

STATEMENT ON THE MARKEY
AMENDMENT ON GNEP**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, before Memorial Day Recess, during consideration of the Fiscal Year 2007 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, Mr. MARKEY, the gentleman from Massachusetts, offered an amendment that would have cut \$40 million for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, a dangerous program about which we are still not fully aware of the consequences. I supported Mr. MARKEY's amendment, which unfortunately failed last night. This amendment would have funded GNEP at \$80 million. The Energy and Water Subcommittee already cut funding from this program, stating "serious reservations" about the new program. Until there are no reservations about the program, we should not continue to fund it.

The Department of Energy claims that the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership will prevent misuse of civilian nuclear facilities for non-peaceful purposes by developing enhanced safeguards over these programs and technologies. According to DOE, the program will account for materials, control technology, provide transparency to validate peaceful uses, and review international agreements and obligations.

Despite the claims of the Department of Energy, there are many consequences of this program that are costly and potentially very dangerous to Americans and the international community.

Nuclear reprocessing is a dangerous endeavor. Reprocessing nuclear waste produces separated plutonium, which can be used to make nuclear weapons. If the plutonium remains bound in large, heavy, and highly radioactive spent fuel assemblies, it is nearly impossible to steal. In contrast, separated plutonium is not highly radioactive. The simple fact is it will never be as secure as it would be if left in the spent fuel rods. By producing additional materials that aid in the production of nuclear weapons, we are potentially enabling terrorists and other non-nuclear countries to create nuclear weapons. This is not the example we want to set for the world.

Reprocessing also does not decrease radioactive nuclear waste. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has said that spent fuel could be safely stored in spent fuel pools or dry casks without significant environmental impact for at least 100 years. For the past thirty years, we have been able to dissuade countries from creating nuclear reprocessing programs on the premise that we ourselves are not involved.

Another problem with GNEP is that the Administration has not been able to demonstrate to Congress how costly this program will be. Since the program was announced in February of this year, the Department of Energy has not provided Congress with an overall cost for this program. Congress has not had the opportunity to evaluate the merits of this program or determine if it is in our best interest, in the long and short term. With such a great undertaking, we must fully understand the effects of this program.

I am disappointed that the Markey amendment failed. It is my hope that my colleagues

will see the dangers of nuclear reprocessing and oppose this program when the final version of the Energy and Water Appropriations bill is considered in the next couple of months.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues in the House the text of a Memorial Day speech delivered by the Mayor of Largo, Florida, Mrs. Patricia Gerard.

Like so many of my colleagues in the House, I was honored to attend numerous Memorial Day services in my Congressional District to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed greatly in defense of our great Nation. It is always humbling to join with veterans young and old and to share moments of remembrance with the families that survive them. Those that we honored on Memorial Day have secured our freedom and our safety, and this point could not have been more clearly made than by Mayor Gerard's comments and her reference to the words of Mr. Charles M. Province.

I submit to you the text of Mayor Gerard's Memorial Day remarks so that we may all reflect on the debt we owe to our men and women in uniform.

Memorial Day is the time for Americans to reconnect with their history and core values by honoring those who gave their lives for the ideals we cherish.

More than a million American service members have died in the wars and conflicts this nation fought since the first colonial soldiers took up arms in 1775 to fight for independence. Each person who died during those conflicts was a loved one cherished by family and friends. Each was a loss to the community and the nation.

We in this country owe a great debt of gratitude to those who sacrificed their lives so that we could live free. We can start to pay that debt by not forgetting, by remembering what they did and what they stood for.

In the words of Charles M. Province:

It is the Soldier, not the reporter,
Who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet,
Who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer,
Who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer,
Who has given us the right to a fair trial;
And I would say:

And it is the Soldier—who leaves his or her
family and goes off to war,
Who allows the protester to speak out
against that war.

Far too often, the nation as a whole takes for granted the freedoms all Americans enjoy. Those freedoms were paid for with the lives of others few of us actually knew. That's why they are all collectively remembered on one special day.

Please join me as we all remember those men and women who have made our way of life possible.

A REMARKABLE MOVE TO
EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take the opportunity today to recognize the remarkable story of Bill Carris and the company he formerly owned, Carris Reels.

Carris Reels, Inc. had been a family owned company. It has been supplying wood, metal and plastic reels to the wire and cable industry for over 45 years, and it provides the most comprehensive product line of any reel manufacturer. Carris Reels has 710 employees, in 15 plants, in eight states.

I said that Carris Reels was formerly owned by Bill Carris. In 1995, at a time when the company had sales of \$83 million, Bill Carris decided that in the future the company should be owned by its employees. So the company began an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) by contributing about 10 percent of its stock to an ESOP. Since then, employee share of ownership has increased—and increased.

This past December an issue of new shares of stock to the ESOP meant that employees owned half—50 percent—of Carris Reels. Also in December, a loan to the ESOP enabled it to buy almost a third of Bill Carris' remaining shares. That meant that, by the turn of the year 2006, 65 percent of Carris Reels was owned and controlled by the company's employees. The intention is for it to be 100 percent employee-owned within 10 years.

Bill Carris strongly believes in community building and in the major role employees should play in running the business in which they work. That's why he decided on a long term plan to move his company from family to employee ownership. He hoped, and his hopes are being borne out, that in doing so he could remake the whole work situation at Carris Reels: employees would be—in fact, they are—owners responsible for charting the course of the corporation, keeping it a profitable business, and securing its long term future. Those who work at Carris Reels have moved from employees to owners, from hired workers to stewards of the company and its future. They share in the company's profits.

Today, in Vermont, the Vermont Employee Ownership Center is recognizing Bill Carris and Carris Reels for taking the enormous step to majority ownership by the corporation's employees through their employee stock ownership plan. The recognition is well-deserved. I believe Bill Carris and his employees, and Carris Reels as well, can serve as a model for our Nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY
KOBAN**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of my friend and constituent, Shirley Kobran. For more than four decades, Shirley has been an active resident