

Trucking Tax Credit Act. This bill would encourage and reward individuals and businesses who haul gleaned food from one location to another within the U.S. Many trucking companies and individuals pay for transportation of this food out of their own pockets. The Hunger Relief Trucking Tax Credit Act would create a 25 cent tax credit for each mile that food is transported for a charity by a donated truck and driver for hunger relief efforts. This legislation will support those who are already transporting food donations and entice more companies to do so. We must make every effort to bring food to those who rely on it to feed themselves and their families.

As we celebrate National Food Day, I urge my colleagues to join us by cosponsoring this important legislation.

COAL RESIDUALS REUSE AND MANAGEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2273) to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to facilitate recovery and beneficial use, and provide for the proper management and disposal, of materials generated by the combustion of coal and other fossil fuels.

Mr. COHEN. Madam Chair, I rise today to state my opposition to H.R. 2273, the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act. On October 14, 2011, I inadvertently cast a vote in support of final passage of this measure. However, I am adamantly opposed to this legislation and want the Congressional Record to reflect my true sentiments.

The EPA's proposed coal ash rule is a much needed response to an incident that occurred in 2008 in my home state of Tennessee. On December 22, 2008, a coal ash pond at the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) Kingston power plant breached, spilling 1.2 billion gallons of coal ash and its contaminants—including arsenic, selenium, and mercury—into two rivers. The disaster moved homes off of their foundations, and the ongoing cleanup, which has only removed half of the coal ash that was spilled to date—is expected to cost about \$1.2 billion.

The EPA coal ash rule would set standards in place to ensure that a horrific tragedy such as the Kingston spill never occurs again. However, H.R. 2273 would undercut the coal ash rule and create a dangerous plan consisting of nothing but "guidelines" for regulating coal ash—guidelines that do nothing to protect citizens throughout America from another Kingston spill. Despite the Kingston disaster and EPA's acknowledgement that wet ponds can pose as high as a 1-in-50 risk of cancer to nearby residents, this bill fails to take the obvious and necessary step of phasing out surface impoundments. Meaning if this legislation were adopted, it would do nothing to avert tragedies such as Kingston from occurring in the future.

Another reason I oppose the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act is because it interrupts an EPA rulemaking process that has

been ongoing for nearly three years and silences the concerns of the American people. Over the last three years, the EPA has held eight public hearings and received more than 455,000 public comments on its proposed coal ash rule—a precedential response to an EPA rulemaking. Congress should not be interfering and obstructing this critical public process.

In an effort to prevent the passage of H.R. 2273, I circulated a Dear Colleague letter that informed my colleagues of the legislation's immense shortcomings and failures to protect the American people. I also offered an amendment, which unfortunately was not made in order, but would have required the EPA Administrator to revise the disposal criteria upon which the bill relies to ensure that human health and the environment are protected from the risks posed by coal combustion residuals.

In some parts of the country people justify the status quo because they have not seen the full dangers of unregulated coal ash. In Tennessee we cannot ignore these consequences and cannot tolerate legislation that would usurp a beneficial rulemaking and replace it with legislation that fails to protect the American people. For these reasons, I oppose H.R. 2273 and would like the record to reflect my strong opposition.

HONORING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Over 200,000 women and men in the United States are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, resulting in almost 40,000 deaths—a terrible and tragic reality for too many individuals, families, and communities all across the country.

To date, early screening has proved essential in successfully combating breast cancer. Mammograms are the key to ensuring the men and women who are plagued with this disease are able to catch it early and significantly increase the chances of surviving.

Breast cancer research has come so far, but we must continue the fight until all people, no matter their background, can live in a world free of the disease. Until we reach that day we must continue to encourage our friends, family members, and peers to undergo early screening for breast cancer.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, together with my bipartisan colleagues Reps. CHARLIE RANGEL, EDOLPHUS TOWNS, NITA LOWEY, JANICE SCHAKOWSKY, HOWARD BERMAN, GUS BILIRAKIS and ROBERT BRADY, I am introducing a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Rabbi Arthur Schneier, in recognition of his pioneering role in promoting religious freedom

and human rights throughout the world for close to half a century.

Born in Vienna, Austria, in 1930, Rabbi Schneier lived under Nazi occupation in Budapest during World War II and came to the United States in 1947. He has been the Spiritual Leader of the Park East Synagogue in New York City since 1962.

A Holocaust survivor, and the Founder and President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, Rabbi Schneier has devoted his life to overcoming the forces of hatred and intolerance.

He has been a pioneer in bringing together religious leaders to address ethnic or religious conflicts. For example, in Bosnia in 1997, he convened government and religious leaders to promote healing and conciliation between Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish communities. In the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia he worked with the Orthodox Patriarch and the Turkish Government to hold the Peace and Tolerance Conference in 1994 and address religious and ethnic tensions in that area. In the former Yugoslavia, he mobilized religious leaders to halt the bloodshed of the early 90s, holding the Religious Summit on the Former Yugoslavia and the Conflict Resolution Conference to build support and consensus among religious leaders of different faiths. Since the early 1980s, he has led delegations of religious leaders to China to open a dialogue on religious freedom.

I hope my colleagues will join us in honoring this distinguished pioneer of religious freedom with a Congressional Gold Medal.

HONORING FATHER ISAAC MASGA AYUYU

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, we recently celebrated an important anniversary in the Northern Mariana Islands: between our community and one of our longest-serving spiritual leaders. Reverend Father Isaac Masga Ayuyu, a native of Rota, has led the faithful in our islands for twenty-five years. Pale' Ike, as he is fondly known, was ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa on August 30, 1986. He is now the Parochial Vicar of Mount Carmel Cathedral on Saipan and the Director of Worship in the Diocese. Pale' Ike is the first ordained priest from Rota, and the first ordained priest of the new Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, Saipan. He is the fifth local priest to serve our islands.

Hailing from a large family, Pale' Ike has a diverse, well-educated, and well-traveled background that is belied by his humble nature. As a youngster, he attended grade school in Rota. He then moved to our neighboring territory of Guam for his junior high and high school years, which was followed by college in California and Connecticut. Pale' Ike received his spiritual training at Saint Patrick's Seminary in California before returning to his home in the Northern Marianas. The decision that the church was his true calling was formed during his youth, when he was an altar server for two of our region's most well-respected leaders: Bishop Emeritus Tomas A. Camacho

of the Northern Marianas and the late Archbishop Felixberto Flores of Guam.

Pale' Ike's parents, Francisca Masga Ayuyu and the late Corbiniano Songao Ayuyu were also supportive of their son's path, which he recalls each time he celebrates mass with the chalice that was a gift from them.

In addition to his duties in the church, Pale' Ike is a strong advocate of, and a member of the Ecclesial Team for, our local chapter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter program, which is designed to strengthen couples' relationships with one another and with God. His involvement in Marriage Encounter has improved the lives of countless married couples in the Northern Marianas. In his typically unassuming and candid fashion, Pale' Ike explains to others that the program has even improved his relationship with the people to whom he ministers.

Spirituality has always been an important component of life in our islands, even before the arrival of what we think of as "organized religion." The Chamorros and Carolinians of our islands have always held spiritual leaders in high regard. In our small, faith-based community, local priests are in demand. Pale' Ike is a man whose work truly is never done. He baptizes the newly-born and conducts funeral rites for the recently departed; he tends to the spiritual needs of those who are homebound or in the hospital; he conducts weddings; he hears confessions; and he celebrates the Mass. Just a few of his Diocesan titles offer a glimpse into the scope of his responsibilities: he is the hospital chaplain, the coordinator of pre-baptismal seminars, and the coordinator of the marriage preparation program for the Diocese. Outside of traditional priestly responsibilities, in our culture if there is a village fiesta, he plays a lead role; if there is a large family party, he's expected to attend; if someone builds a new home, he is called upon to bless it before it is occupied. Pale' Ike is very much a part of the daily life of many residents of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Please join me in congratulating Pale' Isaac Masga Ayuyu in celebration of his twenty-five years in the priesthood.

HONORING COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cooperative Housing Corporation, located in Somerville, Somerset County,

New Jersey, as it celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

Cooperative Housing Corporation (CHC) was created in 1986 to address the significant lack of affordable senior housing in central New Jersey. Its founders reasoned that affordable housing need not solely be a municipal burden, but that public/private partnerships could co-support it and foster conscionable development, preserving the aesthetics of community neighborhoods through Shared Living Arrangements for seniors.

It was soon realized that such housing, which would allow each resident to have their own bedroom/bathroom suite while sharing common areas, would also benefit special needs populations, particularly young, employable males. Therefore, the Mission of CHC became, "to provide older adults and some special needs populations with shared housing facilities and services especially designed to meet their physical, social and psychological needs on a cooperative family basis and, through the caring 'second family' environment, to promote their health, security, happiness and usefulness in longer living."

CHC opened the first of its seven houses on January 1, 1990, and since that date, has provided round the clock services, sustenance and housing to 157 individuals whose average income has been less than \$14,000 per year and whose average length of stay has been a remarkable six and a half years.

The elderly, no matter their physical, emotional or mental condition at the time of admission to any residential program, eventually "age in place" and, if frail, are often moved to more restrictive and costly-to-government settings. This reality of aging and new needs of CHC's own residents motivated initiation of innovative programming toward a host of services for this vulnerable population. The operating premise of CHC remains unique. As needs arise, CHC works to address them both innovatively and creatively; modifying program approach born through the reality of senior residents aging in place, from fully independent living to "Senior Affordable Supportive Housing" (SASH), of which there is no similar program in New Jersey.

The occasion of its 25th Anniversary, also marks CHC's transition into a new housing model from the 5 unit ensembles to 10 units. This allows CHC to serve additional lower income residents in a more cost-efficient manner, maximizing available public and private resources to address their increasing need for supportive services.

The Housing Partnership is commended for its innovative contributions, the creativity of its Founders, and the consistency and dedication of its Board and Staff through the years in helping to resolve the dilemma of affordable

housing for vulnerable populations in our great state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cooperative Housing Corporation on its 25th Anniversary.

HONORING DENNIS ZIEMIENSKI

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor Dennis Zieminski, the 2011 Sonoma Treasure Artist. An internationally known artist from Glenn Ellen, CA, Mr. Zieminski is also a prominent supporter of art events in the Sonoma Valley.

Born and raised in San Francisco, Dennis graduated from the California College of Arts and Crafts before moving to New York for a successful career in illustration and painting. He worked with Time-Life, Levi-Straus, Rolling Stone, and the New York Times and has created compelling images for many high-profile clients such as Super Bowl XXIX, the Napa Mustard Festival, the Kentucky Derby, the California Railway Museum, and the San Francisco Zoo.

An internationally acclaimed painter, Dennis has had several solo exhibitions, won numerous awards, taught at prominent art schools, and illustrated well-known book covers. He has also volunteered his teaching skills at local schools and has donated auction paintings or created posters for local Sonoma Valley nonprofits.

Dennis's work is marked by fine draftsmanship and strong, richly colored images inspired by early 20th century painting and posters. He travels frequently to develop different ideas and sensibilities. "I love to paint my native California and the West," he says, "but the land of my ancestors, Italy and the Mediterranean, has also been a frequent subject . . . it is also important for me to use a romantic sense of history and place, when required, to create a vision that lures the viewer into the picture, creating the desire to 'be there'."

Dennis is married to artist Anne Zieminski, and the couple's daughter, Sofia, attends the University of the Redlands.

Mr. Speaker, we are pleased to congratulate Dennis Zieminski for his designation as the Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year for 2011. Please join us and the Sonoma Valley Community in celebrating his accomplishments and contributions.