

(28.) \$285,000 for ARTKade; Idaho Falls Arts Council

(29.) \$143,000 for Life skills instructions programs for at-risk youth; Life's Kitchen Inc.

(30.) \$333,000 for Idaho Oral Health Institute; Idaho State University

(31.) \$285,000 for The Discovery Center of Idaho exhibits and outreach; Discovery Center of Idaho

(32.) \$285,000 for College of Southern Idaho Pro-Tech Training Program; College of Southern Idaho

(33.) \$285,000 for Children's Health Services Expansion; St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Ltd

(34.) \$381,000 for Madison County Memorial Hospital Construction and Renovation Project; Madison County Memorial Hospital

(35.) \$190,000 for Idaho SySTEMic Solution program; Boise State University

(36.) \$285,000 for Custer County to purchase middle school building

(37.) \$1,961,750 for the City of Rocks Back Country Byway

(38.) \$4,845,000 for the Idaho Transit Coalition for Buses and Bus Facilities

(39.) \$475,000 for I-84 Broadway Avenue to Gowen Road Widening

(40.) \$475,000 for the Treasure Valley Transit Facilities

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 1105, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, today we come to the House chamber to consider a package of the remaining fiscal year 2009 appropriations bills. We are five months late in acting on these bills, and for no good reason.

The net effect of this delay is two-fold: One, the delay has prevented a number of Federal programs from making necessary mission changes simply because those programs have been frozen in-place under the CR.

Number two, the \$410 billion contained in this bill represents annual spending increases for hundreds of programs. These increases are well above necessary levels, especially given that we just passed a stimulus bill that carried \$301 billion in new discretionary spending—much of which is for the same programs contained in this omnibus measure, and that we fund every year in the annual process.

In short, many of the programs in this package will get a double dose of funding. Unfortunately, this extra dose will be built into future spending, and that's not fair to the American taxpayer—why, because it locks in trillion dollar deficits.

Apart from the problems with the spending totals in this package, we are allowing a laundry list of policy issues to pass through Congress without any public scrutiny.

A number of these policy issues are troubling to many of us. For example, the omnibus eliminates the "Reading First" Program within the Department of Education. I don't remember debating this issue in the stunted '09 process.

The "Reading First" Program was widely supported for its emphasis on raising reading levels, particularly among low-income children. Just yesterday, I met with an elementary school principal from Iowa who praised the program as one which has made a difference to lots of children in my State.

Another policy change, done through a funding reduction, is a de-emphasis on Yucca Mountain. At a time when we need to be looking at all forms of energy, why would we want to halt construction and design work at Yucca since nuclear waste storage is a big issue. At a minimum, we should have had a debate on this subject.

In the end, this entire process has been a giant abdication of our responsibilities in this body, representing a shameful performance. Our constituents deserve better than the bill before us represents.

I hope that for the FY 2010 funding cycle, the majority will re-discover the value of regular order and transparency. In this way, we can add a little more credibility to the process, and the reputation of this House.

JULIE ROGERS "GIFT OF LIFE"  
PROGRAM AND THEIR "SPIRIT  
OF LOVE" AWARD WINNERS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2009*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to pay tribute to the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program and the recipients of their "Spirit of Love" awards for their commitment to the fight against cancer and dedication to assisting the medically underserved in Southeast Texas.

The Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program, established in 1994 by Regina Rogers, began as a tribute to her mother, a breast cancer survivor. Originally providing free mammograms to women, shortly afterwards they expanded to prostate screenings for men and cancer education outreach. Since then, they have provided over 13,500 mammograms and over 4,500 prostate screenings while conducting over 450 educational presentations. The Program has helped extend the lives of more than 135 people who found cancer after one of their screenings. They grew from their humble beginnings into one of the largest cancer screening and awareness organizations of its type in Texas.

Each year at their annual board meeting, the "Gift of Life" Program presents both an individual and corporate "Spirit of Love" Awards to honor those that have gone above and beyond the call of duty to help fight cancer and spread awareness. This year, the late Todd Christopher was awarded the Julie Rogers "Spirit of Love" Award, while the TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery was presented with the Corporate "Spirit of Love" Award. Both deserve the recognition for their dedication and commitment to the community.

Todd Christopher was born and raised in Beaumont, Texas. After graduating from Texas A&M University, Todd moved back home with an entrepreneur spirit and co-founded four businesses, bringing hundreds of jobs to the area. He served on a number of boards across the area and as co-chairman of

the Julie and Ben Rogers Cancer Foundation Drive. He somehow found enough time to dedicate a large part of his life to his wife Gerry and children Clayton and Gary. He has coached their sports teams and supported their scholastic endeavors. Cancer tragically cut Todd's life short in 2008 but his spirit lives on. The work he did for Southeast Texas will last forever.

The TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery was recognized for exhibiting outstanding community leadership and reducing health disparities among Southeast Texans. The refinery, built in 1936 and acquired by the French company TOTAL in 1973, has taken a proactive role in fighting cancer. Through their annual sponsorship of "Gift of Life" breast and prostate cancer initiatives, they have provided over 600 women and more than 1,800 men with free mammograms and prostate screenings. They alone have helped extend the lives of seven women and nine men whose cancer was detected at "Gift of Life" screenings. They have also made a commitment to Southeast Texas by embarking on a \$2.2 billion dollar expansion of their refinery, increasing their refining capacity and adding 60 new full time jobs.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas I would like to thank the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" Program, the family of Todd Christopher, and the TOTAL Port Arthur Refinery for all their work in fighting cancer and spreading awareness. Their efforts have made Southeast Texas a better place to live and work.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as a part of H.R. 1105, The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: California State University Agricultural Research Initiative

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802-094210

Description of Request: I have secured \$693,000 for the ARI. The Agriculture Research Initiatives (ARI) provides significant benefits to consumers as well as agriculture-related industries. Faculty and research scientists develop solutions for challenges that result in public confidence in food safety, agricultural research and production systems; regional and statewide economic development; and bring agricultural, environmental, and consumer benefits in the process. ARI funding priority will be given to science and best management issues related to climate change, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and carbon sequestering; food safety and security; water quality, infrastructure, and conveyance; and public health and welfare.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Pierce's Disease

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of California

Address of Requesting Entity: 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,531,000 for Pierce's Disease Research. The Pierce's Disease Research special research grant funds are awarded competitively to qualified researchers from any state based on priorities developed by industry, the University and governmental agencies. The program has supported projects to reduce the population of glassy-winged sharpshooters that spread the disease, map the genome for *xylella fastidiosa*—the bacterium that causes the disease—develop new cultural and vineyard practices to help growers contain the spread of Pierce's disease, and advance the search for long-term solutions. Continuation of funding is important to supporting ongoing science aimed at finding permanent solutions for control and containment of this devastating disease through breeding disease resistant scion and rootstock, developing new vineyard management practices, and other breakthroughs.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Regional Operability for Public Safety Communications, 2009

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Stanislaus County

Address of Requesting Entity: 1010 10th Street, Suite 6800, Modesto, CA 95354

Description of Request: I have secured \$500,000 for Stanislaus County Regional Interoperability. This request will enhance the existing interoperability channel, expand radio coverage through difficult terrain, replace aging equipment, continue progress towards system wide P-25 compliance, and will support the City and County's joint efforts to respond to public safety incidents throughout California's Central Valley and to be prepared for a disaster situation. Equipment would include new towers, transmitters, antennae, voter/receivers and a security system at the primary transmission site.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Regional Interoperability, 2009

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Fresno County

Address of Requesting Entity: 2281 Tulare Street, Third Floor, Room 300, Fresno, CA 93721

Description of Request: I have secured \$200,000 for Fresno County Regional Interoperability. Fresno County is attempting to provide true communication capabilities between law enforcement, emergency medical services and fire protection serving Fresno County and the region by using an intelligent voice and data communication network. This request will enable the completion of an elec-

tronic data communication system. The completion of the system will greatly enhance the public safety of the approximately 1.5 million citizens of four counties (Fresno, Kings, Madera, and a portion of Tulare) and numerous communities served by the participating agencies through ensuring clear voice, data and video communications among first responders and law enforcement during emergencies.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Corps of Engineers, Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California Department of Water Resources

Address of Requesting Entity: 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Description of Request: I have secured \$956,000 for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basin's Comprehensive Study. This Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins Comprehensive Study is a cooperative effort between the California Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The purpose of the Comprehensive Study is to develop a system-wide, comprehensive flood management plan for the Central Valley to reduce flood damage and to integrate ecosystem restoration in addition to developing ways to reduce the flood risk to people, their property, and the state and federal infrastructure of the Central Valley. The purpose is also to develop a sustainable flood management system for the future and to reduce the adverse consequences of floods when they occur. The Study provides a long-range management program for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins with the objective of improving the flood carrying capacity of the system while restoring and protecting environmental features including wetlands as well as fish and wildlife habitat.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Career Technical Education Pathway Program

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Clovis Unified School District

Address of Requesting Entity: 1450 Herndon Avenue, Clovis, CA 93611

Description of Request: I have secured \$476,000 for the Clovis Career Technical Education Pathway Program. Funding will provide essential curriculum and professional development and equipment to support the dual objectives of advancing student academic achievement and career development in workforce areas essential to our national economic development. This funding will allow students to develop knowledge and skills within the career pathway while taking rigorous, integrated courses that include Honors and Advanced Placement curriculum for college and university admissions. Each pathway will prepare students for post-secondary education, employment, or advanced training in a particular industry sector.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: Veterans Boulevard

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Fresno

Address of Requesting Entity: 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721

Description of Request: I have secured \$570,000 for Veterans Boulevard. The funding will be used for the preliminary engineering and design of a major thoroughfare, the Veterans Boulevard freeway interchange at State Route 99, which will alleviate growing traffic concerns as substantial development continues to expand in the northwest region of Fresno County. Veterans Boulevard is planned as a new six lane super-arterial roadway which includes bridges over SR 99, Golden State Boulevard and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. The interchange is a critical element to alleviate congestion at the Shaw Avenue/SR 99 and the Herndon Avenue/SR 99 interchanges.

Requesting Member: Congressman GEORGE RADANOVICH

Project Name: State Route 180 East Improvements

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Fresno

Address of Requesting Entity: 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93721

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,330,000 for State Route 180 East Improvements. The funding will be used to complete State Route 180 which will accommodate increased safe traffic flows vital for economic and commercial development of eastern Fresno County and will enhance farm-to-market shipping opportunities for the region. State Route 180 is vital to the economic health of the Central Valley. This vital corridor will provide the much needed East-West route extensions that will ultimately provide a connection to the only Interstate in Fresno County, Interstate 5. State Route 180 improvements help relieve State Route 99 of truck traffic and air pollution by moving traffic away from the metropolitan Fresno area.

## RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 2009*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, as an original co-sponsor I proudly rise in strong support of H. Res. 83, which recognizes the significance of Black History Month. Since 1926, the contributions of African Americans have been recognized and celebrated each February. It comes as no surprise that this year Black History Month is especially significant with the inauguration of Barack Obama as the nation's 44th President.

I thank my colleague and friend from Texas, Congressman AL GREEN, for introducing this very important resolution. The joy we all feel on this occasion is tempered by the grief that still lingers over the sudden loss last year of our dear friend and colleague, Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones of Ohio.

For more than 400 years and despite tremendous hardships such as slavery, segregation, and legalized injustice, African Americans