

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MARK EDWARDS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, on May 8th, 2009, the San Bernardino community will gather to honor Mark Edwards as he is presented with the prestigious Golden Baton Award from the San Bernardino Symphony Guild. In the Guild's eighty years of its existence, this will only be the tenth time that this honor has been awarded. The Guild is honoring him not only for his significant contribution to the San Bernardino Symphony but also for his commitment and dedication to the San Bernardino community.

A respected lawyer in the Inland Empire, Mark received his Juris Doctor with Honors from the University of California, Davis. In 1982, he became a Shareholder and Senior Attorney at Reid & Hellyer, A Professional Corporation in San Bernardino. In 1994, Mark became a founding member of the Law Office of Mirau, Edwards, Cannon, Lewin & Tooke, A Professional Corporation in Redlands, where his firm practices transactional law in the areas of business, corporate, tax, real estate and estate planning.

In addition to his law practice, Mark has always been a very active member of the San Bernardino community. As former President and current First Vice President of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, he has also continuously served on the Board of Directors since 1992 and as a Member of the Executive Committee since 1995. In addition, he was actively involved with the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce, serving as President in 1992 and a Member of the Board of Directors as well as the Executive Committee throughout the 1990s.

Known for his passionate and selfless volunteerism, Mark has served as an Elder for the First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino, Judge Pro-tem for the San Bernardino Superior Court, founder of Leadership San Bernardino, as well as a Member of the Board of Directors for numerous other organizations throughout the Inland Empire. It is obvious that the community has always been important to Mark based on his continual support of both the San Bernardino Symphony and city as a whole.

Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the service, sacrifice, and dedication of Mark Edwards. His impact on our community over the years serves as a great reminder that a life spent giving back to society is a life of a true patriot.

RECOGNIZING SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK IN MINNESOTA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I am thrilled to recognize hard-working school board members in Minnesota this year during School Board Recognition Week. Throughout the year, school boards across the nation play a vital role in organizing members of the community to participate in our children's education.

Parents, teachers and local leaders are uniquely equipped to meet the needs of students in the classroom. A locally-governed education system requires local involvement. Many of these individuals hold full-time jobs, and yet they selflessly volunteer their time to serving their families and other families in the community by donating their talents and resources through various roles on the school board.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank members of school boards across the State of Minnesota for devoting countless hours and energy towards our children's education and ultimately their future. Additionally, I want to encourage continued involvement to ensure our grandchildren receive the same priceless support from which so many of us benefit. I applaud and join my colleagues in recognizing the individuals who selflessly dedicate their time to this crucial role.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I offer the following justification for the projects that I requested that were included in H.R. 1105, the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act.

For the project titled, "Assistance to Improve Water Quality for Tarrant County, TX," in H.R. 1105, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Texas AgriLife Research, 113 Jack K. Williams Building 2142 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-2142. The \$336,000 in the bill supports specialized studies to improve water quality in North Central Texas. The project aims to create a watershed protection plan and improve the water quality in the five reservoirs that supply water for the majority of Fort Worth and fifty-nine surrounding communities. By implementing a watershed protection plan, water quality can be improved in North Central Texas, thereby protecting supply and quality for over 1.6 million residents in the

area. Matching funds are as follows: Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (\$740,000), Texas Water Development Board (\$200,000), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (\$542,000). Tarrant Regional Water District and the Texas Water Resources Institute also provide in-kind support.

For the project titled "Child Abuse Training Programs for Judicial Personnel: Victims Act Model Court Project" in H.R. 1105, OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, 1041 North Virginia Street, Third Floor, Reno, Nevada 89503. The \$920,000 in the bill for this project will be used in planning and programming for work in Model Courts and in jurisdictions nationwide, including site-based and local, regional and national interdisciplinary training programs; Model Court site visits; Model Court cross-site visits; All-Sites Meetings; outreach to national State Court Improvement Programs; direct technical assistance to Model Courts and other jurisdictions nationwide; mentoring of non-Model Court jurisdictions; publications for national dissemination; research to evaluate Model Court work; and networking with national organizations. The project focuses on improving court practice in handling child abuse and neglect cases in jurisdictions across the country, and will have significant impact on the over 513,000 children in the nation's foster care systems. The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is supported by a number of funders both federal, state and private; and national and state-based that supports related work. Supplemental funding for this project has been applied for in the past, as NCJFCJ continually seeks a variety of funding sources for its projects.

For the project titled "Train-the-Trainer (ALERRT)" in H.R. 1105, OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the Texas State University, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, Texas 78666. The \$1,200,000 in the bill for this project will enable Texas State University to build ALERRT's Train-The-Trainer capacity to meet the training needs of the more than 650,000 law enforcement agents across the nation. Since 2002, ALERRT has trained more than 16,000 first responding patrol officers. ALERRT is a program designed to train first responders with tactics they will need to effectively respond to active shooter situations. More than 200 law enforcement agencies, including Texas Christian University Police Department and Ft. Worth Police Department, are on the waiting list for training under ALERRT. Funding would allow these departments to receive training. ALERRT has been awarded more than \$7 million in federal and state funds to bring this Rapid Response training to frontline officers across Texas and the nation. Texas State will provide any required matching funds.

For the project titled "White Settlement Emergency Management, Police, and Fire Department Interoperable Communications

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Project” in H.R. 1105, OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the City of White Settlement, 214 Meadow Park Drive, White Settlement, TX 76108. The \$500,000 in the bill for this project will allow the City of White Settlement to begin the process of updating the city’s radio equipment. The city is currently not capable of transmitting information between agencies due to aging radio systems and lack of funding. Many times, the ability of first-responders to respond to emergency situations would be enhanced by partnering or sharing resources. The goal is to have direct communications with the City of Fort Worth, the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Lockheed Martin, and any other local agencies or cities for rapid response to emergency situations. No matching funds are required for this project.

For the project titled “America SCORES Fort Worth Expansion” in H.R. 1105, OJP-Juvenile Justice account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the America SCORES, 520 Eighth Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, New York 10018. The \$150,000 in the bill for this project will be used to expand the America SCORES after-school program to at least five new public elementary schools in the Fort Worth area, reaching upwards of 125 additional elementary students in the urban center. The America SCORES model has proven very successful in improving academic performance and physical health among participants, reduces the risks of unsupervised playtime, and combats the epidemics of childhood obesity and violence. America SCORES will match the federal funding with \$150,000 in private funds. All expenses to maintain the expansion in future years will be provided by non-federal sources.

For the project titled “Central City, Fort Worth, Upper Trinity River Basin, TX” in H.R. 1105, Corps of Engineers—Construction account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Tarrant Regional Water District, 800 E. Northside Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76102. The aging levee system on the Trinity River is no longer adequate to provide protection for an area adjacent to downtown Fort Worth that is undergoing revitalization. The Army Corps of Engineers recommends in the final Environmental Impact Statement an integrated, comprehensive solution for flood control in this area to include transportation, environmental restoration, and community redevelopment components, including constructing a 1.5-mile flood-control bypass channel. The \$6,000,000 in the bill for this project will be used for excavation of the bypass channel. Matching funds for the entire project include \$64 million from Tarrant Regional Water District, \$10.9 million from the City of Fort Worth, \$9 million from Tarrant County, and \$80.5 million from the local tax financing district.

For the project titled, “Farmers Branch, Tarrant County, TX” in H.R. 1105, Corps of Engineers Sec. 205 account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the City of White Settlement, 214 Meadow Park Drive, White Settlement, TX 76108. To improve the channelization of Farmers Branch flowing through the center of White Settlement, the continuing authority provided in this bill will be used for construction of a flood control channel. This channel will mitigate major flooding problems affecting homes and businesses in the area. The City of White Settlement has

passed bonds totaling \$11.5 million for the project.

For the project titled, “Upper Trinity River Basin, TX” in H.R. 1105, Corps of Engineers Investigations account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, 819 Taylor Street, Room 3A32, Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300. The \$382,000 provided in the bill will be used to continue various Corps of Engineers studies in the Upper Trinity River Basin. No matching funds are required.

For the project titled “Cook Children’s Medical Center, Ft. Worth, TX for facilities and equipment” in H.R. 1105, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the Cook Children’s Medical Center, 801 Seventh Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76104. The \$666,000 in the bill for this project will be used to purchase Magnetoencephalography (MEG) technology in order for Cook Children’s Medical Center to continue their research in the neurosciences. MEG technology, combined with Cook Children’s existing iMRI and pediatric neuroscience resources, will provide the best available treatment to cure Texas children afflicted with epilepsy, brain tumors, and other devastating neurological disorders. Funds will be used for the purchase of equipment and the construction costs necessary to install the MEG technology. In addition to the federal funding for this project, Cook Children’s plans to raise at least \$5,803,000 in the local community.

For the project titled “Harris Methodist Ft. Worth Hospital, Ft. Worth, TX for facilities and equipment” in H.R. 1105, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the Harris Methodist Fort Worth Hospital, 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76104. The \$618,000 in the bill for this project will be used for the renovation and construction of a 16-bed palliative care unit. Palliative care is healthcare that specializes in the relief of suffering and the achievement of the best possible quality of life for patients with advanced illness and their families. It is offered simultaneously with all other appropriate medical treatment. Currently, the Harris Methodist Health Foundation is seeking community donations as part of a \$2.2 million campaign. To date, \$537,000 has been raised to help fund the palliative care unit and significant pledges have been made.

For the project titled “Texas Wesleyan University, Ft. Worth, TX for purchase of equipment for the doctoral program in nurse anesthesia practice, including curriculum development” in H.R. 1105, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is the Texas Wesleyan University, 1201 Wesleyan St., Fort Worth, Texas 76105-1536. The \$247,000 in the bill for this project will be used by Texas Wesleyan University for equipment costs to support the new on-line Doctorate program in Nurse Anesthesia Practice. Harris Methodist hospital is the primary clinical site for Texas Wesleyan University’s nurse anesthetist program. Funding will be used to upgrade the network and enhance current audio/visual technologies for curriculum development and deployment to support instructional needs

for the new doctoral program. This project will support Texas Wesleyan University’s new Doctorate Program of Nurse Anesthesia Practice, the second doctoral program of its kind in the United States. The objective is to develop a distance learning program (utilizing recent advances in distance learning methodologies) that will provide extended education to full time employed Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists who are located in rural or metropolitan areas of the United States. This project provides education via new technologies, including distance learning methodologies, and addresses the Healthy People 2010 goal set by HHS to eliminate health disparities. Texas Wesleyan University has provided \$360,000 in private matching funds for this project.

For the project titled “Alliance Airport, Runway Extension, TX” in H.R. 1105, FAA—Airport Improvement Program account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is Alliance Airport and the City of Fort Worth, TX, 2221 Alliance Boulevard, Ste 100, Fort Worth, TX 76177. The \$1,750,000 for the project in this bill will be used to extend the existing main runway. The extension project includes lengthening the runway by 1,400 feet to 11,000 feet and includes extension of taxiways, relocation of FM Road 156, relocation of a Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail line, and extension of Eagle Parkway. The local share of the project cost will be between \$50 million and \$60 million.

For the project titled “CNG Bus Replacement, Fort Worth Transportation Authority, TX,” in H.R. 1105, Federal Transit Administration—Bus/Bus Facilities account, the legal name and address for the requesting entity is Fort Worth Transportation Authority, The “T,” 1600 E. Lancaster Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The \$1,425,000 in this bill will be used to continue the replacement of the Fort Worth Transportation Authority’s aging bus fleet and pay for the cost of replacing approximately 3-4 buses with clean-burning natural gas vehicles, wheel chair accessibility and complete with security cameras for driver and passenger safety. This will help advance the T’s overall initiative to make the entire bus fleet 100% wheel chair accessible. Local share of the project cost will be \$1.64 million.

For the project titled, “Interstate-35 W Congestion Relief, TX,” in H.R. 1105, Federal Highways Administration—Interstate Maintenance account, the legal name and address for the requesting entity is City of Fort Worth, TX, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The \$1,800,000 in the bill will be used to provide congestion relief for I-35W between downtown Fort Worth and SH 114 near the Denton/Tarrant County line. These funds are for engineering and design. Relief of regional congestion along this road segment is critical and would address significant emissions concerns. Additionally, this eventual expansion of I-35W would also continue facilitating economic expansion of north Fort Worth, the Alliance Airport area, northern Tarrant County, as well as enhance access to the renewal work of the Trinity River Vision project. Local share of the project cost will be \$2 million by the Denton County Commissioner’s Court, which is significantly more than the statutory 20 percent.

For the project titled, “Henderson Street Bridge Construction at the Trinity River, Fort Worth, TX,” in H.R. 1105, Federal Highways Administration—Transportation Community

Systems Preservation account, the legal name and address for the requesting entity is City of Fort Worth, TX, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The \$1,520,000 in the bill will be used for the construction of SH 199 (Henderson Street) and US Business 287 through the Trinity Uptown area of the Trinity River Vision. The aging levee system is no longer adequate to provide protection for an area adjacent to downtown Fort Worth that is undergoing revitalization. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends in the final Environmental Impact Statement an integrated, comprehensive solution for flood control in this area to include transportation, environmental restoration and community redevelopment components in constructing a 1.5 mile flood-control bypass channel. Local share of the project cost is \$21.485 million.

For the project titled, "City of Fort Worth, TX—Economic Development Initiatives," in H.R. 1105, Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiative account, the legal name and address of the requesting entity is City of Fort Worth, TX, 1000 Throckmorton Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. The \$285,000 in the bill will be used for property acquisition for land that will be needed to construct the bypass channel of the Trinity River. The aging levee system is no longer adequate to provide protection for an area adjacent to downtown Fort Worth that is undergoing revitalization. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends in the final Environmental Impact Statement an integrated, comprehensive solution for flood control in this area to include transportation, environmental restoration and community redevelopment components in constructing a 1.5 mile flood-control bypass channel. The local share of the project cost is \$15 million.

HONORING JOEL GORDON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joel Gordon of Weatherby Lake, Missouri. Joel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joel Gordon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Republicans were shut out of the Stimulus Conference, and this important legislation was decided in the same shady backroom your constituents voted to close in the last election. Americans are in a serious recession, and we need to act quickly to come to a bipartisan agreement. We don't need to rush this critical legislation through so that Members can jet out of town for their vacations.

We know that immediate and permanent tax breaks stimulate the economy. We know that spending does not. Yet, this backroom deal comes with a \$789.5 billion price tag and 9 billion in new spending; tax cuts were sacrificed for new spending! This is no stimulus bill—this is a spending bill. It's time to cancel our vacations, roll up our sleeves and work to bring the real relief that Americans need. I am willing to stay and do real work. I challenge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for providing 100 years of legal advocacy and justice for all Americans.

One hundred years ago today a coalition of activists, scholars, and intellectuals of various shades gathered together to challenge our United States to live up to the words of the Constitution for all Americans. This founding group was diverse in ethnicity but united in their thirst for equality.

The catalyst behind the group's formation was the 1908 racial attacks against Blacks in Springfield, Illinois, the state capital and the birthplace of President Abraham Lincoln. Disheartened by the violence, which took the lives of two Blacks and five accidental Whites; the group formally organized on February 12, 1909, the birthday of President Lincoln.

A year later, the national office of the NAACP was opened in New York City. W.E.B. DuBois founding publisher of *The Crisis*, the organization's official publication, was instrumental in attracting distinguished African-American literary figures who became the voice of the Harlem Renaissance. The iconic scholar also became the intellectual leader and voice of the NAACP, where he took a strong position in demanding full integration for his people over Booker T. Washington's policy of accommodation.

Due to the rabid racism of the day, the organization grew quickly and reached the peak of its membership during the civil rights struggles of the 1950's and 1960's. Rosa Parks, secretary of the NAACP chapter in Mont-

gomery, Alabama, triggered the famous boycott of the bus system by refusing to give up her seat.

The NAACP's greatest achievements were in the courtroom, where it challenged many of the laws that enshrined segregation. One of the best known cases was *Brown vs. Board of Education*, which in 1954 challenged the "separate but equal" doctrine that was the bulwark of the nation's segregationist policies. Thurgood Marshall, special counsel to the NAACP, led legal arguments before the Supreme Court in that case, as well as many other laws that promoted segregation. Marshall would go on to become the first African-American Justice on the Supreme Court.

The NAACP fought against lynchings, Jim Crow laws, and otherwise challenged the system of laws which denied full citizenship for Blacks. The election of President Barack Obama represents a culmination of the NAACP's efforts over the years, particularly in gaining full voting rights for African-Americans.

The work of the NAACP has not been without danger. Many NAACP members and staff have been victims of racial violence. Perhaps the best known, was the assassination of Medgar Evers, the NAACP field secretary in Mississippi, in 1962.

The NAACP has many heroes across the country who have sacrificed in order to fulfill our nation's promise of democracy and freedom. Among the organization's heroes are my good friends, Hazel Dukes and Percy Sutton. Ms. Dukes participated in many NAACP marches and was arrested several times as a protester. She has also served as president of a New York chapter and national president of the organization. Percy Sutton, a long time member and former president of the NAACP, represented many civil rights workers, including Malcolm X. I salute them for their dedication to this organization.

Ben Jealous, the new leader of the NAACP, has pointed out a new set of challenges to be addressed in the years ahead. Among them are racial injustices in the criminal justice system, improving educational resources, and removing any remaining obstacles to economic development. The challenges may be different from those addressed during the first 100 years, but they are no less important.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you and my colleagues in joining me in honoring the NAACP for 100 years of distinguished service to our country.

CAPTIVE PRIMATE SAFETY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 80, the Captive Primate Safety Act, a bill that will protect public health and safety as well as animal welfare by prohibiting interstate commerce in primates from the exotic pet trade.

Last week, a woman from my district was brutally attacked and nearly killed by a chimpanzee that had been kept as a pet in a private home. Though the victim is currently receiving treatment at a specialized clinic, it is very likely that her wounds are grave and the effects lifelong.