

support to The “T” in providing additional commuter rail routes and other transit solutions.

Again, I commend The “T” for its leadership in improving public transportation in and around Fort Worth. I am proud to represent its management and employees in the 26th District of Texas, and I wish them continued success with local and regional transportation solutions over the next quarter century as they transform Fort Worth into a worldwide leader in comprehensive public transportation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Monday, March 9, 2009, and Tuesday, March 10, 2009, I was not present for 6 recorded votes. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted the following way: Roll No. 110—“yea”; Roll No. 111—“yea”; Roll No. 112—“yea”; Roll No. 113—“nay”; Roll No. 114—“yea”; and Roll No. 115—“yea”.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MILLARD FULLER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to the life and legacy of Mr. Millard Fuller, and his steadfast service in giving back to the world.

Mr. Fuller was born in Lanett, Alabama. As many folks know, he dedicated his life to serving others through his Christian housing ministries, Habitat for Humanity, which built 200,000 homes in 100 countries, and later The Fuller Center for Housing. In recognition of his lifelong service, in 1996, Mr. Fuller was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton.

Mr. Fuller passed away on February 3rd 2009, at the age of 74. On March 14, 2009, a celebration of his life will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

I am honored to recognize this inspirational philanthropist who spent his lifetime helping others in need. It is my hope his memory will serve as an example of how we all should live.

HONORING COLORADO COMMISSIONERS OF AGRICULTURE FOR THEIR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

HON. BETSY MARKEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Ms. MARKEY of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture, Mr. John Stulp and

former Commissioners Mr. Don Ament, Mr. Tom Kourlis, Mr. Steve Horn, Mr. Peter Decker, Mr. Tim Schultz, Mr. Evan Goulding, Mr. Morgan Smith, Mr. Roy Romer, the late Mr. Clinton Jeffers, the late Mr. John Orcutt, and the late Mr. Paul Swisher for their service and leadership.

The foundation of Colorado’s history was built by the farmers and ranchers who dedicated their lives to settling the land. Today producers continue to be a fundamental pillar of our state’s communities. Over 30 million acres in Colorado are dedicated to agriculture and our producers work endlessly to provide our nation with a safe and reliable food supply. Under the guidance of those who have served as Commissioner of Agriculture, Colorado’s farmers and ranchers have been able to efficiently transfer food from their fields to our tables.

Over the years, Colorado agriculture has survived economic strain, destructive weather and severe drought. The unyielding leadership of all our Commissioners has ensured that our food supply would be secure even in the face of hardships. They have worked to develop the sustainable farming programs that serve our rural communities and strived to overcome the challenges that were presented to them. March 20, 2009 is National Agriculture Day, celebrating producers across the country. I would like to honor the Commissioners who have led Colorado’s agriculture community towards a thriving future and thank them for their dedication.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 2009 Omnibus.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

Requesting Member: Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Justice, Byrne Discretionary Grants account

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: National Police Athletic/Activities League

Address of Requesting Entity: 658 West Indiantown Road, Suite #201, Jupiter, FL 33458

Description of Request: I have secured \$400,000 to develop and maintain a national youth crime prevention that promotes interaction and trust between law enforcement officers and youth. Primary focus on underserved communities where there are high incidences of youth crime. Funding will also be used towards the creation of pilot program to address gang related crime in several states; including FL, MD, NJ, OH, CA, PA and TX.

RONALD H. BROWN UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 837, the “Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building”. I would like to thank my colleague CHARLIE RANGEL for introducing this legislation. H.R. 837 moves to designate the federal building at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York as the Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building.

Former United States Secretary of Commerce under President Clinton, Ronald Brown, has always been a dedicated U.S. servant. Born in Washington, DC, he quickly showed an interest in public service, as a young man he was a member of the African-American social and philanthropic organization. Brown also worked for the Jack and Jill foundation, an organization that works to help children to have cultural opportunities, develop leadership skills, and form social networks even in a segregated society.

Having not only a passion for public service Brown had a strong desire to serve his country as well. In 1962 upon graduation of Middlebury College he enlisted in the army, where he served in Korea and Europe.

Upon being discharged Brown joined the National Urban League, an organization that aims at advocating on behalf of African Americans and against racial discrimination in the United States. He would excel within the organization where he moved all the way up to Deputy Executive Director for Programs and Governmental Affairs. Following his service with the National Urban League, he immediately began fighting for another great American public servant, EDWARD M. KENNEDY. Brown served as campaign manager for the now second most senior member of the United States Senate.

After running KENNEDY’s successful Senate campaign, Brown began a string of political occupations that include lobbying for the law firm Patton, Boggs & Blow, Head of the Jesse Jackson convention team for the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta. Finally Brown was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee in February of 1989. Tragically, on April 3, 1996 on an official trade mission, his plane carrying him and 34 other passengers struck a mountain while attempting a procedural landing.

Ronald H. Brown was a man that dedicated his entire life to bettering the lives of others. Whether it be young African Americans in New York, fighting for the freedom of all Americans in some of the worlds most dangerous battlefields, or working day in and out to help promote and excel the careers of others whose ideals and policies he believed would better the nation. Brown’s is a story that deserves to be recognized everyday. I feel designating a building in his name is the perfect way to recognize this true American public servant. This building will stand long after generations have gone and will hopefully remind all generations to come, that a dedicated spirit

and a devotion to country are qualities that deserve recognition.

Mr. Speaker I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 837, designating the federal building at 799 United Nations Plaza in New York as the "Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building". To recognize a great American man who devoted his life to the betterment of his country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF JAMES "J."
RALPH LUNDY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of long-time Indian River County civic leader and humanitarian, James "J." Ralph Lundy, who died on February 27 at the age of 90. During this most difficult time, I want to extend my thoughts and prayers to his family. I hope that Mr. Lundy's family takes comfort in knowing that his memory and legacy of philanthropy will live on within the Gifford community and in Indian River County for generations to come. Mr. Lundy always put others first, and extended a helping hand to all those in need.

Mr. Lundy first came to Indian River County in the 1950s as a reporter for the Jacksonville Journal to cover Dodgers baseball legend Jackie Robinson. Later, he became production manager at the Press Journal where he wrote a column about the community for the paper. In 1963, Mr. Lundy started the community radio show entitled, "Gospel Caravan," one of the longest-running gospel music programs in Florida, and later created the program "Give them their flowers," as a way to honor lesser-known community leaders before they died.

Mr. Lundy's love for the Gifford community and activism earned him the title "Gifford's spokesman." He spent about 30 years as president of the Gifford Progressive Civic League, and in that time, made significant contributions to the lives of the people of Gifford. Mr. Lundy pushed county officials to install traffic lights to increase public safety, established a voting precinct and the Gifford Community Center to bolster community pride, and brought clean water to Gifford to improve its residents' health. In 1988, he helped establish Our Father's Table Soup Kitchen to provide meals for the community's most needy.

In 2007, Mr. Lundy won the Jefferson Award, a national award that recognizes individual public service contributions.

Madam Speaker, through all of these roles, J. Ralph Lundy had an indelible impact on the spirit and well-being of his community, and touched the lives of many in Indian River County. He will be remembered for his heart, compassion, and dedication to his fellow man. I am fortunate to have known him and will miss him dearly.

CALIFORNIA'S 49TH DISTRICT
PROJECTS FUNDED IN THE
FY2009 OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, when I submitted my appropriation funding requests in March, 2008, the problems plaguing our Nation's banking and financial sectors were just starting to come to light. Few could foresee just how bad our economic situation would become. While I strongly opposed the action, the previous Congress spent over \$700 billion in TARP funding to bailout the banking sector. This Congress just approved a nearly \$800 billion stimulus bill that ultimately provides more money for social services than it does for job producing highway and infrastructure projects.

Overall, President Obama's spending priorities have more than tripled the federal budget deficit for fiscal year 2009 (FY09), ballooning it to \$1.7 trillion. As a result, the state of our nation's finances is dire, and our federal spending plan does not in any way bear an appropriate relationship to the state of our nation's economy. The federal deficit has increased 385% over FY08 and 1089% over FY07 levels. Spending decisions are occurring within this body without regard to available revenue or the harm that such irresponsible fiscal policies do to the economy and to future generations that, ultimately, will get stuck with the bill.

I am highly disappointed that, faced with the enormity of the current federal deficit and the unprecedented amount of federal spending that has occurred, the House and Senate Leadership and Appropriators did not take the opportunity to start showing fiscal restraint by removing Congressional Earmarks from the fiscal year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act. When I made the below mentioned requests last year for projects in my Congressional district I believed they would provide necessary benefits to the local community and had a federal interest. I also believed that they were worthy of the limited federal funds that were available. That time, however, has passed. Member's need to think of the future of this Nation, rise above their own self-interests, and advocate for the removal of all earmarks from all present and future appropriations bills until we get the federal deficit under control.

Congressional Appropriation project requests I made in 2008 in the H.R. 1105, FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act included:

SAN LUIS REY RIVER

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the San Luis Rey River Flood Protection Project, which includes the clearing of vegetation from the San Luis Rey River to protect the levee, the city of Oceanside's bridges, utilities, and public from threatened flooding. It is an authorized project and has received funding in previous Congresses.

MURRIETA CREEK, CA

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the project, which will be constructed in four distinct phases, will include a 250 acre deten-

tion basin to attenuate flows from the over-150 square mile watershed and, once completed, will reduce citizens' and businesses' exposure to flooding that requires many of them to carry flood insurance. The project will create seven miles of soft earthen channelization as well as the development of a continuous riparian habitat corridor throughout the length of the project. The riparian corridor can become a safe home for several listed endangered species that have already been found to exist nearby. The channel will not only facilitate species movement and connectivity to existing wildlife preserves, but will also create an extensive natural wetlands system that can efficiently remove contaminants from stream flows and help ensure improved water quality for local residents and soldiers stationed at the Camp Pendleton Marine Base.

SOUTH PERRIS PROJECT—PERRIS II DESALTER

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the project, which will produce potable water from otherwise unusable groundwater through the construction of a five million gallons per day reverse osmosis desalter in the Perris South Groundwater Sub-basin. In addition to reducing future demand for imported water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Colorado River, project benefits include salinity management for expanded water recycling and protection of high-quality groundwater in basins adjacent to the Perris South Groundwater Sub-basin. The Perris II Desalter is a vital component of Eastern Municipal Water District's (EMWD) Desalination Program, which will ultimately generate up to 14,000 acre-feet per year of potable water and remove up to 50,000 tons of salt out of the basin every year. This project will help push this water district towards its goal of drought-proofing its region and providing reliability and flexibility to its water supply.

SANTA MARGARITA RIVER CONJUNCTIVE USE PROJECT

The bill includes funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the project, which provides for enhanced recharge and recovery from the groundwater basin on Camp Pendleton and will provide a water supply for both Camp Pendleton and Fallbrook, resolving a long-standing water rights dispute between the United States and Fallbrook. In 1954, the Bureau of Reclamation was authorized to construct a dam on the Santa Margarita River for \$22 million (approximately \$333 million in 2008 dollars) with a yield of 14–16,000 acre-feet. This funding will complete a final design that is financially feasible, environmentally beneficial and result in the preservation of the entire Santa Margarita River from Temecula to the Pacific Ocean, while simultaneously providing 16,000 acre-feet per year of vitally needed local water to coastal Southern California.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY SAMP, CA

Recognizing the interdependence between the area's future transportation, habitat, open space and land-use/housing needs, Riverside County, working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has undertaken a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) for the San Jacinto & Upper Santa Margarita watersheds to determine how best to balance these factors for the future benefit of the area. To that end, in 2003, the County adopted a new General Plan and Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) to address regional conservation