

am glad coal and ethanol remain an integral part of our energy future and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

**SUPPORT EXTENDING THE CANCER CARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**

**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I praise my colleague Mr. HALL of Texas for introducing a resolution to get a sense of the Congress on the issue of extending the CMS quality of cancer care demonstration project. I recently authored a bipartisan letter to the President along with close to 100 of my colleagues, including Mr. HALL, asking the President to extend the demonstration project at the current \$300 million funding level.

I would like to note that extending the demonstration project is only treating the symptom and not curing the actual problem with the new Medicare payment system introduced this year. The old system overpaid for cancer drugs, which subsidized non-payment and under-payment of essential cancer care services provided by community cancer clinics. However, under the new system, which pays for drugs closer to market rates, certain essential services like treatment cancer planning are not paid for by Medicare.

I urge my colleagues in supporting the extension of the cancer care demonstration project and directing CMS to work with community cancer care on permanent solutions. We have to ensure the viability of our Nation's cancer care delivery system and America's access to quality, affordable, and accessible cancer treatment.

**RECOGNIZING KEVIN TWOHEY OF SAINT HELENA, CALIFORNIA**

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kevin Twohey from my hometown of Saint Helena, California, as he is honored with the 2005 Saint Helena Citizen of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, born in Ohio, Kevin joined our unique community more than 18 years ago. Since that time, Kevin has devoted his life to serving the people of Saint Helena. Kevin is not only a driven, hard working man who is not afraid to roll up his sleeves and get his hands dirty, but he is also selfless and has remained steadfast in his commitment to bettering our town.

Shortly after settling in California, Kevin, an avid and astute horticulturalist, purchased the locally owned Whiting's Nursery which has been a part of our community for nearly 60 years.

For the past 17 years, Kevin has served as a volunteer firefighter for the St. Helena Fire Department and has held the position of fire chief for 11 years. An integral and highly revered member of this team, Kevin has be-

come a mentor to his fellow firefighters, helping them and guiding them through fires and life. What Kevin enjoys most about volunteering is the camaraderie and the ability to positively affect people's lives every single day.

When not fighting fires or running the nursery, Kevin can be found at the Saint Helena public pool coaching the Waves, Saint Helena's Swim Team. Kevin is also a passionate fly fisherman and fitness guru.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure Kevin's wife, Margaret, and their daughter, Kathleen, are extremely proud of him. I believe I speak for Kevin's family, friends, and community when I say Kevin Twohey is an exemplary citizen and an inspiration to all of us. My fellow colleagues, it is appropriate that we take this time to thank and honor Kevin Twohey for his numerous, invaluable contributions to Saint Helena.

**IN RECOGNITION OF H.R. 3199: USA PATRIOT ACT AND TERRORISM PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005**

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this measure which expands expiring provisions of the Patriot Act by granting unlimited investigative powers to our government. This bill gives the government broad powers to secretly collect personal information on medical, library and business and financial records of our Nation's citizens. Additionally, this legislation sunsets provisions that are not about combating terrorism or making us safer, but about intruding upon our privacy and infringing upon our civil liberties.

Mr. Chairman, there is no limit to these surveillance and intelligence powers once they are given to our government. There are no guarantees to the American people that our Nation will be more stable and secure by enforcing these policies, which allow the government to conduct secret searches of your home or office—the so-called sneak and peek warrant—for an indefinite period of time. Our country takes great pride in upholding the true values of our constitution and freedom. However, these provisions certainly contradict these beliefs and, more importantly, the checks and balances intended to safeguard our liberty.

We must understand that neither the original U.S. Patriot Act, nor this legislation, have been subject to the proper oversight. We have evidence that the repercussions of the original Patriot Act has led to abusive powers by this Administration. Since the September 11th attacks, our government has detained and verbally and physically abused thousands of immigrants, without time limits, for unknown and unspecified reasons, and targeted the Arab-American community for intensive interrogations and immigration screenings.

A clear example of this happened in my Congressional district at the Metropolitan Detention Center where 84 detainees were mistreated under the conditions of confinement. This mistreatment was reported and documented by the Department of Justice where it

has acknowledged the abuses which were documented by the Inspector General. I clearly recognize the outrage of terrorist attacks and the need to heighten our Nation's security—but not at the expense of undermining our freedom and our democratic values and ideals.

We have not been given the actual facts or had the time to accurately evaluate the ramifications of many of these provisions. Reauthorizing a bill which lacks oversight and expands provisions that violate the privacy of our citizens is undermining the American public's civil rights and misleading our Nation.

This bill fails to protect our Nation and, our civil liberties. It strikes the essence of our checks and balances, subjects individuals to repeated abuse and violates the confidentiality of our personal records. This is plain wrong. If we want to fight terrorism, let's do it the right way, by providing the adequate resources and funding to our homeland security and our local enforcement, by being consistent with our democracy and our true values and principles, I urge my colleagues to vote no on the underlying bill.

**CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2361, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006**

SPEECH OF

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 28, 2005*

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Senate passed amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill to include \$1.5 billion in emergency supplemental funding to the veterans budget.

However, this funding comes more than a month late. We had a chance to get this emergency spending to the people who need the funding before we left for the July Fourth recess.

After the budget shortfall was announced, both sides of the aisle in the Senate came together to take immediate action to address this issue. They passed a \$1.5 billion emergency funding amendment to immediately get the funds to the people who need it, our veterans, those who have defended this Nation against its enemies.

As we have seen by the slow movement of these badly needed funds, all Republicans do is talk, when it comes to a veteran in need.

The Republican Leadership in the House decided to sit on their hands and wait for President Bush to pull a number out of the air. That number was \$975 million.

However, it turns out that the Bush level was \$300 million short to fund veterans health.

This would be a good start to resolving the funding crisis in veterans healthcare, but I know this administration will continue to try to balance the budget on the backs of the men and women who have sacrificed to defend this great Nation of ours.

The Fiscal Year 2006 budget is short, and the FY 2007 budget is being calculated as we stand here.

Let this be the beginning of full funding for veterans healthcare, now and in the future.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT  
JASON MONTEFERING

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report the passing of Staff Sergeant Jason Montefering of Parkston, South Dakota. He was killed, while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Jason's goodwill and service. He inspired all those who knew him. Our Nation is a far better place because of his life. All Americans owe Jason, and the other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom, a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service.

Every member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, Staff Sergeant Jason Montefering lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

Mr. Speaker, I express my sympathies to the family and friends of Staff Sergeant Jason Montefering. I believe the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country. I know he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER  
DEVON BROWN—2005 BEST IN  
THE BUSINESS

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor an extraordinary public servant, Commissioner Devon Brown, as he receives the "2005 Best in the Business" from the American Correctional Association. Mr. Brown has held the position of Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Corrections since January 2002. His accomplishments in the field have not only shown his dedication but also have proven revolutionary.

He once stated that, ". . . criminal justice is in my blood." Hailing from a family replete of judges, lawyers and police and correctional officers, Commissioner Brown was, to some extent, destined to follow in his family's legacy. After obtaining a bachelor's degree from Morgan State University, he went on to earn two master's degrees in psychology and public administration. As another testament to his commitment, Mr. Brown earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland.

Sometimes considered a maverick in the New Jersey Department of Corrections, Commissioner Brown has led in the implementation of programming that focused on educational enrichment and social responsibility. For example, he instituted the "Stock Market Game", which introduces inmates to the world of Wall Street and its role in the U.S. economy. By

learning about financial markets and the management of one's investments, prisoners discover new methods of analysis and decision-making. In addition, inmates have had the opportunity to further their deductive reasoning by becoming champion chess players. In fact, many prisoners have competed and won against top collegiate teams. He has also introduced "Shakespeare Behind Bars" to the New Jersey Department of Corrections. This program, also used throughout the Nation's prison systems, allows the inmates to delve into relevant personal and social issues through art.

Richard Stalder, President of the Association of State Correctional Administrators stated that, "Despite highly formidable and oftentimes less than ideal circumstances, Commissioner Brown has remained focused, showing integrity, resourceful ingenuity and uncompromising commitment to excellence no matter how daunting the presenting challenge. Though his inspiration and unwavering resolve, he has advanced the profession and earned the New Jersey Department of Corrections a place among the most improved, progressively oriented, penal systems in the land." Therefore it is no surprise that Mr. Brown has also garnered many other awards besides the "2005 Best in the Business. In 2004, the College of New Jersey honored him with the "Gene Carte Memorial Award" for his exemplary correctional leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Commissioner Devon Brown, for being the recipient of the "2005 Best in the Business" as well as for his overall excellence and dedication to the field of corrections. A man who is not afraid to make the hard decisions or to stand up for the truth, Commissioner Brown exemplifies vision, professionalism and integrity. I am proud to have him as a dear friend and wish him never-ending success in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDMARK EL MONTE GARMENT SLAVERY CASE

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th Anniversary of the landmark El Monte garment worker slavery case.

In 1995, I was shocked to learn one of the worst sweatshops in recent U.S. history was operating in the city of El Monte, California—in my congressional district. Seventy-two Thai workers lived and worked in substandard conditions. Sixty-seven of them were women. Most of these workers had been held in slavery for up to 17 years at an apartment complex and were made to sew clothes for some of the Nation's top manufacturers and retailers. The workers labored over 18 hours a day in a compound enclosed by barbed wire and armed guards. They had left their homes in Thailand in search of a better life and wound up enslaved just outside Los Angeles.

While the El Monte sweatshop is a terrible example of substandard working conditions and human trafficking, it is not uncommon. Ap-

proximately 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year for forced labor, domestic servitude, or sexual exploitation. When including the number of victims who are trafficked within borders, the total number rises to between 2 and 4 million.

Approximately 50,000 people are trafficked to the United States each year. Los Angeles is one of three major ports of entry for human trafficking. Most come from Southeast Asia and the former Soviet Union. About half of those are forced into sweatshop labor and domestic servitude similar to the El Monte sweatshop. The rest are forced into prostitution and the sex industry, or in the case of young children, kidnapped and sold for adoption. While many victims come willingly, they are not aware of the untenable terms and inhumane conditions they will face.

I have worked very hard—in the California state legislature and now in Congress—to support efforts to eliminate this inhumane and criminal activity. Beginning with the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act passed in 2000, the United States began a concerted effort to combat human trafficking into the United States and around the world.

Established under this law, the "T" visa has been critical to combating trafficking in the U.S. These visas allow victims of trafficking, who would face retribution if they were sent back to their home country, to remain in the U.S. for 3 years, and then apply for permanent residency. The "T" visa has allowed many victims of trafficking realize their dream of living in the U.S.

In 2003, Congress renewed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act and increased funding for anti-trafficking programs by more than \$100 million for each fiscal year. The act also refined and expanded on the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking that governments must meet. The legislation created a yearly "special watch list" of countries that the Secretary of State determined were not taking action to combat human trafficking.

In 2005, Congress will again renew the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important legislation, which will close loopholes and increase assistance to victims of trafficking. The bill also addresses the needs of child victims of trafficking and directs relevant government agencies to develop anti-trafficking strategies for post-conflict situations and humanitarian emergencies abroad.

We have made progress since 1995 when the El Monte slavery case thrust the issue of human trafficking into the national spotlight. We must continue our work to eliminate trafficking within the United States. We must also work with foreign governments and non-governmental organizations abroad to end human trafficking and eliminate the conditions that foster trafficking, such as widespread poverty, crisis and warfare.

I am proud to join the Thai Community Development Center to recognize the 10th Anniversary of the Landmark El Monte Garment Slavery Case. This organization has been an amazing force working to raise awareness and efforts in eliminating slavery and trafficking. It is my privilege to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Thai community and to honor the Thai workers.