

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2641) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Hinchey-Wolf amendment. My constituents need electricity in their homes, their businesses and their communities. This amendment will deprive my constituents and the people of Pennsylvania of low-cost energy.

In 2005, the Republican-led Congress passed the bipartisan Energy Policy Act, 275–156. In section 1221 of the Energy Policy Act, the Department of Energy was required to identify and report a National Transmission Congestion and Constraint Study.

The study identified two areas as inadequate: the Mid-Atlantic region, which encompasses my district, and the southwest-southern California region. With no coincidence, in 2002 these same areas were identified as problem areas. They were identified in two separate studies, 5 years apart, because there is an overwhelming need to build the infrastructure to supply the increasing demand for energy. The lack of necessary infrastructure in these areas imposes billions of dollars on consumers annually and leaves the citizens of the country vulnerable to rolling blackouts.

On April 26, 2007, the Department of Energy issued two draft versions for transmission corridors, one traversing my home State and its neighboring regions and the other in southern California. The public comment period remains open for written submissions until July 6. In addition, the Energy Policy Act requires studies every 3 years.

This amendment would require a needless, burdensome study, which in effect, would study two previous and congruent studies. At best, with this amendment, we are questioning whether or not to repeal sections of a successful, bipartisan bill, extensively debated and enacted less than 2 years ago, when the process so clearly works, the need is clearly there and the effects of inaction are so clearly dire. Let's allow the process to work. Let us have faith in our positive work in the Energy Policy Act.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL L. PULTE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael L. Pulte for his years of service to community and country.

That exemplary record began when he served as a member of the armed services from 1955 to 1957, with particular duties in Fort Knox and in Germany.

After his military service, he joined Hudson's Department Store and opened the second department store branch in the country. Following, his time at Hudson's, Mr. Pulte was employed by O'Neill's in Akron, Ohio and then Horne's Department Store. Rising through the ranks at Horne's, he eventually was appointed Director of Stores in 1977, Vice President of Operations in 1980, and, in January of 1991, President, Chairman, and CEO of Joseph Horne Company.

During his presidency, Mr. Pulte served as member and president of the Golden Triangle Association, a member of the Board of Directors of the Civic Light Opera, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Cultural District. He is also a member of the Duquesne Club. In June of 1994, Mr. Pulte retired.

During his retirement, he became active in local politics and was appointed Vice Chair of the Pine Township Planning Commission, Vice Chair of the Township Police Board, and was elected to the Township Board of Supervisors.

In addition to this community involvement, he served on the Board of Directors of the U.S. Leather Co. in Milwaukee and taught classes at IUP Business School.

Mr. Pulte currently resides in Naples, FL and continues to remain active in the community of Island Walk, where he has served on a number of committees and is past chairman of finance for the Homeowner's Association.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Mr. Michael L. Pulte for his many years of success within the business community and for his outstanding contributions to the quality of life of the communities in which he has lived and worked.

IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I stand in strong support of H.R. 2764 and want to convey my appreciation to Chairwoman LOWEY for the inclusion of international family planning provisions in the State-Foreign Ops FY08 Appropriations bill. In total, H.R. 2764 allocates \$441 million for such programs, which represents an increase of \$116 million above the

President's request. This increase is designed to ease restrictions on access to contraceptives and family planning information that is crucial to help women and men throughout the developing world make informed decisions on their reproductive health needs.

Since 1984, U.S. international family planning assistance has been stymied by the Mexico City Policy or the "Global Gag rule." The Mexico City Policy prevents any U.S. funding for reproductive health from going towards family planning organizations that provide abortions. H.R. 2764 and the Lowey amendment allows non-governmental organizations to receive U.S. donated contraceptives—not funds—for distribution to millions of people in need of these products. The bill does nothing to alter or weaken the ten provisions in the bill that ban federal funds for abortion overseas. Providing contraceptives to men and women in the developing world helps prevent abortions and unwanted pregnancy as well as sexually transmitted diseases like HIV/AIDS. I urge my colleagues to support a saner foreign assistance package that allows for families throughout the world that are in desperate need of contraception the ability to make important, personal decisions about their families and reproductive health.

TRIBUTE TO 1ST BATTALION, 11TH MARINES

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2007

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute a group of individuals whose dedication and sacrifice for our country are exceptional. On Saturday, June 23, 2007, the City of San Juan Capistrano, located in my congressional district, will host a pre-deployment send-off for its adopted Mines and their families. I regret I will not be able to attend the event to shake the hands of these outstanding men and women as they deploy to Iraq.

The 1st Battalion, 11th Marines have existed since World War I and have participated in every U.S. conflict since. Their mission is to provide continuous, all-weather, close artillery support to infantry and armor forces conducting combat operations.

Military service is not easy but it is necessary. These Marines have chosen a profession that demands sacrifice and they go forth willingly to serve a greater purpose. In the months ahead, the battalion will be facing challenging and dangerous missions. My thoughts and prayers are with each of them as they embark on their deployment and also with their families who have a different burden to bear in their absence. I look forward to the day when I can welcome home each member of the 1st Battalion, 11th Marines and witness the happy reunions of families separated for too long.

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