

crashed into American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga, sweeping cars and people out to sea as survivors fled to high ground. In American Samoa, many children running for home unknowingly ran in the direction of the tsunami.

Entire villages in American Samoa and the neighboring islands of Samoa and Tonga were devastated by the disaster. In response, the United States answered with a generous and heartfelt outpouring of aid.

As we pause to remember the lives lost and the families impacted, I want to once more publicly thank President Obama for his leadership during this tragedy. The Obama Administration continues to stand with us and, on behalf of all Samoans, I thank the Administration for its swift response.

I also want to thank U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for her unwavering support. At my request and the request of Congresswoman Laura Richardson, Secretary Clinton authorized the immediate airlift of 92,000 pounds of emergency supplies collected by Samoan and non-Samoan communities in the Los Angeles, California area as well as by our Samoan and Tongan communities in Salt Lake City and St. George, Utah under the direction of Reverend Elder Liki Tiatia, Reverend Dr. John Mailo, Reverend Dr. Mispouena Tagalao, High Chief Loa Pele Faletogo, and HC Papali'i Misiona Patane.

In American Samoa, a team of more than 300 responders from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the American Red Cross, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other Federal agencies coordinated relief and recovery operations.

The United States Navy, the United States Coast Guard, the Hawaii Air National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve American Samoa provided critical transport of the life-saving and life-sustaining supplies and equipment to meet the immediate needs of the survivors, including more than 26,000 meals, 14,000 liters of water, 1,800 blankets, 800 tents, more than 800 cots, and 9 pallets of medical supplies and medical equipment in support of American Samoa's mass care operations.

The U.S. Department of Labor released over \$24 million in National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds to assist clean-up and recovery efforts in American Samoa, although an average disaster NEG is only about \$5 million.

FEMA has projected, or set aside, over \$155 million for recovery efforts. So far, about \$65 million has been obligated and about \$45 million has been disbursed pending action from the applicant to define scopes of work or provide information necessary to clear environmental compliance.

Of this \$155 million set-aside, FEMA has projected that about \$77 million will be used for infrastructure. Of this \$77 million, \$15 million has been obligated, but only \$7 million has been disbursed. According to FEMA, the program is based on reimbursement so FEMA cannot disburse until the American Samoa Government (ASG) requests a manual draw-down based on receipts submitted.

Regarding housing, FEMA initiated a pilot program and planned two phases of construction. Phase 1 required the construction of 8 homes and 10 additional site preparations. All of this work is completed and the 8 homes are occupied. Costs for Phase 1 are still being finalized.

A contract award for Phase 2 is expected to occur in early October with ground-breaking

expected to take place in mid-to-late October. A local business is expected to be issued the contract award for Phase 2. 33 homes are expected to be constructed in Phase 2. Overall, the entire pilot program currently stands at 41 homes.

The U.S. Congress also set aside an additional \$1.2 million to provide direct assistance to ASG for the disaster through the U.S. Department of the Interior.

In addition to more than \$200 million federal dollars described above, Samoan students at the Wentworth Military Academy collected \$32,000. They donated \$15,000 in cash to the American Samoa Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (ASVOAD) and the remaining amount was given to their families in American Samoa, and also used to provide airfare for the students to visit their families during the time of the disaster. I am so proud of these students who showed true leadership and courage in the face of adversity.

Some of my dearest friends and acquaintances also came to our aid. Without being asked, they contacted my office immediately after the tragedy wanting to make donations and help in whatever way they could.

For historical purposes, I am listing their names below because no act of kindness should ever pass by without sincere acknowledgment to the persons, governments and organizations who gave so generously. They are:

Chairman Li Ka Shing (Li Ka Shing Foundation) (Presented to PM Tuilaepa on behalf of the people of American Samoa)—\$100,000.

Chairman Li Ka Shing (Li Ka Shing Foundation) (Presented to Am. Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery Program)—\$150,000.

Chairman Seung-Youn Kim (Hanwha Group) (presented to American Samoa Red Cross: \$62,985 for caskets of deceased in Am. Samoa; \$37,015 remainder to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—\$100,000.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Republic of Kazakhstan (Presented to Am. Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery)—\$50,000.

Government of Thailand (Presented to Am. Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery Program)—\$15,000.

Government of Taiwan (Presented to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—\$10,000.

Mr. Raymond Calamaro, Esq. (D.C. Attorney) (Presented to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—\$1,000.

Mr. Steven Kirchof (Florida Businessman) (Presented to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—\$1,000.

Also, I again want to make special mention of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton who really fought to make an airlift possible.

DC10 Charter flight (authorized by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for shipment of 92,000 pounds of aid to Apia, Samoa)—\$300,000.

Total—\$727,000.

While American Samoa is now on the road to recovery, there is still much work to be done. But with the faith and support and prayers of our people and with the additional funds ASG is receiving from the federal government as a result of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA), we have every opportunity to forge ahead and become stronger than before, and I thank my colleagues for standing with American Samoa.

DEMANDING JUSTICE FOR RUSSIAN WHISTLEBLOWER SERGEI MAGNITSKY AND REFORM OF RUSSIAN PRISON SYSTEM

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the "Justice for Sergei Magnitsky Act of 2010" in the House. This bill is the result of a recent hearing I chaired as Co-Chairman of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on the human rights situation in the Russian Federation. During this important hearing, the Commission heard extraordinary testimony regarding an extraordinary senior Russian lawyer and tax advisor, Sergei Leonidovich Magnitsky, who vigorously represented his client, the Hermitage Capital Ltd/HSBC, before the relevant Russian authorities regarding the fraudulent take-over of Hermitage subsidiaries and an elaborate tax fraud scheme which was designed to defraud the Russian Treasury of an estimated of 5.4 billion rubles (USD \$230 million).

Mr. Magnitsky testified before the Investigative Committee of the Russian Prosecutor Office on June 5, 2008 and October 7, 2008, and specifically implicated Lt. Colonel Artem Kuznetsov and Major Pavel Karpov of the Interior Ministry in the fraud scheme, among other officials. In a Kafkaesque turn of events, instead of investigating those officials, the Ministry of Interior charged Mr. Magnitsky with tax fraud and arrested him on November 24, 2008 and placed him in Moscow's pre-trial detention facility of the Moscow Branch of the Interior Ministry on the orders of Major Oleg Silchenko. Despite the fact that Lt. Colonel Kuznetsov's was implicated in the fraud scheme, he served as a senior member of the investigation team responsible for Mr. Magnitsky during the nearly one year pre-trial detention.

While Mr. Magnitsky was in good health before he was arrested, only five months into his detention, his health deteriorated significantly. On July 1, 2009, Mr. Magnitsky was given an ultrasound to identify the cause of his medical symptoms and a surgeon diagnosed him with "calculous cholecystitis" and ordered another ultrasound, which was to be followed by surgery within a month. One week before his scheduled treatment, on July 25, 2009, and fully aware of Mr. Magnitsky's medical condition, Ivan Pavlovich Prokopenko, head of the pre-trial detention facility Matrosskaya Tishina, approved the transfer of Mr. Magnitsky to Butyrka Prison (Detention Center 77/2). Detention Center 77/2 did not have the appropriate medical facilities to allow Mr. Magnitsky the prescribed medical treatment and necessary surgery. Despite his medical condition, Mr. Magnitsky was not examined by a doctor upon his arrival at the Detention Center 77/2. He was subsequently transferred to eight different cells, with each transfer a marked health deterioration as a result. Undeterred, Mr. Magnitsky testified again on October 13, 2009 concerning the complicity of Interior Ministry officials in the theft of 5.4 billion rubles from the Treasury and accused them of investigating him in retaliation for his testimonies. On November 11, 2009, Mr. Magnitsky filed a petition with the interior Ministry and the court

stating his determination to bring to trial officials who falsified the case against him. On November 13, 2009, he wrote petitions in which he stated that he had been transferred again to a new cell during the night, and that he was intentionally deprived of sleep and hot food. As a result he developed acute pain and vomiting and insisted on seeing a doctor and an ultrasound examination that was prescribed to him in July 2009. This examination was never carried out. After having been denied medical treatment for four months, Mr. Magnitsky's condition became critical and he died on November 16, 2009.

Madam Speaker, this injustice cannot stand. And while no words will comfort the painful loss of the Magnitsky family—Sergei is survived by his wife and two children—his case at least got international exposure because of the wherewithal and connections of his employer, Hermitage Capital Management of London. In that aspect, Sergei's case is similar to that of Mikhail Khodorkovsky and the Yukos case. But how many unknown Sergei Magnitskys and Mikhail Khodorkovskys languish unjustly in Russian prisons because of corruption? How many voices critical of the Russian government have been silenced this way?

Madam Speaker, the Russian Federation remains a crucial world power of critical importance to the United States in vital policy areas, including, but not limited to, nuclear proliferation issues such as in Iran and North Korea, disarmament agreements, global warming, the war on terror, and the international economic crisis. I therefore applaud our Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for working hard to strengthen and deepen our ties with Russia and the Russian people, which reflect the important role Russia continues to play today.

I believe that my bill directly contributes to those deepening ties by establishing human rights accountability. Under my bill, the individuals who have—in the determination of our Secretary of State—directly contributed to the death of Sergei Magnitsky will be put on a visa ban list until they have been thoroughly investigated. It further requires the Russian government to undertake significant reform steps to bring the Russian prison system into compliance with international standards. We must ensure that these perpetrators do not get rewarded with shopping trips on New York's Fifth Avenue or elsewhere in the U.S.—that is the least we can do for Sergei. Furthermore, my bill will ensure that no U.S. bank accounts can be used to transfer the ill-gotten spoils of this fraud, and any such assets are frozen, so they can be returned to their rightful owner, the Russian people.

TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 (H.R. 5297). This legislation will extend much needed credit and reduce taxes for small businesses all across the country.

Small businesses are the engine of job creation in our economy and are playing a crucial role in helping America recover from the worst recession in 75 years. Still, small main street businesses are struggling to expand due to a lack of credit. The Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 (H.R. 5297) helps small businesses expand by creating a new \$30 billion fund for small and medium-sized community banks. This fund is expected to leverage up to \$300 billion in small business lending.

The economic impact of this legislation would be significant. It will create up to 500,000 jobs and provide loan guarantees to approximately 8,000 community banks. H.R. 5297 provides \$12 billion in tax breaks for small businesses, including write-offs on capital investments and credits for new hires. More importantly, his bill will not add a dime to the deficit because it is fully paid for by closing tax loopholes.

Congressional Republicans repeatedly say they support small businesses while at the same time deliberately delaying and obstructing this legislation, which cuts taxes and expands access to credit for small businesses. When our economy is recovering and small businesses need access to credit, new American jobs should not fall victim to the gridlock caused by Republicans in Congress.

There is no question in my mind that we will get America's economy back. Until credit is flowing and houses are selling, until customers are confident and job creation is back on track, I will continue to take actions that place our country on a sustained path of broad-based economic growth.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for the Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010.

HONORING UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE CAPTAIN STEVEN M. CARLEY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Navy Reserve Captain Steven M. Carley, who retired after 39 years of service in August 2010. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Captain Carley for his commitment to our Nation.

Captain Carley enlisted in the Navy Reserve in 1968 and began his career at Sand Point Naval Air Station in Seattle, WA. After 13 years of enlisted service working in intelligence, Captain Carley was commissioned in November 1984 and became an Intelligence Officer in the Navy Reserve. Over the course of his career, he was assigned to multiple units where he served in a range of roles from Intelligence Analyst to Executive Officer. Additionally, Captain Carley participated in five major joint exercises in Korea as well as annual overseas training in Germany and Japan.

Captain Carley's achievements are remarkable and plenty. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

Captain Carley currently resides in Olympia, WA where he serves his community through various community service projects and his

position with the Washington State Department of Ecology, where he manages the water pollution control grant program.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Captain Steven M. Carley on his many remarkable achievements, his venerable service to his country, and his retirement after 39 years with the United States Navy Reserve.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 847, JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Motion to Recommit H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

I believe that our current medical malpractice system is in need of reform. Rising medical liability premiums are threatening trauma centers, emergency rooms and obstetrician-gynecological practices and the patients they serve, causing some to shut their doors because they cannot afford the cost or risk of treating patients. To help address this issue, I have repeatedly voted for legislation that would reform our medical malpractice system by, among other things, placing a cap of \$250,000 on noneconomic and punitive damages as well as limiting lawyers' contingent fees.

While the flawed Motion to Recommit H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act includes important provisions to help avoid frivolous medical malpractice lawsuits, it would also eliminate important delivery system reforms recently enacted in the health care reform law. This includes eliminating the Independent Payment Advisory Board which is charged with developing recommendations about innovative ways to better control costs both in public and private health programs while also ensuring that care is improved. In addition, I believe that comparative effectiveness research holds the potential to improve quality by helping doctors and patients determine the most effective treatment approaches. Repealing this important program would be an unacceptable step backwards. Furthermore, I have deep concerns with reducing funding aimed at improving public health.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to oppose the flawed Motion to Recommit H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2378, CURRENCY REFORM FOR FAIR TRADE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2378, the Currency Reform for