

his retirement from the position of Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the U.S. House of Representatives, effective May 31, 2007.

For the past 20 years, Jay Eagen has dedicated himself to serving the public through a variety of roles in the House of Representatives. He began his career as a Legislative Assistant in 1982 and a year later was appointed chief of staff to Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin. In 1985, he joined the office of Rep. Bill Goodling of Pennsylvania first as his chief-of-staff, then as minority and majority staff director of the Committee on Education and the Workforce under Goodling's leadership.

When Republicans assumed the majority in 1994, we were determined to professionalize the operations of the House, many of which currently exist within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. In 1997, Jay was chosen to become the CAO. For the past 10 years, Jay Eagen has demonstrated what a commitment to the effective, transparent administration of the House will yield. Once he assumed the role of CAO, Jay quickly established an environment of financial stewardship and responsibility, which would yield eight consecutive "clean opinions" on the House's annual financial statements. A considerable achievement considering that previously those records were so poorly kept they could not even be audited.

Although Jay was appointed and sworn in by Speaker Newt Gingrich, he always conducted himself as a steward of the institution, without regard to party or politics. He mastered that rare feat of catering to all Members, while being beholden to none. Members often sought Jay on this very floor to express their feelings on everything from the menu selections in the Members' Dining Room, to the preparations for such historic events as the passing, and subsequent lying in state in the Capitol Rotunda, of Presidents Reagan and Ford. Regardless of whether an "R" or "D" followed the Member's name, no issue was too large or too small for Jay to attend to. He personally took responsibility for countless requests, and worked with the staff of his organization to find a resolution to each one.

Madam Speaker, in an institution where it is rare for Members on both sides of the aisle to agree, few will dispute the dedication that Jay Eagen has demonstrated to this body over the past 20 years. Soon Jay, his wife Cathy, and their son Keiran will leave the Washington, D.C., area for the tranquility of Durango, Colorado. While Jay will likely welcome the change provided by his newly sylvan surroundings, those Members whom he has so capably assisted for these many years will acutely feel the loss of this tireless public servant.

On behalf of the Members and staff of the House, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to Jay and his family in the months and years ahead as they embark upon the next chapter of their lives.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING INTEGRATION ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, Thomas Jefferson, in 1807, signed into law an Act re-

quiring the President "to cause a survey to be taken of the coast of the United States . . . together with such other matters as he may deem proper for completing an accurate chart of every part of the coasts." The mapping and charting of our coasts and marine waters continues to be an issue of great national importance two hundred years later.

President Jefferson's original intent with that Act was to provide seafarers with nautical charts that would allow for them to safely navigate in the new nation's coastal waters. Since that time, our mapping needs have expanded significantly, and federal agencies have risen to the occasion. Today, at least ten federal agencies conduct mapping and surveying activities to support myriad U.S. interests. Mapping continues, of course, to be done to ensure safe navigation. Understanding the contours of our ocean's floors is imperative for national security. Hydrographic surveys are used to locate and protect cultural resources, such as shipwrecks, and natural formations and other areas worthy of protection. We use them to identify sensitive habitats, and to manage and conserve fishery resources and protected species. Mapping efforts are conducted to identify sources of energy for the country, and to ensure that energy development is done in a way that is compatible with other uses of our oceans, and that protects the natural resources that exist there. Mapping is, in addition, necessary to ensure that ocean observation platforms are sited in a similarly sensitive way.

These ten agencies, along with dozens of private entities, academic institutions, and state and territorial agencies, conduct these activities in a largely, if not entirely, uncoordinated matter. Agencies may use a variety of techniques and spatial frameworks in collecting data and developing products, which leads to incompatibility between data sets and products from one agency to another. One agency is generally unaware of mapping efforts being undertaken by other entities, leading to redundant efforts and unnecessary spending. In addition, these data are not easily accessible, and there exists no central portal through which they can be obtained. The lack of availability means that the public and private sectors both miss out on a significant and useful informational resource.

As you are well aware, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released a report at the request of the President recommending actions needed to improve ocean policy in the United States. The work of this Commission, as well as that of the Pew Oceans Commission, is being carried on and championed by the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative. The Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, which I chair, held a hearing on March 29, 2007, to learn of the most pressing problems with our current ocean management system. A recurring theme during this hearing was that the lack of coordination between federal agencies and other levels of government is a serious shortcoming of our current ocean management framework. It is in the spirit of this need for better coordination that I introduce today the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act.

Among the suggestions made by the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy was a recommendation that existing federal mapping activities be consolidated and coordinated, and that the National Oceanic and Atmos-

pheric Administration (NOAA) lead this effort. At the same time, the National Research Council (NRC) completed a study to identify the most pressing national needs for coastal mapping and charting. This study, requested by NOAA, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the United States Geological Survey (USGS), three of the primary agencies involved in ocean and coastal surveys, identified the same need for coordination. Their findings included a need for a consistent spatial framework, increased access to geospatial data and mapping products, and increased inter- and intra-agency communication, cooperation, and coordination. The bill that I have introduced today is a direct response to these recommendations.

I have already described the myriad reasons for mapping our oceans and coasts. As a resident of the island of Guam, whose Exclusive Economic Zone includes approximately 80,000 square miles of ocean, it is easy for me to understand the urgency of these needs. I recognize, however, that many Americans, especially those that do not live on the coast, may not share a similar appreciation for the need to improve our country's capabilities in this area. For them, I offer a more simple statement of need. And that is, are not the lands that lay beneath our waters as much a part of this country and our resources as those that lie on our highest peaks and in our deepest valleys? We have mapped every plateau, river, and canyon across our landscape, but have very little detailed information on what lies beneath the waters of our Exclusive Economic Zone and the Great Lakes. Where would we be if 200 years ago Thomas Jefferson had not sent Lewis and Clark out to explore the uncharted West? The need for improving our mapping and charting capabilities could be as simple as a desire to fully understand the extent and nature of our resources.

For some, the thirst for knowledge and to learn what lies beneath our waters may not be a compelling argument for seeking to improve our ocean and coastal mapping capabilities. The issue, however, can be further explained and reframed. If the United States Senate were to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, we will have the opportunity to extend our seaward claim to the edge of our continental shelf, where an estimated \$1.3 trillion in oil, mineral, and sedentary species resources lie. Without proof of the extent of that shelf, we forgo these claims.

It is in the interest of national and economic security, the advancement of ocean science, the protection of our cultural and natural resources, and safety of navigation to better coordinate the ocean and coastal mapping capabilities of the United States. By passing this Act, Congress will ensure that our mapping and charting needs are met in an efficient and coordinated manner, that ocean science will advance, and that ocean exploration technologies will continue to develop. It is my hope that my colleagues will support this bill and that they will join me in ensuring that federal agencies' mapping and charting capabilities and products are developed and utilized to their full potential.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 22, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

Crime and Drugs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine rising crime in the United States, focusing on the federal role in helping communities prevent and respond to violent crime.

SD-226

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine health care legislation.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine communications, taxation and federalism.

SR-253

Finance

To hold hearings to examine funding Social Security's administrative costs, focusing on the budget resolution.

SD-215

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the United States petroleum industry, focusing on potentially harmful conditions for consumers.

SH-216

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 126, to modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, S. 175, to provide for a feasibility study of alternatives to augment the water supplies of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and cities served by the District, S. 324, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of New Mexico, S. 542, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies to address certain water shortages within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in the State of Idaho, S. 553, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Eightmile River in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. Con. Res. 6, expressing the sense of Congress that the National Museum of Wildlife Art, located in Jackson, Wyoming, should be designated as the "National

Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States", S. 580, to amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, S. 637, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor in Alabama and Georgia, S. 686, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historical Trail, S. 797, to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia as a National Historic Trail, S. 890, to provide for certain administrative and support services for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, S. 1037, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assist in the planning, design, and construction of the Tumalo Irrigation District Water Conservation Project in Deschutes County, Oregon, S. 1110, to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to provide for the conjunctive use of surface and ground water in Juab County, Utah, S. 1139, to establish the National Landscape Conservation System, S. 1152, to promote wildland firefighter safety, S. 1281, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain rivers and streams of the headwaters of the Snake River System as additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, H.R. 161, to adjust the boundary of the Minidoka Internment National Monument to include the Nidoto Nai Yoni Memorial in Bainbridge Island, Washington, H.R. 235, to allow for the renegotiation of the payment schedule of contracts between the Secretary of the Interior and the Redwood Valley County Water District, H.R. 247, to designate a Forest Service trail at Waldo Lake in the Willamette National Forest in the State of Oregon as a national recreation trail in honor of Jim Weaver, a former Member of the House of Representatives, H.R. 276, to designate the Piedras Blancas Light Station and the surrounding public land as an Outstanding Natural Area to be administered as a part of the National Landscape Conservation System, and for other purposes, H.R. 376, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including the battlefields and related sites of the First and Second Battles of Newtonia, Missouri, during the Civil War as part of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield or designating the battlefields and related sites as a separate unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, H.R. 482, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer ownership of the American River Pump Station Project, and certain other pending calendar business and nominations.

SD-366

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.

SR-222

1:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine S. 1257, to provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives, focusing on ending taxation without representation.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.

SR-222

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Security and International Trade and Finance Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States economic relations with China, focusing on strategies and options on exchange rates and market access.

SD-538

MAY 24

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008.

SR-222

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine opportunities and challenges associated with coal gasification, including coal-to-liquids and industrial gasification.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael E. Baroody, of Virginia, to be Chairman and Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and Charles Darwin Snelling, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine potential impacts of global warming on recreation and the recreation industry.

SD-406

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine federal real property, focusing on the property management problems highlighted in a recent Government Accountability Office report.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1327, to create and extend certain temporary district court judgeships, and S. 185, to restore habeas corpus for those detained by the United States, and possible authorization of subpoenas in the connection with investigation into the replacement of U.S. attorneys.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Russia, focusing on the reemergence of Russia as a major political and economic power.