

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding Sunshine Slopers Ski Club as it celebrates 20 years of synonymous and exceptional experience to the sport of skiing—which in turn offers unique opportunities to allow all Floridians and Americans a chance to be together outside and enjoy the season. I appreciate this opportunity to congratulate Sunshine Slopers Ski Club before the United States House of Representatives.

# OBAMA, THE ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit the following article entitled "Obama, the Economy and Community Colleges." This article was printed in the Bergen Record on September 15, 2009: [From the Bergen Record, Sept. 15, 2009]

# OBAMA, THE ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

(By G. Jeremiah Ryan)

If most experts are to be believed, the recession has bottomed out and we are about to begin the process of rebuilding our economy. While this is good news, it is hardly comforting to the thousands of New Jerseyans who are out of work or underemployed.

That's because although business activity is starting to pick up, job creation isn't. In fact, the same experts who are predicting the start of an economic rebound readily admit that the labor market will continue to deteriorate well into next year, and they expect the unemployment rate to hit double digits.

The question, then, is: What can we do to prevent further erosion in the job market and jump-start employment? President Obama answered that question back in July when, in a major public policy address, he unveiled a plan to spend \$12 billion over the next 10 years to help the nation's community colleges train people for the jobs that will be needed in tomorrow's economy.

## PARTNERSHIP

By looking to community colleges for help, the president is harnessing a job-training infrastructure that already exists. No need to reinvent the wheel. Two-year colleges have been preparing students for employment for as long as they have existed. More recently, they have taken the lead in partnering with government agencies to provide customized job training for businesses in their communities.

Bergen Community College and the Bergen County Workforce Improvement Board came together this summer to help supermarket retailer Whole Foods train 300 of its employees at stores in Paramus and Edgewater. The board helped arrange a \$1 million training grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, while the college developed training budgets and schedules, and located instructors for computer courses, as well as for classes in customer service and basic supervision.

Obama is not the only one to recognize the value of community colleges. The public has, too. This fall, many two-year colleges saw sharp increases in enrollment. As of the first day of classes, Bergen Community College had enrolled 16,769 students, a 17 percent increase over last year.

Two-year colleges are also preparing students to join the workforce in a relatively

short period of time. Labor market experts believe that in the future there will be a strong supply of jobs for people who have two-year degrees or occupational certificates. In fact, these so-called "middle-skill" jobs—nurses, hotel managers, paralegals, etc.—make up about 50 percent of the labor market in New Jersey and pay above-average salaries. A licensed practical nurse, for example, earned a median salary of \$46,800 in 2006, well above the \$35,838 median salary for all occupations in New Jersey that year.

## FLEXIBILITY

To have a lasting impact on the economy, it will be important to prepare students for jobs in industries that are growing and have a future. A hallmark of county colleges has been their ability and willingness to add courses of study that are in demand by the communities they serve. This year, Bergen Community College added nine more degree programs in subjects such as non-profit management, homeland security, fire science and sports management. When you add them to the existing curricula, Bergen students have 140 programs of study to choose from, each leading to a rewarding career.

Obama's speech was a beginning, a recognition that the path to improving employment must include community colleges. Many details need to be worked out, but we have the know-how and experience to help people get back to work.

G. Jeremiah Ryan is president of Bergen Community College in Paramus.

# HONORING CHIEF WILLIAM "DUB" WARRIOR OF BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS

## HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Chief William "Dub" Warrior of Brackettville, Texas, a Historian and Seminole-Negro Indian descendant of the John Horse Band, and commemorate the distinguished service and loyalty of the Seminole-Negro Indian Scouts to the United States Army.

Following the Civil War, the Army was called into west Texas to defend settlements and travelers against retaliation raids from displaced Apache and Comanche Indians. However, they lacked the ability to track down and stop them. The Army needed experienced Indian fighters who knew the rugged terrain and were as skilled as their opponents at surviving and fighting in the desert borderlands. Thus, in 1870 the fearless Seminole-Negro Indians were recruited from Mexico as U.S. Army scouts. They were highly regarded and praised by their commanders for being excellent trackers, hunters and marksmen, and experts at hand-to-hand combat. During twenty-six expeditions they engaged in twelve battles without losing a single scout, and their bravery earned four scouts the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Therefore Madam Speaker it is my great pleasure to rise and announce in honor of these esteemed persons that the greater Washington, DC chapter of the 9th and 10th Horse Calvary Association, in partnership with the Army Freedom Team Salute and St. Elizabeth's Hospital of Washington, DC, has planned a Seminole-Negro Indian Recognition

Ceremony for today, Friday, October 9, 2009 in the St. Elizabeth's Hospital Chapel. Chief William "Dub" Warrior will be the keynote speaker for this event. He is the descendant of Tony Warrior, who collaborated with and assisted John Horse, leader of the Seminole-Negro Indians, in the movement of their tribe from Indian Territory to slavery-prohibited Mexico. Chief Warrior's grandfather, Carolina Warrior, and great grandfather, Bill Warrior, were members of the revered U.S. Army scouts.

# TESTIMONIAL RECOGNIZING MS. LUCY BECKHAM AS THE 2010 NA- TIONAL SECONDARY PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

## HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 08, 2009

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to extend my congratulations to Ms. Lucy Beckham of Wando High School in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina on her selection as the 2010 National Secondary Principal of the Year.

This distinction, presented by MetLife and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, is a most deserving recognition of her leadership and dedication to the students entrusted to her.

The National Principal of the Year program began in 1993 and was established to honor those education administrators that have set the highest example for their peers.

Ms. Beckham's contributions and sense-of-purpose extend beyond the campus of Wando to so many areas including her church and numerous community activities.

I am certain that all of the faculty and staff at Wando are proud to have her at the helm, and as the grandparent of a Wando student, speaking for all the families of the greater Charleston area, we congratulate her for being No. 1 at Wando and for now being No. 1 in the Nation.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE "WATER TRANSFER FACILITATION ACT OF 2009"

## HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, yesterday with Congressman CARDOZA I introduced the "Water Transfer Facilitation Act of 2009." Given the overwhelming water user support we received for this bill, I am submitting additional letters in connection with this bill.

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER  
WATER AUTHORITY,

San Joaquin Valley, CA, October 5, 2009.

Re Support for Transfer Legislation for the Central Valley Project.

Hon. JIM COSTA,  
Longworth House Office Building, Washington,  
DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN COSTA: On behalf of the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors), we thank you for introducing transfer legislation for the Central Valley Project (CVP)

and we support your efforts and this legislation as a means of providing greater flexibility for management of CVP water supplies.

The diminished water deliveries to the CVP as a result of various regulatory restrictions, including the most recent delta smelt and salmon Biological Opinions and three years of below average precipitation statewide, have, as you know, created a desperate situation in the San Joaquin Valley.

While long-term solutions are being sought, numerous short term efforts are needed to help bridge the water supply gap and great flexibility, as provided in your legislation, to move water supplies within the San Joaquin Valley would be a useful tool.

The Exchange Contractors consist of four member agencies serving over 240,000 acres in the San Joaquin Valley in Fresno, Madera, Merced, and Stanislaus Counties.

We look forward to engaging in this effort and working closely with you and your staff in advancing this legislation and addressing California water issues.

Sincerely,

STEVE CHEDESTER,  
Executive Director.

SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICT,  
Los Banos, CA, October 5, 2009.

Re Water Transfer Facilitation Act of 2009.

Hon. DIANNE FEINSTEIN,  
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. BARBARA BOXER,  
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. DENNIS CARDOZA,  
House Representatives, Longworth Building,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. JIM COSTA,  
House of Representatives, Longworth House Of-  
fice Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR FEINSTEIN, SENATOR BOXER, MR. CARDOZA, and MR. COSTA: I am writing on behalf of the San Luis Water District and its Board of Directors. We strongly support the Water Transfer Facilitation Act of 2009. Given the regulatory impacts of recent Biologic Opinions, the survival of our commercial, residential and agricultural water users is increasingly dependent on supplemental water transfers. Your legislation will bring important reform to existing transfer authorization and this essential water management tool.

Coping with chronic water supply shortages impacting the Central Valley Project requires implementation of best management practices including water transfers. The need to transfer water is often urgent. Regrettably, bureaucratic process can unnecessarily thwart successful execution of a transfer. Your legislation will improve the capability of water managers throughout the State to effectively and efficiently respond to the ongoing crisis.

Your continuing efforts to address these important matters are critical and deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

MARTIN R. MCINTYRE,  
General Manager.

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT,  
Fresno, CA, October 6, 2009.

Re Water Transfer Facilitation Act of 2009.

Hon. DIANNE FEINSTEIN,  
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR FEINSTEIN: I am writing on behalf of Westlands Water District to express its support for your bill, the Water Transfer Facilitation Act of 2009, authorizing certain transfers of water in the Central Valley Project and other purposes. Water transfers

are a critical tool for providing water supplies for areas that are faced with chronic water supply shortages. However, the approval process for many transfers often distract from their usefulness. Your legislation will bring important reform to existing transfer authorization thus increasing the efficacy of this essential water management tool.

As you are keenly aware, the chronic water supply shortages impacting the area of the San Joaquin Valley served by the Central Valley Project demands that water users in the affected area rely on water transfers. Moreover, the need to transfer water is often urgent and in response to climactic conditions that are frequently sporadic and ephemeral. Regrettably, bureaucratic process can unnecessarily thwart successful execution of a transfer. The clarity your legislation brings to existing authorizations will only improve the capability of water managers throughout the State to effectively respond to the ongoing crisis and put our scant water resources to use even more efficiently.

The westside of the San Joaquin Valley is inarguably the most transfer dependent region of the State. Your efforts to address this important matter are greatly appreciated. If there is anything I can do to be of help in connection with your efforts, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS W. BIRMINGHAM,  
General Manager/General Counsel.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING OF THE CLOVERDALE HISTORY CENTER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cloverdale Historical Society as it dedicates and opens the new Cloverdale History Center.

The new 4,000 square foot, temperature controlled History Center will house and preserve a wide variety of artifacts and documents and provide accommodations for historical, genealogical and cultural research. It will be the centerpiece of a cultural renaissance in what has become Sonoma County's fastest growing city.

The Society is staffed 100 percent by volunteers who take great pride in the area's heritage and its diversity. It was founded in 1968 by local residents dedicated to preserving the local history of this vibrant community.

One of its more unique projects is its ongoing work to completely restore Cloverdale's oldest residential structure. The Gould-Shaw house and its gardens face the town's main boulevard and lend a 19th century charm through its Gothic Revival architectural style.

The Historical Society has also hosted the annual "Old Time Fiddle Festival" for the past 35 years. The event helps preserve the historic fiddling culture and has fostered appreciation for this distinctively American music among the thousands of visitors who have participated in this event throughout the years.

Madam Speaker, the City of Cloverdale is rightfully proud of the Historical Society and its new History Center. It is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge and honor the Cloverdale Historical Society and the countless volunteers who have made this dream a reality.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. LOBIONDO. Madam Speaker, as per the requirements of the Republican Conference Rules on earmarks, I secured the following earmarks in the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 2467.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO (NJ-02)

Bill Number: H.R. 2467 (Conference Report)

Account: Army—Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: (1) Drexel University; (2) Waterfront Technology Center

Address of Requesting Entity: (1) 3141 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104; (2) 200 Federal Street, Suite 300, Camden, NJ 08103

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3.8 million for Applied Communications and Information Networking (ACIN). ACIN enables the warfighter to rapidly deploy state-of-the-practice communications and networking technology for warfighting and National Security. This funding will build on funding from previous years to fully develop this technology.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO (NJ-02)

Bill Number: H.R. 2467 (Conference Report)

Account: Air Force—Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Accenture  
Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Federal Street, Suite 300, Camden, NJ 08103

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$4.0 million for Distributed Mission Interoperability Toolkit (DMIT). DMIT is a suite of tools that enables an enterprise architecture for on-demand, trusted, interoperability among and between mission-oriented C4I systems. This spending will build on funding from previous years to allow DMIT to be extended to Joint and coalition requirements, and address current weaknesses in Air Force management years ahead of current schedules. Adoption by major programs and commercial entities would lead to savings in the \$100 millions on current and future DOD programs.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO (NJ-02)

Bill Number: H.R. 2467 (Conference Report)

Account: Navy—Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Absecon Mills Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: Vienna and Aloe Avenues, PO Box 672, Cologne, NJ 08213

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$2.5 million for Force Protection—Non-Traditional Weaving Application for Aramid (Ballistic) Fibers and Fabrics. By reevaluating standard industry design and manufacturing techniques for force protection technology, we believe Non-Traditional weave designs of Aramid (ballistic) fiber coupled with new applications of microwave plasma treatments can enhance the strength of the fiber and result in enhanced individual mobility, ease of medical access, reduced weight, increased ballistic protection, cost effective savings and weight reduction of ballistic materials currently used.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LOBIONDO (NJ-02)