

community leader. Her accomplishments are many and include being the first Black female to serve as chair of not only the American Red Cross Board but also chair of the South Carolina State Museum Board and chair of the Midlands Technical College Foundation board.

As an advocate for philanthropy throughout her community, Martha is a founding member of Women in Philanthropy, a leading advocate with the United Way, and president of the Columbia Urban League guild.

Martha's positive impact on our community goes back to when she was a middle school teacher and was instrumental in the establishment of a gifted and talented student program for Richland School District 1. She's continued to work on behalf of education as a member of the Board of Visitors of Claflin University and the Allen University board.

These days, I am honored that she has agreed to serve as a member of the Second Congressional District's Minority Advisory Board. Her input and perspective are vital to our work to best represent the people of the Second Congressional District.

Throughout her career and in her personal life, Martha has earned a reputation for decency, hard work, and a passion for fighting for the needs of others. I commend her on this extraordinary honor, and look forward to her continued friendship and counsel.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring Members to place a statement in the Congressional Record prior to a floor vote on a bill that includes earmarks they have requested.

Specifically, H.R. 637, the South Orange County Recycled Water Enhancement Act, which I introduced on January 22, 2009, contains two earmarks as defined under House Rule XXI, clause 9. Both earmarks contained in H.R. 637 authorize appropriations for projects under Title XVI of Public Law 102-575, the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act.

The first project authorized in H.R. 637 is an advanced water treatment plant facility and recycled water system located in the City of San Juan Capistrano. Located in Orange County, California, the City of San Juan Capistrano relies on imported water from the Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay-Delta and the Colorado River to meet much of its water needs. Recognizing the increasing need to provide local water for irrigation, large fields and other non-potable uses, the City plans to construct a water recycling project consisting of four reservoirs, one pump station, and 29 pipelines. The legislation authorizes \$18.5 million of federal appropriations, which sunsets 10 years following the passage of the H.R. 637. The federal cost share shall not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost and no federal funds shall be used for project operation and maintenance.

The second project authorized in H.R. 637 will expand reclaimed water distribution, stor-

age and treatment facilities in the City of San Clemente. The City of San Clemente also relies on imported water to meet some of its needs. In 1991, San Clemente completed construction of a water treatment and reclaimed water facility that produced 2.2 million gallons of reclaimed water per day. The plant could be expanded to produce over 4 million gallons per day. The project would also consist of a two million gallon storage reservoir, a pumping station, retrofit of an existing pumping station at the treatment facility, and pipelines. The legislation authorizes \$5 million of federal appropriations, which sunsets 10 years following the passage of the H.R. 637. The federal cost share shall not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost and no federal funds shall be used for project operation and maintenance.

I certify that neither project has a direct and foreseeable effect on any of my financial interests, nor the financial interests of any member of my family. Consistent with the Republican Conference's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge this request (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

#### IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF PEACE CORPS WEEK

### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, as a returned Peace Corps Volunteer, I am honored to formally recognize the work of the Peace Corps on the 48th Anniversary of its inception and to help kick off National Peace Corps Week. Countries from all over the globe will celebrate past contributions to the international community from the Peace Corps as well as look forward with anticipation to what the future holds for the organization.

During National Peace Corps Week, we salute and honor the men and women of this Nation who have selflessly served abroad as Peace Corps Volunteers, as well as those current Volunteers who continue to carry out the Peace Corps mission: world peace and friendship.

The Peace Corp provides a unique opportunity for Volunteers to travel the world and help some of the most impoverished people in the world while improving oneself. I fondly remember my time as a volunteer in El Salvador after answering President John F. Kennedy's call to service where I built schools and health clinics. The experience meant much to me personally and professionally, the beginning of my lifelong commitment to public service. I returned with a passion for teaching, and quickly put my skills, including fluency in Spanish, to use in Santa Clara County schools. Most importantly, I returned to the United States with a deeper understanding of humanity and a personal commitment to speak on behalf of the marginalized and powerless.

Since President John F. Kennedy's call to service in 1960, over 195,000 people have

served as Peace Corps Volunteers spanning 139 countries. I hope that these numbers can be greatly expanded as a new era of hope and service begins. Today, a renewed call to service has been issued by President Barack Obama challenging Americans from all walks of life to bear the torch of peace and good will that many Americans in the past have carried proudly to other countries.

I am greatly encouraged by President Obama's commitment to expand public service by building upon the Peace Corps and creating innovative programs that inspire Americans to volunteer and serve. In addition, President Obama supports the expansion of the Peace Corps to 16,000 by 2011, the Peace Corps 50th Anniversary. I am in total support of the expansion of this worthy and necessary organization.

Today, I honor the Peace Corps and its brave Volunteers for their service to our Nation and to the international community. For years, the volunteers of the Peace Corps have helped developing nations fulfill their needs for trained men and women, championed the cause of charity and philanthropy, found common ways to address global challenges, and set forth a dialogue of understanding between Americans and locals from other countries. Peace Corps Volunteers set a universal standard for how we are to embrace the realities of an ever-shrinking world.

With a bleak economic outlook and an international community under pressure, the Peace Corps mission is more vital than ever. I look forward to helping President Barack Obama fulfill his promise of renewing America's reputation worldwide and revitalizing America's commitment to service.

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVID FOSTER

### HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. David Foster of Grand Haven, Michigan. After 34 years of service, Mr. Foster is set to retire as the Chief Engineer of the Army Corps of exemplary Engineers Lake Michigan Area Office in Grand Haven.

Mr. Foster is an accomplished engineer who has spent most of his career near Lake Michigan. He was born in Muskegon, graduated from Whitehall High School, and received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University. Dave began his work with the Army Corps of Engineers in 1975 and has served with distinction and honor in Muskegon, Fort Wayne, and Grand Haven.

Throughout his career Dave has played a vital role in supporting Great Lakes shipping, flood control, and clean up through his work with the Army Corps. In Southwest Michigan, residents and businesses have benefited from Dave Foster's effective ability to solve problems and find solutions to difficult situations. On many occasions, residents have praised the work of the Army Corps in beach nourishment and flood control projects, both which are essential for our area. Just last year, commercial shipping in my district ground to a halt as silt clogged the federal shipping channel. It

was through the efforts of Dave Foster and the Lake Michigan Area Office that we were able to open up the St. Joseph Harbor and save hundreds of jobs in our region.

Southwest Michigan is very fortunate Dave Foster stayed close to home. Thousands of people have been impacted by his hard work and commitment to the Army Corps of Engineers. I salute his efforts and thank him for his service as a career federal employee. I wish Dave all the best in his retirement.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Requesting Member: Congressman ADAM H. PUTNAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division F—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Department of Education/Funds for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Project Funding Amount: \$476,000—to be confirmed.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hillsborough Community College (HCC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 39 Columbia Drive, Tampa, FL 33606.

Description of Request: Hillsborough Community College submitted a project request for their Veterinary Technology Program. Specifically, the funds requested would complete and refine the large animal program, which includes development of articulation agreements with St. Petersburg College and the school District of Hillsborough County while also acquiring specialty needs equipment. The program currently accommodates 26 students. When HCC completes the program it will eventually be able to accommodate an additional 25 students. HCC has invested over \$590,000 in funding since the program began in 2006–07; the state has provided approximately \$304,000 in facilities construction; and the private sector has donated software at an estimated value of \$4,000.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division F—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Department of Education/Funds for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Project Funding Amount: \$718,000—to be confirmed.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Polk Community College (PCC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 999 Avenue H, N.E., Winter Haven, FL 33881.

Description of Request: Funding for Polk Community College's project request would establish the Center for Advanced Global Technology at Clear Springs, a training and education center of excellence that will: (1) provide degree and training programs to meet Central Florida's critical demand for a highly-skilled technology workforce in the areas of high-tech supply chain management, advanced manufacturing, green construction and

related technologies, (including solar technologies), and information technology; (2) create career pathways into technology industries through partnerships with career academies at the secondary level, and (3) serve as a center for innovation that facilitates public/private collaborations, research and development, and technology transfer opportunities.

Specifically, funds are requested to: (1) establish a degree program in Supply Chain Management including curriculum development and acquiring advanced technological training equipment; (2) establish a Green Technician degree program and a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification training program including curricula development, acquiring lab equipment, and hiring and training staff to pursue this objective; and (3) acquire advanced manufacturing training equipment and technologies applicable to a wide range of industries including solar/photovoltaic power systems.

Community support and commitment to the project is strong. Clear Springs Land Development Co. donated a twenty acre parcel of land valued at approximately two million dollars to Polk Community College for the facility site. Twenty-four million dollars (private donation matched with State funds) was raised towards facility construction. Advanced manufacturing simulation equipment, software, and technical support have been donated (value \$250,000); and initial funds to support scholarships have been secured in order to increase access to the program. Several courses are currently being held at a temporary site.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 23, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following: in regards to H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Joshua Tree National Park Visitor's Center

Account: National Park Service, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Twentynine Palms

Address of Requesting Entity: 6136 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms, California 92277

Description of Request: The Joshua Tree National Park Visitors Center annually hosts nearly one and a half million visitors in a cramped, obsolete facility where it is impossible to display the cultural history of the area, provide needed community and informational services, or even provide appropriate information to visitors to the Park. These funds would allow for an improvement and expansion of the Center to provide the space to display the fabled Campbell Collection of Native American artifacts, as well as a wide array of other objects of interest to both the visiting public and to researchers.

Amount: \$300,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Joshua Basin Water District Recharge

Account: EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Joshua Basin Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 61750 Chollita Road, Joshua Tree, California 92252

Description of Request: Joshua Basin Water District needs to develop a recharge system to import water from the California State Water Project to avoid overdraft conditions and septic system contamination of the aquifer. This project is an important component of a regional water management plan and over \$2 million has already been committed locally. The system of underground storage facilities would accept and store water from the State Project in years when surpluses are available. There are currently no other recharge projects on going in the Joshua Tree basin.

Amount: \$300,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Water System Infrastructure Improvements

Account: EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power

Address of Requesting Entity: 41972 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake, California 92315

Description of Request: This project would provide improved water pressure at peak demand periods and improved water quality resulting from the replacement of steel pipes with PVC. Although the City of Big Bear is located in an area prone to wildfires, much of its water supply infrastructure is unable to even meet minimum requirements for fire flow. Engineering studies have identified 181,800 feet of pipeline that must be replaced to meet current standards.

Amount: \$500,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Desert Hot Springs

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mission Springs Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 66575 2nd Street, Desert Hot Springs, California 92240

Description of Request: This project will construct a municipal wastewater collection and treatment system that will eliminate individual wastewater disposal systems that overlie the Mission Creek and Desert Hot Springs aquifers. To accomplish this, the district needs to replace roughly 4000 individual sewage disposal systems that lie in a very concentrated area over the primary inflow of the groundwater that supplies nearly 400,000 people.

Amount: \$478,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Hi-Desert Wastewater Collection and Reuse Account: Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hi-Desert Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 55439 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Description of Request: The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner. The Hi-Desert Wastewater Collection and Reuse Facility will protect the groundwater quality in the area and provide reclaimed