

That is why my colleagues—Rep. RAÚL GRIJALVA, Rep. EMANUEL CLEAVER, Rep. MAXINE WATERS, Rep. PETE STARK, Rep. DENNIS MOORE, Del. DONNA CHRISTENSEN and Rep. MICHAEL HONDA—sent a letter today to Sen. JOHN KERRY, the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and leader on climate change legislation in the Senate, urging him to double assistance for developing countries in legislation the Senator is currently drafting. As our letter states, “the amount of funding developed countries are currently promising to developed countries is grossly insufficient to meet the need. . . . Given the magnitude of the problem developing countries face, and given the responsibility of developed countries for the majority of historic greenhouse gas emissions, we believe that U.S. climate change legislation should double the emissions allowances currently dedicated in the House bill to international adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.”

Madam Speaker, for the RECORD, I include a full copy of the letter to Senator KERRY.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 15, 2009.

Hon. JOHN F. KERRY,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations,
Dirksen Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We want to commend you for your valuable contributions toward enacting climate change legislation. We particularly appreciate your introduction of S. 2835, which focuses on the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of global warming. We sincerely hope that with that measure as well as the recent pledges by China and India to curb their emissions relative to economic growth, and President Obama's support for mobilizing developed countries to contribute \$10 billion a year by 2012 and implementing longer-term mechanisms to assist developing countries with adaptation and mitigation, Copenhagen makes substantial progress toward completion of a binding agreement to limit climate change.

The bill you are working on with the Senators Graham and Lieberman offers a crucial opportunity to advance that agreement. We urge you to include an adequate commitment of resources for the nations and peoples most vulnerable to the consequences of global warming in that legislation.

The needs of developing countries are manifest. As noted by the recent World Development Report 2010, even if average global temperatures rise only 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, “Between 100 million and 400 million more people could be at risk of hunger. And 1 billion to 2 billion more people may no longer have enough water to meet their needs. . . . It is estimated that developing countries will bear most of the costs of the damages—some 75–80 percent.” As the Stern Review made clear, even if greenhouse emissions ceased today, the world would still face at least two decades of increasing global temperatures.

In the very near future, higher temperatures will lead to economic and political instability, refugee crises and conflicts over ever-scarcer natural resources in developing nations, all of which will have direct, negative implications for developing and developed countries alike. That is why the United Nations negotiating blocs of Least Developed Countries and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)—which together represent 80 countries least responsible for climate change but most severely affected by it—have recently called for a minimum 45 percent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2020. They are further requesting that there be no more than a 1.5 global temperature rise from pre-industrial

levels, and that atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations return to below 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide equivalent.

As AOSIS has pointed out, “Serious adverse impacts are already being felt by island states at the current 0.8°C of warming, including coastal erosion, flooding, coral bleaching and more frequent and intense extreme weather events. The U.N.'s lead agency on refugees has already warned that some particularly low-lying island states are ‘very likely to become entirely uninhabitable’.”

Estimates vary on the level of funding needed by the developing world to lessen the destabilizing impacts of climate change that will likely occur regardless of the adoption of an international agreement. However, the UN's latest Human Development Report estimates that additional adaptation finance needs alone will amount to \$86 billion annually by 2015. And last week in Copenhagen, Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, said that developed countries should expect to contribute \$100 billion annually to developing nations.

Yet the amount of funding developed countries are currently promising to developed countries is grossly insufficient to meet the need. The United States must demonstrate leadership if the developed world is to meet its obligation to provide appropriate sums. The Congressional Research Service's calculation of the funding produced by H.R. 2454 for developing countries—based on the current percentage of emissions allowances dedicated to international adaptation and international clean technology deployment and the allowance prices used in the EPA/IGEM Model—suggests that less than \$1 billion per year would be available in 2012, rising to less than \$1.6 billion by 2020.

Given the magnitude of the problem developing countries face, and given the responsibility of developed countries for the majority of historic greenhouse gas emissions, we believe that U.S. climate change legislation should double the emissions allowances currently dedicated in the House bill to international adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.

While such enhanced allocations would amount to substantial sums of money, we believe they will more than pay for themselves over time when compared to American commitments of troops and resources that would likely be required to address adverse impacts in developing countries affecting vital U.S. interests. As retired Marine Corps General Anthony Zinni, former commander of U.S. Central Command, has noted, “We will pay now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions . . . or we will pay the price later.”

Again, we applaud your efforts at addressing the enormous challenge of climate change. As legislation moves toward passage in the Senate, we sincerely hope that it provides increased commitments to the countries and peo-

ples most vulnerable to the consequences of global warming.

Sincerely,

ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,
Member of Congress.
RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
Member of Congress.
EMANUEL CLEAVER,
Member of Congress.
MAXINE WATERS,
Member of Congress.
PETE STARK,
Member of Congress.
DENNIS MOORE,
Member of Congress.
DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN,
Member of Congress.
MICHAEL M. HONDA,
Member of Congress.

CONGRATULATING RAPIDES REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, today I stand before you proud to announce that the Rapides Regional Medical Center has been named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals for cardiovascular care. Moreover, this hospital, located in Alexandria, Louisiana, is the only hospital in Louisiana to make Thomson Reuters' 2009 list.

As a premier teaching hospital, Rapides Regional Medical Center cultivates a community of care. The annual study examines the performance of 971 hospitals by analyzing clinical outcomes for patients diagnosed with heart failure and heart attacks, and for those who received coronary bypass surgery or interventions such as angioplasties.

As noted by the Thompson Reuters Company, “results show these top performers not only provided exceptional inpatient care, but also had significantly better post-discharge outcomes, including lower readmission rates for heart failure and heart attack patients as well as lower 30-day mortality rates for heart attack patients. This means that patients treated in hospitals with balanced high performance in cardiovascular care are more likely to have better results 30 days after discharge.”

At a time when our healthcare system is under constant scrutiny by citizens and public servants alike, the team at Rapides Regional Medical Center provides hope and reassurance that in fact, the United States, and Louisiana, offer exceptional care.

I join those whose lives have been touched by Rapides Regional Medical Center in saying congratulations and thank you for the dedication to excellence by each employee and doctor on staff.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PHOEBUS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise on behalf of myself, Congressman ROB WITTMAN and Congressman GLENN NYE to call attention to a group of young students from Hampton, Virginia, who have once again distinguished themselves, their school, their community and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

For the second consecutive year, the Phoebus High School Phantoms football team had a remarkable season. On December 12, the Phoebus High School Phantoms won their fifth state football championship this decade, defeating Stone Bridge High School of Ashburn 15–10, at Scott Stadium in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Taking over from coach Bill Dee, new head coach Stan Sexton led the Phantoms another 15–0 season. Their winning streak now stands at 30 wins. No other Group AAA school has won back-to-back championships since Phoebus did it in 2001 and 2002; now Phoebus has done it again. This has truly been Phoebus' decade in football, having won five state championships this decade with a record of 120–12 (.909). No other AAA school has won more than 102 games. This latest championship is just another accolade for the City of Hampton's youngest school, founded in 1975.

Phoebus High's legacy of excellence is not limited to just the field of athletics. Under the Direction of Principal Robert Johnson, the Phoebus faculty seeks to inspire students to strive for excellence and achievement in the classroom, in their extracurricular activities and in their communities. Phoebus has two innovative programs that expand the learning experience outside of the traditional classroom. Phoebus hosts the Hampton School Division's Center for High Technology. This magnet career academy includes classes in pre-engineering, design and 2 drafting, and Cisco network administration, preparing students for college classes and jobs in the technology sector. Phoebus is also home to the Blue Phantom Inn. This student-run restaurant gives students an opportunity to develop their culinary arts skills, and was nationally recognized in Southern Living magazine.

The Phantom's excellence in football is also characteristic of the quality of athletics in the Peninsula District of Virginia. Phoebus High School's championship this year marked the 11th time in the last fifteen years that a Peninsula District team has won a state title in football. To quote from our hometown newspaper, the Daily Press, "High school football on the Peninsula is championship football."

We would like to extend our enthusiastic congratulations to Coach Stan Sexton, his coaching staff and all of the players on the Phoebus High School Phantoms, the 2008 and 2009 Group AAA Division 5 Virginia High School League state football champions.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF DAVE LAUGHTER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of a valued staff member of the House Committee on Science and Technology, David Laughter, on his retirement.

Dave has served as Financial Administrator for the Committee since 2001. He has been on the Hill since 1994, working for the House Committee on Ways and Means and Congressman DAN BURTON of Indiana. Before coming to the Hill, he served as the Deputy Administrator for Management and Policy Sup-

port for the United States Department of Agriculture, USD; Rural Electrification Administration, REA; and as the Vice President/General Manager for an OEM manufacturer supplying large sheet metal stamping dies and special machinery to domestic and transplant auto assembly plants in North America.

Dave received his B.A. in Economics from Hillsdale College in Michigan. He is from Dayton, and, as a native Ohioan, he has a special place in his heart for the Bengals, the Reds, and Skyline Chili.

Madam Speaker, Dave is the first person new employees meet on their first day, and the last person they see when they are leaving on their last day. Dave handles all the Committee staff benefits and payroll, he maintains our budget to ensure we're on track, and he makes sure that all our bills get paid. Dave has provided a steady hand on the Committee's financial tiller for these past 8 years, and I want him to know how much I appreciate his hard work.

I know Dave has wrestled with this decision, and while I don't expect him to turn into a "Nature Boy," I'm sure he's looking forward to having a little more time to pursue his other hobbies and interests.

I know that all of the Science and Technology Committee's members and staff wish him well. He'll have more time to spend with his lovely wife, Marsha, his children, Carrie, David, and Brittany, his grandchildren Peter and Meredith, and his other family and friends. We hope Dave enjoys a relaxing retirement filled with fishing, grilling, and listening to classic rock.

Dave, thank you again for your years of service.

HONORING WILLIAM H. CASSIDY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of William H. Cassidy of Calais, Maine.

A native of Calais, Bill has dedicated himself to public education for the past 36 years, serving as president of Washington County Community College since 2003. Under his strong leadership, the college added new academic programs, undertook significant capital improvements and formed new partnerships with many other universities and colleges in Maine and New Brunswick, Canada.

He has previously served in a number of senior administrative posts within the Maine Community College System as an associate commissioner within the Maine Department of Education, director of the Waterville Regional Vocational Center, and a teacher at the middle, high school, and college levels.

An accomplished academic, Bill holds credentials from Northern Maine Technical College, the University of Maine at Machias, Husson College, the University of Maine and Nova Southeastern University. Bill has been recognized for his achievements and leadership in collaborative international education, receiving the Lady Dunn Award of Excellence by the St. Andrews Campus of the New Brunswick Community College. Most importantly, Bill has left a lasting mark at Wash-

ington County Community College with his emphasis on volunteerism and the role of the college in the life of the local community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring William H. Cassidy for his life-long dedication and service to his community and the education of Maine's students.

IN HONOR OF MR. MARVIN N. SCHOENHALS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Marvin N. Schoenhals, former Chairman of the Wilmington Savings Fund Society (WSFS). Mr. Schoenhals, through his leadership, hard work and dedication, has accomplished a great deal for the state of Delaware, and I am honored to recognize him for his achievements, both personal and professional.

Skip joined WSFS in 1990 as President and Chief Executive Officer of both WSFS Financial Corporation and its principal subsidiary, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, located in Wilmington, Delaware. He was named Chairman in 1992 and served in this capacity until November 1, 2009, when Skip assumed the role of non-employee director. Skip's nearly 20 years as WSFS Chairman are marked by many noteworthy accomplishments; during his tenure, Skip led the \$3.6 billion financial services company to world class service levels and significantly increased shareholder value.

But Skip's impact on others is not limited solely to his professional career. He is a role model for others and is actively involved in his community, lending his knowledge and expertise to worthy causes and organizations. Skip is Chairman of Vision 2015, a coalition of Delaware leaders working towards making Delaware's public education the best in the world. He serves on, and from 2003 to 2004 was Chairman of, the Board of Directors of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce and is also a member of the Delaware Business Roundtable, Chairman of its Education Committee, and a Trustee, and former Chairman, of the Delaware Public Policy Institute.

A cause very dear to Skip's heart is the Sunday Breakfast Mission, our state's largest shelter and rehabilitation facility. Each fall, WSFS partners with the Sunday Breakfast Mission to sponsor the Great Thanksgiving Food Drive, and, as Chairman of the Mission, Skip spearheads the effort, working diligently on behalf of his fellow Delawareans. With Skip's direct involvement in this initiative, the drive has experienced exponential growth, collecting a total of 37 tons of food for 2008. In 2009, Skip was awarded the Delaware State Chamber's Josiah Marvel Cup. This distinguished award is given annually in recognition of outstanding contributions made to the state, community and society; I applaud the Chamber's selection of Skip for this recognition and can say without hesitation that the honor which has been bestowed upon him is one he most truly deserves.

Skip's career in the financial industry has been nothing short of exemplary, and anyone that knows Skip knows that he is, and no doubt will remain, very active in his many professional, business, community, and advisory