

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)

Bill Number: H.R. 2467 (Conference Report)
Account: Air Force—Advance Procurement
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: L-3 Com-
munications Systems

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 Federal
Street, Camden, NJ 08103

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$3.75 million for Senior Scout COMINT (Communications Intelligence) Capability Upgrade. As part of the Senior Scout ongoing mission, there is an immediate need to add improved COMINT capability to detect and characterize new, modern, low-power radio signals at extended standoff ranges in the presence of interference. The current systems are not able to detect these specific signal sets, which limits intelligence collection capabilities.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DENNIS RAHIIM WATSON AND HIS ONE-MAN SHOW, "FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, as we celebrated the election of President Barack Obama as the first African-American President of the United States, I rise to pay tribute to motivational speaker Dennis Rahiim Watson on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of his critically acclaimed one-man show, "The First Black President of the United States," which made its debut in the Art Gallery of the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building in my beloved village of Harlem, New York.

Since 1982, Dennis Rahiim Watson, a Bermuda born and Harlem raised former actor comedian, has made a major contribution for over a quarter of a century to black and white youths of America. Throughout his life, he has inspired, motivated and challenged over 5 million youth and adults alike with his one-man show, "The First Black President of the United States." Dennis has thrilled audiences at high schools, colleges, and universities among them Harvard, Notre Dame, Howard, University of Georgia, Tufts, NYU, CCNY, Malcolm-King College, Illinois State University and University of Pittsburg.

Former President William Jefferson Clinton in a letter to Dennis stated that, "for over a quarter of a century you have used your role as the First Black President of the United States to give disadvantaged youth an insight into the future and its possibilities, and by your own example you have helped to provide countless young people with the tools and encouragement they need to reach their god-given potential. Your life's work has been a true investment in the future of our Nation."

More recently, President Barack Obama in a letter praised Watson for his role as the First Black President of the United States by stating that, "theatre has the power to inspire and the power to teach and it's important to use that power to lift up and honor our highest ideals." "You have broadcast the message in your role as the First Black President of the United States that all children can dream big dreams and that anyone regardless of the color of their skin can achieve anything. Anyone can

grow up to become President of the United States."

I congratulate Dennis Rahiim Watson on his latest achievement of becoming the new Chairman of the National Youth and Gang Violence Taskforce and President and CEO of the Center for Black Student Achievement. Your commitment to the value of educating our youngsters and listening to their concerns is irrefutable.

So, Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing my good friend Dennis Rahiim Watson. His success is a testament to his historic and tireless commitment to bringing African-American youth the vision, the hope, and the dream that an African-American could become President in our lifetime before anyone ever knew it was remotely possible.

HONORING COLONEL KIMBERLY B. SIEVERS

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kimberly B. Sievers, Colonel, United States Air Force on her retirement from active duty service on October 1, 2009, after serving for 27 years in uniform in defense of our country.

In 1982, Colonel Sievers reported to the U.S. Air Force Academy. She graduated in 1986 and began training as an intelligence officer at Lowery Air Force Base in Denver, Colorado. She spent the next several years directly supporting flying operations, providing intelligence and training to pilots at the fighter squadron level—including the 80th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Kunsan Air Base, Republic of South Korea, and the 50th Tactical Fighter Wing in Hahn Air Base, Germany.

Colonel Sievers continued to develop her analytical and leadership skills at Ramstein Air Base in Germany at both the 7450th Tactical Intelligence Squadron and the European Command staff, ending her time at Ramstein as the Team Leader for Intelligence Force Management. She returned to Korea for a second tour at the operation level, leading the Intelligence Plans and Manpower section at 7th Air Force and then the Analyst Element at the 607th Air Intelligence Squadron. From there, Colonel Sievers moved to the Pacific Air Force staff in Hawaii where she directed the liaison efforts between the staff and intelligence elements of all the Air Force squadrons in the Pacific.

Colonel Sievers was then selected to serve in the first of what would be many future leadership positions, as the Director of Operations for the Pacific Intelligence Squadron. She spent a year in residence at the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. From there, she was selected to command the Intelligence Division at the elite USAF Weapons School at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Colonel Sievers was herself one of the very first intelligence officers to graduate from the Weapons School and only the second "home grown" Intelligence Weapons Officer to command the division. Building on that experience, Colonel Sievers was selected to command the

93rd Intelligence Squadron at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas. The 93rd is the largest intelligence squadron in the Air Force with over 800 personnel.

Following that successful command, the Air Force sent Colonel Sievers back to school at the National Defense University, here in Washington, DC. During times of war the best and brightest are needed to lead our young men and women and the Air Force turned to Colonel Sievers to serve as the forward Director of Intelligence for the entire Air Force component under Central Command. Deployed forward to Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar, Colonel Sievers directed the efforts of all intelligence personnel supporting combat operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Returning to the U.S., Colonel Sievers utilized her war experience to help guide the Department of Defense intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance enterprise as the Collection Requirements Division Chief at the Joint Functional Component Command for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance. This would be her final assignment as both she and her husband have chosen to retire from active duty.

I am proud to represent Colonel Sievers in the U.S. Congress. She has forged many new paths within both the intelligence career field and the Air Force, and has led thousands of men and women in both peace and war. Our nation is safer because of her dedication. Colonel Sievers is a unique leader, inspiring those around her to perform at the very highest levels in pursuit of mission accomplishment, yet at the same time possessing the compassion to ensure that those in her charge—and their families—are cared for properly. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and thanking Colonel Sievers for her exemplary service, leadership, dedication, and sacrifice to our nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RECIPROCAL MARKET ACCESS ACT OF 2009

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Reciprocal Market Access Act. In the wake of the biggest economic crisis since the Great Depression, our country faces a difficult road towards recovery. As part of this effort, it is critical that we ensure that our trade policy is working as it should: to generate new opportunities for our businesses, strengthen American manufacturing capabilities, and reduce the unemployment rate that has risen to the highest level in decades.

American manufacturers of products ranging from optical fiber to autos and agriculture face continual problems with access to overseas markets. Our own trade negotiators do little to prevent this from happening, as it is often standard for trade agreements to open our markets fully to foreign competitors, yet we gain little market access in return.

We must provide our negotiators with unequivocal guidelines so that they do not relinquish our domestic trade protections without