

COMMEMORATING SAFRAN DRIVE
IN THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE,
TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to the contributions of the companies of the Safran Group and to commemorate the naming of Safran Drive in Grand Prairie, Texas.

The Safran Group companies of Turbomeca USA, Microturbo Inc. and Sagem Avionics have played a substantial role in providing resources, jobs and business growth in Grand Prairie and have shown tremendous commitment to the community. All three companies show strong growth potential and together they already employ more than 500 people from the surrounding area. Once named, Safran Drive will adjoin these companies' headquarters and will facilitate the sharing of resources and personnel.

Turbomeca USA has grown from a small, five-man operation in 1980 to a corporation that now employs more than 400 highly trained and dedicated people. It offers a wide range of overhaul and repair services for helicopter engines, modules and accessories and serves single aircraft operators and fleets of more than 100 aircrafts. Turbomeca has proudly provided the engines that power the U.S. Coast Guard HH-65 Search and Rescue Helicopter fleet and that of the U.S. Army Light Utility Helicopter fleet.

Microturbo Inc. has also supported our armed services, shipping more than 1,000 turbojet engines to the U.S. Army and Air Force for their aerial targets programs. It also maintains, repairs and overhauls the gas turbine starting system installed in the U.S. Navy's T45 Hawk trainer aircraft and the Canadian Forces Hawk 100 NATO aircraft.

Sagem Avionics supplements the products and services of Turbomeca and Microturbo, especially in the commercial sector as it provides technical support, MRO services and marketing and sales of commercial aerospace products. Sagem will soon be headquartered adjacent to the other two Safran Group companies on Safran Drive, creating a powerful hub of aircraft resources and greatly supporting the people of Grand Prairie with its expanding workforce.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I honor and recognize these three great companies in my district for the economic opportunities that they create and the outstanding community presence they provide. I am privileged to commemorate Safran Drive as a symbol of the great things to come from these esteemed corporations.

ERIC EDWARD ADAMS FOR THE
AWARD OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric Edward Adams, a very special young man who has exemplified

the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Eric has been involved in scouting, he has earned 34 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Scribe, Quartermaster and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Eric is also an Ordeal Member in the Order of the Arrow and a Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

For his Eagle Scout project, Eric planned and supervised the construction of a 24-foot handicap accessible walking bridge over a ditch at the earnest Shepherd Youth Center in Liberty, Missouri. Erik has also attended three National High Adventures Camps, and has earned the 12 Month Camper Award and the 100 Nights Camper Award.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric Edward Adams for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO PATTI WINKLER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to a remarkable woman, whom I have known for over 30 years. On July 20, 2007, Patti Winkler will retire after 34 years working for See's Candies.

Patti Winkler was born in Canada and moved to the United States as a child. She lived with her mother, father, brothers and sisters in South Sacramento, CA, until the late eighties when the family moved to Roseville. Today, Patti still lives in Roseville and shares her home with her mother, Rita, her two sisters Maxine and Mary Jane, her nephew Robbie, and five dogs. Patti enjoys visiting her family cabin in Cascade Shores, where she and her sisters spend time boating in Scott's Flat Lake, pulling the children behind on tubes, and then returning to the cabin at the end of the day to play card games.

In her life, Patti's family has always come first. She takes great pleasure in accompanying her mother to play bingo, helping her nephew through college, and cooking one of her famous BLT sandwiches for anyone in the family. Her loving and generous spirit is particularly evident during the Christmas season, as she cooks for her family and brings cookies and toffee in for her coworkers.

As a frequent customer, I always look forward to seeing Patti when I visit the See's Candies store in Roseville. Patti began working for See's in November 1973 at the Arden Fair Mall. Both her mother and sister Janie also worked for See's. On September 29, 1988, she opened the See's store in Roseville, which she managed until 2003. Patti knows the workings of the shop better than anyone else, and is special not only to the store's customers, but also to the people she works with, who truly cherish Patti's friendship. She makes the shop warm and inviting to anyone who

works there and goes out of her way to make everyone feel like part of the team. While her family will benefit from spending more time with Patti in her retirement, her coworkers and customers are truly sad to see her go.

During her retirement, Patti is looking forward to splitting her time between her home in Roseville and their cabin in Cascade Shores. She also plans to continue traveling, as she enjoys taking cruises with her family to Alaska, Mexico, the Caribbean, and through the east coast. I join everyone who knows Patti in wishing her many happy moments in retirement, and thanking her for the joy she brings to everyone she knows.

STATEMENT UPON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE "SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER PRIVACY AND IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION ACT OF 2007"

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Protection Act of 2007." As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security, I am proud to introduce this bipartisan bill along with my chief cosponsor, the Ranking Member of the subcommittee, SAM JOHNSON. We are also joined by Members of the Committee on Ways and Means, which has jurisdiction over the Social Security number (SSN). This bill is modeled after legislation sponsored in prior Congresses by our friends and former colleagues Congressman CLAY SHAW, and the late Congressman Bob Matsui, who were our predecessors on the subcommittee.

The bill is the subcommittee's response to the growing problem of identity theft. Our subcommittee has held 16 hearings on identity theft and the misuse of Social Security numbers since 2000. Numerous experts have testified that identity theft is greatly facilitated by the easy availability of SSNs in public and private sector records and because of the rampant use of the number as an individual identifier. Once obtained, criminals use the SSN to impersonate their victims or unlock access to their good credit histories to open new accounts.

Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in the United States. Research by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) in 2003 found that almost 5 percent of the adult population of the U.S.—some ten million people—were victims of some kind of identity theft in just a single 12-month period. A more recent private sector survey estimated the number of victims at 15 million in the 12 months prior to August 2006.

Identity theft ruins individuals' good names and destroys their credit ratings. Identity thieves have stolen the homes of elderly retirees, and have caused innocent persons to be arrested when crimes are committed under a falsified identity. It has even ruined the future credit ratings of young children.

The FTC reports that individuals spend \$5 billion a year attempting to recover their good names and credit histories. Annual surveys find that businesses lose more than \$50 billion

per year to identity theft-related fraud. Victims often spend years recovering from the damage done by such thieves.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) and its Inspector General have worked diligently to increase the integrity and security of the Social Security number, and the procedures used in issuing numbers and cards. But despite its value as a key facilitator of identity theft crimes, SSA has essentially no control over how the Social Security number is used by other governmental agencies or the private sector. The SSN was originally created for SSA's use in the administration of the Social Security programs. Its use has grown, piecemeal, by the federal government as a result of regulation or legislation, wherever a unique identifier was needed for official government purposes. However, no law of general applicability explicitly allows or specifically requires the private sector to collect, sell, or use the SSN to the extent that it is done so today. Although the Social Security Act requires government entities to protect the confidentiality of the SSN, no law exists that generally protects the privacy of the SSN in the private sector.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) and other law enforcement experts have testified before the subcommittee that the current patchwork of laws that regulate how businesses and government agencies use and disclose personally identifiable information in their records leaves large gaps in protection for the SSN. While financial services and consumer reporting agencies are subject to some regulation controlling how and when they may disclose SSNs to third parties, there are limitations in these protections. Moreover, other industries remain completely free to buy and sell personal information about individuals with whom they have no business relationship. Sophisticated identity thieves have taken advantage of the gaps in protection and have been able to pose as users of personal information for purportedly legitimate purposes, gaining access to hundreds of thousands of SSNs sold by information brokers. Stalkers are also able to capitalize on the lack of protection for Social Security numbers and use them to locate and track their targets.

For these reasons, the legislation we introduce today will restrict the ability of government agencies, private businesses and others to sell, purchase or publicly display Social Security numbers. In recognition that a general prohibition may disrupt legitimate government uses and business practices that rely on the SSN, certain exceptions are made for law enforcement purposes, national security, public health, where the health or safety of an individual is at risk in an emergency situation, to ensure the accuracy of credit and insurance underwriting information and certain other Fair Credit Reporting Act purposes, for tax compliance purposes, if incidental to the sale or merger of a business, to administer employee or government benefits, for limited research purposes, with the individual's affirmative and written consent, and to the extent authorized by the Social Security Act. Further exceptions may be made for other purposes by regulation. Among other new requirements, the bill also restricts the display of SSNs on the Internet, on government documents and identification cards and tags. The bill's provisions will be enforceable by civil and criminal penalties imposed by federal agencies or state attorneys general; and by a limited ability of citi-

zens to stop a federal agency's lack of compliance and recover actual damages through federal court action.

Madam Speaker, it is my expectation that this legislation will give us more control over how the SSN is used, in order to better protect the SSN from identity thieves and other criminals. I am proud to sponsor this bill and to join my colleagues as we move this legislation forward.

A summary of the bill follows.

PROVISIONS RELATED TO SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS (SSNs) IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS

Federal, State, and local governments would be prohibited from:

Selling SSNs (limited exceptions would be allowed, such as to facilitate law enforcement and national security, to ensure the accuracy of credit and insurance underwriting information and certain other Fair Credit Reporting Act purposes, for tax purposes, for research purposes, and to the extent authorized by the Social Security Act). Further exceptions may be made for other purposes by regulation.

Displaying SSNs to the general public, including on the Internet.

Displaying SSNs on checks issued for payment and accompanying documents.

Displaying SSNs on identification cards and tags issued to employees or their families; patients and students at public institutions; and Medicare cards.

Employing prisoners in jobs that provide them with access to SSNs.

Requiring the transmission of SSNs over the Internet without encryption or other security measures.

The private sector would be prohibited from:

Selling or purchasing SSNs (limited exceptions would be made for law enforcement (including child support enforcement); national security; public health; health or safety emergency situations; tax purposes; to ensure the accuracy of credit and insurance underwriting information and certain other Fair Credit Reporting Act purposes; if incidental to the sale, lease or merger of a business; to administer employee or government benefits; for some research; or with the individual's affirmative, written consent). Further exceptions may be made for other purposes by regulation.

Displaying SSNs to the general public, including on the Internet.

Displaying SSNs on checks.

Requiring the transmission of SSNs over the Internet without encryption or other security measures.

Making unnecessary disclosures of another individual's SSN to government agencies.

Displaying the SSN on cards or tags issued to employees, their family members, or other individuals.

Displaying the SSN on cards or tags issued to access goods, services, or benefits.

Public and private sectors would be required to safeguard SSNs they have in their possession from unauthorized access by employees or others.

Sale, purchase, or display of SSNs in the public or private sector would be permitted by regulation in other circumstances, when appropriate. In making this determination, regulators would consider whether the authorization would serve a compelling public interest and would consider the costs and burdens to the public, government, and businesses. If sale, purchase, or display were to be authorized, the regulation would provide for restrictions to prevent identity theft, fraud, deception, crime, and risk of bodily, emotional, or financial harm.

A person would be prohibited from obtaining another person's SSN to locate or iden-

tify the individual with the intent to harass, harm, physically injure or use the individual's identity for an illegal purpose.

Would specify that, wherever a truncated SSN is used, it must be limited to the last 4 digits of the number. (This truncation standard does not change the permissible uses of the SSN.)

State law governing use of SSNs would not be preempted where state law is stronger.

The National Research Council would be required to conduct a study to evaluate the feasibility of banning the use of the SSN as an authenticator.

ENFORCEMENT

New criminal penalties (up to 5 years imprisonment and fine up to \$250,000) and civil penalties (up to \$5,000 per incident) would be created for violations of the law relating to the display, sale, purchase, or misuse of the SSN, offering to acquire an additional SSN for a fee, and for selling or transferring one's own SSN.

Prison sentences would be enhanced for SSN misuse associated with repeat offenders (up to 10 years), drug trafficking or crimes of violence (up to 20 years), or terrorism (up to 25 years).

New criminal penalties (as much as 20 years in prison and fine up to \$250,000) and civil penalties (up to \$5,000 per incident) would be created for Social Security Administration employees who fraudulently sell or transfer SSNs or Social Security cards.

The bill permits enforcement by the Social Security Administration (which would have civil monetary penalty authority); the Department of Justice (which enforces criminal violations of federal law); and state attorneys general (who would be granted civil enforcement authority over private-sector users and state and local government). In addition, individual victims affected by violations of this bill by federal agencies would be provided with limited legal recourse to stop an agency's violation and recover any actual damages they may have suffered.

HONORING THE CREATIVE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF LAURA
ELISABETH ULRICH

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Laura Elisabeth Ulrich, a senior at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, LA, who at the young age of 19 was invited to participate in the prestigious Rome Festival Opera. The festival was held in Rome from June 28 through July 13, 2007.

Ulrich was selected to be the understudy for the role of Cherubino in *Marriage of Figaro*, an opera that is performed in Italian. One of only 10 Americans selected to perform, Ulrich does not speak Italian fluently; however, she demonstrated the level of talent, skill and experience required by the festival's performers.

A student of voice under Dr. Laura Thompson at Louisiana Tech, Ulrich has certainly made a name for herself in North Louisiana, but I believe her experience in Rome foreshadows a career that will include honor and recognition on the global stage.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Laura Elisabeth Ulrich whose natural abilities and dedication to her art will surely transform her into one of our Nation's finest vocal performers.