

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2007 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and interact on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany from May 23 to June 1 of this year. During this 10 day exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat members, Bundestag and Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Participants also will be hosted by a Bundestag member during a district visit.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 10 days July 12–20. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of Members of Congress. The U.S. delegation is expected to facilitate these meetings.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States, and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host

one or two staffers in their Member's district in July, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants are selected by a committee composed of personnel from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and past participants of the exchange.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a résumé and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

Applications may be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HB–28, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2008.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH H. (JIM)
ZARZYCKI

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Joseph H. "Jim" Zarzycki, director of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. Graduating with honors in chemical engineering in 1969 from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Joseph Zarzycki went on to earn a master's degree in industrial engineering from Texas A&M University in 1970. He is also a graduate of the Defense Systems Management College's Program Management Course and holds a master's degree in public administration from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is a licensed professional engineer in Maryland and New Jersey.

Jim has over 25 years of leadership in public and private organizations dealing with toxic and hazardous materials. He has worked in the Army's Chemical Demilitarization and Installation Program, as well as the Army Chemical Systems Laboratory, now the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center. Throughout most of the 1990s, Jim worked in the environmental consulting industry, directing the functions of waste management locations across the nation.

In 1998, Jim returned to government service as the director of the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. There he has directed the efforts of over 1,600 scientists, engineers, and technicians working in the areas of chemical and biological defense, smoke obscurants, and non-lethal weapons technologies. He also manages technology development efforts in support of several important national security programs including chemical demilitarization, the chemical and biological warfare treaties, and chemical and biological counterterrorism.

Jim is a recipient of the 2002 Presidential Rank meritorious Executive Award. In both

2002 and 2007 he was named Federal Laboratory Consortium Technology Transfer Department of Defense Director of the Year. Most recently, his organization, the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, was selected as the Army Laboratory of the Year in 2007.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Joseph H. "Jim" Zarzycki. His legacy as a brilliant engineer will be forever remembered in his service to our domestic agencies as well as our armed forces. It is with great pride that I congratulate Jim Zarzycki on his exemplary career in chemical and biological defense.

EXAMINATION OF VOTE ON H.
RES. 847

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, one of the reasons the United States of America has remained for more than two centuries a model to the world is the constitutional promise of the first amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

I did not vote against H. Res. 847, but I strongly believe it should never have been brought to the floor of the House of Representatives. It is appropriate for Congress to address moral and ethical issues of societal import, but not issues of religious import. Congress should not legislate on whether Jesus is peoples' "savior" or whether Christmas symbolizes "God's redemption and mercy." Despite some good phrases, H. Res. 847 was inappropriate legislation that deserved neither a "yes" nor a "no." I voted present, as I have occasionally done for legislation that I believe should never have been brought forward.

Those of us who practice our deeply held religious beliefs are able to worship more freely than anywhere else in the world because of this important protection that our founders installed so wisely. My Christian religious faith not only supports my entire life and dedication to service; it also leads me often to speak out on religious tolerance in the world.

Some people have noted that earlier this year I had voted to honor the Muslim observance of Ramadan and then recently refused to vote to honor Christmas. That is not really true. In October I voted in favor of a resolution that at the time of the Muslim Ramadan expressed "friendship" and "respect" for Muslims and commended Muslims who reject "hatred" and "bigotry" and who present Islam as supporting "tolerance and full civil and political rights." That was a message of societal and political import, not religious, and different in tone and content from the recent resolution celebrating Christmas.

That is the way I see it, and when it comes to votes on the floor of the House, I call them as I see them. I trust my constituents will see

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

it as a thoughtful and conscientious vote, even if they disagree with it.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. EXPLORER I SATELLITE AND THE BIRTH OF THE UNITED STATES' SPACE EXPLORATION PROGRAM

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the launch of the U.S. Explorer I satellite, and the birth of the United States' space exploration program. I am pleased that Chairman BART GORDON, Ranking Member RALPH HALL, Rep. TOM FEENEY, and Rep. NICK LAMPSON have joined me as original cosponsors and I thank them for their support.

On January 31, 1958, the United States successfully launched its first satellite into space and began a 50-year journey of exploration and achievement in space that continues to this day.

Yet the launch of Explorer I was not just a "photo-op". Explorer I carried a scientific package that included a cosmic ray detector and marked the first ever use of a satellite to carry out scientific research in outer space. Because of that detector, developed by Dr. James Van Allen of the University of Iowa, the United States made a significant discovery about the Earth's environment—namely, the discovery of regions of energetic charged particles trapped in the Earth's magnetic field—later referred to as the Van Allen radiation belts.

In addition, Explorer I was the first in a succession of small scientific spacecraft that continue to be an integral component of the U.S. space science program and an invaluable training ground for young scientists and engineers.

In light of all that, I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in extending our profound thanks and appreciation for the contributions of the late Dr. James Van Allen and his team as well as those of the individuals at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Army Ballistic Missile Agency who made possible the success of Explorer I and the birth of our space program.

Since the launch of Explorer I, the U.S. space program has maintained a record of high aspirations and remarkable accomplishments. America sent the first astronauts to the Moon and has launched robotic probes to study each of the planets in the solar system as well as the Earth's Moon. Moreover, American spacecraft have helped investigate the origin and structure of the universe and the formation of galaxies and stars—including our own Sun. Finally, our space program has delivered significant benefits to our citizens through communications and weather satellites, navigational and positioning systems, and remote sensing satellites that have helped increase our understanding of the Earth and its environment and our ability to manage our resources.

All in all, it has been an exciting half-century of U.S. human and robotic space exploration.

As we honor Explorer I and the birth of the U.S. space program, it is appropriate to re-

member that our efforts in space exploration have inspired generations of our young people to pursue careers in science and engineering. In addition, it is clear that the scientific and engineering advances of the U.S. space program have yielded dividends that have helped promote America's technological preeminence in the world as well as foster economic growth here at home.

As we look forward to the next 50 years in space exploration and utilization, it is important that Congress continue to support science and engineering educators and programs that will help prepare the men and women who will lead the United States in pushing back the frontiers of space exploration in coming years.

In closing, I think that America's space program has been a vital contributor to the nation's well being and standing in the world, as well as to significant scientific and technological advances over the last five decades. It is fitting and proper that we pause to celebrate and honor the anniversary of Explorer I and the birth of the U.S. space program—and to rededicate ourselves to the pursuit of a robust and vital space program over the next 50 years.

I hope that all Members will join me and my cosponsors in supporting this resolution.

RECOGNIZING JAMES JOHNSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize James Johnson of Chillicothe, Missouri. On February 3, 2008, James will retire as Chief Executive Officer of the Hendrick Medical Center in Chillicothe, Missouri.

Jim joined Hendrick Medical Center in 1998 as Chief Executive Officer and brings more than 35 years of health care experience to his position. While in Chillicothe Jim has been active in many community organizations as a leader, a volunteer and a board member. He was president of Rotary, Habitat for Humanity and the YMCA and is the current president of the Livingston County Community Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing James Johnson, whose dedication to Hendrick Medical Center and the city of Chillicothe has been truly inspirational. I wish James and his family the best of luck in the future and I am honored to serve him in the United States Congress.

WHY AMERICA NEEDS A LITTLE LESS LAISSEZ-FAIRE

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, a recent Op-Ed written by the Honorable BARNEY FRANK, Chairman of the House Committee on Financial Services, appeared in the Financial Times. Mr. FRANK, I believe, succinctly describes the challenges that face Federal policy makers and a new American president. Too often these days, the market fails to protect

the interests of the common good. I look forward to working with a president and a Congress that understands the vital role of a little government regulation and intervention. I am entering Mr. FRANK's Op-Ed into the RECORD so that our colleagues, and interested Americans, can consider what lies ahead for our country if we do not carefully examine how we arrived in the current situation.

[From the Financial Times, Jan. 14, 2008]

WHY AMERICA NEEDS A LITTLE LESS LAISSEZ-FAIRE

(By Barney Frank)

As we prepare for this autumn's election, the results are in on America's 30-year experiment with radical economic deregulation. Income inequality has risen to levels not seen since the 1920s and the collapse of the unregulated portion of the mortgage and secondary markets threatens the health of the overall economy.

These two economic failures will be major issues in the forthcoming presidential election and, importantly, there is an emerging Democratic consensus standing in sharp contrast to the laissez faire Republican approach.

There are two central elements of this consensus. Democrats believe that government's role as regulator is essential in maintaining confidence in the integrity and fairness of markets, and we believe that economic growth alone is not enough to reverse unacceptable levels of income inequality. In the wake of the subprime mortgage crisis, credit markets round the world contracted sharply in response to concerns among market participants about the value of exotic and opaque securities being offered in largely unregulated secondary markets. This staggering implosion and its damaging and widespread reverberations make it clear that a mature capitalist economy is as likely to suffer from too little regulation as from too much.

With respect to income inequality, since the end of the last recession—a period of steady economic growth—average earnings for the vast majority of workers have fallen in real terms. During this period, after-tax incomes of the top 1 per cent nearly doubled.

Whether because of globalisation, technology or other factors, it is clear that market forces have produced too much inequality and government has not adequately used its capacity to mitigate the impact of these forces.

Conservatives have long argued that government efforts to address these issues would damage the economy. They are, of course, the same people who predicted that there would be an economic disaster after Bill Clinton and the Democratic Congress raised marginal tax rates in 1993, and who opposed other tax increases on upper-income people. Economic growth in the ensuing years was among the strongest in the postwar era. It is now clear that growth in the private sector is consistent with a far greater variation in many aspects of public policy—including taxation and regulation—than conservatives claim. In fact, appropriate intervention with respect to prudential market regulation is necessary to promote growth, and its absence—as we have learned—can retard it.

As recently as a year ago, one often heard the argument that U.S. financial activity would migrate offshore unless we moved to further deregulate markets. There is little evidence to support this claim. In fact, it is now clear that what has been migrating to the rest of the world are the problems associated with securities based on bad loans—often originated by unregulated institutions in the U.S. Banks in the UK and Germany were forced to close, either as a result of