

Reservoir (\$5,775,000) and to begin rehabilitation of the marine launching complex at Twin Dikes Park (\$363,000).

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project: Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Program

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Requesting Entity: Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 801 Roeder Rd., Suite 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910

I have supported strengthening Pulmonary Hypertension education for over ten years; and for this reason and for the second year in a row, I have requested funding to strengthen and continue a successful partnership between the non-profit Hypertension Association and the Centers for Disease Control. PH is a serious and often fatal condition where the blood pressure in the lungs rises to dangerously high levels. In PH patients the walls of the arteries that take blood from the right side of the heart to the lungs thicken and constrict. As a result, the right side of the heart has to pump harder to move blood into the lungs, causing it to enlarge and ultimately fail.

This request would allow the partners to continue to develop a pulmonary hypertension awareness program to better educate the medical community and the public about the disease, and lead to earlier diagnosis and longer life spans.

The \$238,000 included in this bill for this project will be allocated to continue two components in the fight against pulmonary hypertension: the PHA Online University, a curriculum-based website for medical professionals, and a significant expansion of PHAware, a grassroots media campaign. Together these activities will enhance general public and medical professional awareness of pulmonary hypertension and lead to earlier diagnosis and appropriate treatment of individuals who have the disease.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project: SHSU Regional Crime Lab

Account: Office of Justice Programs, Byrne Discretionary Grants

Requesting Entity: Sam Houston State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 1803 Avenue I, Huntsville, TX 77341

Established last year with my support, fiscal year 2009 funding for the Regional Crime Lab at Sam Houston State University will allow it to become operational. Law enforcement agencies in rural communities experience long waits and backlogs when requesting services from major cities like Houston. This request allows Sam Houston State University—one of the nation's foremost criminal justice universities—to use its expertise in forensic science to begin operations of the Rural Crime Laboratory started with funding I secured last year. This lab will provide services to local law enforcement such as identification of controlled substances, toxicology screening and finger print matching. The lab will be able to service communities in a 75-mile wide area.

The \$800,000 included in this bill for this project will be allocated to staff the SHSU Re-

gional Crime Lab and make it operational for serving regional law enforcement agencies. Specific budget items include: salaries and benefits for laboratory staff (\$547,800); lab supplies (\$11,558); subcontracts for staff training (\$27,000) and indirect cost amounting to \$213,642.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project: I-69 Improvements

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities, Interstate 69, Texas

Requesting Entity: I-69 Texas Alliance

Address of Requesting Entity: 1200 Smith, Suite 700, Houston, TX 77002

This requested funding will allow for additional required environmental studies needed to upgrade several US highways in the region. This request—is not part of the now dead Trans Texas Corridor—provides funding for the continuation of the long-planned project involving segments of US 59, 77 and 281. Since 1991, efforts have been made to improve these routes to Interstate standards to meet the higher demand of increased traffic. These highway segments have been identified by Congress as a high priority; by upgrading the existing highways to Interstate standards we will increase motorist safety and regional mobility in the increasingly busy Houston and East Texas region.

The \$617,500 included in this bill will go to the Texas Department of Transportation to continue planning, design, and development of segments of US Highway 59 to Interstate standards.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 1105—Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009

Project: Big Thicket Land Acquisition

Account: National Park Service, Land Acquisition

Requesting Entity: The Conservation Fund, Texas Office

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 West 6th Street, Suite 601, Austin, TX 78701

The Big Thicket National Preserve is one of America's ecological treasures. It is an unusually shaped preserve whose boundaries include land once owned by major timber companies. When funded in full, this represents the final year in a seven year land acquisition program. This request enables the National Park Service to acquire critical land within the congressionally authorized boundary of the Big Thicket National Preserve to diversify the economic potential of southeast Texas through increased tourism opportunities. This project works only with voluntary, "willing-seller" landowners.

The \$1,000,000 included in this bill for this project will allow the National Park Service to buy approximately 500 acres of land on eight tracts currently held by the Conservation Fund acquired from willing sellers or by voluntary donation.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
QUARTER FEATURING THE LIKENESS OF DUKE ELLINGTON

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to ask the House to join me in commemorating yet another honor for Edward Kennedy Duke Ellington, born 1899, in the District of Columbia, who has left us musical gifts that are so timeless they have proved perpetually modern. The new honor for Duke Ellington that we celebrate is his likeness at his piano that appears on the new District of Columbia circulating quarter formally introduced today and placed in a map with other coins that represent our union. Duke Ellington is only the second African American to appear on a circulating coin.

For the residents of the District of Columbia, this honor for Duke Ellington is special indeed. His values, his study of music, and his musical genius were shaped from the beginning of his life in the Shaw community and in the D.C. public schools until, as a grown man, he pursued his star-studded musical career and became one of the world's most celebrated band leaders and composers. D.C. residents themselves selected Duke Ellington, and many witnessed him help establish the entertainment corridor on U Street as a major venue for African-American entertainers when the District of Columbia was a segregated city that did not permit Black people to attend or to perform elsewhere in the nation's capital. Ellington was my personal favorite for the D.C. quarter not only because he was a native son, but also because for many years, we in the city have been trying to correct the notion that D.C. is only a "government town," making it clear that we have been a hometown since 1801. The District has become a city with some of the best theater, entertainment and sports in the country, and now features an annual week-long Duke Ellington Jazz, Festival, fast becoming one of the best known in the country. The truth is that Ellington is as representative of his home town as George Washington is of official Washington. The Duke sends the message that hometown, homegrown residents are making and have always made important contributions to our country and to the world.

To celebrate the Duke's coin, we kicked off Duke Ellington Week today with a celebration of D.C.'s new quarter at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, where the African American Museum is temporarily housed and has mounted the Scurlock Exhibition of photographs of Black Washingtonians, including Ellington. The celebration featured a presentation of the quarter by U.S. Mint Director Edmund Moy, and the placement in the coin map.

Ellington week activities will continue Wednesday, Feb. 25, at THEARC, with a "Celebration of Black History Month, the Arts, and the Duke Ellington Commemorative Quarter," featuring Edward and April Ellington, Duke Ellington's son and daughter, the Ellington School of the Arts School jazz band, and the Washington Ballet, and later on Wednesday, a concert, "Sophisticated Lady: An Evening with Denyce Graves," at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to raise funds

for the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, the famous soprano's alma mater.

During a lifetime of recognition of his unique musical genius, Ellington received 13 Grammys over 40 years, the Pied Piper award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers in 1968, and honorary doctoral degrees from 16 institutions. He received the nation's highest honors, including the President's Gold Medal in 1966, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969, the highest honor a civilian can receive in the United States. After his death on May 24, 1974, Western High School in Washington, D.C. was renamed the Duke Ellington High School for the Performing Arts. The school is one of the most renowned in the nation for its excellence in all the arts.

Jazz, America's singular indigenous art form, owes its greatness to a handful of men and women, none more so than Duke Ellington, the Renaissance man of music—composer, musician, band leader, the full package. Today, we add a crowning honor with the city's own circulating quarter bearing the Duke's image. Now our native son, a musical genius already honored the world over for his artistic achievements, will have a lasting image on his nation's currency to remind the world that his hometown, the District of Columbia, nurtured the musical genius of Edward Kennedy Duke Ellington.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: JOHN M. SHIMKUS.

Bill number: H.R. 1105.

The Account: Agriculture Salaries and Expenses.

Requesting Entity: National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center NCERC at 400 University Park Dr. in Edwardsville, IL.

Funding would go to ensure that the NCERC remains capable of validating new cellulosic technologies and to accelerate commercialization. NCERC will be able to find more uses for agricultural products in renewable fuels and lessen our reliance on foreign oil. NCERC is an established research center of excellence in this field.

The Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Requesting Entity: Jasper County Sheriff Department at 106 E. Morgan St. in Newton, Illinois.

Funding to provide new radios that will allow the sheriffs office complete interoperability between first responders in Jasper County.

The Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Requesting Entity: Shelby County Sheriff Department at 151 N. Morgan St. in Shelbyville, Illinois.

Funding to provide new radios that will allow the sheriffs office complete interoperability between first responders in Shelby County.

The Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Requesting Entity: Jasper County Unit 1 School District at 609 S. Lafayette St. in Newton, IL.

Funding to provide a new camera security system for Jasper County schools to help secure the schools.

The Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Requesting Entity: Marion County Sheriff Department at 204 N. Washington St. in Salem, Illinois.

Funding for new digital fingerprinting machine to make sheriffs booking process more efficient and allow for easier access to database.

The Account: Energy & Water, General Investigations.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding for a deficiency correction study to investigate solutions such as rehabilitation-replacement of existing relief wells and the construction of additional relief wells at the Prairie DuPont Levee.

The Account: Energy & Water, General Investigations.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding for this project, also referred to as the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program, this project will provide for the first phases of construction of new 1,200 foot lock chambers at L/Ds 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, LaGrange and Peoria; implement small-scale navigation aids; and begin ecosystem restoration projects along the Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway.

The Account: Energy & Water, Construction General.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding to continue projects which are vital to the ecological restoration of the Upper Mississippi River, including island construction, habitat creation and long-term monitoring.

The Account: Energy & Water, Construction General.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding for this project will go to develop the correct design deficiencies and assure that the Chain of Rocks levee will withstand a 500-year flood. The deficiency correction includes the installation of relief wells, construction of levee berms, a pump station, relocations, and mitigation. The levee protects a major urban area.

The Account: Energy & Water, Construction General.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding for the project in East St. Louis to provide flood protection to 200,000 residents and over \$1 billion in economic value. The flood control project is aged and requires rehabilitation to provide a thorough level of protection.

The Account: Energy & Water, Construction General.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding that can be used to initiate design work for the Maryville, Illinois, project. This

project authority covers communities in Madison and St. Clair Counties, Illinois, including East St. Louis, Belleville, Glen Carbon, Maryville, and Collinsville. The communities of the region rely heavily on combined sewer systems, some of which exceed 100 years of performance. Problems created by this compromised infrastructure impact the health, water quality, and economic development potential of the area.

The Account: Energy & Water, Construction General.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding for this project at Wood River goes to replacing 163 of 170 existing relief wells and installing 60 new relief wells as a deficiency correction under the existing project authorization. Additional reconstruction/replacement is proposed for various components of 26 closure structures, 38 gravity drains, and 7 pump stations.

The Account: Energy & Water, O&M.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding will be used to operate and maintain Carlyle Lake. This lake provides flood control, water quality control, and water supply to nearby communities; recreation; fish and wildlife conservation; and is authorized to augment navigation flows downstream on the Kaskaskia River. The lake offers 3 marinas, 18 public boat ramps, a sailboat harbor, 4 beaches, 5 campgrounds, and a visitor center; numerous outlying areas provide a variety of opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. The Project includes a State Resort with hotel, cabins, restaurant and conference center and two State Parks, one of which offers overnight cottages, a swimming pool, and a restaurant/store. Large sub-impoundment dams, managed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, are located at the northern end of the lake and are flooded each fall, providing excellent hunting opportunities.

The Account: Energy & Water, O&M.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding at Lake Shelbyville to be used to provide flood control, water supply, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, and water quality control and augments navigation flows downstream on the Kaskaskia River. The lake extends northeastward to approximately river mile 275 through Shelby, Moultrie, Douglas, and Coles Counties. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

The Account: Energy & Water, O&M.

Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers St. Louis District at 1222 Spruce St. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Funding at Rend Lake to provide flood control, water supply, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, and area redevelopment. The earth fill dam with an un-gated main and auxiliary spillway provides the necessary features to create Rend Lake and support the project's purposes. The earth dam is located on the Big Muddy River at mile 103.7 and two sub-impoundment dams are located on the upper arms of the lake.

The Account: Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, EPA, STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure.