energy Industry Association, American Wind Energy Industry Association, public utilities, private investor owned utilities, fuel cell advocates, and various consumer groups.

I urge my colleagues to join me by cosponsoring the Home Energy Generation Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I was very surprised to see my vote in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on H.R. 2490, Treasury Postal Appropriations. I am certain I intended to vote "no" and did, in fact, vote "no," yet the RECORD reflects a vote of "aye" on my part. Therefore, I enter this statement into the RECORD to reflect the error that has been made with respect to this vote.

Please note that I have filed resolutions of disapproval with regard to pay raises for Members, and I have consistently voted against legislation providing for such increases.

CALVERT ALLIANCE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE: 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Calvert Alliance Against Sub-

stance Abuse, Inc., or CAASA, in celebrating its 10th Anniversary. CAASA, an organization which aims to fight substance abuse, has become a key player in reducing alcohol and drug abuse across Calvert County, Maryland. I commend CAASA for its starting as a grassroots drug prevention efforts.

It is imperative that youth are taught the dangers of drugs and alcohol at an early age. CAASA's sponsorship of numerous community activities geared towards children has encouraged them to steer away from drugs. Their support of various activities such as DARE, Just Say No Clubs, the Haunted Crack House, and many other programs have helped to keep many of the youth of Calvert County drug-free and out of trouble. By providing more school-based substance abuse programs, they have given these children alternatives to drug use.

Without the full support of the government and local communities, CAASA could not have enjoyed ten years of success. I would like to recognize community members, schools, civic and service organizations, religious groups, businesses, public agencies, and the county government for their continuous support of CAASA. This valuable partnership has enabled CAASA to reduce alcohol and drug abuse through public awareness, education, treatment, and law enforcement.

Alcohol and drug use remains a problem in both rural and urban communities across the Nation. Calvert County is fortunate to have such a valuable resource. I congratulate CAASA on 10 years of service and wish it all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF KHALSA PANTH'S BIRTH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Khalsa Panth's 300th birth anniversary. Khalsa Panth was born April 13, 1699 and is a figure of the Sikh community.

The purpose of founding the Khalsa was to spread righteousness and to uproot the repression and injustice; to create love and harmony amongst humankind and to end evil hatred. Khalsa stands for gender equality; to instill self-confidence; to live a humble life with self-respect and serve the society as its honorable Sant Sipahi.

The guidelines to the Sikh religion are as follows: Sikh's must have honest earnings, worship only one god, and share with the needy. They may only perform Sikh religious ceremonies and should meditate on God's name everyday. Sikh's must not commit any one of the four misdeeds: cutting or shaving of the hair, drinking alcohol, using any intoxicant, and using adultery. Sikh's must give service to the religious congregation without expecting

• 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.

anything in return. They must not worship idols, graves and mortals. Sikh's must always be ready to defend the weak and fight for justice and freedom.

There are five symbols that have both practical and spiritual meaning for the Sikh's. Unshorn hair means moral and spiritual strength. A wooden comb is to keep the hair neat and tidy. The Sikh must always wear a turban and women must keep their heads covered with traditional heading or a turban. An Iron bracelet reminds a Sikh that he must keep himself away from bad deeds. Special tailored shorts remind a Sikh that he is not to indulge in adultery. A sword on the person of an Amritdharti Sikh represents freedom. Last is political sovereignty. This reminds a Sikh of his duty to stand for truth, justice and righteousness.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Khalsa Panth's 300th birth anniversary. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Sikh community many more years of continued success and happiness.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY MARKS THE TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their forthcoming 88th National Day. The people of Taiwan on October 10, 1999 will commemorate the anniversary of the 1911 revolution in China, which marks the ousting of the last imperial dynasty and beginnings of the Republic of China under the leadership of Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

As we celebrate the 88th anniversary of the Republic of China's triumph as a democratically free and economically prosperous nation state, it is becoming of us to pay tribute to leadership and heroic efforts of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. The courage and determination of the Chinese people in Taiwan, to act as architects of their own ambitions and choose their own destiny, serves as a profound inspiration to the freedom-loving people around the world. The success of the Chinese people stands strong as a model for emerging nations in Asia and the Pacific Rim.

Let this be a celebration of the outstanding successes people can achieve when they are free to exercise their rights, when they can aspire to greater heights, which they can pursue what they desire for themselves, their families and their nation. As the delegate from Guam, I recognize the fact that the island and people I represent share deep cultural and historical ties with Taiwan. As the closest American community to Taiwan, we, the people of Guam, feel especially proud of our relationship and wish them all the best on their celebration of National Day. The strong ties between the Taiwanese people and the people of Guam are longstanding. Whether as visitors or as new neighbors, the historical, economic and cultural traditions that exist between our peoples have cultivated a unique relationship. Toward that end, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the work of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam under the

Director General Leo Chenjan Lee. Through his capable hands, the Taiwan-Guam relationship is sure to yield even greater fruit and blossom ever brighter in the future. Let us, as a Nation, reaffirm our support as a vital trading partner and as a partner in democracy with Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my most profound congratulations to Taiwan and President Lee Teng Hui on their celebration of National Day and on their continuous economic and democratic successes. It is altogether proper and fitting that we extend our prayers and remembrances, on behalf of the people of Guam, to all those who perished in the recent earthquake in Taiwan. May both the people of Guam and Taiwan continue to draw inspiration from one another and prosper long into the next millennium.

**CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1059,
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-
TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000**

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Chairman SPENCE for all of his hard work on this bill. His time and commitment is appreciated by me and this entire Congress.

The reason I am before you is to discuss the ability of State and local governments to carry out their legitimate environmental, safety, and health oversight authority under the newly formed National Nuclear Security Administration, as set forth in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, the State of Nevada is among several states that house nuclear weapons production and/or testing facilities. Nevada is in fact home to the Nevada Test Site. A unique national resource, the Nevada Test Site is a massive outdoor laboratory and national experimental center that is larger than the state of Rhode Island.

Established as the Atomic Energy Commission's on-continent proving ground, the Nevada Test Site has seen more than four decades of nuclear weapons testing. Since the nuclear weapons testing moratorium in 1992, and under the direction of the Department of Energy (DOE), test site use has diversified into many other programs such as hazardous chemical spill testing, emergency response training, conventional weapons testing, and waste management and environmental technology studies.

Mr. Speaker, the states that house our nation's nuclear weapons testing facilities, including my home state of Nevada, will be subject to the DOE re-organization provisions in this bill. Our efforts to protect the oversight rights of these states is paramount.

Mr. Speaker, the citizens of Nevada need your assurance that nothing in Title 32 of this bill, relating to the National Nuclear Security Administration, is intended to limit, modify, affect, or otherwise change any local, state or federal environmental, safety or health law, including any waiver of federal sovereign immunity in any such federal law, or any obligation of the Administration or the Department to comply with any such local, state or federal law.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman SPENCE for his work on this bill and I appreciate his willingness to work with me on this very important issue.

**IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
PRESENTATION OF "THE GOLD-
EN MOMENT," AN ICE SKATING
EXTRAVAGANZA, PRESENTED BY
THE KRISTI YAMAGUCHI AL-
WAYS DREAM FOUNDATION**

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation, which is headquartered in Oakland, CA, on its September 18, 1999 presentation of an ice skating extravaganza, "The Golden Moment." This presentation will serve as a fundraiser for the Foundation in support of its efforts to help in the fight against breast cancer. Kristi Yamaguchi created the Always Dream Foundation to inspire and embrace the hopes and dreams of children and help them fulfill their dreams.

Since its incorporation in 1996, The Always Dream Foundation has provided substantive support to organizations that have a positive influence on children. The Foundation's motto, "Always Dream," has served as the personal inspiration for Kristi Yamaguchi for many years, and has served as a constant reminder to dream big and never lose sight of her goals. Her dreams and accomplishments have been fulfilled as a direct result of her family's nurturing and love. The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation and Mervyn's California are presenting "A Golden Moment" figure skating concert on ice, accompanied live in-concert by the Oakland East Bay Symphony. This unique performance will be dedicated to helping make strides to overcome breast cancer.

I commend The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation for its diligence and perseverance in garnering the resources necessary to enrich and uplift the lives of the youth of this nation and the world. It has been through the Foundation's perseverance that it has garnered the resources necessary to support the struggle to overcome the ravages of breast cancer.

I wish to extend to The Kristi Yamaguchi Always Dream Foundation, its staff, donors, and volunteers sincere best wishes for success as they present "A Golden Moment" ice skating extravaganza to the citizens of Oakland and Alameda County.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE LAS
CIENEGAS NATIONAL CONSERVA-
TION AREA ESTABLISHMENT
ACT OF 1999**

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce legislation creating the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area (Las