

worked diligently to ensure that the transportation sales tax program has been executed in an efficient, effective and equitable manner, consistent with the voters' intent. He recently played an integral role in establishing the necessary consensus building efforts leading to the successful passage in 2004, of Measure J—the successor transportation sales tax to Measure C. His legacy will live on in this Measure and in a series of transportation projects that are instrumental and essential to the communities they serve.

Prior to serving as the executive director for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Bob McCleary was also involved in other regional programs such as the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority where he served as the Deputy Director for Project Management. During Bob's stay at the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority he helped establish the new authority and manage the day to day project implementation of a \$1 billion dollar local sales tax program. This program would fund three State highways, the first of its kind in California and relied heavily on a partnership with Caltrans, local government, and the private sector for success. Bob McCleary made sure it became a success.

Madam Speaker, we are truly honored to pay tribute to our friend and dedicated public servant. We ask all of our colleagues to join with us in thanking Robert McCleary for his long and dedicated service to the citizens of California and wishing him continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors along with a happy retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, due to the death of a family member, I was absent from the House for the week of November 30 and thus not recorded for any votes that week. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following way on bills considered by the House:

On rollcall vote No. 911, on H.R. 3029, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 912, on H.R. 727, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 913, on H.R. 3667, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 914, on H. Res. 494, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 915, on H. Con. Res. 129, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 916, on H. Res. 861, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 917, on H. Res. 897, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 918, on H.R. 3634, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 919, on H.R. 515, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 920, on H. Con. Res. 197, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 921, on H.R. 1242, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 922, on H.R. 3980, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 923, on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 4154, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 924, on H. Res. 941, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 925, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 926, on H. Res. 28, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 927, on the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 928, on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 4154, I would have voted "nay";

On rollcall vote No. 929, on H.R. 4154, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 930, on H.R. 3570, I would have voted "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, a personal matter prevented my presence in the House this past Thursday, December 03, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of the Permanent Estate Tax Relief for Families, Farmers, and Small Businesses Act of 2009 (H.R. 4154).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, I was unable to be present for recorded votes because I was attending the memorial service held in Tacoma, Washington for the four police officers of the Lakewood Police Department who were killed last week in the line of duty.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote No. 931 (on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3288); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 932 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 199, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 933 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 206, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 934 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 940); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 935 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 845, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 936 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2278, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 937 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 915); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 938 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 907).

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN MAURICE GLENN BELL, SURVIVOR OF THE USS "INDIANAPOLIS"

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of World War II veteran

Maurice Glenn Bell of Mobile, Alabama, who passed away on December 4, 2009, at the age of 84.

Mr. Bell proudly embodied the qualities that our nation has associated with the "Greatest Generation"—those Americans who were called to give everything for the defense of our freedom and the liberation of millions overseas. Mr. Bell was absolutely committed to serving his country in wartime, and after the war, he was a role model of character and courage in civilian life.

In 1943, when he was summoned to serve in the Second World War, Mr. Bell was already working as an electrician's helper in the Mobile shipyards. He joined the Navy and saw engagements in places we know well from our history books—including the allied invasions of Tarawa, Saipan, and the battle of the Philippine Sea.

But the World War II experience for which Mr. Bell is best remembered is uniquely linked to the vessel upon which he served—the historic USS *Indianapolis*. It was the *Indianapolis* that delivered the first atomic bomb to be dropped on Japan. And after the heavy cruiser was struck by two Japanese torpedoes in the middle of the night on July 30, 1945, Mr. Bell was among the 900 crew members who were able to get into the water in an attempt to save themselves.

Mr. Bell and his comrades spent four days in the unforgiving ocean awaiting rescue—an ordeal that subjected them to near constant shark attack and dehydration. Of the 1,196 men on board the *Indianapolis* before she went down, only 316 survived—including Maurice Bell.

Like many *Indianapolis* veterans, he had remained mostly silent about his experiences on those four fateful days in 1945. However, 62 years later, he was given a chance to tell his story before a national audience as part of the PBS World War II documentary, "The War." The Ken Burns film interviewed a number of Mobile area veterans, including Mr. Bell.

Mr. Bell also captivated local audiences who would hear his stories about those long days and nights adrift in a seemingly dark and bottomless sea. He urged them never to give up.

It is ironic that this veteran of the war in the Pacific was buried on December 7, 2009—the 68th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Alabama is fortunate to have so many veterans like Maurice Bell who love their country and answered its call in time of need. We will always owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

I join this House in offering condolences to his wonderful wife of 65 years, Lois Bell, and their three children, Beverly Gros, Bonnie Hall and David Bell, and six grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

May they be comforted in knowing that they remain in our prayers during their time of loss.

RECOGNIZING ARIZONA'S GIFT OF THE 2009 CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the State of Arizona's

gift to the U.S. Capitol and to the American people. The Capitol Christmas Tree has been a tradition at the United States Capitol since 1964. This is the first time that Arizona has gifted the Capitol Christmas tree, and it is also the tallest ever.

On December 8th, 2009, this majestic 85-foot Blue spruce, originally harvested from the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests in Eastern Arizona, was unveiled on the west lawn of the United States Capitol. The Capitol Christmas Tree, also known as "The People's Tree," is decorated with more than 6,000 holiday ornaments made by Arizona's school children. These ornaments were made from recycled materials and were made specially to survive the winter elements of this colder Washington climate.

The tree's journey to the United States Capitol began when it was cut down on November 7th, and embarked on a 10-day tour of Arizona, during which the tree stopped in 28 of our communities. The tree eventually travelled over 4,600 miles before arriving at its final destination in Washington, D.C., but before arriving, it stopped at cities across the nation so that thousands of Americans could marvel at the seven-story, 9,000-pound spruce. Moving such a large tree for so great a distance was a challenge, and was successful due to the efforts of Harry Baker and his crew from Southwest Industrial Rigging.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking the U.S. Forest Service, and especially the employees of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, for their devotion to this wonderful project. These employees gave up their Thanksgiving holiday with their families to assist with the transportation of the tree to Washington, D.C. I would especially like to thank Rick Davalos, the District Manager of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, and Jim Payne, the Forest Service's Public Affairs Officer, who headed up this extensive project. And lastly, I would like to commend the Steering Committee of the Capitol Christmas Tree 2009 Project, and the project's many volunteers, for their time and hard work.

TRIBUTE TO TERESEANN LYNCH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember a woman from Iowa who personified the courage and spirit of a working mother and Member of the United States Military. TereseAnn Lynch was killed on November 11, 2009, due to an act of domestic violence. TereseAnn, 30, was a mother of an 8-month-old son. As a member of the Iowa Air National Guard for more than a decade, she served tours of duty in Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia working as a weapons specialist. Most recently, TereseAnn served her country with honor providing aid in the Iraq War as a technical sergeant. She was also an active and committed employee at the Department of Human Services in Iowa where she provided help to young children and mothers trying to recover lost child support payments.

On behalf of my family, and the United States Congress, I would like to extend my condolences to her family, friends, and loved

ones. TereseAnn embodied the character and values of a servicewoman and loving mother.

A tragedy like this is a painful reminder of the frequency of domestic violence cases. Domestic violence is a willful act of abuse that results in many reactions such as fear, anger, depression, and even death. In the U.S., an estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. In Iowa over the past decade, domestic violence has affected nearly 6,000 women annually and 1,200 men. Structured to fight the battle against domestic violence, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) is an organization established to reach out and help Iowans with domestic violence issues. With 28 direct service programs across the state, the coalition offers counseling and community outreach. The ICADV institutes a 24-hour statewide hotline for those needing help. The phone number is 1-800-942-0333.

Domestic violence is a horrific act that no one should have to deal with, and it is my hope that the resources and help available will offer guidance and aid to those affected.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of HR 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010:

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, COPS Tech

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hartselle, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Sparkman St. N.W. Hartselle, AL 35640

Description of Request: Wireless Area Network \$250,000

The funding would be used to purchase a Wireless Area Network. This funding will greatly improve the telecommunication access in the area.

The full amount of these funds will be used to purchase equipment.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Department of Public Safety, Montgomery, AL
Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1511, Montgomery, AL 36102-1511

Description of Request: "ADPS Child Sexual Predator Project, \$150,000"

The funding would be used for Project targets arrest and prosecution of Child Sexual Predators in AL. ADPS received 2008 start-up funding from COPS Child Sexual Predator Program. ADPS needs federal assistance to maintain the current level of effective operation. This program continues efforts initiated nationwide under the ADAM WALSH ACT.

These funds will be used for the following areas: \$50,000 equipment; \$10,000 access to background data base repositories to locate absconded sex offenders; \$70,000 salaries and benefits; and \$20,000 enhancement of the department's ability to accept electronically transmitted sex offender information.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: Box 870117, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Description of Request: Domestic Violence Law Clinic, \$300,000

The funding would be used to provide free civil legal services to victims of domestic violence, stalking, and assault in the seven west Alabama counties of Bibb, Greene, Hale, Fayette, Pickens, Lamar and Tuscaloosa. The services provided by the DV Law Clinic further the national goal of crime prevention and victim assistance and support the important services set forth in the Violence Against Women Act and other federal laws.

These funds will be used for the following areas: \$219,000 for salaries and benefits; and \$81,000 will be used for facilities and administrative costs associated with the Clinic.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama District Attorneys Association, Montgomery, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 515 South Perry Street Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Description of Request: Zerometh Drug Prevention Campaign, \$1,000,000

The funding would be used by Zerometh to expose meth and its deadly consequences to teens and young adults. The goal is to stop a potential first-time user from ever trying the drug, while encouraging everyone to look for the warning signs and support treatment. Methamphetamine is a national epidemic and efforts to educate youth on its dangers and hopefully prevent the initial use of meth are needed.

\$30,000 would be used for Program Administration, Project Evaluation, and Compliance, while \$970,000 would be used for a year of demand reduction programs across the State of Alabama.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—JJ

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 205 E. South St, P.O. Box 698, Talladega, Alabama 35161

Description of Request: Overcoming Communication Barriers for AIDB At-Risk Youth, \$15,000

The funding would be used to expand a preventive education program for at-risk disabled children impacted by communication barriers, increased incidence of dysfunctional families and a lack of appropriately trained personnel in rural areas and school systems. One in 10 US children is born with a disability, adding emotional and financial stress to families and rural school systems. Disabled teens are more likely to face abuse, pregnancy or suicide due to communication and other barriers, and this funding helps address this.

\$110,000 for program development, \$29,000 for parent education and training, \$11,000 for program materials, supplies and support.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account or Provision: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Alabama in Huntsville