

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TAIWAN

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the recent passage of my amendment regarding the security of Taiwan, which was part of the en bloc amendment to the Foreign Relations Authorization Act. The passage of this amendment shows strong Congressional support for the safety and welfare of the citizens of Taiwan, and sends a message to the People's Republic of China that the use of force, and even the threat of the use of force, against Taiwan will not be tolerated.

In the past two decades, Taiwan has undergone a remarkable transformation from a one party, martial law dictatorship to a full-fledged democracy that respects human rights and human freedoms. However, Taiwan's democracy faces a serious military threat from the People's Republic of China. The PRC regards Taiwan as a renegade province, despite the fact that it has never exercised control over the island. They continue to openly entertain the use of force against Taiwan, thereby jeopardizing the stability of the entire Asian Pacific region. Mr. Speaker, as one of the leading democracies in the world, it is the duty of the American government to protect Taiwan from the PRC's threats to its democratic system of governance.

Through this amendment, the United States Congress is expressing its grave concern regarding the People's Republic of China's deployment of hundreds of ballistic missiles directed towards Taiwan. The provision calls upon the President of the United States to direct all appropriate U.S. officials to raise these concerns with PRC officials, and to seek renunciation from the leaders of the PRC of any threat or use of force against Taiwan. In addition, it calls upon the President of the United States to authorize the sale of the Aegis missile defense system to Taiwan if China refuses to dismantle the missiles in question. Finally, the provision reaffirms that the future of Taiwan should be determined peacefully, and with the expressed consent of the Taiwanese people.

I wish to thank my colleagues in the House for their expressed support of this most important provision. Only by defending the democracies that currently exist throughout the world can we actively promote the spread of democratic ideals. I would ask that my colleagues continue to keep a watchful eye on the PRC's treatment of Taiwan, and remain vigilant in their support for the Taiwanese people and their quest for safety, security, and freedom.

A SAFE RETURN TO TAIWAN

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we know, the SARS epidemic took a great toll on Southeast Asia. China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore, Taiwan and Toronto were all affected. As of July 11, a total of over 8,400 persons fell victim to SARS, and over 800 died. Taiwan was the third hardest hit country, where 671 became ill and 84 died. Many of the SARS cases in Taiwan could be traced to a lapse of infection control procedures in a single hospital. Health authorities rapidly responded, upgrading the SARS surveillance system, tightening infection control procedures, and educating the population to quickly respond—to symptoms of a potential SARS infection. A key element to Taiwan's success was its ability to coordinate the responses of all relevant sectors. I commend the government of Taiwan for its highly effective handling of this health emergency.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note that the SARS epidemic which had plagued Taiwan has now abated. On July 15, 2003, the Centers for Disease Control officially lifted the travel alert for Taiwan, with no new cases having been reported there in over a month. All known chains of person-to-person transmission of SARS have been broken. I am pleased to say that we may now feel confident in continuing, without fear, our travel to and business with this wonderful country.

HONORING KFTV-TV

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor KFTV-TV in Fresno, CA for their impressive support for our community. In 2002, KFTV-TV donated a total of 1104 spots of valuable airtime towards Ad Council public service announcements.

Throughout the Ad Council's 60-year history, stations like KFTV-TV have helped to address the most pressing social issues of the day. Each year, the Ad Council receives approximately \$1.3 billion in donated media funds for over 40 campaigns to promote awareness about topics ranging from high-school drop-out prevention to AIDS awareness.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor KFTV-TV for their ongoing dedication to informing the 19th district of current and socially important issues that improve the lives of our constituents and our Nation.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPRO- PRIATIONS ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2691) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support Representative MARK UDALL's amendment to stop the giveaway of millions of acres of public lands across the West. The Udall amendment will restrict funding for a January 2003 rule published by the Bureau of Land Management that facilitates the construction roads across some of our most sensitive and pristine federal lands.

The Bush Administration and Secretary Norton are currently engaged in an unprecedented assault on our nation's natural heritage. In their concerted effort to undermine the protection of America's public lands, they have gone farther than James Watt ever dared.

This rule endangers our public lands across the West, including some of this nation's most outstanding national parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, national monuments, and national forests. The uncontrolled road building that this rule invites would cause irreparable harm in sensitive watersheds, undeveloped fish and wildlife habitat, historical and archaeological resources, and sensitive coastlines and wetlands.

As the sponsor of America's Redrock Wilderness Act, to protect Utah's wilderness quality public lands, I am particularly concerned about the potentially devastating impact of this rule in Utah. Approximately 10 million acres of Utah's federal lands that are eligible for wilderness designation would be open to road right-of-way claims under BLM's rule. There are an estimated 15,000 road claims in Utah, and off-road-vehicle groups have targeted areas within my wilderness proposal for motorized vehicle access, including the Grandstaircase Escalante National Monument.

These claims have nothing to do with legitimate access—this is about bulldozing and paving thousands of miles of new roads across some of this country's most pristine lands and protected areas. With this rule the Administration has provided opponents of wilderness with a tool to punch roads through pristine lands in an attempt to disqualify the impacted areas from future wilderness consideration by Congress.

Encouraged by the Administration's rule, counties, organizations and individuals are asserting spurious road-building rights-of-way claims for cow paths, horse trails, river beds, dirt bike and off-road vehicle routes, as well as for dogsled trails and for overgrown and nearly

● 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.

indistinguishable trails long ago abandoned by prospecting miners. These aren't legitimate roads.

Back in May, along with Representative UDALL, I sent a letter to Secretary Norton—signed by 100 members of the House, including the ranking member of this subcommittee, Mr. DICKS and the ranking member of the Resources committee, Mr. RAHALL—urging the Administration to reconsider this rule. It has been nearly 2 months since we sent this letter and there has been no response.

It's time for Congress to send Secretary Norton and the White House a clear message that they can't ignore—the assaults on our public lands and wilderness must stop. Let's ensure that our publicly owned lands throughout the West—including Utah's unique public lands—are protected for future generations of Americans. Support the Udall amendment and oppose the Taylor substitute.

BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the success of the Bloomsburg University Upward Bound Program, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Saturday, July 26th.

To celebrate this important milestone, the Bloomsburg University Upward Bound Program will hold a reunion with many of its graduates this Saturday, July 26th. Five years ago I spoke to this group on its twentieth anniversary, and I wish all of my colleagues could have witnessed the stories from graduates who told what the program meant to them and how it changed their lives. Most of all, I was impressed with the human connections that promising but struggling high school students found in the leaders of the Upward Bound Program. They found mentors who could start them on the path to success for life, and this is a wonderful and remarkable achievement.

Led by two outstanding women, Ruth Anne Bond and Maureen Mulligan, the Bloomsburg University Upward Bound Program has, over the last 25 years, fulfilled a vital role in the Bloomsburg community. The program gives young people opportunities and assistance in exploring their potential for academic, social and personal growth. Its purpose is to provide equal access to post-secondary education for high school students by giving them adequate preparation to compete at the college level and beyond.

Students are provided with developmental work in areas where they need help, enrichment where they are strong, and exposure to new areas where they have yet to be challenged. Through tutoring for academic improvement, counseling to address career and personal matters, guidance on the college admissions and financial aid processes and training in test-taking skills, students gain the confidence and skills needed to succeed.

The program consists of three parts, the Academic Year Program, the Summer Program and the Bridge Program. During the

school year, the program operates ten service centers, with an emphasis on tutoring, assistance with college and financial aid planning, local and national test preparation, cultural activities, and personal and academic counseling. The six-week summer residential program at Bloomsburg University provides intensive academic preparation, enrichment, career and college counseling, cultural experiences and personal and social growth opportunities. The Bridge program is another summer residential program for students between high-school graduation and the first year at college. The program allows them to obtain up to six college credits from Bloomsburg University and also offers participants advice and preparation for excelling in their upcoming freshmen year.

The Bloomsburg University Upward Bound program has an indisputable record of success, with 88% of its high school graduates going on to post-secondary educational institutions and a 72% retention rate at those institutions.

Mr. Speaker, just a small federal investment has allowed Upward Bound to change the lives of countless young people. I am especially proud of the success of the Bloomsburg University program, and I wish everyone associated with it all the best.

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE WILKIE D. FERGUSON JR.

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a dear friend, the late Honorable Wilkie D. Ferguson Jr., who passed away on Monday, June 9, 2003. The passing of Wilkie Ferguson is a great loss to our country's pursuit of justice and the rights of the oppressed. As a state and then federal judge, he applied the law justly and ensured that the less powerful members of society received fair treatment under the law.

Wilkie Ferguson pursued social justice in the U.S. legal system from the outset of his legal career, back in 1968. He was appointed to his first judgeship, on the Florida Court of Industrial Claims, in 1973. Four years later he was named to the circuit bench. One of his most important rulings came in the 1980 Circuit Court decision in which he threw out a verdict because African Americans were excluded from the jury. He was the first judge to find such systematic exclusion unacceptable and the Florida Supreme Court later supported his decision. It is appalling that such racial inequity exists in our judicial system and in our country, and Wilkie Ferguson was the first judge to recognize and correct this particular injustice in our legal system.

In 1980, Wilkie was appointed by then Governor BOB GRAHAM to Florida's Third District Court of Appeal, where he served until 1993. He was the first African American appointed to the Miami-Dade Circuit Court and to the Third District Court of Appeal. This enormous achievement shows how, in addition to paving the way for others through his work from the bench, he was also a living example of the

pioneering path of equality and progress that he laid for all Americans.

In 1993, Wilkie Ferguson was nominated by President Clinton to be a U.S. District Judge, becoming the third African American appointed to the federal bench in Southern Florida. He is credited with helping thousands of disabled Floridians; in 1996 he prevented the state from cutting funding for the disabled, and in another 1996 ruling he influenced the state to eventually increase funding for the disabled by nearly \$300 million.

Judge Ferguson was also active in community service. In addition to chairing the board of trustees of Florida Memorial College, he participated in the Judicial Council of the National Bar and the "Just The Beginning Foundation". He and his wife, County Commissioner Betty Tucker Ferguson, were also leaders in their local community.

Wilkie Ferguson's successes are numerous and vital, but he will be remembered for how he reached these goals as much as for the accomplishments themselves. The values of the supreme dignity and worth of every human being were not just abstract ends that he pursued through judicial decisions; they were also manifest in the respect and sensitivity with which he treated others. When a plaintiff needed to care for his disabled son, Judge Ferguson offered the use of his judicial chambers. In an article last week in the South Florida Sun Sentinel, attorney Joel Hirschhorn noted, "Even in the worst criminal defendant, I think he saw the human side."

Daniel Pearson, a former appeals judge, expressed that Ferguson "added a dimension of fairness and humanity to the court." Judge Ferguson, who is survived by his wife, two children and three siblings, was also an extremely hard and dedicated worker, an exceedingly modest man and a good friend. His compassion and great judicial accomplishments will be missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO WELLINGTON E. WEBB, MAYOR OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 21, 2003

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the exceptional accomplishments of a prominent citizen in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this distinguished public servant for his impressive record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this eminent citizen that I rise to honor Wellington E. Webb, Mayor of the City & County of Denver.

Mayor Webb has been on the front lines of progress for decades and has proven to be a powerful force in transforming the landscape of our city. His career in public service began in 1972 when he was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives representing north-east Denver. In 1977, he was selected by then President Jimmy Carter to serve as Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. In 1981, then Colorado Governor Richard D. Lamm appointed him to his cabinet as Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies and in 1987, he was elected Denver City Auditor.