

This crisis was, of course, exacerbated by the failure of the financial regulators to effectively use the tools that they still had at their disposal to avert a meltdown. In recent weeks we have read how the Federal Reserve turned a blind eye to the growing systemic threat facing our financial system. We have read how the SEC failed to use its broker-dealer holding company risk authority to oversee and respond to this crisis. We have read about how they weakened capital rules that allowed securities firms to take on far too much leverage. And in the weeks and months to come, we will all learn a lot more about the causes and consequences of this crisis.

The bill that I am reintroducing today is aimed at opening a dialogue on solutions. I have made some modifications in the text to try to address some of the harmful deregulatory provisions enacted into law in recent years. But I know that the bill may need further refinement. I offer it as a baseline for how we might begin thinking about fixing the mess on Wall Street. There may be additional ideas that could improve the bill. There may be changes needed to ensure that these provisions are fully effective. I look forward to talking with my colleagues, and with outside stakeholders, about how we can begin to address this problem. Because we do need to act.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JAMES
FELDMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. James Feldman, a profoundly respected, inspiring and beloved figure to countless students, colleagues, friends and family. His career at Baldwin Wallace College Conservatory of Music in Berea spanned thirty-two years, during which time he molded young talent in music theory, composition and performance as well as coaching, mentoring and encouraging students in every aspect of life.

James Feldman was born and raised in Rochester, New York. His passion from childhood was music. He earned his MA from the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester. He was awarded his PhD in Music Theory from Kent State University and became a full professor at BW.

Jim has always strived to live in accordance with the ethical principles of Judaism and has been active in religious community life. He met his wife, Charlotte, while playing piano at their synagogue in Rochester. Together with Charlotte and their two sons, Benjamin and Joel, he moved to Berea in 1975 to begin his teaching career at BW. He was active in Beth Israel-West Temple co-writing and producing yearly musicals with Charlotte that elicited enthusiastic reviews citing their ingenuity and delicate sense of humor.

Dr. Feldman was diagnosed with ALS in the fall of 2007. He braved a difficult teaching semester and went on disability in 2008.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in tribute to Jim Feldman, who has dedi-

cated his life's work to his students and his family.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, consistent with House Republican Earmark Standards, I am submitting the following earmark disclosure information for project requests that I made and which were included within the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment for H.R. 2638, the "Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009."

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force.

Project Amount: \$1,600,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Tennessee, 328 Ferris Hall, 1508 Middle Drive, Knoxville, TN 37996.

Description of Request: This funding will be used to explore novel energy harvesting methods, including bio fuels, hydrogen-based systems, miniature nuclear batteries, etc.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide.

Project Amount: \$1,600,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Diamondview Glass Ceramic, 110 West Old AJ Highway, Jefferson City, TN 37760.

Description of Request: This funding will be used for the rapid development of an innovative ceramic crystallite reinforced glass system for light-weight, low-cost ballistic windows for architectural use for threats including small arms and explosions.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN DUNCAN.

Account: Military Construction, ANG.

Project Amount: \$8,000,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: McGee Tyson ANG Base, located at 320 Post Avenue, McGee Tyson ANG Base, TN 37777.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to replace the current KC-135 Squadron Operations Facility located at the 134th Air Refueling Wing, McGee Tyson Air National Guard Base. The Squadron Operations are currently housed in a facility that is antiquated and not properly laid out to allow for the smooth flow of KC-135 operations.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AND BOCA RATON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL'S LYNNE CANCER INSTITUTE

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and to commend the Boca Raton Community Hospital for its renewed efforts to fight breast cancer and to raise awareness of this disease.

Breast cancer claims the lives of thousands of our mothers, daughters and sisters each year. The disease is the second most common type of cancer and the fifth most common cause of cancer death. Yet, if discovered early breast cancer can be treated and the victim's chances of survival greatly increased.

Currently, 61 percent of breast cancers are diagnosed at a localized stage, due largely to early detection by mammography screening and improvements in treatment.

In October, the Boca Raton Community Hospital hosts its 5th annual Go Pink Cancer Awareness Luncheon and later this year, the hospital will open the Eugene and Christine Lynne Cancer Institute at the Sandler Pavilion. This 98,000-square-foot facility will house oncology, chemotherapy and clinical research that will lead the fight against cancer in my South Florida community.

With over 20 oncology physicians, the Institute will treat over 3,000 patients each year. These outstanding physicians and early detection programs will allow more breast cancer patients and their families win the battle against this disease.

Like many other families in my community, mine has been affected by breast cancer. This month allows each and every one of us to remember those who died from this disease and celebrate the triumph of those who have survived. I look forward to continuing the fight against cancer here in Congress and at home in South Florida.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURITY CLEARANCE OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, today I'm proud to introduce the Security Clearance Oversight and Accountability Act and I'm pleased that the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Mr. ISSA, has joined me as a co-sponsor of this legislation. We have spent this Congress conducting oversight of the security clearance process.

Security clearances are determinations that a person is trusted to have access to our nation's secrets. They are the gateway to serving our nation in national security, homeland security, and many foreign policy positions. In recent decades, the number of federal government employees and contractors requiring clearances expanded. This was especially true after the tragic attacks on September 11, 2001. We also realized the importance of sharing information and promoting collaboration across government agencies.

Sadly, our security clearance system was still cumbersome and outdated. We were using a cold-war system in the Internet age, where the process was primarily paper-based, and relied on investigators going door-to-door to talk to neighbors. It did not take advantage of the vast stores of data collected on people on line to verify their trustworthiness and it did not use electronic tools to speed the process.

In 2004, Congress passed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, which

contained many provisions to improve the security clearance process. The law called for uniform policies and unity of responsibility for security clearances across the Federal Government. It required that security clearances issued by one agency be accepted by all agencies. To make that possible, it called for an integrated data base and for the evaluation of available information technologies. Finally, it set forth specific targets for the length of time that security clearance processes should take, and required annual progress reports.

During this Congress, our subcommittee has undertaken a thorough review of the process. We had round-table meetings with representatives of industry and with representatives of the Intelligence Community agencies. We carefully reviewed all reports submitted in response to the Intelligence Reform Act as well as GAO reports on security clearance reform in the Department of Defense. We held a series of open hearings with Administration witnesses and GAO to discuss accomplishments and areas where progress was lacking.

We found that though the Act has resulted in significant improvements in the clearance timelines, significant work remains to be done. The law requires full reciprocity of clearance investigations and adjudications, but provides no tools for measuring the implementation and success of such measures. The clearance data as it is reported to Congress does not provide adequate insight into the improvements that have been made. Aggregated data covers up poor performance by averaging it with excellent performance.

We provided the results of our oversight in an ICM Subcommittee Report which will be filed with the House. I'm pleased that all members of the Subcommittee were supportive of the Report, and it was reported out of committee on a unanimous voice vote.

This provision is designed to remedy the shortcomings we discovered in our report. It takes a new approach to reform, by requiring agencies to report to Congress annually on certain key metrics related to the security clearance process. These metrics would enable Congress and HPSCI to perform effective oversight over the security clearance process, would allow both branches to track improvements from year to year, and would allow agencies to judge the effectiveness of each other's security clearance process, improving confidence in the system. In a few areas where adequate metrics have not been developed, the Administration is required to propose metrics to Congress.

I hope that we will move this legislation as soon as possible, given the strong bipartisan support that it enjoys. It will improve our insight into the security clearance process, and by doing so, improve the process itself.

The security clearance process is key to our national security establishment and we must make sure that it works as efficiently as possible. An effective security clearance system keeps out those who pose a security risk, while quickly identifying those who are trustworthy to work in the system. For too long it has been a troubled system and I'm hopeful that it is getting back on track and this legislation would allow us to know for sure.

ACTION ON SEX ED

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I've seen my home state of California struggle with the Nation's highest teen pregnancy rate—the sad result being thousands of young women dealing with the catastrophic effects pregnancy can impose on their lives. They often lose out on the opportunity to obtain a high school diploma, a college degree or a promising career. For too many, dreams like these are lost at an early age.

In the early 1990s, California took on the challenge to fight this epidemic and focused hard on prevention. After a decade of implementing robust initiatives, the state had lowered the rate by nearly 40 percent. Much of the success is credited to better and more accurate comprehensive sex education.

Results like this are worth fighting for and this is why initiatives like Planned Parenthood's campaign—Sex Ed Week of Action—is vital to raise awareness about safe practices within our communities. These are tough, personal issues for all parents and families but as a mother and grandmother, I agree that they must be addressed.

California is making strides, but there is much more to be done nationwide. As a long-time champion of comprehensive sex education, I've voiced my opposition against unproven abstinence-only education here in Congress. It is an outrage that since 1996, the Federal Government has pursued an ideological and myopic path, investing more than a \$1 billion in abstinence-only programs. This has been a huge waste—and the studies prove it.

A report commissioned by the Department of Health and Human Services concludes that students receiving abstinence-only education are no more likely to abstain or delay sexual activity than students not receiving such instruction.

California also recognized that this is a bad investment for our teens and took a commendable step forward by rejecting these funds from the Federal Government. The medical community agrees too. According to the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association and the American School Health Association, scientifically sound comprehensive sex education is the only approach that produces results—not more unwanted pregnancies.

Empowering teens to make smart choices requires education that is proven to work—logical, right? The evidence is clear, comprehensive sex education is the best path to reducing unintended pregnancy, which is the goal we all share. We can't fail our teens by letting politics and ideology interfere with this basic right to information.

HONORING HOWARD BAKER

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. DICKS. Madam Speaker, on September 24th I was pleased to attend a ceremony

sponsored by the U.S. Capitol Historical Society at which the 2008 Freedom Award was presented to former Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker, who served in the United States Senate for 18 years. Each year the Society presents this prestigious award to recognize the work that is done under the Capitol dome to defend freedom and preserve the institution of Congress as a representative body. At the start of each Congress, all of us as Members of Congress take an oath to support and defend the Constitution in our role, as the Founders intended, as defenders of the peoples' freedom. As a means of reminding the Congress of this solemn responsibility, the U.S. Capitol Historical Society bestows the Freedom Award annually upon a Member who personifies this spirit and who has demonstrated throughout his or her career a dedication to the institution of Congress and to the cause of freedom. Senator Baker's remarks at the ceremony were particularly relevant and moving, and I would like to take this opportunity to share his speech with my colleagues by entering his remarks into the RECORD:

REMARKS OF HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., U.S. CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY FREEDOM AWARD, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2008

It is a great honor to be with you this evening, and it is an especially great honor to have been introduced by my dear friend and former colleague Bob Byrd.

In an unusual—perhaps even unprecedented—set of circumstances, Senator Byrd and I served as each other's majority and minority leaders for 8 very eventful years in the late 1970s and early 80s.

And while there are some things Senator Byrd and I disagree on, one thing on which we're in absolute agreement is that being majority leader is better.

My service in the Senate leadership was the culmination of three terms in the United States Senate. For much of my adult career I have served in Congress, or my family has, so some would describe me as a congressional brat—if so I am proud of it.

Having walked the halls of Congress with so many of its legendary figures—most definitely including Robert C. Byrd—and having worked on so many momentous issues with them, I have a special appreciation for the history of the Capitol that this Society does so much to preserve and protect and disseminate to an interested public.

And so it is particularly meaningful to me to be honored by the Capitol Historical Society this evening.

President Lincoln—who also served in Congress, though not, as you may suspect, with me—once wrote in a Message to Congress in the depths of the Civil War, "We cannot escape history. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us down in honor or dishonor to the last generation."

The genius of our system of government is not that it requires a race of supermen to run it but that ordinary people can do extraordinary things for their fellow citizens when they have to. This very week, the Congress, in particular must face a new challenge on policy and legislation to stabilize and rescue our country's economic system.

To succeed it must be in the finest traditions of our legislative process, worthy of Webster and Clay, Johnson and Dirksen, Kennedy and Kassebaum, maybe even Baker and Byrd.

In earlier times, we dealt with Vietnam, Watergate, civil rights, the first environmental protection laws, Social Security reform, the cold war and much else on similar terms and with ultimate success.

I am sure that the men and women of the 110th Congress—Democrats, Republicans,