

IN HONOR OF SENATOR THURMAN  
G. ADAMS, JR.

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 25, 2009*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart but great honor that I rise today to pay tribute to the life of the Honorable Thurman G. Adams, Jr. A member of Delaware's State Senate for the past 37 years and owner of T.G. Adams & Sons Inc., Senator Adams is a man who has given much to his community and his state; a man who is to be recognized for all that he has done and a man who will truly be missed by me and Delawareans throughout our state.

Since his initial election in 1972, Senator Adams worked diligently as a representative of his constituents and as an advocate for progress, molding Delaware into the business-friendly, agriculturally rich state that it is today. The longest serving State Senator in Delaware history, Thurman served in this capacity under eight Governors and was elected as the Senate Majority Leader in 1999 and as the President Pro Tempore in 2002. Regarding Thurman's dedication to our State and his strength of character, I cannot say enough. For nearly four decades now, there is hardly a bill that has come to pass in Delaware upon which Thurman's influence has not been felt. One of the most notable pieces of legislation that he sponsored and fought for was an enhanced 9–1–1 bill. Passed and currently in place, the bill created a system that automatically gives the address from which a 9–1–1 call originates—enabling a quicker, more accurate response time. A member of the Senate Executive Committee since his first term and later appointed as chairman, Thurman played a huge role in determining who served in the judiciary, cabinet and various other influential state posts. The strong, positive force which he brought to the legislature every day has helped to strengthen and solidify Delaware's courts and government for many decades.

In his capacity as a legislator and as a citizen, Thurman spent his life in service to the State of Delaware. Senator Adams graduated from the University of Delaware in 1950 with a B.S. in agricultural education and went on to succeed his father as the President of T.G. Adams & Sons Inc., a feed and grain business in his hometown of Bridgeville. With a solid base in agriculture and the business world, Thurman was appointed to the State Highway Commission in 1961 and appointed as the chairman of the Governor's Safety Committee in 1966. Over the years, Senator Adams was recognized for many accomplishments. In 1996, he received the University of Delaware's "Medal of Distinction," an honor acknowledging his outstanding professional achievements. He and his wife Hilda also became very active in trying to make the process to receive organ transplants easier for individuals and their families after their own personal experience with their son Brent. In 2008, he was both inducted into the National 4–H Hall of Fame and awarded the "Order of the First State," the highest award our Governor can present in recognition of his many years of service.

Senator Adams spent his life as an advocate for his Bridgeville district, for the county

of Sussex, and for the State of Delaware. A believer in personal, deep-rooted relationships, Thurman was a respected and compassionate legislator and his passing will leave a void in Delaware's General Assembly and our state. During my time as a State Senator and in my role as Lt. Governor and Governor, I had the privilege of working with Senator Adams on many key legislative issues. Thurman is someone with whom I worked closely and confided in frequently and I feel confident in recognizing him for who he was—a man who was incredibly fair, a strong, trusted and great leader with devotion unequalled, and a sterling reputation for helping others.

Foremost in Thurman's life was his family. Thurman was a loving husband to his wife Hilda, a father who could bestow life's lessons as well as heartfelt love to his three children, Brent, Lynn, and Polly, a grandfather who adored his grandchildren, and a brother to Leon, Beatrice and his deceased brother Alvin. His family and grandchildren warmed his heart and he took great pride in watching them grow and mature over the years. While we will all miss him dearly, I take comfort in knowing that he, Hilda, and Brent have been reunited and I am sure are watching over all of us now.

He gave his time, his energy, and his heart in pursuit of comprehensive and useful measures, established and implemented for the benefit of his fellow Delawareans. Steadfast in his beliefs, Thurman once said, "I hope that every bill will make life better." I stand today to acknowledge and honor that he was a man dedicated to just that. Godspeed to my good friend, Senator Thurman G. Adams, Jr. and thank you for your guidance, support and friendship over the years.

**EARMARK DECLARATION**

**HON. DENNY REHBERG**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 25, 2009*

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Name and Address: Em-Kayan County Water and Sewer District, 910 Greers Ferry Road, Libby, Montana 59923.

Description: The Em-Kayan community water system consists of three springs, two wells, five steel storage tanks and a water distribution system inclusive of fire hydrants. The original water system was constructed in the 1960s. Funding would be used to replace badly corroded steel water main with PVC water main, install additional fire hydrants to meet fire flow requirements, install water meters to better account for the District's water resource and install a control system.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: National Park Service—Save America's Treasures

Name and Address: City of Bozeman, 121 North Rouse Avenue, Bozeman, Montana 59771

Description: Historic Downtown Bozeman suffered a devastating loss due to a natural

gas pipeline explosion in March, 2009. The explosion and subsequent fire destroyed four historic buildings, and significantly damaged three others. All buildings are in the Bozeman Main Street Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The destroyed buildings covered 150 linear feet of historic streetscape.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: BLM—Land Acquisition  
Name and Address: The Conservation Fund, 125 Bank Street, Suite #612, Missoula, Montana 59802.

Description: Funding would be used for the BLM to purchase Phase II of this project. Located in Carbon County, near Red Lodge, the wind-blasted stone pinnacles of the Meeteetse Spires reach hundreds of feet into the sky and provide a unique backdrop to a scenic hanging valley as part of the Meeteetse Spires Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). In partnership with the BLM, The Conservation Fund has reached an agreement to acquire a 560-acre private inholding from a willing seller within the ACEC with the goal of conveying the property to the BLM through an appropriation.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: U.S. Forest Service—Land Acquisition

Name and Address: The Nature Conservancy, 32 S. Ewing, Helena, Montana 59601.

Description: This funding would be used for the U.S. Forest Service to acquire lands critical for protecting the existing federal investment in the Blackfoot Community—Nora Gulch—project area, including wildlife habitat for grizzly bears, elk, and threatened trout species.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: EPA—Science and Technology  
Name and Address: Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research Inc., 100 Sylvan Drive, Suite #210, St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522.

Description: Partnering with Montana State University, this funding would be used to fund university research and technology transfer for phytoremediation and environmentally friendly industries. Working with The Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research, Inc., it will develop new and improved technologies that range from "green" chemicals and industrial manufacturing processes to environmental remediation.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
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Account: EPA—Science and Technology  
Name and Address: The Water Research Foundation, 6666 Quincy Street, Denver, Colorado 80235.

Description: Partnering with the Mountain Water Company of Missoula, Montana, this funding would be used to sponsor individual research projects that enable utilities to provide safe, affordable and sustainable water to their customers. These projects will help water utilities address challenges such as climate change impacts on water supply, pharmaceutical contaminants in drinking water, aging infrastructure, and protection of watersheds.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—Land Acquisition

Name and Address: The Nature Conservancy, 32 S. Ewing, Helena, Montana 59601.

Description: This funding will be used for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire conservation easements along the Montana's Rocky Mountain Front.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: BLM—Land Acquisition

Name and Address: The Nature Conservancy, 32 S. Ewing, Helena, Montana 59601.

Description: This funding will be used for acquiring lands for the Bureau of Land Management to protect the existing federal investment in the project area, including wildlife habitat for grizzly bears, elk, and threatened trout species near the Blackfoot River.

Requesting Member: Rep. DENNY REHBERG  
Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Account: U.S. Forest Service—Land Acquisition

Name and Address: The Trust for Public Land, 111 South Grand Avenue, Suite #203, Bozeman, Montana 59715.

Description: This funding will be used as an acquisition project for the United States Forest Service to purchase mining claims within the Yellowstone National Park ecosystem. These lands offer natural and recreational resources that will be protected by the United States Forest Service.

RECOGNIZING THE CREW OF THE  
RB-47H SHOT DOWN OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS BY THE SOVIET UNION ON JULY 1, 1960

### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Willard Palm, Captain Freeman B. Olmstead, Captain John McKone, and the crew of the RB-47H shot down over international waters by the Soviet Union on July 1, 1960. This recognition is well-deserved and highlights the unending service and integrity of our men and women in uniform.

The plane was crewed by Major Willard Palm as aircraft commander; Captain Freeman B. Olmstead as pilot; Captain John McKone as navigator.

Freeman B. Olmstead was born in Elmira, New York, and brought up in a devout Episcopal family. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio. He entered active duty with the Air Force in 1957.

McKone was a native of Tonganoxie, Kansas, and he graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in history in 1954. He entered active duty on March 15, 1955.

On July 1, 1960, a United States Air Force RB-47H based at Forbes Air Force Base, Kansas, departed from Brize Norton Royal Air Force Base in England. The flight's planned route kept the plane over international waters.

A MiG-19 fighter intercepted the American bomber in the Barents Sea. The MiG eventually opened fire on the RB-47H. Olmstead and McKone successfully ejected and survived only to be picked up by a Soviet fishing vessel. The aircraft commander, however, perished in the Barents Sea.

Ten days after the shootdown, Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev announced that they had shot down the bomber and captured the two crewmen. The pair were imprisoned in Moscow's Lubyanka prison, and accused by the Soviets of espionage, punishable by death, for allegedly violating the Soviet Sea frontier.

Shortly after the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy, Premier Nikita Khrushchev extended an offer to free Olmstead and McKone quickly—but with three terms later agreed to.

After seven months of imprisonment and interrogation the guards drove Captain Freeman B. Olmstead and Captain John McKone to the American embassy. They were handed over to U.S. officials to be reunited with their families without having disclosed any information to the Soviet government.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Armed Services, I am continuously struck by the integrity of our servicemen. With examples like Captain Freeman B. Olmstead and Captain John McKone it is clear where this integrity comes from and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring them.

### TRIBUTE TO BEN SACCO

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bernard "Ben" Sacco, a longtime Bakersfield entrepreneur, community leader, and friend who passed away on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at the age of 87.

Ben Sacco was born in a small town outside Salerno, Italy, and immigrated to the United States in 1935. Sacco moved to California after serving his country in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, and worked in agriculture in Hanford. In 1947, he and Morris Rosenberg founded Sierra Bag Company in Bakersfield to produce containers for local growers.

A devoted recycling advocate, Ben also founded Sierra Iron and Metal Company to recycle salvaged metals in 1959. Eventually, it became Sierra Recycling and Demolition, which cleans up land for redevelopment. On a visit to Italy, Sacco visited a scrap yard near Venice and discovered a unique machine—a mobile baler that could process twice as much scrap metal in a day as its U.S. counterparts. He promptly bought one, and at an age when many are considering retirement, Sacco embarked on a new career equipment vendor. He introduced the combination shear/baler in the United States in 1987, and soon Sierra International Machinery expanded into a major industry. Earlier this year, the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries honored Ben Sacco with a lifetime achievement award for his dedication to Sierra International Machinery, LLC. Adding to his list of accomplishments, Sacco founded the Italian Heritage Dante organization in 1996.

Ben Sacco is survived by his wife, Eunice Sacco; sons John, Anthony, and Phillip; daughters Angela, Aragon, and Laura; and six grandchildren. Devoted to serving his community in a variety of ways, Ben's death is a

great loss for the Bakersfield community, but his legacy of dedication to his family, friends, and businesses will always be remembered.

### FEDERAL OFFSET PROGRAM

### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, today I am proposing bipartisan legislation to establish a program that would mirror the existing law for states. The legislation, in which I am joined by my colleagues, Representatives WOLF, WITTMAN, and CONNOLLY, would allow certain types of delinquent local tax debt to be collected through the reduction of federal tax refunds. Providing local governments access to these needed and due funds is important both in principle and for budgetary purposes. In the middle of this recession, it is especially important to assist cities and counties to collect the taxes they are owed. The alternatives would be a reduction in vital services and jobs at a time when the government safety net for very poor families who lack jobs has weakened significantly and increases in deep poverty in this recession are likely to be severe. This will impose significantly higher demands on local governments for police, housing and shelter, food, and other vital services. This bill offers a unique opportunity not just to provide hundreds of millions of dollars of desperately needed assistance at no cost to federal taxpayers, but also to protect honest taxpayers from an increase in local property taxes. Under this legislation, the only cost is to the delinquent taxpayer, who would finally be made to pay his or her outstanding tax obligation.

This proposed program would have no additional cost to the federal government. Local governments would pay the federal government the fee of \$25 for each offset refund. It would alleviate the administrative burden to Department of the Treasury by requiring the state taxing authority to act as the clearinghouse. Therefore, the client base for the Department of the Treasury would not increase.

This concept of an offset originated as a way to assist states with securing child support arrearages. It was expanded to allow states to submit other delinquent claims against an individual's federal tax return. This program has been very successful for the states. Now this bill would expand its successful idea and concept to local governments in all states. Doing so could potentially result in several billion dollars annually for local governments by effecting the collection of delinquent taxes.

The bill would instruct the Secretary of the Treasury, upon receiving notice from any eligible state on behalf of a local government, that a named person owes such local government a past-due, legally enforceable tax obligation and provide, consequently, for the reduction of the federal tax refunds payable to such person by the amount of such debt. That amount would be remitted to the state for payment to the affected local government, provide for notification to the state of the taxpayer's name, taxpayer identification number, address, and the amount collected; and notification of the person due the refund that it has been reduced by an amount necessary to satisfy a past-due, legally enforceable tax obligation.