

ACPERA promotes the detection and prosecution of illegal cartel behavior by giving participants in a price-fixing cartel powerful incentives to report the cartel to the Justice Department and cooperate in its prosecution.

Cartel violations are some of the worst crimes perpetrated on the American consumer, yet they are too often crimes we cannot see, as all the criminal activity takes place in secret meetings behind closed doors.

Price-fixing cartels can go undetected for years, possibly forever. With hundreds of millions (or even billions) of dollars worth of unlawful profits at stake, these criminal cartels are very effective at finding ways to keep their actions secret.

In August 1993, the Department of Justice Antitrust Division revised its corporate leniency program. Designed to destabilize these cartels, the program offered amnesty from criminal prosecution for companies and their executives involved in these conspiracies if they were the first of the conspirators (and not the ringleader) to reach out to the DOJ's Antitrust Division and fully cooperate with its criminal investigation.

But there was still a disincentive for cartel participants to come forward, because they remained liable for treble damages and joint and several liability in accompanying civil litigation.

Five years ago, Congress gave the Justice Department's Antitrust Division a new weapon to attack this disincentive head-on. ACPERA addressed this shortcoming in the leniency program by also limiting the cooperating party's exposure to liability in related civil litigation.

ACPERA empowers the Justice Department to limit the civil liability of a cooperating party to single damages. The remaining co-conspirators, however, remain jointly and severally liable for all damages.

In this way, the Act strikes a carefully-crafted balance, encouraging the cartel members to turn on each other, while ensuring full compensation to the victims.

The positive impact of this law cannot be overstated. ACPERA aided the Antitrust Division in obtaining just over \$1 billion in criminal fines in Fiscal Year 2009.

Last year, confronted with the expiration of key provisions of ACPERA, I sponsored a bipartisan 1-year extension of the statute. We solicited input from a number of parties, including the Department of Justice, the American Bar Association, noted academics such as William Kovacic, and representatives of civil litigants, leniency applicants, and cartel whistleblowers.

As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy, I want to ensure that the Justice Department has all the tools it needs to continue its excellent work protecting consumers against price-fixing cartels.

During this process, I heard a number of suggestions for how to improve ACPERA's effectiveness. The legislation I introduce today incorporates a number of these suggestions, and also commissions the Government Accountability Office to perform a 1-year study to examine several others.

Again, I thank Chairman CONYERS for joining me as cosponsor of this important legislation, and I look forward to working with our colleagues in the other body to reauthorize this very important program.

HONORING MR. HAKAN EVIN

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Hakan Evin for all that he has done over the past 20 years to promote and foster U.S.-Turkish relations. Mr. Evin has used his role as an esteemed Turkish businessman to forge friendships with leaders, diplomats and everyday citizens from the United States, and around the world. Through these efforts he has become an 'Ambassador of Goodwill' and has helped to strengthen the ties between Turkey and the United States.

For nearly 2 decades Mr. Evin has run a successful carpet business at the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul, one of the world's oldest and largest shopping centers. A third-generation shopkeeper, he learned about the art, culture and science of carpet making before joining the family business as an apprentice after high school. Now the owner of several shops in the Bazaar, Mr. Evin has built a reputation for excellence and established a loyal customer base which spans the globe.

Mr. Evin has played host to countless heads of state, foreign dignitaries, business leaders, government officials and celebrities over the past 20 years including President George H. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush, First Lady Laura Bush, President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and former President of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev. Still, he remains committed to providing outstanding service and top quality products to everyday patrons from around the world. Mr. Evin has made it a point throughout his career to reach out to foreigners living, working and traveling in Turkey, fostering positive feelings among the many individuals he has met towards the Nation.

Additionally, Mr. Evin has brought the deep-rooted history and culture of Turkish rugs to the United States on numerous occasions. He frequently brings many of his rugs to the U.S. and a few years ago brought hundreds of rugs to Lexington, Kentucky. As the guest of L.V. Harkness and its owner Meg Jewett, Lexington became the site of a temporary Grand Bazaar.

Mr. Evin's acumen as a businessman, integrity, honesty and genuine love for America and its people make it easy to be his friend. Thanks Hakan Evin.

ramento, California, and was instrumental in the growth and success of the Los Angeles Chapter.

Known as the godfather of The ALS Association's advocacy efforts, he served as the catalyst and provided seed money for the creation of the association's Advocacy Department. Subsequent advocacy efforts have resulted in nearly \$1 billion of support for research, patient care and advocacy that helps people with ALS throughout the United States.

Dean's success in driving The ALS Association to new heights is typical of his drive in business, sports and advocacy for education and our children.

Dean graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and served 2 years aboard Standard Oil of California tankers as a third mate before enrolling in Arizona State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's of science degree in construction. In 1968, he joined the company his father founded 4 years earlier as vice president and general manager.

Dean is now the managing member of C. A. Rasmussen Co., LLC, and emeritus chairman of the board of C. A. Rasmussen, Inc., a privately-held, general engineering contracting firm that builds highways and other infrastructure throughout California.

Among Dean's other activities, he is a former member of the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Advisory Board, emeritus member of the board of trustees of Harvey Mudd College and former trustee/president of Harvey Mudd College's Friends Committee. He is also a former trustee and campaign chairman of Viewpoint School in Calabasas, California, past president of the Southern California Contractors Association and emeritus director of Casa Pacifica (an abused children's home serving Ventura County).

Dean enjoys spending time with his wife, Kathleen, and his four children; reading history; collecting shotguns and fine wines; as well as bird hunting and other shooting sports. He is a member the Ventura County Game Preserve Association, the Point Mugu Gun Club, a life member of the National Rifle Association, and is on the Board of the L. C. Smith Collectors Association.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating my wife, Janice's, and my friend of 40 years, Dean Rasmussen for earning The ALS Association Lifetime Achievement Award and in thanking him for a lifetime of service to his community and country.

CLARIFYING MINIMUM ESSENTIAL COVERAGE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5014, legislation to ensure the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Spina Bifida Program and the Children of Women Vietnam Veterans Health Care Program constitutes minimum essential coverage under the new health care reform law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148).

While the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act explicitly states that it covers health

IN TRIBUTE TO DEAN RASMUSSEN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Dean Rasmussen, businessman, philanthropist and recipient of this year's ALS Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dean's father died from ALS, commonly called Lou Gehrig's Disease, more than 20 years ago. Always a man of action, Dean joined the National Board of Directors for The ALS Association. He spearheaded advocacy programs in Washington, DC, and Sac-

care programs administered by the VA, some have questioned whether the VA's Spina Bifida Program, which provides health care to children of Vietnam War and certain Korean War veterans for spina bifida-related medical conditions, and the Children of Women Vietnam Veterans Health Care Program, which provides care for certain birth defects of the biological child of a woman veteran who served in Vietnam, meets the individual requirement. H.R. 5014 leaves no room for doubt.

As a veteran of WWII, I understand what our brave American men and women give up to serve our country. For the past several years, the Democratic Congress has honored them and their dependents with benefits worthy of their service. This legislation continues to pay tribute to our veterans, providing them the respect they deserve by codifying that all VA Health Care programs are covered by the health care reform law. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5014.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on May 18, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 261. Had I been present I would have voted: Rollcall No. 273: "yes"—Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Improvement Act of 2009.

COMMENDING TAM TRAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, as the Chair of the Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, I rise today to honor the life of Tam Tran.

Tam and her family overcame great odds to come to America. The Vietnamese government sent Tam's father, Mr. Tuan Ngoc Tran, to a "re-education" camp for anti-communist activities. Mr. Tran and his wife, Ms. Loc Thi Pham, escaped political persecution in Vietnam by fleeing in a boat and were rescued at sea by the German navy. They lived in Germany as refugees where Tam and her brother, Mr. Thien Ngoc Tran, were born.

The Tran family came to the United States when Tam was 6 years old to reunite with family members who had settled in California. Her parents applied for political asylum. Their asylum request was denied, but the family received withholding of deportation because they would have faced persecution if they were sent to Vietnam. But withholding does not lead to a green card or U.S. citizenship. Tam and her brother were born in Germany, but were not German citizens. They were stateless, trapped in immigration limbo.

In the meantime, Tam and her brother grew up in Garden Grove. She graduated from Santiago High School, and was accepted into

the University of California at Los Angeles. She worked multiple jobs while carrying a full load of classes, but still managed to graduate from UCLA in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in American Literature and Culture and with Latin, Departmental, and College honors.

Tam also became one of the leading advocates for the "Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors" Act, commonly known as the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act would provide a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as innocent children, if they graduate from a U.S. high school and serve in the military or attend at least two years of college. The DREAM Act would finally allow Tam to officially become what she always felt herself to be—an American.

I had the pleasure of meeting Tam when she testified before the Immigration Subcommittee on May 18, 2007, on the DREAM Act. Tam described growing up in California, "watching Speed Racer and Mighty Mouse every Saturday morning." She described her frustration at the work permits that never arrived on time even though she was in the country legally, and at not being able to afford the \$50,000 out-of-state tuition and living expenses a year for the Ph.D. program at UCLA, even though she had grown up in California and had been accepted into the program. Tam nonetheless hoped that she would overcome these odds and become an "academic researcher and socially conscious video documentarian." The poise and eloquence of Tam and the other student witnesses at the hearing was the best evidence of how America would benefit from their skills and talents by the passage of the DREAM Act.

Tam came one step closer to achieving her dream when she was accepted into the Ph.D. program in American Civilization at Brown University. She was excelling in her studies and continuing her leadership and advocacy on the DREAM Act, when she was tragically and unexpectedly taken from us. Tam and one of her close friends, Cinthya Felix, also a DREAM Act student, died in a car crash on May 15, 2010.

My heart goes out to the Tran family at their unthinkable loss. I have no doubt that Tam would have contributed much to America. Even though our broken immigration system constantly threw roadblocks in her way, Tam always persevered and fought to live the American dream. I will redouble my effort and commitment to pass the DREAM Act in her memory, so that other innocent children in her predicament will not have to suffer the hardships that Tam had to endure just to become a productive member of this country.

REGARDING H. RES. 1187

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise as an original sponsor of H. Res. 1187 with my colleague Mr. MORAN. This resolution recognizes the contributions of our federal employees and supports the goal of protecting their safety and security.

It is a federal crime to assault or forcefully interfere with a federal employee while they

are engaged in their official duties. Yet, between 2001 and 2008, there were more than 1,200 attacks made on just IRS employees alone. The most recent incident involved a pilot flying a small plane into an IRS office complex in Austin, Texas, killing Vernon Hunter, a Vietnam veteran and IRS employee.

The Federal workforce is comprised of millions of employees who provide every kind of public service from fighting crime and fires, to protecting health, to preserving the environment and securing our borders. These dedicated public servants deserve our support, respect and protection.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to express our appreciation to federal employees for the work they do, and to urge the government to seek out ways to ensure their safety.

HONORING DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the California Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International upon their 74th anniversary. The organization will be holding its annual convention at the Fresno Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Fresno, California from Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 2, 2010. This is the first time that the annual meeting has been held in Fresno.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was established in 1929, with the desire to promote professional and personal growth in women educators and excellence in education. Chi State is the State Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and was established in 1936. The organization is involved in literacy and philanthropy projects throughout the state. The membership is made up of active administrators, teachers from kindergarten through college and retirees who continue to substitute or volunteer in classrooms and community centers. Today, there are over six thousand members in California and one hundred and forty thousand members from sixteen countries. Many individual members are also members of other district-level, state and national education organizations.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International offers financial aid to outstanding educational and community projects; as well as women students outside of the United States and Canada pursuing professional careers. The goal of the organization is to provide guidance and inspiration to women educators helping them to excel in their professional careers. They have a strong mentorship program and provide mutual support and interaction in all educational fields and at all levels.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the California Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International on their success in assisting women educators from around the world. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the organization many years of continued success.