

The need for this legislation is clear. Counterfeiting and piracy costs the global economy between \$500 and \$600 billion a year in lost sales. That's around 5 to 7 percent of global trade. It costs the United States between \$200 and \$250 billion a year in lost sales, including 750,000 jobs.

And it's not just about money. Counterfeiting and piracy can place human lives at risk. As counterfeiting proliferates in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, aircraft, and auto parts, the harm can be a matter of life and death. For example, the World Health Organization estimates that the prevalence of counterfeit pharmaceuticals ranges from less than 1 percent in developed countries to over 30 percent in developing countries, and over 50 percent of counterfeit pharmaceuticals are obtained from illicit websites. The Center for Medicine in the Public Interest estimates that counterfeit drug commerce will grow 13 percent annually through 2010, nearly twice the rate of legitimate pharmaceuticals. As we read stories about people being harmed by counterfeit toothpaste, toys, or drugs, we see the real effects of these practices on American lives.

This legislation attempts to address these intellectual property offenses in a broad and encompassing manner. It does not take only one approach toward bolstering our intellectual property laws but rather tackles the challenges in several ways. First, Titles I and II strengthen the substantive civil and criminal laws relating to copyright and trademark infringement. For example, the legislation address several issues related to registration of a copyright and the manner in which damages are calculated for certain claims of infringement, as well as tackling some of the problems that occur at our Nation's borders and harmonizing the various forfeiture laws for the different intellectual property offenses.

Second, Title III of the legislation establishes the Office of the United States Intellectual Property Enforcement Representative, USIPER, in the Executive Office of the President, to handle nationwide and international coordination of intellectual property enforcement efforts. This legislation provides that the USIPER, together with an interagency Intellectual Property Advisory Committee, composed of every federal agency with expertise in either Intellectual Property protection or enforcement, will generate a joint strategic plan to marshal the disparate resources and expertise of United States enforcement efforts and coordinate and consolidate these efforts.

Third, Title IV provides for the appointment of intellectual property attachés to work with foreign countries in their efforts to combat counterfeiting and piracy. The attachés will be responsible for coordinating training and technical assistance programs within the host country.

Finally, Title V of the legislation raises the level of intellectual property enforcement coordination within the Department of Justice by placing the functions of the existing Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section related to enforcement of intellectual property laws and trade secrets under the auspices of a new Intellectual Property Division, and also transfers the International Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinators to this new Division. This section of the bill also provides for additional law enforcement resources, including local law enforcement grants and additional CHIPS and dedicated FBI personnel, and re-

quires DOJ to provide an annual report of its efforts in intellectual property enforcement. Finally, the bill promotes transparency in the prosecutorial process by directing the DOJ to review and consider modifying their standards for accepting or declining prosecution of the intellectual property laws, including procedures for advising complainants and victims of intellectual property crimes.

If the United States is to maintain its position in the increasingly competitive global economy, we must fulfill our obligation to American intellectual property rights holders and ensure that their inventions, creations, writings, and discoveries are not stolen without effective recourse. This comprehensive piece of legislation goes a long way toward protecting that creativity and ingenuity that is vital to the U.S. economy.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTY  
MARKOWITZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brooklyn Borough Hall President Marty Markowitz. No one works harder for the 2.5 million plus residents of Brooklyn than Marty. He has been the chief advocate for the Borough's economic, social, and cultural interests while initiating and promoting efforts to improve the quality of life for Brooklynites.

Marty was born and raised in Crown Heights, graduating from Wingate High School in 1962. He received his B.A. in political science after attending night school at Brooklyn College from 1962 to 1970.

Marty began his career in public service in 1971, at the age of 26, by organizing the Flatbush Tenants Council, which grew into Brooklyn Housing and Family Services, the largest tenants' advocacy organization in New York State. He is also widely known for creating 2 of New York City's largest and longest-running free concert series: the Seaside Summer Concert Series in Coney Island, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Concert Series also in Flatbush.

Marty was elected to the New York State Senate in 1979, where he served 11 consecutive terms representing Central Brooklyn. However, he always dreamed of serving all of Brooklyn, a goal he achieved as the first Borough President elected in the new millennium. He was elected to a second term in 2005.

Marty set an ambitious agenda as Borough President. Marty's agenda focused on the core issues of housing, neighborhood preservation, and community his more than three decades in public service.

Marty saw a chance to fulfill his campaign promise of returning a national sports team to Brooklyn for the first time since the Dodgers left for Los Angeles in 1957 when the New Jersey Nets were put up for sale in 2002. He has actively supported moving the team from New Jersey to a new downtown arena at Atlantic Yards. The team hopes to play its first game in Brooklyn in the fall of 2009.

Marty has also assisted in creating jobs for Brooklynites. He oversaw a historic community benefits agreement for Atlantic Yards, guaran-

teeing that the majority of the new jobs generated by the project would go to those Brooklynites who needed them most, including residents of nearby public housing. He has been a tireless advocate for bringing the cruise-ship industry to Brooklyn, and in April 2006 the Queen Mary II will begin docking in Red Hook, followed by the Crown Princess in June, creating new jobs and introducing thousands of visitors to this great borough.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive achievements of our Borough President Marty Markowitz for his commitment to the residents of Brooklyn, New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this business savvy man who loves Brooklyn so very much.

UNETHICAL IMPRISONMENT OF  
PABLO PACHECO AVILA

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the continued injustice facing a Cuban prisoner of conscience, Pablo Pacheco Avila. In March of 2003, Cuban authorities led a crackdown on dissident movements. One of their victims was independent political journalist, Pablo Pacheco. Under Law 88, persons found guilty of destabilizing the Cuban regime by supporting the policy of the United States can be sentenced to many years in prison. Pablo Pacheco was sentenced to 20 years in prison under Cuban Law 88. By simply expressing political opinions and exercising the right to free speech, Pablo Pacheco and over 70 other people were arrested.

Pablo Pacheco began his prison sentence in Prison de Aguiç in Colon, but has since been transferred several times. During this time, the prisoner's health has been declining, as Pablo suffers from renal ectopia of his right kidney. In a country renowned for its medical care, it appears difficult for Pablo to receive the attention he needs. He continues to suffer from severe pain. His medical conditions have been exacerbated by the harassment he has experienced in the Cuban prison system. While in prison, Pablo Pacheco has continued his fight to expose the failings of the Cuban regime, resulting in further punishments.

I urge the Cuban regime to end this unethical imprisonment of Pablo Pacheco Avila. His status as a prisoner of conscience and his declining health urgently call for his immediate release.

RECOGNIZING 200 YEARS OF RESEARCH, SERVICE, AND STEWARDSHIP BY NOAA AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES

SPEECH OF

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 147) recognizing 200 years of research, service to the

people of the United States, and stewardship of the marine environment by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies, and for other purposes:

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, for their 200 years of dedicated research and service to the United States.

NOAA and its predecessors conducted some of the earliest oceanographic research and have continued to serve the United States for commerce, defense, and environmental purposes. NOAA is a leader for scientific research and environmental monitoring and protection, providing an outstanding example to the international community.

NOAA continues that storied legacy in the 21st century with and oceanographic monitoring, the protection of our natural resources, its stewardship of the marine environment, and as our first line of warning for storms and hurricanes.

NOAA programs have provided invaluable service to commerce and defense, serving throughout the country's history in war and peacetime; more than 100 million maps and charts for U.S. and Allied Forces.

Their programs promote safe and efficient commerce/transportation and work toward the advancement of a global environmental observation system. Programs also include missions for the conservation of marine resources, coastal management, and protection from storms and other hazards—especially Gulf Coast hurricanes.

NOAA's National Weather Service/Weather Forecast Offices at the Corpus Christi International Airport and the Brownsville/South Padre Island International Airport provide weather and flood warnings, daily forecasts, and meteorological and hydrologic data for the South Texas Gulf Coast area.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service/Seafood Inspection Program in Brownsville offers a voluntary inspection program for fishery products on a fee-for-service basis, as well as other services to local fishermen and fish processors.

NOAA's National Ocean Service operates seven tide stations in Texas to monitor sea level trends, provide real-time data for storm surge warning, including South Texas locations in Corpus Christi and Port Isabel.

This week I will greet NOAA researchers in my district who are seeking a new location for a weather research center. I look forward to welcoming these distinguished researchers and discussing their needs for the future weather research center.

HONORING HOLLY AND HENRY  
WENDT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative THOMPSON to congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are being honored by Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County with the first annual Wetzel Community Leadership Award. They are being recognized for their contributions to life in Sonoma County and

their philanthropic leadership on behalf of numerous local causes and organizations.

Henry and Holly have been fixtures in Sonoma County for many years, where until recently they owned the highly regarded Quivira Vineyards. Mr. Wendt, formerly the CEO of SmithKline Beecham, spent four decades working in the pharmaceutical and health care industry, and he remains active on the boards of several major corporations.

Together, the Wendts have given greatly to the community in Sonoma County, particularly in the fields of education and health care. They offered their substantial resources to Healdsburg High School to renovate and expand the Holly and Henry Wendt Library. Mr. Wendt serves on the advisory board of the Pediatric Dental Initiative, and the Wendts' involvement has helped speed the development of the Redwood Empire Surgery Center. This facility will bring the highest quality dental care to youngsters in coastal northern California.

Mr. Wendt has given generously with his time and deep knowledge of healthcare to facilitate the work of Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County. His substantial leadership gift helped ensure that the Healdsburg District Hospital campaign was successful and the hospital remains an outstanding health care provider. Further, he has been instrumental in the success of the Community Foundation Sonoma County. Having served multiple terms as chairman of the board, he provided superb guidance and experience to help the foundation expand its resources and reach, and he remains a member of the leadership board.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, at this time it is appropriate that we congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are receiving the Wetzel Community Leadership Award. The Wendts have been dynamic and generous figures in Sonoma County, and the wisdom and guidance they bring to philanthropic endeavors has been a boon to the community.

HONORING HOLLY AND HENRY  
WENDT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Healdsburg High School to renovate and expand the Holly and Henry Wendt Library. In addition, their work with the Pediatric Dental Initiative, for which Mr. Wendt serves on the advisory board, has progressed the work of the soon to be opened Redwood Empire Surgery Center. This facility will bring the highest quality dental care to youngsters in coastal northern California.

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A TRIBUTE TO JAMES P.  
FREELAND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor James P. Freeland. James was born January 7, 1940, in Durham, NC, to Willie and Annie Freeland. The youngest of six children, at age 11 he was selected as one of the Red Feather Poster Kids for the United Way Campaign representing the John Avery Boys Club for the city of Durham. He graduated high school in 1958 and was later employed by a local supermarket for 7 years as the assistant butcher.

James joined the U.S. Air Force in January 1962. He received an honorable discharge in 1966 and 3 years later moved to Brooklyn, New York, in May 1969. In February 1970, James obtained employment with the New York Telephone Company where he worked as a service technician and assistant manager. In September 1999, he retired from Verizon Communications after 29 years of dedicated service.

James joined New Canaan Baptist Church, the same year he married Gennie Chennault. In 1980, their daughter Jamelia was born. He is a member of the mass choir and the North Carolina Club. James also serves as the Men's Day chairman and president of the Building Fund Committee. In addition, he sings with the male choir and is a member of the trustee board, the Missionary Disciples Outreach Ministry and donates his time as a Sunday school teacher.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize James P. Freeland for his huge heart and generous spirit. He is a man who has a great sense of humor and who is always willing to lend a helping hand.