

INTRODUCTION OF THE WILDLIFE WITHOUT BORDERS AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007: DECEMBER 11, 2007

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the Wildlife Without Borders Authorization Act.

The Wildlife Without Borders Program was created administratively by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1983. The mission of this program is to develop wildlife management and conservation efforts to maintain global species diversity.

While the Congress has already created Multinational Species Conservation Funds to assist highly imperiled African and Asian elephants, Rhinoceros and Tigers, Great Apes and Marine Turtles, this program has provided a funding lifeline to a number of additional endangered species that are not currently eligible for funding, are not considered a megafauna or a flagship species and frankly lack the public attention necessary to generate private financial assistance.

The first conservation grants issued under this program were awarded to the Wildlife Without Borders Program for Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative. Since that time, additional grants have been allocated for projects in Mexico, India, China and the Russian Federation. In fact, in the past two decades, the International Affairs Office within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has approved 583 conservation projects at a cost of \$13 million in taxpayer money. These funds have been matched by \$43.7 million in private non-federal money which is a remarkable 3 to 1 matching ratio.

Among the conservation projects that have been approved are funds for the Winged Ambassadors Program to stop the killing of Swainsons' hawks, a project to restore and conserve the forest habitat for monarch butterflies, jaguar conservation in the Yucatan region, the restoration of the California condor in Baja California, Mexico and the purchase of essential equipment for law enforcement personnel to protect imperiled Far Eastern leopards, Amur tigers and snow leopards.

A fundamental goal of this program has been to build conservation capacity and establish ecosystem management regimes by allocating a small amount of U.S. taxpayer money. It is no exaggeration to state that these are the only funds available to assist these highly endangered international species and without this investment these species may become extinct in the wild. In addition, this program has complemented the activities of the Multinational Species Conservation Funds.

By establishing a Congressional authorization for the Wildlife Without Borders Program we will send a positive message to the international community that the United States is committed to its international wildlife treaty obligations and we recognize the long-term importance of this program by enacting it into law.

I urge my colleagues to support this important conservation legislation and want to thank my distinguished colleague from New Jersey, Congressman JIM SEXTON for joining with me in this effort.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DENNIS FRATE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the life and legacy of Dr. Dennis Frate, a medical anthropologist known for his studies of rural health in the Mississippi Delta.

Dr. Frate was a former pharmacy professor at the University of Mississippi. He worked in the School of Pharmacy from 1980 until 2000. He retired June 30, 2007 as a professor of preventative medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, which is in my Congressional District.

As we are all well aware, rural areas of this country are vastly underserved. Dr. Frate took this problem head-on through the Rural Health Research Program. Dr. Frate served as the coordinator of the Rural Health Research Program and principal investigator of a National Institutes of Health study to develop community-based programs to control high blood pressure in rural populations.

Many of our colleagues here in Congress have espoused the notion of expanding healthcare coverage. Dr. Frate lived it.

It is through community efforts as demonstrated by Dr. Frate that we may be able to achieve a reality of accessible and affordable healthcare for all.

During his 20-plus years of service, Dr. Frate touched the lives of many, proving that even the simplest ideas can make a big difference.

I take great pride in commending the work of Dr. Dennis Frate on a job well done for more than 20 years.

MORTGAGE REFORM AND ANTI-PREDATORY LENDING ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD MILLER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3915) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to reform consumer mortgage practices and provide accountability for such practices, to establish licensing and registration requirements for residential mortgage originators, to provide certain minimum standards for consumer mortgage loans, and for other purposes:

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, this legislation may be interpreted to have the unintended consequence of changing the federal regulator governing Farm Credit System lenders, who as mortgage loan originators will be subject to the regulatory controls in this legislation. As H.R. 3915 progresses through Congress, I intend to work with my colleagues to ensure that any regulatory controls resulting from this legislation to Farm Credit System institutions are managed by their current federal regulator, the Farm Credit Administration.

IN HONOR OF DAN deGRASSI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my cousin Dan deGrassi on his retirement. Dan has worked for Santa Cruz County in environmental preservation for most of his adult life.

A third generation Berkley graduate, Dan deGrassi completed his education to enter his adult years in a world in turmoil over war, race relations and social mores. With deep feelings about the changes he observed in the societal fabric around him, he became a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War and as such, Dan sought alternative service. It was then that he started his environmental work in 1971 at the Ecology Center in Berkley, California.

Realizing a connection to environmental preservation, Dan moved down to Santa Cruz in 1973 and began work at the local recycling center. The following year, Dan returned to school, this time to study in environmental studies, a passion that would follow him throughout his life. In 1974 Dan married Laurel and the two welcomed their daughter Jessica 2 years later.

Starting 2 weeks after his daughter's birth, Dan began his work at the Santa Cruz County Advanced Planning Department, where he worked to preserve prime agricultural areas. Two years later, he and Laurel welcomed their second child, a boy, Aaron to the family. Later on Dan moved on to curbside recycling and helped pioneer the Materials Recovery Facility, which specializes in organization of recyclable materials.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to consider Dan both family and friend. His work in ensuring the preservation of the environment and his dedication to Santa Cruz County is inspiring and I would like to congratulate him on his retirement and thank him for his service.

TRIBUTE TO C.T. COZART

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. C.T. Cozart from my hometown of Chattanooga, TN, as he steps down as Chairman of the Board of Carson Newman College. Thank you for allowing me to take a moment to recognize his tremendous contributions and to thank him for his service to our state and nation. Mr. Cozart has been an outstanding leader in our civic and faith communities.

C.T. graduated from the University of Tennessee and began a 30-year career with Chevron. In 1996, he retired as the vice president of marketing for Chevron Lubricants and moved back to his home state of Tennessee. His career caused frequent moves, so he and his wife became active in over ten churches throughout the country. The church was his most important connection with each new town and its people. C.T. is a deacon, has taught Sunday school, and served as head of the pastor search committee at two churches, most recently at Red Bank Baptist Church.

In 2000, C.T. was asked to serve on the Board of Trustees of Carson Newman College, one of the nation's premiere Baptist colleges, located in Jefferson City, Tennessee. Upon becoming chairman in 2006, he led the board with integrity and dignity through some of the most challenging times in the school's history. Throughout his tenure, his leadership has united Carson Newman and provided a clear and distinct path for the future of this Christian institution. Without exception, his tenure demonstrates the Christ-like manner in which C.T. Cozart has led his life.

C.T. is a charter member of the SimCenter, National Center for Computational Engineering at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. As one of only two members of this board with a non-engineering background, he brings a unique business perspective to the education community.

C.T. has been married to his wife Molly, for 46 years and is the proud father of two married adult children, Kathy and Scott Cushing, and Scott and Elaine Cozart. He is blessed with two grandchildren Camden and Mackenzie. C.T. is a wonderful example of integrity and leadership, and I am proud to recognize him today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to record my vote on rollcall No. 1141. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO THE MARYLAND LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate those honored by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation for their outstanding contributions to the provision of legal services and access to justice to the poor.

While every American has a constitutional right to counsel when facing criminal prosecution, when faced with a civil action—including eviction, debt collection and bankruptcy—financial means too often determine access to our courts. The Maryland Legal Services Corporation has fought against this barrier to equal justice, raising funds and distributing grants to nonprofit organizations that provide civil legal assistance to low-income Marylanders.

Established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1982, MLSC has been at the forefront of the civil legal services movement for 25 years, awarding grants totaling over \$81 million to help provide services in more than 1.2 million legal matters for Maryland's families.

In 2007, MLSC honored the following five individuals and one organization for their extraordinary efforts to expand access to justice for the poor—

The Robert M. Bell Medal for Access to Justice was presented to Hon. J. Joseph Curran, Jr., former Attorney General for Maryland and now counsel to the Maryland Injured Workers Fund, for his extraordinary commitment to furthering access to justice for the poor throughout his distinguished career. MLSC created this award in 2004 and presented it to Chief Judge Bell, after which the award was named in his honor to be given only when warranted.

The Arthur W. Machen, Jr., Award was presented to Connie Kratovil Lavelle, who has been a legal services attorney, private practitioner and now deputy director of the Department of Family Administration of the Administrative Office of the Courts, for her extraordinary public service by providing legal representation to the poor and improving the delivery of legal services in Maryland.

The Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award was presented to Lauren Young, director of litigation of the Maryland Disability Law Center, for her outstanding work as a public interest lawyer providing civil legal services to the poor and the developmentally disabled.

The William L. Marbury Outstanding Advocate Award was presented to Maureen Larenas, manager of the Tacoma Park Silver Spring, TESS, Community Service Center, for her outstanding advocacy in Maryland on behalf of low-income persons.

The Herbert S. Garten Public Citizen Award was given to The Daily Record, which has provided Maryland's business and legal news since 1888, for demonstrating an extraordinary commitment to increase access to justice for the poor in Maryland.

MLSC also presented an Award of Special Recognition to John H. Michener, former director of Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service and director of the Department of Human Resources Legal Services and Judicare Programs.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me today in honoring the recipients of the 2007 Maryland Legal Services Corporation Awards for their exceptional dedication and exemplary commitment to public service, equal justice and the welfare of the most vulnerable Marylanders.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. SALOMÓN HERNÁNDEZ FLORES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a compassionate educator, a civil rights activist, an ordained Baptist minister and veteran from the Fourth Congressional District, Dr. Salomón Hernández Flores. Dr. Flores passed away on Wednesday, December 5, 2007, in Milwaukee at age 79.

Dr. Flores was dedicated to his students, and his illustrious career as an educator began over 50 years ago, as a high school teacher of English and Spanish in Kansas and Missouri. Dr. Flores retired at age 72 as Professor Emeritus from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee after 24 years of service in the School of Education. He had also taught and trained teachers at universities including

Avila College, Northeastern State University, Ohio State University, University of Maryland and Chicago State University. At the national level, he was an early practitioner, advocate and scholar on bilingual education and served over the years as a consultant on bilingual education and multi-cultural education to numerous agencies and educational institutions.

During the 60s and 70s, Dr. Flores was active in the civil rights and Chicano rights movements as an educational activist and proposal writer. He worked directly with the Teacher Training Corp. of Texas, and the Midwest Desegregation Center. In recognition for his contributions as a Chicano activist, he was granted an audience with President Echeverria of Mexico. As an ordained American Baptist minister, he served as pastor at two churches, one each in Kansas and Missouri, with bilingual ministries. He participated in two missionary tours, one to Cuba and the other to Mexico, while attending Ottawa University.

Dr. Flores was born on October 14, 1928, in Kansas City, Kansas to immigrant Mexican parents. He attended Rosedale High School in Kansas City, where he held championship titles in the mile run. He continued his track career in college. Dr. Flores received his B.A. in English at Ottawa University in 1953, his M.A. in Spanish at the University of Kansas in 1963, and his Ph.D. in foreign language instruction at the Ohio State University in 1969. He honorably served his country during the Korean conflict.

Dr. Flores leaves behind a wonderful legacy of not only three children, Maria, David and José and beloved sister and brother, Damaris F. Mendez (nee Flores) and Faron; but also, the many colleagues, students and friends with whom he shared his knowledge, kindness and generosity over the years. The "Salomón Flores Scholarship Fund" has been established in his name to assist students in the completion of their educations.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Dr. Salomón Hernández Flores and his many positive contributions to the Fourth Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CAMERON MARTINDALE

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the contributions of Dr. Cameron Martindale who is retiring from Troy University on December 13. Her record of accomplishments for the university, the students and our community at large is impressive.

On April 13, 2000, Dr. Martindale was named third president of Troy University Montgomery and in May 2001, she was also named vice chancellor for advancement for the Troy University System. Prior to these appointments, she served the university for more than 14 years in a number of positions including interim president, vice president for institutional advancement, and project officer for Troy's Rosa Parks Museum. In August 2003, Dr. Martindale was appointed senior vice chancellor for advancement and external relations for Troy University.

At Troy, Dr. Martindale stabilized the institution's finances and, during a period of proration of State funds, was able to carry over a