

I did not support the creation of this Cabinet level Department, but I applaud Chairman THOMPSON for his efforts in this reauthorization. Coordination is the goal, not confusion of authority.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1294, THOMASINA E. JORDAN INDIAN TRIBES OF VIRGINIA FEDERAL RECOGNITION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1294, the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2006. This is a bill that is long overdue and provides an opportunity to right an historical wrong.

As clearly outlined in the language of this legislation, these six tribes are of great historical significance. These tribes were some of the first Native Americans to come into contact with European settlers, and save for the active cooperation of these tribes, a number of the first English settlements in America may not have survived.

Having clearly impacted the course of our Nation and having endured in a country of drastic change and challenges for four centuries, I am pleased to support a bill that will provide these six tribes federal recognition at long last.

Mr. Speaker, the only reservation I have with this bill is the fact that it prohibits every single one of these tribes from gaming. For if indeed this bill passes "into public law, these tribes should be afforded every right they deserve as a sovereign entity as granted to them under the Constitution of the United States. These tribes should not have to bargain away any one piece of their sovereignty they have

sought to preserve in order to receive federal recognition. This diminishes the tribes, and places them at a lesser status than states and other tribes. In the future, I hope that Congress recognizes that it is not fair to blackmail tribes into giving up part of their rights in order to provide them sovereignty.

With that said, Mr. Speaker, I recognize that these tribes negotiated with the House and the state in which they reside and ultimately agreed to this prohibition on their right to engage in certain forms of lawful economic activities. Therefore, although I fear the precedent this may establish, I honor the settlement reached between the House, the state of Virginia, and the tribes, and urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 1294.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 281.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously, and if I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 281.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, for the past 15 years, communities across the United States have set aside the first full week of May as Teacher Appreciation Week.

As the school year winds down in many areas of the country, this week gives us the opportunity to thank these individuals for making a difference and for helping all of us succeed in school and in life.

As a former educator, and the son of one of the best teachers I know, I wanted to take the time to recognize the educators who give so much of their time and personal freedom to accomplish so much for the future of our country.

As Henry Adams said, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

Today I encourage my colleagues to remember those teachers whose influence continues in these Chambers and throughout the world.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, through the following statement, I am making my financial net worth as of March 31, 2007, a matter of public record. I have filed similar statements for each of the 28 preceding years I have served in the Congress.

ASSETS

Real property	Value
Single family residence at 609 Ft. Williams Parkway, City of Alexandria, Virginia, at assessed valuation. (Assessed at \$1,523,982). Ratio of assessed to market value: 100% (Unencumbered) .....	\$1,523,982.00
Condominium at N76 W14726 North Point Drive, Village of Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at assessor's estimated market value. (Unencumbered) .....	148,300.00
Undivided 25/44ths interest in single family residence at N52 W32654 Maple Lane, Village of Chenequa, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at 25/44ths of assessor's estimated market value of \$1,659,700. ....	943,011.36
<b>Total Real Property .....</b>	<b>\$2,615,293.36</b>

2007 DISCLOSURE

Common & Preferred Stock	No. of shares	\$ per share	Value
Abbott Laboratories, Inc. ....	12200	55.80	680,760.00
Alcatel-Lucent .....	135	11.82	1,595.70
Allstate Corporation .....	370	60.06	22,222.20
AT&T .....	2944,044	39.43	116,083.65
JP Morgan Chase .....	4539	48.38	219,596.82
Benton County Mining Company .....	333	0.00	0.00
BP PLC .....	3604	64.75	233,359.00
Centerpoint Energy .....	300	17.94	5,382.00
Chenequa Country Club Realty Co. ....	1	0.00	0.00
Comcast .....	634	25.95	16,452.30
Darden Restaurants, Inc. ....	1440	41.19	59,313.60
Delphi Automotive .....	212	2.90	614.80
Dunn & Bradstreet, Inc. ....	2500	91.20	228,000.00
E.I. DuPont de Nemours Corp. ....	1200	49.43	59,316.00
Eastman Chemical Co. ....	270	63.33	17,099.10
Eastman Kodak .....	1080	22.56	24,364.80
El Paso Energy .....	150	14.47	2,170.50
Exxon Mobil Corp. ....	9728	75.45	733,977.60
Gartner Group .....	651	23.95	15,591.45
General Electric Co. ....	15600	35.36	551,616.00
General Mills, Inc. ....	2280	58.22	132,741.60
General Motors Corp. ....	304	30.64	9,314.56
Hospira .....	1220	40.90	49,898.00
Idearc .....	67	35.10	2,351.70
Imation Corp. ....	99	40.38	3,997.62
IMS Health .....	5000	29.66	148,300.00
Kellogg Corp. ....	3200	51.43	164,576.00
Kimberly-Clark Corp. ....	6384	68.49	437,240.16
Merck & Co., Inc. ....	34078	44.17	1,505,225.26
3M Company .....	2000	76.43	152,860.00
Medco Health .....	4109	72.53	298,025.77
Monsanto Corporation .....	2852,315	54.96	156,763.23
Moody's .....	2500	62.06	155,150.00
Morgan Stanley/Dean Whitter .....	312	78.76	24,573.12
NCR Corp. ....	98	47.77	3,248.36
Newell Rubbermaid .....	1676	31.09	52,106.84
JP Morgan Liquid Assets Money Mkt .....	4533.72	1.00	4,533.72
Pactiv Corp. ....	200	33.74	6,748.00
PG&E Corp. ....	175	48.27	8,447.25
Pfizer .....	22211	25.26	561,049.86

2007 DISCLOSURE—Continued

Common & Preferred Stock	No. of shares	\$ per share	Value
Qwest	571	8.99	5,133.29
Reliant Energy	300	20.32	6,096.00
RH Donnelly Corp.	500	70.89	35,445.00
Sandusky Voting Trust	26	1.00	26.00
Solutia	1672	0.68	1,138.63
Tenneco Automotive	182	25.46	4,633.72
Unisys, Inc.	167	8.43	1,407.81
US Bank Corp.	3081	34.97	107,742.57
Verizon	1373.891	37.92	52,097.95
Vodafone	323	26.86	8,675.78
Weenergies (Wisconsin Energy)	1022	48.52	49,587.44
<b>Total Common &amp; Preferred Stocks and Bonds</b>			<b>\$7,136,650.77</b>

Life Insurance Policies	Face \$	Surrender \$
Northwestern Mutual #XXXXXX	12,000	75,412.27
Northwestern Mutual #XXXXXX	30,000	181,284.03
Massachusetts Mutual #XXXXXX	10,000	11,520.97
Massachusetts Mutual #XXXXXX	100,000	286,415.27
American General Life Ins. #XX XXXXXX	175,000.00	40,950.00
<b>Total Life Insurance Policies</b>		<b>\$595,582.54</b>

Bank & Savings & Loan Accounts	Balance
JP Morgan Chase Bank, checking account	8,098.33
JP Morgan Chase Bank, savings account	43,935.47
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, checking account	10,236.24
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, savings	368.64
Burke & Herbert Bank, Alexandria, VA, checking account	1,998.58
JP Morgan, IRA accounts	118,610.24
<b>Total Bank &amp; Savings &amp; Loan Accounts</b>	<b>\$183,247.50</b>

Miscellaneous	Value
1994 Cadillac Deville—retail value	\$3,700.00
1989 Cadillac Fleetwood—retail value	2,475.00
1996 Buick Regal—retail value	3,100.00
1991 Buick Century automobile—retail value	1,750.00
Office furniture & equipment (estimated)	1,000.00
Furniture, clothing & personal property (estimated)	180,000.00
Stamp collection (estimated)	100,000.00
Interest in Wisconsin retirement fund	377,350.61
Deposits in Congressional Retirement Fund	175,108.36
Deposits in Federal Thrift Savings Plan	273,226.53
Traveler's checks	7,800.00
17 ft. Boston Whaler boat & 70 hp Johnson outboard motor (estimated)	7,000.00
20 ft Pontoon boat & 40 hp Mercury outboard motor	13,000.00
<b>Total miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$1,145,510.50</b>

**Total Assets** ..... **\$11,676,284.67**

Liabilities	Amount
None	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Net worth</b>	<b>\$11,676,284.67</b>

Statement of 2006 Taxes Paid	Amount
Federal income tax	\$12,694.00
Wisconsin income tax	\$36,794.00
Menomonee Falls, WI property tax	\$2,343.00
Chenequa, WI property tax	\$23,791.00
Alexandria, VA property tax	\$12,177.00

I further declare that I am trustee of a trust established under the will of my late father, Frank James Sensenbrenner, Sr., for the benefit of my sister, Margaret A. Sensenbrenner, and of my two sons, F. James Sensenbrenner, III, and Robert Alan Sensenbrenner. I am further the direct beneficiary of five trusts, but have no control over the assets of either trust. My wife, Cheryl Warren Sensenbrenner, and I are trustees of separate trusts established for the benefit of each son.

Also, I am neither an officer nor a director of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin or of any other state or foreign country.

GRANDMOTHERS AND CHICKENS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, my grandmothers were remarkable women. I enjoyed the time I spent with them up until they died late in years—one at 88; the other at 99.

They lived during times when there were few if any modern conveniences. No air conditioner. No microwaves. No electricity. They forged lives for their families out of sheer will and determination. My Grandmother Poe was of Scots-Irish decent. My mom's mother, Meme, was of German heritage. Both were wonderful cooks, and I always showed them utmost respect.

Sundays were special. When we visited them we would go to Church, and then back to one of my grandmother's house for the big Sunday lunch that was all home cooking.

The summer that I was 5 years old, I visited Grandmother Poe, and on one particular Saturday she was preparing for Sunday lunch. Fried chicken was the meal. I never made the connection between the chicken we ate on Sunday and the chickens that ran loose around my grandmother's house.

I soon learned that connection and one of those chickens was the next day's meal. Grandma Poe told me on that Saturday afternoon that we needed a chicken for Sunday lunch. So I eagerly and happily followed her out to the yard and was unaware of what was about to happen. I saw her small, petite hands latch on to the neck of a hen, and with the slightest of movements she popped the head off that chicken. I was horrified. I had never seen anything so ghastly. She calmly waited for the chicken to stop "running around with its head cut off," plucked the feathers off of it, and put it in a big 5-gallon bucket to be fried and eaten the next day. I don't think that I ate chicken on Sunday, but I learned respect and a little bit of fear of my Grandmother Poe that afternoon.

About a year later, a similar situation occurred with Grandmother Meme, when I stayed with her.

Sunday was to be another meal of fried chicken. So on Saturday, I was emotionally prepared in my youthful mind for the "chicken hunt"—ready to see the neck pop off of another unsuspecting chicken—just to be devoured by humans.

But this time, my Meme did not go wring a chicken's neck. Instead, just as calm as my Grandmother Poe had been, she picked up her 22 rifle, stepped out of the back porch, took aim at the moving, head-jerking hen, and pulled the trigger. She shot that chicken in the head and it flopped over with no movement at

all. One shot—one dead hen. I was stunned. She picked up the carcass and fried it, just as my other grandmother had done.

I gained a lot of respect for my gun-totin' grandmother that Saturday.

After those two incidents occurred early in my life, I was always careful on how I treated my grandmothers—careful never to anger either one of them—and remembering in a childlike way, the fate of those chickens. I admired my grandmothers and cherished all those special lessons they taught me for numerous years.

This Mother's Day, we pay tribute to those wonderful, hard-but-soft ladies like the generation of my grandmothers.

We praise and respect all of the American mothers this Sunday that have made us who we are and taught us about respect and honor of these remarkable women. And Madam Speaker, I still don't eat chicken. And that's just the way it is.

INTRODUCING THE RAILROAD COMPETITION AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2007

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, on May 3rd, I joined with the gentleman from Louisiana, Mr. Baker, and ten of our colleagues, to introduce the "Railroad Competition and Service Improvement Act of 2007."

Twenty-six years ago, Congress voted to deregulate the Nation's railroad industry and enacted the Staggers Rail Act. The railroad industry was in crisis: Years of low profits, deferred maintenance, and ill-conceived regulatory policies had resulted in a very debilitated industry. We were assured that deregulation was the cure. We were told that economic regulation had outlived its usefulness; that it was preventing the industry from competing effectively with trucks, barges, and pipelines; and that there were a sufficient number of rail carriers to provide significant rail-to-rail competition. Congress voted to deregulate the industry.

Deregulation did produce some of the benefits predicted: America's railroads are financially much stronger today than they were in 1980. Industry rates of return that hovered in the 1–2 percent range in the 1970s were up in the 6–9 percent range in the 1990s. Today, U.S. railroads account for 42 percent of intercity freight ton-miles, more than any other mode of transportation. U.S. Class I railroads move three times more freight than all of Western Europe's freight railroads combined.

The 40 Class I railroads that existed in 1980 have consolidated into just seven Class I railroads serving the entire United States, four of