

\$70 billion in revenues over the next 15 years; adding to the public debt burden.

It is important to note that 80 percent of known oil and natural gas reserves are in areas where drilling is already permitted. The Department of the Interior has already offered leases for 267 million acres of the outer-continental shelf; however, energy companies have only taken the initiative to explore 24 million of those acres already available to them. It would be insensible to risk these coastal environments before companies have even exhausted the exploration of areas they are already permitted to drill.

America's families need real relief from high-energy costs. Even if this measure had addressed this issue in the most optimal manner, offshore exploration remains an expensive, slow, and risky way of addressing the nation's energy crisis. The Federal Government should be investing resources to advance energy efficiency, conservation, and the development of alternative fuels, which can provide immediate relief to American citizens, not reinforcing our nation's gluttonous appetite for oil.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on H.R. 4761.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARK JAGET

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Jaget, who recently competed in the Gobi March, a 7 day 150-mile footrace across China's Gobi Desert.

Mark Jaget is a chiropractor who owns three Spinal Rehabilitation Centers in Southern Nevada with his brother, David. He and his wife Clare have two children, Sebastian, who is 7, and Tristan, who is 5. Mark enjoys endurance running and has competed in several marathons over the years. This year, Mark chose to further challenge himself by competing for the first time in the rigorous Gobi March.

The Gobi March is a 6-stage, 7-day trek across some of the world's most severe terrain, which includes salt flats, sand dunes, rivers, slot canyons and mountain ridges. To add to the challenge of the race, competitors in the Gobi March are required to carry a 7 day supply of food and the supplies necessary to survive on the trek. Despite confronting intense temperatures, 60 mile-per-hour winds and a stress fracture in his foot, Jaget crossed the finish line on June 3, 2006. Although he competed against nearly one hundred experienced endurance runners and ultra marathoners from around the world, Jaget finished the race an impressive 9th place, with a time of 32 hours and 56 minutes.

I applaud Mark Jaget for his unparalleled determination and will to succeed. His resolve to compete at such an outstanding level is an inspiring example of what a person can accomplish when committed to physical preparation and personal fortitude. What is truly inspiring, however, is that Mark chose to race in this grueling competition on behalf of several charities that are devoted to providing for veterans disabled in the War on Terror and to honoring the men and women who serve in the United States Military. I cannot think of a

more commendable way to show appreciation for those who serve and sacrifice for our great country and for the cause of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mark Jaget on the floor of the House for his extraordinary accomplishment. I commend him for his overwhelming determination to achieve personal excellence and I appreciate his commitment to honoring the United States Military. Mr. Jaget has set a wonderful example for his family and his community and I wish him well in all his future endeavors.

SUPPORTING INTELLIGENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS TO TRACK TERRORISTS AND TERRORIST FINANCES

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to House Resolution 895 and in support of a better alternative, H. Res. 900 introduced by Congressman FRANK.

H. Res. 895 intends to express the sense of Congress that we are in support of intelligence and law enforcement programs used to track terrorists and terrorist finances when these programs are consistent with Federal law and with appropriate Congressional consultation. H. Res. 895 also specifically condemns the disclosure and publication of classified information that impairs the international fight against terrorism and needlessly exposes Americans to the threat of further terror attacks. Although I agree with these basic tenants, H. Res. 895 includes several statements that cannot be factually confirmed as of yet by the vast majority of Members of Congress.

No Congressional Committee has formally looked into the terrorist finance tracking program. The Financial Services Committee will not hold its first oversight hearing on this topic until July 11, 2006. Although H. Res. 895 includes a clause stating that Congress has been fully informed on the terrorist finance tracking program, we cannot ask Members of Congress to affirm specific statements about the legality and constitutionality of a program that have yet to be independently confirmed. I simply cannot state something to be a fact that I do not know to be a fact. To do so would be a disservice to the people of North Carolina's Second District I have sworn to serve.

In contrast, H. Res. 900 expresses the same sense of Congress in support of lawful programs used to track terrorists and terrorist finances, as well as the condemnation of the disclosure of classified information, while remaining free of any of these unverified statements of fact. H. Res. 900 is a balanced, thoughtful and appropriate statement of Congressional support for vigorous prosecution of the war against the terrorists.

IN SUPPORT OF SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, across America, too many children remain in the foster care system for far too long. Through efforts known as subsidized guardianship, though, the amount of time from entrance into foster care to permanent placement is being slightly reduced.

Currently, there are more than six million children living in households headed by grandparents or other relatives. The reasons vary, some children enter due to the death of a parent, others have been neglected while others have suffered abuse and still more live in foster care because of poverty or the military deployment of a parent. Whatever the reason, these children lack the security that permanent residency affords. I celebrate grandparents and other relatives who unselfishly and at great financial sacrifice provide safe, stable homes for these children. There are compassionate programs such as subsidized guardianship, that permit children to transition from the foster care system into the permanent custody of loving and supportive relatives in a comparatively short period of time.

In my State of Pennsylvania, 7 percent of the children live with non-parent relatives. Grandparents and other relative caregivers are often the best chance for a stable childhood for the children in their care, but their hard work and dedication often go unnoticed. I appreciate and congratulate those who put the interest of our Nation's children first. Future generations will be better because of those who provide the continuing services of subsidized guardianship.

DIRECTING SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO TRANSFER FUNCTIONS OF UNIT OPERATING ON THE TOHONO O'ODHAM INDIAN RESERVATION

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Mr. SHADEGG. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5589, a bill to transfer a Customs Patrol Officers unit known as the "Shadow Wolves," to the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement branch.

The Shadow Wolves were created by an Act of Congress in 1972, establishing a Native American customs unit to operate along the Tohono O'odham Nation's border with Mexico. The unit is entirely composed of Native Americans and is tasked with infiltrating and disrupting drug cartels and smuggling operations along the border.

In March of 2003, I had the opportunity to visit the Tohono O'odham Nation during a Congressional hearing on border security and our anti-drug efforts. I met with the Shadow Wolves, and found them to possess a unique dedication toward pursuing smugglers. Their

investigative skills and tracking techniques provide vital information and intelligence to local, state, and federal law enforcement agents. Their traditional roles in intelligence gathering, evidence collection, and prosecution have been imperative to our national security and anti-drug efforts.

Unfortunately, these roles have been altered since being reassigned to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, CBP, which does not view itself as responsible for intelligence gathering and evidence collection. CBP's control has stifled the impact of the Shadow Wolves.

Since the transfer to CBP, the number of drug seizures has noticeably declined. In 2002, before the transfer, the Shadow Wolves interdicted over 93,000 pounds of marijuana. Only two years later, under CBP, only 52,000 pounds of marijuana were seized.

Under CBP, the Shadow Wolves have been hampered by operational restrictions that continuously undermine the unit's unique capabilities. They are now confined to a seven mile grid along the border, which hampers their ability to track smugglers; they were told they can't do undercover work because "the Border Patrol doesn't do that;" and all of the Native American informants on the Reservation are now handled by non-Indian Border Patrol agents.

A unit that once had 21 agents is down to 16 and is under the threat of losing more. Low morale and a lack of respect and purpose under the control of CBP threaten their very existence.

H.R. 5589 would restore the vital role the Shadow Wolves have traditionally played in drug interdiction and combating smugglers along our border. I strongly support this legislation and hope that it will reach President Bush's desk quickly.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BEN
SMITH'S RETIREMENT FROM
LAKELAND BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Ben Smith for his thirty-two years of service as the pastor of Lakeland Baptist Church in Lewisville, Texas which is my hometown. I am particularly grateful to the service Dr. Smith has provided not only the church but also to those less fortunate in North Texas.

Lakeland has always had a strong emphasis on outreach to the community, and Dr. Smith as sought to strengthen this ministry during his tenure as pastor. He is largely responsible for the congregation's in-depth outreach strategies, such as F.A.I.T.H. Under his leadership Lakeland has grown from less than 200 to over 2,700 members, with 22 full time staff. There have been 14 missions started and of those 7 are now strong churches.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to honor Dr. Ben Smith. He is a strong, moral voice in the community; an actively involved citizen; and a role model to us all. I am proud to serve as his representative in Washington.

HONORING GAY GAMES VII

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gay Games VII, which will take place next month in Chicago. On behalf of the people of Chicago I welcome the athletes and spectators from around the world who will participate in this year's games.

The Gay Games will bring nearly 12,000 people together for seven days of celebration and competition in 30 sports, as well as music performances, nightly medal ceremonies, and a week-long arts festival. I am proud that Chicago will serve as the host for this historic event.

In the spirit of participation and inclusion, there are no qualifying events and no minimum or maximum requirements. The games are open to all, regardless of age, ability or sexual orientation.

The Gay Games were founded in 1982 by Dr. Tom Waddell, a 1968 Olympic decathlete. Since its inception, over 50,000 people have participated in the Games. Through the years this event has emphasized global unity and universal participation under the slogan "Where the World Meets."

The City of Chicago is an ideal for these games, with a proud tradition of diversity and a strong gay and lesbian community. From Wrigley Field to Soldier Field, the Windy City is ready to welcome the world on July 15th.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I honor the Gay Games. I wish all of the participants the best of luck in their respective events, and I thank everyone who has worked to make Gay Games VII a reality.

TRIBUTE TO JUNE ALLYSON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to June Allyson, an actress and spokeswoman who represented America's image of the ideal sweetheart during her film career in the 1940's and 50's. In addition to her work as an entertainer, Allyson vocally advocated the importance of research concerning various senior health issues.

Born Eleanor Geisman in 1917, she was raised in the Bronx by her mother, who worked two jobs to support her family. At age 8, a tree branch fell on Geisman while she was bicycling, breaking several bones. She was confined to a wheelchair and doctors said she would never walk again. Defying the odds, she fought to regain her health through months of therapy and eventually achieved a full recovery.

Finding her inspiration in Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire, Geisman auditioned for the Broadway show "Sing out the News." The director not only offered her a part, but gave her a stage name as well: June Allyson. Allyson went on to dance in several musicals, including "Very Warm for May" and "Higher and Higher." Her performance in the 1941's "Best Foot Forward" led to her feature film debut by

reprising her role in the MGM musical, which starred Lucille Ball. Allyson's film career consisted mainly of playing the wife of many of Hollywood's leading men, including James Stewart and Van Johnson. Her sunny disposition and youthful optimism particularly resonated with U.S. servicemen overseas, making her an icon for the "ideal girl" to bring home to Mom.

Later in life Allyson worked to raise awareness concerning urological and gynecological diseases in seniors. In appreciation of her efforts, the June Allyson Foundation was formed in partnership with the American Urogynecologic Society as a non-profit research and education foundation. Allyson was also recognized in 1988 when President Reagan appointed her to the Federal Council on Aging, a position she remained extremely proud of for the rest of her life.

June Allyson is a wonderful example of an icon that could both entertain and educate the American people. Her contribution to the film industry will not soon be forgotten, and her devotion to the cause of senior health issues will sorely be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following as an extension of my remarks regarding the series of votes for Thursday, June 29, 2006. I was detained from votes due to a scheduled event in my district.

Rollcall votes: No. 350, vote "aye", Previous question on the Rule for H. Res. 895; No. 351, vote "aye", Adoption of the Rule for H. Res. 895; No. 352, vote "aye", Previous question on the Rule for H.R. 4761; No. 353, vote "aye", H. Res. ____ Providing for the adjournment of the House Information Resources; No. 354, vote "no", Markey Amendment; No. 355, vote "no", Bilirakis Amendment; No. 356, vote "aye", Final Passage of H.R. 4761, Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act; and No. 357, vote "aye", Adoption of H. Res. 895, Supporting Terrorist Finance Tracking Program.

DIRECTING SECRETARY OF HOMELAND
SECURITY TO TRANSFER
FUNCTIONS OF UNIT OPERATING
ON THE TOHONO O'ODHAM INDIAN
RESERVATION

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5589. This bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to transfer all functions of the Customs Patrol Officers unit operating on the Tohono O'odham Indian reservation to the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

The Shadow Wolves are a specialized all-Native American unit of the legacy U.S. Customs Service within the Tohono O'odham Indian nation, and they have patrolled 76 miles