

weekly radio address last Saturday to outline new cuts to Medicare and Medicaid benefits, totaling over 300 billion dollars.

My continuous fear throughout the health care reform process has been that Democrats will opt to pay for changes to the system on the backs of seniors.

This is unfair to my district, where more Medicare beneficiaries reside than anywhere else in the country.

Among the cuts the President has proposed are reducing payments to hospitals that care for large numbers of the uninsured by \$106 billion.

President Obama asserts that because so many people will have health insurance after his reforms, these hospitals will no longer need the money.

But that doesn't account for illegal immigrants, who use the emergency room since they cannot obtain care elsewhere.

Emergency rooms visits are a major driver of health care costs, and if hospitals cannot receive aid from the federal government, they may be forced to eliminate valuable resources you or I may desperately need in the future.

The President also proposed taking \$75 billion from the Medicare Part D prescription drug program.

As someone who worked diligently on the bill to provide prescription drug coverage for seniors for the first time in history, I am adamantly opposed to taking money from this program.

The logical assumption is that if the program is cut, Part D plans will be forced to raise seniors' premiums in order to cover their costs.

President Obama is also determined to cut \$177 billion from Medicare Advantage plans, which I know my constituents value greatly.

Our nation's 44 million elderly who have worked hard all their lives cannot be ignored in favor of trying to provide coverage to a few million people.

I urge my Democrat colleagues in Congress to make more of an effort to address quality and reform payment systems, instead of taking benefits directly from seniors.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2847—the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agency Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Project Name: Emergency Services Technology, Collier County, Florida

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 2847—the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agency Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: DOJ/COPS

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, Florida 34112

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$800,000 will be utilized for the

acquisition of public safety technology equipment for the Collier County Emergency Services Center. The funding is important because it will help to better equip Collier County's emergency service providers to respond to events that could engender the safety and citizens of Collier County, Florida.

Project Name: FGCU Law Enforcement and Public Safety

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 2847—the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agency Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: DOJ/OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd, S., Fort Myers, Florida 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$200,000 will be utilized for the development of tools for training and processing crime scenes for use by law enforcement and public safety officials. This work will be done at the Florida Gulf Coast University in its Law Enforcement and Public Safety Department.

#### COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Department of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I wholeheartedly support Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee Chairman MOLLOHAN's bipartisan amendment to restore \$100 million to the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), to meet the Fiscal Year 2009 level of \$400 million.

I greatly appreciate my good friend, ALAN MOLLOHAN, and his staff's recognition of the importance of this program by rejecting the President's proposal to eliminate SCAAP.

Counties across the country depend on SCAAP for reimbursement of the costs associated with the detention and incarceration of criminal aliens.

Keep in mind, local law enforcement only receive a partial reimbursement through SCAAP. For example, in my district, Riverside County received reimbursement for only 17% of the cost of incarcerating criminal aliens in Fiscal Years 08–09. And out of Orange County's 65,000 inmates booked each year at the county jails, approximately 19% are criminal aliens.

Although illegal immigration is clearly the federal government's responsibility, counties incur millions of dollars in unreimbursed expenses each year as a result of housing criminal aliens.

During difficult economic times, local governments are struggling to pay for budgeted

programs and additional demands for services are straining the system to the breaking point—unreimbursed expenses simply cannot go unmet.

This amendment will help the many communities across the nation burdened with the costs of our federal government's failed responsibility to secure our nation's borders.

I urge my colleagues to accept the amendment.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, on Friday, June 12, 2009, I was in New Jersey welcoming home the soldiers of the New Jersey Army National Guard's 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team after their tour in Iraq and missed one vote.

Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on H. Res. 532 providing for further consideration of H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act; and "yes" to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (rollcall 335).

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF CAPTAIN THOMAS R. CARNEY, JR., UNITED STATES NAVY

### HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Naval Officer, Captain Tom Carney and to recognize his dedicated service to our Nation. It is a great honor for me to thank Captain Carney and his family for their distinguished service. Captain Carney has proudly and selflessly served our nation for 28 years.

It was during his last assignment as Director of the Secretary of the Navy's Appropriations Matters office that I first came to know Captain Carney. In this capacity, he has proved to be an invaluable link between the Navy and me, my staff, and the Appropriations Committee. Captain Carney has escorted me and other Members of Congress on several occasions as we traveled both home and abroad to review military operations and to confirm the health and welfare of our troops.

On every occasion, Captain Carney performed his duties in an exacting and precise manner. But far more important to me and the members of the Appropriations Committee was the insight he shared with us concerning matters of national security and the Department of the Navy. He clearly understands the role of the Navy in providing for our Nation's security and stability, as well as serving as an ambassador for American values throughout the world.

We have always been able to count on Captain Carney's candor, judgment, and steadfast devotion to duty mixed in with a flair of humor. He was an invaluable asset to me

in Congressional deliberations in all matters regarding our Armed Forces, and his perspective on the needs of the Nation with respect to our sea services will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, we all know that behind every servicemember there stands a strong and supportive family, so I also want to recognize the Carney family: his lovely wife Nancy, and his son Ryan. They have been stalwart partners in his service to the United States. We can ill afford to forget that it is the strength of family, and indeed their love and support, that make it possible to honorably serve in uniform.

In closing, on behalf of my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, I want to express my thanks and appreciation for the special contribution Captain Carney has made during his tenure. I am especially pleased to note that Captain Carney was recently selected for promotion to Rear Admiral. We wish Tom Carney and his family continued success and the traditional naval wish of "fair winds and following seas."

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#### FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. MIKE McINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 12, 2009*

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise to discuss a technical but important matter. H.R. 1256 would permit the use of brand names and logos on roll-your-own paper, as well as cigarettes and smokeless tobacco. The U.S. Congress has correctly recognized the necessity of allowing RYO manufacturers to put their brand names on the paper that is used to assemble RYO cigarettes. However, I am concerned that language only naming one component and not the other necessary components could lead to a prohibition on branding for tubes, rollers, injectors and filters. These are items that are used by individuals in their homes for purposes of making their own cigarettes, and not seen by others. They have none of the attributes which have caused the restriction of the use of logos on other items such as t-shirts.

For more than 100 years, these types of RYO making components have been marketed with company brand names and logos. This practice helps consumers easily identify which components and accessories to use and helps companies establish good-will with their customers. Yet, this practice will unnecessarily be forced to come to an end unless components other than RYO paper are included within the FDA's final rule on product branding. The intent of this legislation dictates that the branding prohibition does not apply to entities that do not meet the definition of a manufacturer or importer of cigarettes or smokeless tobacco. Any final rule promulgated by FDA should recognize that RYO papers and all necessary components are permitted branding authority.

#### RECOGNIZING WILLIAM VEGH

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening in recognition of Holocaust survivor and longtime Mahoning Valley resident Mr. William Vegh of Youngstown, Ohio, who passed away Friday, June 5, 2009. Mr. Vegh was born in Aspa, Czechoslovakia on November 21, 1928. Mr. Vegh and his wife Lucille, married on June 29, 1952, have three children, seven grandchildren, and one great grandchild. He came to the United States in 1948, and worked in the Mahoning Valley for 38 years. He was an active member of the El Emeth Synagogue where he attended services daily.

Mr. Vegh lived through one of the worst horrors visited upon our modern era: The Holocaust. Held in Auschwitz and various other concentration camps, he lost his mother, sister and four of his brothers. After being liberated by the allied forces and settling in Ohio, he dedicated his life after retirement to speaking and educating those around him about the Holocaust and the concentration camps in which he was kept. His utter dedication to this goal helped to ensure that the people of the Valley would never forget both him and the events he endured.

And his ability to inspire did not stop at the borders of Mahoning Valley. His story was documented by the Steven Spielberg Shoah Foundation, a non-profit organization based out of California dedicated to "overcoming prejudice, intolerance and bigotry". He also received many awards and recognitions including the Marvin and Sarah Itts Award for Distinguished Community Service, B'Nai Brith Guardian of the Menorah, J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award, Heroes of Mahoning Valley/American Red Cross, the Janusz Korczak Humanitarian Award, the 2000 Triumphant Spirit Award and was an Honoree of the Youngstown Area Fraternal Brotherhood. These awards recognize his notable ability to connect with people and inspire them through education.

I would like to commend Mr. William Vegh for inspiring us all with his incredible story and all he has done for the community. I am very proud to have represented him and I wish all the best for his family.

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#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2847, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. This legislation appropriates \$200,000 in the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, Department of Justice Juvenile Justice Account for KidsPeace Florida Therapeutic Foster Care Program in my district. The entity to receive this funding is

KidsPeace Florida located at St. 711 Ballard Street, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701.

The funds from this request will (1) provide community-based placement to children involved with or at risk for involvement with the juvenile justice system; (2) address the mental health needs of children in the social service system; and (3) provide safe and supportive homes to children.

This legislation appropriates \$250,000 in the Department of Justice COPS Law Enforcement Technology Account for St. Johns County in my district. The entity to receive this funding is St. Johns County located at 2740 Industry Center Road, St. Augustine, FL 32084.

The funds from this request will be used to improve the communications equipment that allows the cities and County to communicate during an emergency.

This legislation appropriates \$400,000 in the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, Department of Justice COPS Law Enforcement Technology Account for the City of Maitland, Florida in my district. The entity to receive this funding is the City of Maitland, Florida located at 1 776 Independence Avenue, Maitland, Florida 32751.

Funding will be used for the critical Public Safety Radio System technology upgrades and Mobile Data Terminals for the Maitland Police Department.

This legislation appropriates \$150,000 in the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, Department of Justice COPS Law Enforcement Technology Account for Volusia County, Florida in my district. The entity to receive this funding is Volusia County, Florida located at 123 West Indiana Avenue, DeLand, FL.

The Volusia County Sheriffs Office will use these funds for information technology systems upgrades to support a new evidence photo management system. The new system will provide for secure storage of evidentiary images to assist in the identification, apprehension, and prosecution of suspects.

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#### INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 18, 2009*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Whaling Convention Act of 1949 (Act) to require that the United States Commissioner to the International Whaling Commission (IWC) be a Federal employee.

The Act sets out conditions for the appointment of the U.S. Commissioner to the IWC. It provides that the U.S. Commissioner shall be appointed by the President on the concurrent recommendations of the Secretaries of State and Commerce, and establishes that the Commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the President.

My legislation would add a requirement that any such individual must also be an employee of the Federal Government to ensure that the positions of the Administration are represented by the Commissioner. It would apply to any individual who is appointed, or reappointed, as U.S. Commissioner to the IWC on or after the date of enactment.