

almost every essential aspect of the Harbor's functioning over the last two decades. He was responsible for developing and implementing several major projects in the Harbor, including the reconstruction of the South T-Pier, rebuilding the Beach Street slips, dredging the City Mooring area, the North T-Pier re-decking project, and the Fisherman's Gear Storage building.

Mr. Algert has also been the voice of the Harbor and has been its tireless advocate at the local, state and federal levels. He has been instrumental in keeping the City Council abreast of important issues like economic development and federal dredging dollars. And he was a consistent advocate for our local fishing families, representing their views at meetings throughout the country. Finally, he maintained a balanced budget and aimed to provide the highest level of service and efficiency from the Harbor Department and Harbor Patrol, and he did so with no revenue derived from taxes, which stands as a testament to his skill as a public servant.

I commend Mr. Algert's gift of talent, passion, and his devotion to service. His work has been central to helping our waterfront communities flourish in difficult times. I feel deeply honored to share this community with Rick Algert and I have seen first hand the effect of his work on Morro Bay. I wish him much happiness and much deserved relaxation in retirement, knowing fully that he will remain deeply connected to our community, its businesses, Harbor tenants and boat owners.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5175) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5175, the Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections, or DISCLOSE Act. This legislation addresses serious concerns raised by the recent Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United v. FEC* by increasing transparency in our electoral process. My colleague from Maryland, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and my fellow New Yorker, Senator SCHUMER deserve thanks for their leadership on this issue.

The recent Supreme Court ruling grants even greater influence to powerful special interests—effectively drowning out the voices of average Americans. This legislation provides voters with the opportunity to make informed decisions—shedding light on the millions of dollars being spent with the intent to influence elections and politicians in Washington.

The DISCLOSE Act eliminates “pay-to-play” by preventing government contractors—and

TARP recipients—from spending money on elections. The bill extends the current ban on political spending by foreign nationals to include domestic corporations controlled by foreign nationals, requires corporate CEOs to stand by their political ads in the same way candidates must, and enhances disclosure requirements for political expenditures by organizations who lobby government officials.

The legislation before us today is not a perfect bill, but it is a necessary first step to rein in the influence of special interests in our political process. The American people are greatly concerned by the recent Supreme Court ruling, and they rightly fear that only big money and special interests get a hearing in Washington. Passage of the DISCLOSE Act will bring transparency and accountability to campaigns and ensure Americans' voices are not drowned out by corporate dollars.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF ADDISON, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of Addison, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

In 1883, the Village of Addison was settled by Hezekiah Dunklee and Mason Smith. In 1884, Addison was incorporated, and Henry Buchholz became its first Mayor. The election had a modest turnout, with only 28 votes being cast.

In the years since its humble founding, Addison has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Over the years, Addison has developed a well-deserved reputation as an enjoyable place to live, work and raise a family.

On the occasion of this 125th anniversary, we join together to celebrate Addison's legacy of growth and prosperity, and to look ahead to the opportunities the future holds for our local community and our Nation. Today both marks 125 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me on this special occasion in offering well wishes and happiness to Addison Village President Larry Hartwig, the Village Board of Trustees and all the citizens of Addison.

KUWAIT AND GULF LINK TRANSPORT COMPANY (KGL)

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, as you know, the issue of negligence by Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Company (KGL) was brought to my attention by the family of the

late Colonel Dominic (Rocky) Baragona. The tragic death of Lieutenant Colonel Dominic Baragona, Jr., occurred on May 19, 2003 on a road in Iraq. His death was caused by the simple, avoidable negligence of a tractor trailer truck owned by KGL, the predecessor company to an enormous group of international Kuwaiti companies, which have and continue to perform large U.S. government contracts potentially worth billions of U.S. dollars and with a vital mission. KGL's tractor trailer careened across three lanes of a highway in the middle of a clear, sunny day and destroyed the Humvee in which Colonel Baragona was riding. At the time of his death, Colonel Baragona had served honorably during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was on his way home to his family. KGL's subsequent conduct in the case brought against them led the Honorable William Duffey, Jr., the U.S. federal judge hearing the case, to write the following in his decision on the case:

“[A]s the Court communicated to the parties in the December 2008 hearing, KGL's conduct in this case was indignant and callous. KGL derived substantial revenue from its contracts with the United States Army. KGL and other Kuwaitis received unquantifiable benefits from the protection the United States Armed Forces have provided to Kuwait for over fifteen years. For KGL to then turn a blind eye to the death caused by a KGL employee of a United States service member, who was on duty protecting the region at the time of the incident, is an affront to the solemn sacrifices service members such as Lt. Col. Baragona honorably provided to Iraq and the citizens of other countries in the Middle East region. KGL took this callousness even further by causing Plaintiffs to expend nearly four years and significant expense in merely getting the question of jurisdiction before the Court. The Court implored KGL to work with Plaintiffs to fashion a just resolution in this case, but this request was ignored.”

I agree. The Baragonas commenced litigation, established a prima facie case of in personum jurisdiction over KGL and endured the personal rigors of the litigation. This burden includes giving testimony during a damages hearing, only to discover that KGL's apparent strategy was to cause the Baragona family to expend their resources for years. This despite the fact that KGL intended to challenge the judgment after it issued in the same court that KGL assiduously ignored during the years of litigation and several notices of the court case and its proceedings. The emotional burden borne by the family of the deceased serviceman was very high; the long years of litigation over their son's death in combination with the sudden entry of the defendant and the challenge to the judgment is not a cost that should be ignored or encouraged.

In the course of the Baragonas' quest for justice against KGL, the family gathered evidence from credible news reports and other sources that KGL has a subsidiary, Combined Shipping Company, which is a partner with ValFajr Shipping Company, a subsidiary of Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (“IRISL”), a company banned by the U.S. Treasury and now the named subject of the recently announced U.N. sanctions on Iran. We do not have any evidence that KGL's subsidiary has participated with IRISL in sending explosives into Iraq to kill US service personnel. However, it is often true that

proliferators of Iranian WMDs, like IRISL, are directed by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, which also controls the Iranian funding, training and provisioning of the insurgents in Iraq who have been killing and wounding U.S. service personnel with Iranian-manufactured explosives over the past several years. No U.S. government contractor, or any member of its corporate family doing any business with Iranian companies blacklisted by the U.N. and the U.S. Treasury, should be considered “responsible corporate parties” as defined by the Federal Acquisition Regulations. This section will force KGL and all U.S. contractors to decide whether they will support Iran or the U.S., and the Congress will closely monitor the enforcement of this section.

Treasury Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Stuart Levey recently submitted written testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on “Iran Policy in the Aftermath of U.N. Sanctions”. In this testimony he stated: “[w]e also took action under 13382 to prevent IRISL from carrying out activities to evade sanctions . . . Since we designated IRISL for sanctions in 2008, it has desperately attempted to evade those sanctions, setting up new front companies and renaming and even repainting ships to hide their true ownership.”

Importantly, this section finally permits the Procurement Fraud Debarment Branch of the U.S. Army to take action against KGL. The Baragona family notified the Army of these facts on April 29, 2010. On June 11, 2010 the Army sent a letter to the counsel for the Baragonas to notify them of the Army’s receipt of the information but no action has yet been taken. I would appreciate this body’s interest and support in compelling the Army to move to debar KGL as a result of its ties to Iranian proliferators of weapons of mass destruction. For the above reasons, this miscarriage of justice and threat to our national security cannot be allowed to continue.

A TRIBUTE TO BEL BRANDS USA

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bel Brands USA and its Leitchfield plant located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This month, Bel Brands USA, which specializes in the creation and production of quality cheeses, is celebrating its 40th Anniversary.

In 1970 the company established a plant in Leitchfield, Ky., and has been manufacturing quality cheese products ever since. Bel Brands USA’s Leitchfield facility is a prominent employer in Grayson County and is expected to produce 33,800,000 pounds of cheese this year.

The plant has grown exponentially since its establishment 40 years ago. Currently, the plant employs 370 individuals between two production departments and covers an area of almost 190,000 square feet.

Bel Brands USA and its Leitchfield facility have remained committed to hard work and creativity. With 25 production sites worldwide, Bel Brands USA promotes their core values in the workplace and throughout the community.

Ethics, innovation, competence, cohesion and enthusiasm have contributed to the company’s many accomplishments.

The entire Grayson County community is grateful for Bel Brands USA’s continued presence, support and generosity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the employees of Bel Brands USA. I am proud to represent them here in Washington and look forward to their continued success.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF MR. AND MRS. SGRO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Albert and Vera Sgro as they celebrate their platinum wedding anniversary on June 29, 2010.

Seventy years of marriage is a truly remarkable accomplishment; in this time they have raised two sons, been grandparents to four children and now have four great-grandchildren. Except for eight years on a farm in Medina, Mr. and Mrs. Sgro have always lived in Cleveland. Mr. Sgro’s parents emigrated from Italy and Mrs. Sgro’s ancestors hail from Bohemia. They attended Cleveland schools, met at a dance, and have been inseparable ever since. They continue to be the hearts and souls of their family and remain active in the lives of their children, David and his wife Louise, Jerry and his wife Heather; their grandchildren, David, Shelly, Max and Anthony; and their great-grandchildren, Brittney, Jeremy, Alex and Nicholas.

Mr. and Mrs. Sgro live life with great energy, enthusiasm and joy. They are kind, generous, outgoing and have a great sense of humor. Like any couple of seventy years they also share many interests: gardening, traveling and reading to name a few. Every year, Mr. and Mrs. Sgro grow enough fresh vegetables and flowers for themselves, their children, friends and neighbors. Mrs. Sgro is an excellent cook and baker; she is well known locally for her pies—especially her rhubarb pie, which she makes with rhubarb straight from their garden.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring, recognizing and celebrating Albert and Vera Sgro as they reach their platinum wedding anniversary. Their ongoing love for each other, and for their family and friends, acts as a beacon of hope. I wish Mr. and Mrs. Sgro continuing health, happiness and peace.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION AND LEADERSHIP OF DR. SALLY RIDE

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the amazing accomplishments and life-long dedication of Dr. Sally Ride on the anniversary of the 1983 Challenger journey that established her as the first American woman to travel into space. Since that jour-

ney, Dr. Ride, a distinguished educator and scientist, has dedicated her life to improving science education.

Dr. Ride received her bachelor’s degree, Master’s and PhD in Physics from Stanford University. In the Stanford University paper, she saw an advertisement that NASA was seeking astronauts. Out of thousands of applicants, she was one of 35 candidates chosen for the space program. On June 18, 1983, Dr. Ride joined the crew aboard the space shuttle Challenger and, twenty-seven years ago on this date, became the first American woman to travel into space. After two journeys to space, she was preparing for her third mission when the Challenger exploded in 1986. Dr. Ride continued to work with NASA by serving as a member of the Presidential Committee investigating the Challenger accident, and went on to serve as Special Assistant to the Administrator for long-range planning at NASA headquarters.

Dr. Ride continued her life-long commitment to promoting the fields of science, math, and technology, especially among young women by founding the Sally Ride Science Company in 2001. Dr. Ride wanted to share her passion and encourage young women to pursue careers in these fields. The company creates school programs and educational materials aimed at engaging young people’s interest in these fields and changing society’s perceptions of women in the math, science, and technology workforce.

Madam Speaker, Central Florida is so proud of the space program and we recognize that its success would not be possible without the dedication of Dr. Ride. As a member of the Science and Technology committee, I have great respect and admiration for her contributions, not only to the space program, but also her work to motivate young people’s interest in science. While Dr. Ride will always be known as the first American woman to travel into space, her commitment to advancing the education of future generations of young women ensure there will be many to follow.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5175) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5175, the Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light On Spending in Elections (DISCLOSE) Act and I urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill that will improve transparency and accountability in our federal elections. I would like to thank Chairman BRADY and Congressman VAN HOLLEN for their efforts to quickly move this bill to the floor.