

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, October 1, 2002.

Hon. JAMES HANSEN,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, Longworth
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HANSEN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 5460, to reauthorize and amend the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, which was referred to the Committee on Resources on September 25, 2002. This legislation affects programs under the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

I recognize your desire to bring this bill before the House in an expeditious manner. Accordingly, I will not exercise my Committee's right to a sequential referral of the legislation. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, however, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 5460. In addition, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee reserves its authority to seek conferees on provisions of the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for conferees on H.R. 5460.

I request that you include a copy of our exchange of letters in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during consideration on the House Floor. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, October 2, 2002.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure, Rayburn House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5460, to reauthorize and amend the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, and for other purposes. As you know, scheduling this bill for Floor consideration was a last-minute decision on the part of our Leadership, and I apologize for not consulting with you earlier about this bill and its unintended affect on programs within the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdiction. Fortunately, when the House considered the bill yesterday on the Floor, we were able to pass it with an amendment worked out between our staffs which should resolve your concerns.

In response to your letter, I agree that by not pursuing a sequential referral of H.R. 5460, you did not waive your jurisdiction over the bill. Moreover, in the unlikely event that a House-Senate conference should be required on H.R. 5460, I would support your request to have Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure represented on that conference for matters within your Committee's jurisdiction. As requested, I also plan to insert both your letter and my response in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Thank you again for your cooperation on this matter and for the good work of Susan Bodine of your staff.

Sincerely,

JAMES V. HANSEN,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, October 1, 2002,

Hon. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT,
Chairman, Committee on Science, Rayburn
House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for agreeing to allow H.R. 4792, to reauthorize funding for the Water Desalination Act of 1996, and for other purposes, to be brought to the Floor of the House of Representatives as part of a larger legislative package dealing with water projects. H.R. 4792, authored by our colleague Mr. Horn, was referred primarily to the Committee on Resources and additionally to the Committee on Science.

It is my intention to include the text of H.R. 4792 as one of several amendments to H.R. 5460 and consider the resulting bill on the Floor under suspension of the rules this week.

By allowing this bill to be scheduled, I agree that the Committee on Science has not waived its jurisdiction over the measure, nor should this action be taken as precedent for other bills. In addition, in the unlikely event that a conference on H.R. 5460 becomes necessary, I would support the Committee on Science's request to be represented on that conference for those matters within its jurisdiction. Finally, I would be pleased to include this letter and any response you might have in the Congressional Record during debate on H.R. 5460.

Thank you again for your cooperation on this matter, and I look forward to seeing H.R. 4792 enacted soon as part of H.R. 5460.

Sincerely,

JAMES V. HANSEN,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
Washington, DC, October 1, 2002.

Hon. JAMES V. HANSEN,
Chairman, Committee on Resources, U.S. House
of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HANSEN: On May 22, 2002, Mr. Horn introduced H.R. 4792, a bill "to reauthorize funding for the Water Desalination Act of 1996, and for other purposes," which was referred to the Committee on Resources in addition to the Committee on Science. It has come to my attention that you intend to include the text of H.R. 4792 as one of several amendments to H.R. 5460.

In deference to your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner I will not exercise this Committee's right to consider H.R. 4792. Despite waiving its consideration of H.R. 4792, the Science Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 4792. Additionally, the Science Committee expressly reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this or similar legislation which falls within the Science Committee's jurisdiction. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Science Committee for conferees on H.R. 4792 as included in H.R. 5460 as well as any similar or related legislation.

I request that you include this letter as part of the Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor. Thank you for your consideration and attention regarding these matters.

Sincerely,

SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT,
Chairman.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Houses of Worship Political Speech Protection Act (H.R. 2357).

While I am a strong defender of the fundamental freedoms of religion and speech, I am deeply concerned that H.R. 2357 could have serious unintended consequences. For example, this legislation would allow churches, mosques, and synagogues to make hard and soft money contributions to political campaigns, run issue advocacy advertisements for and against candidates, and use tax-free donations to sponsor political fundraisers. Simply by paying their tithing, parishioners could be contributing to a political campaign without their knowledge or consent. This would jeopardize the integrity of religious institutions and endanger the rights of citizens to choose who they will and will not support for public office. Tithes and offerings would be better spent feeding the poor and hungry, and helping other disadvantaged members of our society find hope and healing.

The primary mission of houses of worship is to save souls, comfort the afflicted, and uplift and inspire the people. Our Constitution guarantees the freedom of religion, and the government specifically exempts religious institutions from taxation in recognition of their crucial work. Religious leaders have, since the founding of our country, spoken out on moral and spiritual issues, serving as the catalyst for the anti-slavery and prohibition movements. I am extremely concerned that some spiritual leaders now feel they cannot adequately address moral issues without risking the loss of their church's tax-exempt status. I strongly support further investigation into the IRS regulations on political speech by tax-exempt organizations so a workable and appropriate solution can be found. However, H.R. 2357 is not the answer. While churches would be able to participate in political campaigns, involving their parishioners in electioneering and partisan politics would ultimately undermine their mission of hope and comfort.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 2357 and working toward a more effective and appropriate solution to address the legitimate concerns of religious leaders.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR GOALS AND IDEAS OF DAY OF TRIBUTE TO ALL FIREFIGHTERS

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, before I begin, let me start by expressing my heartfelt sympathy for all the families and coworkers of firefighters who so valiantly responded to the call of duty. Is there anything more selfless than the bravery of a firefighter fighting to save the life of

others and in doing so losing his own? Their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

This October, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, as it has every year since its creation by Congress in 1992, will lead a nationwide effort to remember America's fallen firefighters through a variety of activities. Since it began, the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend has been an opportunity for a grateful nation to offer a tribute to firefighters who have died in the line of duty.

When people come to Washington, DC this year, we will celebrate the lives of 442 firefighters from 34 states who made the ultimate sacrifice. In some way, they have touched all our lives. They came from every walk of life, but were united by a calling to serve. For all of us, including myself, the tragic deaths of the 347 firefighters who rushed into the World Trade Center towers, give added poignancy to this year's memorial. Even more so because, forty of these brave men and women called my district home.

Living in the shadow of the World Center, the days after that tragic day were filled with funerals, wakes, and memorial services. Remembering those difficult days, I know the rest of the New York delegation shares my appreciation to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation for their efforts to coordinate resources from across the country to provide logistic and peer support to the New York Fire Department's Counseling Service Unit after September 11. They mounted an unprecedented response effort to help families and co-workers through the critical early days and are now providing long-term emotional support for the fallen firefighters' families.

At the same time, it is important to remember that when we remember those who gave their lives, it is not just out of sadness, but it is also with a sense of pride. In these troubled times they evoke the courage of the American spirit. And we take comfort in the fact that our firehouses are still filled with brave men and women, waiting to answer that call to duty. For that we will always be grateful. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that all of our colleagues will support this important resolution.

IN SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S BID TO RETURN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support Taiwan's bid to return to the United Nations. It is my understanding that a number of member-states have renewed their request that the UN General Assembly reconsider this legitimate and timely request. Taiwan is a vibrant multiparty democracy that serves as a beacon of hope to East Asia's population—most of which lives under the tyranny of authoritarian regimes. As the world's oldest and most enduring democracy, the United States has an obligation to voice its strong support for Taiwan's 23 million people to be represented in the UN. In just five decades, Taiwan has transformed herself into an established democracy as well as one of East Asia's economic "Tigers." It is inconceivable

to me that a peaceful, democratic member of the international community has not yet been offered membership to the UN. Taiwan is a peace-loving country that embraces the core values of democracy—liberty, justice, the rule of law and respect for basic human rights. Moreover, Taiwan is willing and able to carry out all UN Charter duties and obligations. With respect to the Chinese mainland, Taiwan has repeatedly sought a peaceful settlement to the political issues of concern to both countries. In recognizing Taiwan's peaceful intentions, the UN must encourage a dialogue between the two countries. Indeed, granting Taiwan UN membership would be an important first step toward permanent peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. I urge my colleagues to support Taiwan's bid to return to the United Nations.

TRIBUTE TO TYSON BARNES

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute today to the late Tyson H. Barnes, Sr., of Kemp, Texas, who passed away in July at the age of 83. Tyson was a lifelong resident of Henderson and Kaufman Counties, a decorated veteran of World War II, a respected and dedicated teacher for more than 30 years and a beloved member of his community.

Tyson was born March 4, 1919, in Henderson County, the son of Robert H. and Lalla Tison Barnes. He graduated from Kemp High School in 1937 and entered the Army Air Corps in 1941, serving 29 months in the Pacific as a B-17 and B-24 pilot. His distinguished service resulted in his being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

After the War Tyson returned to Texas and received a Bachelors degree from Sam Houston State Teachers College and later a Masters degree from East Texas State University. He was employed by Henderson County Junior College for five years and in 1953, he joined the faculty of Kemp High School, where he taught Vocational Agriculture for 30 years. His legacy includes having taught several fathers and sons—and at one point, six of the seven School Board members had been students of his.

Tyson was a state president of the Future Farmers of America and a long-time member of Calvary Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon for many years. Later, he joined the First Baptist Church of Kemp.

Tyson is survived by his wife, Marie Barnes; daughter and son-in-law Marsha and Bill Walsh; son Tyson Barnes, Jr., brother John W. Barnes; grandchildren Braden and Brennan Barnes; a niece and nephew; four great nieces and two great-great nieces. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Frances Bland Barnes; brother Leslie Barnes; and sisters-in-law Alma Barnes and Doris Barnes.

Mr. Speaker, Tyson was a longtime friend of mine who distinguished himself in all that he did—in his service to our Nation in times of war, in devotion to his family and community,

in dedication to his calling as a teacher. Throughout his more than 30 years as a teacher, he influenced countless young people and helped instill in them the importance of hard work and of education—and he leaves behind a powerful legacy in Kemp. As we adjourn today, let us do so in celebration of the life of this outstanding man—Tyson Barnes.

DR. BENJAMIN REED

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to recognize the passing from this life of Dr. Benjamin Reed, Physician Emeritus of Fulton County, Ohio. Dr. Reed joined our Creator on August 13, 2002 at the age of 80 years.

Born in West Virginia, Dr. Reed's grandfather was a country doctor, visiting his patients by horse and buggy. After receiving a teaching degree from Concord College in his hometown of Athens, Dr. Reed entered the United States Army. He served in the Pacific Theatre for three years, receiving both the Purple Heart Award and a bronze star. After his discharge he went to medical school, completing his medical degree in 1950. He then decided to open his practice in Fulton County, serving as Delta's doctor for 46 years! He even managed a two year stint as the village's mayor. Moving to Wauseon in 1974, Dr. Reed served as the medical director of three Fulton County nursing homes while continuing his Delta family practice.

In addition to his medical service to the people of Fulton County, Dr. Reed was a community leader. He was past president of the Fulton County Health Center's medical staff, where he served on the Board of Directors for eighteen years. He was a past president of both the Fulton County and Northwest Ohio Heart Associations; a member of both the Delta and Wauseon Chambers of Commerce; president of the Fulton County Medical Society and member of the Toledo Lucas County Academy of Medicine, the Ohio State Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and the Peer Review Organization in addition to volunteering in several other health related programs. All the while, he served Fulton County as coroner for 38 years.

If the measure of a man is the goodwill of his community, then Dr. Reed was peerless. A physician in the purest sense of the word, he was also a humanitarian, civic-minded, and a man of faith. He was well known and beloved by everyone, and his life touched countless people through the years. Those whom he met were made better for having known him.

Our condolences turn now to his wife Penny and their children David, Tom, and Nancy, and grandchildren Peter and Molly. May their love for this truly great yet humble man sustain them in their loss while memories offer some small comfort. May it hearten those grieving Dr. Reed's passing to know that the legacy he carefully built over nearly half a century will go on.