

people were killed in the terrorist attacks against our Nation in New York, Pennsylvania, and right here in the shadow of our own Capitol.

“Every victim. Every time.”

America is a nation known for its commitment to justice. Yet when we consider “criminal justice,” that’s pretty much what it is about: justice for the criminal and, still too often, little consideration is given to justice for victims. National Crime Victims’ Rights Week gives us the chance to talk about “victim justice”—justice for innocent folks whose lives are irrevocably altered by crime. It gives Congress the opportunity to say, “yes,” every victim of every crime should receive information about their case; to say, “of course” every victim of every crime should be offered protective measures to make them feel safe; to say, “absolutely,” every victim of every crime that results in a conviction should receive restitution directly from the offenders who harmed them.

America’s victims’ rights movement is leading our entire Nation in this direction. Today, victims of crime and those who serve them have not only a voice, but a vision for what justice should look like in America. Today, there are over 32,000 laws that define and protect victims’ rights. We have over 10,000 organizations in our communities and in our systems of justice that help victims cope in the aftermath of crime, and help victims recover. Criminal justice is no longer all about the offender; it is rightfully becoming very much about the victims.

I am proud to be one of the cofounders, along with Representative POE, of the Congressional Victims’ Rights Caucus. The goals of the Victims’ Rights Caucus are to (1) represent crime victims in the United States through the bipartisan legislation that reflects their interests, rights and needs; (2) provide an ongoing forum for proactive interactions between the U.S. Congress and national victim assistance organizations to enhance mutual education, legislative advocacy and initiatives that promote justice for all—including victims of crime; and (3) seek opportunities for public education initiatives to help people in America to understand the impact of crime on victims, and to encourage their involvement in crime prevention, victim assistance, and community safety. We have an Advisory Group of victims, survivors, victim advocates and justice professionals who serve as our “eyes and ears” to victims and survivors of crime, and they are not shy about letting us know what victims need.

And we have learned that one thing victims need, the one thing that victims deserve, is recognition of their suffering, and recognition of their need for justice, and their need for supportive services. “Victims’ Rights: Every Victim. Every Time.”

This is what 2007 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week is all about. And this is what Congress can commit to by passing the National Crime Victims’ Rights Week resolution.

INTRODUCTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY LEGISLATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a package of legislation

that achieves a comprehensive approach to the future of renewable energy. As we move forward with national energy policy, I strongly believe we need to start taking steps in a direction that will provide consumers with other options other than just oil based fuels. With crude oil hovering around \$60 a barrel and natural gas around \$8.00 per btu, renewable energy like wind, solar, biomass, ethanol and biodiesel have started to become economically competitive sources of energy for our nation’s consumers and businesses. By advancing the use and knowledge of renewable energy, we can lower demand for imported oil and lead our nation towards energy independence.

One of the components I introduced today will push forward an aggressive schedule for renewable fuels by mandating the renewable content of gasoline to be 25 billion gallons by 2025. Under the energy bill, we are mandating that the renewable content of gasoline be at 4 billion gallons by 2006 which is 2% of total gasoline. Once implemented, the “25 by 25” initiative would raise that percentage up to 12.5%.

For farmers, the 25 billion gallon requirement means better commodity prices for corn and soy and more importantly it means jobs. According to the Renewable Fuels Association, a new ethanol plant will expand the economic base of the local economy by \$110.2 million, generate an additional \$19.6 million of household income, support the creation of as many as 694 permanent new jobs throughout the entire economy of the United States and generate at least \$1.2 million in new tax revenue for the state and local governments.

One problem we face in the advancement of renewable fuels is the sub par infrastructure we currently have in place. With ethanol and biodiesel plants mostly focused within the midwest and with only around 1,000 fuel stations that carry E-85 transportation fuels, it is essential that we provide tax incentives for the construction and development of ethanol and biodiesel plants. Another bill that I will be introducing, the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2007, builds upon the relationship between renewable fuels and industry that started in the last energy bill. The legislation achieves this by providing multiple tax incentives for the construction and development of an infrastructure that will be more able to expand past the Midwest.

The legislation will provide an aggressive 7-year depreciation schedule for all ethanol and biodiesel refining equipment. Also included within this section is a provision that will expand and extend the installation of alternative fuel refueling property that we in Congress passed earlier this year. The provision will allow taxpayers to claim a more effective percentage tax credit for the cost of installing clean-fuel vehicle refueling property to be used in a trade or business of the taxpayer or installed at the principal residence of the taxpayer. This ramped up percentage schedule would help accelerate the construction of the E-85 infrastructure.

Another piece of legislation I introduced today ensures that government agencies will expand their use of renewable fuels. Under this bill, departments and agencies will have to purchase ethanol and biodiesel where it is competitively priced to gasoline and diesel. In the mentality of “practice what you preach” it is time for our own Federal government to increase their use of ethanol and biodiesel

where these fuels are reasonably available. In attempting to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, it should start right here in our Nation’s capitol.

I believe the most innovative legislation that I am introducing is a new tax credit that will provide for consumers who purchase a new concept vehicle which combines hybrid and flexible fuel technologies that will be available to consumers in the near future. It is this marriage of these technologies that will create a vehicle that will be better steward to our environment and will further reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil. In providing this tax credit, we promote a greater sense of innovation for the future of automobiles.

In addition to renewable fuels, I believe we also need to make a serious investment in renewable sources of energy like wind, solar and biomass. It is for this reason I have introduced three different bills that will make current tax incentives permanent. The residential energy efficient tax credit, wind energy production tax credit and the renewable energy production tax credit all have been effective in promoting the investment and production of renewable energy. With energy sources like wind, solar and biomass, the up front costs for investment by producers and consumers are high. By giving individuals and businesses small incentives, like the \$2,000 solar credit, we can make it easier for these technologies to be taken advantage of.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I believe we need to take many different approaches in making America energy independent. With the Energy Policy Act of 2005, we took steps forward in reducing our dependence on foreign oil by creating policy that increased the use of renewable energy in tandem with increasing our domestic production of energy sources. Due to the energy bill, we have seen over \$100 million invested in wind energy and four to five new ethanol and biodiesel plants in my district. In total, we saw investment in renewable energy double in the United States to \$68 billion dollars.

We need this investment in renewable energy to continue. These bills are good for farmers, the automobile industry, businesses, consumers, the environment and most importantly, the goal of reducing our dependence on foreign oil. I believe the legislation that I have introduced today, achieves the goals in renewable energy we need to achieve. I ask my colleagues to join me in moving forward with this innovative approach.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUTS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, the following is a list of young men who embody service and responsibility and have received the status of Eagle Scout. Today I want to applaud their achievement.

As a proud parent of four Eagle Scouts myself, I can attest to the hard work and dedication these men have put forth to become an Eagle Scout.

Only 5 percent of all Boy Scouts attain the highest advancement rank of Eagle Scout. To do so, a Boy Scout must excel in areas of

leadership, service and outdoor skills, Eagle Scouts must earn 21 merit badges, 12 specific merit badges are required, including, First Aid, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Environmental Science, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Camping, and Family Life.

Service and responsibility are the foundation of the Boy Scouts of America, and these fine young men have mastered an array of skills. Today I want to honor their commitment to these principles.

It is my privilege today to congratulate the following Eagle Scouts on their fine accomplishment:

Morgan Campbell, Anthony Stokes, Michael Maloof, Colin Bornmann, Daryl Lambert, Tyler Campbell, David Benhammou, Joshua Bonlek, Jacob Gelsinger, James Allen, Andrew Perroni, Eric Gillaspie, Stephen Byvoet, Erik Schlabs, Aaron Straight.

Timothy Martin, Erik Umland, Charles Overbay, Nathaniel Jeffrey, Christopher Wu, Jeffrey Marlor, Michael McCreight, Benjamin Kush, Adam Colvin, Anil Damle, Michael Joseph, Alexander Norr, Jonathan Miller, Steven Falk, Peter Zupan, Aaron Schlagheck, Jacob Whatcott, Mathew Jennings, Christopher Howe, Brandon Turner.

Austin Nestlerode, Aric Higgins, Aaron Burkhardt, Gregory Wingerter, Stephen Fitzwater, Christopher Malley, Andrew Petering, Andrew Renahan, Michael Tope, Gregory Williams, Joshua Antuna, Jeff Tindell, Gabriel Bennett, Joseph Becar, Stephen Marzulla, Alexander McElhaney, Kyle Moody, Nathan Bennion, Peter Zupan, Jeffery Seymore.

Andrew Kugler, Charles Balch, Joshua Godshall, Timothy Jutras, Devin Sperle, Christopher Weiler, John Vogt, Cameron Ackley, Austin Williams, Stephen Cooley, Christopher Maddox, Benjamin Carlson, Nicholas Holmes, Forrest Lampella, David Law, Daniel McConkie, Kyle Spencer, Adam Stanton, Mark Nader, Tyler Hill.

Benjamin Hallgarth, Daniel Evans, Brian Hicks, Nicholas Glass, Aaron Busse, Derek Kirchhoefer, Alexander Ramsay, William Whittemore, Jr., Luke Saunders, Connor O'Laughlin, Nicholas Davis, Aaron Novy, Ian Watson, Sean Steele, Jordan Barnett, Kenji Tanabe, Christopher Ciccolella, Bryan Bredfeldt, Jonathan Johnson, Christopher Temple.

Michael Temple, Matthew Davidson, Adam Feliz, Sean Anderson, David Lloyd, Raymond Stauffer, Adam Khan, Stephen Hornung, Stephen Gremillion, Robert Miller, Adam Jensen, Peter Mattingly, Benjamin Provolt, Robert Burns, James Dwyer, Christopher Hare, Nicholas Cunningham, Skylar Warner, Jared Stoltz, Erik Rodriguez.

Adam Phipps, Adam Muffler, Joseph Yeurdjian, Seth Grover, Matthew Heimerman, Krystopher Ford, Robert Burton, James Nealy, Carson Hiltbrand, Nathan Mather, Matthew Sewell, Nicholas Kramer, Matthew Ford, Michael Coleman, Kevin Zrust, Trevor Wallner, Jordan Smiley, Matthew Zrust, Nikolas Rajcevich, Bryan Rapacz.

Colby Baker, Chad Barends, Alma Dally, Daniel Hellewell, Kurt Hanson, Roger Greenlaw III, Andrew Grimald, Aaron Cowles, Thomas Lightbody.

TRIBUTE TO S. JERRARD SMITH

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. S. Jerrard Smith, a philanthropist and leader for Colorado Springs.

He was a respected businessman, who served as president of Western Forge from 1998–2001 and also the managing director of the Colorado Baking Company. Yet what he valued more than any of these accomplishments was a drive for making the community of Colorado Springs a better place for all residents.

Mr. Smith epitomized philanthropy and giving. Under his leadership, fundraising grew over 18 percent during his 5 years as United Way president, to more than \$5.5 million that goes a long way toward community projects and revitalization. He has left a legacy for Pikes Peak United Way that no other has nor ever will.

Jerry was a man with great vision and a passion for giving. He lived all of the core principles that United Way champions—Respect, Caring, Fairness, Integrity, Competence, Celebration and Passion. Friends described him as a renaissance man, who enjoyed symphony, opera, gardening, and gourmet cooking, a man equally at ease talking about football and azaleas.

There was a special place in his heart for this community and the United Way. He had served the agency first as chair in the 1980s, and was its chair again in 2002, when the position of CEO opened and he sought it.

Jerry passed away while doing something he loved—running in North Cheyenne Canyon. Jerry touched the lives of everyone he met, his legacy is eternal. The City of Colorado Springs is deeply grateful for his contributions and he will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO GUARDIAN INDUSTRIES AND ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Guardian Industries which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this week. This company's positive impact on Michigan's economy should be commended and I am pleased they are headquartered in my district, in Auburn Hills, Michigan.

Guardian is one of the largest manufacturers of float glass and fabricated glass products. They also manufacture and supply the automotive industry with a variety of exterior products and have a significant presence in the building materials distribution business. In addition, Guardian is the world's largest producer of mirrors.

Guardian Industries began in 1932 as Guardian Glass Company, a small windshield fabricator in Detroit, Michigan. In 1968, the company changed its name to Guardian Industries Corporation and two years later they opened their first float glass manufacturing line

in Carleton, Michigan. Nearly thirty years later, in 1995, Guardian moved their corporate headquarters to a new facility in Auburn Hills, which I now represent.

Guardian Industries long-time contribution to Michigan's economy is substantial. Through three divisions—glass, automotive, and building products—Guardian Industries employs nearly 19,000 workers, including more than 1,000 in southeast Michigan. Guardian's commitment to making southeast Michigan a focus point for innovation can be seen through the company's Science & Technology Center. Guardian has also been an active supporter of the community, such as offering scholarships for local students pursuing advance education and providing financial support to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Madam Speaker, Guardian Industries has been a leader in the United States and global glass, automotive, and building products industries. I congratulate them on their 75th anniversary as they continue to implement its philosophy of entrepreneurship and progressive management.

HONORING DR. MARSHA COLEMAN-ADEBAYO FOR HER LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO CIVIL RIGHTS

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today, as we begin observance of Black History Month, to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Dr. Marsha Coleman-Adebayo, a leader in the struggle for civil rights and worker protection.

Dr. Marsha Coleman-Adebayo won an historic lawsuit in 2000 against the Environmental Protection Agency for race, sex, and color discrimination and a hostile work environment. As a result of this victory and her subsequent testimony before Congress, the Notification of Federal Employees Anti-Discrimination and Retaliation Act ("NO FEAR Act") was passed by Congress and signed into law. Thousands of federal workers and their families have benefited from this law.

After passage of this legislation, Dr. Coleman-Adebayo formed the No FEAR Coalition, a group of civil rights and whistle-blowing organizations dedicated to working for increased legislative protections for federal employees, who speak out to protect the public good. We must ensure that these courageous individuals are not penalized.

Dr. Coleman-Adebayo has had a distinguished academic career. She earned a B.A. degree from Barnard College/Columbia University and a doctorate degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She holds an academic chair at George Mason University and is an Adjunct Professor at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Studies. She has also taught at MIT, American University and the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Dr. Coleman-Adebayo has served at the United Nations, representing it in Ethiopia and Tanzania. At the National Summit on Africa, she chaired the Sustainable Development and Environment Expert Group and was the Executive Secretary for the U.S./South Africa Bi-national Commission.