

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE NASHVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to mark the final performance of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center this May 27th.

Since its premier season in 1980–1981, the Tennessee Performing Arts Center has provided a magnificent setting for the Nashville Symphony.

Today we remember fondly the years our symphony has spent at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, but look forward to many wonderful performances in the new world class Schermerhorn Symphony Center.

It is appropriate that the new facility be named after Principal Conductor Kenneth Schermerhorn, who led the symphony so capably for 20 years. We miss Maestro Schermerhorn, but I know he'd be pleased to see the symphony making the move to this new, world class space.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the members, staff, and many, many fans of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra as they celebrate their success.

ON DRILLING IN THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I made the attached statement in opposition to drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on May 25, 2006:

Here we go again. For decades, this Congress has rejected attempts to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in recognition of the fact that American working families do not want it. It is bad for our economy and it is a violation of human rights.

The effect on our economy of choosing a path of yesterday over a positive vision of a renewable energy future is stark. A report by researchers at the University of California at Berkeley found that "Across a broad range of scenarios, the renewable energy sector generates more jobs per average megawatt of power installed, and per unit of energy produced, than the fossil fuel-based energy sector."

Drilling in the Arctic Refuge is also a violation of the international human rights of the native Gwich'in people. It threatens the Porcupine Caribou Herd on which the Gwich'in depend for subsistence, culture and religion. We have no right to threaten their culture and livelihood in order to prop up an archaic energy policy.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

TRIBUTE TO WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, I rise in gratitude to recognize the efforts of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, INPEA, in their extraordinary attempts to raise awareness of elder abuse (which encompasses neglect or mal or mistreatment) throughout the world. The nature of abuse as a hidden problem is now universally accepted. INPEA, as coauthor of the report Missing Voice, 2002, with the World Health Organization, states that "abuse, neglect and financial exploitation of elders are much more common than societies admit." Missing Voices demonstrates clear links between elder abuse, and disempowerment and discrimination. INPEA claims that "ultimately the challenge for us all is not only to listen to what has been said, but to believe and act upon it." The key objective of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, WEAAD, is to raise awareness of the ubiquity of elder abuse and its consequences throughout the world.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, seeks to foster independence and empowerment for older adults to act for themselves and on their own behalf; and to enable older adults to exercise their rights and advocate for their own interests. WEAAD also attempts to educate people that older adults need to be aware of the problem and of their rights, as well as available services and resources in their community. Due to the collaborative efforts across the nation, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day places an emphasis on the need to encourage closer and more positive contact between generations and to strengthen the positive attitudes among youth toward their elders.

Continued education and prevention efforts worldwide need to emphasize closer relations between generations and I join my colleagues in recognizing all of those community groups across our great Nation that have made this issue a priority in their value system. Such laudable family tenets will only serve to create a more caring, thus stable society.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues—Representatives CAPPS, CARDOZA, ESHOO, HONDA, LANTOS, LEE, LINDA SÁNCHEZ, LORETTA SANCHEZ, SCHIFF and TAUSCHER—join me in recognizing INPEA for their dedication and tireless efforts in raising awareness of elderly abuse and its consequences. Our communities will be strengthened as a result of such international efforts being promoted today, June 15, 2006, at the United Nations Headquarters.

HONORING THE JOHN OVERTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Every December Americans gather in Hawaii to remember the day that so changed the world. This year, the John Overton High School band has been selected to represent Tennessee as we commemorate Pearl Harbor and honor those who died there on that fateful December day. Making their second appearance at this event, it's clear we're being well represented by members of the John Overton High School band.

The band will take part in a parade marking the day, perform at the USS *Missouri* Memorial and lay a wreath at the USS *Arizona* Memorial. This once in a lifetime opportunity will provide firsthand experience and insight into the bombing of Pearl Harbor and I know the students will never forget their time there.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the John Overton High School band, and their leader Jo Ann Hood, on this wonderful honor. We applaud their hard work and their commitment to honoring America's fallen heroes.

ON DRILLING FOR OIL AND GAS ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

HON. DENNIS KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I gave the attached statement, in support of the OCS Drilling Ban Amendment to the FY2007 Interior Appropriations Bill, H.R. 5386 on May 18, 2006:

I rise in strong support of this amendment to preserve the popular and longstanding ban on drilling off our coasts. First, let's be clear that there is no such thing as drilling for gas only. Even the Administration and the energy industry have dismissed the idea as unworkable. So this is nothing more than a fig leaf.

But it's a fig leaf that will bring toxic contamination to our marine environment merely three miles off our coasts. And it could open the door to drilling in the Great Lakes, which is also opposed by Great Lakes residents.

We cannot forget that new drilling will have no effect on energy prices for years. In contrast, we have technologies to reduce our addiction to oil and natural gas that are ready to go today. The problem is that we're subsidizing unsustainable energy production like drilling for natural gas and oil while failing to fund real renewable solutions. I

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

urge my colleagues to vote for the amendment.

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL J.
SCOTT BURHOE

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Coast Guard Officers are measured by the depth of their dedication to protecting our country and its citizens from all enemies, natural disasters and inclement weather. On June 16, 2006 Rear Admiral J. Scott Burhoe will conclude his tenure as Commanding Officer, Coast Guard Training Center, Yorktown, Virginia. Training Center Yorktown is the largest training center in the Coast Guard offering over 100 courses annually to over 8,000 U.S. Coast Guard active duty, reserve, civilian and auxiliary personnel, employees of numerous state and federal agencies, and members of allied nations.

Since assuming Command of the Training Center in June of 2003, Rear Admiral Burhoe has demonstrated exemplary professional competence, leadership, and initiative, ensuring the safe and effective training to 25,000 Coast Guard members, personnel from U.S. and foreign armed forces, and civilian agencies from more than 75 countries.

Envisioning improved global maritime security, Rear Admiral Burhoe empowered deployable teams on 400 missions to 87 countries, training over 4,000 foreign students which led to events such as the first seizure of a fishing vessel in the Republic of Georgia and reduced fees that Lloyd's of London charges world maritime shipping entering the Port of Aden, Yemen.

His leadership cultivated stellar performance and planning as he hosted two Joint Civilian Orientation Conferences and Mission Day events, providing an opportunity for a diverse group of influential U.S. leaders and Congressional staffers to understand the missions and capabilities of the Coast Guard.

Throughout his time as Training Center Commanding Officer, Rear Admiral Burhoe, fostered and encouraged strong community support through several command sponsored events such as blood drives, Boy Scouts, Toys for Tots, Salvation Army, Yorktown Day, Partnership in Education and others. In the last two years alone, Rear Admiral Burhoe has arranged for more than 600 computers to be donated to local public schools through the Federal Computers for Schools Program.

With his full support, a Memorandum of Understanding was developed with York River Academy, providing local students with a summer job opportunity and an introduction to both the Coast Guard and government employment as well as affording students the opportunity to use and improve their technical skills.

Rear Admiral Burhoe displayed visionary leadership as he revised and guided the mission of the Training Center's Learning Center. Today's Learning Center not only provides a quiet place for junior personnel to study and take military advancement tests, but serves as

a liaison for members to more than 36 colleges and universities offering on-line education, provides office space for two universities who have offered 11 college courses attended by 100 members, hosted two Education Fairs attended by 15 colleges and universities and has assisted 9 members complete bachelor degree requirements.

Rear Admiral Burhoe has also become active in both the Williamsburg and Peninsula Chambers of Commerce, educating members of the on and off duty efforts of Training Center personnel as well as providing recommendations on how the Chambers' could best support area military personnel.

On behalf of my constituents and the communities adjacent to the Training Center, I extend our congratulations to a friend and neighbor, Scott Burhoe, on his accomplishments and recent promotion to Rear Admiral, Lower Half and extend best wishes to him during his next assignment as Assistant Commandant for Governmental and Public Affairs.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY,
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007 and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, the misclassification of employees as independent contractors is a significant problem that annually leads to billions of dollars in lost Federal tax revenue. Employers who misclassify workers as independent contractors do not pay payroll and other taxes on those workers. The employers also gain an unfair advantage over their competitors by eliminating a piece of their labor costs. In the construction industry, for example, a contractor who chose to misclassify his workers as independent contractors would be able to easily underbid other construction companies who followed the law. Misclassification hurts workers and fair employers and has a significant monetary impact on government revenues.

The misclassification of employees as independent contractors is not a new problem. Over the past several decades, the IRS and Congress have periodically investigated the issue of misclassification. In 1984, in an estimate of the extent of misclassification for 5.2 million businesses, the IRS found employers had misclassified 3.4 million employees. Approximately 750,000 employers had misclassified employees as independent contractors. More recent estimates in the 1990s have estimated that the percentage of employer

misclassifying employees has grown even beyond the 15 percent found in 1984. An independent study issued by Harvard Law School's Labor and Worklife Program, found abuses of the term "independent contractor" led up to 19 percent of workers across all industries being misclassified in the State of Massachusetts. Clearly, this problem is not going away on its own.

This misclassification is not merely a problem for workers who can unfairly be left without workers compensation or unemployment insurance. It also impacts local, State and Federal government revenue streams. In 1984, an IRS review found at least \$1.6 billion in Federal tax revenue was lost due to misclassification in that year alone. A 2005 study on the issue in Maine also found a significant loss of State income tax revenue. While the statewide study of misclassification in Maine did not estimate the loss of Federal income tax revenue, it is evident the misclassification issue continues to negatively impact the revenues of the Federal Government as well.

We cannot, in good conscience, continue to ignore the problem of misclassification and its impact on Federal revenues. In a budget climate where many good and necessary programs are shortchanged, we cannot afford to continue losing billions of dollars each year to a problem for which there is no excuse and that we all can agree needs to be fixed.

IN RECOGNITION OF CARLOS E.
PERNELL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, SGT Carlos E. Pernell, 25, from Prattville, Alabama, died on June 6, 2006, in Iraq. Sergeant Pernell was assigned to the Army's B Company, 46th Engineer Battalion at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and according to initial reports was killed due to injuries when his camp came under indirect fire. His survivors include his wife Tiffanie; his daughter Kassidie; his mother Hattie of Prattville, Alabama; and his father, Eugene of Montgomery, Alabama.

Carlos Pernell loved sports, and was a proud father. Like all soldiers, he dutifully left behind his family and loved ones to serve our country overseas.

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude our country feels for his service. Sergeant Pernell died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty, on a noble mission to help spread the cause of freedom in Iraq and liberate an oppressed people from tyrannical rule. He was a true American.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.