

help Gulf Coast rice farmers feed the world. Originally a partnership between Acadia Parish, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, it was the first experimental rice research station in the country.

Now operating under the LSU AgCenter, scientists and farmers work in tandem to contribute to improvements in rice growing. A significant part of the center's funding comes from the Louisiana Rice Research Board, which receives a voluntary payment from area rice sales to ensure the station's work continues.

Rice farmers along the Gulf Coast face difficult conditions as weather and disease can devastate even the most promising crop. However, Louisiana's agricultural communities persevere and possess a richness of culture matched by none. The state's rice industry added \$550 million to Louisiana's economy in 2008 alone. Rice farming will continue to be a way of life for thousands in Louisiana thanks to the work done at the Research Station.

Again, congratulations to the LSU AgCenter Rice Research Station at Crowley, Louisiana, for helping rice farmers throughout the Gulf Coast for 100 years and counting."

HONORING MECHANICVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL TEAM

**HON. SCOTT MURPHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2009*

Mr. MURPHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to congratulate the Mechanicville High School Softball team who, in addition to winning an impressive five New York State titles in Class C this decade, have recently captured the Class B State Championship.

The Red Raiders faced tough competition, in addition to quite a bit of rain, to pull out a 3–1 victory against Fredonia at Waterloo High School. I would especially like to recognize the impressive performance of sophomore Anna Arcenaux, who allowed just one run while winning two games in the final four.

Arcenaux's efforts were aided by freshman Alysa Russell and sophomore Kelsey Hines, two of the team's most outstanding hitters. Leading Mechanicville's young team to victory was head Coach Dan Arcenaux, who will have the opportunity to repeat this success next year with the same roster of outstanding athletes.

On behalf of the citizens of the 20th District of New York, we congratulate the Mechanicville Red Raiders softball team and their coaches for an outstanding display of teamwork and athleticism.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. FRANK D. LUCAS**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2009*

Mr. LUCAS. 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. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$209,000 for the Pilot Technology Transfer project. This funding will be used to provide technology transfer services and engineering assistance to small, rural manufacturers with the goal of improving their profitability and enhancing the economy in rural communities.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$274,000 for the Animal Waste Management project. This funding will be used to develop sustainable, environmentally safe, and ecologically healthy animal waste management practices in semiarid ecosystems that contribute to economic development in rural communities.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$839,000 for the Biomass-based Energy Research project. This funding will be used to find an alternative to traditional fuel sources, and to enhance rural economic development through the use of plant materials. A consortium of three universities (Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma University, and Mississippi State University) is working to refine and commercialize a unique gasification-fermentation process utilizing biomass to produce liquid fuel.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$223,000 for the Expanded Wheat Pasture project. This funding will be used to develop science and technologies, uniquely adapted wheat varieties, decision-support economic models, and extension education programs to increase profitability of the many dual-purpose wheat enterprises.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$382,000 for the Food Safety project. This funding will be used to conduct research and testing to develop rapid and efficient methods for detecting and controlling food borne pathogens throughout the food chain from point of origin to consumption.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$177,000 for the Integrated Production Systems project. This funding will be used to conduct research to develop and refine crop management techniques that enable environmentally sound and economically feasible production of alternative crops that will best utilize natural resources as they produce organically grown vegetable crops and crops for the biofuel industry.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK D. LUCAS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, Research and Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Oklahoma State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Whitehurst, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA

Description of Request: I have received \$174,000 for the Preservation and Processing Research project. This funding will be used to emphasize research, development and implementation of integrated cropping, harvesting, storage and processing systems to facilitate new crop endeavors and assist new business development, to maintain and improve profitability for horticulture.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN SULLIVAN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2009*

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that I was on an official leave of absence from the U.S. House of Representatives on the account of illness and unable to vote on rollcall vote 477 to H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "nay" as the bill represents a partisan step in the wrong direction and a massive energy tax on the American people.

I was pleased to vote against H.R. 2454 when it was considered before the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Like many

Americans, I believe that we have a shared responsibility to work to ensure clean air, clean water and a healthy environment for today but also for future generations. However, we also know that the national energy tax proposal which passed the House is not the way to do it. Being good stewards of our planet should not be a partisan issue; it is something that benefits us all.

As I have said from the start, H.R. 2454 is nothing more than a backdoor attempt to implement a massive national energy tax that will result in higher energy prices, less jobs, and a greater dependence on foreign sources of oil. The oil and gas industry employs 1.8 million people across the nation and represents a large portion of the economy in my district. I cannot support any bill that will eliminate these jobs or ship them overseas.

I also remain deeply concerned that the bill, if enacted into law, will force American manufacturers and other energy intensive industries to relocate to other countries such as China or India. These countries are not subject to limits on greenhouse gas emissions, and H.R. 2454 would place the United States at a competitive disadvantage.

Families and small businesses already are struggling during this recession, and increasing their direct and indirect energy costs to the tune of thousands of dollars per year will only make matters worse. Given our troubled economy, Congress should reject plans for a national energy tax through this deeply flawed bill and work across party lines on a plan to create jobs, lower energy costs, and establish a cleaner, more reliable energy future.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2009*

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership standards, I am submitting the following information regarding projects I received funding for as part of H.R. 2997, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$147,000 for Improving the Sustainable Production of Specialty Crops (Improved Fruit Practices). This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer money because the research will be used to assist growers in producing high quality fruit, dry beans, and sugar beets with environmentally sound, safe, and effective pest control methods and management approaches. Approximately, \$91,140 is for salaries and expenses, and \$55,860 is for lab maintenance and equipment. In addition to the federal funds provided by this grant, this re-

search is supported by personnel, equipment, and facilities funded by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station and Michigan State University Extension.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$346,000 for Controlling Fire Blight Disease of Apple Trees. This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer money because the research will be used to develop blight-resistant varieties and new, environmentally responsible control strategies to combat this disease. This grant will be split between Michigan (which receives approximately 36 percent) and New York (which receives approximately 64 percent). For Michigan, approximately \$99,648 is for the salaries of laboratory and field research personal; and \$24,912 is for materials and supplies. Michigan State University is working to obtain funding from the Michigan Apple Committee, the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, project GREEN, and from other industry sources.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$266,000 for Sustainable Agriculture: Expanding and Refining the Ecosystem Base (Sustainable Agriculture). This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer money because the research will be used to assist farmers on sustainable agriculture practices, which will help farmers manage their crops for improved yields, while reducing fertilizer and pesticide use, and stemming nutrient losses to ground and surface water. Organic farming concepts are also addressed. Approximately, \$151,000 is for salaries of researchers; \$15,000 is for travel expenses; \$10,000 is for farmer stipends; \$25,000 is for materials and supplies; and \$65,000 is for communication and outreach. Michigan State University expects to leverage at least \$150,000 in state, local, and private funds to expand the impacts of the special grant.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Account: Special Research Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Description of Request: This bill provides \$346,000 for Phytophthora Capsici research. This grant is a valuable use of taxpayer

money because the research will be used to study the fungal-like pathogen that lives in the soil and causes plants to rot. Vegetables such as cucumbers, pumpkins, squash, watermelon, cantaloupe, tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, eggplants and lima and snap beans are particularly susceptible to rot caused by Phytophthora. This funding will go towards salaries of researchers, laboratory and field equipment, travel expenses, and publication or results. This program receives other federal/state/local/industry funding.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 2997

Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Account: Conservation Operations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Great Lakes Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: 2805 S. Industrial Hwy, Suite 100, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6791

Description of Request: This bill provides \$404,000 for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, which was authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill. This funding is a valuable use of taxpayer money because it will protect and improve Great Lakes water quality by controlling erosion and sedimentation; limiting the input of associated nutrients and toxic contaminants; and minimizing off-site sources of damage to harbors, streams, fish and wildlife habitat, recreational facilities and the Basin's system of public works.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2009*

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. 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. 2997, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Congressman TIM MURPHY

Bill Number: H.R. 2997, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: National Institute of Food and Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Business Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence

Address of Requesting Entity: Posvar Hall, Room 1800, Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Amount: \$500,000

Description of Request: The funding will be used to address the needs of the agricultural sector in the region to improve business practices, marketing strategies, and profit management. The University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Business Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence will develop a model agricultural entrepreneurship program for sustainable agricultural production in emerging areas such as hydroponics and soilless controlled environment agriculture.