

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, to many people, human trafficking seems like an issue a world away. But, as we're hearing tonight, the tragic reality is that it affects children and communities in neighborhoods across our nation.

This evening, in bipartisan fashion, lawmakers are standing together to address the continuing need to support anti-trafficking programs and upgrade our nation's response to this crime—both locally and nationally. I have proudly cosponsored most of the bills we have debated tonight.

While these bills are important, legislation alone isn't the only solution to stopping trafficking or abuse in our country or in the Bucks and Montgomery county towns across my District. It's the continued interaction and sharing of ideas between all stakeholders that will ultimately help us address this problem at all stages—from prevention, to counseling to prosecution.

To that end, I am proud to represent a district that is leading the way in proactive and innovative efforts to end trafficking while supporting the individuals it affects. Groups like Network of Victim Assistance, Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking and Worthwhile Wear each contribute to the fabric of victim assistance in our region, while government and law enforcement organizations work side-by-side to adapt to the challenges presented by this crime.

Supporting these groups and legislation like that being considered tonight are vital steps in the fight against trafficking. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in voting for these measures and protecting those most in need in our communities.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CARLOS CARBONELL

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Carlos Carbonell.

Carlos has more than 15 years of media and technology experience, and a reputation for creativity, versatility and innovation across numerous industries. In 2008, Carlos founded Echo Interaction Group, one of the nation's leading mobile application development companies. Under his leadership, Orlando-based Echo has built a portfolio that includes more than 60 apps for Apple and Android devices.

An active member of the community, Carlos is not only an advocate for the LGBT community, but also a leader in the technology, business and Latino community. He is often seen as bridging the gap between these four, sometimes distinct, groups. Carlos was on the Board of Governors of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and a founding member of the HRC Central Florida Steering Committee. He currently serves as the Orlando Tech As-

sociation's first President. In addition, Carlos serves as Editor-in-Chief for Vision Magazine and sits on the City of Orlando's Hispanic Advisory Committee.

Carlos has received numerous awards and recognitions. This year, he received the Governor's Business Ambassador Award. In 2013, Carlos was named one of Orlando's Power Brokers by the Orlando Sentinel and in 2012 he was selected as one of Orlando Business Journal's 40 Under 40. HRC awarded Carlos an Individual Achievement Award for his work on the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

Carlos graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in advertising and an outside concentration in civil engineering.

I am happy to honor Carlos Carbonell, during LGBT Pride Month, for his contributions to the LGBT, business, and Latino communities in Central Florida.

TRAVEL PROMOTION, ENHANCEMENT, AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4450, the "Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014."

I am pleased that the Energy and Commerce Committee made important enhancements to H.R. 4450 during its recent markup, significantly improving the bill before us today.

Specifically, H.R. 4450 now includes a provision to enhance accountability of the program by requiring Brand USA to establish performance metrics to assess the effectiveness of its marketing efforts; whether increases in visitors are due to Brand USA's efforts or outside factors; and any cost or benefit to the U.S. economy.

It also includes a provision requiring the Secretary of Commerce to establish formal procedures for revising the policy governing in-kind contributions or resolving disputes about the value of in-kind contributions with Brand USA.

These provisions are responsive to findings in a July 2013 report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report entitled "Brand USA Needs Plans for Measuring Performance and Updated Policy on Private Sector Contributions."

Given my strong desire to stimulate new tourism to the United States, I requested GAO to examine the effectiveness of Brand USA so that Congress could be informed as to whether the corporation was positioned to achieve its mission.

In that report, GAO concluded that Brand USA has taken some steps to measure its performance but has not yet developed a plan to monitor and evaluate whether its efforts are increasing travel to, and travelers' spending in, the U.S.

GAO also found that there were possible problems with current valuation methodologies for in-kind contributions and cited disputes between the Commerce Department and Brand USA about whether certain types of in-kind contributions are allowed under the law.

For the Federal government's part, the resources that are provided to Brand USA are derived from a fee assessed to foreign travelers that Customs and Border Protection collects. Given the well-documented resource challenges within CBP, I have no doubt that CBP would welcome the opportunity to retain more of these funds for its own traveler facilitation programs and operations but, as a policy matter, Congress has said it must go to this corporation to advertise and promote travel to the U.S.

For its part, it falls to Brand USA to show us that we made the right call by delivering data showing how the ad campaigns and media efforts undertaken by this corporation have impacted travel and the overall economy.

The bill being considered today will help ensure Brand USA addresses deficiencies found by the GAO and utilizes its funding in the most effective and efficient manner possible, as we extend authorization for the program through 2020.

Because of these improvements to the bill, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4450, the Travel Promotion, Enhancement, and Modernization Act of 2014.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF CHARLES "CHASE" THOMAS SMITH

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize the life of Charles "Chase" Smith, who passed away on August 28, 2013, at the age of 41. He left this world, surrounded by his close family and friends.

Born on April 3, 1972 in Blountstown, Florida, Chase is a graduate of Hardee High School and Barry University. Chase was successful in many areas of his professional life. After hand-writing letters to every voter in Wauchula, he was the youngest person ever elected to the City Council at the age of 20. He served three four-year terms on the City Council, before moving to Orlando and working as Commissioner Patty Sheehan's Aide for seven years. Chase was beloved by the neighborhood and business people he worked with. He was Commissioner Sheehan's confidant and friend.

Chase moved from City to County Government where he was an Aide to Orange County Mayor Theresa Jacobs from 2011 to the time of his death in August 2013. Mayor Jacobs appointed him to be Orange County's first Ombudsman. Chase's personal integrity and work ethic enabled him to excel in the position.

We will never forget Chase's beautiful smile, compassion for those less fortunate, and ability to rock an Easter Bunny costume. He was a proud gay man and fashionista, frequently giving his boss, Patty Sheehan, fashion advice. He loved wearing bow ties and decorating for Halloween and Christmas.

Chase was a lifelong Democrat, but worked well with people from all party affiliations. He was the very definition of a public servant. Chase loved public service with his whole

heart, and lived his life in service to others. He touched many lives with his care and genuine concern for others.

Chase was preceded in death by his father, Gilbert. He is survived by his mother, Frances, brother, Bryan, and a countless number of friends and extended family of loved ones.

The day of his funeral, Tuesday September 10, 2013, was declared Charles "Chase" Smith Day in the City of Orlando and Orange County. While we all miss him terribly, we can honor his legacy by serving our community to the best of our ability. He would have wanted it that way.

I am saddened by the loss of such a valuable member of the Central Florida community and extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 24, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 29

9:30 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain nominations.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the economic and budgetary consequences of climate change, focusing on the cost of inaction.

SD-608

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine tobacco, focusing on taxes owed, avoided, and evaded.

SD-215

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard

To hold hearings to examine revisiting the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies (RESTORE) Act, focusing on progress and challenges in Gulf restoration post-*Deepwater Horizon*.

SR-253

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of John Francis Tefft, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Department of State.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine breaking the logjam at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), focusing on ways to more efficiently process permits for energy production on Federal lands, and understanding the obstacles in permitting more energy projects on Federal lands, including S. 279, to promote the development of renewable energy on public land, and S. 2440, to expand and extend the program to improve permit coordination by the Bureau of Land Management.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety

To hold hearings to examine the threats posed by climate change.

SD-406

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness

To hold hearings to examine the United States-Korea free trade agreement, focusing on lessons learned two years later.

SD-215

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine increasing economic opportunity for African Americans, focusing on local initiatives that are making a difference.

SD-G50

3 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security

To hold hearings to examine opportunities and challenges for improving truck safety on our highways.

SR-253

JULY 30

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining

To hold hearings to examine S. 1049 and H.R. 2166, bills to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal lands under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, S. 1437, to provide for the release of the reversionary interest held by the United States in certain land conveyed in 1954 by the United States, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, to the State of Oregon for the establishment of the Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center of Oregon State University in Hermiston, Oregon, S. 1554, to direct the heads of Federal public land management agencies to prepare reports on the availability of public access and egress to Federal public land for hunting, fishing, and other recreational purposes, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 to provide funding for recreational public access to Federal land, S. 1605, for the relief of Michael G. Faber, S. 1640, to facilitate planning, permitting, administration, implementation, and monitoring of pinyon-juniper dominated landscape restoration projects within Lincoln County, Nevada, S. 1888 and H.R. 1241, bills to facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest, S. 2123, to authorize the exchange of certain Federal land and non-Federal land in the State of Minnesota, S. 2616, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Idaho County in the State of Idaho, H.R. 1684, to convey certain property to the State of Wyoming to consolidate the historic Ranch A, and H.R. 3008, to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of National Forest System land in Los Padres National Forest in California.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development

To hold hearings to examine flood insurance claims process in communities after Sandy, focusing on lessons learned and potential improvements.

SD-538

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the "African Growth and Opportunity Act" at 14, focusing on the road ahead.

SD-215

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider H.R. 4007, to recodify and reauthorize the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program, S. 1618, to enhance the Office of Personnel Management background check system for the granting, denial, or revocation of security clearances or access to classified information of employees and contractors of the Federal Government, S. 1347, to provide transparency, accountability, and limitations of Government sponsored conferences, S. 1396, to authorize the Federal Emergency Management Agency to award mitigation financial assistance in certain areas affected by wildfire, an original bill entitled, "Presidential Library Donation Reform Act of 2014", S. 2547, to establish the Railroad Emergency Services Preparedness, Operational Needs, and Safety Evaluation (RESPONSE) Subcommittee under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Advisory Council to provide recommendations on emergency responder training and resources relating to hazardous materials incidents involving railroads, S. 2323, to amend chapter 21 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that fathers of certain permanently disabled or deceased veterans shall be included with mothers of such veterans as preference eligibles for treatment in the civil service, an original bill entitled, "Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Authorization Act of 2014", an original bill entitled, "DHS OIG Mandates Revision Act of 2014", H.R. 4197, to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, an original bill entitled, "Emergency Information Improvement Act of 2014", S. 1898, to require adequate information regarding the tax treatment of payments under settlement agreements entered into by Federal agencies, S. 2447, to amend title 31, United States Code, to clarify the use of credentials by enrolled agents, H.R. 606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the "Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building", H.R. 1671, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the "James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office", H.R. 2291, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office", H.R. 3472, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the "Sergeant Brett E. Gorniewicz