

Permitting Act. H.R. 2021 is the latest piece of legislation from the Majority that puts Big Oil before public welfare.

H.R. 2021 is yet another attack on the Clean Air Act. This harmful legislation would revoke Clean Air Act protections mandating that oil companies use pollution control technology for vessels used in offshore drilling. H.R. 2021 would allow oil companies to measure pollutants and toxics generated from offshore drilling rigs at onshore locations, effectively allowing for offshore sources to generate larger and larger amounts of toxic air pollution.

While these permitting loopholes present clear dangers to public health and welfare, perhaps the most egregious affront to the Clean Air Act is the provision in H.R. 2021 that eliminates the Environmental Appeals Board at EPA. This board provides those citizens directly affected by coastal air pollution access to an impartial review of permitting decisions. To be clear, this misguided legislation puts oil companies before the health of the American public.

For 40 years, the Clean Air Act has been successful in reducing emissions into the atmosphere of pollutants and chemicals that kill people and endanger public health. Its success is due, in large part, to being enacted and strengthened based on the best science to find the most effective ways to remove the worst pollutants from our air. The Clean Air Act should not be undercut to benefit large oil companies.

If enacted into law, this bill would have far reaching consequences and damage public health in the Arctic, Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf Coasts. The world's most profitable oil companies should be held to the highest public health and environmental safety standards, not given a free pass to generate toxic air pollution. I urge my colleagues to vote against this harmful and reckless legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I wish to correct a vote that I made on the amendment to H.R. 2112. During the rollcall votes, I voted no on the Campbell amendment to prohibit funding for the Animal, Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) from being used for lethal methods of wildlife control to protect livestock. It was my intent to support the amendment, as I stand in strong support of the federal government's use of humane and non-lethal animal control whenever possible. My record on this issue clearly shows my longstanding support of this position and I hereby state my disapproval of the use of lethal methods of trapping, aerial hunting and poisoning wildlife in order to protect livestock by the APHIS.

I wish to clearly state for the RECORD that I supported the Campbell-DeFazio-Peters amendment and did not intend to vote against it.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HARRY VAN ARSDALE, JR. CENTER FOR LABOR STUDIES AT SUNY EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Harry Van Arsdale, Jr. Center for Labor Studies at SUNY Empire State College on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The New York State legislature created SUNY Empire State College in 1971 in order to provide educational opportunities to adults not adequately served by traditional residential colleges. At the same time, it also established the Center for Labor Studies, which was renamed in 1986 to honor the distinguished labor leader, the long-time business manager of IBEW Local 3 and president of the New York City Central Labor Council, who did so much to support its creation.

The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies at SUNY Empire State College continues to fulfill its namesake's dream of providing wage-earning adults with an opportunity to develop their labor leadership skills and to earn a college degree in a learning environment that celebrates their achievements and recognizes their particular needs. To do so, the Van Arsdale Center provides flexible, worker-friendly educational programs delivered by highly qualified faculty to ensure that its trade union students and other working adults may acquire the analytical and communicative skills that are the hallmark of a college degree.

The center currently serves several important constituencies in the New York City area, including IBEW Local 3 and United Association Local 1 apprentices, as well as paraeducators affiliated with the United Federation of Teachers. The longest-standing of these partnerships is with the Joint Industry Board of the Electrical Industry in New York City (JIB), and it is one of the center's most successful partnerships. Since 1978 every registered electrical apprentice in IBEW Local 3 has been required to complete, in addition to their related classroom instruction in electrical theory, an academic course of study in which they learn to read and write at the college level and for which they are awarded a college degree; or, if they already have a degree, a 20-credit certificate in "Labor and the Construction Industry." Other programs were added later: the paraeducator program of the UFT in 2006, the college degree program of UA Local 1 in 2008; and others are in development.

The Harry Van Arsdale, Jr. Center for Labor Studies has graduated more than 5,000 men and women, many of whom have gone on to hold positions of honor in the New York City labor movement and beyond. Please join me in congratulating this exemplary educational organization on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

H.R. 2320

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, recently, I introduced H.R. 2320, which would make permanent the provisions of Section 646 of the Internal Revenue Code. Currently, these provisions are slated to expire on December 31, 2012.

In 1971, Congress passed, and President Nixon approved, landmark legislation known as the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). This legislation settled the aboriginal land claims of Native Alaskans in exchange for land selection rights and cash. The law was, and is, a bold and organic national experiment in Native land claims settlement. However, it has needed revision and refinement many times since. 1971. I am proud to have worked with my colleagues over the past several years to accomplish these improvements.

In 1988, Congress enacted legislation to authorize Alaska Native corporations to establish "settlement trusts." Their purpose was to provide benefits to Alaska Natives and permit a legal structure that would protect and preserve, for current and future Alaska Native generations, much of the value of the land claims settlement. The original ANCSA required Native groups to form Alaska state law corporations to receive, administer, and distribute the ANCSA settlement, and the 1988 legislation was recognition that the corporate form had not always been well-suited to this task. In part, this was due to the federal tax problems that attend the corporate form, although ironically in the years after 1988, it became apparent that the federal tax rules relative to trusts present their own complexities and problems that discouraged the use of settlement trusts.

Congress enacted Section 646 of the tax code to address these problems. Section 646 provides for an elective regime for Alaska Native settlement trusts that (i) provides for a trust level tax at various rates ranging up to 10% in lieu of beneficiary level taxes; (ii) allows contributions to be made to these trusts on a tax favored basis; and (iii) streamlines administrative reporting for these trusts. When adopted, this elective treatment initially provided significant incentives to the use of settlement trusts to further the ANCSA settlement, and Alaska Native corporations utilized this provision to provide benefits through Alaska Native settlement trusts.

As I mentioned earlier, Section 646 is scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2012, despite the positive effects it has had for the Alaska Native community. The principal aim of settlement trusts is to provide funds to the Alaska Native beneficiaries. These beneficiaries are among the most economically disadvantaged persons in our country. Section 646 has worked well to provide an incentive for the use of settlement trusts, and must be continued.

However, the looming expiration of Section 646 has had a chilling effect in recent years upon the establishment of new Alaska Native settlement trusts. Alaska Native corporations have no desire to exchange the corporate tax

problems they already face for the tax problems accompanying the trust form that they will face if Section 646 is allowed to sunset.

I introduced H.R. 2320 because a permanent extension of Section 646 will immediately remove the disincentive presented by the sunset of Section 646 for Alaska Native corporations to use settlement trusts to provide benefits to their Alaska Native shareholders.

I would like to note to my colleagues that the fact that Section 646 is not already a permanent part of the tax code is a result of its unique procedural history, rather than a result of any substantive determination as to its merits or revenue concerns about its cost. Section 646 was originally enacted, along with several other provisions, as an unrelated, miscellaneous provision as part of the 2001 tax legislation which, because of the need to use the budget reconciliation process, was subject to a December 31, 2010 sunset provision. Rather than subsequently being made permanent similar to other unrelated, miscellaneous provisions in the 2001 tax legislation, Section 646 was extended for two years along with the 2001 individual tax rate reductions as part of the 2010 year-end tax legislation such that it is now scheduled to expire on December 31, 2012. Once again, the decision to enact a two-year extension (rather than a permanent extension) was not attributable to substantive or revenue considerations relating to Section 646 itself. Rather, it followed from a decision to enact a simple two-year extension of all of the expiring 2001 provisions without assessing the merits of alternative extension periods for each expiring provision being extended. Thus, it is fair to say that the current non-permanent status of Section 646 is an accident of the legislative process and that no Member has ever suggested that the provision should not be made permanent. Further, there was wide support for the permanency provision in the last Congress. H.R. 2320 would simply remedy this accident of the legislative process and make permanent a provision that should have originally been enacted as such.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT RUTLEDGE, THE HEART OF ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to acknowledge the recent passing of one of Mobile's most beloved and respected educators, Robert Rutledge.

"Coach Bob," as he was known to many, was head football coach, athletic director, assistant headmaster and headmaster over his 33-year career at St. Paul's Episcopal School. He has been described as the heart of St. Paul's and an influential role model for his students.

Under his guidance, St. Paul's athletic program gained statewide respect, including a trip to the 1993 State Championship game.

For three decades, Coach Bob inspired, led and prepared generations of students for the rigors of life, instilling in many the confidence to set their goals high and then work hard toward attaining them.

Bob's enthusiasm for coaching and teaching—and his devotion to improving the lives of each of his students—is what set him apart as a truly outstanding educator.

A former student and now local Mobile attorney, Charlie Potts, recently told the Mobile Press-Register that Coach Bob always followed the Golden Rule. Simply put, Bob Rutledge treated his students and players the way he would want to be treated.

Bob was also instrumental in shaping St. Paul's community service programs, including a fine arts program that today rivals the offerings of many colleges and universities.

For St. Paul's students and alumni, Coach Bob was more than a great educator and leader, he was like a parent and cherished friend. He had a talent for summoning the best in his students and building a faculty and staff that were second to none. Although he retired in 2006, his passing is a profound loss for St. Paul's and our entire community.

Mr. Speaker, I join with so many others from southwest Alabama in mourning the loss of a truly exceptional man who touched thousands upon thousands of lives with his generosity, leadership and strength.

My condolences go out to his wonderful wife of 45 years, Martha, and their children, Kellie, Brett and Dorie. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

JACKSON HOLE MOUNTAIN RESORT (JHMR)—NATIONAL SKI AREA ASSOCIATION'S (NSAA) GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD

HON. CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor Jackson Hole Mountain Resort (JHMR) from the state of Wyoming for their receipt of the National Ski Area Association's (NSAA) Golden Eagle Award. Having been a previous recipient of this award in 1995, JHMR yet again receives the highest honor in environmental achievement. This prestigious award is judged by industry peers and a select group of judges.

As an example to all industries, both within and without the business of skiing, JHMR has managed to produce an environmentally-friendly ski resort. They are a great example to us all of environmental achievements. The award coincides with the resort's five year anniversary of ISO 14001 certification. JHMR is one of only two resorts in the United States to have met these standards. This specific award, the Golden Eagle Award, honors their environmental excellence for "Medium Size Ski Areas" (200,000–500,000 visits). Businesses, such as this resort, are our hope for a more beautiful world in the future, showing us that spectacular sites do not have to come at the cost of our environmental degradation.

Jackson Hole Mountain Resort is justly proud to receive this award. Their selection shows their positive impact and contribution to a better environment. A few of their contributions, to note, are: modifications to their heating systems, reducing propane use by 20% and recycling all motor oil, along with anti-freeze, batteries, and snowmelt (from grooming equipment). They have demonstrated a

level of responsibility, commitment and care that deserves our recognition, support and utmost respect. Their developments and strategies are exemplary. They are a great example to us all. I commend them for their great deeds, and agree they are most deserving of this Golden Eagle Award.

AMERICA INVENTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1249) to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform:

Mr. HOYER. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this legislation. I am a strong supporter, as many of you know, of what we call our Make It In America agenda. Make It In America simply means we are going to provide jobs, we are going to provide opportunities, and we are going to build the manufacturing sector of our economy. In order to do that we also need to enhance the inventive, innovative, and development phases of our economy. This bill, I think, will facilitate this.

I congratulate the gentlelady from California for this amendment as well, which I think improves this bill. I rise in strong support and urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation. I congratulate all of those who have worked on this legislation. It is obviously not perfect, but then again, no piece of legislation that we adopt is perfect. It is, however, a significant step forward to make sure that America remains the inventive, innovative development capital of the world. In order to do that we need to manufacture goods here in America—manufacture the goods that we invent, innovate, and develop here, because if we continue to take them to scale overseas, then the inventors, innovators, and developers will themselves move overseas.

So I thank Mr. SMITH, Mr. WATT, Ms. LOFGREN, and the others who have worked so hard on this legislation, who have dedicated themselves to trying to make sure that we have a context and environment in America which will facilitate the innovative sector of our economy.

IN MEMORY OF JIM WHAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2011

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a man of great character, patriotism, and community pride: Mr. Jim Wham of Centralia, Illinois, who passed away May 20, 2011, at the age of 92.

I first met Jim when, as a child, I visited my late grandfather, John Shimkus, who owned a clothing store in Centralia. Jim Wham, already a well known attorney, knew my grandfather and I remember meeting this well educated, well informed, larger than life man. Many years later, when I began running for Congress, I again met Jim—who was very active