

In 1973, John and Janet Trefethen opened a modern winery on the property and began producing small batches of premium wines with the help of vineyard manager Tony Baldini. Trefethen Family Vineyards 1976 Chardonnay was recognized as "Best in the World" at the 1979 Wine Olympics in Paris. Since then, Trefethen Family Vineyards has continued to produce wines of the highest quality, as reflected in this latest, international award.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we congratulate Trefethen Family Vineyards and the Trefethen family for the award they have received. This award is fitting testimony to the family's commitment to excellence and their dedication to helping build on the Napa Valley's reputation as the world's premier wine region.

**HONORING THE RICHARDSON AND  
SUNNYVALE INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN DALLAS  
COUNTY, TEXAS**

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the Richardson and Sunnyvale Independent School Districts in Dallas County, Texas for excellence in education.

Education is a fundamental part of the development of our Nation's youth. The Texas Education Agency recently released the 2007 annual performance ratings for schools across Texas. It is notable that Richardson Independent School District was able to maintain its rating of "recognized"—which is the second-highest possible rating—and the Sunnyvale Independent School District was able to increase its rating to "exemplary"—which is the highest possible rating.

Their performance illustrates the commitment and dedication of the administrators, teachers, and staff who provide students with a quality education. In particular, I would like to recognize the work of Superintendents David Simmons and Doug Williams.

Madam Speaker, as a representative for Dallas County, I would like to commend the Richardson and Sunnyvale Independent School Districts for their continued achievements in education.

**HONORING BARREN COUNTY,  
KENTUCKY**

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barren County, Kentucky, recently designated as the "Best Place to Live in Rural America" by The Progressive Farmer magazine.

Each year, The Progressive Farmer ranks ten top counties in rural America according to several quality-of-life indicators and statistics. Barren County won top honors for 2007, citing its strong and growing economy, great edu-

cation, superior access to health care, and low crime rate.

Settled by Scottish immigrants in the late 1700's, nearly 40,000 residents now call Barren County home. Rolling farmland and a strong agriculture heritage continue to influence local attitudes, consistently ranking Barren County as a top producer of Kentucky agriculture.

Located along Interstate 65 midway between Louisville and Nashville, TN, Barren County is ideally situated as a place to live and work. Local officials and business leaders continue to attract new industries to the region, establishing four industrial parks throughout the county to accommodate future economic growth.

Barren County schools maintain some of the highest achievement scores in the State. The county also ranks high in health-care services, attracting new doctors through a local residency program.

It is my great privilege to congratulate the citizens of Barren County, Kentucky today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for their example of prosperity and growth in rural America.

**TRIBUTE TO OFFICER GREGG  
PASSAMA**

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. STARK, Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Officer Gregg Passama on his retirement from the City of Newark, California, after serving 20 years as a member of the Newark Police Department and over 33 commendable years in the field of law enforcement.

Officer Passama began his law enforcement career in January 1974 as a police officer for the Southern Pacific Railroad located in San Francisco, California. During this time, he was elected Union President to represent all Southern Pacific Railroad police officers. Mr. Passama also found time to attend the prestigious George Meany School of Labor Studies.

On June 1, 1987, he began his career with the Newark Police Department as a police officer. He also served as a field training officer and a member of both the Criminal Evidence Response and Trauma Support Teams during his career.

Officer Passama received Newark's Police Officer of the Year award in 2000 after being nominated by his peers for his compassion for others and his tireless efforts as a Newark Police Association board member, vice president, and president for two terms.

He has also previously held the positions of secretary, treasurer, and director of the California Organization of Police and Sheriffs (COPS), an organization dedicated to serving peace officers. He is currently the president of COPS, a position he has held since 2004.

Officer Passama transferred to the Training Department of the Newark Police in January 2001, where he will finish out his career as the training officer.

I join the Newark Police Department in thanking Officer Passama for his dedicated service to law enforcement and commitment to the community.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 2, 2007*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 3161) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 3161, the Agriculture Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2008. This bill provides funding to support our farmers, protect the environment, ensure a safe and stable food supply, and care for the most vulnerable members of our society. H.R. 3161 also fulfills the reforms included in the recently passed Farm Bill, by increasing funding for nutrition, conservation and energy programs.

I am pleased to support funding increases for important conservation programs for my home state of Rhode Island, including the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, and the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program. This legislation also restores funding for many programs that the Bush Administration's budget would have cut or eliminated, including Resource Conservation and Development and watershed programs. H.R. 3161 also encourages the expansion of renewable energy research and production by nearly doubling funding for renewable energy loans to businesses, resources for research, and grants to farmers and ranchers.

After recent food scares, Americans have become more concerned about where their food is produced. After six years of delays, I am pleased that H.R. 3161 includes a time line for implementation of country of origin labeling for our meat. This legislation fully funds the Food Safety and Inspection Service at the Department of Agriculture in order to fill vacancies and invest in research, and will also fund a transformation of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food safety regulations. This measure also prevents cuts to FDA field operations and provides additional funding for processing generic drug applications and drug safety reviews.

H.R. 3161 increases funding for the nutrition title, which includes food stamps and other programs aimed to combat hunger and improve nutrition for children, the elderly and low-income Americans. This includes the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, as well as the Community Food Projects program, which awards grants to non-profit groups that establish community food projects targeted to low-income individuals. This measure also increases funding for school nutrition programs for purchasing fruits, vegetables and nuts, and creates more avenues for produce to flow from local farmers to schools. H.R. 3161 also includes funding to help improve the eating habits of Americans, particularly our children. It also expands the Simplified Summer Food

program to all states to provide nutritious foods to children in low-income families through the summer.

Madam Chairman, this legislation helps farmers meet growing environmental challenges, increases safety monitoring of our food supply, gives consumers more healthy food choices, and promotes critical renewable energy development. I look forward to passing this measure into law and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 3161.

HONORING THE ALBA-GOLDEN  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
IN WOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the Alba-Golden Independent School District in Wood County, Texas for excellence in education.

Education is a fundamental part of the development of our Nation's youth. The Texas Education Agency recently released the 2007 annual performance ratings for schools across Texas. It is notable that the Alba-Golden school district was able to maintain its rating of "recognized"—which is the second-highest possible rating.

Their performance illustrates the commitment and dedication of the administrators, teachers, and staff who provide students with a quality education. In particular, I would like to recognize the work of Superintendent Bill Steward.

Madam Speaker, as the representative for Wood County, I would like to commend the Alba-Golden Independent School District for its continued achievements in education.

THE AMERICANS SAVING  
THROUGH HEALTH RESEARCH  
BONDS ACT OF 2007

**HON. STEVAN PEARCE**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. PEARCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague Representative EMANUEL CLEAVER, to introduce innovative legislation to help millions of Americans save for their futures and at the same time lead to a healthier America.

This bill, the Americans Saving Through Health Research Bonds Act of 2007, would establish a new series of U.S. Savings bonds for individuals, where a small portion of the return would be sent directly to the National Institutes of Health to fund medical research.

Under this bill, when an individual redeems a "Healthy Bond", rather than taxing the interest earned, 10 percent would be sent to the NIH Institute of their choice for medical research. Like the successful semi-postal fund-raising stamp program, these funds will supplement the work done at NIH researching cures for the diseases which plague mankind.

Let me show you how this bill works. In FY2006, the Treasury Department redeemed \$14.5 billion in bonds, of which \$7.9 billion

was payments on interest. If 20 percent of those had been Health Research Bonds instead, that would have generated \$158 million in new National Institutes of Health money. If only 5 percent had been Health Research Bonds, that would have generated \$39.5 million in new NIH funding.

The NIH provides top-notch researchers nationwide with the support they need to conduct cutting-edge medical research.

This bill would give the American people the option to invest their own stake in the important breakthroughs being made in today's medical research.

But the bright future open to us by funding increased health care research is not the only concern this bill would address.

In 1982, the average American saved 9.75 percent of his income. Twenty-five (25) years later, the shift from using credit to buy asset-building items like homes to using credit to improve one's lifestyle has drastically reduced the rate of savings in America to almost negative one percent.

Madam Speaker, the future is unpredictable enough. No one should have to learn the hard way that long-term savings and investment are necessary for retirement.

Quality of life begins with financial stability. We must give our constituents the tools they need to ensure that their financial security remains secure in the future.

When Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernanke, gave his report on the state of the U.S. economy to the House Financial Services Committee in February, he emphasized the need to make sure more individuals have access to retirement and private savings plans. Doing so, he said, would ensure that "we help people finance a reasonable retirement."

As people live longer and retire earlier, the costs of retirement are growing. Although more than half of Americans save and invest in the private market, only 1 in 4 people believe they have saved enough for retirement.

Savings bonds are a proven, reliable, and secure source of future income for Americans.

Today, Americans face an array of financial choices, whether they be monthly budgeting, planning for retirement, saving for college or purchasing a home. Under the weight of these choices many people do not know where to begin saving.

Madam Speaker, my legislation would help people to build assets that will meet a variety of needs over the course of their lives. What's more, this bill piggy-backs on the long-held American tradition of allowing individuals to attend to their personal financial health yet, in the spirit that makes our country so great, would give Americans the opportunity to do some good in the process.

The small percentage of the return that would go to NIH will give Americans their own reward for funding health research. NIH's 27 Institutes and Centers have been at forefront of some of our Nation's most significant medical discoveries, and in 2006 it was responsible for nearly one-third of the funding received by U.S. medical research.

Moreover, the NIH has the flexibility and resources to perform a wide array of disease research, from the rarest genetic condition to the common cold.

In partnering on this important legislation with a number of leading medical groups, I have garnered support from some of America's most respected minds in health care.

Upon introduction this legislation is endorsed by the American Association of Medical Colleges.

Madam Speaker, the bottom line is this bill would help our constituents feel at ease knowing that they are saving for their futures on more than one front. As well as securing their financial future, they will know that the money that goes to NIH for medical research will have a lasting impact on their children, grandchildren, and generations to follow.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill to create a partnership between saving for future retirement and fighting disease.

THE SOVIET BASKETBALL TEAM  
OF 1972 AND THE VOTE TO  
ALLOW ILLEGALS FEDERAL  
BENEFITS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 3, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, slightly before midnight last night, the House of Representatives had a replay of the 1972 Summer Olympic Games in Munich.

Here's what I recall happened: A vote was being conducted on a Republican motion to recommit that would allow no Federal aid, such as food stamps, to be given to illegals in this country. This was hotly debated and then the votes started being recorded. The vote was close—most Republicans and a few Democrats supported the motion denying taxpayer dollars to illegals. Most Democrats opposed the motion. With the vote tied at 214–214, the Speaker called the vote and denied the motion. (A tie means the motion failed.) But the official electronic board on the House Floor that records the votes read 215–213—FINAL VOTE—meaning the motion passed—no benefits for illegals. But, the official vote was disallowed more time put on the clock and the Speaker announced the real final vote to be 212–216, after some Members changed their vote after the Final Tally.

In my opinion, this illegal action gave some illegals Federal benefits that only Americans and legals should receive.

In 1972, Team USA was playing the Soviets for the Gold Medal in Olympic Basketball. When the buzzer sounded, Team USA had won the game 50–49. But the timekeeper put 3 seconds back on the clock; gave the ball to the Soviets; who scored a basket, and the new final score was 51–50. The Soviets were declared the winners even though they cheated—Team USA refused their Silver Medals and walked off the stage in disgust.

Last night, I and over 100 Republicans walked out of the House because of the illegal vote giving illegals Federal benefits that only American citizens and lawful immigrants deserve. Both the Soviet Basketball Team and those that want illegals to receive taxpayer benefits will do just anything to win—by any means necessary, whether legal or not.

In both cases, Americans were not defeated, but cheated.

And that's just the way it is.