

Development. Walt has given so much to his communities, and we are grateful for his leadership.

INLAND EMPIRE REGIONAL
WATER RECYCLING INITIATIVE

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce the Inland Empire Regional Water Recycling Initiative, to authorize water recycling projects under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program. This legislation, which passed the House in the 108th Congress, is an important component of southern California's regional water management.

This Initiative includes two projects, the first of which will be constructed by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and will produce 90,000 acre feet of new water annually. The second of these projects, to be constructed by the Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD), will produce an additional 5,000 acre feet of new water annually. Between these two projects, 95,000 acre feet of new water will be produced annually before the end of the decade.

With the recent passage of the CalFed authorization, it is imperative that we continue to approve measures preventing water supply shortages in the Western United States. The Inland Empire region is one of the fastest growing areas in the nation. Reducing our dependence on imported water from the Colorado River and northern California will have significant regional benefits including reduced water shortages, energy savings, improved water quality, and job creation. The passage of the Inland Empire Water Recycling Initiative will continue the federal-local partnership to bring a significant amount of new water supply to the region.

IEUA produces recycled water for a variety of non-potable purposes, such as landscape irrigation, agricultural irrigation, construction, and industrial cooling. By replacing these water-intensive applications with high-quality recycled water, fresh water can be conserved or used for drinking, thereby reducing the dependence on expensive imported water. In addition, by recycling water which would otherwise be wasted and unavailable, IEUA provides that the water available goes through at least one more cycle of beneficial use before it is ultimately returned to the environment.

The Inland Empire Regional Water Recycling Initiative has the support of all member agencies of IEUA, as well as the water agencies downstream in Orange County. IEUA encompasses approximately 242 square miles and serves the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana (through the Fontana Water Company), Ontario, Upland, Montclair, Rancho Cucamonga (through the Cucamonga Valley Water District), and the Monte Vista Water District.

I want to thank the House Resources Committee, and Chairman RICHARD POMBO, for moving this bill to successful passage on the House floor during the last Congress. I look forward to working closely with him again, and with the new Water and Power Subcommittee Chairman GEORGE RADANOVICH. I also want to

thank my colleagues, KEN CALVERT, GRACE NAPOLITANO, GARY MILLER, and JOE BACA for cosponsoring the Inland Empire Water Recycling Initiative. And last but certainly not least, I commend the hard work and dedication of Mr. Robert DeLoach, General Manager of the Cucamonga Valley Water District, and Mr. Rich Atwater, CEO and General Manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, who both work tirelessly on behalf of the Inland Empire.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed rollcall votes Nos. 31–32 on February 15, 2005. These were suspension votes on H. Con. Res. 25 and H.R. 324. Due to inclement weather conditions, my travel to Washington, DC was not completed until following the conclusion of votes this evening.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted rollcall vote No. 31, Recognizing the contributions of the "Greensboro Four" to the civil rights movement "aye"; rollcall vote No. 32, the Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building Designation Act "aye."

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
ALICE CAVITT ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Alice Cavitt was born in Carrol County, Ohio on December 23, 1904 and is celebrating her 100th birthday; and

Whereas, Alice Cavitt, a devoted wife to her husband, William Cavitt, and mother to her children Pearl and Harold, is active in the Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, Alice Cavitt has exemplified a love for her family and friends and must be commended for her lifelong dedication to helping others.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in wishing Alice Cavitt a very happy 100th birthday.

HONORING MICHIGAN ROTARIANS
ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the thousands of Michigan Rotarians as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Rotary, the world's first service club.

On February 23, 1905, The Rotary Club of Chicago was established by Paul Harris, an

attorney who wished to recapture through a professional club the same friendly, small town spirit he experienced in his youth. Finding like-minded committed individuals, over time the organization was called the Rotary, because of the club's early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

From this humble but hearty beginning, Rotary's popularity burgeoned and clubs were formed from New York to San Francisco. By 1922 the organization began to expand outside of the United States, and so it adopted the name Rotary International to evidence its member clubs on six continents.

Throughout the years the organization has been remarkable for "doing good in the world." For example in 1985, Rotarians made a commitment to immunize all of the world's children against polio. Today, contributions to the Rotary Foundation total more than \$80 million annually and support a wide range of humanitarian grants and educational programs; and Rotarians have mobilized hundreds of thousands of volunteers and have immunized more than one billion children worldwide. In point of fact, by the end of 2005 Rotary will have contributed close to \$500 million to this cause alone.

Mr. Speaker, for 100 years Rotary has striven to meet the challenges of a changing world, including such pressing issues as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger, and at risk children. Let us then pause our own hectic pace and honor Rotarians for bringing hope and help to all humanity.

ENCOURAGING CROSS-STRAIT RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND TAIWAN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important Pacific Rim relationships is the one between China and Taiwan. I want to commend both nations for their work to find common ground.

I am so pleased that cross-strait relations have been improving in recent days. On January 15 of this year China and Taiwan agreed to direct flights during the Lunar New Year holidays and both sides agreed to continue to work toward restoring direct trade, transport and postal ties—the "three links". Moreover, the economies of China and Taiwan have grown increasingly interdependent as Taiwanese businesses have invested as much as \$100 billion in China and as many as one million Taiwanese now live and work on the mainland.

For the last several decades, U.S. policy has been to encourage amicable relations between Taiwan and China so that they may work out whatever differences they may have through peaceful means. We in the international community should make sure the peace and prosperity of the 23 million people in Taiwan is maintained.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR.
AND MRS. BUCHSIEB

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Richard and Beatrice Buchsieb were united in marriage January 15, 1955, and are celebrating 50 years of marriage; and

Whereas, Richard and Beatrice Buchsieb were married January 15, 1955, at 3rd Ave. United Methodist Church in Columbus, OH; and

Whereas, Richard and Beatrice Buchsieb are the loving parents of four children and four grandchildren;

Therefore, I join with the residents of Cambridge, and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Richard and Beatrice Buchsieb as they celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

CELEBRATING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF VALLE DEL SOL, INC.

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Valle del Sol, Inc., a nonprofit, community-based organization in Phoenix, Arizona which has helped thousands of individuals each year through its extensive behavioral health and social services.

Valle del Sol was created in 1970, at a time when behavioral health services in Phoenix were nearly non-existent for Latino families. The organization was originally established to address opiate addiction in the community, and although it has expanded its services over the years, Valle del Sol has always maintained its commitment to providing bilingual and culturally relevant services for the Latino community.

As one of the largest Hispanic behavioral health and social service organizations in Maricopa County, Valle del Sol's culturally diverse, bilingual staff provides a wide range of programs and services for the entire family. These programs are designed to address the increasing social and community needs related to family and behavioral health problems, and include counseling, substance abuse treatment, adult education, advocacy, services for seniors, and an adolescent therapeutic group home. Valle del Sol's commitment to excellence in customer service, financial viability, planned growth, and community development in Arizona has positively contributed not only to Latino families, but to the entire Arizona community. I am particularly proud of Valle del Sol's achievements in becoming an \$11 million agency with nearly 200 employees.

Valle del Sol has been instrumental in providing a base of leadership for the Latino community. Many Latino leaders in Arizona, including myself, have served on Valle del Sol's Board of Directors, or have attended Valle del Sol's Hispanic Leadership Institute (HLI). HLI has provided leadership training for over 18 years and is offered to community members

who are dedicated to addressing Latino issues. Under HLI training, participants gain a comprehensive understanding of issues affecting the Latino community, as well as practical leadership skills. The goal of HLI is to arm leaders with the valuable tools to effectively advocate for issues important to the Latino community.

I would like especially to acknowledge Valle del Sol's current leadership, headed by President and CEO Luz Sarmina-Gutierrez. Ms. Sarmina-Gutierrez's efforts to maintain Valle del Sol's high quality of service was duly recognized, and Valle del Sol was awarded accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for four of its programs that specialize in substance abuse and mental health. This accreditation is the highest achievement an organization can receive from CARF and is the second time a three-year accreditation was awarded to Valle del Sol. The CARF accreditation demonstrates to the public that Valle del Sol's services meet stringent standards in following with its policies, procedures and practices, including health and safety standards.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring and congratulating Valle del Sol, its leadership, and its employees upon the celebration of its 35th Anniversary. It is with great pride that I celebrate Valle del Sol's outstanding contributions to the Arizona community and its unwavering commitment to public service, and I wish them many more years of success.

REAL ID ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 418) to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, and to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I cannot in good conscience vote for the REAL ID Act, H.R. 418 because, despite the intention of the bill's sponsors to strengthen our borders, it has the opposite effect, by making homeland security and an effective war against terrorism more difficult with unnecessary provisions aimed at legitimate asylum seekers. Moreover, I am guided in my judgment about this bill by the opposition of the National Governors Association and the National Council of State Legislatures.

This bill tightens asylum laws in a way that inhibits, rather than enhances our national security. Currently individuals who participate in terrorist activity are not allowed to gain asylum status in this country. Terrorists have not been able to use the current asylum system to gain entry into the country, thus the tightening of these laws only make gaining asylum status more difficult for those legitimately seeking asylum. Provisions such as requiring applicants to prove the "central reason" for their

persecution or allowing judges to require applicants to produce corroborating evidence are unnecessary.

While national security must be our top priority, immigration policy should not create unnecessary requirements for legitimate asylum seekers who are arguably our best allies in the fight against international terrorism. The asylum provisions of this bill will not enhance our security or our standing in the world.

I also have concerns that the bill allows and directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to waive all laws which he or she deems necessary to complete the construction of barriers along any and all U.S. borders. Some have argued that this provision is needed to ensure the construction of a fence along three and half miles of the U.S.-Mexico border near San Diego. However, the language of the bill is not limited to the construction of a fence in this location. Instead, it instructs the Secretary to waive all laws for all U.S. borders; this includes the U.S.-Mexico border, the U.S.-Canada border, and maybe even the border between Alaska and Russia. The bill also removes any judicial review of the waiving of these laws.

This would give far too much unchecked authority to the Secretary of Homeland Security and does not provide the protection of judicial review of this authority.

There are two amendments, one offered by my colleagues Mr. NADLER and Mr. MEEKS, and the other offered by Mr. FARR, which would strike portions of the bill that do not address our national security regard the asylum system and our borders. However, in light of their failure, I am left no option but to vote against this bill.

I find the driver's license standards established in this bill to be unnecessary as well as they already exist in current law. Last fall's Intelligence bill, which I supported, included a provision which already implements the 9/11 Commission Report's recommendations to create national minimum standards for driver's licenses. This provision allowed for states to participate with the Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security in a rulemaking process.

H.R. 418 repeals these provisions and replaces them with standards established without state input. The issuance of driver's licenses has always been within state jurisdiction. Even with the measures passed in the Intelligence bill, states will largely be organizing and conducting the implementation of these standards. Their participation in establishing and implementing driver's license standards is essential for these provisions to be successful. This bill simply ignores state involvement all together in these standards.

Though the bill does provide grants for the costs of implementing these standards, with the current fiscal climate, many states fear they will be left with the burden of paying a portion of these costs. Most states are faced with the same fiscal crisis that the federal government is currently experiencing. Creating an unfunded mandate for states is unfair, especially when they are excluded from the rulemaking process.

There are portions in this bill which I believe are beneficial to our national security. For instance, I am pleased the amendment offered by Mr. SESSIONS passed by a voice vote, as it will strengthen our ability to ensure the deportation of individuals who are illegally present in the United States.