

"None of the stem cell lines approved by the White House can ever be used to help people," says Reed. "Because all of those stem cells were fed on rat feeder layers, which not only brings the possibility of interspecies infection, but also disqualifies them for human use according to FDA guidelines. To individualize embryonic stem cells for human use, therapeutic cloning for cells is a must."

"If therapeutic cloning is banned, embryonic stem cell research is effectively killed," said Reed, "and my son is imprisoned in his wheelchair forever. This is not the sort of Christmas present one expects from the President of the United States."

My fellow colleagues; advanced cellular research is a ray of hope for the Reeds and many others. And this hope is based in reality. According to the National Institutes of Health, therapeutic cloning and stem cell research has "enormous" potential to improve the lives of many. We should not interfere with this progress; we should embrace and support it. I ask you to join me and protest the efforts of the Bush administration at the United Nations to ban therapeutic cloning.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM "BILL"
HUGHES

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen and a close friend, Mr. William "Bill" Hughes, from Citrus Heights, California. Well known for his dedication to family, faith, and community, Bill Hughes passed away unexpectedly on November 25, 2003, while visiting family in Utah for Thanksgiving. He was 55 years old. Though seemingly cut short, Bill's life was, nonetheless, filled with much experience, accomplishment, and success.

Very fittingly, Bill Hughes was born on the Fourth of July in Colorado Springs, Colorado in 1948. Raised on his parents' ranch, he grew up enjoying the outdoors and engaging in hard work. He could often be found on horseback, even as a small child. When the Hughes Family moved to the rural community of Orangevale in Sacramento County, California, Bill's interests grew to include flying small aircraft out of the old Phoenix Field.

After graduating from Bella Vista High School, Bill served as a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, ministering among the Spanish-speaking population of Southwest Texas. Upon his return home, he met and married the love of his life, Sarah. Together, they soon started a family and settled in Citrus Heights.

Having completed a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal science at California State University, Sacramento, Bill launched a three decade career in law enforcement. Following a two-year stint with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, he accepted a position with the Roseville Police Department. In his 28 years on the force, he helped found the SWAT team, spearheaded the implementation of neighborhood policing, and eventually rose to the rank of lieutenant. Strangely, he passed away exactly one year from the day he retired from the department.

Mr. Speaker, Bill also displayed great concern for the future of his own community by

driving the move to incorporate the City of Citrus Heights. In fact, with the birth of the City of Citrus Heights in 1997, Bill Hughes was sworn in as its first mayor. During his seven years on the city council, including three as mayor, he spurred the creation of neighborhood associations, guided major economic development efforts, and improved local law enforcement. Due to his leadership, the city is well regarded as a responsive, user-friendly local government.

In his one year of retirement, Bill fulfilled personal goals such as climbing Mount Shasta and sailing the entire coast of California. He also elevated his civic involvement by taking on increased leadership roles in regional affairs. This year, he chaired the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and was the energy behind its Blueprint Project to direct regional transportation and land use planning.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to publicly thank you and the rest of our colleagues for appropriating funding this year to support this visionary project which will help the greater Sacramento region focus and direct its development according to community desires and principles of good planning.

Despite his involved professional and civic life, Bill actively fulfilled his church and family responsibilities. He is survived by his lovely wife Sarah, daughters Yolanda and Kymbra, sons Jarom, Jashon, Corom, and four grandchildren.

As an elected official, I appreciated Bill's hard work and professionalism. As his friend of over 20 years, I appreciated his sincerity and good nature. I join with his family, friends, colleagues, and constituents in celebrating his life and mourning his passing. We will surely miss him.

Rest in peace, Bill.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM
THOMAS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and offer my congratulations to a hero in my community, Mr. William Thomas. During this holiday season, we are lucky to have such a heartwarming reminder of the goodness within the human spirit.

As Mr. Thomas was riding to work with his wife, Jamelia, and two of their children, on East Hazelwood Avenue in Rahway, NJ, he saw a group of people gathered along the river's edge. Upon stopping, he observed a woman flailing in the water.

Disregarding his own safety, and not much of a swimmer himself, Mr. Thomas dove into the 50 degree water to rescue the drowning woman. Struggling to control the panicking, hysterical woman, he managed to pull her close enough to the shoreline for police officers to draw her from the river.

He then returned home to quickly shower and change clothes, setting out again on his drive to work at the Woodbridge Developmental Center in Avenel. He later discovered that the drowning woman also worked at this state-run residential facility for the mentally and physically impaired. They had never met.

Without a thought for his welfare, Mr. Thomas placed another human's life above his own.

I am touched by his sacrifice and his service. I am honored by his presence in my community, and I ask you to join me as I salute Mr. Thomas and his outstanding display of compassion and bravery.

TRIBUTE TO BOB GRAHAM

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, sometimes ordinary people do extraordinary things. We do not have to be rich or famous to leave a positive and lasting legacy to this world.

Bob Graham, one of my constituents from Knoxville, TN, was one of those people. Mr. Graham was the long-time supervisor of athletic officials for the City of Knoxville and a long-time volunteer leader in our community.

Bob Graham loved children, and he gave tirelessly of himself to thousands of young people throughout his career. Many people remember him from his days as a youth baseball, football, and basketball coach. Everyone who knew him remembered him as a great leader and role model for our children. This Nation would be a much better place if there were more people here like Mr. Graham.

Bob Graham passed away following a lengthy illness on November 28th. He will be remembered fondly by his family and friends and the countless young people he helped through the years.

Mr. Speaker, I have attached a copy of a tribute to Mr. Graham that ran in the Knoxville News Sentinel that I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

HELPING KIDS WAS GRAHAM'S FOCUS UNTIL
HIS DEATH

(By Chuck Cavalaris)

Rare is the occasion when just three words can sum up the essence of a person's life.

Such is the case with a great man like Bob Graham, who passed away Friday night.

His three words were all about, "Helping the kids."

Bob always had a handy explanation for those 14-hour days and frequent weekends at a ballpark.

"I just want to do whatever I can to help the kids," he said.

Anyone who had the privilege of knowing the supervisor of athletic officials for the city of Knoxville would agree: he is an all-time great in this regard.

This stocky, blue-eyed former lineman and kicker from Oliver Springs High School became a youth baseball, football and basketball coach (1956-1982) who helped thousands of kids. He also found time in the 1970s to be a TSSAA football referee and was a baseball scout for the St. Louis Cardinals.

To many people, Bob Graham was the tireless volunteer leader at Badgett Field. His passion led to a full-time job offer by former recreation department director Maynard Glenn. Talk about a great hire.

"Bob is probably the most-conscientious person I have ever known," said Norman Bragg, who worked with Graham for many years. "Nowadays, you just don't replace someone like that. He did what he did without asking for a single thing in return—that was just Bob."

Sure, he loved his children—all seven of them—and he was really proud of his grandkids. But he also cared deeply about

the scruffy, undersized youngsters who didn't even know how to hold a softball bat or throw a baseball. He took great delight in working with these children and watching their self-esteem grow. That was Bob Graham.

"Dad just wanted all kids to have the opportunities in sports that he might not have had growing up," said his son, Mark. "He loved doing that. I think he would rather be at the ballpark than anywhere else. It was his second home."

Graham, who was 69, was instrumental in the planning, design and construction of the award-winning Caswell Park softball complex off Winona Avenue.

He died at St. Mary's Hospice in Halls and had a rare brain disease called Creutzfeldt-Jacob (pronounced kroitsfeldt-yakob). There is no known cure for CJD, which strikes approximately one in a million people worldwide between the ages of 55 and 75.

The family received the diagnosis less than eight weeks ago, which left time to say goodbye. Considering the circumstances, they were thankful he did not suffer. He passed away quietly, just after speaking with close friend Willie Anderson.

"My mother (Judy) was holding dad's hand," Jeff Graham said. "She was saying, 'I love you, Bob I love you, Bob' when he took his last breath. I think he held on just a little bit longer to make sure everyone had the chance to say goodbye."

Graveside services are set for 11 a.m. today at Woodhaven Memory Gardens.

Bob Graham had a positive, uplifting impact on more lives than he possibly could have known. We love you, Bob. Many of us will never really and truly say goodbye.

Donations can be sent to Beaver Ridge United Methodist (Family Life Center), P.O. Box 7007, Knoxville, TN., 37921 or The Fellowship of Christian Athletes Bob Graham Memorial Scholarship Fund, 406 Union Ave., Knoxville, TN. 37902.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WESTERN WATERS AND SURFACE OWNERS PROTECTION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with my colleague from New Mexico, Representative TOM UDALL, in introducing the Western Waters and Surface Owners Protection Act.

The western United States is blessed with significant energy resources. In appropriate places, an under appropriate conditions, they can and should be developed for the benefit of our country. But it's important to recognize the importance of other resources—particularly water—and other uses of the lands involved—and our bill responds to this need. It has three primary purposes. The first is to assure that the development of those energy resources in the West will not mean destruction of precious water resources. The second is to reduce potential conflicts between development of energy resources and the interests and concerns of those who own the surface estate in affected lands. And the third is to provide for appropriate reclamation of affected lands.

Water Quality Protection

One new energy resource is receiving great attention. Gas associated with coal deposits,

often referred to as coalbed methane. An October 2000 United States Geological Survey report estimated that the U.S. may contain more than 700 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of coalbed methane and that more than 100 tcf of this may be recoverable using existing technology. In part because of the availability of these reserves and because of tax incentives to exploit them, the West has seen a significant increase in the development of this gas.

Development of coalbed methane usually involves the extraction of water from underground strata. Some of this extracted water is reinjected into the ground, while some is retained in surface holding ponds or released on the surface and allowed to flow into streams or other water bodies, including ditches used for irrigation.

The quality of the extracted waters varies from one location to another. Some are of good quality, but often they contain dissolved minerals (such as sodium, magnesium, arsenic, or selenium) that can contaminate other waters—something that can happen because of leaks or leaching from holding ponds or because the extracted waters are simply discharged into a stream or other body of water. In addition, extracted waters often have other characteristics, such as high acidity and temperature, which can adversely affect agricultural uses of land or the quality of the environment.

In Colorado and New Mexico and other states in the arid West, water is scarce and precious. So, as we work to develop our domestic energy resources, it is vital that we safeguard our water and we believe that clear requirements for proper disposal of these extracted waters are necessary in order to avoid some of these adverse effects. That is the purpose of the first part of our bill.

Our bill (in Title I) includes two requirements regarding extracted water.

First, it would make clear that water extracted from oil and gas development must comply with relevant and applicable discharge permits under the Clean Water Act. Lawsuits have been filed in some western states regarding whether or not these discharge permits are required for coalbed methane development. Our bill would require oil and gas development to secure permits if necessary and required, like any other entity that may discharge contaminates into the waters of the United States.

Second, the bill would require those who develop federal oil or gas—including coalbed methane—under the Mineral Leasing Act to do what is necessary to make sure their activities do not harm water resources. Under this legislation, oil or gas operations that damage a water resource—by contaminating it, reducing it, or interrupting it—would be required to provide replacement water. For water produced in connection with oil or gas drilling that is injected back into the ground, the bill requires that this must be done in a way that will not reduce the quality of any aquifer. For water that is not reinjected, the bill requires that it must be dealt with in ways that comply with all Federal and State requirements.

And, because water is so important, our bill requires oil and gas operators to make the protection of water part of their plans from the very beginning, requiring applications for oil or gas leases to include details of ways in which operators will protect water quality and quantity and the rights of water users.

These are not onerous requirements, but they are very important—particularly with the great increase in drilling for coalbed methane and other energy resources in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and other western States.

Surface Owner Protection

In many parts of the country, the party that owns the surface of some land does not necessarily own the minerals beneath those lands. In the West, mineral estates often belong to the Federal Government while the surface estates are owned by private interests, who typically use the land for farming and ranching.

This split-estate situation can lead to conflicts. And while we support development of energy resources where appropriate, we also believe that this must be done responsibly and in a way that demonstrates respect for the environment and overlying landowners.

The second part of our bill (Title II) is intended to promote that approach, by establishing a system for development of Federal oil and gas in split-estate situations that resembles—but is not identical to—the system for development of federally-owned coal in similar situations.

Under Federal law, the leasing of federally owned coal resources on lands where the surface estate is not owned by the United States is subject to the consent of the surface estate owners. But neither this consent requirement nor the operating and bonding requirements applicable to development of federally owned locatable minerals applies to the leasing or development of oil or gas in similar split-estate situations:

We believe that there should be similar respect for the rights and interests of surface estate owners affected by development of oil and gas and that this should be done by providing clear and adequate standards and increasing the involvement of these owners in plans for oil and gas development.

Accordingly, our bill requires the Interior Department to give surface owners advance notice of lease sales that would affect their lands and to notify them of subsequent events related to proposed or ongoing developments related to such leases.

In addition, the bill requires that anyone proposing the drill for Federal minerals in a split-estate situation must first try to reach an agreement with the surface owner that spells out what will be done to minimize interference with the surface owner's use and enjoyment and to provide for reclamation of affected lands and compensation for any damages.

We think that most energy companies want to avoid harming the surface owners, so we expect that it will usually be possible for them to reach such agreements. However, we recognize that this may not always be the case and the bill includes two provisions that address this possibility: (1) if no agreement is reached within 90 days, the bill requires that the matter be referred to neutral arbitration; and (2) the bill provides that if even arbitration fails to resolve differences, the energy development can go forward, subject to Interior Department regulations that will balance the energy development with the interests of the surface owner or owners.

As I mentioned, these provisions are patterned on the current law dealing with development of federally-owned coal in split-estate situations. However, it is important to note one