

STATEMENT ON THE MARKEY
AMENDMENT ON GNEP**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, before Memorial Day Recess, during consideration of the Fiscal Year 2007 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, Mr. MARKEY, the gentleman from Massachusetts, offered an amendment that would have cut \$40 million for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, a dangerous program about which we are still not fully aware of the consequences. I supported Mr. MARKEY's amendment, which unfortunately failed last night. This amendment would have funded GNEP at \$80 million. The Energy and Water Subcommittee already cut funding from this program, stating "serious reservations" about the new program. Until there are no reservations about the program, we should not continue to fund it.

The Department of Energy claims that the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership will prevent misuse of civilian nuclear facilities for non-peaceful purposes by developing enhanced safeguards over these programs and technologies. According to DOE, the program will account for materials, control technology, provide transparency to validate peaceful uses, and review international agreements and obligations.

Despite the claims of the Department of Energy, there are many consequences of this program that are costly and potentially very dangerous to Americans and the international community.

Nuclear reprocessing is a dangerous endeavor. Reprocessing nuclear waste produces separated plutonium, which can be used to make nuclear weapons. If the plutonium remains bound in large, heavy, and highly radioactive spent fuel assemblies, it is nearly impossible to steal. In contrast, separated plutonium is not highly radioactive. The simple fact is it will never be as secure as it would be if left in the spent fuel rods. By producing additional materials that aid in the production of nuclear weapons, we are potentially enabling terrorists and other non-nuclear countries to create nuclear weapons. This is not the example we want to set for the world.

Reprocessing also does not decrease radioactive nuclear waste. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has said that spent fuel could be safely stored in spent fuel pools or dry casks without significant environmental impact for at least 100 years. For the past thirty years, we have been able to dissuade countries from creating nuclear reprocessing programs on the premise that we ourselves are not involved.

Another problem with GNEP is that the Administration has not been able to demonstrate to Congress how costly this program will be. Since the program was announced in February of this year, the Department of Energy has not provided Congress with an overall cost for this program. Congress has not had the opportunity to evaluate the merits of this program or determine if it is in our best interest, in the long and short term. With such a great undertaking, we must fully understand the effects of this program.

I am disappointed that the Markey amendment failed. It is my hope that my colleagues

will see the dangers of nuclear reprocessing and oppose this program when the final version of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill is considered in the next couple of months.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues in the House the text of a Memorial Day speech delivered by the Mayor of Largo, Florida, Mrs. Patricia Gerard.

Like so many of my colleagues in the House, I was honored to attend numerous Memorial Day services in my Congressional District to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed greatly in defense of our great Nation. It is always humbling to join with veterans young and old and to share moments of remembrance with the families that survive them. Those that we honored on Memorial Day have secured our freedom and our safety, and this point could not have been more clearly made than by Mayor Gerard's comments and her reference to the words of Mr. Charles M. Province.

I submit to you the text of Mayor Gerard's Memorial Day remarks so that we may all reflect on the debt we owe to our men and women in uniform.

Memorial Day is the time for Americans to reconnect with their history and core values by honoring those who gave their lives for the ideals we cherish.

More than a million American service members have died in the wars and conflicts this nation fought since the first colonial soldiers took up arms in 1775 to fight for independence. Each person who died during those conflicts was a loved one cherished by family and friends. Each was a loss to the community and the nation.

We in this country owe a great debt of gratitude to those who sacrificed their lives so that we could live free. We can start to pay that debt by not forgetting, by remembering what they did and what they stood for.

In the words of Charles M. Province:

It is the Soldier, not the reporter,
Who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet,
Who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer,
Who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer,
Who has given us the right to a fair trial;
And I would say:

And it is the Soldier—who leaves his or her family and goes off to war,
Who allows the protester to speak out against that war.

Far too often, the nation as a whole takes for granted the freedoms all Americans enjoy. Those freedoms were paid for with the lives of others few of us actually knew. That's why they are all collectively remembered on one special day.

Please join me as we all remember those men and women who have made our way of life possible.

A REMARKABLE MOVE TO
EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take the opportunity today to recognize the remarkable story of Bill Carris and the company he formerly owned, Carris Reels.

Carris Reels, Inc. had been a family owned company. It has been supplying wood, metal and plastic reels to the wire and cable industry for over 45 years, and it provides the most comprehensive product line of any reel manufacturer. Carris Reels has 710 employees, in 15 plants, in eight states.

I said that Carris Reels was formerly owned by Bill Carris. In 1995, at a time when the company had sales of \$83 million, Bill Carris decided that in the future the company should be owned by its employees. So the company began an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) by contributing about 10 percent of its stock to an ESOP. Since then, employee share of ownership has increased—and increased.

This past December an issue of new shares of stock to the ESOP meant that employees owned half—50 percent—of Carris Reels. Also in December, a loan to the ESOP enabled it to buy almost a third of Bill Carris' remaining shares. That meant that, by the turn of the year 2006, 65 percent of Carris Reels was owned and controlled by the company's employees. The intention is for it to be 100 percent employee-owned within 10 years.

Bill Carris strongly believes in community building and in the major role employees should play in running the business in which they work. That's why he decided on a long term plan to move his company from family to employee ownership. He hoped, and his hopes are being borne out, that in doing so he could remake the whole work situation at Carris Reels: employees would be—in fact, they are—owners responsible for charting the course of the corporation, keeping it a profitable business, and securing its long term future. Those who work at Carris Reels have moved from employees to owners, from hired workers to stewards of the company and its future. They share in the company's profits.

Today, in Vermont, the Vermont Employee Ownership Center is recognizing Bill Carris and Carris Reels for taking the enormous step to majority ownership by the corporation's employees through their employee stock ownership plan. The recognition is well-deserved. I believe Bill Carris and his employees, and Carris Reels as well, can serve as a model for our Nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY
KOBAN**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of my friend and constituent, Shirley Kobran. For more than four decades, Shirley has been an active resident

of Ulster County, New York where she has dedicated much of her time to serving her community in various manners. Most notably, Shirley committed much of her energy over the years to environmental protection programs and served as the catalyst for several important local initiatives. I'm proud to join the Ulster County Jewish Federation in honoring Shirley for her lifetime achievement and service to the communities of Ulster County.

Upon her arrival to Ulster County from the Bronx, Shirley quickly became active in various community service organizations. It was in her capacity as editor of the League of Women Voters' monthly newspaper that she featured environmental articles prominently on the front page and began to organize the League around relevant environmental matters. On Earth Day in 1970, Shirley, along with her League colleagues, founded the Environmental Task Force of Ulster County. One of the most notable public policy initiatives to emerge from the Task Force was a broad-based recycling program that laid the groundwork for the county's current recycling program. Shirley later became the first chairperson of the Ulster County Environmental Council where she brought attention to the environmental concerns surrounding the generation of nuclear power and oversaw the organization of various environmental fairs.

Shirley went on to serve on the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency where she formalized a recycling program that continues to exist in the county. She oversaw significant expansion of the Resource Recovery Agency and its recycling program, including the construction of the agency's first sorting facility.

In addition to these notable endeavors, Shirley has been deeply involved with the Ulster County Jewish Federation and many of its programs that support the community. She volunteers regularly at her synagogue, Ahavath Israel, and participates in many community service programs including the Federation's Book Rescue Program and Project Hope.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Shirley Kobran for more than thirty years. She has been a friend and a valued adviser and we have worked closely on many issues of importance to the residents of Ulster County. Her work on behalf of environmental issues and her community is inspiring and commendable. It is with great pleasure that I join the Ulster County Jewish Federation in recognizing her outstanding contributions and achievements.

H.R. 5429—AMERICAN-MADE
ENERGY AND GOOD JOBS ACT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, before the Memorial Day recess, we considered the misnamed and misguided American-Made Energy and Good Jobs Act (H.R. 5429). I voted against this legislation, which unfortunately passed the House of Representatives. As I have repeatedly stated, we must make a commitment to a rational energy policy that promotes sustainable energy sources and conservation; not continue the belief that we are going to drill our way to energy independence.

Two weeks ago we considered the Fiscal Year 2007 Energy and Water Appropriations bill which funds our Nation's Department of Energy programs, water and science programs, and some defense and agriculture related programs. Unfortunately, instead of making a commitment to a rational energy policy, the Energy and Water bill continues our dependence on fossil fuels and continues our practice of poisoning our lands, oceans, and air. While the Energy and Water bill does increase funding for alternative energy research and development, we must do more. I was pleased to learn that energy supply and conservation programs will receive more funding in Fiscal Year 07 than they did last year. However, this is not even close to sufficient. Congress still fails to recognize the dire situation the world faces with regard to global warming and the urgency of the action we must take. It is apparent now to all but the willingly blind that we are altering our climate in dangerous and deadly ways, and that is threatening the ability of the air and the oceans to sustain us.

We then considered a bill that will once again allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I wonder when my colleagues will learn that drilling our way to energy independence is unrealistic and simply flawed logic. The United States consumes 25 percent of the world's oil, yet we only have less than 3 percent of the world's proven oil reserves. Even if we find oil in ANWR, we will not even come close to lessening our dependence on foreign oil.

We must focus on developing sustainable energy sources and encouraging conservation. We can do this by investing in programs that make our schools, office buildings and homes energy efficient. We must continue to invest in transportation systems that optimize technology to efficiently and effectively move passengers while consuming less energy. In 2005 the Energy Information Administration estimated that if oil was discovered in ANWR, it would only lower gas prices by about one penny per gallon twenty years from now. Responding to rising gas prices by drilling is simply not the answer.

My colleague from New York, Mr. BOEHLERT, pointed out during debate on the House floor, that we have not considered one piece of conservation legislation since the most recent spike in gas prices in May of this year. When will we realize that there are other means to fulfilling our energy needs than destroying our environment and disrupting habitat and wildlife?

It is essential for us to do something dramatic. It is not enough for us to just do a little bit better every year. This is the only way to actually work our way to energy independence. Now is the time for my colleagues to make a commitment to alternative energy sources. We must continue to fight to preserve our environment and develop energy sources that are clean, safe, and sustainable.

TRIBUTE TO EL PRIMER PASO,
LTD.

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor El Primer Paso, Ltd., a pre-

school in Dover, New Jersey, a vibrant organization I am proud to represent. On June 10, 2006 El Primer Paso is celebrating over 35 years of educating young, non-English speaking children.

El Primer Paso is a non-profit early childhood education center. Its primary goals are to provide opportunities for growth and development of ideas, imagination, initiative and self-reliance to the pre-school children who are enrolled in its program.

El Primer Paso prepares non-English speaking children to meet the challenges of the American school system. Adult English classes and other support services are also available to encourage parents to participate in school and community activities. A two-day a week pre-school program provides an extra year of preparation for non-English speaking children before they attend area schools.

El Primer Paso was founded in Dover by a group of volunteers in the late 1960's. The program primarily serves low and moderate income Hispanic families in Morris County, New Jersey. It has grown and changed over the years to meet the needs of this community. In the 1970's, parents requested adult English classes to enable them to help their children and to obtain better jobs. Today, the program serves approximately 30 adults a year and includes training for driver's tests and citizenship tests and preparation for continuing education.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the dedicated and talented trustees, staff and volunteers of El Primer Paso, Ltd. on the celebration of over 35 years of providing critical educational services to the Dover community.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to bring your attention to a technology that will revolutionize our electricity resources. This Congress has recognized that energy challenges need to be explored through alternative, renewable and clean energy sources to enable a diverse national energy resource plan. However, the rhetoric of supporting alternate fuels hasn't been met with the policies enacted by the House of Representatives. The Energy and Water Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2007 fails to recognize an area of energy exploration that other nations are well-ahead of us in tapping—ocean wave energy.

There is an increasing need for reliable, non-polluting sources of economic electrical power throughout the world. The Electrical Power Research Institute, EPRI, has carried out a comprehensive economic study of wave generation and has concluded that the economics of wave generation are at least as favorable as for wind generation, EPRI study