

HIGHER EDUCATION  
SUSTAINABILITY ACT OF 2005

## HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the “Higher Education Sustainability Act of 2005,” which would authorize \$50 million for 25 Sustainability Education Programs across the country to develop and implement integrated environmental, economic, and social sustainability programs. Each Sustainability Program will focus on multidisciplinary research, education, and outreach at institutions of higher education.

Sustainable development practices are being advanced by hundreds of U.S. cities and companies and through a variety of international agencies including the United Nations and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. As population growth, urban development and extreme weather incidents place great stress on ecosystems around the globe, the need for developing innovative and successful sustainable development practices becomes critical to sustaining our economic competitiveness, improving our environmental health and creating more livable communities.

In my home State of Oregon, we have many great examples of sustainable development and livable communities. Portland State University, located in my hometown, provides an excellent example of how to incorporate sustainability throughout the curriculum. Faculty from the departments of social sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, humanities, as well as the professional schools have been working to incorporate sustainability principles in their coursework and research.

Portland State University’s Sustainability Initiative has placed a high priority on Green Buildings on campus that use smart technology to improve operational performance and produce significant savings. The City of Portland awarded PSU’s, Stephen Epler Residence Hall and Broadway Housing with the Businesses for an Environmentally Sustainable Tomorrow award for sustainable stormwater management. The Epler buildings harvests rainwater from the roof for use in restrooms and features low-flow water fixtures for showers and toilets resulting in cost savings of \$5,000 each year. The Broadway Housing features 20,000 square feet of an “ecoroot,” one of the largest in a dense urban environment. Faculty and students designed a monitoring program to measure impacts of the ecoroot and preliminary studies show a 21 percent reduction in runoff. This is an exemplary example of how faculty uses the buildings as real laboratories.

These innovations are just a few among many that are already underway in colleges and universities across the nation. This legislation will ensure that we can extend these innovations to institutions of higher learning across the country. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this bill and make a commitment to making our educational communities more sustainable and livable.

TRIBUTE TO FAIRFAX DISTRICT  
WORLD WAR II B-25J PRODUCTION WORKERS

## HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, as the Library of Congress continues its efforts to memorialize American veterans through the Veterans History Project, I rise today to pay tribute to and honor 59,337 men and women in Kansas City who proudly served the home front and their Nation in a time of dire need.

In what is known as the “Fairfax District” in Kansas City, Kansas, North American Aviation of Kansas, a B-25J “Mitchell” bomber production plant, built 6,608 of the 9,817 bombers used during World War II. This number represents 67 percent, or 2 out of every 3 B-25J bombers built for the war effort. The women and men working in this factory sacrificed their sweat, blood, and tears to ensure that the United States remained strong and equipped during this fight.

As thousands and thousands of our citizens joined in the fight and left their jobs to serve in uniform, factories all across the country were facing a labor shortage, at the same time they were being called upon to produce vital equipment needed by our troops. In order to fulfill this need and do their part in the war effort, women joined the workforce and kept our factories busy producing machinery for the military effort, like the bombers produced at North American Aviation of Kansas. As some of the first women to join the industrial revolution, their hard work and dedication earned these women the nickname “Rosie the Riveter.” Working hard right beside these “Riveters”, men embraced their new colleagues as coworkers and equals, ripping down previous barriers of gender-based stereotypes in the work place.

As the United States continues to fight injustice around the world today, it is important to remember the courageous production workers who continue to give our military the equipment they need to stay safe and continue to prevail in the most dangerous of encounters. Mr. Speaker, I thank the “Bomber Builders” of the North American Aviation-Kansas aeronautical production plant who began today’s tradition of continued sacrifice by offering their dedication, pride, and unwavering support for their nation during World War II when our Nation and the cause of freedom needed them the most.

## TAIWAN

## HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, one year ago, Chen Shui-bian was re-elected President of Taiwan. The election was the closest in Taiwan’s history and marked a reaffirmation that Taiwan is a strong democracy.

The anniversary of President Chen’s re-election provides an important opportunity to review events in Taiwan and across the Taiwan Strait in China. As my colleagues know,

China recently enacted a so-called “anti secession” law, which China says gives it the right to use military force against Taiwan if Taiwan decides to declare independence. This law is extremely provocative and potentially destabilizing. Like many of my colleagues, I have condemned this law, and I will continue to do so.

During the past several weeks, the 2 main opposition leaders in Taiwan have traveled to China to meet with the leaders of the Communist Party. These trips have sparked intense debate in Taiwan about the intentions of the Chinese leaders, as well as the future security of Taiwan. This debate is additional evidence of the openness and maturity of the democratic society Taiwan currently enjoys.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan reveres its freedom and its democratic form of government. As Taiwan’s friend and ally, I believe it is important for the United States to monitor the situation in the Taiwan Strait very carefully to help ensure Taiwan is not forced into a position which would endanger its freedom or its democracy. President Chen has been a tireless advocate for protecting and enhancing Taiwan’s freedom. I hope he will use the remaining three years of his second term in office to make certain Taiwan is protected and that Taiwan will be able to continue to flourish politically and economically.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan is a good example of democracy in the Asia Pacific region. I applaud the people of Taiwan for their diligence and their enterprise. The democratic experiment in Taiwan has been an exciting one for the past two decades. It is my hope, and I believe many of my colleagues share the view, that similar adoption of democratic principles will someday spread to mainland China.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF AVON WILLIAMS III

## HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, Avon Williams was a true friend and dedicated public servant. Over the years it has been a privilege of mine to count Avon and his family as friends. It has been America’s good fortune that he chose to serve us all as a respected and capable member of the Pentagon’s senior staff.

We grieve for the loss of a man who I know would have continued to do great things for our Nation. And I will miss his wisdom, his wit, and our wonderful conversations.

In Washington, Avon was well known and well respected as counsel for the U.S. Department of the Army. Tennesseans remember him as general counsel for the state Department of Safety and assistant commissioner for the state Department of Economic Development. And during the 1980s Avon represented the Nation as second secretary and vice consul in Manila, Philippines. This experience made him the resident foreign policy expert at our Friday afternoon Roundtable. The man was clearly a talented and gifted human being.

His life story is one of remarkable achievement, many friends, and a loving family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jan and the Williams children as they honor and mourn this wonderful man.

We will never forget his contributions to our country and our state.

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TRIBUTE TO JENNIE MIRZA ESHOO

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2005*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennie Mirza Eshoo who will celebrate her 90th birthday on July 17, 2005.

Jennie Eshoo was born Jennie Katherine Mirza in Chicago, Illinois on July 17, 1915, to Agase B. Mirza and Martha Alaverdy Mirza, the first of the couple's seven children. She graduated from Waller High School in Chicago in 1934 and on September 22 of that year she married Paul Eshoo.

Jennie and Paul Eshoo moved from Chicago to Turlock, California where they raised four children, Peter, George, Agnes and Alice, on the family farm. They were active in the Assyrian-American community and Paul was a founder of the Turlock Assyrian American Civic Club.

Jennie has an abiding love of our country and serves our democracy as a faithful precinct supervisor on the elections board. She is a devoted member of St. John's Presbyterian Church where she's served as Clerk of the Session and Elder for more than 30 years. She is known throughout the community for her generosity and helpfulness to so many, and has volunteered at Emanuel Medical Center in Turlock for over three decades.

Jennie is an avid reader whose taste ranges from National Geographic to the latest novels. She loves to travel and relishes visiting in person the sites she has "visited" in the Bible and other readings. Jennie conquers crossword puzzles in minutes, entering each solution in ink, never needing an eraser.

Jennie Eshoo is the matriarch of a large and loving family. In addition to her four children, she has eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Her grandchildren are Lisa Brown, Lorie Hill, Cherie Thompson, Christine Benjamin Nedved, Michelle Benjamin Eldridge, Annelise Martella, Karen Eshoo and Paul Eshoo. Her great-grandchildren are Amanda and Emily Brown, Madison and Jacob Eldridge, Cory Hill, Katherine and Jacqueline Nedved, and Peter Thompson.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to honor Jennie Mirza Eshoo as she celebrates her 90th birthday. I ask my colleagues to join me, her family and her many friends in saluting her as she celebrates this extraordinary milestone, and we thank her for her lifetime of service to her family, her community and her country.

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TRIBUTE TO A.J. PETE REIXACH

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2005*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate A.J. Pete Reixach as the celebration of his having spent 20 years at Port Freeport rapidly approaches.

As American Association of Port Authorities President Kurt J. Nagle said recently, "Pete

deserves congratulations not only for reaching the remarkable milestone of 20 years at the Port, but also for the dramatic growth Port Freeport has achieved during his tenure. In an industry where the average tenure for a port director is less than 7 years, Pete's 20 years at Port Freeport are a tribute to his effectiveness in directing the Port and to the Port's substantial economic impacts to the region. He is both well-respected and recognized as an industry leader by his colleagues."

To learn more about Reixach's time at the Port one only needs to talk with representatives of the Port's many customers such as American Rice Inc., Dole Fresh Fruit Company, Chiquita Brands Inc. and Turbana Corp., the last two of which began their relationship with the Port during Reixach's tenure.

Mr. Speaker, Port Freeport now ranks 12th among all U.S. ports in international cargo. The Port has added new berths and continues to grow. A cool storage facility has been built and is set for expansion. The harbor channel was deepened to 45 feet with efforts now moving forward in this Congress toward approval of a 60-foot depth, a project I have been pleased to support. Public dock activity at the Port has burgeoned; so, too, has that at berths of such firms as Teppco/Seaway, ConocoPhillips and The Dow Chemical Co. This has all happened during Reixach's time as Executive Director of the Port.

While enrolled at the University of New Orleans Mr. Reixach began working as a clerk in the New Orleans office of Greek-owned Hellenic Lines Ltd. By the time Hellenic ceased operations in 1983, Reixach had worked his way up to a vice presidency in the line's Houston office. Immediately prior to coming to Port Freeport, he was general manager in the Houston office of Dutch shipping company F.A. Voight Inc.

Reixach initially was hired to serve as assistant general manager at Freeport. Two years later, Reixach was promoted to the new position of executive director, the job he still holds.

Mr. Speaker, Pete Reixach, 62, lives in Lake Jackson with his wife, Susie. I wish the two of them much happiness and continued success as Pete approaches 20 years with Port Freeport.

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RECOGNIZING THE STUDENTS OF  
FOUR OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL,  
NORTH CAROLINA

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2005*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special recognition to the students of Four Oaks Middle School, in North Carolina's Second District. These students put together 532 packages for the Tsunami victims as part of a Beta Club Relief Fund service project. When I met with the students in January, they told me at the time that their goal was to complete 300 packages. I challenged them to complete 500 packages, one for each student in the school. They not only met my challenge, but they exceeded it by completing 532 packages, each with a hand towel, soap, a wash-cloth, a toothbrush, toothpaste, a comb, six adhesive bandage, and a nail file.

The selflessness of the students at Four Oaks Middle School should make all of us proud. They came up with their own initiative, made all the plans and collected the packages by themselves. This project is an indication that they recognize that they are a part of the world. They worked to help relieve the suffering of boys and girls halfway around the world that they don't know and won't ever see. This is what America is truly all about.

I also would like to recognize the teachers and administrators at Four Oaks Middle School. They are a shining example of the role teachers and administrators play in teaching values to the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the boys and girls of Four Oaks Middle School.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2005*

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, during debate on July 11 and 12, 2005 I was unavoidably detained due to an illness, and unable to make the votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted the following: rollcall No. 363 "yes"; rollcall No. 364 "yes"; rollcall No. 365 "no"; rollcall No. 366 "no"; rollcall No. 367 "no"; rollcall No. 368 "yes"; rollcall No. 369 "no"; rollcall No. 370 "no"; rollcall No. 371 "no" and rollcall No. 372 "no."

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 14, 2005*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

On July 11, 2005—rollcall vote 363, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, As Amended, H. Con. Res. 168, condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the abductions and continued captivity of citizens of the Republic of Korea and Japan as acts of terrorism and gross violations of human rights, I would have voted "yes" and rollcall vote 364, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 333, supporting the goals and ideals of a National Weekend of Prayer and Reflection for Darfur, Sudan, I would have voted "yes."

On July 12, 2005—rollcall vote 365, on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 351, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 739, H.R. 740, H.R. 741, and H.R. 742, I would have voted "yes"; rollcall vote 366, on Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 351, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 739, H.R. 740, H.R. 741, and H.R. 742, I would have voted "yes"; rollcall vote 367, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 352, providing that the House of Representatives will focus on removing barriers to competitiveness of the United States economy, I would have voted "yes"; rollcall vote 368, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res. 343, commending the State of Kuwait for granting women certain important political rights, I