

personal reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Vote No., description, vote: 557, Heinz Ahlmeyer, Jr. Post Office Building, "yes"; 558, Albert Harold Quie Post Office Building, "yes"; 559, Online Freedom of Speech Act, "no"; 560, VA Information Technology, "yes"; and 561, John Bradley Outpatient Clinic, "yes."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM) on their 30th anniversary. Throughout their 30 years, this group of dedicated students has been the primary advocates for fellow undergraduates in the State of Missouri. Known as the student voice in the Missouri State government, the organization has been essential to craft and advance legislation that has benefited higher education in Missouri. In addition, ASUM has been the training ground for students interested in entering public service, the political arena, and is responsible for producing some of today's top government employees serving the State of Missouri.

ASUM encourages students to become educated about the political process, and by doing so increases awareness, concern, and participation of young adults in democracy. ASUM's political action began on the campus of University of Missouri-Colombia in 1975. After successful participation by the students at the campus in Colombia, the student leaders expanded the organization to the other campuses within the University of Missouri System: Kansas City, St. Louis, and Rolla, where participation among the students exceeded expectations.

Serving as the student voice in the federal government, state government, and on the various campuses of the University of Missouri, ASUM is responsible for the creating a student representative position on the University of Missouri Board of Curators. The student representative affords the opportunity for the Board of Curators to truly hear and value the students' perspective on issues affecting the University System. Keeping the student views in the forefront of Universities' agenda, the Board of Curators passed a policy allowing the ASUM student representative to attend closed board meetings. The over-arching impact of the policy addition was to remind the Board of Curators that every institutional change had to be in the best interest of the students.

As the primary advocate of students in Missouri, the ASUM established though legislation the Bright Flight Scholarship, the most important source of financial aid for scholars from the State of Missouri. The annual \$2,000 scholarship was created to encourage top ranked high school seniors to attend approved Missouri postsecondary schools. The program is geared to the top 3 percent of all Missouri high school students who have a minimum ACT score of 30 or a minimum SAT score of 780 math and 780 verbal. By requiring the student to maintain satisfactory academic

progress and full time employment, this scholarship program helps the student to learn how to effectively manage their time and balance priorities. In addition to the Bright Flight Scholarship Program, the ASUM created Missouri State law to exempt sales taxes on textbooks, which has saved students in Missouri \$6 million dollars every year since its enactment in 1999. Finally, the student political activists created a loan forgiveness program for teachers, medical doctors, and veterinarians who serve in high need areas of Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for the dedication of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri and their relentless efforts in extending their voices to represent all of the students of Missouri. It is essential for the members of the ASUM and other student organizations to be celebrated for their good works, for the students of today are truly our leaders of tomorrow.

HONORING SPC DERENCE JEFFREY W. JACK AND SSG WILGENE T. LIETO

HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the two soldiers from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands who became casualties of Operation Iraqi Freedom on October 31, 2005 in Iraq. Specialist Derence Jeffrey W. Jack and Staff Sergeant Wilgene T. Lieto made the ultimate sacrifice in support of the global war on terror, and in doing so, helped to preserve our freedom. SSG Lieto served in Iraq as a Sergeant—the U.S. Army awarded him a posthumous promotion to Staff Sergeant. These soldiers left their homes and their families to answer the call of duty as members of the E Company, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment of the U.S. Army Reserve. On behalf of our communities in the Northern Marianas and Guam, I join with our local leaders in offering our sincerest condolences to the family of Derence Jeffrey W. Jack, especially his wife Melissa Jack and their daughter, and to the family of Wilgene T. Lieto, especially his wife Tiara Lieto and their son and daughter. The service and sacrifice of these soldiers will always be remembered and I join our Pacific island community in honoring the patriotism of these Army reservists. Derence Jeffrey W. Jack, from Gualo Rai, Saipan, was a manager at the Bank of Guam branch in Saipan. Wilgene T. Lieto, from Tanapag, Saipan, was a police officer. SPC Jack and SSG Lieto were part of the "Go For Broke" Battalion, serving with fellow soldiers from Guam, the Northern Marianas, American Samoa, and Hawaii. Although their loss brings great sadness to the people of the Northern Marianas and Guam, we take comfort in knowing that that these soldiers served with honor. May God bless them and their families.

DEMOCRATS' CLIMATE PUSH MAY SQUEEZE GOP MODERATES ON SCIENCE PANEL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit this article from InsideEPA to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

A novel effort by 150 House Democrats to require that the White House turn over documents showing what it knows about climate change effects on U.S. coastal regions may force key Republican moderates to choose party loyalty over their environmental records, or risk leaving themselves open to attacks from conservative opponents in upcoming primaries, sources say.

Rep. DENNIS KUCINICH (D-OH) has initiated a rare House procedure with the backing of 150 of his Democratic colleagues that seeks information from the executive branch on how climate change has affected U.S. coastal regions. If H.R. 515, a "resolution of inquiry," (ROI) passes with the support of key GOP moderates on the House Science Committee and the full House, it would require the president within 14 days to turn over documents related to climate change impacts on coastal areas. Relevant documents are available on InsideEPA.com.

KUCINICH's resolution does not specifically mention hurricanes, but congressional staffers familiar with the effort say Congress is growing more concerned that climate change may have increased hurricane severity in light of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. "This has been a brutal hurricane season and many think climate change will be the defining problem of our generation. We want to know what [President Bush] knew," according to one staffer. The effort comes as Republican environment committee senators are quashing suggestions that increased sea surface temperatures could be linked to the recent spike in hurricane activity.

Observers say the ROI will present House Science Committee Chairman SHERWOOD BOEHLERT (R-NY), Rep. VERNON EHRLERS (R-MI) and Rep. WAYNE GILCHREST (R-MD) with a critical choice between siding with their party in deflecting attention from the president's climate policies and their environmental records, which have won them praise and endorsements from environmental groups. Their decisions on the matter may prove crucial during their 2006 primaries, where at least one is expected to face a tough fight against a more conservative GOP candidate.

Although the ROI measure has no Republican co-sponsors, BOEHLERT has a track record of backing efforts to address climate change that is adding to Democrats' optimism that the measure may make it to the House floor for a vote, sources say. "Boehlert's support [for previous efforts to allow more open scientific debate on climate change] makes us hopeful," according to one source.

For instance, BOEHLERT last summer sharply criticized efforts by House Energy & Commerce Committee Chairman JOE BARTON (R-TX) to investigate the findings and funding sources of three prominent climate scientists. In a July 14 letter, BOEHLERT characterized BARTON's requests as "pernicious" and

“chilling.” BOEHLERT said, “The only conceivable explanation for the investigation is to attempt to intimidate a prominent scientist and to have Congress put its thumbs on the scales of a scientific debate.”

But observers say the ROI may pose a thorny problem for the representative because he has recently squared off against competitive primary opponents and is anticipating another close race against a conservative in 2006. In seeking a thirteenth term, Boehlert faces conservative GOP primary challenger Bradford Jones, a former Seneca, NY, mayor who has already launched an election bid. Boehlert narrowly won a primary challenge against conservative Republican David Walruth in 2002 and faced him again in the 2004 primary. Walruth was backed by a number of conservative organizations, including the anti-tax group Club for Growth.

A spokesman for BOEHLERT did not return calls seeking comment.

And while many environmentalists praise Gilchrest’s voting record, they are blasting his recent last-minute change of position on House refinery legislation. The legislation, supporters said, would speed production of refined oil and gasoline by aiding the country’s oil refineries in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The Republican leadership cajoled members to support the measure in the face of near-unanimous Democratic opposition. GILCHREST’s decision to switch his vote and side with most of his GOP colleagues in the end proved crucial as the bill passed 212–210.

Ehlers recently broke party ranks by opposing a House-passed overhaul of the 1973 Endangered Species Act. The overhaul would give property owners new rights and reduce the Federal role in protecting habitats. It passed late last month by a vote of 229 to 193, although Ehlers joined Michigan’s Democratic delegation in voting against the measure.

Even if the ROI fails to gather GOP support, the tool may still allow House Democrats to gather executive branch information on climate change, according to congressional researchers.

A 2003 Congressional Research Service report on the procedure finds that ROIs are “often much more effective in obtaining information from the executive branch than one would expect from committee and floor action. Administrations have often released a substantial amount of information, leading the committee of jurisdiction to conclude that the dispute is moot and it is therefore appropriate to report the resolution adversely and table it on the floor.” Relevant documents are available on InsideEPA.com.

CONGRATULATING THE JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY CLUB ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the John Boyle O'Reilly Club in Springfield, Massachusetts on the occasion of its 125th Anniversary. Since it was founded in 1880, the John Boyle O'Reilly

Club has been the center of Irish culture in western Massachusetts. From music, language, dancing to sport, the Boyle has promoted and preserved the unique culture of Ireland for generations.

On Saturday, November 5, 2005, two hundred members of the John Boyle O'Reilly Club will hold a banquet to celebrate this historic milestone. The Irish Ambassador to the United States of America will attend the ceremony to pay tribute to the enormous contribution the club has made to the local community. It will be a heartfelt and fitting celebration of culture, tradition and family.

The Irish poet W. B. Yeats once wrote: “Think where man’s glory most begins and ends/and say my glory was I had such friends.” That sentiment helps describe what the JBO means to many of its members. More than just a social club, the Boyle has become a familiar setting for every occasion on life’s journey. For many families in the Pioneer Valley, it is a special place that has produced fond memories and lasting friendships.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to an important group of individuals associated with the John Boyle O'Reilly Club. President Mary Quinn, Vice-President Patrick Burns, Treasurer Joseph Walsh and Secretary Patricia Devine deserve particular recognition for their leadership during this anniversary year.

The Board of Directors, which includes Patrick Reilly, Mary Kate O'Connor, Timothy Hurley, Matthew Dooney, Eric Levine and Stephen Lonergan should also be acknowledged for their dedication and commitment.

And finally, I want to congratulate the members of the club who are directly responsible for its success and longevity. On their behalf, I would like to submit this history of the club, written by member Dan Shea, into the permanent RECORD of the United States Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in recognizing the John Boyle O'Reilly Club on the occasion of its 125th Anniversary. Let us hope this local landmark continues to celebrate the culture of Ireland for at least another century.

THE JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY CLUB, 1880–2005,
125 YEARS OF CULTURE, TRADITION, AND
FAMILY

This year the John Boyle O'Reilly Club celebrates its 125th Anniversary. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club is Western Massachusetts' oldest continuous Irish-American organization. The Club was originally organized in 1880. It initially went by other names but subsequently took the name of the famous Irishman, John Boyle O'Reilly, shortly after his death in 1890. During this time period, various Irish organizations drilled and trained for when the time came to return to Ireland and fight for Irish freedom. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club was one of the hosts when Irish President Eamon Devalera came to the United States in 1921 to seek funds for the newly proclaimed Irish Republic. The call to return to Ireland never came but the organization stayed and promoted the ideals of Irish freedom and Irish culture.

The John Boyle O'Reilly Club has been housed in several locations throughout the years. In the early 1900s the Club would have its meetings above Linehan's Saloon on Worthington Street. In 1933, the Club incorporated and received its corporate charter from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its liquor license from the city of Springfield. At that time the club was lo-

cated at the old Poli building on Worthington Street. The club moved to Hampden Street in 1943. On Sundays, local Irish musicians would play live music on WBZA in the old Hotel Charles and then walk over to Hampden Street and play music for the rest of the day. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club moved the second floor of 1653 Main Street in 1955.

In 1970, the John Boyle O'Reilly Club purchased the present building at 33 Progress Avenue in Springfield. The building was a mere shell of a structure when purchased. Many members volunteered labor and material to finish construction and to complete the interior. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club opened its doors on Progress Avenue in March of 1972. There have been several renovations over the years to make the surroundings more enjoyable for the members and guests of the John Boyle O'Reilly Club.

Throughout the years, the John Boyle O'Reilly Club has held many dances, concerts, Celi, music lesson, Irish language lessons, bagpipe lessons, sessions, and benefits for many families who fell on hard times due to injury, illness or an unexpected death.

The John Boyle O'Reilly Club continues its mission of being a home for Irish-American culture, whether it is Irish step dancing, music, the live broadcast of the Gaelic Football and Hurling Games from Ireland, or meeting with friends and family. It may be known as “the Boyle,” “the JBO” or simply “the Club,” but it still is a place for Irish-Americans of all ages to come and enjoy one of the finest Irish Clubs in New England. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club continues to look forward to being the home of Irish American culture and celebrations in the coming years. We look forward to the coming year and invite all of our members and friends to come and celebrate the 125 years of culture, tradition, and family with the John Boyle O'Reilly Club.

PUNJAB ASSEMBLY SHIFTS BLAME ON TERRORISM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to hear that the Legislative Assembly in Punjab recently had a discussion on terrorism there. Terrorism is an important issue which all leaders of the world must address. However, the debate turned into partisan politics of the type we’re too familiar with here—each side blaming the other for spurring the terrorism in Punjab, while they ignored the real cause of the problem—the Indian government.

India has imposed a reign of terror in Punjab, Khalistan for many years, starting with a memo sent to police by their first Home Minister, Mr. Patel, describing Sikhs as “a criminal class.” This month marks the anniversary of one particularly brutal chapter in that reign of terror—the Delhi massacres of November 1984, in which 20,000 Sikhs were murdered. The government locked Sikh police officers in their barracks to keep them from getting involved and the government’s own radio and TV called for more Sikh blood.

The newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the governor of Punjab, the late Surendra Nath, the equivalent of \$1.5 billion to foment terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir. The U.S. State Department reported that the government paid more than 41,000