

Above all, Paul has been a good father and grandfather while committing himself to a business in which it is sometimes difficult to maintain a strong family relationship. Paul is married to Elaine Marie Hudak of Hanover Township. They have two sons, Joseph and Kenneth, and one daughter, Lynn. One thing is certain—I am sure the Golias household was filled with colorful stories. Paul has four grandchildren, Katie and Paul Golias and Meghan and James McGuire.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Paul on a 39-year career filled with accomplishments. Paul Golias has made tremendous contributions to our community, and it is an honor to call him my friend and a privilege to serve him in Congress. I wish him a retirement filled with joyful times with his family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 2004

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Energy Independence Act, a bill that would direct the Secretary of Energy to develop and transmit to Congress a strategic plan to ensure that the United States is energy self-sufficient in 10 years.

Like an investment portfolio, a successful national energy portfolio must be a balanced and diverse portfolio. It should include traditional fossil fuel sources like oil, coal, and natural gas; emerging technologies like fuel cells; and traditional alternative energy sources such as solar and wind generation. It should balance incentives for efficiency and conservation with innovative methods of new generation.

However, the United States imported an average of over 12 million barrels of oil per day in 2003 from foreign countries to meet our domestic energy needs, totaling nearly 4.5 billion barrels during all of that year. Even at last year's comparatively modest average price of \$31 per barrel, that adds up to almost \$140 billion spent on foreign oil.

Today, with the average price of a barrel of crude oil up another \$10 from last year to about \$40 and with average daily imports remaining roughly the same, America's expenditures to purchase foreign oil increased to more than \$180 billion this year. This is clearly not a balanced approach to energy.

Today, we have before us, for the first time in human history, the technology to provide clean, reliable energy for every person, home, business, and vehicle in America. With this technology, we have the opportunity to end once and for all America's reliance on foreign energy sources while at the same time creating quality, highly skilled jobs for the next century in a new and expanding technological field.

This proposal returns to the American people one of the fundamental rights defining this nation: independence. Through it we can establish long-term energy independence for individual Americans, specifically, independence from foreign energy sources, independence from the current over-burdensome and inefficient energy infrastructure, and independence from environmentally destructive energy sources.

It will provide for the security of the country in both economic and military terms by eliminating our reliance on foreign energy sources.

The Energy Independence Act requires the Secretary of Energy to examine and report on the status of existing energy technology and domestic resources as well as developing energy generation and transmission technologies, focusing on their integration into an overall national energy portfolio to meet the stated goal of achieving energy self-sufficiency within 10 years.

It also requires that the plan include recommendations to Congress for targeted research and development in promising new energy generation and transmission technologies, and funding levels necessary for specific programs and research efforts necessary to implement a plan providing for the energy self-sufficiency of the United States within the next 10 years.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and make energy independence a reality for America.

RECOGNIZING JAMES L. McMURRAY FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF CLEARLAKE, CA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize James L. McMurray, who is retiring from the City Council of Clearlake, California. James's outstanding contributions and dedication to our community are truly appreciated.

James has dedicated 8 years of his life to service on the City Council and has served two consecutive 4-year terms beginning in 1996. He has had the privilege of serving as Mayor for three terms and as Vice Mayor for two terms.

James has made many contributions to the community through his service on the City Council. He has strengthened the City's finances and he has put an end to the ongoing usage of dangerous buildings all over the city. His most passionate issue was Measure P, which ensured the repair of many California schools in need. These outstanding accomplishments are just a few of his many achievements.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, James L. McMurray set the standard of hard work that should be followed in all communities. His commitment to our community has been shown time and time again. For these reasons and countless others, it is most appropriate that we honor him at the time of his retirement and extend our best wishes to him.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF RALPH R. ESPARZA

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Ralph R. Esparza who,

in his 25 years of service to the City of Los Angeles, has demonstrated his unwavering commitment and dedication to improving the living conditions of the city's residents.

Throughout his career Mr. Esparza has successfully led many of the city's key housing departments and programs. After only 4 years as a Rehabilitation Project Coordinator in the Community Development Department, he was promoted in 1983, to be the Community Housing Program Manager where he oversaw the federal Section 8 New Construction program.

Mr. Esparza's skill and enthusiasm in managing complex housing and community development projects led to his appointment as Assistant Chief Grants Administrator for the Community Development Department. Later, he was instrumental in the creation of the Los Angeles Housing Department, where in 1990, took charge of planning, operation, and management of the city's housing programs.

From 1995 to 1996 and again from 1997 to 2000, Mr. Esparza served as Director of the Program Support Division. In the year between his two directorships, he administered multiple programs including the Davis-Bacon Compliance Monitoring Program and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program.

In 2000, Mr. Esparza's exceptional management skills were once again called upon as the Assistant General Manager of the Housing Department. Under his guidance, the Housing Department ushered in a new century with creative solutions to help address the affordable housing crisis and to improve the quality of life for the residents of Los Angeles.

For his commitment and leadership and for improving the homes and lives of Los Angelenos, I thank Mr. Esparza and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

ARIZONA WATER SETTLEMENTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, although I have had reservations about the passage of S. 437 without agreements in place for certain other key parties, including the San Carlos Apache Tribe, I support the passing of the bill based upon several understandings outlined below.

It is my understanding that the provisions of the bill are not intended to and should not be construed to amend or alter the San Carlos Apache Tribe's water and related rights. Title IV of S. 437 seeks to protect the San Carlos Apache Tribe by ensuring that none of the provisions of titles I, II, or III or the agreements, attachments, exhibits, or stipulations referenced in those titles can be construed to amend, alter, or limit the authority of the United States or the San Carlos Apaches to assert any claim, including water rights claims.

During the development of the bill, and at hearings on the bill, this Tribe raised a number of issues of concern to it regarding potential adverse effects of the legislation on its water rights. The Tribe and I were assured that the provisions of the other titles would not adversely affect their water rights. With those and other assurances, I withdrew my objection

to the bill. However, as the legislation is implemented following enactment, I wish to reiterate what I understand the intent to have been in the bill's development and to be at passage with regard to such provisions in the bill not changing or adversely affecting the rights of the San Carlos Apaches.

Mr. Speaker, by way of background, the San Carlos Apaches were among the last to resist what they viewed as the intrusion by outsiders into their homeland. They paid a heavy price for that resistance. Some of their ancestors were held for years as prisoners of war by the United States. Many thousands of acres of some of their most productive lands were deleted from their Reservation for uses by others. Their burial sites, their farms, and their homes were flooded, and they were forced to relocate to make way for the construction of Coolidge Dam. This Tribe faces unemployment of about 75 percent. Water is essential to their future. The Gila River runs directly through this Tribe's Reservation. San Carlos Lake and Reservoir are in the heart of their Reservation. Therefore, a genuinely comprehensive, lasting, and completed Gila River water settlement cannot be achieved until the Congress fairly addresses the needs and rights of the People of the San Carlos Apache Tribe. At the Committee markup of this bill, Chairman POMBO and others of my colleagues expressed their commitment to helping to achieve justice with respect to water rights for the San Carlos Apaches. In connection with passage of this bill today, still others of my colleagues recognized the work yet to be done on behalf of the People of this Tribe.

The Tribe has made substantial progress in recent months toward achieving a Gila River water rights settlement through negotiation with a number of the parties involved. It appears very hopeful that a settlement for the Tribe can be achieved early in the 109th Congress. In pursuit of that effort, I encourage all parties included in this legislation that are relevant to working out agreements with the Tribe to work seriously, vigorously, and in good-faith to complete equitable Gila River water settlements with the Tribe as soon as possible. I will then work with the Chair of the Resources Committee, the Ranking Minority Member, and other colleagues and Senator KYL, the chief sponsor of S. 437, to see that such agreements become ratified through legislation as soon as possible after receiving them next session of Congress.

I will monitor the progress of efforts to negotiate settlements in the coming weeks. I will help in whatever way I can to see that equitable agreements are achieved for the People of the San Carlos Apache Tribe that will help ensure the viability of their Reservation as their homeland now and for the future.

BREAKDOWN OF THE RULE OF LAW IN RUSSIA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, an undeniable tenant of any democracy is the rule of law. Sadly, this is not the case in Russia today. That country's legal system is taking on the appearance of Czarist Russia and the Soviet

Union, when the legal system and courts were merely instruments of the State. This past year, we have witnessed a series of arbitrary and discriminatory actions, directed by the Kremlin, against select individuals and companies, that are politically motivated and lacking in legal merit, according reputable human rights groups and widely reported in the Western press.

The most notable case is the YUKOS Oil Company, one of Russia's early privatized companies, known for its Western management style and global outlook, that today is under siege by a government clearly intent on destroying or taking control of Russia's largest oil producer. The chairman of YUKOS, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, was arrested and indefinitely detained on charges that are murky and, again, appear to be of a political nature rather than criminal intent.

Our colleagues on the Senate side last year unanimously approved S. Res. 258, which stated, in part, "the law enforcement and judicial authorities of the Russian Federation should ensure that Mr. Mikhail B. Khodorkovsky is accorded the full measure of his rights under the Russian Constitution to defend himself against any and all charges that may be brought against him, in a fair and transparent process, so that individual justice may be done. . . ."

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Senate spoke out one year ago, and since then the Russian government has levied an \$18 billion tax bill on YUKOS, far beyond its earnings, which is apparently intended to pave the way for a government take over of one of the world's largest oil companies. Mr. Khodorkovsky is confined to a cage on his daily trips to the courtroom, where he is denied the customary rights of a defendant and indeed is facing a verdict that may well be pre-ordained by the Kremlin.

Mr. Speaker, I also call to the attention of my colleagues another example of Russia's crude application of a legal system that denies, rather than protects the rights of the accused and clearly violates the norms and standards of decency and respect for human rights.

Mr. Alexei Pichugin, a former white collar security officer for the YUKOS Company, is currently on trial in Moscow on charges, so it is alleged, of murder. This is another case that is being closely monitored by human rights groups and others because of the bizarre series of actions by prosecutors who appear to be using the formal charges to pressure Mr. Pichugin to testify against his former bosses at YUKOS.

I do not presume to know the guilt or innocence of Mr. Pichugin; that is for a properly conducted court trial and unbiased jury to determine. But I am troubled, as are many of my colleagues, about the politicizing of Russia's legal system and the denial of a just and fair trial because the court itself is not truly independent.

Indeed, the Council of Europe's rapporteur, Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, has called the allegations regarding Mr. Pichugin's mistreatment "very serious." She notes: "I cannot myself help worrying about the possibly illicit investigative methods and pressures that Mr. Pichugin could be subjected to at a prison that remains withdrawn from the normal supervisory procedures by the Ministry of Justice."

Just yesterday, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe PACE released a re-

port pointing out that Russian authorities continue to violate the principle of equality before the law, based on legal analysis of the facts surrounding the arrests and prosecutions of former YUKOS executives Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Alexei Pichugin and Platon Lebedev.

While the trial of Alexi Pichugin is being conducted in secrecy, the evidence of abuse by the prosecutors and court handling the matter has been widely reported in the press. I, therefore, urge the Administration to refocus its attention on the deterioration of the rule of law in Russia. It would be very unfortunate if while we were striving to establish a democracy in Iraq, one broke down completely in the Russian Federation.

INTRODUCTION OF IRAN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION PREVENTION ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, to day I am introducing the "Iran Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act," a bill to stop the transfer of nuclear equipment and technology to Iran.

This week Secretary of State Colin Powell referred to intelligence that Iran is working to adapt missiles to deliver a nuclear weapon, which would provide further evidence Iran is determined to move forward to become a nuclear weapons state. His comments come on the heels of reports that Iran on the one hand has agreed with three European countries to freeze its uranium enrichment program, and, on the other hand, reports by an Iranian opposition group that Iran may still be pursuing a covert uranium enrichment program at an undeclared location.

The credibility of the United States suffered when we missed the mark so badly in Iraq when the Administration concluded that Iraq had reconstituted its nuclear weapons program. In Iraq the IAEA had the advantage of 250 inspectors on the ground with anytime, anywhere inspection authority to go look wherever they suspected there might be evidence of nuclear weapons activity. The IAEA does not have that advantage in Iran. Instead, both the U.S. and the IAEA are trying to divine the plans of a regime through fragmentary pieces of information gleaned from a variety of sources, much of it subject to widely varying interpretation and credibility. We simply cannot afford to be wrong on a subject as serious as the spread of nuclear weapons.

We know that a variety of foreign countries and companies may have provided assistance to Iran's nuclear program. Some of these countries may also be engaged in nuclear commerce with the United States, or may have received U.S.-origin nuclear technology in the past, or seek access to U.S. nuclear materials or technology in the future. Should we engage in nuclear commerce with countries that are supplying Iran with the wherewithal to move forward with a nuclear weapons program? I don't think so.

Let's take just one example. China is known to have provided support to the Iranian nuclear program in the past. In recent months, there have been press reports that Vice President CHENEY is championing efforts to export