

There is an understandable level of apprehension about the impact of free movement on individual economies at a time of worries about the global economic picture, the food crisis, skyrocketing oil prices. There is also major worry about the increasing high level of crime.

With the economies of the United States and Britain slowing down and the negative impact that it could have on the vital tourism industry in the Caribbean, countries fear they would be hurt by a declining tourism industry and a steady influx of job seekers from their neighbors. They are also deeply worried about the machinations of regional criminal networks that are far more sophisticated than the police and other security forces.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS.
MATTHEW AND DIANE
DUNASKISS ON THEIR 30TH WED-
DING ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Diane Dunaskiss upon their 30th wedding anniversary.

The couple first met in the Lake Orion School District, where they still reside today. Diane Tench had always wanted to be a teacher, and after graduating from Wayne State University, she became an elementary teacher at Pine Tree Elementary in Lake Orion, Michigan. Her loyalty and commitment to the school grew in the year 2000, as she became principal. Diane Dunaskiss was elected state-wide and is serving her second term on the Wayne State Board of Governors. Matthew Dunaskiss put himself through college by making buttons at local fairs and, later, graduated from the University of Michigan. Mr. Dunaskiss started his career in teaching, but life took him on another path, which led him into politics and small business. Matthew served at the state level as a State Representative and State Senator for over 20 years.

While Matthew and Diane developed their careers, they decided to start a family and had three beautiful children, Jamie, Justin, and Jordan. Through all of their hard work, Mr. Dunaskiss still prepares meals he thinks his wife will enjoy, and Mrs. Dunaskiss still finds time to help her husband out around the house. They have raised their children in a loving, fun, and educational environment, and have shown them, through good times and bad, to support and love your spouse unconditionally.

Madam Speaker, Matthew and Diane have demonstrated their enduring love and commitment to one another for the past thirty years. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Diane Dunaskiss on their anniversary as well as their continued devotion to the community and our country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit documentation consistent with the new Republican Earmark Standards.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW.

Bill Number: H.R. 6599—Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies.

Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Account: Military Construction, Navy.

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Naval Station Mayport.

Address of Receiving Entity: Mayport, Florida.

Description of Request: I have secured \$3,530,000 in funding in H.R. 6599 in the Military Construction, Navy account for an Aircraft Refueling project at Naval Station Mayport, Florida.

This project will construct a two (2) outlet, 300gpm/outlet aircraft direct fueling system to include concrete foundations and slab on grade, 15,000 gallon double wall steel tanks (to be relocated from the existing truck fill stand), concrete containment berms, double walled underground piping, valves, pumps, pressure gauges, filter separators, leak detection monitors for piping and tanks, float switches, double wall steel product recovery tank, emergency shut off valves, fuel quality monitors, pipe vents, fire protection, pressure indicating transmitter and water drainoff system. It would also construct underground double walled fuel transfer line from bulk storage to the direct fueling facility. The project will properly close, by abandoning in place, the existing underground fuel transfer line from the bulk storage to the existing truck fill stand. Closure will include pigging/purging the lines, grout injection of ends, core boring and soil sampling along the fuel transfer line, and submission of a Florida Department of Environmental Protection Closure Assessment Report.

In addition, this project will construct a 150 m2, single story building on a concrete slab on grade and concrete footings. The building and fuel lab will include vinyl floor tile, steel stud/gypsum wallboard walls, hollow core interior steel doors, solid core exterior steel doors, double glazed single hung windows, modified bitumen roofing, interior plumbing, electrical power and lighting wiring, data/communication wiring, fluorescent lighting fixtures, ceramic bathroom tile, HVAC system/distribution/controls and site utilities (electric, water, sanitary, fiber optic communication/data). The project demolishes building 18 (32 m2) and the truck fill stand facility 142 (400 GM).

Naval Station Mayport is a strategic base for the Navy. This project was programmed to receive funding in Fiscal Year 2012 but was identified by the base commander as the highest unfunded priority in Fiscal Year 2009.

Military Construction projects are always 100 percent funded by the U.S. Federal Government so there is no opportunity for matching funds.

INTRODUCTION OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FRAMEWORK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of three bills I have introduced today that will provide a comprehensive regulatory framework for all genetically engineered plants, animals, bacteria, and other organisms. The bills will protect our food, environment, and health. They are a common sense precaution to ensure genetically engineered foods do no harm. Genetic engineering is having a serious impact on the food we eat, on the environment, and on farmers. To ensure we can maximize benefits and minimize hazards, Congress must provide a comprehensive regulatory framework for all genetically engineered products.

Current laws, such as our food safety and environmental laws were not written with this technology in mind. Clearer laws are necessary to ensure that these new scientific capabilities and the associated impacts are closely monitored.

Combined, these bills will ensure that consumers are protected, increase food safety, protect farmers' rights and make biotech companies liable for their products.

THE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOOD RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

Consumers wish to know whether the food they purchase and consume is a genetically engineered food. Concerns include the potential transfer of allergens into food and other health risks, potential environmental risks associated with the genetic engineering of crops, and religiously and ethically based dietary restrictions. Adoption and implementation of mandatory labeling requirements for genetically engineered food produced in the United States would facilitate international trade. It would allow American farmers and companies to export and appropriately market their products—both genetically engineered and non-genetically engineered—to foreign customers. This bill acknowledges consumers have a right to know what genetically engineered foods they are eating:

Requires food companies to label all foods that contain or are produced with genetically engineered material and requires the FDA to periodically test products to ensure compliance.

Voluntary, non-GE food labels are authorized.

A legal framework is established to ensure the accuracy of labeling without creating significant economic hardship on the food production system.

THE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED SAFETY ACT

Given the consensus among the scientific community that genetic engineering can potentially introduce hazards, such as allergens or toxins; genetically engineered foods need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and cannot be presumed to be generally recognized as safe. The possibility of such hazards dictates a cautious approach to genetically engineered food approvals. However, FDA has glossed over the food safety concerns of genetically engineered foods and not taken steps to ensure the safety of these genetically engineered foods.

A pharmaceutical crop or industrial crop is a plant that has been genetically engineered to produce a medical or industrial product, including human and veterinary drugs. Many of the novel substances produced in pharmaceutical crops and industrial crops are for particular medical or industrial purposes only. These substances are not intended to be incorporated in food or to be spread into the environment. That would be equivalent to allowing a prescription drug in the food supply. Experts acknowledge that contamination of human food and animal feed is inevitable due to the inherent imprecision of biological and agricultural systems. This contamination by pharmaceutical crops and industrial crops pose substantial liability and other economic risks to farmers, grain handlers, and food companies.

This bill requires that all genetically engineered foods follow a strenuous food safety review process and attempts to prevent contamination of our food supply by pharmaceutical and industrial crops:

Require the FDA to screen all genetically engineered foods through the current food additive process to ensure they are safe for human consumption, yet continues FDA discretion in applying the safety factors that are generally recognized as appropriate.

Require that unique concerns regarding genetically engineered foods be explicitly examined in the review process, a phase-out of antibiotic resistance markers, and a prohibition on known allergens and requires the FDA to conduct a public comment period of at least 30 days.

Place a temporary moratorium on pharmaceutical crops and industrial crops until all required regulations put forth by this bill with regard to these crops are in effect.

Place a permanent moratorium on pharmaceutical crops and industrial crops grown in an open-air environment and on pharmaceutical crops and industrial crops grown in a commonly used food source.

Require the United States Department of Agriculture to establish a tracking system to regulate the growing, handling, transportation, and disposal of all pharmaceutical and industrial crops and their byproducts to prevent contamination.

Call on the National Academy of Sciences to submit to Congress a report that explores alternative methods to produce pharmaceuticals or industrial chemicals that have the advantage of being conducted in controlled production facilities and do not present the risk of contamination.

THE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FARMER PROTECTION ACT

Agribusiness and biotechnology companies have rapidly consolidated market power at the same time as the average farmer's profits and viability have significantly declined. Policies promoted by biotech corporations have systematically acted to remove basic farmer rights enjoyed since the beginning of agriculture. These policies include unreasonable seed contracts, the intrusion into everyday farm operations, and liability burdens. The introduction of genetically engineered crops has also created obstacles for farmers, including the loss of markets and increased liability concerns. To mitigate the abuses upon farmers, a clear set of farmer rights must be established.

Furthermore, biotech companies are selling a technology that is being commercialized far

in advance of the new and unknown science of genetic engineering. Farmers may suffer from crop failures, neighboring farmers may suffer from cross pollination, increased insect resistance, and unwanted "volunteer" genetically engineered plants, and consumers may suffer from health and environmental impacts. Therefore, biotech companies should be found liable for the failures of genetically engineered crops.

This bill provides several farmer rights and protections to maintain the opportunity to farm and ensures that the creator of the technology assumes all liability:

Farmers may save seeds and seek compensation for failed genetically engineered crops.

Biotech companies may not: shift liability to farmers; nor require access to farmer's property; nor mandate arbitration; nor mandate court of jurisdiction; nor require damages beyond actual fees; nor charge more to American farmers for use of this technology, than they charge farmers in other nations, or any other unfair condition.

Seed companies must: ensure seeds labeled non-GE are accurate; provide clear instructions to reduce cross-pollination, which contaminates other fields; and inform farmers of the risks of using genetically engineered crops.

The EPA is required to evaluate the concern of Bt resistant pests and take actions necessary to prevent resistance to Bt, an important organic pesticide.

The bill prohibits genetic engineering designed to produce sterile seeds and loan discrimination based on the choice of seeds an agricultural producer uses.

The bill places all liability from negative impacts of genetically engineered organisms squarely upon the biotechnology companies that created the genetically engineered organism.

Farmers are granted indemnification to protect them from the liabilities of biotech companies.

The bill prohibits any transfer of liability away from the biotechnology companies that created the genetically engineered organism.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. HOBSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the February 2008 New Republican Earmark Standards Guidance, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman DAVID L. HOBSON.

Bill Number: H.R. 6599.

Provision: Title I, Department of Defense, Military Construction.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ohio National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2825 West Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789.

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$12,800.00 to fund acceleration of construction of a facility to relocate the Ohio Air National Guard's 269th Combat Communications Squadron and 251st Combat Communications

Group to another part of the Springfield, Ohio, Air National Guard Base. The current 25-year-old facility is obsolete and places severe restrictions on the ability to perform equipment maintenance and conduct training operations. It does not comply with existing codes and has excessive operations and maintenance costs. The current building can be reused for other functions but cannot be made functionally adequate for the communications mission.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. GIOVANNI AND LINA DEL SIGNORE ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Mr. and Mrs. Giovanni and Lina Del Signore, who on March 9, 2008 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Giovanni and Lina both grew up in Italy, where they met, and decided to marry in the spring of 1958. Just one week after the wedding Giovanni left his hometown and wife to pursue a future in the United States. Four years later, Lina was finally able to join her husband in Michigan, and in 1963, the couple opened DiGiovanni's Pizza in Livonia, Michigan. Today the Giovannis are the proud owners of the Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, which has been a family affair since its opening in 1988.

While their restaurant business prospered, John and Lina have made time for their loving family they have built together. Over the years, they have been blessed with four beautiful children, Constantino, Luciano, Nazzrena, and Renata. In subsequent years each of their children went on to assist their parents in continuing the tradition of quality and hospitality within the community.

Madam Speaker, this year John and Lina returned to Italy to renew their vows and celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Today, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this spectacular milestone and sending our best wishes for many more years of happiness.

ON THE BIRTH OF MADELYN CLAIRE KAPLAN AND AINSLEY ELIZABETH KAPLAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 29, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my friend Andrew Kaplan and his wife Danleigh Kaplan of Washington on the birth of their new twin girls. Madelyn Claire Kaplan and Ainsley Elizabeth Kaplan were born on July 27, 2008 weighing 5 pounds 2 ounces and 5 pounds 8 ounces respectively. Madelyn and Ainsley have been born into a loving home where they will be raised by parents who are devoted to their well-being and bright future.

I am so excited for this new addition to the Kaplan family. On behalf of my wife Roxanne,