

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MR. J.C. "PEPE" TREVIÑO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. J.C. "Pepe" Treviño for his induction as the 2007 Laredoan of the Year by the Laredo Morning Times newspaper. The award demonstrates his incredible dedication to the City of Laredo, Texas.

Mr. Treviño was born on May 31st, 1930, as one of the three children of Jose C. Treviño and Victoria Salinas Treviño. He graduated from Martin High School and then attended Laredo Junior College. At just 17 years of age, he married his sweetheart, the late Rose Ella Tarvar, and had six children: J.C. III, Diana, Roberto, Anna Laura, Guillermo, and Carlos. Mr. Treviño worked hard to build a financial empire from scratch that encompasses drayage and long-haul trucking; beer and soda distribution; maquila, warehouse and residential development; and commercial waste disposal.

Mr. Treviño is truly the self-made man. He rose far above his humble beginnings yet never forgot where he came from. Those groups that benefited from his charity include the Sacred Heart Children's Home, the Laredo Boys and Girls Club, and the Laredo Community College. He served for nearly 31 years on the Laredo Community College Board. For his dedication and hard work in making the Laredo business community stronger as well as his passion for philanthropy, he will be honored by the Laredo Morning Times Newspaper as the 2007 Laredoan of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the hard work and dedication of Mr. J.C. "Pepe" Treviño.

HONORING BISHOP EDWARD SMITH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of Bishop Edward Smith on his 20th anniversary as Presiding Bishop of the Progressive Churches and as pastor of the Progressive Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

On April 15, 2007, Bishop Smith was honored by his home church, the Progressive Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., in Columbia. The following is a summary of the tribute that appeared in the church program:

The year 2007 is a milestone in the life of Bishop Edward Smith. This year marks his 20th anniversary as pastor of the Progressive Church in Columbia, S.C., and his 50th anniversary as pastor of the Progressive Church in Denmark, S.C. During this week, we pause to honor a dedicated man of God for his

many years of ministry and service, and for his commitment to winning souls for the kingdom of God.

Bishop Edward Smith was born and raised in Birmingham, AL. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was sent to Fort Jackson Army Base in Columbia.

Having been raised from a child to attend church, Bishop Smith began attending different churches in Columbia. One day he met Sister Edna M. Friday, niece of the late Bishop J.D. Williams. She invited him to attend services at the Progressive Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, where she was a member. After visiting the church for several months, he was baptized.

On August 6, 1952, young Brother Edward Smith was married to Sister Edna M. Friday. They were blessed with three children: Elder William E. (Sheneice) Smith, David N. (Carolyn) Smith, and Joyce D. (Lewis) Grimes. Bishop and Sister Smith also have three grandchildren: David N. Smith II, Brandon E.B. Smith, and Adrienne M. Smith.

Soon thereafter, Brother Smith had to make a decision between continuing his military career as a soldier in the U.S. Army or coming back to South Carolina and the Progressive Church. He made the choice to stay in South Carolina because of the Progressive Church.

In the years since, Bishop Williams has faithfully served the Progressive Church at the local and national level.

Bishop Smith's greatest desire is to see souls saved and delivered from sin. Known as a "no-nonsense man," he often states that he does not preach to excite people's emotions, but rather that God has called him to "provoke thought and bring conviction." In a time when many pastors are compromising God's Word, we are thankful to God for giving us a Pastor and Bishop who has the people of God at heart.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 7, 2007

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in many ways the history of America is the history of American immigrants, the people who came here from somewhere else to make a better life for themselves and their families. In so doing, they each have made America stronger as a Nation and culturally richer as a people.

That's why it gives me great pleasure to recognize the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and, in so doing, recognize the approximately 80,000 Asian Pacific Americans who live in the 7th Congressional District in Washington State, the district I proudly represent. We are home to Asian Indian, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Vietnamese, Pacific Islanders, Samoan, Tongan and representatives of other Asian American cultures as well. Their contributions to Seattle, the sur-

rounding communities, and to America deserve to be celebrated, not just merely recognized.

Throughout the year, I am honored to join constituents at commemorative events like the International District Street Fair, Bon Odori and Tet in Seattle. These and other truly unique cultural celebrations enrich our communities and our personal lives. For instance, every chance I get, I now enjoy Sumi-e painting, a Japanese art form, where ink is used to depict a subject in the fewest number of strokes. When someone of Irish decent like me can assimilate an Asian art form, it is a reminder that America's great strength is America's great diversity.

Asian Americans immigrated to the United States in the late 19th century, but many faced prejudice, racial injustice and discrimination. They responded with quiet, dignified resolve and made America stronger by their commitment to equality for all. Trying to mention all the significant achievements and role models from the Asian American community would fill a very large roomful of books, but I am proud to mention some in the 7th Congressional District.

In Seattle, the United States Courthouse is named for William Kenzo Nakamura, a Japanese American who was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his courage in World War II, an honor especially poignant because William and his family were forcibly relocated to a federal internment camp at the beginning of the war. The courthouse is a perfect symbol and memorial to an American who sacrificed his life so that others might be free. Elsewhere in Seattle, the Wing Luke Asian Museum, Seattle Asian Art Museum, Filipino American National Historical Society, and Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project, strengthen America by preserving the heritage of Asian Americans.

Today, Seattle is truly a global city, with a culturally diverse population that underscores our deep involvement in global issues and trade. Over one quarter of the jobs across Washington State are directly tied to international trade. In fact, trade is growing and we are succeeding because of the relationships we have built with the help of the Asian American community.

It is my hope that recognizing May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month reminds us of the role immigrants have played in shaping the history of our Nation. Ahead, we must examine the issue of immigration, and I believe we can and should be guided by reflecting on the contributions that immigrants have made and continue to make.

As we look ahead, let us honor and remember our past, and remember that we are all immigrants and when we pause to honor Asian Pacific Americans, we honor all Americans.

● 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.

IRAQI HYDROCARBON LAW

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD:

READ THE IRAQI PARLIAMENT'S HYDROCARBON LAW: THE IRAQI "HYDROCARBON LAW" CONTAINS THREE SENTENCES ON OIL REVENUE SHARING AND 33 PAGES ON PRIVATIZATION

Dear Colleague: An issue of critical importance, the Iraqi "Hydrocarbon Law", was again broached yesterday for the third time in the Democratic Caucus and I want to provide you the facts and evidence to support the concerns I have expressed.

As you know, the Administration set several benchmarks for the Iraqi government, including passage of the "Hydrocarbon Law" by the Iraqi Parliament. The Administration misled Congress by emphasizing only a small part of this law, the "fair" distribution of oil revenues. Consider the fact that the Iraqi "Hydrocarbon Law" contains a mere three sentences that generally discuss the "fair" distribution of oil.

Except for three scant lines, the entire 33 page "Hydrocarbon Law" is about creating a complex legal structure to facilitate the privatization of Iraqi oil. As such, it is imperative that all of us carefully read the Iraqi Parliament's bill because the FY07 Iraq Supplemental puts Congress on the record in promoting oil privatization.

The U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007, released yesterday, contains Sec. 1330(2)(A) requiring a report by the President on "whether the Government of Iraq has enacted a broadly accepted hydro-carbon law that equitably shares oil revenues among all Iraqis." The Iraqi "Hydrocarbon Law" is not broadly accepted and does far more than share revenues. The final 3 months of war funding are tied to the favorable completion of this report and a favorable vote by Congress.

It is also important to highlight Sec. 1311(2) of the Supplemental bill, which prohibits funds "to exercise United States control over any oil resource of Iraq." The crucial issue is not the U.S. government control of Iraqi oil resources. Rather the issue is Congress passing a measure that pressures Iraq to pass their "Hydrocarbon Act" so that multinational oil corporations (many based in the U.S.) will exercise control over Iraqi oil resources.

Here are the annotated facts, according to reliable media sources:

FOREIGN OIL COMPANY CONTROL

"The law, if passed, is expected to open the country's billions of barrels of proven oil reserves, the world's third largest, to foreign investors."

"Under the new law, the Iraq National Oil Company would have exclusive control of only about 17 of Iraq's approximately 80 known oil fields."

"The law would also allow the government to negotiate different kinds of exploration and production contracts with foreign oil companies, including Production Sharing Agreements, or PSAs. Energy lawyers favor these because they allow oil companies to secure long-term deals and book oil reserves as assets on their company balance sheets."

"The proposal would provide for production sharing agreements that would give international firms 70 per cent of the oil revenues to recover their initial investments and subsequently allow them 20 per cent of

the profits without any tax or restrictions on the transferring of funds abroad.

"Energy lawyers agree. "Pretty much all the major oil companies are taking a very close interest in the future potential in Iraq," says Mathew Kidwell, a partner in the Dubai office of Fulbright & Jaworski. "We have certainly had discussions with a number of our oil industry clients about the legal framework..."

IRAQI SELF GOVERNANCE THREATENED

The unions were kept in the dark, as were most members of Iraq's parliament, until the draft law was leaked to the media. Even then it was still out of the reach of most of Iraq's citizens.

"Iraq will not be capable of controlling the levels—the limits of production, which means that Iraq cannot be a part of OPEC anymore. And Iraq will have this very complicated institution called the Federal Oil and Gas Council, that will have representatives from the foreign oil companies on the board of it, so representatives from, let's say, ExxonMobil and Shell and British Petroleum will be on the federal board of Iraq approving their own contracts."

"Under the proposed law, foreign companies would not have to invest their earnings in Iraq, hire Iraqi workers, or partner with Iraqi companies."

"Iraq's oil unions have threatened to shutdown production if foreign companies are allowed too much control."

"The Iraq National Oil Co. would restart but compete with foreign oil companies, who could win contracts giving them partial ownership of the respective fields."

PERSUASION BY FOREIGN OCCUPIERS

"The British Government intervened to help UK and US energy giants in their attempts to secure lucrative contracts to exploit Iraq's ruined oilfields."

"The Foreign Office delivered a report by the International Tax and Investment Center (ITIC)—a Washington-based think-tank backed by a host of multinationals, including oil companies such as Shell and BP—to Iraqi officials in Baghdad, it has emerged."

"The British ambassador to Iraq formally sent the 'road-map' study on the Iraqi oil industry to the then Iraqi minister of finance, according to documents seen by The Independent on Sunday. The study recommended the Iraqi government sign long-term production-sharing agreements with foreign oil companies."

"The ITIC hosted a conference in Beirut in January 2005 to give a formal presentation to Iraqi ministers. Executives from BP, Shell, ChevronTexaco, the Italian oil company ENI and its French rival Total attended."

If the above quotes are not persuasive, then I highly encourage you to read the Iraqi "Hydrocarbon Law" yourself. It is available, not because the Iraqi government released it, but because the Kurds released it. This version passed the Iraq Cabinet, and was referred to the Parliament. http://web.krg.org/uploads/documents/Draft%20Iraq%20Oil%20and%20Gas%20Law%20English_2007_03_09_h17m2s47.pdf

The following highlights are the major concerns of the Iraqi "Hydrocarbon Law":

The legislation ensures that the "Chief Executives of important related petroleum companies" are represented on the Federal Oil and Gas Council, which approves oil and gas contracts. This is akin to the foreign oil companies approving their own contracts.

The legislation ensures the Iraq National Oil Company has no exclusive rights for exploration, development, production, transportation, and marketing. The Iraq National Oil Company must compete against foreign oil companies with rules that benefit the foreign oil companies.

The legislation gives the Iraq National Oil Company some control of developed oil fields and "rights to participate" in undeveloped oil fields in Annex I and II, but these Annexes have never been made public.

The legislation gives the Iraq National Oil Company temporary control of the oil pipelines and export terminals, but then directs the Federal Oil and Gas Council to turn these assets over to any entity with no further instructions. The opportunity for a foreign oil company to have control over the Iraqi oil pipeline and export terminals would give that company enormous control of the Iraqi oil market.

The legislation demands that "contracts must guarantee the best levels of coordination" with the Oil Ministry, Iraq National Oil Company, the regions and oil companies. The legislation mandates that undeveloped oil fields be developed quickly and oil companies are given explicit authority to "collaborate."

The legislation does not require contracts to be published for public review up to two months after the approval.

The legislation contains only three sentences in regards to the fair distribution of oil, but do not resolve any of the issues facing this challenge. The legislation simply requires that future legislation be submitted for approval. Thus, this legislation does not even meet the President's benchmark.

The legislation provides up to 35 years of exclusive control over oil fields for foreign oil companies.

The legislation provides for a preference to Iraqis for jobs and services, but only if these benefits do not place extra costs or inconveniences on the foreign oil companies.

This war was about oil. We must not be party to the Administration's blatant attempt to set the stage for multinational oil companies to take over Iraq's oil resources. The war in Iraq is a stain on American history. Let us not further besmirch our nation by participating in the outrageous exploitation of a nation which is in shambles due to U.S. intervention.

Please join me in seeking to remove any reference to the Iraqi "Hydrocarbon Law" in the war spending bill.

Sincerely,

DENNIS J. KUCINICH,
Member of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HUGO A. GUTIERREZ, SR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Hugo A. Gutierrez, Sr., an American hero—a soldier, a father, a husband, and a great leader in the city of Laredo, who recently passed away on March 27, 2007, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Mr. Hugo A. Gutierrez, Sr., was born on August 1, 1925, as the seventh of his parents' twelve children in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. His family moved to Laredo, Texas, when he was a small child, and thus began his great love for the city and its people. His father passed away when he was only 14 and Hugo started working to provide for his family. Two years later, when his eldest brother, Adolfo, passed away from complications from appendicitis, Hugo began work as an electrician with the Koenig Electric Company so that he could