

MR. KEVIN GRYBOSKI

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kevin Gryboski for his lifetime of outstanding athleticism, and on his acceptance into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Gryboski is a graduate of Bishop Hoban High School and Wilkes University. He began his baseball career in Plains with a Little League championship in 1984. He was also selected first-team All-State and top pitcher in the state in 1992 while playing for the Plains American Legion Baseball team. While at Bishop Hoban, Mr. Gryboski showed his talents on the field, as he was named an all-star in 1990 and 1991, and he also played basketball for the Argents.

Mr. Gryboski continued to show his talents during his time at Wilkes University, where he participated in both baseball and basketball. On the mound, he was named pitcher for the 1994 Middle Atlantic Conference championship team. To this day, he holds the Colonels' all-time record for complete games, and he has been inducted into the Wilkes University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mr. Gryboski is an inspiration to many student-athletes because he showed the importance of education. In 1994, he was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds, but he deferred signing so he could finish earning his degree. He had truly ended up with the best of both worlds, as in 1995 he had his degree and signed with the Seattle Mariners, where he played until 2001. He was traded to the Atlanta Braves in 2002. His career also took him to the Texas Rangers, the Washington Nationals, the Pittsburgh Pirates, and finally to the San Francisco Giants in 2008 before he retired after a shoulder injury. He pitched in 190 regular-season games and 13 post-season games, and he helped the Braves win a National League East championship.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to commend Mr. Kevin Gryboski, and speak for the members of his hometown in appreciation of his gifts and abilities.

CONGRATULATING SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES ON RE-OPENING THE SONORA SAWMILL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sierra Pacific Industries on re-opening the Sonora Sawmill. This dedicated business is assisting in bringing back economic vitality to the region.

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) is a third-generation family-owned forest products company based in Anderson, California. With its formation in 1949, the firm now owns and manages nearly 1.9 million acres of timberland in California and Washington, and is the second largest lumber producer in the United States. Sierra Pacific employs over 3,500 people in these two states, with about 3,000 of them in

California. The U.S. Forest Service estimates that these direct jobs in California also provide more than 7,000 indirect jobs in related and affected businesses.

At Sierra Pacific Industries, the company's dedicated team members produce quality wood products using the most sophisticated equipment and machinery. This basic understanding represents Sierra Pacific's philosophy toward its valued crew members. During the course of Sierra Pacific's growth and development, efforts have been made to assure an atmosphere of fair treatment and appreciation for all employees. Some of SPI's continuing programs include: appropriate compensation and benefit levels for crew members and their dependents; development of supervisors sensitive to the needs and concerns of today's crew members; and career advancement opportunities for all employees through a desire to promote from within the company whenever possible. Through a full commitment to this philosophy, SPI continues to be an organization where its crew members are proud to work and others strive to become part of the team.

Sierra Pacific continues to make substantial investments in forestry and mill modernization in the State of California. Although many companies have left the state due to its difficult economic and regulatory climate, SPI remains committed to rebuilding a competitive climate for business in California and investing in the rural communities where it operates.

Sierra Pacific Industries is committed to managing its lands in a responsible and sustainable manner to protect the environment while providing quality wood products and renewable power for consumers. To SPI, sustainable forest management means more than planting trees. The company employs modern forest management practices that closely mimic natural forest events. It has invested in state-of-the-art equipment to optimize every fiber of every tree. SPI is a voluntary partner in the independent Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) forest certification program to help ensure our forests are here for generations to come. The expertise of its registered professional foresters and natural resource specialists guarantees that wildlife habitats, water quality, and other forest values are protected.

The Sierra Pacific Foundation was established and funded in 1979 by A.A. "Red" Emmerson's father, R.H. "Curly" Emmerson. During the past 20 years, the Foundation has provided over \$3 million in Higher Education scholarships to dependent children of SPI employees. The Foundation also contributes to youth activities and other organizations in the communities in which Sierra Pacific Industries has facilities, with contributions to more than 100 worthy organizations each year. The Foundation awarded \$403,250 to 177 students to assist them as they attend colleges, universities and trade schools during the 2011-2012 school year.

Mrs. Ida Emmerson, wife of company president A.A. "Red" Emmerson for nearly 41 years, served as president of the Sierra Pacific Foundation until her death in 1996. Red and Ida's daughter, Carolyn Dietz, proudly succeeded her as Foundation president.

The original Sonora sawmill was first constructed in 1901. It had several owners before Sierra Pacific Industries purchased it and nearby timberlands in 1995. Sierra Pacific op-

erated the plant continuously until it was forced to close the facility in 2009 amid weakness in the lumber market, reduced timber harvests on nearby national forest lands, and increasing state regulatory burdens. In June of 2011 SPI announced that it would rebuild the mill using new technologies that would allow it to cut a wider array of log sizes to maximize the efficiency of the operation. The mill restarted in September, 2011 and employs about 130 workers on two shifts.

Sierra Pacific Industries generates \$11.7 million in annual payroll in Tuolumne County to its direct employees, and pays \$400,000 in property taxes. In addition, SPI pays out over \$200,000 annually to local vendors for their supplies and services.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Sierra Pacific Industries for their diligent work in the timber industry and applauding them in the re-opening of the Sonora Sawmill.

H.R. 2017, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2017 would fund the Federal Government from October 1, 2011 through October 4, 2011. It was considered by a unanimous consent request, which does not require a recorded vote. Had a recorded vote been required, I would have voted against this spending bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 11, 2011, I regrettably missed the votes on rollcall. My leave of absence was due to a district event with the Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. Had I been present, I would have voted "Nay" on the following bill.

H. Res. 425—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3078, United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3079, United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, H.R. 3080, United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act and the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendments to H.R. 2832 which extends the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes.

Following H. Res. 425, I would have voted "Yea" on the following amendments.

Waxman Amendment (#11) which adds a new section at the end of the bill to ensure that the bill complies with the Republican discretionary CutGo protocol. The section says if the bill authorizes the appropriation of funds and does not reduce an existing authorization of appropriations to offset that amount, then the bill's provisions cease to be effective. CBO currently scores the bill as spending \$1 million over 5 years subject to appropriations.

Connolly Amendment (#18) which adds a new section at the end of the bill that directs the EPA Administrator not to delay actions to reduce pollution emissions from waste incinerators or industrial boilers at chemical facilities,

oil refineries or large manufacturing facilities if such emissions are causing respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses and deaths, including cases of heart attacks, asthma attacks and bronchitis.

Markey Amendment which adds a new section at the end of the bill which directs the EPA Administrator not to delay actions to reduce pollution emissions from waste incinerators or industrial boilers at chemical facilities, oil refineries or large manufacturing facilities if such emissions are increasing the risk of cancer.

Edwards Amendment which adds a finding to the bill which states, according to EPA, if the rules overturned by the bill remained in effect, they would create 2,200 net additional jobs, not including jobs created to manufacture and install equipment to reduce air pollution. This finding is drawn from EPA's analysis of the rules.

Schakowsky Amendment which adds a finding to the bill that mercury released into the ambient air from cement kilns is a potent neurotoxin that can damage the development of an infant's brain.

Ellison Amendment (#12) which allows EPA to require compliance by boilers sooner than 5 years (underlying bill says boilers get at least 5 years or longer to comply) if the new regulations required to be written under the bill result in the creation of more than 1,000 jobs.

Welch Amendment which adds a finding to the bill affirming that that the American people are exposed to mercury from industrial sources through the consumption of fish containing mercury and every state in the nation has issued at least one mercury advisory for fish consumption.

Jackson-Lee Amendment which requires boilers to comply no later than 3 years after EPA completes the re-write of boiler rules required by the bill. The bill includes a deadline of at least 5 years, the Clean Air Act currently requires 3 years and gives states or EPA the ability to extend for a 4th year. The Jackson-Lee amendment would retain the CAA's current provisions.

MR. GERRY GRYBOSKI

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gerry Gryboski for his performance as an athlete, coach, and role model, and on his acceptance into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Gerry is a graduate of Sacred Heart High School, where he participated in basketball and baseball. He posted a 4-0 record as a pitcher in the 1962 Catholic League Championship, and he led the team with a .484 batting average.

Mr. Gryboski was invited to tryouts for both the Pittsburgh Pirates and Philadelphia Phillies; however, he ended up serving his country in the United States Army from 1963 to 1966.

Mr. Gryboski coached Biddy league as well as seventh and eighth grade basketball. He also coached Little and Teener league baseball for eleven years, from 1980 to 1991. He also contributed two All-Star sons to the Wyoming Valley Conference, Kevin and Brian.

Mr. Speaker, Gerry Gryboski must surely be proud of the spectacular athletes he has coached and raised, as well as of his career and the teams he has coached. It is with great pleasure that I commend him as he is accepted into the Plains Sports Hall of Fame.

SUPPORTING THE EXTENSION OF TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE AND OPPOSING THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH SOUTH KOREA, PANAMA AND COLOMBIA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of extending the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA) and in opposition to the three free trade agreements between the U.S. and South Korea, Panama, and Colombia.

TAA provides essential assistance to workers who lose employment due to trade agreements with foreign countries. We need to extend it. More than 280,000 displaced workers in 2010 relied on the greater job training options, health care tax credit coverage, and extra weeks of income support provided under the TAA program to get back on their feet after losing their jobs to foreign countries.

The residents of my district in California have firsthand experience with the benefits of TAA. California has seen multiple plant closings due to trade with countries around the globe. Last year, the NUMMI auto plant in my district closed and nearly 5,000 employees lost their jobs along with thousands more who worked at suppliers for the plant. For these workers, TAA is a lifeline that is providing re-training, education, and other assistance to help them find new jobs.

U.S. trade policies and free trade agreements, such as NAFTA and DR-CAFTA, have decimated our manufacturing sector. They have protected corporate interests at the expense of workers and created incentives to ship jobs overseas. I opposed those agreements and I oppose the unfair free trade Agreements with Panama, Korea and Colombia that are currently before Congress.

If we want to get our economy back on track, we need to focus on creating jobs and not shipping more jobs overseas. These three free trade agreements follow the same failed Bush-era trade policies that allow multinational corporations to challenge public interest laws that protect the environment, health, and workers.

The agreement with South Korea will increase our trade deficit by billions of dollars and cost us an estimated 159,000 jobs. The Colombia agreement stands out because it would have us lower trade barriers with a country in which only 2 percent of workers are unionized and more trade unionists are murdered annually than anywhere else in the world. We should not sign more agreements that ship our jobs overseas, grant exceptional rights to large corporations, and fail to protect workers' rights or our environment.

Republicans in Congress have spent eight months tying the extension of critical TAA benefits to the three pending free trade agree-

ments. In doing so, they've abandoned the very people who will get our economy going again: workers. It is a further wrong that the extension of TAA is just for two years, and not longer. These new trade agreements are going to be permanent. We should ensure that permanent TAA protections are there for the workers who will lose their jobs as a result of the trade agreements. Our vote today in favor of an extension of TAA will provide real help to these workers and their families. We owe it to them to support TAA and to oppose the three pending free trade agreements that will cost more jobs. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING DR. JOSEPH N. HANKIN

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Joseph N. Hankin, who will be honored October 12 for his 40 years as President of Westchester Community College, the State University of New York, in Valhalla, NY. His four decades of exceptional leadership and dedication at this outstanding institution make him the longest-serving community college president in the nation.

That distinction is only the latest in Dr. Hankin's distinguished career in higher education. At age 26, he became the youngest community college president in the nation, when he assumed the presidency of Harford Community College, in Maryland. Four years later, he moved to Westchester Community College. Under his leadership, WCC's enrollment has grown from several thousand to more than 30,000 in both credit and non-credit programs. The college's Continuing Education division is now the largest in New York State, providing lifelong learning for students of all ages. Its faculty and professional staff have received more SUNY Chancellors Awards for Excellence than any other community college in the system and the Westchester Community College Foundation has grown into one of the most successful community college foundations in the nation.

Mindful of the need to keep education relevant to the changing needs of its students and society, Dr. Hankin has overseen the addition of dozens of new curricula and the redesign of existing programs as well as the growth of comprehensive corporate training for businesses and entrepreneurs. Committed to the college's mission of quality, affordability and accessibility, he launched the highly-regarded Honors Program, and continues to support WCC's English Language Institute and its Virginia Marx Children's Center on campus. The latter gives students and staff the best child care possible at affordable rates. Dr. Hankin also has expanded the college's reach into every corner of the community, with five stand-alone extension centers and class offerings at hundreds of additional locations.

For all of these accomplishments and many more, Dr. Joseph N. Hankin has been named one of the Top Fifty Community College Leaders in the Nation and one of the Most Effective College Presidents in the U.S. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing him for his exemplary educational leadership, vision, service and commitment during his 40 years at Westchester Community College.