

Dr. Ellis served at Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Redwood City for nearly 10 years, serving as full-time minister during the last 4 years of his tenure there. Dr. Ellis' leadership has been instrumental in the revitalization of this Church. Dr. Ellis was called as the pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church on September 4, 1987.

In addition to his teaching and preaching at Pilgrim, he consistently remains involved in the community. In 1988, he founded C.H.O.I.C.E.S., a drug information and referral non-profit agency. He also serves on several civic and corporate boards. In 1996, Dr. Ellis achieved one of his most recent accomplishments when he became an Adjunct Professor at Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, California. Among his many other accomplishments is the fact that, in 1998, he taught in Russia. Additionally, in 1999, he was selected as President of Congress Christian Education. He currently serves as Vice President of the State Congress of Christian Education. In 1999 Pastor Ellis also founded "Teach The Word" radio ministry. In 2002, he became President and Chief Executive Officer of the Pilgrim Organization, Inc., a youth through senior non-profit organization.

He is married to the former Vanderler Hines and proud father of three children, Tawana, Justin, and Austin.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in offering sincere congratulations and respect for the 20 years of dedication and service that Pastor Larry Wayne Ellis and his wife, Vanderler Ellis, have given to the Pilgrim Baptist Church community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ERNEST R.
SUTTON

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen, Mr. Ernest R. Sutton. Mr. Sutton, a native of Elizabeth City, NC, is retiring after 36 years of loyal, dedicated service to the North Carolina Department of Correction. He has served this department in many capacities and now completes his career as the Superintendent for the Pasquotank Correctional Institution. Mr. Sutton is a graduate of Elizabeth City State University in 1977 with a bachelor's of science degree in political science.

I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Sutton for many years as a friend, supporter, and community leader in the Albemarle Region of our state. I first met Mr. Sutton when he was intricately involved in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization founded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Sutton currently serves as the Chairman of the Leadership Development and Governance Committees for the American Hospital Association. He is also a member of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Community Relations Committee.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Sutton is an activist for change. In 1997, he introduced the first Hospital/Prison "Health Fair" in North Carolina, and played a key role in the transition of Albemarle Hospital from county owned to a free standing Regional Hospital Authority. In

2000, Mr. Sutton led the development of a unique process to search for and secure a new hospital president and CEO for Albemarle Hospital, Elizabeth City, NC.

Mr. Sutton served as past Vice-Chair of the International Association of the Friends of Africa; past Chairman of the Albemarle Hospital Authority Board of Commissioners; past Chairman of the Albemarle Hospital Executive Committee; past Chairman of the Personnel and Grievance Committee of the Albemarle Hospital Board of Trustees; and past Co-Chair of the Community Relations Committee of Elizabeth City, NC. He also served as Treasurer of the North Carolina 12th District NAACP, past member of the North Carolina Cultural Alliance, and past member of the North Carolina Council on Alcoholism.

Mr. Sutton's work reaches far beyond Elizabeth City. His article "Ernest R. Sutton: Growing Potential," which emphasizes his passion for leadership and human resources development, was featured in the September 2002 issue of Trustee Magazine. He was also interviewed on diversity in health care in the Bridges Magazine—Institute for Diversity in Health Management in the Fall of 2002. As President of Faith Consultants, LLC, Mr. Sutton has conducted several health care lectures and seminars at local universities and for many religious organizations.

Mr. Sutton has received many awards for his work. In 1984, he was the recipient of NAACP Outstanding Humanitarian Award, and went on to receive the silver, gold, and platinum Gavel Awards from the Governance Institute of Physicians, Trustees and Healthcare Executives in La Jolla, CA. In 2002, he received the North Carolina Hospital Association Trustee Service Award: Trustee of the Year, and received the Harvard School of Conflict Resolution and Healthcare Negotiations: Graduate with Distinction Award.

Over this extensive career, Mr. Sutton has made a tremendous impact on his community. Through his commitment and devotion to service, he has helped to lay the ground work for continued change in both Elizabeth City and beyond. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in paying tribute to an exemplary citizen, Mr. Ernest Sutton.

PASSPORT BACKLOG REDUCTION
ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the passage of S. 966, a bill that will help ease the lengthy delays that citizens are experiencing obtaining a passport.

The House will have the opportunity to pass amendments to S. 966, the Passport Backlog Reduction Act. The Senate passed the bill, originally introduced by Senator SCHUMER, by unanimous consent on June 29.

After hearing from many constituents about problems they were having, I introduced my I own bill, H.R. 2960, the Department of State Crisis Response Act of 2007. Along with my colleagues Representatives LOUISE SLAUGHTER, RUBEN HINOJOSA, TED POE, AL GREEN,

MAC THORBERRY, CHARLES GONZALEZ, EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, SHELLEY BERKLEY, HENRY CUELLAR, CAROL SHEA-PORTER, JERRY MCNERNEY, PETER WELCH and JASON ALTMIRE, I introduced this legislation to enable the Department of State to respond to a critical shortage of passport processing personnel by re-employing vital former employees. I am pleased that the House Foreign Affairs Committee decided to send the Senate bill, similar in purpose to my bill, to the floor in an effort expedite the process. With passage of S. 966, the State Department can begin working to reduce the passport backlog.

I am hopeful that this legislative action will go far to ease the difficulty and delay many of our constituents have experienced in getting or renewing their passports.

RECOGNIZING ANTONIO
MANIBUSAN PALOMO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Antonio Manibusan Palomo for a lifetime of service to our community, and for his efforts to preserve Guam's history and culture. Mr. Palomo, a prolific writer and long-time reporter for Guam media, and a former Guam lawmaker, recently retired as the administrator of the Guam Museum on June 13, 2007.

Tony was born in 1931 in Hagatna, the eldest of the nine children of the late Vicente Gogo Palomo and Dolores Lydia Mendiola Manibusan. He attended Guam's prewar Padre Palomo and Agana Elementary Schools and graduated from George Washington High School. He also attended Belmont Abby Preparatory School in Belmont, North Carolina, and Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, graduating from Marquette's College of Journalism in 1954. He worked full-time as a copy boy for the Milwaukee Sentinel while in school. Upon his return to Guam, Tony applied his skills as a proofreader, a general assignment reporter, a sports editor, and an assistant managing editor for the Guam Daily News, forerunner of the Pacific Daily News. He also served as a correspondent for the Associated Press and as a stringer for the Pacific Stars and Stripes.

During his long career as a journalist, Tony served as editor of the Pacific Journal, a daily newspaper; as publisher-editor of Pacific Profile, a monthly magazine; and editor of the Pacifican, a weekly newspaper.

He then served as a special assistant to Guam's first elected Governor, Carlos G. Camacho, and as administrative director and records manager for the Eighth Guam Legislature before being elected to the legislature himself. Tony served in the 12th, 14th, and 15th Guam Legislatures. As a lawmaker, Tony chaired the legislature's Committee on Rules and the Committee on Territorial and Federal Affairs, which spearheaded the movement for a change in Guam's political status. He served as president of Guam's first Constitutional Convention in 1969 and was a member of Guam's first Commission on Self-Determination. He served briefly as general manager of the Guam Tourist Commission, predecessor of

the Guam Visitors Bureau, and as Guam's delegate to the South Pacific Conference in Noumea, New Caledonia, in 1969, and as adviser to the U.S. delegation to the South Pacific Commission.

In 1982, Tony served as special assistant to the assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior. He later served as desk officer for American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands and as DOI's field representative in Guam from 1986 until 1994. He also served as acting assistant secretary of the Interior for Territorial and International Affairs.

He served as chairman of Guam's Political Status Education Coordinating Commission, which produced and published the "Haleta" ("roots") series of history textbooks for Guam's public schools. He is a member of the Chamorro Historic Society, the Guam Humanities Council, the Chamorro Heritage Institute Planning Group, the Manenggon Memorial Foundation, the Fena Memorial Committee, the Guam Preservation Trust, the Council on Cultural Tourism, and GVB's subcommittee on Community Development, and is the corporate secretary of the Latte of Freedom Foundation.

Tony still makes time to teach History of Guam courses at the University of Guam and the Guam Community College today. He continues his long membership in the Knights of Columbus, having served as grand knight, deputy grand knight, recorder, and trustee; as well as in the Young Men's League of Guam, for which he has held the positions of director, historian, and chairman of the Council of Elders. He is a past member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Rotary Club of Tumon, and served on the governor's Vision 2001 and Vision 2005 committees on Family Values and Education and Culture.

Mr. Antonio Manibusan Palomo's many contributions to the history, language and culture of Guam are significant, and today we commend him for his lifetime of service to our community.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 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. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, we as leaders must face and prepare for the reality that America's nuclear footprint is shrinking and that in the coming years our national priorities will shift to address the looming energy crisis. With that in mind, it is abundantly clear that the mission and purpose of Los Alamos National Laboratory, located in my district, must be diversified to ensure its future permanence and to utilize its full potential for scientific research. I stand resolutely behind LANL, and will continue to fully support the men and women who work there, but they must recognize that the bill before us marks

only the first step of the coming reallocation of resources in the nuclear complex. Only in recognizing, accepting, and ultimately embracing this shift, will the lab ensure that they continue to serve in their leading role in combating existing national security threats as well as others that are sure to emerge.

That is why today, Mr. Chairman, I will be voting in favor of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill. In so doing, I am voting for the future of the lab. I am voting for what I believe will be a future as bright as past in helping this country meet its national security challenges. But as I do, I vow to help the leadership at the lab make this diversification a reality. I vow to help the lab remain the pre-eminent lab in the country, home to the best scientists in the world.

Before we vote, however, I would like to briefly recap the steps in the Appropriations process that have brought us to this point today. In May, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water marked up its Fiscal Year 2008 bill and reported it to the full Appropriations Committee. This bill included funding cuts that would affect the core mission of the Lab, which gave me great concern. The bill also postponed funding for the RRW and CMRR, projects I have been skeptical of since first being proposed. I am not the only one skeptical of these programs, which is why this bill also wisely included a provision requiring the Administration to thoroughly evaluate and prepare a plan outlining the specific need for not only these projects, but for our entire nuclear stockpile before authorizing millions more taxpayer dollars.

On the other hand, the bill we considered in committee included an unprecedented and long overdue investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and climate change research. I applauded the Chairman's vision for these investments, both because it is needed to enhance our nation's security for the future, but also because I firmly believe that the top-notch scientists at LANL have valuable contributions to make in these areas. During this discussion, I received assurances from the Chairman that LANL will have access to these new funds, but they must actively compete for them.

The bill was voice-voted in Committee a few weeks ago and was brought to the floor. During that debate, I led the fight to protect the core mission of the Lab, offering an amendment to restore \$192 million in funding for the Road Runner Supercomputer, the Science campaign, and the Lab's facilities. Not only are these areas needed for the lab to effectively conduct its core mission, but they will also be needed for diversification. However, my amendment was not an endorsement of the status quo regarding our nuclear weapons policy. Unfortunately, my amendment was defeated.

However, during all of this, what became clear was that part of these funding issues for LANL had to do with preparing for conference with the Senate. As the gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. WAMP, stated on the House Floor, ". . . this is the beginning of the process. I know Senator Domenici is going to weigh in. I love it, because these House leaders have given the House a better position to negotiate this bill from than we have ever had in my tenure here, because we need that leverage. Frankly, the Senate has rolled us on this bill for many years. Not any more. We get fair

treatment. We can go in there and negotiate our priorities and come away with a good product." No one who follows the Appropriations process should be shocked by this negotiating tactic.

In the meantime, the Senate Appropriations Committee reported a bill to the full Senate that provides hundreds of millions of dollars in funding increases for LANL. The Senate has yet to pass their legislation, but when they do, as we know, a conference committee will convene to negotiate the differences between the two versions of the legislation. I am confident that the final conference report will result in the restoration of funding for the core mission of the Lab, just as my amendment would have done.

And I will certainly be working for restoration of these funds through conference. Nevertheless, the process to this point must serve as a signal that change is needed if the funding—and the permanence—of the lab is to be certain. It would be folly to assume that the status quo and a static mission will be enough in the years to come. Instead, I hope the idea of diversification is strongly embraced and pursued by LANS, not only to strengthen the lab and its work force, although that is also important, but because the capacity of the lab to produce scientific greatness in pursuit of solving the gravest threats to our nation and to the world is too important.

I have received assurances from the NNSA that diversifying the mission of the lab is possible, but the leadership of the lab must take the initiative to start the process. In fact, there are ongoing discussions at this time about a possible diversified mission for LANL. As we continue the funding process, it is now up to LANL to decide whether it wants to diversify and thrive, or remain focused only on its current mission, which, as we have seen this year, means an uphill battle. I have strongly advised and urged the leadership at the lab to see that diversification is the only way to ensure the future of the lab. I hope that those at the lab believe the same and that in the very near future we will begin to see a true, substantive move toward this important goal.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION ACT OF 2007

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise to inform my colleagues of legislation I have introduced today to broaden applications for personal health accounts.

The legislation that I have proposed will amend existing Internal Revenue Service Code to permit the purchase of dental care items, including fluoride toothpaste, powered and manual toothbrushes, dental floss, dental cleaners, oral irrigators, and preventive and therapeutic mouth rinses and toothpastes.

Specifically, my proposal adds a definition to the IRS Code for medical care tax treatment to include "products used to diagnose, cure, mitigate, treat, or prevent the onset of tooth decay, periodontal diseases, and conditions ailing the teeth, gums, and mouth or affecting the proper function thereof."

Personal health care accounts are funding arrangements where health care expenses are