

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTERNATIONAL MEGAN'S LAW TO PREVENT DEMAND FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, for years, the parents of the children who have been preyed upon by pedophiles—and advocacy groups like the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Megan Kanka Foundation—have been very supportive of legislation to better protect our children. Through their consistent, selfless work they have helped victims of abuse and have been an important part of the bipartisan, bicameral coalition supporting this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to read their statements submitted for the record, in support of passage of H.R. 515 The International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking.

JANUARY 20, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM LEADER: On behalf of ECPAT-USA, a policy and advocacy organization that has been at the forefront of the fight to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children for the past two decades, I would like to respectfully ask you consider supporting International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (H.R. 515). When ECPAT-USA first began our work, we focused on fighting sex tourism and holding Americans who traveled abroad to buy sex with minors accountable in the US for sexually exploiting children overseas. H.R. 515 or International Megan's Law protects children from this exact form of exploitation by establishing a notification system to provide advance notice of travel by registered sex offenders to destination countries. We strongly support this legislation and urge not only its swift passage but also a commitment to supporting this effort financially.

The Department of Homeland Security has a proven track record of working cooperatively with foreign governments, having made 99 arrests of traveling child sexual offenders since 2003. International Megan's Law will establish the Angel Watch Center at the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that all destination countries receive a notification that a convicted child sex predator is traveling to their country. It also formalizes the process for the U.S. Marshal's Service Sex Offender Targeting Center to provide advanced notice of travel by all registered sex offenders to destination countries using Interpol notification system. International Megan's Law also coordinates communication between Angel Watch Center and U.S. Marshal's Service Sex Offender Targeting center and streamlines the inter-

national notification system. We believe that these provisions are necessary to strengthen and protect vulnerable children from potential predators.

ECPAT-USA is part of a global network of over 80 ECPAT's in 77 countries all dedicated to protecting children from commercial sexual exploitation. Headquartered in Thailand, we are acutely familiar with the harm caused by sex offenders who travel overseas and continuously exploit children. As a member of the ECPAT network, we are committed to eradicating the practice of child sex tourism. For this reason, we were so pleased to see the Senate pass this bill late last year, and we applaud the efforts and dedication of the bill's original sponsor in the House Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ). We strongly urge the House to swiftly pass International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (H.R. 515).

Sincerely,

CAROL SMOLENSKI,
Executive Director, ECPAT-USA.

FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL,
Washington, DC, January 8, 2016.

REPRESENTATIVE,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of Family Research Council (FRC) and the families we represent, I urge you to vote for International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders ("Megan's Law," H.R. 515), to establish a system that prevents predators from traveling under the radar internationally.

Megan's Law would expand and codify Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ability to effectively alert countries about the travel of registered child-sex offenders, require convicted child-sex predators to have a unique passport identifier to ensure they can be identified at the border as they travel internationally, and ensure collaboration between the U.S. Marshal's Service and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, making government work more effectively. The bill would also provide an appeals process for persons who want their record and notification status reconsidered and make it a crime for registered sex offenders to fail to report intended international travel with less than twenty-one days of notice. Ultimately, the law would facilitate a network to reduce child-sex tourism and reduce recidivism of child-sex offenders.

Family Research Council recognizes that it is important to protect families from child-sex abusers, supports passage of International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (H.R. 515), and encourages you to vote for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

DAVID CHRISTENSEN,
Vice President of Government Affairs.

MEGAN NICOLE KANKA FOUNDATION,
Trenton, NJ, September 2015.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HARRY REID,
Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS: This past August marked the twenty-first anniversary of the violent rape and murder of our seven year old daughter Megan at the hands of a twice-convicted pedophile. As a result of our pain, determination and the support of the public and representatives like you we have Megan's Law throughout the United States. However, children abroad are still unprotected from U.S. sex offenders.

We are grateful that the Congress is advancing the International Megan's Law (H.R. 515/S. 1867) to stop sex offenders from exploiting children internationally—we eagerly await a Senate vote on the bill so that it will become law before the end of the year.

When do we as a society truly stand behind our vows to protect the children of this world? Unfortunately for us, it took the murder of our seven year old daughter Megan for us to get involved.

This law has been eight years in the making. We urgently need your help and support now to prevent new tragedies.

Sincerely,

MAUREEN & RICHARD KANKA.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR
MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN,
Alexandria, VA, January 12, 2016.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SMITH: On behalf of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) and the families and children we serve, I am writing to express our support for your legislation, International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (IML) (H.R. 515). NCMEC supports the goals of IML to help ensure the effective monitoring and compliance of sex offenders who have harmed children and pose a continuing risk to children in the United States and abroad.

NCMEC's Sex Offender Tracking Team (SOTT) assists federal, state, and local law enforcement in their efforts to locate and apprehend noncompliant, convicted sex offenders and determine if there is a possible link to unresolved cases of missing and sexually exploited children. Today, our SOTT analysts provide assistance to various law enforcement agencies, including the U.S. Marshals Service in the National Sex Offender Targeting Center.

Through our SOTT work, we have learned the difficulties law enforcement can face when monitoring sex offenders as well as the potential danger to children when noncompliant, convicted sex offenders travel within the United States or abroad, including the possibility that they will commit additional crimes against children. We believe the legislation you have sponsored—International Megan's Law—will enhance law enforcement's ability to monitor sex offenders when traveling abroad.

As you know, NCMEC also supported the companion bill sponsored in the Senate by

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Senators Richard Shelby and Barbara Mikulski. Provisions of their legislation were incorporated into H.R. 515 and then passed unanimously by the Senate in December. We now look forward to the House of Representatives prompt consideration of H.R. 515.

NCMEC is proud to lend our support to this important legislation, and we are grateful for your dedication to the safety of our nation's children.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. CLARK,
President and CEO.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR
MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN,
Alexandria, VA, January 12, 2016.

Re H.R. 515.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Majority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MCCARTHY AND REPRESENTATIVE PELOSI: On behalf of the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC), I am writing in reference to H.R. 515, International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advance Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders.

For almost two decades, ICMEC has been working around the world to advance child protection and safeguard children from abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation. ICMEC responds to requests for assistance from all over the world through advocacy, training and collaboration. We strive to inform and work with policy makers, law enforcement and others in an effort to enhance and enrich frontline child protection practices.

We strongly believe that all children have the right to live without fear of abduction and free from sexual abuse and exploitation. We believe every child deserves a safe childhood, where they are able to grow into healthy and successful adults.

We thank you for your efforts to protect children from exploitation, to keep known sex offenders from harming children again, and to promote and facilitate enhanced cooperation and information sharing within the global law enforcement community.

Sincerely,

AMBASSADOR MAURA HARTY, RET.
President & CEO.

HONORING CAPTAIN BRIAN T.
KENNEDY

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute and express my deepest appreciation for the service and sacrifice of the 12 Marines missing off the coast of Hawaii, and especially Marine Captain Brian T. Kennedy of Malvern, PA.

Growing up in the Tredyffrin Township, Captain Kennedy attended school at the Tredyffrin/Eastown School District and graduated from Conestoga High School as a member of the National Honors Society and co-captain of the varsity football team.

Upon graduation, Captain Kennedy had the noble desire to serve his country and followed that aspiration to the U.S. Naval Academy where he continued his academic excellence and graduated with a major in Oceanography.

He was a leader by nature, holding many leadership positions at the Academy: a battalion weapons coach, a company platoon sergeant, a company executive officer, a company conduct officer, and a company squad leader.

After joining the Marine Corps as an officer, he was stationed in California where he met his loving and devoted wife, Captain Paige Kennedy.

Together, they both served to protect our country and our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, as a CH-53E Super Stallion pilot, Captain Kennedy fought bravely for our freedoms in the Global War on Terror, which is proven by the numerous decorations awarded.

Unfortunately, after the helicopter crash in Hawaii and an exhaustive search over 40,000 nautical square miles by the Marines and Coast Guard, Captain Kennedy and his comrades have not been found.

We as a nation are truly indebted to those 12 Marines for the ultimate sacrifice they have made in service to this great nation.

And it is with great respect and appreciation that I extend my condolences to their friends and families.

RECOGNIZING WAWA EMPLOYEE
OWNERSHIP

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House passed H.R. 1675, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2015. This legislation will make it easier for companies to let hardworking employees have a stake in the company where they work every day. Companies who have significant employee ownership regularly realize a boost in the company's performance, because ownership gives the employees a vested interest in the success of the company.

I'd like to especially highlight one such organization in my district, Wawa, Inc. Wawa has had an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) since 1992 and has shared ownership with its associates for more than 40 years. Wawa associates own almost 41 percent of the company through the ESOP, and that pride in ownership is on display every single day. From customer services associates to general managers, Wawa employees share in the company's success and are able to accumulate significant retirement savings. It is important to these workers and those across the country who participate in ESOPs that these ownership and retirement programs remain strong.

HONORING OFFICER MATTHEW
MOORE AFTER HIS PASSING ON
JANUARY 23, 2016

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Granite State hero and fallen police officer

Matthew Moore of Hampstead, New Hampshire.

On January 23, 2016, the State of New Hampshire lost a true Granite State hero. During this time of great sadness, we remember and celebrate the life of not only a tremendous police officer, but also a father, husband and friend.

Moore devoted his life to protecting our families and our communities through his military service as a Marine, and his time as a police officer in the towns of Pelham, Sandown and Hampstead.

As his family, friends, neighbors and fellow police officers knew, Moore was really one of a kind. The dedication and compassion he demonstrated during his years of service are not—and will not—be forgotten.

It takes a remarkable individual like Matthew Moore to risk their life daily to keep us safe and protect us from harm. So let us take a moment today and pause, reflect, and celebrate the life and valor of Officer Moore. He put his life on the line to protect the Granite State, and we are forever grateful.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN STONE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Dean Stone has served as Editor of The Daily Times in Maryville, Tennessee for more than six decades.

Recently, he retired from his full-time position.

As The Daily Times recounted in a tribute piece devoted to Dean, he oversaw and outlasted an industry that changed from "hot type, to computer-generated type, to the internet."

Dean is the standard of journalistic fairness and integrity in my District and a towering figure in East Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers the tribute to Dean's career that ran in The Daily Times on December 27, 2015, and wish him well on his much-earned retirement.

STONE, FIXTURE IN TENNESSEE JOURNALISM
SINCE 1948, RETIRES FROM THE DAILY TIMES

(By Daryl Sullivan)

H. Dean Stone has outlasted four owners and six publishers, while seeing the news move from hot type, to computer-generated type, to the Internet, all the while recording Blount County history.

Stone will still be writing, but as 2015 comes to a close, he is retiring from the newsroom—but not without having made an indelible mark on Tennessee journalism and his community, a mark that has earned him the title of editor emeritus at The Daily Times.

"Dean Stone serves as an exemplar for all who are engaged in community journalism," said Gregg Jones, president and CEO of Jones Media Inc., owner of The Daily Times. "Dean never limited himself to merely leading the newsroom, but served as a leader in community affairs. He understood, and exemplified, that community journalism is best practiced when one is immersed in the community one serves, and he has done so—from Alcoa Kiwanis, to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. I first met Dean Stone