

affected area and the rest of the country deserve a more sustainable and financially rational approach than simply printing and spending money.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 2, 2005*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in full support of H.R. 3645 to provide financial relief to the millions of those affected by Hurricane Katrina. My prayers go out to the victims and their families. Despite a massive search and rescue effort to locate victims of Hurricane Katrina, many still remain in harm's way while scores of others attempt to piece together what is left of their lives. As such, we are faced with the difficult task of providing the attention and resources in order to rescue those still in danger; providing comfort to those without food, clean water, or shelter; and preventing further devastation from disease. This funding will provide the Federal Emergency Management Agency with just enough money to get started on immediate disaster assistance.

However, this is just the beginning of our financial commitment to the people of these ravaged areas. The \$10 billion will give our emergency responders the means to save and help rebuild lives in the short-term, but the long-term funding situation is uncertain and daunting. It is too early to estimate the final cost of rescue operations or the huge task of caring for the victims of this enormous tragedy. It is my understanding that total costs could exceed \$100 billion. I will continue to support whatever funding is needed for as long as it takes to rescue all in danger and to help our fellow Americans rebuild their lives.

As is always the case with a disaster of this magnitude, we must closely examine what could have been done differently and try to make right what once was wrong. In this instance, many factors combined to cause such widespread destruction and loss of life. The key questions are: what could have been done to properly plan for such a disaster and what should have been done to respond more quickly once the destination of Katrina was confirmed.

Proper planning on the part of the local and State governments was severely lacking. The decision to evacuate New Orleans without making provisions to transport people too poor to own or too sick to operate a vehicle was a moral abomination. We basically left people to see if they would die and many of them did. Every evacuation response plan in the Nation should, by federal law, be required to include transportation plans for such people. The excuse that this catastrophe was unpredictable is nonsense—scientists and engineers have been saying for years that a hurricane with Katrina's force could break the levees and flood the city of New Orleans. Despite these specific warnings, the local and State governments were woefully underprepared to deal with the magnitude of this disaster.

The slow response of the Federal government is equally abysmal and even more troubling. The Administration showed its indifference to the people in the Gulf by waiting until Saturday, September 3rd to deploy 7,200 active-duty ground troops. However as soon as the storm passed, it was clear that the local and State governments were overwhelmed by the magnitude of the disaster. President Bush should have deployed these troops to the region as soon as the levee broke on Tuesday, if not sooner. All of the available resources of the federal government should have been mobilized immediately to evacuate people and organize food, shelter, and medical operations. In the days after Katrina's winds and rain subsided, it is indisputable that the Federal government failed the people of the Gulf Region.

Rather than acknowledge these shortcomings, the administration has brazenly lauded the Federal response. President Bush and others glossed over the fact that many people died as a result of the government's incompetence and indifference. The inadequate response to this disaster demonstrated to me that we have learned little from the lessons of September 11, 2001, and we are ill-prepared to deal with a major national disaster whether it be a natural or man-made.

I am determined to play whatever role I can in changing our Federal response system so that this type of gross negligence does not happen again. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my support for H.R. 3645 and I pledge my continued support for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

HURRICANE KATRINA

**HON. ANDER CRENSHAW**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 8, 2005*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation for the thousands of emergency personnel who continue to work tirelessly to help the hundreds of thousands of people affected by Hurricane Katrina. The devastation caused by this hurricane is epic and we are only beginning to learn of the total destruction it caused. Yet, in the face of enormous adversity, thousands of Americans put their own lives on the line to help their fellow Americans in need.

These individuals worked themselves into exhaustion both mentally and physically. Without their sacrifice, thousands more Americans would have lost their lives from this devastating storm. Mirroring September 11, 2001, local first responders were once again on the front lines.

None of us shall soon forget the images of our brave men and women who serve in the United States Coast Guard. This disaster brought a new meaning to the term "search and rescue." Petty Officer Eric Sciubba arrived in New Orleans Monday and said crewmembers found themselves trying rescue techniques never before attempted. Replacing Scuba gear with axes, Americas' "Coasties" found themselves chopping through roof tops to reach trapped victims.

At one particular house, Petty Officer Sciubba found an invalid woman in even more peril than most in New Orleans. Her feeding tube had stopped working, and Sciubba found

her in bed on her home's first floor, with her head barley sticking above water. The helicopter couldn't reach the stranded couple through the back yard, and with the front door locked, Sciubba knew that time was their number one enemy. Finally, the man inside the house was able to get the door unlocked and both individuals were brought to safety. This couple was among the 109 people Petty Officer Sciubba's crew pulled from disaster to safety before returning to Ellington Field on Thursday.

And that is just one of the hundreds of incredible rescues made by the Coast Guard.

We certainly will not forget the sacrifice made by the tens of thousands of National Guard, many of whom recently returned or are soon being deployed to Iraq, who sacrificed their precious time with family and loved ones to help those in need and return order to a city in chaos.

America has faced many challenges in its history and Hurricane Katrina will be written as one of its greatest. Yet once again, this great country will meet and overcome this latest challenge and will triumph in the face of adversity. This great Nation of ours will once again show the world its courage, conviction and will to overcome.

EVERGREEN TROOP 361

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 8, 2005*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Evergreen Troop 361 of the Mission Amigos District from the San Gabriel Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America. On October 22nd, Troop 361 will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Troop 361 was founded with twelve boys in 1955 by members of the Evergreen Baptist Church in Los Angeles. Since 1955, Troop 361 has enjoyed the excellent sponsorship of the Evergreen Baptist Church. The Church, and Troop 361, subsequently moved to the City of Rosemead, and the Troop transferred to the Mission Amigos District of the San Gabriel Valley Council. With its beautiful mountains and proximity to the ocean, the San Gabriel Valley is the ideal place for boys to learn the scouting ways, as one of the mainstays of the Boy Scouts program is participation in a wide array of outdoor activities.

Over the years, Troop 361 has grown and thrived. Hundreds of scouts have passed through the ranks of Troop 361, and it is a further testament to the strong leadership and high caliber of young men that over 80 scouts in this troop have earned the most prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. Today, Troop 361 is proud to have 55 outstanding scouts under the leadership of Ted Sakamoto, a Scoutmaster who has dedicated thousands of hours to ensuring that Troop 361 remains strong and successful.

Troop 361 is an integral part of the proud tradition of the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scouts of America develop and nurture in our youth a strong sense of character, leadership, and respect. Boy Scouts are well-rounded, resourceful, and responsible, and Troop 361 exemplifies all of these qualities.

I am proud to congratulate Troop 361 on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, and I ask all

Members of Congress to join me in honoring this Troop for its dedication to scouting and for helping boys become upstanding young men.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, September 7, 2005, I was unavoidably absent due to a previously scheduled engagement.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall No. 464. On H. Res. 427, relating to the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001, "yes."

(2) Rollcall No. 463. On H. Res. 428, expressing the sincere gratitude of the House of Representatives to the foreign individuals, organizations, and governments that have offered material assistance and other forms of support to those who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina, "yes."

(3) Rollcall No. 462. On H.R. 3668, the Student Grant Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act, "yes."

(4) Rollcall No. 461. On H.R. 3669, to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the national flood insurance program, "yes."

(5) Rollcall No. 460. On H.R. 3673, further Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, Hurricane Katrina, 2005, "yes."

(6) Rollcall No. 459. On H. RES. 426, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, "no."

(7) Rollcall No. 458. On H. RES. 426, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, "no."

RECOGNIZING REVEREND C. DALE EDWARDS OF THE O'FALLON ASSEMBLY OF GOD, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASTORAL SERVICE

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend C. Dale Edwards, of the O'Fallon Assembly of God, in O'Fallon, Illinois, on the occasion of his 50th Anniversary of pastoral service.

C. Dale Edwards was born in New City, Illinois, a community just southeast of the State Capitol of Springfield. During his early years on the farm and later, when the family moved to the nearby town of Edinburg, his mother always made sure the family faithfully attended the Gospel Tabernacle in Edinburg. During those early days at the Gospel Tabernacle, Reverend Edwards first realized his calling when, as a teenager, he was invited by Pastor Best to preach on occasion.

An accident in an elevator shaft left Reverend Edwards with a badly damaged foot that looked as if it was going to require amputa-

tion. Through the intervention of a family friend, Reverend Edwards attended a revival meeting where his foot was healed. This experience, coupled with his preaching at the Gospel Tabernacle, spurred Reverend Edwards to apply to North Central Bible College in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

While at NCBC, Reverend Edwards became youth pastor in Hopkins, Minnesota in 1955, thus beginning the 50 years of pastoral ministry that we commemorate today.

After building congregations in Minnesota, South Dakota and Rock Island, Illinois, Reverend Edwards became the Senior Pastor of First Assembly of God in Granite City, Illinois where he served from 1974 through 1991. For the next six years, Reverend Edwards served as the Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Illinois District Assemblies of God, where he oversaw the credentialing of all Assembly of God ministers in Illinois. In this capacity, he also served as chairman of the Illinois District 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Reverend Edwards and his wife, Dottie, currently reside in O'Fallon, Illinois where they serve as Senior Pastors at O'Fallon Assembly of God. Reverend Edwards and Dottie have four children, all serving the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Reverend Edwards for his 50 years of dedicated ministry and to wish him the very best in the future.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERVENTIONAL PAIN PHYSICIANS (ASIPP)

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this summer the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting (NASPER) Act of 2005 was approved by both houses of Congress and signed into law by President Bush. I rise today to recognize the important contributions of Dr. Laxmaiah Manchikanti and the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP) in accomplishing this important achievement.

Dr. Manchikanti is a physician of Indian origin who has practiced medicine in Paducah, Kentucky for the last 25 years. He is a well-known and well-respected physician with interests in many aspects of medicine, both in patient care, as well as academics.

Dr. Manchikanti is a recognized leader in the circles of interventional pain management. Apart from his interest in the clinical practice of anesthesiology and interventional pain management, he is also proficient in administrative medicine, patient advocacy, the economics of healthcare, medical ethics and various other aspects of the profession. He is an avid clinical researcher with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals with original contributions.

Dr. Manchikanti currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians. With over 3,400 members, ASIPP is the largest organization in the country that represents physicians involved in trying to alleviate the intractable pain experienced by millions of Americans. Because of their professional involve-

ment with pain medicine many ASIPP members have a vested interest in solving the problem of prescription drug abuse and diversion.

Mr. Speaker, one of the fastest growing areas of drug abuse in our nation today is the diversion of prescription drugs. According to the National Institute of Health—National Institute on Drug Abuse, approximately 9 million Americans are misusers of prescription drugs. Furthermore, in 2001 the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, found statistically significant increases between 2000 and 2001 in the use of multiple drugs including non-medical use of pain relievers and tranquilizers.

Prescription drug abuse is an issue that transcends societal boundaries, and affects all areas of our nation and all income levels. In an effort to prevent prescription drug abuse the NASPER Act establishes a federal system for electronic prescription databanks, which a doctor could access to determine what, if any, medication their patient should be given.

From the very beginning, Dr. Manchikanti and his colleagues at ASIPP have played a crucial role in the development of the NASPER Act. Thanks to their active involvement and insightful guidance, we were able to craft a thoughtful policy that will give physicians, pharmacists, and law enforcement agents the tools necessary to curb prescription drug abuse.

Mr. Speaker, next week ASIPP will hold its 7th annual legislative session in Washington. I would like to welcome ASIPP to our nation's capital, and offer my gratitude for all of their efforts over the past several years. Thanks to the hard work of Dr. Manchikanti and all of his colleagues the NASPER Act has finally become law and we can begin to address this very serious public health concern.

I must emphasize that this is only the beginning. There is still a lot of important work left to be done in terms of implementing and enforcing this new law. I am looking forward carrying my partnership with Dr. Manchikanti and ASIPP forward, as we continue to work together to help eliminate prescription drug abuse.

REGARDING H.R. 3673, MAKING FURTHER EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill because of the grave and immediate need that exists. As a representative of Houston, Texas, where over 150,000 Katrina evacuees were received, I can say from first hand knowledge that this is truly only a first step toward what is necessary and emergent. This measure is an initial investment—a down payment—for a long-term relief package—that unfortunately has not yet been codified.

Here we are, nine days after Hurricane Katrina devastated parts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. I want to thank Congressmen JEFFERSON and THOMPSON, who