

House in Indianapolis and throughout the state.

Last year, Bill and his colleagues at The Times took the lead on establishing the One Region: One Vision concept with the goal of uniting local leaders to advance all of Northwest Indiana as one community. In the past, Northwest Indiana has been plagued by a limiting provincialism that has inhibited our area's growth and potential. Under the One Region: One Vision concept, Bill and his colleagues have already brought local leaders together from across the area to start collaborating on projects that will make Northwest Indiana a better place for everybody to live.

Finally, any praise for Bill would be incomplete without mention of his business instincts and acumen. With the print media industry struggling nationwide, and with the economic downturn exacerbating the industry's problems, The Times continues to thrive under Bill's direction. Last March, Editor and Publisher Magazine bestowed upon The Times the distinction of fastest growing English-language daily newspaper in the United States. By the most recent published reports, that growth has continued.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Bill Nangle, who has worked tirelessly to maintain a vibrant and free press and has used his influence to positively enhance the lives of the people he serves. Bill is an unparalleled leader who deserves our recognition.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, as the father of three, I feel it is my duty to fight for the rights of our most innocent—the unborn. That is why, today, it is my honor to introduce the Right to Life Act. This bill accomplishes the simple, yet important goal, of protecting all unborn children from the moment of conception.

While it is the fundamental and primary duty of the federal government to protect and defend the rights of all its citizens, America's unborn have continually been harmed by Congress's inaction to establish their constitutional right to life. Due to both the United States Supreme Court's decision in the 1973 landmark case of *Roe v. Wade* and Congress's failure to establish personhood thereafter, over 1.3 million babies have had their life taken from them prematurely. Since abortions became legal in 1973, over 40 million babies have had their life unjustly taken from them, an entire generation of who will never experience the joys and promise of being an American.

It is now time for Congress to stop this tragedy and recognize the life in every unborn child. Congress needs to effectively overturn *Roe v. Wade* by enforcing four important provisions in the Constitution: (1) The due process clause (Sec. 1) of the Fourteenth Amendment, which prohibits states from depriving any person of life; (2) Sec. 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment, which gives Congress the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this amendment; (3) The due proc-

ess clause of the Fifth Amendment, which concurrently prohibits the federal government from depriving any person of life; and (4) Article 1, Section 8, which gives Congress the power to make laws necessary and proper to enforce all powers in the Constitution.

The Supreme Court, in refusing to determine when human life begins and therefore finding nothing to indicate that the unborn are persons protected by the Fourteenth Amendment, has left to Congress the responsibility of protecting the unprotected. The Court conceded that, "If the suggestion of personhood is established, the appellants' case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment."

Throughout my military service, I took great pride in knowing that I was protecting all Americans. From those who have lived many years, to those just conceived. I do not believe my responsibility to protect the lives of Americans ended when I returned home from Iraq and Afghanistan. I view service in this great House as an opportunity to continue protecting those who need protecting. I ask Members of this House to listen closely to their conscience and pass this legislation so that every unborn child will be legally recognized and afforded the same protection all other Americans enjoy.

For those who have supported this legislation in the past, I wanted to bring your attention to a new provision holding women harmless if they do proceed with an abortion. It is important to recognize that the purpose of this bill is to protect the life of the unborn child, not put women in jail. Unfortunately, some supporters of this legislation have been accused of sponsoring legislation that incarcerates women for utilizing contraception. As a result, I wanted nothing to detract from our purpose of protecting the unborn. While I hope that this does not reduce the enormity of their action, I will not allow such an important issue to become sidetracked by those who wish to change the debate.

Technically, the Right to Life Act establishes and recognizes the personhood of an unborn child at the moment of conception. The reality is it does so much more. It gives the unborn the chance to experience life, to realize their hopes and dreams, to make a difference. I hope my colleagues will support me in this important effort.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes:

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the amendment submitted by my colleague from Arizona, Mr. FLAKE.

The amendment would slash funding for an essential service to the American people, Am-

trak. Amtrak is the main provider of all intercity passenger rail service in the United States and it is a key component of the American economy.

Amtrak is a safe, energy efficient transportation alternative that moves thousands of people and tons of cargo every day. It also employs thousands of Americans across the country. What started as a proposal for a minimum of \$5 billion in funding has already been reduced to \$1.1 billion in the base bill. Further cuts are unacceptable; they would prevent the development of intercity passenger rail in communities such as the Quad Cities in my home state of Illinois. We are fighting to re-establish the Quad Cities to Chicago route which would help commuters with their work-day travel and make the Quad Cities more desirable for new businesses and economic development. Additionally, the Quad Cities is the only community of its size in the entire country that does not have a four-year institution of higher education. Amtrak service would expedite plans already underway to establish the tech and engineering branch of Western Illinois University in Moline, which is why I offered an amendment to add \$500 million for capital assistance for intercity passenger rail service.

In addition to the benefits Amtrak provides my own community, it also impacts the entire nation. For every \$1 billion invested in transportation infrastructure, over 40,000 jobs are created and \$6.2 billion in economic activity is generated. Federal funding for Amtrak and passenger rail would boost the economy and create jobs all across America.

It is time to invest in America's future. I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment and to preserve the transportation and energy future of America's cities.

DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 738 "Deaths in Custody Reporting Act of 2009."

The purpose of this bill is to encourage States to report to the Attorney General certain information regarding the deaths of individuals in the custody of law enforcement agencies. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Each year a small number of people die suddenly while restrained. Most of these deaths are associated with individuals who were restrained while being taken into custody during a violent police encounter. Other cases of sudden restraint death involve individuals in detention or residential treatment programs who were restrained during violent encounters while also under the influence of psychiatric medications.

Madam Speaker, no one is certain how many restraint related sudden deaths occur each year. Identifying the exact cause of death is the biggest problem. The number of estimated deaths is in question but may range between 50 and 125 per year. Some estimates are higher. Sudden death after individuals were taken into police custody has been

reported for several decades; however this piece of legislation provides the first uniform national reporting for all deaths in law enforcement and correctional custody. H.R. 738 will now make it possible to ascertain the percentage of deaths by suicides and homicides, or from natural causes, which will result in a significant improvement in the oversight of prisoner treatment. With the detailed statistical data, policy makers, both state and federal, can make informed policy judgments about the treatment of prisoners leading to great success in lowering the prisoner death rate. In fact, since the focus on deaths in custody emerged in the mid-1980's, the latest BJS report, dated August 2005, shows a 64 percent decline in suicides and a 93 percent decline in the homicide rate.

Madam Speaker, between 2001 and 2004, state prison authorities nationwide reported a total of 12,129 state prisoner deaths to the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program (DCRP). Total number of deaths excludes 258 State prison executions during 2001–2004. Nearly 9 in 10 of these deaths (89 percent) were attributed to medical conditions. Less than 1 in 10 were the result of suicide (6 percent) and homicide (2 percent), while alcohol/drug intoxication and accidental injury accounted for another 1 percent each. A definitive cause could not be determined for 1 percent of these deaths.

The Deaths in Custody Reporting Act requires that states receiving federal funding report quarterly to the Attorney General, in methods prescribed by the Attorney General, the circumstances surrounding the death of any person in custody of a state prison or local jail, which includes any person in the process of arrest, en route to incarceration, incarceration in any state facility (municipal jail, county jail, prison, juvenile facility or any other State or local correctional facility).

In 1983, the State of Texas Legislature passed laws requiring the reporting of all custodial deaths in Texas. The data was to involve deaths that occur in the process of arrest, as well as those deaths that occurred while confined in a jail or any correctional facility. This information was reported to the State Attorney General's Office, and Prosecutor Assistance/Special Investigation Division. The reports were aimed to be vital pieces to investigations and for open records requests. The failure to report a death to the proper authorities would result in a misdemeanor offense.

Madam Speaker, this legislation provides for detailed statistical data, that allows for policy makers, both state and federal, to make informed policy judgments about the treatment of prisoners leading to great success in lowering the prisoner death rate. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING ANDY M. BROCK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andy M. Brock a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica, Troop 280, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andy M. Brock for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ROY
G. SMITH, ARKANSAS STATE
DIRECTOR FOR USDA RURAL DE-
VELOPMENT

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Arkansas' USDA Rural Development Director, Roy G. Smith for his outstanding efforts to improve the quality of life for all rural Americans.

Roy has been a lifelong champion for rural communities; both as a farmer and as an advocate, joining the Farmers Home Administration, a predecessor to today's USDA Rural Development 40 years ago. Under his guidance countless Arkansans have benefitted from millions of dollars in projects to make their lives better.

We are blessed to have had Roy at helm for the past three and a half years and I am blessed to have him as a friend. I have enjoyed the Rural Development Tours where he showcased just some of the latest funded projects. I have been to many check presentations with Roy and I will remember his encouragement of getting civic leaders to sign the check "to get enough signatures to make the check float."

Roy has done a tremendous job of meeting the needs of rural Arkansans. His leadership will be missed but his influence will be felt for years to come.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
AMERICAN RENEWABLE ENERGY
ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the "American Renewable Energy Act" to create a national renewable electricity standard that will revitalize our economy by creating hundreds of thousands of green jobs, save consumers billions of dollars on their energy bills and reduce our Nation's global warming pollution by dramatically increasing our use of clean, renewable power. In the 110th Congress, the House repeatedly passed a national renewable electricity standard in overwhelming, bipartisan votes requiring that 15 percent of our electricity come from renewable energy sources like wind, solar and biomass and efficiency gains by 2020. The Amer-

ican Renewable Energy Act that I am introducing today would build upon that legislation and follows President Obama's goal that we generate 25 percent of our electricity from renewables by the year 2025.

Electric power generation is responsible for roughly 40 percent of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions—the most prevalent of the heat-trapping gases causing global warming. Right now, the combustion of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and natural gas currently produce more than 70 percent of U.S. electricity. However, the way that we generate electricity is already beginning to change dramatically.

In 2007, we installed 5,244 megawatts of new wind generation, which accounted for 35 percent of all new generation that came online, second only to natural gas. And in 2008, the United States installed more than 8,300 megawatts of new wind capacity—over 40 percent of all new generation that was brought online. That newly installed capacity in 2008 led to the creation of more than 35,000 jobs in the wind industry over the last year.

Much of that renewable generation is the result of states across the country that are putting policies in place to incentivize renewable generation. Already, 27 States and the District of Columbia have adopted renewable electricity standards at the State level. Adopting a national renewable electricity standard will further unleash our technological innovation and allow for the development of renewable resources all across the country.

Every region of the country has renewable resources waiting to be tapped. For instance, the Southeast is home to nearly a third of the biomass feedstock potential in the entire country. Special power plants can burn biomass exclusively and existing coal plants can co-fire biomass in their fuel stream without costly equipment upgrades, replacing 15 percent or more of fossil fuel needs with renewable fuel. Customer-sited solar photovoltaic cells would also earn triple credits under the legislation that I am introducing today, making the target much easier to achieve in places like Florida and Georgia where the solar photovoltaic resource is estimated to be 83–85 percent of the best solar resources in the world.

Adopting a national renewable electricity standard can reinvigorate our economy and our manufacturing sectors by creating an entire new cadre of green-collar jobs. Each wind turbine requires 220 to nearly 400 tons of steel to produce and workers to produce it. From the revamped Maytag plant that is now producing wind turbines in Iowa to the former Ohio manufacturing plant that President Obama visited on his way to Washington, alternative energy can revitalize our declining manufacturing centers all across our country. Adopting a 25 percent renewable electricity standard will create more than 350,000 green jobs by 2020—allowing the people who most need work to do the work that most needs to be done in order to address the climate crisis.

Moreover, adopting a renewable electricity standard will save consumers money by reducing their energy bills. Adopting a national standard of 25 percent will save consumers more than \$49 billion over the next decade in lower energy bills, while channeling more than \$70 billion in new investment into renewable technologies.

The American people overwhelming support a national renewable electricity standard. According to a December poll conducted by the