

from the University of Texas at El Paso in 1986. He firmly believes that "a positive and caring classroom strengthens a child's self-esteem and self worth." He has added that this "knits all [his] philosophies of teaching and learning together."

Mr. Antonio A. Fierro is part of a larger history of educational excellence in El Paso. I am proud to note that to date El Paso area educators have been chosen as Texas Teachers of the Year nine times. The National Teacher of the Year Program began in 1952 and continues as the oldest, most prestigious national honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching.

I am proud of the work of our teachers, and I am committed to ensuring that education remains a top priority in this Congress.

EARMARK DISCLOSURE

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby submit for the Congressional Record the following disclosure on earmarks that were included in H.R. 1105:

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Interior, U.S. Geological Survey

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Tulane University

Address of Requesting Entity: 6823 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118

Description of Request: The Long-term Estuary Assessment Group (LEAG) comprises scientific researchers based at Tulane, Xavier, Nicholls State, and LUMCON working together to provide accurate scientific and technological advances needed to improve the knowledge of the physical, chemical, geological, biological, and cultural baseline conditions in the coastal Louisiana ecosystem and related natural and built assets. LEAG requests funding support to transition its productive six years of investigation and team building to a level that allows USGS and other local, state and Federal agency managers to make the best possible decisions in support of: (1) implementing Louisiana Coastal Restoration and Hurricane protection projects authorized by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007 and other Federal acts; (2) the Louisiana Coastal Area, Section 7006, Construction, Science and Technology Program established by WRDA 2007; and, (3) science and engineering support for the State of Louisiana's master plan for coastal restoration and hurricane protection. This revised Coastal Consortium project proposes that LEAG and other existing coastal restoration academic, industry, and public partners provide the joint leadership to establish and coordinate a new entity, the Consortium for Coastal Restoration consisting of the LEAG partners, scientists from the USGS, Louisiana State University (LSU), University of Louisiana in Lafayette (ULL), University of New Orleans (UNO), Rand Corporation investigators, engineers from key local engineering companies, and policy groups such as the Tulane Institute of Water Policy and Law, and the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary

Program. Key investigators at other universities such as UNO and LSU will also be invited to join a full partnership consortium. The overall strength and capacity of the Consortium for Coastal Restoration will make it a viable partner with other state and Federal entities [including the USGS National Wetland Research Center (NWRRC) and the Coastal Restoration, and Enhancement for Science and Technology (CREST) consortium] to make the best possible development and implementation decisions for WRDA 2007 and other coastal restoration/protection authorities for Louisiana and the surrounding region. With the enactment of WRDA 2007, and other Federal authorizations, it is imperative that "stove-pipe" coastal restoration/protection policy, implementation, and projects be replaced by a comprehensive, fully coordinated team/partnership consortium to effectively and correctly implement WRDA 2007 and other Federal authorizations for Louisiana coastal restoration and protection. The aim of this alliance is to create a cooperative science, engineering, and technology program to help policymakers, planners and coastal resource managers use the latest objective information on the built and natural environment to ensure sustainable and productive coastal habitats and communities.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Description of Request: East Baton Rouge Flood Control project encompasses the major streams of East Baton Rouge Parish and the Amite River Basin. Authorization: WRDA 1996, Sec. 101(a)(21); WRDA 2007, Sec. 5005e(30) FY08 Funding: \$951,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 80 Vicksburg, MS 39181

Description of Request: A reconnaissance level general reevaluation study is needed to determine whether authorized cutoffs on the Ouachita River are economically feasible, environmentally sustainable, and publicly acceptable. Statutory Authorization for requested project: Senate Document Numbered 117, Eighty-first Congress as amended. Significant problems with navigation on the Ouachita River have been experienced in recent years because authorized cut-offs were never constructed and the existing radius of bend ways above Monroe, LA is too small for tows to make the turns without "light loading" of barges. Waterway users indicate that resulting increases in transportation costs are affecting production costs and the ability to maintain adequate raw material supplies.

Requesting Member: Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Financial Services, SBA

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Greater North Louisiana Community Development Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: 103 Fourth Street, Jonesboro, LA 71251

Description of Request: A The primary goals of the Greater North Louisiana Community Development Corporation are to: a) stimulate creation, attraction, retention and expansion of business and industry in North Louisiana, b) provide access to financial capital, c) promote the growth of "homegrown" business using technology to provide rural isolated entrepreneurs with access to information, technical assistance, professional services and expertise. The Rural U.S. is home to over 56 million Americans who live in some of the country's poorest regions. As nationally publicized by all mediums, the state of Louisiana is involved in a long-running battle to find solutions to poverty and combating literacy (see attachments A & B—GNLCCDC Service Area Demographics and Maps). The primary employers in the targeted parishes are light manufacturing companies. It is expected that manufacturing jobs will continue to decline in the 21st Century, therefore diversification is critical to the stimulation and survival of rural communities. The "No Child Left Behind" initiative must be extended to include educational opportunities to all citizens in under represented and impoverished areas, thus giving a sense of hope and empowerment to reach beyond the grips of despair and hopelessness. The GNLCCDC serves as a door opener and an opportunity where currently none exists.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YWCA EL PASO DEL NORTE REGION'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize the 100th anniversary of the YWCA's El Paso del Norte Region. Since April 8, 1909, this exemplary organization has helped many women and their families reach their fullest potential.

In its 100 years of service to the region, the YWCA El Paso del Norte exemplifies the positive impact volunteerism and service to others can have on a community. For years, the YWCA has played a major role in addressing the various socioeconomic challenges faced by women and minorities throughout our Nation. The personal experiences of many individuals in my district show how our local YWCA has brought to life its mission of empowering women and their families as well as promoting equal opportunities for all.

Every year, the lives of more than 62,000 people in the 17 counties of west Texas and southern New Mexico are touched by the volunteers and staff of the YWCA El Paso del Norte Region. Our local chapter places a great value on building up and strengthening families by providing women of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds with the support they need. Using a holistic approach, the services and programs of the YWCA El Paso del Norte Region promote the overall well-being of women and their families in order to provide opportunities for women to help themselves and each other. This unique environment allows women and girls from all walks of life to come together to develop life skills, as well as

discover and develop their personal strengths. All of these efforts lead to lasting positive changes in their lives and their entire communities.

The good work done by our local YWCA chapter has inspired many of my constituents to give back to their community through volunteer work and community service. In the El Paso region, over 200 volunteers generously dedicate more than 40,000 hours every year to the YWCA El Paso del Norte Region. One of the many important lessons this group of dedicated individuals has instilled in my community is that creating a stronger, more united community begins with building up our youth and their families.

Today, I am proud to recognize and express my deep gratitude for the 100 years of service and contributions of the YWCA El Paso del Norte Region. My Congressional district is fortunate to have an organization such as this one, and I am hopeful that the next 100 years will be as robust and successful as the first.

MS. KYANN McMILLIE—TEXAS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2004

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, El Paso, Texas has a history of producing strong, passionate, and caring educators who motivate and engage our children to become life-long learners. As a parent and grandparent, I am grateful for the contributions of our teachers in the El Paso area, and today I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Kyann McMillie, a teacher at Canutillo Elementary School in the Canutillo Independent School District, for being selected as the 2004 Texas Teacher of the Year. The Texas Teacher of the Year is the highest honor that the State of Texas can award to a teacher. Facilitated by the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Teacher of the Year Program annually recognizes and rewards teachers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching. Ms. Kyann McMillie represents the best of the best in the teaching profession, and we salute her energy, efforts, and dedication.

Ms. McMillie received a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education from Western New Mexico University and a Masters degree in education from The University of Texas at El Paso. Ms. Kyann McMillie's lifelong aspiration was to be an attorney or an accountant but she decided to pursue a career in teaching. She earned her teaching credentials and taught first and second grade at Canutillo Elementary School. Ms. McMillie says that, "patience and nurturing are key when dealing with children." She firmly believes that to understand another person, "we must understand the situation from which they come."

Ms. Kyann McMillie is part of a larger history of educational excellence in El Paso. I am proud to note that to date El Paso area educators have been chosen as Texas Teachers of the Year nine times. The National Teacher of the Year Program began in 1952 and continues as the oldest, most prestigious national honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching.

I am proud of the work of our teachers, and I am committed to ensuring that education remains a top priority in this Congress.

MS. DANA K. BOYD—TEXAS
TEACHER OF THE YEAR FOR 2007

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, the community of El Paso, Texas is extremely grateful for its teachers. The El Paso area has been recognized year after year for the great work our teachers do in the classroom. As a parent and grandparent, I am grateful for their contributions. Today, I want to acknowledge Ms. Dana K. Boyd, a teacher at Dolphin Terrace Elementary School in the Ysleta Independent School District, for being selected as the 2007 Texas Teacher of the Year. Facilitated by the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Teacher of the Year Program annually recognizes outstanding teachers who have demonstrated the kind of vision and excellence in teaching that is moving our education system forward. The Texas Teacher of the Year designation is the highest honor that the State of Texas can award to a teacher.

Ms. Boyd has taught first, second, and third grade at Dolphin Terrace Elementary since 1999. She seeks to create a relaxing, non-threatening environment in her classroom and has been noted to say: "my students know they are the brightest kids in the grade level [because] once they believe they are the smartest students in their hearts and minds . . . [I] am able [to set and] keep those high standards." She works hard to establish a sense of family in her classroom. Before school starts each year, Ms. Boyd calls each student and their family. On the first day of school, Ms. Boyd tells her students that "the people they are sitting next to are like a second family." Every three months, her class has a potluck luncheon and students and parents get to know each other better while sharing a meal. With this caring approach, she has helped her students deal with difficult situations, and she firmly believes that every teacher should treat each student as they would treat their own child.

Ms. Dana K. Boyd is part of a larger history of educational excellence in El Paso. I am proud to note that to date El Paso area educators have been chosen as Texas Teachers of the Year nine times. The National Teacher of the Year Program began in 1952 and continues as the oldest, most prestigious national honors program that focuses public attention on excellence in teaching.

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CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Canutillo Independent School Dis-

trict located in the Sixteenth Congressional District of Texas. This school district is celebrating its 50th anniversary on April 18, 2009. I was born and raised in Canutillo, and I have proudly represented the people of Canutillo for the past twelve years in Congress.

In 1959, the community of Canutillo worked diligently to establish a school district because too many students were forced to leave school after the eighth grade. Fifty years ago, the closest high school was 21 miles away, and many families could not afford to send their children to a distant school because no school buses were provided for high school students in Canutillo, and the community worked together to find a solution. The history of the Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) is a strong testament to us, the people of Canutillo, and our dedication and commitment to educational opportunities for students.

Our first superintendent, Joseph MacDougall, was committed to these values and laid a strong foundation for the school district. Mr. MacDougall initiated much needed social services, including youth sports programs, health services for the elderly, and the Head Start initiative for pre-school children. In 1963, Canutillo ISD graduated its first senior class, and by 1964, student enrollment reached 1,013 students.

The district faced and overcame significant challenges during the early years. At one point 36 community residents borrowed \$1,000 each from the Coronado State Bank and loaned those funds to the district so that it could make payroll for faculty and staff. In 1965 there was a hepatitis outbreak that forced Canutillo ISD to shut down its water wells until the source of the disease was identified and nearly every student in the district was inoculated as a precaution. This led El Paso to extend water services to portions of Canutillo. In 1966 there was an attempt by the Anthony School District to annex about five acres of Canutillo ISD land. The issue was settled when State Education Commissioner J.W. Edgar ruled in favor of Canutillo. This case is the basis for landmark state legislation which prohibits one school district from annexing the property of another without an agreement between both school boards. Overcoming these challenges was difficult, but the community and the school district are stronger because of them.

And that community support has never wavered as demonstrated by the 1999 ballot initiative in which 96 percent of voters passed a referendum to build a new high school. In April 2003, Canutillo ISD voters again gave their vote of confidence and passed another bond issue for district-wide maintenance and renovation projects. The new Canutillo High School opened in January 2006 with nearly 1,300 students; the population has now grown to 1,600.

The community of Canutillo knew 50 years ago that investing in our children's education would pay dividends in the future, particularly for underprivileged students. Today, we can see the results of those efforts. Our graduates proudly serve in occupations ranging from military and law enforcement officers, to doctors, nurses, judges, professors and school principals.

As a member of the second graduating class of Canutillo High School, it is my honor to congratulate the school board, faculty, and