

on the range, more flexibility in reassigning missions to ground and air space previously underutilized will be achieved.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: FPS-16 Radar Mobilization Upgrade.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$2,800,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: This enhanced, mobile radar tracking capability will provide AAC the flexibility required to support testing of current and emerging weapon systems and platforms. This new capability will attract test programs to the AAC test range that cannot presently be supported, provide expanded instrumentation coverage for the range, reduce encroachment concerns, and provide more comprehensive coverage and support to all test programs. This added instrumentation asset will result in more cost effective and timely test support for the U.S. Air Force and ultimately in fielding systems for the war fighter in a more timely manner.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Moving Target Strike.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$2,000,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: The ability to extend the capability of GPS guided weapons to moving targets will significantly enhance the effectiveness of weapons platforms that use GPS guided systems. The enemy knows that currently if he keeps moving he is safe from many of our current weapon systems. The ability to strike movers from a variety of platforms with GPS guided weapons will greatly reduce the enemy's ability to avoid our weapons.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Gulf Range Mobile Instrumentation Capability.

Account: RDT&E, Defense-Wide.

Earmark Received: \$800,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: By developing a GR-MIC we will be able to integrate the simultaneous employment of many advanced weapons/platforms into a single test or exercise/training events. This effort connects test and evaluation ranges that use many communication and data requirements to interact between geographically separated ranges, making valuable information available to everyone who requires it. The result is ranges becoming interconnected and consequently creating a greater training experience.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Joint Gulf Range Complex Upgrade.

Account: RDT&E, Defense-Wide.

Earmark Received: \$1,200,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: The upgrade will result in improved and more accurate testing which will improve training effectiveness and mission readiness.

Name of the requesting Member: JEFF MILLER.

Bill number: H.R. 2638.

Project: Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCIM) for AFSOC AC/MC 130 aircraft.

Account: RDT&E, Air Force.

Earmark Received: \$4,400,000.

Justification for use of taxpayer funding: The funding will be used to provide aircraft protection from infrared and small arms threats.

HONORING NAPA VALLEY HOSPICE AND ADULT DAY SERVICES OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of their Adult Day Services program. The Adult Day Services program has done visionary work serving the unique needs of the elderly, younger adults with mental and physical impairments, and those suffering from Alzheimer's and other dementias.

In 1979, Hospice of Napa Valley opened as a program of St. Helena Hospital. They became an independent non-profit in 1997, and opened their acclaimed Adult Day Services program in 1998. ADS is the only program of its kind in Napa County and is one of 54 official Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers in California.

Since its inception 10 years ago, the Adult Day Services program has served more than 1,000 people. Last year alone, they served 80 people with Alzheimer's or other dementia, gave family training to 129 people, provided 165 hours of support groups, 200 hours of counseling for 143 people, 30 hours of community education for 327 people, and 166 consultations for 133 people.

These incredible achievements would not be possible without their dedicated staff, led by Executive Director Catherine Poliak and ADS Program Coordinator Celine Regalia. Catherine and Celine lead a team that is second to none in their creativity and enthusiasm.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank everyone at Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services for the remarkable work they have done for our community. Through their hard work and generous contributions this program has thrived for the past 10 years, and I know that we will see much more progress in the years to come.

HONORING ST. MARY'S PARISH IN TRENTON, ILLINOIS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Mary's Parish in Trenton, Illinois. St. Mary's has represented Catholicism for 150 years in the community of Trenton.

During the 1820s and '30s the local Catholics of Trenton gathered at the railroad station once a year to take the train to St. Louis to fulfill their Easter duty. In 1858 Fr. Peter Peters began holding mass with a small group of Catholic families in Trenton. The first church was built in 1864. Yet, it was not until 1868

that St. Mary's Parish of Trenton had its first permanent pastor, Fr. Anthony Brefeld. Just two years after Fr. Brefeld took the position as pastor, St. Mary's built a small school where the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ came to teach. By 1950 it was evident that a larger church was needed. In 1953 the new church was completed and by 1955, about 1,500 parishioners called St. Mary's home.

To help celebrate the 150th anniversary, the St. Mary's family placed a "time capsule" into the ground at the parish. The capsule contains materials related to the parish celebration. The time capsule will be opened in 2058, 50 years from now.

I join with my fellow Representatives to congratulate St. Mary's on 150 years of faith and service.

JIM MARTINO

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, Jim Martino was born in 1929 in eastern Pennsylvania. He graduated from Lafayette College and soon after married his lovely wife, Nancy, and joined the army. Jim served in Korea from 1951 to 1953, which was an experience that had a profound effect on his life. In 2000, the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, Jim searched for his comrades and organized reunions to bring together the men he served with and to share their memories and experiences. Their wives also enjoyed the experience, and the group developed into a close family.

After returning from Korea, Jim began a successful career in direct mail marketing. Beginning in Valley Forge, PA, Jim's achievements took him to Dayton, OH, southern California, and eventually Cameron Park, CA. Jim was an accomplished private pilot who flew for business and pleasure, making many trips with his wife across the country between their homes. Jim was also an avid participant in government and politics, supporting candidates he believed in and authoring numerous "Letters to the Editor" to express his views.

On August 7, 2008, Jim passed away. He is now buried in the Sacramento Valley Veterans National Cemetery, where he is recognized as a "Defender of Freedom." I was honored to have been one of Jim's many friends. My thoughts and prayers are with Jim's wife, Nancy, their three children and four grandchildren.

EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, our country is facing an economic crisis and America's families are living with it everyday. If proof is needed, today, the Labor Department released new employment statistics revealing that 159,000 American jobs

were lost in September. So far this year more than 750,000 American jobs have been lost. In September alone, more than 1.5 million Americans are working part-time jobs because they cannot find full-time work. The wages of American workers are stalled and with inflation at 5 percent it means most working Americans have effectively taken a pay cut. These are hard times for working families.

This report translates into real pain not just for Main Street, but for every family that sits around the kitchen table deciding how to make ends meet. We are seeing jobs at risk, credit frozen, business activity stalled, and the pensions and college funds of hard working Americans at risk. This is an economic crisis and the time for Congress to act is now.

On September 29th, the House failed to pass the economic rescue package. I voted for that bill and I have no regrets. As a result of the failure of that bill to pass, the stock market went into an immediate free-fall resulting in a \$1.2 trillion loss of value. That translated into seniors losing their retirement, workers losing their jobs, and confidence being lost in the American economic system which exacerbates the downward economic spiral.

What Congress is once again attempting to do today is pass an emergency package that will provide \$700 billion to the Treasury Department to buy mortgage-backed securities, sometimes referred to as "toxic paper," that is strangling the credit market for companies, small business, and families. This credit crisis is real and we are seeing it manifest itself in the inability of consumers with good credit to get auto loans, banks refusing to lend to banks, and municipalities unable to access financing for needed projects like roads, hospitals and water treatment plants. The entire credit system is frozen and it will require action by Congress to salvage our economy after years excess, abuse, and corruption by Wall Street.

The American people, seeing this rescue package with a \$700 billion price tag, should be angry. I am angry. My office has received thousands of calls from constituents who are furious, but anger should not be an excuse for inaction. Many of these calls, even the majority, have warned me of the evils of what they call a "socialist intervention." Many advocated that a better solution would be to keep government out of the crisis and let the market solve its own problem even if the outcome is a complete economic meltdown. In my estimation, such an argument is both irrational and irresponsible.

The bill before the House today is a critical first step towards stabilizing the economy and preventing financial disaster for millions small businesses, families and seniors. I support this rescue package because Democrats, Republicans, and the Secretary of the Treasury, along with the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, came together and worked tirelessly, putting politics aside, and put the people's needs first in addressing this serious crisis.

This bill provides \$700 billion to buy mortgage-backed securities. These are assets with value bundled with distressed assets that will be purchased by the government so they can be taken off the books of financial institutions, restoring confidence and trust in the institutions, and allowing for liquidity to return to the credit market. This is not an ideal solution, but it is not a giveaway either. This \$700 billion is a Federal investment that will buy assets that

possess value and many experts say taxpayers could break even or earn a profit in the end. In the meantime serious oversight, accountability, and government regulations have been added to protect the taxpayer. There is strong language to help homeowners in financial distress to prevent home foreclosure which again makes this bill very important and relevant to American families in trouble. Also, I am very pleased that prohibitions on golden parachutes for executives from companies benefiting from this legislation have been put in place.

Finally, this legislation is not the end of Congress's efforts to address the causes of this crisis, only the beginning. Next week I will participate in Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearings to explore the root causes of this economic disaster. Where there is identifiable malfeasance recommendations for criminal investigation and prosecution should be made to the Justice Department. Wall Street's high flyers whose excesses and corruption violated the law must be held accountable.

While this package is not perfect, it is Congress's best effort to address this economic crisis. A new provision in this bill that I support is a temporary increase for insured deposits under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation from \$100,000 to \$250,000. This increase in deposit insurance is intended to allow for additional liquidity in lending and restore confidence for depositors that their money is safe.

There are other aspects of this bill that were added by the U.S. Senate which I strongly object to because they are giveaways to special interests. Tax breaks for special interests like NASCAR, the rum industry, and the manufacturers of children's arrows is an egregious abuse of the legislative process to pass out favors. These giveaways result in a \$107 billion reduction in revenues to the Federal Government meaning more deficit spending.

My preference would have been to strip these provisions from the bill. These pork barrel provisions, if absolutely necessary, should have been offset and paid for to eliminate deficit spending. The Senate's irresponsible inclusion of these earmark tax giveaways is an example of how the other body is out of touch with the needs of ordinary Americans.

This week, concluding with today's vote, the Congress—Democrats and Republicans—will take action not seen since the Great Depression to intervene to restore confidence in the markets. If successful the result will be to avoid dramatic and damaging pain for America's families of every income level and geographic location. Doing nothing to address this emergency situation would be a decision to condemn the U.S. economy and the American people to years of stagnation and hard times.

Following the passage of this bill and its signing into law, there must commence a new era of government responsibility, oversight, accountability, and, when necessary, regulation of the financial markets. The Reagan era of deregulation for markets and labeling government as the problem is over. We have seen how this philosophy has mutated into the grotesque excesses of Wall Street's elite and their massive concentration of wealth. It has infected our economy with a financial pathogen that is now destroying small businesses as well as the lives of families and the communities they live in.

The next Congress—the 111th Congress—will have a duty to institute unprecedented and tireless oversight of not only this rescue effort, but all the excess in the market place, from Wall Street to the pharmaceutical industry, and beyond. The Bush administration's abdication of its duty to regulate and its endless campaigns of misinformation on innumerable issues has eroded the trust American's once had in their Federal leaders. From the falsehoods that led this Nation to war in Iraq to the current corruption scandal in the Justice Department, this White House has destroyed the American people's confidence in government. This administration's failure to regulate Wall Street and protect taxpayers is just another example of misplaced priorities and a costly lack of leadership.

My vote for H.R. 1424 is a vote to protect the jobs, pensions, college accounts, and the savings of millions of hard working Americans. This important step must be followed with a new commitment to accountability and government oversight. I will be working to make sure this rescue package not only helps restore our economy, but returns every dollar we invest back to taxpayers.

AMERICA'S TABLE: A THANKSGIVING READER CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSE ROOTS AND SHARED VALUES

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, a uniquely American holiday, I rise today to remind this Congress that we are all one people, one family, one America. We all come from different backgrounds, but in millions of homes across the country, our celebrations look very much the same. We will gather around our dinner tables with family and friends giving thanks. This day is a reminder that we are all together in this American experiment, that we should celebrate our diversity, but also recognize our shared values.

I commend to every family the publication called America's Table: A Thanksgiving Reader. The pamphlet is short and simple, and it is meant to be read at the Thanksgiving meal or as people contemplate the meaning of Thanksgiving. This booklet tells the story of American people by sharing profiles of men and women of diverse backgrounds. I am honored to be one of the people profiled in this year's publication.

The American Jewish Committee began publishing America's Table annually on the Thanksgiving after the 9/11 disaster. They partner with ten human relations organizations, including the NAACP, the National Urban League, and the National Council of La Raza to distribute this wonderful pamphlet.

We all have our stories of how we came to this great land. We must use this opportunity to celebrate our differences and our oneness as Americans. I submit a copy of this year's America's Table for the RECORD, and I hope and pray that Americans will continue to use it as a way to help build the Beloved Community, a nation at peace with itself.