

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISH-  
MENTS OF DR. DIANE  
STANITSKI-MARTIN

### HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2002*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding constituent and educator in my 19th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Dr. Diane Stanitski-Martin, for her extraordinary effort to bring real scientific research to the classroom. Dr. Stanitski-Martin, a professor at Shippensburg University, was chosen by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of Global Programs to participate in a 3-week long research cruise in the Pacific Ocean. She participated in the retrieval and deployment of moored buoys that span the tropical Pacific Ocean as part of the TAO/TRITON array, a complex climate observation system central to describing, understanding and predicting the phenomenon known as El Nino.

Diane Stanitski-Martin embarked on the NOAA Ship Ka'imimoana August 16, 2002 in Honolulu and arrived on September 1, 2002 in Nuku Hiva, Marquesas Islands. While on-board, Diane hosted several live Web broadcasts, taught her undergraduate and graduate classes, wrote lesson plans, maintained a daily log, took photographs, interviewed scientists, and engaged in dialogue with other teachers and students, as well as the general public. She described her experience to be "a perfect chance for my students to learn more about current research which would help inspire them to pursue careers in the atmospheric and physical sciences." At a time when we are discovering how immense an influence the oceans play in the world's climate system, Dr. Stanitski-Martin's adventurous research effort will hopefully inspire younger generations to have an interest in climate science as well as the social dimensions of climate change.

I am very pleased to thank NOAA for its sponsorship of Dr. Stanitski-Martin's participation in the Teacher-At-Sea Program. I am also pleased to commend Dr. Stanitski-Martin for her devoted efforts to educate and inspire her students. Dr. Stanitski-Martin has certainly set a wonderful example for her fellow educators to follow.

REGARDING FIRE ISLAND AND  
THE WATER RESOURCES DEVEL-  
OPMENT ACT

### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, on September 17, I shared with the House correspondence between myself, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRUCCI) and the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Les Brownlee, regarding Fire Island, New York.

On September 27, Congressman GRUCCI and I responded to Acting Assistant Secretary Brownlee's letter. As the House considers re-authorizing the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, I wanted to take this opportunity to update Members on this situation. Therefore, I ask that our response letter be printed in the RECORD at this point.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

*Washington, DC, September 27, 2002.*

The Hon. LES BROWNLEE,

*Under Secretary of the Army, U.S. Department of the Army, The Pentagon, Washington, DC.*

DEAR UNDER SECRETARY BROWNLEE: We are writing to respond to your letter of September 3rd. We appreciate your reply, but unfortunately it did not provide an explanation of why the Departments of the Army and Interior have failed to comply with Section 342 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999. As you may recall, this is the provision that directed the Secretary of the Army to provide Congress with a "mutually acceptable shore erosion plan for Fire Island to Moriches Inlet Reach of the Project."

The December 17, 1999 letter to which you referred did not transmit a plan as required by the law. Your letter suggested that the Corps decided not to proceed with the interim project as mandated because of a New York State decision to withdraw as the non-federal sponsor. We have never seen any official position from the State informing the Corps of that decision. In fact, in a November 30, 1999 letter to the Corps, the State indicated that it would issue the necessary State approvals "if no new issues came up during the public comment process" and if the issues raised by the State are "satisfactorily resolved."

We understand that no new issues came up at the January 12, 2000 public hearing. Indeed, we understand that the State never even submitted written comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. If

you have such comments or any official state position, please provide it to us as soon as possible.

Your statement that "the time had passed to reach agreement on the interim project" is disturbing. Congress' directive under § 342 was unequivocal. Almost three years have passed since the law's deadline, and the risk to Fire Island and the mainland from storm damage continues unabated. Waiting until 2005 to reach a decision on renourishment when the law required a decision in 1999 is unacceptable.

Sincerely,

STEVE ISRAEL.

FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 21, 2002*

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday afternoon October 16, 2002, I regret that I was away on a scheduled event and also had a medical schedule back in my district. As a result, I missed 7 rollcall votes.

Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 470 (On Passage) to H.J. Res. 123—"Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003"—"nay."

Rollcall No. 469 (On Motion to Recommit with Instructions)—H.J. Res. 123—"Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003"—"yea."

Rollcall No. 468 (On Agreeing to the Resolution)—"Nay"—H. Res. 585—Providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 123; Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2003).

Rollcall No. 467 (On Ordering the Previous Question)—"nay"—Providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 123; Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2003).

Rollcall No. 466 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended)—"yea"—Health Care Safety Net Amendments).

Rollcall No. 465 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended)—"nay"—To amend title 18, United States Code, to make it illegal to operate a motor vehicle with a drug or alcohol in the body of the driver at a land border port of entry).

Rollcall No. 464 (On Approving the Journal)—"yea".