

RECOGNIZING THE HURLBURT AFA
CHAPTER 398 TEACHER OF THE
YEAR SELECTIONS FOR 2007–2008

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Teachers of the Year.

First, I would like to congratulate, Mr. Leo F. Murphy, who received the High School and Overall Teacher of the Year award. A teacher at Choctawhatchee High School, Mr. Murphy is deeply passionate about aviation and aerospace education. He began the first aviation and aerospace education program in the Okaloosa County School District and is the driving force behind its success. A retired U.S. naval officer, Mr. Murphy has over 4,000 hours flying time earned in his 30-year career. He instructs at both Choctawhatchee and Crestview High Schools, and Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 is proud to recognize him.

Second, I would like to honor Ms. Shannon E. Farrell, the AFA Chapter's selection for the Middle School Teacher of the Year. Ms. Farrell teaches eighth-grade Physical Science at Woodlawn Beach Middle School. She incorporates engineering, science and technology into her classroom. Ms. Farrell also sponsors the school's Boosting Engineering Science and Technology, BEST, Robotics Club. The 60 students in her club have competed at local and regional events, and are now preparing to compete in the Physics Olympics at the University of West Florida.

It is also with great honor for me to recognize the co-winners of the Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 selections for the Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Ms. Megan L. Tucker teaches fourth-grade students at Kenwood Elementary School and was named her school's teacher of the year for 2006–2007. She augments the discussion of aviation in the classroom with guest speakers. Ms. Tucker has teamed with the USAF Armament Museum to assist in the development of the "Engineers for America" initiative, which incorporates science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, into various activities. She has also coordinated with the Choctawhatchee Aviation Institute, Bob Skies Airport, and the Experimental Aircraft Association to introduce her students to the thrill of flight.

Lastly, it is with honor for me to recognize another outstanding teacher, Mr. Scott Erickson. He is a fourth-grade teacher at the W.H. Rhodes Elementary School. Since 2005, he has taught math, reading, writing, science and social studies. To engage his students in learning he has incorporated a variety of aviation related items into all facets of his teaching. He integrated items gleaned from a Hurlburt Chapter Teacher Workshops to improve reading skills and institute a rocket building program for his students. His latest endeavor is integrating reading, math, technology, geometry, and engineering procedures into a dynamic lesson involving simulated flight from point to point using sectional charts, videos, and written instruction. During this lesson, students measure angles, figure area of a triangle and circle, compute speed, figure

averages, record data, and work as a team to achieve a final answer. Mr. Erickson is using the science, technology, engineering and mathematics aspects of aerospace and aviation to motivate his students to learn, explore, and discover.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the Hurlburt Field AFA Chapter 398 Teacher of the Year selections.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ER-
NEST L. TODD AND LENA M.
TODD ON THEIR 75TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, March 11, 2008, marks the day Ernest and Lena Todd have been lovingly married for 75 years; and

Whereas, their marriage represents the true spirit of love, compromise and support; and

Whereas, their life together from humble beginnings as a coal mining family in Tennessee have prospered into a loving extended family in Ohio consisting of 260 children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, Ernest and Lena Todd represent the belief that love is eternal and will overcome all obstacles, for richer, for poorer, for better, for worse—forever; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I wish Ernest and Lena Todd a happy and healthy 75th wedding anniversary. We recognize the amazing commitment of love, friendship, and support these two people have made to each other and their family and the brightness and hope they have brought to those they have touched.

HONORING CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize my alma mater, California State University, Fullerton, as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

In 1957, California State University, Fullerton, was founded by an act of the California Legislature. The enrollment consisted of 452 students when the first classes were offered in leased quarters at Sunny Hills High School, prior to the College moving to temporary buildings on a permanent site in 1960.

Half a century after its founding, more than 185,000 graduates have successfully developed careers in hundreds of industries.

Each year, more than 36,000 students attend classes at Cal State Fullerton, choosing from among 105 different degree programs including 55 undergraduate, 49 graduate and a doctorate in education, at eight distinct colleges: arts, business and economics, commu-

nications, education, engineering and computer science, health and human development, humanities and social sciences, and natural sciences and mathematics, all of which provide an outstanding education to the students.

Its studies have led students to careers in teaching, nursing, business, the arts, communications, health care, engineering, sports, the sciences and more. Cal State Fullerton graduates have gone on to successful careers and community-building, and their impact is felt not only in the State of California and the Nation, but throughout the world. Among these graduates are Academy Award-winning actors and screenwriters, television news reporters, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists, successful novelists, doctors, lawyers, judges, teachers, professional athletes, entrepreneurs, legislators, scientists and business leaders and even a NASA astronaut who served on the crew of the Space Shuttle Endeavor that launched into space in August 2007.

Cal State Fullerton's student body also reflects the diversity of the State of California. As one of the most diverse campuses in the State, the university welcomes students of different ethnic groups, cultures and religions. In fact, many of these students are the first in their families to earn a university diploma.

The university received full accreditation from the Western College Association, later known as Western Association of Schools and Colleges, in 1961 and Cal State Fullerton now holds 14 national accreditations and associations.

In addition, "Titan Pride" has been the rallying cry for 12 national team championships in seven different sports.

Finally, Cal State Fullerton is known for its distinguished faculty, many of whom have garnered international and national reputations in their respective fields.

It is with great pride that I recognize Cal State Fullerton for 50 wonderful years.

RECOGNITION OF ANNA ROSE
LIVINGSTON

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the generous spirit of third grader Anna Rose Livingston, a resident of my hometown of Syracuse, New York.

Approximately 2 months ago, Anna Rose viewed a film on the life of Mother Teresa during her Sunday school class at Bellevue Heights United Methodist Church. Moved by the work of the Catholic missionary to combat poverty and suffering in India and around the world, Miss Livingston developed a plan with the encouragement of her mother Sharon to gather and collect outdoor winter clothing for needy families in central New York.

The following week during the announcement portion of Sunday services at Bellevue Heights, 8-year-old Anna Rose stood to address the congregation and ask for their assistance in her developing effort. Later that week, she petitioned her teacher and principal at the Bishop's Academy at Most Holy Rosary to have the school's third graders join in her service project.

Today, three large parcels of hats, gloves, and coats have been assembled for delivery to families struggling to combat Syracuse's harsh winter weather, and Anna Rose has secured Brown Memorial United Methodist Church and its neighborhood missions on Syracuse near westside to assist in distribution.

Anna Rose Livingston's initiative and effort is a fine example of the compassion and giving spirit that exists in so many Americans, but Anna Rose's age and lack of prior experience in such a large service initiative make her motivation and success that much more remarkable.

On behalf of the people of New York's 25th Congressional District, I proudly recognize Anna Rose for her community service and express great hope that her selflessness and success will motivate similar efforts of charity throughout my hometown community and across this great nation by people of all ages.

INTRODUCTION OF CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2008

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2008, which was marked up and reported favorably by the Committee on Homeland Security on March 6, 2008.

This bill will extend and strengthen the Department of Homeland Security's current authority to regulate security practices at our Nation's chemical facilities. This legislation must be enacted to ensure that there is no lapse in our efforts to protect the Nation's chemical infrastructure from the threat of terrorism. The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards regulations currently in effect will sunset in October 2009. The passage of this legislation is needed to update and improve those regulations and to make them permanent.

Shielding the Nation's critical infrastructure from foreign and domestic terrorism is one of my eight goals in charting the course toward freedom from fear. As I see it, extending DHS's authority to regulate chemical security is the right thing to do, and this legislation does it the right way.

For 4 months, the committee undertook a bipartisan effort to develop this legislation. There were extensive discussions with the Department, the chemical industry, including both large and small chemical manufacturers, fertilizer manufacturers, petroleum and propane manufacturers and distributors, water and wastewater facilities, environmental groups, labor organizations, State Governments, and academic and independent experts. The legislation I am introducing today with every Democratic Member of the Committee on Homeland Security is the product of this open, bipartisan process.

Given this effort, where the ranking member of the full committee and Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection were involved in every aspect of this legislation, I was very disappointed that the Republican Members, with few exceptions, chose partisanship over progress and voted against the bill. The dis-

agreement that was cited was over whether all regulated chemical facilities, or just a subset, should be required to assess whether or not they could incorporate practices to reduce the consequences of a terrorist attack in their processes. For the record, the bill requires only facilities assigned to a risk-based tier to undertake such an assessment. This is done to decrease the likelihood of a potential attack in the first place. That's just plain sensible.

This legislation does not seek to reinvent the wheel, as the Democratic Members of this committee believe that the fundamental approach taken under the existing chemical security regulations is the correct one. At the same time, the bill seeks to make several improvements to the program after the sunset expires. For instance, the current chemical security regulations exempt water treatment facilities regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act and port facilities regulated under the Maritime Transportation Security Act. This bill does not have such an exemption and calls for the CFATS to work smoothly with the existing authorities. Testimony by the Department at previous hearings before this committee demonstrated that facilities with the exemption possess the same chemicals and are as proximate to major metropolitan areas as the currently regulated facilities. The testimony revealed there is no rational public policy reason to exempt them from the chemical security regime.

The bill also recognizes that water facilities need to be treated differently than other facilities. That is why we included provisions to require that the Secretary must provide funding for those that are required to implement inherently safer technology, IST. The bill also bars the Secretary from issuing any order or guidance under these regulations that contravenes laws, such as the Safe Drinking Water Act, and restricts the Secretary from enforcing "cease operations" orders against water facilities unless their operation represents a clear and present danger to homeland security. The provisions are intended to ensure that this legislation will not cause water to be less safe for communities.

The bill also protects the rights of States to pass their own regulations to secure chemical facilities so long as they do not directly conflict with this legislation; requires employee training and involvement of employees and their representatives in creating vulnerability assessments and security plans; creates strong whistleblower protections, and protects against illegitimate use of background checks.

I know that once this bill leaves this committee, there will be an effort to weaken it. I hope, however, that Congress will not allow narrow interests to interfere with the national security imperative of securing our chemical sector from terrorists. Only through the comprehensive approach laid out in this bill will we address our Nation's current vulnerability to a massive chemical attack using our own infrastructure against us. Exempting some facilities will make us less safe because those facilities, by their exemption, could become more likely to be attacked.

I hope that Congress will do the right thing to deliver to the American people freedom from fear of such a chemical attack by moving forward expeditiously to pass this legislation and make it law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, please excuse my absence from votes on Monday, March 10, 2008. My flight was delayed due to mechanical problems. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each rollcall vote: 108, 109, and 110.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL ON OIL LEASE SALE IN THE CHUKCHI SEA

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, the Interior Department is currently considering whether to list the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act as a result of the impacts of global warming. While this decision has been nearly 3 years in the making, the Fish and Wildlife Service has now missed deadline after deadline for finalizing a decision on the future of the polar bear. On January 9, the Interior Department missed its statutorily required deadline for a decision, as required under the Act. Then, 1 month later, it missed its self-imposed deadline. Now, the decision on listing the polar bear, and the survival of this iconic species, is hanging in limbo.

Meanwhile, Secretary Kempthorne decided to move forward with an oil and gas lease sale in 30 million acres of sensitive polar bear habitat in Alaska's Chukchi Sea last month rather than wait until after a decision on the polar bear had been made.

The bulk of this legislation that I am introducing today is identical to H.R. 5058, which already has wide support from Members of the House. H.R. 5058 would have required the Interior Department to delay the oil lease sale in the Chukchi Sea until it had made a decision on listing the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act. The legislation that I am introducing today would delay the next steps in the oil leasing process until after the Interior Department makes decisions on the polar bear and on establishing the bear's "critical habitat." This legislation would not prevent the next steps in the oil drilling process from ever occurring, but rather simply ensure that the Department first decides how to protect the polar bear.

It is disappointing that Secretary Kempthorne chose not to delay the lease sale until after the polar bear listing decision had been made. The legislation that I am introducing today would restore common sense to this regulatory lunacy by ensuring that we figure out how to protect the polar bear before taking any additional steps towards allowing oil drilling in key polar bear habitat. Secretary Kempthorne and his agency must not move any farther down the path they are taking of drill first and ask questions later—a well-worn path in this administration. If this administration refuses to stop the oil drilling process until after it figures out how to protect the polar bear from global warming, then the Congress must step in to protect the polar bear and the taxpayers.