

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN
WILLIE GATHREL "BILL" HEFNER

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Willie Gathrel "Bill" Hefner. Bill was a unique Member of Congress and served with distinction as the Chair of the Military Construction Subcommittee for many years. Few Members could match his contribution to the defense of this country. He represented his congressional district well, but never lost sight of national goals, whether those dealt with education, law enforcement, or defense. Many times he would sit on the floor listening intently to debate and he became one of the best extemporaneous speakers that ever served in Congress. Madam Speaker, Bill Hefner was a good friend and an outstanding American.

CELEBRATING THE FRANKLIN
SCHOOL 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, this evening, the Franklin School in Bergenfield will celebrate 100 years of exceptional education offered in New Jersey's 5th District. Erected in 1908, Franklin School arose to meet the need for a notable educational facility within this expanding community in Bergen County. Its humble beginnings were made up of a \$15,000 budget and only 10 students grades K-12. Since then, Franklin School has grown to a diverse group of 365 students from grades K-5 that captures the excellence of what Bergen County students have to offer. With a dedicated teaching staff, Franklin School has found new and exciting strategies for enabling its students to excel in all areas of their instruction. Their mission is to put children first and this directive has given incentive to provide the student body with the necessary tools and guidance to obtain success. With laptop labs to teach communication skills, learning centers to further judge and improve performance, and performance measures put in place to continually improve all educational offerings delivered to those who attend, Franklin School has established the gold standard in educational offerings.

The Franklin School is an exceptional educational facility that has nurtured and sent forth successful students for the past 100 years. I am proud of its accomplishments and expect great things from those who have been offered invaluable guidance from this notable school. Because of committed administrators and selfless teachers who have put their time and effort into the educational program offered to their students, Franklin School has made this community in my district a better place. I wish all the very best to the Franklin School and all its staff and students in their next 100 years to come.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 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. 3293, The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2010.

Project Name: FGCU Impact of Freshwater Flow into Coastal Waters—FGCU Coastal Watershed Institute

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3293, The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Higher Education (includes FIPSE)
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd., South, Fort Myers, FL 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$350,000; Florida's coast is a principal economic driver attracting millions of tourists and thousands of residents to the coastal communities of Southwest Florida. Proper management of the freshwater that the coastal environment receives is critical to preventing toxic algal blooms and negative impacts on recreational and commercial fisheries. FGCU is requesting federal funding for their Coastal Watershed Institute to address the impacts associated with changes in the freshwater flows into the area. This project is geared to students learning about future management of our fragile ecosystems.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I am continuing to recover from back surgery. Yesterday, I missed 3 votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows.

Rollcall No. 687, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 324, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 688, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 310, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 689, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3123, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING DONNA GARSKE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Donna Garske for her deep commitment to ending violence against women. Congratulations to Donna as she celebrates this mile-

stone of three decades of service to the Marin Abused Women's Services, and the survivors of domestic violence that the organization serves.

Through her leadership, Donna has raised awareness of the importance and prominence of domestic violence in Marin County and beyond. As a result of her devoted efforts, abused and battered women and girls have increased access to safety and justice.

The enthusiasm and passion she exhibits for her work is truly commendable. From her directorship of the Marin Abused Women's Services, to her service with the California Alliance Against Domestic Violence and her scholastic focus on abuse prevention, she has remained an influential and inspiring leader.

Donna's work on behalf of women knows no borders. With the Network of East/West Women, Donna creates dialogue with women in Eastern/Central Europe and the former Soviet Union about violence against women. Earlier in her career, Donna's passion and commitment took her to the Institute for the Study of Male Violence at Stirling University in Scotland where she studied violence issues.

Since her early work as a counselor at the Women's Transitional Living Center and board member of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Donna's advocacy on behalf of women remains firm and strong.

Madam Speaker, Donna Garske's unstinting dedication to ending violence against women shows citizens in our community the power one person has to make an important difference. Over the years, it has truly been a pleasure for me to work with her. Thank you, Donna, and congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET BUCY

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, Jr.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I want to call the attention of the House to the remarkable life and work of Harriet Bucz, because it is inspiring and a shining model of what citizenship in a democracy is all about.

When Harriet Bucz died on May 8, 2008, she left a void in her community. She was one of those rare individuals who seem to have more energy and enterprise than the rest of us. Only a week before her death, the City Council of Rock Hill recognized Harriet Bucz for her role in having Rock Hill selected among the one hundred best communities in America for young people. Accomplishments like these will last long after her.

Harriet Bucz was an artist and used her passion for art to teach it to others. Her spirit and ability as a teacher won her the notice of school district officials, and she was drafted for a succession of assignments. In each, it became clear that she had a gift for inspiring and managing others.

Harriet Bucz was a founder of the Rock Hill School District Foundation, and helped it build a network of support, and provide numerous teachers with thousands of dollars in scholarship grants. Like other institutions she created, it carries on.

Harriet Bucz started the Community and Leadership Support Program, better known as CLASP, and continued forging relationships

between schools and organizations in the community. Governor Riley's Education Improvement Act mandated more involvement between schools and community, without specifying how these relationships were to be created. Harriet Bucy built the model that worked, not only in Rock Hill but in other districts who came to see what Rock Hill had accomplished under her guidance.

I have attached a eulogy in tribute to Harriet Bucy published in the Herald, shortly after her death, and ask that it be printed after my statement, as a memorial to this woman "with an overarching ability of bringing people together."

[From the Herald, Sept. 9, 2009]

BUCY SERVED COMMUNITY

Harriet Bucy always contended that a community partnership was more than just a financial contribution. A real partnership involved families, business and industry, clubs, the faith community and organizations.

Bucy, who died Thursday at the age of 69, proved how important such a partnership could be during her 23 years as the Rock Hill school district's first community leadership director. That partnership has endured.

The Rock Hill school district was among the first in the state to fully embrace mandates in the 1984 Education Improvement Act to involve parents, businesses and the community more in schools. But the EIA did not provide a blueprint for how to do that and, when Bucy signed on, she practically had to invent her own job.

Fortunately, she was not at all reluctant to do that. One goal was to bring in donations, and she was particularly adept at the business end of the job, soliciting millions of dollars worth of donations and volunteer hours each year.

But she also had taught private art classes while her three sons were growing up and had taught art and history at Rawlinson Road Middle School from 1982 to 1985 when the school was a junior high school. So, she brought both a love of art and a passion for educating children to the job.

She worked with Rock Hill Clean & Green to create an environmental education and recycling program. She worked with what then was the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce to sponsor an education initiative. She enlisted teachers and parents to create the Rock Hill Reads program.

Much of this came under the umbrella of CLASP, the district's Community Leadership and Support Program. Bucy also worked closely with the district's Dropout Prevention Network, New Teacher Institute and America's Promise project, and was active in civic work such as supporting the York County Museum.

Bucy soon was being consulted by other school districts in the state. Rock Hill's program became a model not only for school districts in the state but also nationwide.

Her overarching talent was an ability to bring together people from all parts of the community, from different backgrounds and different lifestyles, all for the purpose of furthering the quality of education. That good work has provided the foundation for programs that will continue to serve the needs of children for generations to come.

A grateful community joins her family and many friends in mourning her loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 31, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 685. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 685: No—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act.

CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTION COMPENSATION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the following trade association letters are offered for the record in opposition to H.R. 3269 in order to supplement my remarks during debate:

JULY 30, 2009.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Re Opposition to H.R. 3269, Corporate and Financial Institutional Compensation Fairness Act of 2009.

The undersigned organizations strongly oppose H.R. 3269, the "Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009." We believe that the bill would result in substantial unintended consequences, especially the mandatory annual vote on pay requirement in section 2 and the precedent-setting authority granted to the federal government over executive and employee compensation in section 4. In sum, we believe the bill would result in a "one-size-fits-all" approach to compensation that would have substantial negative implications for proper functioning of the corporate governance process, responsible growth, and effective risk mitigation that, when coupled with other proposed legislation, would extend well beyond the financial services industry.

Each of our organizations fully supports effective measures to increase awareness and mitigation of excessive risk in compensation. We believe that the board of directors, acting through an independent compensation committee, should be responsible for setting compensation because it is so closely linked to business strategy and succession planning. While many have developed and circulated principles to improve compensation and corporate governance, companies across all industries are taking steps to reinforce their understanding of these issues and are taking action to revise practices that may encourage excessive risk taking. Many of these changes, such as majority voting for directors, independent compensation committees, advisory Say on Pay votes, eliminating staggered boards, have been occurring on a company by company basis for a long period of time, without government mandates.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER COMPENSATION

We oppose Section 4 of the bill because it would give the bank regulatory agencies authority to set the structure and thus the amount of executive and employee compensation provided in the form of incentives.

While recognizing the federal government's role in ensuring the safety and soundness of our financial institutions, these provisions would effectively transfer authority for determining how a substantial part of compensation at these firms should be structured from the Board (for executives) and the company (for other employees) to a consortium of regulatory agencies. Our concerns include:

The adoption of a one-size-fit all approach, which does not accommodate a company-specific approach to pay. The financial industry is expansive, and an incentive structure that may be deemed risky at one organization may be perfectly acceptable at another, depending on the company's business strategy, the risk profile of the organization, and mitigating elements of the total pay program. The legislation instructs the agencies to take a one-size fits all approach by prohibiting pay structures that "could threaten the safety and soundness of covered financial institutions."

Even if a company-specific approach were taken, the federal government has neither the experience nor expertise to set executive compensation arrangements for a wide variety of financial institutions. The legislation will replace the informed judgment of the board of directors and compensation committee with the cursory knowledge of a federal regulator, eroding the authority of the board and its ability to closely tailor compensation to the company.

The Obama Administration did not ask for such expansive authority, no doubt a result of the interpretive and enforcement problems created by the poorly crafted executive compensation restrictions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which caused several companies to shift more pay to guaranteed salary, rather than reasonable performance-based incentives, in order to comply.

In addition, because our associations represent companies across a variety of industries, we are also extremely concerned that this model of pay regulation would expand to other industries or situations, further putting the federal government in control of pay decisions for private companies. This legislation would establish a form of compensation regulation for employees who interact with consumers. Rather than creating a new bureaucracy, we believe a more effective approach to regulating risk in incentives would be to establish a clear set of principles for mitigating risk against which the regulatory agencies could review pay arrangements.

A MANDATORY ANNUAL VOTE ON PAY

Beyond section 4 of the bill, we also oppose an annual mandatory shareholder vote on executive compensation because it does not achieve the ends sought by proponents, is not sought by a majority of shareholders, and would not improve clear communication between shareholders and the board. While we oppose the requirement embodied in H.R. 3269, there may be viable alternatives that were unable to be explored with the limited time frame taken by the House Financial Services Committee in considering this legislation.

The Board of Directors has a fiduciary duty for managing the company on behalf of all shareholders. The board's compensation committee is responsible for linking compensation incentives to confidential business strategy, aligning pay with the assessment of individual executive performance, and using long-term incentives to support the company's succession planning process. Annual say on pay votes would push compensation structures away from a company-specific approach to "cookie-cutter" arrangements designed to ensure a high vote total.