

abortions in the United States. However, barriers to information and access hinder this preventative contraceptive method from reaching its full potential. We can and we must do more to protect women's reproductive health by increasing knowledge of emergency contraception and expanding access to this critical preventative solution.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to co-sponsor my bill today.

COMMENDING THE PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY FOR FIFTY YEARS OF VISIONARY SERVICE AND STEWARDSHIP

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) of Auburn, California in celebration of 50 years of outstanding public service. Founded in 1957 as a result of the commitment of community leaders with an unusual sense of vision to develop and protect water resources within the County, the Agency has maintained the vision to address water resource needs across the 1,500 square miles of Placer County.

PCWA obtained federal and state licenses and permits and developed its Middle Fork American River Project which consists of two main reservoirs, a series of hydroelectric power plants and 24 miles of tunnels. The project, which was financed by the sale of electricity, today produces approximately one billion kilowatt hours of clean, green electricity annually.

The Agency has assisted water districts, cities and acquired and upgraded previously existing and antiquated water systems in Placer County, enabling it to provide retail and wholesale water to needy areas within the County; provided financial assistance to water districts within the County for the conservation and development of water supplies and facilities; and continues to focus on preserving water quality and enacting water use efficiencies that ensure a safe and reliable water supply for the region.

PCWA understands its role as an environmental steward to the watersheds of the County and continues to work in good faith with federal, state and local community stakeholders.

Madam Speaker, I commend and congratulate the Board of Directors, management and employees of the Placer County Water Agency for 50 successful years of vision, stewardship and dedicated service to the people of Placer County and for working to preserve the County's rich water resources while also working to provide clean, renewable energy for the benefit of future generations in Placer County.

REAUTHORIZATION OF UNDERGROUND RAILROAD EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAM

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2707 reauthorizing the activities of the Underground Railroad Educational and Cultural Program through FY 2012.

Passed in 1998, the original amendment to the Higher Education Act of 1965 authorized the Secretary of Education, in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, to make grants to nonprofit educational organizations established to research, display, interpret, and collect artifacts related to the history of the Underground Railroad.

I commend my colleague Representative KUCINICH for his hard work on this issue and this legislation.

Since its passage, the program's centerpiece in Cincinnati—the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center—has become a nationally important cultural center and valuable education resource center, reaching more than 160,000 school-age children and their teachers who have toured the Freedom Center. The changing exhibitions as well as the pre- and post-visit teaching curriculum have offered valuable opportunities for our children to learn from and be inspired by the lessons of the history of the Underground Railroad.

I am also proud of Amistad America, an initiative based in New Haven, Ct., which has been able to receive funding from the Department of Education through The Underground Railroad Educational and Cultural Program. By bringing together local organization advocates, educators, and historians, the Amistad America recognizes and honors the historical and educational significance of the Freedom Schooner Amistad Ship.

In 1839, 53 Africans were illegally kidnapped from Sierra Leone and sold into the transatlantic slave trade. The captives were brought to Havana, Cuba, aboard the Portuguese vessel *Tecora*, where they were fraudulently classified as native-born Cuban slaves then sold to Spaniards Jose Ruiz and Pedro Montez, who transferred them to the coastal cargo schooner, *La Amistad*.

While being transferred from Havana, Cuba, up the coast in the *Amistad*, the African captives revolted after 3 days and ordered the schooner to head east back to their native Africa. On the evening of the rebellion, the *Amistad* was secretly directed back west and up the coast of North America, where after 2 months the Africans were seized and arrested in New London, Ct.

The captives were jailed and awaited trial in New Haven, Ct. The case became historic when former President John Quincy Adams argued on behalf of the enslaved Africans before the U.S. Supreme Court, winning their freedom.

This summer the Freedom Schooner *Amistad*, a recreation of the original *Amistad* embarked from New Haven on its first transatlantic voyage to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

The journey is an opportunity to call to public attention the evils of slavery, the struggle

for freedom, and the restoration of human dignity. As with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, each of these institutions remind us that even the darkest hours of our Nation's history can ultimately provide the tools for change.

STENNIS CONGRESSIONAL INTERN PROGRAM

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, for 5 years now, the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service has conducted a program for summer interns working in congressional offices. This 6-week program is designed to enhance their internship experience by giving them an inside view of how Congress really works. It also provides an opportunity for them to meet with senior staff and other experts to discuss issues ranging from the influence of the media and lobbyists on Congress to Congress's power of the purse.

The program is a joint effort of the Stennis Center and a collection of current and former senior congressional staff leaders who are serving as Senior Stennis Fellows. These fellows use their experience and expertise to design the program and to participate in each of the interactive sessions and panel discussions.

Interns are selected for this program based on their college record, community service background, and interest in a career in public service. This year, 29 outstanding interns, most of them juniors and seniors in college, who are working for Democrats and Republicans in both personal and committee offices in the House and Senate participated.

Mr. President, I congratulate the interns for their participation in this valuable program and I thank the Stennis Center and the Senior Stennis Fellows for providing such a unique experience for these interns and for encouraging them to consider a future career in public service.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of 2007 Stennis congressional interns and the offices in which they work be printed in the RECORD.

Yaser Ali of the University of Florida interning in the Office of Senator Bill Nelson
Sue Banerjee of Northwestern University interning in the Office of Representative Nick Lampson
David Bodner of Virginia Tech University interning in the Office of Representative Howard Berman
Andrew Briggs of Knox College interning in the Office of Senator Herb Kohl
Jeff Burdette of the University of Maryland interning in the House Veterans' Committee
Sarah Coppersmith of Washington University interning in the Office of Representative Harry Mitchell
Sarah Cummings of Bucknell University interning in the Office of Representative Phil English
Dominic Day of Vanderbilt University interning in the Office of Representative Donna Christensen
Marsha Dixon of the University of Florida Law School interning in the House Ways and Means Committee
Sean Evins of Rhodes College interning in the Office of Senator Jim DeMint

Jason Ferguson of the University of Florida interning with the House Homeland Security Committee

Jim Goldenstein of the University of Illinois interning with the Office of Representative John Shimkus

Jason Griffith of the University of Colorado interning with the Office of Representative Ed Perlmutter

James Holcombe of the University of North Carolina interning in the Office of Senator Elizabeth Dole

Lori Ann Holland of Mississippi State University interning in the Office of Senator Thad Cochran

Ashley Howell of the University of Southern California interning in the Office of Representative Ken Calvert

Jason Knecht of Shippensburg University interning in the Office of Representative Tim Holden

Jenna Kubecka of Texas A&M University interning in the Office of Representative Nick Lampson

Jaime Lee of the University of Southern California interning in the Office of Representative Howard Berman

Ashleigh Leitch of the College of St. Benedict interning in the Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar

Kaylan Lytle of the University of Tulsa interning in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Sara Major of George Washington University interning in the Office of Representative David Obey

Daniel Mannion of Notre Dame University interning in the Office of Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton

Dan Meehan of the State University of New York at Geneseo interning in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Robyn Meyer of the College of St. Benedict interning in the Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar

Matt Pollard of the University of Exeter (England) interning in the Senate Budget Committee

Jasmine Vasquez of the DePaul University Law School interning in the House Ways and Means Committee

Ben Whitehair of the University of Colorado interning in the Office of Representative Diana DeGette

Amber Woodward of the University of Pennsylvania interning in the Office of Representative Dennis Moore

HONORING PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JAIME JAENKE

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Petty Officer 2nd Class Jaime S. Jaenke of Bay City, WI. Jaime courageously answered the call to serve her country in its time of need, and she made the ultimate sacrifice on June 5, 2006 when she was killed by an improvised explosive device that detonated near her convoy while she was conducting security operations in the Anbar Province of Iraq. As a Seabee reservist, Jaime was assigned to the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 25 based at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Today, I bear witness that Jaime's efforts and the efforts of all our service men and women will forever be remembered. On Saturday, August 25, 2007, at the courthouse in Ellsworth, WI, a plaque will be dedicated in Jaime's memory.

Jaime is a true national hero who dedicated her life to helping and serving others. Beloved daughter of Susan and Larry, Jaime served as an emergency medical technician in Ellsworth, WI, before answering the call to serve in Iraq. As a medic for her unit, Jaime will be remembered by her comrades as a generous and compassionate individual. Friends and family will remember and cherish her caring and contagious smile and sense of humor. Jaime will be dearly missed by her loving daughter, Kayla. When we step back and realize the incredible service of our men and women in uniform, we must always remember Jaime, for she was one of our finest.

The men and women from Wisconsin serving in Iraq are doing a terrific job under very difficult and dangerous circumstances. They are simply the best that our nation has to offer. We will be forever grateful for the sacrifice made by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jaime Jaenke. She was a true patriot, serving her country selflessly while giving the Iraqi people the greatest gift of all, their freedom. She also gave the American people a great gift, the chance to live in a safer world.

As a mother, daughter, and friend, Jaime will live on in our hearts as a hero and her legacy will never be forgotten. I pledge to do all that I can to ensure that Jaime's life was not lost in vain.

Perhaps President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said it best: "She stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have dared to die, that freedom might live, and grow, and increase its blessings. Freedom lives, and through it, she lives—in a way that humbles the undertakings of most people."

May God bless Jaime, and take her into his care. And may God's special blessings bring comfort to Jaime's family and friends always.

HONORING CRAIG BIGGIO

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the amazing accomplishments and career of Craig Biggio. Over the past 20 years Craig Biggio has become as much a part of life in Southeast Texas as barbecue and high school football. The legacy he leaves on the field is only rivaled by the legacy he leaves off of it. He brings the same passion to helping children and the Houston community as he does in compiling career numbers that will surely land him in the Professional Baseball Hall of Fame someday.

Craig Biggio and his wife Patti have made a direct impact on lives of countless Houston families. By raising millions of dollars and offering his thoughtful support and leadership to Sunshine Kids he has proven a true role model for the kids in the number seven jerseys at Minute Maid Park. Trips to sporting events and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo have provided a moment of joy to families affected by cancer.

Craig Biggio would have fit right in with the baseball immortals, Williams, DiMaggio and Gehrig. Biggio has been accepted by Houston as one of their own by playing the game the way it should be played. He always played tough and hard-nosed, but respectful of his

teammates and opponents. While never one to be driven by statistics, his passion for the game has surely led to a spot in Cooperstown.

Earlier this summer, he joined the fraternity of select players to accumulate 3,000 career hits. He has collected four Gold Glove awards, been selected to seven All-Star teams and amassed enough career doubles to rank in the top 10 all-time. But most importantly to Astro fans are the team records he set in games played, runs scored, hits and doubles while leading his team to six playoff appearances in 9 years.

Madam Speaker, I am very proud to join with Astros fans across the country, baseball fans everywhere and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the amazing career and character of Craig Biggio. In an era where we just as often see our sports icons in the news for the wrong reasons, Texans can be proud to have witnessed one of baseball's greatest performers on the field and a tremendous example off it. I will cherish being able to share in the joy of watching Craig Biggio stretch a couple more singles into doubles over the last few months of his career. It has been a pleasure to watch him play the game the right way. On behalf of this Nation, I am honored to recognize Houston Astro Craig Biggio on his 3,000th hit, a tremendous career and being a man of tremendous character.

FILM AND TELEVISION
EXPENSING LEGISLATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague from California, Congressman WALLY HERGER, to introduce legislation to amend Federal tax law to allow for the immediate tax write-off of production expenditures for domestic film and television productions with aggregate costs under \$15 million or \$20 million in those select cases where the production is made in a distressed community.

This provision, section 181 of the Internal Revenue Code, was first enacted in the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. It was added to protect the U.S. television and film industry that is increasingly filming in foreign locations, such as Canada.

In so doing, Congress recognized the important contribution our television and film production industries make to sustaining jobs in communities across the country. These productions provide good jobs not just for actors, writers, and directors, but also for the local carpenters and electricians, the drivers and equipment operators, the caterers and hotel keepers who provide services to these productions.

Adoption of section 181 also represented congressional recognition of the fact that this vital sector faces increasing competition from foreign production companies whose governments subsidize television and film production.

In 2001, the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration reported that made for television production of "movies of the week" in the U.S. had declined by 33 percent since 1995 and that production at foreign locations increased by 55 percent.