

current political leadership of the EPA has chosen a different path, one that on a daily basis adds more and more to the regulatory nightmare that rural America faces in its fight to survive under this administration.

It is now up to the Congress to fix this problem before the EPA imposes this new bureaucracy on American agriculture. I am pleased to offer this legislative fix and invite all of my colleagues to cosponsor this bill.

COMMEMORATING AUGUST 15TH AS INDIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate August 15th as Indian Independence Day—a day for all Americans to honor the hardships and sacrifices that paved the road to Indian freedom.

After centuries of struggle and suffering under British rule, India won its independence from Great Britain on August 15th, 1947. Just as America struggled to achieve independence, thousands of Indian freedom fighters died in their efforts to attain sovereignty for India.

Coincidentally, my own birthday falls on this same day as the birth of the world's largest democracy, and I am pleased to share in the celebration.

Americans of Indian descent have made countless and distinguished contributions to the United States in numerous fields, including business, education, medicine, science, and public service. Nowhere is this more evident than in the 13th District of Illinois, which is home to a thriving Indian-American community deeply rooted in the traditions of Indian culture.

To honor this day, the city of Naperville, Illinois will conduct a flag ceremony as a tribute to India's independence and will host a cultural celebration to commemorate the occasion with traditional patriotic dances and youth performances.

Madam Speaker, let us join with Americans of Indian origin from across the country to celebrate Indian Independence Day and take this opportunity to appreciate the rich culture, traditions, and history that have contributed so much to the United States of America. I invite my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me, Naperville Mayor George Pradel, and the residents of the 13th Congressional District in celebration of India's Independence Day.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INCORPORATION TRANSPARENCY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Incorporation Transparency and Law Enforcement Assistance Act. The bill would require the States to obtain in-

formation about the true ownership of the corporation, when they allow someone to create a corporate entity. As some have put it, this bill is a "no-brainer." And it is fairly straightforward: it would require that the person creating the corporation to state the "beneficial owner" of the corporation and provide some form of identification.

Although this is as straightforward as it sounds, the implications for law enforcement are broad reaching. Criminal organizations are infamous for using shell corporations, both foreign and domestic to open bank accounts, launder money, perpetrate fraud, and finance terrorism. And it isn't difficult for them to do. Virtually no States require people applying to create corporations to provide the identity of the corporate owner. In fact, 48 of 50 States, except for Alabama and Alaska, allow for the unfettered creation of an anonymous corporate entity. As a result, just about anyone can easily manipulate the system to fund criminal activity.

Here is an example from a recent investigation in NY by the Manhattan District Attorney. The office announced investigations involving the movement of funds through banks in NY by entities controlled by the Iranian Military. In at least two cases, domestic shell companies were opened in two different States to further secret Iranian interests. Through a NY shell company, individuals working on behalf of the government of Iran were able to move funds to secret accounts held in offshore jurisdictions. Shockingly, the offshore government was able to give the Manhattan DA more information about the ownership of the NY entity than the State of NY could.

Although the DA does not contend that requiring a declaration of beneficial ownership would have stopped this activity, it would have at least been a piece of evidence to go on. And if the declaration of beneficial ownership had been required but falsified, it would have been an extra tool for law enforcement to shut down the entity and prosecute the perpetrators.

The bill I am introducing today will provide the kind of transparency that law enforcement needs to investigate financial crimes. However, it is narrowly drafted so that it is not overly burdensome on either States or incorporating entities. In fact, most corporations would be exempt from the bill's requirements including companies that are already regulated by federal banking regulators and companies that are over 20 employees. This bill is meant to capture beneficial ownership information from companies that are able to escape regulation and oversight through other federal entities.

Senator LEVIN has already introduced a similar bill in the Senate, and President Obama was the lead sponsor when he was a U.S. Senator. It is supported by numerous law enforcement associations, including the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys, the National Narcotic Officers' Associations Coalition, the United States Marshals Service Association, and the Association of Former ATF Agents.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

HONORING THE TOWN OF UPTON, MAINE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Town of Upton, Maine as it celebrates its sesquicentennial on August 21, 2010.

Upton was incorporated February 9, 1860, prior to which it was known as Letter B. Plantation. In 1870, the population was 187 people; and in 1880, the population grew to 245 people. The Town of Upton now boasts 64 full-time residents.

The citizens of this small town have experienced their fair share of history, both within the State of Maine and the greater United States. During the Civil War, 16 soldiers from the town left to fight for the Union; six did not return. Today, the town continues to attract residents and visitors with its beautiful location and the outdoor recreation in the Umbagog Region. Author Richard E. Pinette described the Upton area as, "nature's playground with a rich forestland heritage."

Upton is steeped in the history of logging days and working forests and will honor its traditions on August 21, with an event recognizing Upton's history and celebrating with events such as a horseshoe tournament, skillet throwing contests, a quilt display, a spinning demonstration and a town-wide square dance in the evening.

I am pleased to share in the celebration as Upton looks back on 150 years of rich and varied history.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing all the citizens of Upton, Maine well on this joyous occasion.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL AN- NIVERSARY OF THE PUBLICA- TION OF "OLD MOTHER WEST WIND"

HON. BILL DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the publication of "Old Mother West Wind," the hallmark nature book penned by author and naturalist Thornton W. Burgess. The first of over 150 nature books and 15,000 stories, Burgess' "Old Mother West Wind" introduced children to a wide variety of local animals, their habits, and habitats. These engaging stories of the natural world have helped generations of children gain a greater understanding of the timeless importance of conservation of our natural resources and a love of wildlife.

A native of Sandwich, Massachusetts, Thornton Burgess (1875–1965) went on to achieve national and international recognition for these children's stories and his monumental leadership and initiatives in preserving our Nation's natural heritage. For 100 years, generations of children throughout the world have grown up with Old Mother West Wind. Her Merry Little Breezes skipping across the meadows, Peter Rabbit and his animal

friends—including Jimmy Skunk, Grandfather Frog, Johnny Chuck, Sammy Jay, Reddy Fox, Hooty Owl, and many others—continue today to both regale and teach us about our natural surroundings.

These characters have become friends to children and adults alike. Their antics, questions of “why” and “how,” and their love for one another, demonstrate and teach the value of our natural heritage. They stimulate and fascinate children’s interests in the natural world, all the while constantly reminding parents and adults of the importance of preserving and conserving our natural heritage for future generations.

Thornton W. Burgess’ work is continued today through the non-profit Thornton W. Burgess Society, headquartered in his native town of Sandwich. As we celebrate the centennial anniversary of “Old Mother West Wind,” I salute the Thornton W. Burgess Society for its preservation of the writings, teachings, and memorabilia of a pioneer environmentalist; its mission of inspiring reverence of wildlife and concern for the natural environment; for its operation of the Thornton W. Burgess Museum, Green Briar Nature Center and Shirley G. Cross Wildflower Garden, and the many programs and exhibits it provides in conjunction with their operation; and its 34 years of promoting the study of the natural sciences and environmental education in the schools of Cape Cod and throughout southeastern Massachusetts.

HONORING A TRULY OUTSTANDING LEADER, CAPTAIN STEVEN POULIN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding, dedicated service of Captain Steven D. Poulin, USGC, Commander of Coast Guard Sector Mobile, Alabama, from 2009 to 2010. Coast Guard Sector Mobile is one of the largest operations commands in the Coast Guard and is home to 750 personnel and 50 cutters and other vessels.

On July 9, 2010, Captain Poulin left the command of the USGC station in Mobile to assume sole duties as local incident commander for the Unified Command. In this capacity, Captain Poulin continues to marshal Coast Guard resources in the federal response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, which has been such an economic and environmental challenge to America’s Gulf Coast since the explosion occurred on April 20.

Specifically, Captain Poulin has led the relief effort along coastal Alabama, Mississippi and the Florida panhandle.

During his command of Sector Mobile, Captain Poulin demonstrated a level of professionalism and dedication to duty in keeping with the finest traditions of the Coast Guard. He was not only the leader of an important local defense installation, but also a visible and respected member of our community.

In fact, Captain Poulin has been a welcome presence in South Alabama for many years. Prior to assuming the command of Sector Mobile, he served in Mobile during earlier assign-

ments as Deputy Commander, from 2007 to 2009, and as Law Enforcement Officer and Assistant Operations Officer from 1986 to 1989.

Captain Poulin’s extensive service record also includes assignments as Deputy Commander of the Coast Guard Group Galveston, Texas, from 1996 to 1999, and Special Adviser for Border and Transportation Security for Vice President Richard Cheney from 2005 to 2007. From 2003 to 2005, he was Coast Guard liaison to the State Department’s Office of Oceans Affairs. He also served as Legal Counsel for the Coast Guard’s Port Security Director from 2002 to 2003, and Legislative Counsel in the Coast Guard’s Office of Congressional Affairs from 1999 to 2001.

A 1984 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Captain Poulin was awarded his Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from the Miami School of Law in 1992.

Although he will soon be leaving the Mobile area for a new assignment, he will continue to use his tremendous skills and dedication to country as the Coast Guard’s new director of Congressional Affairs in Washington.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish to thank Captain Poulin for a job well done. Furthermore, I offer our heartfelt gratitude to his wonderful wife, Sherry, and their two children, Steven and Erin, for the sacrifices they have made as a family while their husband and father has admirably served his country with such distinction.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF SAREN H. SIMITIAN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable life of Saren H. Simitian, a resident of California’s 14th Congressional District, who died on June 24, 2010. His 88 years were characterized by an intense passion for teaching, for traveling, and for engaging with those around him.

Born to Armenian immigrants in Jersey City, New Jersey, Saren Simitian quickly proved himself a promising intellectual and citizen of the world. He served in the Army during World War II, and attended New York University on the GI Bill. Saren went on to earn a Master’s Degree in history from Colorado University and began studying for his Ph.D at the University of Wisconsin before taking a different path and moving to California, where he later received a Master’s Degree in Library Science from San Jose State University.

Settling in the Bay Area, Saren Simitian embarked on a long and loving educational career. He taught social studies at Palo Alto High School for over two decades where he was known as a tough but well-liked teacher, deeply committed to all of his students. In his spare time, Saren taught English to Stanford students at the Bechtel International Center, and tutored with Project Read in Menlo Park. An educator to the last, Saren taught English in Beijing for six months a year well into his eighties.

In one of his most important lessons, Saren Simitian taught his son Joseph that “you can’t get a hit with the bat on your shoulder.” Tak-

ing his father’s advice, Joe Simitian went on to a distinguished career in public service, serving on the Palo Alto School Board, the Palo Alto City Council, and the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors before being elected to the California State Assembly and State Senate. Taking his own advice, Saren dedicated himself to a lifetime of eclectic pursuits, shouldering a backpack instead of a bat and traveling the world.

Well-read and worldly, Saren Simitian traversed more terrain after his retirement than most people half his age. His wanderlust took him to visit friends, relatives, and his grandparents’ graves, always acquiring new friends and new stories. He walked across Portugal twice, first from top to bottom, and then east to west a decade later. Seeking adventure on multiple continents, Saren fell into a ditch in Eastern Europe, was mugged in Asia, and nearly drowned in Australia. Despite these mishaps, his family noted, he “never slowed down, never lost his passion for people and places.” Saren’s adventurous lifestyle no doubt owed in part to his healthy habits of eating homemade yogurt and exercising whenever possible, kept his mind as fit as his body.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathies to Saren Simitian’s family. He is survived by his son, the Honorable S. Joseph Simitian, and his daughter-in-law, Mary Hughes. A man whose far-flung journeys never took him far from his core values, Saren Simitian taught in order to travel and traveled in order to teach, enriching everyone he met with his unique outlook on life and his singular sense of the world.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR PAKISTANI FLOOD VICTIMS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 10, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer my deepest condolences to the victims of the recent flooding in Pakistan, which is the worst this country has seen in 80 years. A monsoon that began at the end of July has resulted in at least 1,500 lives being lost, countless more missing or trapped, and at least three million people being displaced. It is estimated that up to half of those affected by the disaster are children. Critical infrastructure, crops, and homes have been destroyed and aid to impoverished areas has been disrupted. As the Pakistani people recover from this devastation, they should know that the United States stands with them and is ready to provide assistance.

There are immediate needs that must be addressed, such as supplying food, clean drinking water, basic shelter, disease prevention, and the rebuilding of roads and bridges. I am heartened by the efforts from the Pakistani government, the United States, the United Nations, philanthropic organizations, and charitable donations from private citizens across the world.

The United States has acted swiftly by committing \$35 million, as well as humanitarian aid experts and essential supplies, to assist Pakistani citizens affected by the flooding. The United States Army is providing four Chinook