EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RETIREMENT OF THE GENTLELADY FROM KANSAS, THE HONORABLE JAN MEYERS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere regret that I learned today that the gentlelady from Kansas, JAN MEYERS, would not seek reelection to the 105th Congress next year.

I have served with Mrs. MEYERS on the Small Business Committee since her election to the Congress in 1985. In the current Congress, she serves as Chair of the committee and I am the ranking Democratic member. This is a role reversal from the last Congress, and one which I certainly wish had not occurred. But if it had to occur, then I am pleased that the chairmanship passed to Mrs. MEYERS.

During the time that I have served with her, we have had our philosophical differences, but she always personified the term ''gentlelady.''

For the most part, however, we approached the needs of the small business community on a bipartisan basis. The 103d Congress, 1993–94, is an example of what can be done legislatively to assist small business.

It was in this Congress that we finalized the legislation to convene a White House Conference on Small Business. This most important conclave of individual small business owners prioritized their needs and provided us with a blueprint for action which will see us into the next century.

It was also last year, that with her strong support, we were able to enact a major Small Business Administration reauthorization act. This bill, enacted as Public Law 103–403, contained many provisions of vital importance to various segments of the small business community. There are, however, two provisions of particular note.

The first is recognition that Federal spending can be reduced without necessarily reducing assistance to small business. The bill demonstrated this by mandating the delegation of additional decisional responsibility to financial intermediaries who deliver assistance through the certified development company loan program.

The second is reemphasis of the role of small businesses owned by women by establishment of an Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise. This committee, consisting of high-level Government officials, will coordinate Federal programs to assist the establishment and growth of women's business enterprises, and work with the private sector National Women's Business Council.

Congressional elections last November sent many new Members to the Congress and has resulted in many different policies being presented for consideration. Some of these ideas have merit and deserve to be pursued; others are of questionable value; and still yet others, I strongly oppose. But, under our system of government, we must consider all of them, a requirement which presents a herculean task to those who chair our committees.

Mrs. MEYERS has faced this task and performed it with distinction as the Chair of the House Small Business Committee. I am pleased that we still consider small business needs on a bipartisan basis.

Among our major accomplishments this year is legislation to strengthen the Regulatory Flexibility Act which we enacted some 15 years ago. This law requires Federal departments and agencies to consider, and minimize, if possible, any adverse small business impact from proposed regulations. As a result of this year's amendment, however, agencies which ignore small business impact can be brought before the courts which are authorized to enforce this protection.

Possibly the most important item of note is what did not happen—the Small Business Administration [SBA] was not eliminated.

Some new Members of Congress, and even some with experience, do not fully appreciate the ultimate results of the benefits which SBA provides to assist small businesses. In addition, these programs enhance competition, provide employment, and contribute substantial tax income to all levels of government.

At the start of this Congress, I was very apprehensive that this lack of understanding might cause a clamor for the elimination of SBA in order to achieve a minimal amount of budget savings. There has been no such cry, however, and I believe that this has been largely due to the effort of Chairman MEYERS to educate the new Members. She certainly deserves our thanks and support for this very important effort.

I am very sorry that Mrs. MEYERS has announced her departure. She will be greatly missed, particularly by the small business community. I am well aware of the time demands placed upon Members and I too regret the things which I simply cannot do. Thus I sympathize with her decision.

On behalf of her colleagues on the Small Business Committee, I wish her well.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1995 RATTLER FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Florida A&M University Rattler football team, who have had a truly remarkable year. Florida A&M's play this year is reminiscent of its glory days when Jake Gaither was coach and the Rattlers routinely ran roughshod over their opponents.

Coach Billy Joe, in only his second season at the helm of Florida A&M's football fortunes, and his Rattlers this year have captured the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Football Championship with a perfect 6–0 conference record and earned a berth in college football's Heritage Bowl. The Rattler football team also finished the regular season with a 9–2 record, ranked 2d in the Sheridan Black College Poll, and 15th in the Sports Network NCAA Division I–AA Poll. This was their best season since going 12–1 and winning the Inaugural NCAA Division I–AA National Championship 17 years ago.

This is truly a remarkable feat for a young Rattler football team. And, for the first time in 17 years there's renewed talk of football championships on the highest of Tallahassee's seven hills. For the record, the Florida A&M Rattlers have won 11 national championships since 1938.

Florida A&M not only produces championship football teams and great marching bands but also great minds. In 1992, Florida A&M University won another national championship of sorts by edging out Harvard to become the favorite destination of National Achievement Scholars, the Nation's most sought-after high school graduates. Florida A&M has finished among the top five in the recruitment of these academically gifted students in each of the last 5 years.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Floridians everywhere in extending my congratulations to the 1995 Florida A&M University Rattler Football Team, the MEAC Champions, on a job well done. I know that my colleagues join me in honoring the Rattlers and wish them continued success.

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD WELINSKY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. ANTHONY C. BEILENSON

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I are honored to pay tribute to Howard Welinsky, a close friend of ours, a great friend of Israel's, and one of the most active, passionate Democrats we have ever known. This year Howard is being given an award by AIPAC for his many activities on its behalf. It is a richly deserved honor.

Indeed, Howard is legendary for his active support of candidates and causes in which he believes. The world could do with a few more people like Howard Welinsky.

His energy is astounding. As senior vice president of administration at Warner Brothers, Howard oversees all the branch personnel operations in the United States and Canada for Warner Brothers distribution. He regularly arrives at the office before dawn and works well into the evening.

Yet somehow Howard manages to appear at more than his share of after-hours events, and to assume a leadership role in numerous organizations. For example, he is the current Chair of the Israel Commission of the Los Angeles Jewish Community Relations Committee; the current Chair of the Jewish Public Affairs Committee; a member of the board of trustees at UCLA; the current Chair of Democrats of Israel and a member of the regional board of the Los Angeles Hillel Council.

This list represents only about half of all the organizations and associations lucky enough to benefit from Howard's participation. He is truly devoted to his community, and redefines the phrase ''civic-minded.''

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us today in saluting Howard Welinsky, whose life's work consists of helping others. He is an inspiration to all of us.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD LEVINE

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday evening, December 1, 1995, the Men's Club of Kew Gardens Anshe Sholom Jewish Center, Kew Gardens, NY, celebrates the life of past president Bernard Levine. Bernie was a graduate of the Anshe Sholom Hebrew School and was barmitzvahed in the same synagogue.

Most of his adult life was spent working and then taking over his parents' neighborhood candy store which was aptly named Bernie land. The store was opened from early morning to late evening and was patronized by as many as three generations of families. It was the place to go and hear what was going on in the neighborhood as well as to enjoy a real New York egg cream prepared by his darling wife Claire. Bernie's business ethic was to please his customers and he went to great lengths to achieve that result. During inclement weather it was not uncommon to see him delivering newspapers to his aged and infirmed customers.

Upon his what we would call retirement, Bernie became active in our synagogue with the same fervor that he had exhibited in his business. He chaired many functions at the center including publicity and ran a Bernie-Mobile transporting members who needed transportation to and from temple affairs, meetings, and services. He served as president of the men's club with a special flair and introduced many activities for the children of our Hebrew school.

Bernie loved Jewish music and attended countless concerts. He was our neighborhood historian and somehow found time to work on the election board.

Bernie was a mensch in the true sense of the word. He served his family, temple, and community. His unparalleled devotion and goodness will be missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL DENI

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Paul Deni, who has served Waterford Township, MI, as an elected official at the local level for the past 19 years.

Trustee Deni moved to the township over 36 years ago. He served with the U.S. Marine Corps in Korea and is a disabled American veteran. He has been a member of the Waterford Township Lions Club for 12 years, a member of the Pontiac/Waterford Elks, member of the Board of Community Activities, Inc., and a delegate representing the township on SEMCOG for the past 12 years. Professionally Mr. Deni has been in the grocery business for 30 years as the owner of a market in Waterford. During his 10 years as a member of the township board he has served for 12 of those years as a trustee, and the last 7 as the treasurer.

Although our township board will experience a great loss in service from one who has been there for so long; it is fortunate the community will still have the benefit of his presence and caring as he and his wife Eleanor plan on remaining residents of Waterford Township.

RESOLUTION TO GRANT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AUTHORITY OVER ITS OWN LOCALLY RAISED REVENUE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a continuing resolution which would give the District the authority to obligate only District revenues to carry out activities authorized in fiscal year 1995 at a rate of operations capped at $4.994 billion, the spending level agreed to by conferees on the fiscal year 1996 D.C. appropriation bill. Specific oversight by the Financial Authority to monitor obligations and spending would also be required.

In the midst of a serious financial crisis, the District has been particularly damaged by the Federal Government shutdown and would continue to be destabilized by a series of short-term continuing resolutions. Short-term CR's would place the CFO in a particularly untenable position. He is required to avoid overobligation at the same time that he would have to apportion obligations in small amounts to fit very limited continuing resolution authority. Faced with unfunded Federal mandates, for example, AFDC, Medicaid, and the complexity of payments that a city must make, a series of short-term CR's would only lead to disarray. I am particularly concerned that hard-hit District residents, who have endured this serious fiscal crisis, will be put through additional hardship because of a struggle within the Federal Government. It has already become difficult to hold on to D.C. taxpayers.

With an already crippling fiscal crisis, the last thing the Congress should do is to make it worse. Passing a continuing resolution for D.C. is the appropriate thing for Congress to do.

THE WELFARE SYSTEM AS WE KNOW IT

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, how about a dose of reality? The following article by Prof. Fran Quigley was published by the Nuvo Newsweekly in Indianapolis.

P.S. If the present welfare system as we mistakenly know it is so bad, ask yourself this question: Why did President Ronald Reagan sign it into law in 1988?

The Reagan budget, the Reagan revolution, was essentially adopted and became law especially during his first term. Those budgets did not triple the entire accumulated national debt by overfeeding poor children.

[From the Nuvo Newsweekly, Nov. 2–9, 1995]

CONFRONTING THE MYTHS

(By Prof. Fran Quigley)

''Welfare as we know it'' is coming to an end. True to the campaign promises of both President Clinton and the Republican Congress, our country's system of providing guarantees of federal income assistance to poor families through the program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children is being dismantled. In its place will be state-run programs of assistance, including strict time limitations on the receipt of benefits, mandates that parents work outside the home and potentially a blanket denial of assistance to children of teenage mothers.

In Indiana, the changes to ''welfare as we know it'' are even more radical. In June of this year, most Indiana recipients of AFDC were notified that they would be subject to new rules that limit their lifetime enrollment on the program to two years and would be subject to a ''family cap,'' where the state refuses to provide any additional benefits to families for new children conceived while the mother was enrolled in the AFDC program. In light of the conventional wisdom that has the Democratic party as the defender of the nation's poor, the irony of these stricter state provisions is that Democratic Governor Evan Bayh has sponsored and defended the two-year limitation and the family cap, while many Senate Republicans recently rejected these same provisions as too onerous for the poor.

All of these changes have come as a result of immense popular support for elected officials to change ''welfare as we know it.'' But what exactly is welfare as we know it? It turns out that once the programs and the people enrolled in them are examined beyond rhetoric about ''lazy deadcats'' and ''welfare queens,'' the actual data show that many of the assumptions of the welfare debate are incorrect.

Some of these assumptions are so prevalent that they have taken on the status of myths. It is a dangerous situation when these myths have a place at the center of the welfare debate and now the dismantling of the family safety net. In order to take an informed position on the changes in our government's role in assisting the poor, these myths need to be confronted by the cold, hard, statistical truth:

Myth #1: If poor people would just get jobs, they would no longer be poor.

Truth: In 1990s America, poverty is now a problem for working people and their families. In 1969, full-time employment at a minimum-wage job provided enough income to keep a family of three out of poverty. In 1992, full-time minimum-wage employment provided only 76 percent of the income needed to

keep that same family above the federal government's estimate of the poverty level, and only 50 percent of the income estimated to be necessary for a three-person family to live a safe and healthy lifestyle in Indianapolis.

Implicit in this ''get a job'' myth and much of the anti-welfare rhetoric is the notion that poor people are poor because they are too lazy to work. However, noted welfare and poverty researcher Joel Handler describes empirical studies showing that poor people, including people receiving welfare, usually have a well-developed work ethic and, in fact, most do work at jobs that simply do not pay enough salary to keep their families out of poverty.

Those who do not work outside the home usually are raising families, and the financial difficulties of maintaining employment, child care, transportation and health care are often responsible for forcing single parents out of the workplace. Also, any description of AFDC recipients as not ''working'' ignores the reality that raising children is both difficult and important work: Anyone who has raised children must reject the ''lazy'' description for a single mother who is raising kids in an environment of substandard housing, violence and constant financial uncertainty.

Myth #2: Once a person receives welfare benefits, his financial needs will be met.

Truth: Receipt of Aid to Families with Dependent Children in Indiana provides a family with less than one-third of the income needed to meet the federal government estimate of the poverty level. A disabled adult's Supplemental Security Income provides a little over 54 percent of the estimated income necessary to meet the poverty level for a two-person family. AFDC benefit levels vary among states, but the median state AFDC maximum monthly benefit level for a family of three was only $366, which is barely more than a third of the federal poverty line. The grim implication of these figures is that our streets and shelters are full of families with children who are homeless and/or hungry, yet are receiving the maximum welfare benefits allowed.

Myth #3: Women have babies in order to receive larger welfare checks.

Truth: Since Indiana's average AFDC monthly increase totals only $65 per additional child, as contrasted with the federal government's quite modest estimate of a $200-plus increased monthly cost of living per child, Indiana's welfare recipients do not have any financial incentive to have babies. In fact, most welfare mothers do not have a large number of children: 73 percent of all AFDC recipients have only one or two children. AFDC recipients with more than three children constitute only 10 percent of the total number of families enrolled in the program.

Myth #4: Most welfare recipients are African American, longtime dependents and teenage parents.

Truth: All of these descriptive adjectives are incorrect as applied to AFDC recipients. African-Americans only make up 37 percent of all AFDC recipients (down from 45 percent in 1969), over half of all recipients leave the AFDC program within one year, and only 8 percent of recipients are under the age of 20.

Myth #5: Programs to help the poor are too expensive for state and federal government budgets.

Truth: Don't blame the poor for budget deficits without looking in the mirror first: All the direct aid to the poor (AFDC, Medicaid, Food Stamps, and SSI) together does not equal three of the tax breaks benefiting the middle class and wealthy (deductions for retirement plans, home mortgage interest deductions, and exemptions for employer-paid health insurance premiums). Put another way, the AFDC program consumes only 1 percent of the federal budget and 2 percent of the average state budget.

Also, government investments in the well-being of our nation's poor, especially poor children, are cost-effective because of the programs' prevention of future social costs. For example, every dollar spent on Head Start programs is estimated to save $4.75 in later special education, crime, welfare and other costs. Similar estimates have every dollar spent on childhood immunization or drug treatment saving $10 in later medical costs or social costs.

Myth #6: Housing assistance is widely available to poor people.

Truth: There is often at least a two-year waiting list for public or subsidized housing in Marion County if the housing unit is even accepting applications, and these existing programs are at risk of reduction or elimination by the current Congress. Subsidized housing is vital to poor people because the federal government's recommendation that people pay 30 percent of their income on housing and utilities is an otherwise impossible goal for most AFDC recipients. For example, the 1993 fair market value for an Indianapolis two-bedroom apartment is $523, which represents 156 percent of the monthly income of a three-person family receiving AFDC.

In fact, most poor people in Indianapolis pay over 50 percent of their income in housing costs. Some of the hypocrisy of the anti-welfare rhetoric based on allegations of budget-busting is demonstrated by the government's commitment to providing significant housing benefits for the decidedly non-poor. For every dollar spent by the federal government on low-income housing assistance, $3 of housing assistance is provided to high-income persons (incomes in the top 20 percent) through homeowner tax deductions.

Myth #7: Private charities can replace government programs to help the poor.

Truth: Private charitable programs currently spend only about 1 percent as much as state and federal governments on social services, and many of those private services are provided by agencies heavily dependent on government funds. The major charitable providers of social services, including Salvation Army, Catholic Charities USA and Feed the Children, have taken the position that government has a necessary role in helping the poor. Leaders of these organizations predict disastrous consequences for the poor if the government significantly reduces its role in providing a social safety net.

Myth #8: The United States provides the opportunity for persons in poverty to simply pull themselves up into the middle class.

Truth: For most poor people, 1995 America is not the land of opportunity. The gap between the rich and poor in our society is the largest of any industrialized nation, and the percentage of poor people who are able to move out of poverty has steadily decreased in the last several decades. Even though current efforts to solve the United States' poverty problem focus on reducing or eliminating government programs, it is the more generous and pervasive family benefit programs that are generally cited as the source of the greater amount of class mobility and lower amount of poverty in comparable countries.

Dire consequences are predicted as a result of changes to our current welfare system, with poverty experts and service providers predicting everything from widespread rioting to a future where children sleeping on sidewalk heating grates will be a common sight. The lesson to be taken from exposing the fallacy of the myths that motivated these changes is that the very survival of our country's poor families is put at risk based on misconceptions and prejudices, rather than clear-eyed examination of the effectiveness of the current welfare programs. While it may not yet be clear what the consequences of changing welfare will have for the poor and for the rest of us, it is clear that we have eliminated ''welfare as we know it'' when we did not really ''know it'' in the first place.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TAKOVICH

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct honor in extending my warmest congratulations and best wishes to Mr. John Takovich on this retirement, which Miami-Dade Community College is celebrating this Sunday, December 3, 1995. Having served as an integral member of the College Division of Physical Education and Athletics since 1964, he also served as director of the north campus intramurels program.

During his 32-year career, John held chairmanships of the department of prescribed physical education and the department of leisure services, was coordinator of athletic facilities. In 1986 he returned to full-time teaching duties and involved himself in a myriad of classes ranging from soccer, wrestling, health analysis, and improvement to sports officiating.

He has demonstrated an enviable versatility in spearheading sportsmanship and teamplay through his unrelenting efforts as event coordinator for numerous intercollegiate activities held at the north campus including the Sunshine Open National Tournament, the NJCAA Soccer Tournament, the NJCAA judo events, the College Celebrity Golf Annual Event and the college open house.

Countless students and parents from the South Florida community are deeply thankful for the longevity of his dedicated service in buttressing the college's challenge for academic achievement and athletic development.

A native West Virginian, he has become a permanent fixture in the Miami-Dade community through his constant advocacy and exemplary commitment to the cause of making the college the best in the Nation. He and Patricia, his wife of 32 years, have been blessed with three children and everyone is looking forward to this longed-for retirement.

TRIBUTE TO NETTIE BECKER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. ANTHONY C. BEILENSON

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I are honored to pay tribute to Nettie Becker, who this year is being given an award

from AIPAC for her long history of efforts on its behalf. Nettie has proven countless times over the years that she is, indeed, a great friend of Israel. AIPAC is lucky to have her talents and energy.

So are many other organizations, associations, committees, and commissions. Nettie is one of those special people who makes a point of being active and involved with the community. She is a member of the executive committee of the Anti-Defamation League; a member of the California Women's Political Summit; a board member of the Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles; a board member of the Jewish National Fund and a Governor Wilson appointee to the Seismic Safety Commission.

Nettie's accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. The Los Angeles County Commission for Women honored her in 1993 for dedicated service to the community, while in 1990 she was given the first Women of Achievement Award from State of Israel Bonds.

Through it all Nettie has managed to run a business, Nettie Becker Escrow, Inc., of Beverly Hills. Since its founding in 1979, it has become one of the most successful escrow companies in California. The Los Angeles Business Journal named Nettie Becker Escrow as 1 of its top 100 woman owned businesses since 1989.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us today in saluting Nettie Becker, whose selflessness, dedication, and work ethic is an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO TRUMAN F. MARSHALL

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. WILSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise before my colleagues today to pay a special tribute to Mr. Truman F. Marshall, a dedicated public servant who will soon retire from the U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, after 40 years of distinguished service. I ask that the House join with me to thank Mr. Marshall for his contributions to the Corps of Engineers, his local community, and our country.

Truman Marshall began his Federal service with the U.S. Air Force on October 6, 1955. Since that time, Mr. Marshall has distinguished himself as a man of dedication, innovation, and personal accomplishment. In 1963, he transferred to the Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, and took a position as an engineer draftsman. Over the next 32 years, Truman Marshall moved his way up the ladder. At the time of his retirement, Truman Marshall served as program analyst in the Programs and Project Management Division. During his career, Truman Marshall received numerous awards and letters of appreciation. Among these awards, Mr. Marshall has received the Commanders Award and the Southwestern Division Award for Programmer of the Year. Mr. Marshall serves his community well and is a member of the Vestry for St. Johns Episcopal Church. He is an assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America and has served in this capacity for the past 23 years; receiving the District Award of Merit from the Boy Scouts. He is a former member of the Board of Directors for the Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers Employees Federal Credit Union. Mr. Marshall has made numerous monetary contributions to the Mexico earthquake; Oklahoma City bombing; and numerous local charities and has donated leave to fellow workers through the Leave Share Program.

Mr. Speaker, Truman Marshall is a remarkable individual whose 40 years of personal competence, unwavering commitment, and selfless sacrifice is a model for public servants. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his service in the U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers, the Southwestern Division, and the Fort Worth District.

As he begins his retirement, may he and his family fully enjoy all the best in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS GALINSKY

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen whose contributions to the educational advancement of New York City school children go unsurpassed. It is a special privilege to pay tribute to Mr. Louis Galinsky; a teacher, leader, and mentor to thousands of students attending New York public schools. His teaching skills coupled with a keen understanding of his student's emotional and academic needs, earned the highest respect and trust among his pupils, parents, colleagues, and fellow academics. This outstanding member of our community deserves recognition of his achievements.

Mr. Galinsky began his successful career as a social studies teacher at Junior High School No. 3 in Manhattan. After working there for over 7 years, he became a guidance counselor at Junior High School No. 71. Galinksy's commitment to his students became clear as he remained at this post for 8 years. He then worked for the Committee on the Handicapped for 2 years and soon after became the assistant principal at P.S. 99. Galinsky was later promoted to head principal of this school and fulfilled that role until his retirement. His hard work and dedication solidified his superior reputation as one of the top educational leaders in New York.

The people of our city owe a moment of thanks to Mr. Galinsky for his tireless hard work and countless contributions to the success of New York's students. I am honored to salute him upon his retirement and wish him well in his future plans.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP ODIS A. FLOYD

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Bishop Odis A. Floyd of New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church on his 26th pastoral anniversary.

During the 26 years of service, Bishop Floyd has presided over a growth in membership from 450 to the current membership of 3,000. Bishop Floyd, although not born in Flint, came to our community in 1948. He entered the U.S. Army in 1958. Bishop Floyd has attended Monterey College, Pensacola Junior College, Mott Community College, Toledo Bible College, and the United Theological Seminary from which he received his DD degree in 1990. In 1964 he accepted a call to ministry; which all of us in the Flint community are forever grateful for. In 1965 he began assisting his grandfather, the Rev. L.W. Owens in the organization of the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. Bishop Floyd was ordained in 1969, and became pastor later in 1969 when his grandfather retired. In 1991 the church's name was changed to the New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church. In 1993 he was consecrated to the office of Bishop by Paul S. Morton, Presiding Bishop of the Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship.

Our community is truly enriched by the teaching and leadership of the Bishop Floyd. Although he has received many recognitions and awards over the years, and served the community through membership on many boards; it's the missionary work that he carries out on behalf of New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church and in particular his involvement at Community Alliance, Resource, Environment [CARE] Drug Rehabilitation and Prevention Center that makes him a giant in our community.

BILL TO REDUCE MINIMUM NUMBER OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which would reduce the minimum number of Board of Trustees of American University from forty (as defined in the University's Act of Incorporation) to twenty-five. American University President Benjamin Ladner and the Board of Trustees have asked me to introduce this corrective measure.

American University was incoportated by Act of Congress on February 24, 1893. Its charter contains a provision setting the minimum number of the Board of Trustees at forty. On May 5, 1995, the Board of Trustees of the University passed a resolution authorizing the Board Officers and the President of the University to obtain the necessary approval from the General Board of Higher Education, the United Methodist Church and the U.S. Congress to reduce the number of trustees to twenty-five. Both the General Board of Higher Education and the United Methodist Church have approved this change. Only approval from the Congress remains.

The Board of Trustees believes that a board minimum size of twenty-five will permit the University to fully engage in its fiduciary responsibilities and grant greater flexibility to hold meetings and conduct business as a fully constituted board. It has simply become too cumbersome for the University to conduct its business while retaining forty trustees on the Board.

I urge my colleagues to support this corrective measure.

THE FUTURE OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, as we continue to debate the future of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, I'd like to ask my colleagues to consider the views of Ms. Carolyn Scanlan, president and chief operating officer of the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's hospitals would be particularly hard hit by the Medicare and Medicaid provisions we are considering because of the high percentage of senior citizens who live in Pennsylvania, but her concerns reflect those of hospitals all across the Nation. We will not improve the Medicare and Medicaid programs by forcing hospitals, particularly hospitals in rural areas, to close. Downsizing may look good to accountants and bookkeepers, but it's not an encouraging concept for senior citizens when it means closing hospitals. We've got to work to improve availability, access, and affordability in Medicare and Medicaid, and we can do it without forcing seniors to accept care that is anything but the best.

The text of Ms. Scanlan's letter follows:

THE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA,
Harrisburg, PA, November 16, 1995.

Hon. JOHN P. MURTHA,
House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN MURTHA: I have reviewed the U.S. House/Senate Conference Report and am deeply disappointed that the proposal does not sufficiently address the issues of health care restructuring, patient access and beneficiary choice. I must therefore ask that you oppose the conference report when it comes before you for a vote.

For the past several months we have communicated to you, and House and Senate leadership, the message driving our efforts to help Congress achieve a balanced budget while preserving Medicare and Medicaid and improving health care delivery:

Inclusion of House provider sponsored network provision.

Inclusion of the lower House Medicare spending reductions.

Reduced and capped House Medicare ''failsafe'' provision.

Guaranteed Medicaid coverage for children, pregnant women and the disabled.

Inclusion of House language on medical malpractice, antitrust, fraud and abuse and self-referral provisions.

Inclusion of House trust fund for Graduate Medical Education (GME) and Indirect Medical Education (IME) and lower IME reductions.

Inclusion of Senate carve out for medical education and Disproportionate Share (DSH) and lower DSH reductions.

The conference report falls far short of meeting these goals, which are essential to ensure that the more than 250 hospitals and health systems in Pennsylvania can better address community health needs and offer beneficiaries health care coverage with a local focus.

As the process moves forward, the hospital community remains available to work with you to craft a budget reconciliation bill that includes these critical elements. Your ''no vote'' will provide us with an opportunity to work together toward a better bill that will ensure our ability to continue to provide appropriate and necessary services to our senior citizens, the disabled, children and low-income families.

HONORING HOSPICE CARE

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize hospice care, which is considered one of the more humane traditions of health service delivery in the United States; providing palliative medical care and supportive social, emotional, and spiritual services to the terminally ill, as well as support for the family.

Hospice care involves a team of professionals, including physicians, nurses, therapists, home care aides, social workers, counselors, and volunteers who help terminally ill patients and their families, primarily at home, share the final days in peace, comfort, and dignity. Hospice offers an effective alternative to hospitals and nursing homes employing more than 33,500 full-time professionals and approximately 11,000 volunteers who together served more than 280,000 individuals last year alone. These hospice caregiving teams help patients, as well as their family members with one of the toughest transitions in life. They are able to do so by eliminating the physical pain associated with an illness, as well as supplying necessary psychological, spiritual, and emotional support in a program primarily based in the home that treats the person, not the disease; focusing on the family, not the individual; and emphasizing the qualify of life, helping patients and their families the opportunity to reclaim the spirit of life.

It is an honor to pay tribute to these dedicated professionals who demonstrating their caring, compassion, and charity on a daily basis.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF EDWARD A. SMITH

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor the memory of one of Kansas City's outstanding business and civic leaders, Edward A. Smith. Mr. Smith died tragically November 20, the victim of a hit and run accident.

Ed Smith leaves a legacy of outstanding achievements and selfless contributions to the community he called home, Kansas City, MO. He worked tirelessly within both the business and civic communities, quietly direct many high level philanthropic efforts and helping to shape important businesses and foundations. Ed Smith gave a lifetime commitment to making Kansas City a better community for all of us.

In his eulogy to the more than one-thousand mourners who gathered to say farewell last week, Rabbi Alan Cohen said of Ed Smith, ''He was a mentor to a great many people. He was a visionary. He truly left his mark.'' I join with his many friends and family members in describing Ed Smith as an ''uncommon person.'' Rabbi Cohen added that although Mr. Smith loved the law, his fiercest loyalty was to his family. ''His loyalty extended to everything he did'' according to Rabbi Cohen. ''He was always ready to give back to people and places that had been a part of him.''

Henry Bloch of H & R Bloch has said that Ed Smith is largely responsible for the success of H & R Bloch, where Smith was a long time director. According to Henry Bloch, ''Whenever we had a problem, we said, 'let's call Ed.' He was a man of superior intellect, but not ego.''

Close friends have described Ed Smith as someone who worked tirelessly and was passionate about philanthropy. Many have noted that he was one of Kansas City's most effective behind-the-scenes leaders, never seeking recognition for his work, but focusing instead on getting things accomplished.

In the late 1970's Mr. Smith attended a dinner party with several other civic leaders. They agreed to form a community foundation, passing the hat and amassing just over two-hundred-dollars that night. That group has since become the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and Affiliated Trusts which now manages assets of $270-million in 450 charitable funds. It also owns the Kansas City Royals baseball team.

Among the many awards Edward Smith received: the University of Missouri, Kansas City, Chancellors Medallion in 1991; the Charles Evans Whittaker Award in 1992 given by the Lawyers Association of Kansas City; the National Conference of Christians and Jews Citation award in 1993; Ingram's Magazine named Edward Smith one of their ''Local Heroes'' and ''Hall of Famers'' in 1994–1995.

Ed Smith was very active in the Jewish community. He was a member of the Beth Shalom congregation and a past director of the Jewish community Center. He also held a directorship with the Beth Shalom Foundation. In 1986, Mr. Smith received the Civic Service award from the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

Edward Smith was born January 20, 1918 in Worcester, MA. He attended Clark University in Worcester where he graduated with honors in Economics in 1939. He went on to Harvard Law School where he graduated in 1942. A founder of one of Kansas City's most prominent law firms, Smith, Gill, Fisher and Butts, Ed Smith was instrumental in building its success and in facilitating its recent merger with the Bryan Cave law firm.

Edward Smith leaves his wife, Beth K. Smith, with whom he has celebrated 50 years of marriage, and four children: Sarah S. Malino, Judith E. Smith, Deborah M. Smith and James D. Smith. He also leaves eight grandchildren. Beth Smith shared her husband's commitment to civic, cultural, and social causes, and her leadership is revered in the community.

Today Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join with me and with the people of Kansas City, who keenly feel the loss of Edward Smith. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this sorrowful time. Edward Smith was an outstanding individual who took a special interest in helping young people develop their abilities and leadership skills. The

void he leaves in our community will long be felt by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with him. The legacy of leadership he leaves will live on in future generations whose lives he has touched in the most remarkable way.

MEDICARE HMO MARKETING

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Nation's seniors and low-income citizens are starting to be hit with a tidal wave of sales pitches for managed care health plans.

Some of the information is helpful. A lot of it is just old-fashioned boiler room high-pressure sales pitch.

I've just received the following letter from Dr. Harley Schultz of San Leandro, CA, which explains some of the dangers of this marketing.

Mr. Speaker, before a lot of seniors and disabled and low-income people are hurt by gross sales practices, we need to establish some standards so that people can make rationale, careful choices on their health plans—after all, it could be a matter of life and death.

The letter follows:

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: Recently I had the experience where a Medicare/MediCal patient of ours was marketed and sold an HMO plan. Neither the patient or family understood that the plan resulted in a limitation of their choice of hospital, home health service, would result in a co-payment for office visits, and possibly limitations in service available. The salesman told them that since MediCal patients would soon be enrolled in managed-care plans, that they should sign up early instead of later.

Several other patients have commented to me that they signed up for various plans because they eventually succumbed to persistent telemarketing, and didn't know any other way to stop the phone calls from coming.

Many of our elderly citizens are clearly no match for sophisticated insurance salesmen who work on commission.

Inasmuch as you have a long record of interest in fraud and abuse, I would suggest to you that you may wish to direct some of your attention to marketing practices in the health care industry. Specifically, the Federal Government may wish to set certain guidelines for the plans with which they contract with regard to the information that is presented, the way it is presented, and the amount of aggression that can be used in pursuing a potential client.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM ALHEIM

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise in recognition of the upcoming retirement of one of the great institutional leaders at Miami-Dade Community College, Dr. William Alheim. He is retiring on December 3, 1995 after some 35 years of superlative service to countless students and the community, transforming it into the topmost community college in the Nation.

Dr. Alheim virtually epitomized the demonstration of utmost excellence and dedication of the college's athletic department, exemplified by the countless awards his teams garnered during his 25-year tenure as basketball coach. Throughout this period he won 560 games while losing only 176 contests for an excellent .759 lifetime winning percentage. His hoopsters won four State championships, and claimed three State runner-up trophies, while participating 17 times in trips to State championship tournaments. To his tribute, he coached seven junior college all-Americans.

For this enviable record, Coach Alheim was voted Coach of the Year three times in 1968, 1982, and 1984. His finest hour came in 1982 when he led his team to a perfect 33–0 record and the No. 1 national ranking before losing an overtime decision in the national championship. Despite this loss Coach Alheim garnered the Kodak National Coach of the Year, becoming the first junior college coach to be so honored.

He was enshrined into the Florida Community College Activities Association Hall of Fame, the Florida Community College Basketball Hall of Fame, and the National Junior College Association Hall of Fame. Since retiring from active coaching, Dr. Alheim has served as division chairman of the department of exercise science and sports medicine.

This well-deserved retirement will certainly allow him to spend more time with Helen, whom he married 42 years ago. The Alheims are blessed with two sons, along with one granddaughter.

TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL COHEN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a most distinguished member of the Washington community, Israel Cohen, who died last week at the age of 83. For over 60 years, Izzy, as he was known, helped guide Giant Food, which his father had cofounded in 1936, into the area's largest chain of supermarkets and into one of the most community-oriented businesses in the Nation.

As we honor the memory of this most successful businessman, we must remember him also for his keen interest in the families, schools, and neighborhoods his supermarkets served. His sense of social responsibility and community service is exemplified by Giant's establishing stores in underserved innercity neighborhoods, by sponsoring "It's Academic" TV competitions for our teenagers, by helping area schools purchase needed computer equipment, and by assisting in the fundraising efforts of countless educational and community groups.

The people of the Washington metropolitan area mourn the loss of a great businessman and a great and good neighbor. His commitment, dedication, and generosity will always be remembered. Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending condolences to his family.

IN SUPPORT OF CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY RELIEF ACT

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2525, the Charitable Gift Annuity Relief Act, and H.R. 2519, the Philanthropy Protection Act. These proposals will provide needed clarity to our securities and antitrust laws, and their relation to gift annuities, one of the oldest and most common fundraising methods used by charities throughout the United States.

Presently, one isolated lawsuit in Texas against a charity has been broadened to a class-action suit that has certified over 2,000 nonprofit defendants nationwide. Without this legislation, these nonprofit organizations are vulnerable to lawsuits based on a perceived violation of Federal antitrust and securities laws. This litigation, and the range of nonprofit defendants involved in the lawsuit, underscores the need to draw a distinction between annuity arrangements offered by commercial entities and those offered by charities.

St. Louis University is one of these charitable organizations. Planned giving programs, such as charitable gift annuities, account for roughly 50 percent of its fundraising efforts. The pending lawsuit has jeopardized its ability to offer potential donors these types of programs. Other nonprofit organizations are alarmed as to how they will fund their programs in the future. In addition to S.L.U., the Salvation Army of St. Louis, The Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, and the Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital are just a few of the nonprofit groups in my district affected by this issue. The legal defense fees for the defendants in the pending suit is over $1 million a month, draining charities of precious dollars that could be used to meet their worthy goals.

Mr. Speaker, the donors who enter into charitable gift annuities do not act to make a profitable return on an investment. Rather, they are acting because they support the mission of the charity, and donate their money to that end. I am concerned with cuts in Federal spending that threaten the ability of our Nation's nonprofit organizations to continue their philanthropic programs. We should not compound their situation by failing to respond to the legal vulnerability they face under laws intended to regulate commercial securities. This legislation, supported by the Securities and Exchange Commission, will protect charities from securities and antitrust-based lawsuits, and allow them to raise funds in the years to come. I strongly urge passage of these bills.

SIDE WITH THE DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS, NOT THE DOPE SMOKERS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would urge all of my colleagues to oppose legislation—H.R. 2618—to allow marijuana for medical use.

The FDA has repeatedly rejected marijuana for medical use because it adversely impacts concentration and memory, the lungs, motor coordination, and the immune systems. A recent evaluation of the issue by scientists at NIH concluded, after carefully examining the existing preclinical and human data, there is no evidence to suggest that smoked marijuana might be superior to currently available therapies for glaucoma, weight loss associated with AIDS, and nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy.

The simply truth is that organizations promoting this bill—normal/drug policy foundation—are intentionally exploiting the pain and suffering of others as part of their back door attempt to legalize marijuana.

Marijuana weakens the human immune system. That is why, oncologists reject the idea of prescribing smoked marijuana for cancer chemotherapy. Crude marijuana contains over 400 different chemicals. Marinol—oral THC—is available for the treatment of nausea associated with chemotherapy. Yet, safer and more effective medications are preferred by physicians.

While marijuana and several other substances can lower intraocular eye pressure associated with glaucoma the medication must be carefully tailored to prevent further eye damage. Besides numerous adverse side effects of smoking marijuana, the dose cannot be controlled.

There are also misconceptions about the use of marijuana in treating treat the wasting syndrome associated with AIDS. It is ineffective in increasing weight gain and further compromises the immune system. It also puts AIDS patients at significant risk for infections and respiratory problems.

For these reasons the American Cancer Society, the American Glaucoma Society, and the American Medical Society all oppose using marijuana for medicinal purposes. Oppose H.R. 2618 and reject those who make empty promises to patients with chronic illnesses.

When you hear from the conspiracy theory dope smokers, who spend most of their time flooding the internet with prodrug messages aimed at kids, keep in mind that the physicians and other health care professionals who care for AIDS, cancer, and glaucoma patients overwhelmingly oppose this ill-advised legislation.

ST. NICK'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation 20th Anniversary. One of the corporation's projects is Jennings Hall, a 150-unit residence for senior citizens, which was once a vacant nurses' residence which had been abandoned when St. Catherines Hospital closed its doors in the early 1970's. Jennings Hall is just one of many success brought forward by the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation—St. Nicks.

St. Nicks opened its doors for business in the rectory of St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church on May 12, 1975. Three of the original staff members were on hand on May 12, 1995 to present awards to St. Nicks' five founding advisors. Mr. Speaker, the founding advisors deserve special recognition, they are: Erica Forman, Cathy Herman, Jan Peterson, Ron Shiffman, and Brian Sullivan. They were presented with the Founding Members' Award for the creative and forward-looking planning and technical assistance they provided to St. Nicks at its inception and throughout the years. I join Marion Wallin and Marie Leanza in recognizing them for ''the invaluable contributions they had each made to the organization and the neighborhood in their unique ways during the past 20 years.''

St. Nicks Board Chair, Louis Pellegrino called the commemorative events for the 20th Anniversary of the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation just one more effort ''to bring together all those who contribute their time, effort, and support to make the community a better place in which to live and work.'' Mr. Speaker, I am proud to add my voice to those who recognize the significant contributions of all the St. Nicks members and staff to our community. Groups like St. Nicks galvanize our neighbors and provide the spark necessary to stop the all too common deterioration of communities, neighborhoods, and cultures. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I can only hope that the 20th Anniversary of the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corporation will inspire others to follow their lead in making our communities better places to live and work.

IRANIAN REGIME PROVEN TO BE MAJOR VIOLATOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Iranian regime has proven to be a major violator of human rights, particularly those of women in Iran. The present regime of Iran is the world's leading state-sponsor of terrorism, has adamantly worked to subvert the peace process in the Middle East, is vigorously pursuing an ambitious nuclear program, and has used every opportunity to interfere in the internal affairs of other nations. This has gone on for 15 long years. There must be an end to this misery for the people of Iran and relief for the rest of the world.

Experience has shown that change must come from within. The Iranian people have demonstrated that they seek a different course than their rulers. Demonstrations, riots, and strikes in Iran within the past year further testify to their reality. Meanwhile, the National Council of Resistance of Iran, as the only alternative to the present regime, has declared that it seeks a democratic, pluralistic and secular Iran.

In March, on the anniversary of International Women's Day, I stated in this chamber that the clerics' number-one enemy is a woman: Maryam Rajavi. She was elected by Iran's parliament-in-exile as the future president of Iran. The unprecedented participation of women in the resistance is the best testimony to the movement's democratic nature.

Recently, Mrs. Rajavi, whose headquarters are in Paris, paid a visit to Norway, where she was warmly received like a head of state. She met with leaders of all major parties, spoke at the Foreign Relations Committee of Norway's parliament, and attended a Sunday prayer service at Oslo's most famous church, where she was received by a high official of the Norwegian Church. She also attended an enthusiastic gathering of 1,500 of her supporters is Oslo, and addressed dignitaries at the City Hall. In this speech, she outlined the goals and objectives of the Resistance she leads, and eloquently spoke of her vision for a democratic and peace-seeking Iran of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is extremely important for our leaders and citizens to better acquaint themselves with her views. In addition, Norway must be lauded for its firm stance against the Iranian regime, and its support for Maryam Rajavi. I, therefore submit a copy of the text of Mrs. Rajavi's speech, to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TEXT OF THE REMARKS BY MRS. MARYAM RAJAVI, THE IRANIAN RESISTANCE'S PRESIDENT-ELECT, OSLO, NORWAY, OCTOBER 31, 1995

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends, I would first of all like to thank Mr. Lingas, Mrs. Nybaak and all those in the Committee in Defense of Human Rights in Iran for all the work they have done to defend the rights of the Iranian people.

It is a source of great pleasure to be among the leading thinkers, intellectuals and representatives of a nation which for many years heroically resisted against foreign occupation and the reign of Hitler's fascism, liberated itself and instituted a society which is doubtless one of the most advanced democracies in the contemporary world. It is a society wherein women have a leading role in guiding its affairs, in and of itself the most realistic and best hallmark of democracy in today's world.

I am therefore confident that I am speaking to an audience which well understands the suffering of an enchained nation of 70 million, who for the last 16 years have been subjugated by a brutal religious fascism that has eliminated all vestiges of democracy and popular sovereignty. Norway's policy of distancing herself from the conventional conciliatory approach to the Khomeini regime, and paying heed to human rights and the resistance in Iran, assures our people that democracy and justice have an adamant advocate in today's world. The formation of the Norwegian Committee in Defense of Human Rights in Iran itself best reflects this commitment to and respect for the principles of human rights and justice by Norway's political, cultural, social, artistic and literary personalities.

Allow me to use this opportunity to outline the issues which, in my view, must be considered by the international community. What is transpiring in my fettered country, Iran, namely the reign of the mullahs' medieval religious dictatorship, not only represents a national catastrophe for all Iranians, but is also a source of a global problem and danger threatening stability and peace the world over.

Firstly, the mullahs have extended their state-sponsored terrorism across Asia, Africa, the United States, and Europe, including Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France and Norway.

Secondly, the clerics are exporting the cultural and political dimensions of fundamentalism, especially to Islamic countries and various Muslim societies. This is followed by an expansion of the fundamentalist extremist networks.

Thirdly, they oppose peace and advocate turmoil everywhere, as reflected in their regime's enmity to the Middle East peace process.

Today, virtually everyone is aware of the crimes perpetrated by Khomeini's anti-human regime within and without Iran. You know that the clerics have executed 100,000 of the best youth of my country purely for political reasons, for opposing the ruling dictatorship, and for defending freedom and democracy. The names and particulars of 16,000 of them have been complied in this book. The victims include intellectuals, university students and faculty, high school students, teenage girls, pregnant women, elderly women, businessmen, merchants and even dissident clerics. In many cases, several members of a single family have been executed. Many more have been subjected to the most barbaric, medieval tortures.

Nor is the appalling predicament of women under the mullahs' rule a secret. Inconceivable atrocities are committed against women on the pretext of combating improper veiling. Everyday, thousands of women are lashed, sent to prisons or viciously assaulted and insulted. These crimes are unprecedented in other areas of the globe. The rulers of Iran brazenly carry out hideous crimes under the banner of Islam. According to Khomeini's fatwa, virgin girls are raped by the Revolutionary Guards prior to execution to prevent them from going to heaven. Those condemned to death have their blood drained before execution.

The export of terrorism, fundamentalism and belligerence of this regime, under the banner of Islam and revolution, is another well-established fact. It is evident in the regime's insistence on perpetuating the unpatriotic war with Iraq, which lasted some eight years and left millions dead or wounded and $1000 billion in economic damages on the Iranian side alone; in its enmity to Middle East peace; in its interference in the affairs of Islamic countries; in its decree to murder foreign nationals; and in its more than 100 terrorist operations throughout the world. The echo of these despicable-criminals' bullets still lingers in this city.

And it is clear to everyone that the regime has adopted policies of setting up intelligence, propaganda and terrorist networks in other countries; allocating astronomical funds to procure conventional arms, and biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction; and especially of endeavoring to obtain nuclear weaponry—all to back up the export of fundamentalism and to secure the survival of the religious dictatorship.

I shall refrain from further elaborating on the regime's crimes and conspiracies. In the time that I have, I wish to address a pivotal issue: How to confront this regime and the fundamentalism and terrorism it fosters. This issue is key, because on the international level, all approaches and policies vis-a-vis the mullahs' religious, terrorist dictatorship have proven futile. Indeed, in many cases they have been taken advantage of by the regime, which has been the only party to benefit from them.

For many years, particularly following Khomeini's death, Western countries indulged in a guest for a moderate current within the regime. They pinned their hopes on improving the regime's behavior through economic engagement. Simultaneously, a number of big powers invested in a policy of appeasement in an attempt to ingratiate themselves with Tehran, and prevent the export of terrorism to their own countries. Consistent with this approach, the official European policy toward Iran today is one critical dialogue. The experience of the past 16 years has confirmed, however, that none of these policies has borne fruit. They have failed to have any impact on the conduct of this international outlaw.

A symbolic and quite fitting example is the inhuman and anti-Islamic fatwa against Salman Rushdie. About seven years have passed since the decree was issued. All European efforts to change the status quo through dialogue, discussion and economic and political incentives have proven futile. Khomeini's successors have time and again reiterated that the decree must be implemented. For seven years, the regime has used the Rushdie affair as a bargaining chip in seeking more concessions from the West. The atrocities that this regime perpetrates against its own citizens are beyond description. Needless to say, the moderation of such a regime is but a mirage.

It is ironic that when even the Khomeini regime's first prime minister, Mehdi Bazargan, acknowledged in an interview with the German daily Frankfurter Rundschau in January that the mullahs have the support of less than five percent of the Muslim people of Iran, and lack both religious and social legitimacy, the international community nevertheless allows Tehran to promote their evil anti-Islamic, anti-human objectives among Muslims elsewhere, turn Western countries into hunting grounds for their opponents, and blackmail European countries by staging terrorist operations on their soil to promote their evil anti-Islamic, anti-human objectives among Muslims elsewhere, turn Western countries into hunting grounds for their opponents, and blackmail European countries by staging terrorist operations on their soil. Indeed, the extensive economic and political support provided by a number of countries, coupled with the kowtowing by certain circles to the terrorist mullahs' political blackmail, have been instrumental in prolonging this regime and delaying the establishment of democracy in Iran by the Iranian people and Resistance.

MISPERCEPTIONS ABOUT MULLAHS, SOURCE OF APPEASEMENT

In my view, beyond economic interests or fear of terrorism—which in many cases justify and give impetus to them—these misguided policies and drastic miscalculations stem from the lack of a correct, objective understanding of the nature of the Khomeini regime, and of the roots and extent of its fundamentalist, backward outlook. For precisely this reason, these countries lose sight of the regional and international implications of their approach. This misperception of the regime's durability is compounded by a comparable deficiency in objective appraisals or knowledge of the legitimate, democratic alternative to this regime, which is capable of bringing democracy to Iran.

Although there are fundamental differences between the Khomeini regime and Hitler's fascism, in terms of their political, economic and military capabilities, a parallel may nonetheless be drawn with the conciliatory treatment of Germany by some European countries in the years preceding the Second World War. This policy of acquiescence, embodied in the Munich agreement of 1938 or the relations between the Soviet Union and Hitler's Germany until even the first or the second year of the war, stemmed from the notion that certain concessions at the expense of other countries, who were abandoned in their Resistance against fascism, would stop German expansionism. Hitler benefited greatly from the policy, which enabled him to advance his goals.

Today, due to the experience of the past 16 years, a more profound understanding of the clerical regime's nature has emerged and, in a few cases, a more realistic policy has been adopted. Here, allow me, on behalf of a Resistance movement which for 16 years has waged an all-out cultural, ideological and political struggle against this regime, to briefly share with you our knowledge and awareness of this regime. This understanding and our consequent principled policies have enabled us to resist against the most ruthless dictator of contemporary history and prevent him from casting us aside. In fact, we have experienced continuous expansion and growth.

Misperceptions of the regime have not only led to mistaken policies by the international community. For the same reason, many Iranian political parties and groups regrettably failed to stand up to this religious, terrorist dictatorship, surrendered to it, or were eliminated altogether from the Iranian political landscape.

THE NOTION OF THE VELAYAT-E FAQIH

In reality, the outlook and conduct of Khomeini and his regime neither belong to our age, nor compare to most dictatorships that have emerged in the twentieth century. This regime represents the most retrogressive form of medieval, sectarian dictatorship. Having failed to alleviate any of Iranian society's problems or needs, it is attempting to impose itself under the guise of Islam on the people of the world, especially Muslims.

The mullah's religious dictatorship is based on the philosophy of Velayat-e Faqih, presented in its present form for the first time by Khomeini. He explains his views in his book, ''Islamic Rule or Velayat-e Faqih,'' written in the 1960s. His theory is based on the one hand upon imposing absolute authority over the populace, and on the other upon extending this authority to all Muslims, i.e. ''exporting revolution.''

In his book Khomeini states: ''The Velayat-e Faqih is like appointing a guardian for a minor. In terms of responsibility and status, the guardian of a nation is no different from the guardian of a minor.'' These are Khomeini's exact words. During his reign, he repeated several times that if the entire population advocated something to which he was opposed, he would nevertheless do as he saw fit.

He went as far as to write: ''If a competent person arises and forms a government, his authority to administer the society's affairs is the same as that of Prophet Muhammad. Everyone (meaning Muslims everywhere) must obey him. The idea that the Prophet had more authority as a ruler than His Holiness Imam Ali [the first Shi'ite Imam], or that the latter's authority exceeded that of the Vali is incorrect.''

With these words, Khomeini granted himself the same authority as the Prophet of God, but he did not stop there. Twenty some years later, in 1988, he wrote an open letter, published in the regime's dailies, lashing out at some views suggesting that ''government authority is contained within the bounds of divine edicts.'' Khomeini wrote: ''. . . The Velayat takes precedence over all secondary commandments, even prayer, fasting, and the hajj. . . The government is empowered to unilaterally abrogate the religious commitments it has undertaken with the people. . . The statements made, or being made, derive from a lack of knowledge of divinely ordained absolute rule. . .''

In this way, Khomeini propagated the notion of the Velayat-e Motlaqeh Faqih (absolute rule of the jurist), something which his heirs and theoreticians within the regime went to extremes to stress. Mullah Ahmad Azari-Qomi, one of the most authoritative theoreticians of the Velayat-e Faqih notion, wrote: ''The Velayat-e Faqih means absolute religious and legal guardianship of the people by the Faqih. This guardianship applies to the entire world and all that exist in it,

whether earthbound or flying creatures, inanimate objects, plants, animals, and anything in any way related to collective or individual human life, all human affairs, belongings, or assets. . .''

This world view, as practiced by Khomeini and his regime, culminates in absolute ruthlessness and oppression when dealing with the issue of women. Azari-Qomi writes about the marriage of virgin girls thus: ''Islam prohibits the marriage of a virgin girl without the permission of her father and her own consent. Both of them must agree. But the Vali-e Faqih is authorized to overrule the father or the girl.'' In other words, the Vali-e Faqih can forcibly marry a girl without her own or her father's consent. In this way, this regime not only applies maximum political suppression on the citizenry, but interferes in the most personal affairs of their lives, from compulsory veiling to varied forms of discrimination against women, to banning smiles and stoning women to death.

Misogyny is the most fundamental feature of the Velayat-e Faqih, and the structure of the clerical regime's system rests upon dehumanizing women. As far as women in the work force are concerned, their opportunities are less than 10% of those of their male counterparts. This ratio decreases as the quality of the job or its political nature increases. No women manage the affairs of the society, particularly its political leadership. The regime's constitution absolutely and unequivocally bans women from judgeships, the presidency and leadership.

All evaluations and laws within this regime are based on the precept that women are weak and the property of men, for which reason they have no place in leading or managing the society. A woman must stay at home, rear children and cook, the tasks for which she has been created.

The official, legal deprivations and restrictions, and even statistics represent only a small part of the gender apartheid. Its more significant aspect is in the spirit of the antihuman relationships emanating from this regime, to the extent that one woman wrote in a state-controlled daily that it makes women regret that they were created as women in the first place. Indeed, it is these relationships which force women, especially young women, to set themselves on fire in utter despair under the mullahs' reign.

The mullahs' misogyny has given rise to horrifying crimes. The wholesale execution of thousands of women, even pregnant women, is unique to this regime. The flogging and torturing of women in public, execution methods such as firing bullets into their wombs, the ''residential quarters'' in prisons designed to totally destroy these defenseless women, and the multitudes of tortures and atrocities invented by the mullahs, demonstrate the unparalleled savagery of their enmity toward women. Why does the regime so barbarously and relentlessly suppress women? What explains the clerics' misogyny?

The foundations erected by Khomeini's religious despotism and the installation of the regime's suppressive institutions and forces have been fortified by promoting and reinforcing gender-based distinctions and discrimination. In the name of religion and such pretexts as improper veiling, the clerics suppress women, eliminating them from the social scene.

This enmity toward women is not, however, merely a by-product of the mullahs' reactionary beliefs. If the clerics show the slightest laxity in their misogyny and gender-apartheid, allowing women to enter the social arena free of the reactionary restrictions unique to this regime, the mullahs' suppressive organs and institutions throughout society would lose their raison d'être. The clerical regime, a religious dictatorship, would subsequently lose its vitality, because the dynamism and conduct of the repressive forces in defending the theocracy is, before anything else, rooted in safeguarding gender-distinctions under the pretext of defending ''Islamic rule.''

As far as the regime's foreign policy and the export of terrorism are concerned, both Khomeini and his successors pursue specific goals, unequivocally defined. Following Khomeini's death, Rafsanjani stressed: ''Islamic Iran is the base for all Muslims the world over,'' adding that Khomeini ''truly and deeply hated the idea that we be limited by nationalism, by race, or by our own territory.'' Elsewhere he says: ''Iran is the base of the new movements of the world of Islam . . . The eyes of Muslims worldwide are focused here . . .''

The book Principles of Foreign Policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, published by the Iranian regime's foreign ministry, states: ''Islam recognizes only one boundary, purely ideological in nature. Other boundaries, including geographic borders, are rejected and condemned.''

After Khomeini's death, his son Ahmad said: ''Islam recognizes no borders . . . The objective of the Islamic Republic and its officials is none other than to establish a global Islamic rule . . .''

The mullahs ruling Iran dream of a global Islamic caliphate, much like the Ottoman Empire. They say the Islamic revolution will suffocate within Iran's borders and cannot be preserved without the export of revolution. Mohammad Khatami, Rafsanjani's former Minister of Islamic Culture and Guidance, who is also known as a moderate within the regime, writes: ''Where do we look when drawing up our strategy? Do we look to bast (expansion) or to hefz (preservation)?'' Particularly after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the mullahs refer to the split between Trotsky and Stalin in the 1930's, noting that developments in the Soviet Union proved the validity of Trotsky's theory of a ''permanent revolution,'' and that the only way to preserve the Islamic regime is to foment Islamic revolutions in other countries. The slogan of ''liberating Qods (Jerusalem) via Karbala,'' with which Khomeini continued the Iran-Iraq war for eight years, reflected the strategy of ''bast.''

Ali-Muhammad Besharati, the current Interior Minister and former Deputy Foreign Minister, stresses that ''the third millennium belongs to Islam and the rule of Muslims over the world.'' By Muslims, of course, he means none other than the mullahs. Mohammad-Javad Larijani, a key foreign policy advisor to Rafsanjani, said: ''The true Velayat-e Faqih is in Iran. This Velayat is responsible for all of the Muslim world. . . One of its objectives is expansion. . .'' Larijani is one of the regime's roving ambassadors who engages in a great deal of posturing for the Europeans. Rafsanjani recently sent him to Europe for some deceitful maneuvers concerning the Rushdie case. Khamenei's latest emphasis that the Jews must be expelled from Israel and Israel annihilated are also an extension of this policy.

I must emphasize here that the mullahs' outlook and theories about government and Velayat-e Faqih cannot be viewed as an interpretation of Islam. They are the first to offer such a criminal reading of Islam. This is unprecedented in Islamic history. Even many traditional clerics, more senior than or on par with Khomeini in Qom and Najaf seminaries, were strongly opposed to the Velayat-e Faqih perspective. In reality, the mullahs interpret Islam solely in terms of the needs and interests of their dictatorship.

The fact is that Khomeini and his clique lack any historical or political ability to govern a big nation with several thousand years of history and a rich culture. To stay in power, they see themselves as increasingly compelled to employ repression and religious tyranny insider the country, and export terrorism and fundamentalism, in an effort to expand the geographic sphere of their influence. For this reason, after Khomeini's death, contrary to all expectations that his heirs would pursue a ''moderate'' path, they were forced to fill the void of Khomeini's charisma, the unifying element which gave the regime religious legitimacy, with greater suppression and export of fundamentalism. The Rafsanjani regime's record of terrorist activities abroad and interference in Islamic countries and the affairs of Muslims elsewhere is far worse than when Khomeini was alive.

HOW DID KHOMEINI BECOME A NATIONAL & GLOBAL THREAT

Allow me to also refer to how the regime is taking advantage of Iran's cultural, political, human and geo-strategic potential in pursuing its evil objectives:

For 14 centuries, since the advent of Islam, Iran and Iranians have always played a key role in shaping and advancing the policies and cultural identity of the Islamic world. Iranians wrote most books on Shi'ite and Sunni *Figh* and *Hadith*, on Arabic grammar and on interpreting the Quran. In philosophy, logic, mathematics, medicine, astronomy, chemistry and other sciences of the era, Iranian scientists led the Islamic world. The books of Avecina, the renowned 11th century philosopher and physicians, were translated into many languages and taught in Western universities until recently.

With an eye to Iran's vast land mass, geopolitical position, population and many other factors, the country enjoys an exceptional position in the Islamic world. In the last 14 centuries, it has had a tremendous impact on Islamic countries. The mullahs have made maximum use of this potential to export their fundamentalism and advance their objectives. In other words, if a regime much like Khomeini's has assumed power in any other Islamic country, it would not have enjoyed such stature. It is not without reason that Larijani says Iran is the only country capable of leading the Islamic world. This explains why the clerical regime in Tehran serves as the heart of fundamentalism throughout the world, just as Moscow did for communism.

Many fundamentalist currents existed in Iran or elsewhere before Khomeini's ascension to power, but they were nothing more than isolated religious sects. With the establishment of an Islamic reign in Tehran, they were transformed into political and social movements, and into serious threats to peace, democracy and traquillity.

In fact, the Khomeini regime uses propaganda, political, financial, military and ideological assistance, and beyond all these, its status as a role model and as a regional and international source of support, to direct Muslims' religious sentiments toward extremist and undemocratic trends. The mullahs exploit Islam's spirit of liberation and its call for justice and freedom, to further their medieval rule. Instead, consistent with the experience of the Resistance, the sentiments of Muslims and Islam's freedom-seeking spirit could have been and can translate into a modern and democratic movement which, while respectful of Islam, aspires to a secularist, pluralist form of government.

WHAT'S TO BE DONE?

So far, I have referred to the internal and international conduct of the Khomeini regime. Now, I wish to address the solution.

On the basis of our 16-years of experience in the struggle for democracy, the only solution is to offer a political and cultural alternative to the Khomeini regime. I say political because this alternative must overthrow the regime and replace it with a democratic, secular government. The head of the viper is in Tehran and unless crushed there, there is no hope of uprooting fundamentalism.

I say cultural because this alternative must present a democratic Islam, with a peaceful, tolerant culture compatible with science and civilization, to confront the mullahs' Velayat-e Faqih theory. Only thus can it prevent the mullahs from imposing themselves as the representatives of Islam in the minds of the people of Muslim countries.

Even before Khomeini's rule, we understood the danger of the Velayat-e Faqih, because we knew the mullahs and Khomeini intimately. While in prison in the final months before the shah's fall, the Mojahedin leader, Mr. Massoud Rajavi, repeatedly pointed to backward religious currents as the main threat to the democratic anti-shah movement and warned against the dangers of religious fascism. In 1979, Khomeini succeeded in usurping the leadership of the Iranian people's antidictatorial revolution, relying on *marja'iat* (religious leadership) for religious legitimacy, deceit and the people's lack of experience and awareness. The shah's widespread clamp down on organizations fighting for freedom, including the arrest and execution of their leaders, assisted Khomeini along the way. Relying on the overwhelming support of the people, who longed for freedom and independence, he became a dangerous force which destroyed everything in his path.

From the onset, the Mojahedin, as a democratic Muslim force, saw it incumbent upon themselves to expose Khomeini's demagoguery and false portrayal of Islam. They thus represented a cultural, ideological and political challenge to the ruling mullahs, and embarked upon a relentless campaign to explain the facts to the people. For the first time, there was a cultural alternative to the Khomeini regime.

What we knew of Islam, the Quran and the life of the Prophet of Islam (peace be upon him) was totally contrary to the behavior of the new rulers. Like all great religions, Islam is the religion of compassion, tolerance, emancipation and equality. The Holy Quran often states that there is no compulsion in religion. In so far as political and social life are concerned, it stresses consultation, democracy and respect for other people's views. Islam seeks social progress, and economic, social and political evolution.

Fourteen centuries ago, when people in the Arabian peninsula were burying their girl children alive, Islam accorded women equal political, social and economic identities and independence. The Prophet of Islam profoundly respected women. The first Muslim was a woman, and four out of the ten original Muslims were women.

After two and half years, the Resistance's endeavors paid off. Cracks appeared in Khomeini's religious legitimacy, and his use of the weapon of Islam began to lose its effect. No longer did the people view Khomeini and the ruling mullahs as infallible. To prolong his rule inside the country, Khomeini had resorted to a blatant crackdown. Everyone knew that the Mojahedin, the largest opposition force seeking freedom, were Muslim themselves and that Khomeini's quarrel with them was not over Islam, but over preserving his dictatorial rule. Our message defended political freedoms and the people's individual and social rights, and opposed dictatorship and the regime's misuse of Islam.

Mr. Rajavi lectured on Islamic teachings in one of Tehran's largest universities in 1980. 10,000 university students and intellectuals took part every week, and tapes and transcripts were distributed in the hundreds of thousands. The discourses exposed Khomeini's reactionary views promulgated under the banner of Islam, discrediting him among the religious youth. In a ruthless onslaught to curb the extensive influence of the Mojahedin in all universities, in spring 1980 Khomeini closed down all universities for the years to come on the pretext of a cultural revolution. For our part, we have continued our efforts in this respect as one of our primary tasks.

Another of the fundamental aspects of this cultural struggle has been to target the heart of the clerics' Velayet-e Faqih culture, namely the issue of women and mullahs' ultra-reactionary, misogynous treatment of them. In this regard, we did not stop at simply exposing the clerics. In other words, our women, in diametric opposition to Khomeini's culture, advanced through unprecedented effort and activities and assumed heavy responsibilities at the highest levels of the Resistance.

With its unique perspective on this issue, the Iranian Resistance succeeded in incorporating women in the front lines of the movement and in the highest levels of military command, as acknowledged by most observers. In the political arena as well, we are witnessing the ascension of women to important political positions. At the organizational and management levels, the highest positions are occupied by woman who have shown that when given the opportunity, they can excel in assuming responsibility. Today, 52% of members of the Resistance's parliament are women. Women fill the majority of positions within the National Liberation Army's high command. The leadership of the Mojahedin consists of a 24-member, all women council. The women of the Resistance have thus proven that, just like men, before all else it is their human qualities and consequent social and political abilities which count. They have righteously overcome all obstacles in performing their duties.

Hence, a glance at the regime and the Resistance quickly reveals two distinctly opposite cultures. Diametrically opposed to the Khomeini regime, whose very existence depends on their suppression and elimination of women, the victory and advancement of the Resistance would have been impossible without woman and their role in the leadership and command. The first to attest to this fact are the male activists, combatants, and commanders, who are best aware of the glorious path that has been traversed.

It is also significant that the Resistance's elimination of the most persistent and profound form of discrimination against the most oppressed sector of society, namely women, and its fostering of relationships among people which allow women to attain their legal and social rights, is the best guarantee for democracy and pluralism in the future Iran.

A DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE

Obviously, we did not stop at introducing a cultural alternative, we also gradually established a political alternative. In 1980, during the first presidential elections, Massoud Rajavi was a candidate for president. All religious and ethnic minorities, the youth, women, and opposition groups and parties supported Mr. Rajavi's candidacy. Sensing the danger, Khomeini issued a fatwa a few days before the election, banning him as a candidate because he had not voted for the Velayat-e Faqih constitution. Several months later, during the elections for parliament, the Mojahedin and other democratic forces announced a joint slate. This time, despite the many votes cast for them. the regime prevented even one of the Mojahedin candidates from taking office through widespread rigging. In each of the election rallies of the Mojahedin in Tehran and other cites, hundreds of thousands took part.

In the first two and a half years of Khomeini's rule, the *Pasdaran* (Revolutionary Guards) killed 50 supporters and members of the Mojahedin in the streets. They arrested several thousand, subjecting them to brutal torture. The regime also dispatched gangs of club-wielders into the streets to clamp down on dissidents. In contrast, the Mojahedin did not fire a single bullet, relinquishing their legitimate right to self-defense to prevent more violence and bloodshed. The Mojahedin's goal was to resolve the political problems through peaceful means.

On June 20, 1981, in protest to the repression, the Mojahedin organized a peaceful demonstration. In a short span of time, some 50,000 Tehran residents joined the march. Khomeini issued a fatwa to suppress the demonstration. Guards opened fire indiscriminately, and hundreds were killed or wounded. Thousands were arrested and executed the same night in groups of several hundred.

Khomeini and other officials of his regime had realized early on, even before the overthrow of the shah, that the Mojahedin could stand against both a religious and political dictatorship, due to their freedom-seeking and tolerant interpretation of Islam and their popularity and social base. In other words, the Mojahedin were the antithesis to the clerics. In summer 1980, several days after Mr. Rajavi spoke to 200,000 Tehran residents in Amjadieh sports stadium, condemning the slaughter of the Mojahedin and dissidents in other cities, Khomeini reacted by saying that the enemy was ''neither in the Soviet Union, nor in the United States, nor in Iranian Kurdistan, but right here—in Tehran.''

In reality, the religious dictatorship was trying to portray democracy and popular sovereignty as contrary to Islam. In consequence, it could suppress any democratic initiative on the charge of being anti-Islamic. The mullahs relied in this tactic on the people's unawareness. Khomeini was, however, well aware that the Mojahedin would thwart his pretenses about Islam and religious legitimacy. Thus, he spared no effort against the Iranian Resistance, because he knew that if could eliminate us, he could overcome his other problems and stabilize his rule. Among the crimes the Khomeini regime perpetrated to destroy its main enemy, I can mention his order for the mass execution of all members and supporters of this Resistance, purely for being affiliated with the movement, his declaration that their lives and properties are fair game, and the assassinations of the Resistance's activists abroad.

In this way, Khomeini, who in 1979 was welcomed as a religious and political leader by millions in Tehran, continued after June 20, detested, only through the force of the bayonet, torture and execution. The people, meanwhile, were chanting death to Khomeini. As such, the only avenues which remained for the freedom-seeking and patriotic people and forces was to rid themselves of the mullahs to establish democracy.

In order for the Resistance for freedom to achieve maturity, a political alternative—a vast coalition of opposite groups—was needed. Although the basis for such a coalition had taken shape in the first presidential elections and the parliamentary elections,

after the start of the extensive, all-embracing suppression, this coalition had to be formalized and transformed into a political alternative. Thus, on July 21, 1981, the National Council of Resistance was formed with the objective of establishing democracy in Iran.

After 14 years, the Council, the longest lasting democratic, political coalition in Iran's contemporary era, has 560 members. A significant number of other committed personalities, whose membership has recently been approved, will soon join it. The Council encompasses the democratic opposition, the representatives of ethnic and religious minorities, nationalist figures, and Muslim, secular and socialist leaders. It acts as the Resistance's Parliament.

The Council's 25 committees will serve as the basis for the future coalition government following the mullahs' overthrow. In office for a maximum of six months, the Provisional Government's primary task is to hold free elections for a Legislative and Constituent Assembly. According to the Council's ratified decisions, in tomorrow's Iran, elections and the general vote will constitute the basis for the legitimacy of the country's future government. Freedom of belief, press, parties and political assemblies is guaranteed, as are the judicial security of all citizens and the rights stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

All privileges based on gender, greed, and beliefs will be abolished and any discrimination against the followers of different religions and denominations will be banned. No one will be granted any privilege, or discriminated against, on the basis of belief or non-belief in a particular religion or denomination.

In tomorrow's Iran, the national bazaar and capitalism, personal and private ownership and investment toward the advancement of the national economy will be guaranteed. As for foreign policy, Iran will advocate peace, peaceful coexistence, and regional and international cooperation.

According to the Council's ratified plans, in tomorrow's Iran, women will enjoy equal social, political, cultural and economic rights with men. They will have the right to elect and be elected in all elections, and the right to freely choose their occupation, education, political activity, travel, and spouse, Equal rights to divorce and freedom of choice in apparel will be guaranteed for them.

THE REGIME'S CURRENT STATE

In this way, 16 years after the mullahs' rule, the overwhelming majority of people, from women to workers, to employees to university faculty, intellectuals and even the bazaar merchants and clergy, who were hitherto considered the traditional basis of the regime, are deeply disaffected. Unemployment grips 50% of the labor force. With an inflation rate of over 100%, some 80% of the people live below the poverty line. Corruption and astronomical embezzlement by the regime's officials, some of which has been exposed, have eliminated any credibility the regime might have had.

In a word, the abysmal economic, social and ethical record of the regime and 16 yeas of resistance by a democratic alternative against it, have left no legitimacy or popular base for this regime. In the eyes of the Iranian people, the regime and its leaders are a bunch of criminals, thieves and corrupt individuals. Khomeini's death and the death of the last remaining grand ayatollahs; the lack of the minimum qualifications in Khamenei as the regime's religious leader; and the absence of an acceptable Marjá-e Taqlid (source of emulation) who would support the regime have either eliminated or seriously undermined the last vestiges of the regime's religious legitimacy among the most retrogressive sectors of the society and the most traditional forces supporting it.

Today, religious fundamentalism does not exist as a social issue or problem in Iran. We are, rather, facing a form of fascism under the guise of religion which holds the reins of power. It is not without reason that today only 30% of the regime's Revolutionary Guards, its main suppressive arm, are volunteers, whereas at the end of the Iran-Iraq war in 1988 and Khomeini's death in 1989, more than 70% were volunteers ideologically loyal to the regime. Even those remaining are receiving greater material incentives, and continue essentially because it is a well-paying job. In short, they have been transformed from a volunteer army to a suppressive mercenary force which fights against the people for its own survival.

On the international scene, however, the situation is very different. Although word of the regime's difficulties and internal crises and crimes against the people has inevitably reached the outside world, the policies of other countries toward the regime have not allowed the Iranian people's all-out Resistance and more importantly, that Resistance's cultural and ideological challenge to the mullahs to extend beyond Iran's borders.

For this reason, the regime has done its utmost to tarnish the image of the Resistance at the international level and forestall its advances, through dirty deals and agreements. This is one of the primary issues of discussion between the regime and its foreign interlocutors. The regime pursues its policies and prevarication against the Resistance in international arenas and foreign countries through its own operatives or through persons who have acquiesced but pose as oppositionists

The regime's extreme sensitivity and hysteric reactions to the international successes and political relations of the Resistance with other countries, governments and parliaments confirm that this is its Achilles heel. This also explains the repeated appeals by the regime's leaders and diplomats to other governments to prevent the presence of the members and sympathizers of the Resistance. By the same token, the economic relationships between Western countries and Tehran's rulers, and the resultant petro-dollars are used only for domestic suppression, weapons purchases and the quest to obtain nuclear arms and export terrorism and fundamentalism. A significant portion of the revenue has also been diverted into the mullahs' foreign bank accounts. For their part, the Iranian people have received nothing but suppression and greater destitution.

The extensive economic ties with this regime have not only failed to contain fundamentalism, but have also emboldened the regime to continue these policies. Experience has also shown that the clerics use these connections as a cover to undertake more terrorist and fundamentalist activities abroad.

In a word, the 16-year experience of the Iranian Resistance in dealing with the fundamentalist rulers of Iran and the experiences of international politics regarding Iran under the banner of the mullahs demonstrate that:

Any policy based on appeasing this regime is doomed to failure. Laws governing a religious dictatorship are different from the experiences and laws applying to the world community as we approach the end of the 20th century. This regime's laws emanate from the Middle Ages. Decisiveness is the only language with which one can and must communicate with this regime.

Any notion that would equate the conduct of the Khomeini regime with Islam is a strategic and dangerous mistake from which only the mullahs benefit. By publicizing, supporting or recognizing the democratic alternative, which has the greatest respect for Islam as the religion of the majority of the Iranian people, and which at its core encompasses a Muslim democratic movement, is the only way to deny the mullahs the means of characterizing and exploiting opposition, hostility and decisiveness on the international level toward them as enmity to Islam.

In this way, the world community and Western countries will not be compelled to surrender to the blackmail of Khomeini's anti-human regime under the banner of Islam, to accept its double-talk on the cultural and religious distinctions of Iran and Islamic countries, or to tarnish the universal principles of human rights by giving concessions to this anti-human regime. Regrettably, the regime has recently received such concessions in a number of cases.

Furthermore, the people of different countries, especially Muslims, will to a great extent obtain the objective understanding of the Khomeini regime that the people of Iran have arrived at, and few will be beguiled by the regime's Islamic posturing and demagogic slogans.

In other words, exercising decisiveness against the regime and support for the Iranian Resistance constitute two fronts against fundamentalism. On the one hand, by standing firm against the regime and supporting the Resistance, the pace of change by the people inside Iran toward democracy and peace will be expedited. Thus, the material and spiritual source of support for fundamentalism will be eliminated and its heart will stop beating. On the other hand, by exposing the anti-Islamic nature of the mullahs in Western and Islamic countries and introducing the democratic alternative to this regime, the fertile grounds for the growth of fundamentalism will dry up. We have gained this experience with 100,000 martyrs.

Norway has more than once demonstrated that on the international level, it does not take yield to routine political and economic considerations in defending democracy and human rights. The courageous actions by your country to assist liberation movements and its pioneering role in resolving international issues, have given Norway a special stature among the people of different countries. In the same way, your firm stance vis-à-vis the religious, terrorist dictatorship ruling Iran has aroused enormous friendship and respect among the people of Iran.

On behalf of the Iranian people and their just Resistance for peace and freedom, I see it incumbent upon myself to call on the government and the people of Norway to impose comprehensive sanctions on, and sever diplomatic relations with, the mullahs and put the issue of Iran and the Resistance on the agenda of their foreign policy, and to convince especially the European countries to adopt a decisive policy and recognize the right of the Iranian people to resist against this anti-human regime.

And here, I want to address Norwegian women in general and those supremely qualified women in particular who have held positions of enormous political and social responsibility in your country for many years. I call upon you to rush to the aide of your sisters in Iran, who have ably resisted against the misogynous clerical regime and for their part have demonstrated that a woman is equally a human being. Of course, in this path, they have made great sacrifices and endured intolerable prisons and torture.

I also call upon the Norwegian youth, whose decisive role in the political life of Norway I have witnessed during my stay in

your country, to come to the aid of the Iranian youth who are suffering from the most extreme pressures.

The Iranian people are determined to bring democracy and peace to their homeland. Doubtless, a democratic Iran is indispensable to the return of tranquility and lasting peace to the entire Middle East region and the uprooting of terrorism throughout the globe.

I again thank our dear friends, particularly the members of the Committee in Defense of Human Rights in Iran. I hope to soon be your host in the democratic Iran of tomorrow.

THE FBI DUE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I have learned some Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI] special agents are accorded Merit System Protection Board [MSPB] appeal rights and others are not. This discriminatory policy offends traditional notions of fairness and should change. It is not fair that some agents receive MSPB appeal rights while others do not.

Because of my concern about this policy, today I will introduce legislation, the FBI Due Process Improvement Act, a copy of which appears at the end of my statement. This simple legislation would amend 5 U.S.C. § 7511(b)(8) by striking ''the Federal Bureau of Investigation,'' thereby extending certain procedural and appeal rights with respect to certain adverse personnel actions to all employees of the FBI. This legislation corrects the current disparate treatment of nonveteran special agents regarding their ability to appeal adverse personnel actions and ensures the due process rights of all employees of the FBI.

Special agents of the FBI are loyal civil servants dedicated to protecting Americans from the worst kinds of crime. Their jobs are difficult, demanding, and sometimes dangerous. They are often transferred to posts far from home which demands considerable sacrifice by FBI families. FBI agents are on the front line of the fight against crime. They endeavor to reunite mothers and fathers with their kidnaped children; they work to maintain the high integrity of the American political system by investigating public corruption; they protect all Americans from foreign and domestic terrorism; they risk life and limb infiltrating and thwarting the scourge of organized crime; they help keep drugs out of the hands of America's most vulnerable citizens; they investigate white collar crime, pornography, and a host of countless other Federal criminal offenses. In short, FBI agents are the often unseen but indispensable protectors of tranquility and freedom within the United States. The FBI motto—fidelity, bravery, and integrity—accurately characterizes the manner in which agents approach their important work.

These duties are performed by all agents, veteran and nonveteran alike. However, these two categories of agents receive disparate treatment when charged with misconduct. Military veterans are permitted full due process rights including the ability to appeal adverse personnel actions to the MSPB. In other words, veteran agents, who are in the excepted service, receive the same due process rights that employees in the competitive service receive. Nonveteran agents, also members of the excepted service, do not. This means that a veteran agent will receive an outside, independent, objective review of his/her case while a nonveteran agent will not. Is this fair? I maintain that it is not. Furthermore, female special agents are particularly hit hard by this policy because few have served in the military; thus they are not eligible to receive the MSPB appeal rights that veteran agents, who are predominantly men, do. Also, FBI agents should have the same MSPB appeal rights as Federal law enforcement agents who work for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Drug Enforcement Administration, Customs Service, and Border Patrol.

The Congress should eliminate this discriminatory policy because it serves no rational or useful purpose. The Congress should have rectified this disparity in 1990 when it enacted legislation (P.L. 101–376) which granted appeal rights to members of the excepted service affected by adverse personnel actions. The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, in its report on the bill (H. Rept. 101–328), preserved the disparate treatment between preference eligible veteran agents and other agents because of the FBI's ''sensitive mission.'' However, this conclusion was not supported by any concrete examples about how MSPB appeal rights would adversely affect the FBI's sensitive mission. In fact, if the denial of MSPB appeal rights is so vital to the sensitive mission of the FBI, the prudent course would have been to deny those rights to all agents, including preference eligible agents. Obviously, the grant of MSPB rights to all agents would not adversely impact the FBI's mission. The Bureau has long experience with the MSPB process used by its preference eligible agents, and there have been no reports of abuse of the system. Furthermore, there is no evidence that it has compromised the FBI's sensitive mission.

Mr. Speaker, there is no reason to maintain the distinction between preference eligible veteran and nonveteran agents. All agents, whether veterans or not, should be treated in a fair and equitable manner. As I have already stated, the FBI has considerable experience with the MSPB process available to veteran agents. I am not aware that there has been any particular abuse of the MSPB process by preference eligible agents. Likewise, I do not anticipate that expansion of MSPB rights to all agents would be burdensome on the FBI. There is no room in the modern FBI for discriminatory personnel policies; therefore, nonveteran agents should receive all the rights and enjoy all the privileges accorded to their preference eligible veteran counterparts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation. I also urge Congressman MICA, chairman of the House Civil Service Subcommittee, to move this legislation as expeditiously as possible. Finally, I ask unanimous consent to include a copy of this bill and a letter from the FBI Agents' Association in support of this legislation in the record immediately following my statement.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Due Process for FBI Agents Act''.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF RIGHTS.

Section 7511(b)(8) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the Federal Bureau of Investigation,''.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendment made by this Act shall apply with respect to any personnel action taking effect after the end of the 45-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AGENTS ASSOCIATION,

New Rochelle, NY, November 28, 1995.

Hon. Frank R. Wolf,
House of Representatives, 241 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Re Due Process For FBI Agents Act.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WOLF: This letter is to inform you that I have reviewed and the FBI Agents Association fully and enthusiastically supports your bill, the ''Due Process For FBI Agents Act.''

It is time to end all vestiges of disparate treatment by extending MSPB rights to all FBI agents.

Thank you for you willingness to take the lead on this most important matter.

Very truly yours,

ED BETHUNE,
General Counsel.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA KERCHEVAL

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I take this privilege of paying homage to a distinguished colleague of mine, Barbara Kercheval, who came to make a name for herself at Miami-Dade Community College, north campus, some 32 years ago. A very articulate go-getter, Ms. Kercheval came to the college, armed with an array of excellent academic background and heady recommendations from the University of West Virginia. Barbara's father, the well-known Dr. Kercheval, was a mainstay of the West Virginia football team for many long years.

Serving first as a departmental advisor, she came to be known on campus as the caring counselor who made it her duty and obligation to ensure that students were given the best advice possible in juggling their academic schedules to achieve timely excellent grades in the midst of their work outside the campus. For this effort she has been recognized by many professional organizations, which saw to it that Barbara's crucial and excellent contributions to the academic achievement of the students under her tutelage did not go unnoticed.

She also served as faculty advisor to the Alpha Chapter of Sigma Delta, taking her student-athletes to compete in various intercollegiate athletic events. She is known primarily as a first aid course consultant extraordiniare for many years, setting high standards for students training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques. She later became the supervisor for the Campus' CPR teacher training program and developed the recertification procedure for all personnel in the division.

For over 20 years Barbara represented her department as faculty senator, serving as a

member of the executive committee in the college faculty senate. Her committee work indicated collegewide student activities as a campus representative.

Needless to say, Barbara's greatest contribution to her field has been a positive influence on countless students at Miami-Dade Community College who remember her nononsense advocacy on behalf of both their academic achievement and athletic development. Her standards of commitment and service have now become legendary. Indeed, Barbara has genuinely represented the dignity and nobility of public service to the hundreds of students she mentored and who are now our Nation's productive and responsible citizens in their respective fields of endeavor.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF AREAWIDE SERVICES LIMITED

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Areawide Services Limited and its founder, Mr. Weldon ''Mac'' Howard.

Areawide Services is located in Camp Springs, Maryland, which is in my 4th Congressional District, and it is one of the true small business success stories in the country. Founded in 1985 with just 3 employees, many dreams and lots of bills, Areawide has grown into a company of nearly 700 employees with dreams fulfilled and a $11 million dollar enterprise. According to Mr. Howard or ''Mac'' as I and many of his friends call him, Areawide's success is attributed to their strategic market analysis, planning, and their continued vision to provide quality business. These are fine attributes for a small business person to describe itself. I know, however, that Mac and his employees are just simply dedicated to this company and have out hustled their competition. This is what it takes to survive as a small minority business person and Mac has done just that.

Since its inception, Mac has served as the company's president and Chief Executive Officer. Over the past ten years they have provided outstanding uniformed protection services to federal, state and private sector commercial facilities throughout the Washington Metropolitan area and Baltimore. Not surprisingly, during their ten year growth Mac has watched over the day to day operations of the company serving not only as the boss, but also as an instructor at the company's training school. This is the sign of an individual that does not just stand on the sidelines, but one that puts on the helmet and gets involved in the game.

If you look at the distinguished resume of this Lancaster County, Virginia native, you know that anything less than perfection is second best. Mac is a respected veteran of the Vietnam War and has received an Associates degree in Police Science from Northern Virginia Community College in Virginia and a Bachelors of Science Degree in Administration of Justice from American University in Washington, DC. Having educated himself overseas and in the States, this proud man went on to serve his government in another capacity. As a 15 year civil servant, Mac served in a number of capacities with the General Services Administration as a Federal Police Officer, Security Specialist, Chief of Field Operations, Chief Inspector, Chief of Contracts Guards Section and as a Contracting Officer. He also served with the U.S. Information Agency as a Limited Foreign Service Officer and as a Chief of Domestic Security. He culminated his distinguished career as Director of Security at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. I guess there was no surprise when he made the decision to open a security business.

I know Mac best from his service to the community, particularly the small business community. As the former president and current member of the Board of Directors for the National Business League of Southern Maryland, he has worked with many minority entrepreneurs to bring small business into Prince George's County. In addition to his work with NBL, Mac sits on the Prince George's County Maryland Private Industry Council's Board of Directors. In his continuing effort to serve the community, Mac began a scholarship program in his home county of Lancaster. This program awards a $1,000 scholarship to a high school senior.

It is clear to see that Mr. Howard's vision for excellence is demonstrated by his past service to his country and his service in the federal government as a civil servant. His vision continues to grow today through his excellent leadership in operating Areawide Services and his commitment to minority small business in Prince George's County.

On behalf of myself and all members of the U.S. House of Representatives I wish to congratulate Mac, his wife Rita and daughter Kathy on ten wonderful years of service.

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE TO LEVANDER LILLY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am immensely pleased to acknowledge the retirement of Levander Lilly and to introduce him to my House colleagues. Like me, Levander is a native North Carolinian. He was raised in Albermarle and Badin, NC. Levander graduated from West Badin High School and received his undergraduate degree from Livingstone College, and his M.S. in social work from Adelphi University.

Mr. Lilly's career was a reflection of his commitment to his community and to providing assistance to those who needed it most. His first job was with the New York City Youth Bureau as a social worker for inner city youth. He maintained those duties for some 13 years, subsequently being named borough administrator for Brooklyn. After resigning from the bureau, he was appointed as the director of alcohol and drug prevention in School District 19. Four years later, the City chancellor of education appointed Levander to serve as the city-wide coordinator for drug and alcohol prevention programs; a program which serves over one million students and their families.

Building upon his career successes, Levander was appointed by the school chancellor to be his special assistant. However, always yearning for self-improvement, Mr. Lilly pursued an advanced degree in school administration from Fordham University. In 1987 he was appointed as school superintendent of School District 19 in the East New York section of Brooklyn. Levander retired from that post on August 22, 1995. I am honored to recognize his numerous and noteworthy achievements.

RECOGNIZING MARY LOU OLIVER

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, public service is the hub of good government. Working for the common good, listening to all sides, exercising sound judgment: these are the principles by which a free republic functions.

These are also the principles by which Mary Lou Oliver has brought to her 12 years on the San Ramon City Council. As a three-time mayor and long-term member of the city council, Mary Lou has demonstrated the kind of selfless public service the people of the East Bay of San Francisco and our country at large demand and deserve from their leaders.

Mary Lou's leadership has led to funding for the San Ramon Community Center, the San Ramon Senior Center Park and Gardens, and the San Ramon Library. Her efforts in negotiating business development throughout the San Ramon area has yielded much fruit for the people in my district. From her work with the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce, the Dougherty Regional Fire Authority Board, and the Contra Costa General Plan Congress, to her love of the out of doors as shown in her commitment to the preservation of open space and trails for horses, Mary Lou has been one of the pioneers of effective, life-enhancing development in my home region.

Mary Lou Oliver merits the thanks of all who understand that no community can thrive without dedicated leadership. Mary Lou has provided that leadership, and has my best wishes as she moves into what Harry Truman called the highest calling any American can have—that of private citizen.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SATURN

HON. ED BRYANT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago, General Motors decided that the American automobile industry needed something new, something innovative, something which would sell more American cars in the marketplace. That something new was what is now known as the Saturn Corp., and it has forever changed the American auto industry for the better.

Dubbing itself as ''A different kind of company,'' the Saturn Corp. has set the standard for customer service and satisfaction. Their television commercials tell their successful tale. How many other car companies can boast that over 10,000 of their customers converge on a small, rural community to eat bar-

b-que and corn-on-the-cob and talk about the value and satisfaction of their car?

From replanting the trees uprooted in the process of building their Spring Hill, TN plant, to harvesting an 800 acre soybean crop, to creating the Citizen Environmental Council, to helping Spring Hill build a new high school, the Saturn Corp. has re-enforced its commitment to quality not only on the job but in their community as well. It's no wonder that nearby Columbia, TN, was recently rated by Business Week magazine as one of the fastest-growing rural communities in the Nation. This commitment to quality has certainly shown, in more ways than one.

When the first medium-red Saturn sedan was driven off the assembly line—following years of research and development and some 27 U.S. patents—Popular Science magazine named it one of ''The Year's 100 Greatest Achievements in Science and Technology.'' This award was the first of many to follow, including the 1991 ''Design and Engineering Award'' from Popular Mechanics, the 1991 ''Easy Maintenance Car of the Year'' from Home Mechanix, and the 1991 AAA ''Best Car'' award.

But the Saturn Corp's success story certainly did not end there. Saturn vehicles have been named ''Best in Class,'' ''First for Safety,'' and ''Tops in Resale Value'' in the 1995 New Car Guide as contained in Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine. And while Saturn has pioneered the concept of producing affordable, quality vehicles, they astoundingly beat out such luxury cars as Infiniti, Cadillac, and Lexus, based on the results of the 1995 Sales Satisfaction Survey conducted by J.D. Power and Associates. It comes as no surprise, then, that Saturn's 1,000,000th care rolled off the assembly line earlier this year.

While the customer comes first with the folks at Saturn also prides itself in employee involvement. If there ever was a model for a hands-on approach in the workplace, then Saturn certainly is that model. The roughly 9,000 men and women who work for Saturn each have important roles and duties, whether that be designing an innovative motor to drive their latest model or making such that the wash rooms are clean for the next shift, everyone's job is important. For them, they are producing more than a mere car—indeed they view their work as a reflection of what the rest of America ought to be like. That is, functioning as one unit, as a team, and working together to produce the best product they can while always remembering that somewhere, somebody just like them is going to own and drive that car.

Mr. Speaker, there are many lessons for each of us to learn coming from the Saturn Corp., lessons that can't be taught at school or bought in a self-help book. I'm proud to say that I represent many of the good people who work there.

CONCURRING IN SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 122, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1966

SPEECH OF

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 20, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the budget before us today and in strong support of the more reasonable alternative which I cosponsor along with many of my moderate Democratic colleagues.

We are at a momentous time in our Nation's history. It does appear the will exists to put this country on stable financial ground and balance our Federal budget.

There is no alternative. Our country cannot manage a debt of $5 trillion and billions of dollars in red ink in our annual budgets. Unless we act, shortly after the turn of the century our tax dollars will go entirely to entitlement programs and interest on the national debt. There will be no money for environmental protection, transportation, law enforcement, education, medical research, or any of the other functions of government upon which people rely.

But I reject the notion that there is only one way to accomplish this goal—the option before us today. There is a better way—the coalition budget which I support.

Our budget restores the fiscal integrity to the Medicare trust fund and controls spending in that program by $170 billion to help us reach a balanced budget. That is in stark contrast to the $270 billion in Medicare controls in the Republican plan. That is $100 billion more than necessary to maintain the program, $100 billion which will be used to pay for tax cuts for wealthy Americans. This will be a tremendous burden on Medicare beneficiaries and will put hospitals in my district out of business. This is the most substantial argument against the Republican plan, and I will not vote for a budget which takes so much from the Medicare Program and gives it away in tax cuts.

The changes in the earned income tax credit hits the 19th District harder than any district in the State of Illinois. The list of concerns is long. More low- and middle-income people will be paying higher taxes under this bill.

I've voted for a balanced budget amendment and now cosponsor a bill which will get us to balance in 7 years, as scored by the Congressional Budget Office. It is better for the American people in health care, education, agriculture, and the host of domestic needs which are important to our people. And it represents the broad middle ground where most Americans live their daily lives.

I will vote against this budget today because I know we can do better. I urge the President to work with us to balance the budget in 7 years. If we are to have a tax cut, I urge the Republicans to lower the income limits and let us target those breaks to the working people of this country.

We can reach an agreement that respects our obligation to care for our people and, at the same time, rid this Nation of its burdensome debt. We are not there yet. I am voting against this bill today in the hope that we will get there with a better bill.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK THURBER

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great honor to congratulate a distinguished colleague of mine, Frank Thurber, who has become one of the important pillars of Miami-Dade Community College for some 30 years. Beginning his stint in 1965, Mr. Thurber was deeply immersed in both his teaching role and coaching expertise as a distinguished member of the College's Division of Human Performance and Intercollegiate Athletics.

Under the tutelage of nationally-known baseball coach, Dr. Demie Maineri, he served with distinction from 1965 to 1969, honing the skills of many young players who went on to become prominent members in both the American and National Baseball Major Leagues. Promoted to take the helm of the Lady Falcon Softball Team for 11 years hence, Mr. Thurber brought his team for the Annual State Softball Championship in 1987 to 1989. During his coaching tenure, the program underwent a metamorphosis from slow to fast pitch softball.

Well liked for his pragmatic approach to combining the art of teaching academics and athletics, he developed several innovative techniques in a variety of classes verging from First Aid-CPR to Health Analysis and Improvement, Nautilus and Archery, along with the pioneering of Sports Officiating. The numerous awards and accolades with which he has been honored by various organizations in our State represent an unequivocal testimony of the utmost praise and deep gratitude he enjoys from so many people in our community.

A graduate of the University of Miami, Frank was the main cog at second base for the nationally-ranked Hurricanes Baseball Team with an impressive .324 hitting average for four seasons. As he now draws to a close his distinguished career, he will look forward to enjoying the fruits of a well-deserved retirement with his wife, Cyndy, along with their three children.

IN HONOR OF DANIEL WEBSTER COLLEGE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Daniel Webster College in Nashua, NH, as it celebrates its 30th anniversary. This outstanding institution of higher learning has been recognized nationally as a leader in providing quality educational opportunities for thousands of young people.

Daniel Webster College was founded in 1965 by former U.S. Senator, Warren B. Rudman, James N. Tamposi, Sr., and Harry B. Sheffield. Originally named the New England Aeronautical Institute, the school was christened Daniel Webster College in 1978. Its mission is to provide career-oriented education, integrating academic instruction with the development of professional competencies in the areas of aeronautics, business, computer sciences, and engineering.

This fine school opened in September 1965 with 25 students. The ensuing years saw tremendous growth in the number of programs and students as well as its physical size. In 1981, the college opened its own flight center. Innovations in its aviation curriculum have allowed Daniel Webster College to offer the first college-based flight training program integrating motorized gliders and advanced aerobatic trainers with standard and complex training aircraft.

Advances in the college's business program led to recognition by Newsweek as one of the top undergraduate business programs in the country, a distinction the college has maintained every year since.

Daniel Webster College has contributed to the lives and educational progress of many people in its last three decades. Hard work and dedication by the college's teachers and students have made it a valued resource in southern New Hampshire and all of New England.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Daniel Webster College on 30 years of excellence and in wishing them many more years of success well into the next century.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR CRACK COCAINE POSSESSION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on November 25, 1995.

Good reasons exist for the courts to punish crack cocaine possession more severely than possession of a comparable amount of powdered cocaine. Some of the reasons haven't received the emphasis they deserve.

Crack is a form of cocaine that has been processed to allow it to be more easily ingested. Federal sentencing guidelines make it a more serious crime to push crack than to push a comparable amount of cocaine powder even though the chemical composition of the two is the same. Because crack trafficking is mostly a black crime, some people claim that the longer sentences are racially discriminatory.

Crack is by far the more dangerous product because it fuels gang warfare, drive-by shootings and the breakdown of inner-city families. Cheap and potent crack is ripping apart black neighborhoods in Omaha and elsewhere across the country.

Crack is less expensive and is easier to use. It causes a quicker ''high.'' It is more readily addictive. The toll in human suffering is therefore greater. The punishment for selling and distributing crack is greater, too, as it should be.

The crack debate is like some other matters in which race has been illogically inserted. Activist lawyers have taken to arguing that any law is discriminatory if it doesn't produce results that are perfectly colorblind. In New York, a subway fare increase was recently struck down on the grounds that it discriminated against black people. It did nothing of the kind. But the plaintiffs' lawyers argued that more black people used the subways and therefore to raise the fare was discriminatory.

Melanie Kirkpatrick, a Wall Street Journal writer, has written that such thinking is a ''perversion of the Equal Protection Clause of the Constitution.'' She said, ''Under this philosophy, it doesn't matter who did what to whom and for what reason; all that matters is outcome.''

More should matter. In the case of crack cocaine, it matters what the pushers do to their families, their neighborhoods and their communities. Of course the criminal laws should be colorblind. But that doesn't mean they should be twisted to produce a racially perfect mix of defendants. The idea is to punish people the most who are doing the most harm to society. That shouldn't change.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL AMERICANS: MARIA OTTO

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Maria Otto—whose work has greatly enriched the profession of child care. She has touched the lives of hundreds of children, parents, and aspiring day care providers. Her dedication and compassion have rendered her a worthy candidate to entrust the care of our most precious—the children. Furthermore, her competence has rendered her fit to train the future day care provider of the Nation. Maria Otto is an outstanding and caring citizen who deserves recognition as a great Point of Light for all Americans.

In 1967, Mrs. Otto began her career in family day care as a family day care provider. In this capacity, she was responsible for the care and development of more than 200 children, under the sponsorship of the Wake-Eden Center in the Bronx. Maria Otto continued her career as a family day care specialist-trainer in 1986 when she joined the staff of Child Care, Inc. Here she assumed the challenging task of training hundreds of New York City family day care providers.

Mr. Speaker, as commissioner of the New York City Community Development Agency responsible for the Community Action Program and the Headstart Program I had the honor of launching the Nation's largest family day care program utilizing unspent funds from the Headstart budget. Since that time family day care has expanded and improved steadily. As a New York State senator I participated in several successful efforts to achieve greater statewide recognition and support for family day care as an effective option for child care. At each step of the way Maria Otto was one of the leaders of the great grassroots army of family day care advocates.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Otto has worked tirelessly to improve the professional status and recognition of thousands of family day care providers in New York City and State, and across the Nation. She organized the first Family Day Care Provider Associations in New York City and State, and is the founder of the current Family Day Care Citywide Association. As one of the cofounders of the National Association for Family Day Care, Mrs. Otto also assisted in organizing providers in Pennsylvania and many other states.

Nationally recognized as one of the earliest experts in the field of family day care, Maria Otto served as a member of Governor Cuomo's Commission on Child Care. In recognition of her exceptional professional achievement on behalf of children, Maria Otto is a recipient of the New York State 1993 Decade of the Child Award.

It is apparent that Mrs. Otto welcomes some continuity in her life. She is a current resident of the Bronx, NY, where she was born, living in the same house for 68 years. The daughter of immigrants from the Virgin Islands who arrived and settled in the Bronx in 1920, Mrs. Otto is a graduate of Jane Adams High School. She holds an A.A. degree from the College of New Rochelle-Bronx campus.

Maria Otto's consistency is not only evident in her place of residence. She has consistently served the children in her care, their parents and her protegees exceptionally well. Mrs. Otto is as dedicated and committed today as she was decades ago when she first embarked on a career so vital to the American working family. Without a doubt, her work has led to the professional and respectful character of the modern family day care profession. It is an honor to salute Maria Otto as a Point of Light who continues to brighten lives for all to cherish.

DR. KATHERINE GABEL; AUTHOR-EDUCATOR-RESEARCHER

HON. CARLOS J. MOORHEAD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives the many accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Katherine Gabel of Pasadena, CA.

Dr. Gabel, who has a BA, and M.S.W. and a law degree, is president of Pacific Oaks in Pasadena, which was founded by seven Quaker families in 1945 and is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Pacific Oaks, a source of considerable community pride, includes the college, the children's school and the research center.

As president of Pacific Oaks, Dr. Gabel established the research center to support community outreach and faculty research. She routinely works with a consortium of other colleages—Bank Street, Wellesley College, Erikson Institute—on issues relating to family and community.

Prior to Pacific Oaks, Dr. Gabel was dean of Smith School of Social Work. She also directed the building of the Adobe Mountain School, a juvenile correctional facility under control of the Arizona Department of Corrections, and served as its first superintendent.

While in this capacity, she assisted the warden of the Farmingham Women's Prison by entering the prison as an inmate. It was these unique experiences which enabled Dr. Gabel to coauthor an important book entitled, ''Children of Incarcerated Parents.'' As Dr. Gabel points out, parents in prison face some especially difficult problems in maintaining meaningful relations with their children.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor before my colleagues in the House of Representatives the life, endeavors, and contributions of Dr. Katherine Gabel. Her school, her community, and her Nation have all benefited from her learning, dedication, and commitment. Mr. Speaker, we are all grateful.

CONCURRING IN SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 122, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1966

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 20, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the amended House Joint Resolution 122 continuing resolution which will keep the Government operating through December 15. I appreciate the efforts that have been made to develop a workable continuing resolution—one which would not only reopen the Government, but equally important, help to ensure common sense and responsible budgeting.

As one would expect, the 6-day shutdown of the Government has created a backlog of veterans and Social Security claims which now must be processed—not to mention other important services the American people were denied by the shutdown. It was most unfortunate that the American people were forced to suffer because the Republicans did not want to negotiate a quality of life budget with the Democrats and the President.

It is absolutely critical for the American people to realize that those 6 days of hardships and inconveniences cannot begin to compare with the real pain and suffering that would have resulted if the President had not forced the Republican majority to bring the budget negotiations back to the center.

Those 6 days of temporary hardships and inconveniences cannot begin to compare with the real pain and suffering that would have resulted if the American people had allowed the Republicans to blindly gut $270 billion from Medicare, $163 billion from Medicaid, $5 billion from student loans, and $6 billion from child nutrition programs including school lunches.

Those 6 days of temporary hardships and inconveniences cannot begin to compare with the real pain and suffering that would have resulted if the American people had allowed the Republicans to blindly raid pension funds, give a $245 billion tax break to the wealthy, and increase taxes on working families. The list goes on.

Mr. Speaker, passage of the workable continuing resolution, along with the President's veto of the Republican budget measure, H.R. 2491, will allow real work on the budget to get underway.

The American people have spoken they do not want an extremist agenda, or an extremist budget. I know the backs of seniors, children, and hard working families cannot withstand the harsh realities of what they would be forced to pay in long-term suffering and pain just to allow the Republicans—to give—a tax cut to the rich.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for the amended continuing resolution in order to allow the Government to resume its work, and to allow real budget negotiations to begin.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM DESIGNATION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

SPEECH OF

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 18, 1995:

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of clarifying a statement I made during the floor consideration of the conference report of S. 440, the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995.

In my statement, I discussed that lock and dam No. 4 is a critical transportation project that requires $4 million in funding to complete the bridge. I inadvertently referred to lock and dam No. 4 as a project in my district. Lock and dam No. 4 is located in the Fourth District of Arkansas.

The NHS bill provides the State of Arkansas with $7 million total in additional funding from rescissions—from this fund. These funds are on top of Arkansas' regular Federal highway funding. Arkansas could use these funds to complete lock and dam No. 4.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM DESIGNATION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 18, 1995

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank you for your willingness to work with Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. TOWNS, and myself on the crisis surrounding the Gowanus Expressway. This legislation will begin to address the devastating effects that this project will have on the community.

While the proposed reconstruction of the Gowanus Expressway is one of the costliest highway projects in the State's history and will profoundly shape both west Brooklyn and regional transportation for decades to come, its planning and environmental review to date have been inadequate. The bill encourages the State to take a comprehensive new look at the project. This guarantees that the total cost and benefits of both the State's plan and other proposals effecting the surrounding communities and the region as a whole will be examined.

The provisions require that the State of New York mitigate the economic and social impacts this project will have on the neighboring communities. Congress has clarified this with accompanying report language that instructs the State to minimize long-term impairment of local businesses, appoint a community engineer, and undertake traffic calming studies.

As the State moves forward with reconstruction of the Gowanus Expressway, it must hold to a minimum the harmful effects to businesses, housing, quality of life, and maintain the citizens' ability of movement with their communities. I am especially concerned that steps are taken to protect the welfare of children, the aged and others vulnerable to the effects of heavy traffic, air, and noise pollution.

While there is still much that must be done before the Gowanus Expressway rehabilitation adequately protects the community, adopting this language is the first stop in insuring that this project is completed in an efficient manner, and with the safety and best interest of the surrounding community in mind.

TRIBUTE TO MARY DAGRAEDT

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply heartened by this great moment as I pay tribute to a colleague of mine, Mary Dagraedt, who is retiring from Miami-Dade Community College after a 35-year distinguished career. As the premier golf coach, Mary is one of the most outstanding professionals who have immensely contributed to making the college the Nation's most prestigious community college in the fields of both academics and athletics.

Mary led the Lady Falconettes College golf teams from 1963 to 1981 during which her teams went undefeated in match plays in junior intercollegiate competitions. In fact, she was instrumental in garnering 18 consecutive junior college State championships. From 1970 to 1977 the Falconettes competed in the senior college national collegiate events, and in 1975 her team was honored the No. 1 collegiate team in the Nation.

Voted in 1981, the first National Coach of the Year by the Ladies Professional Golf Association, Mary was also selected as the National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Golf Coach of the Year in 1980 and 1981. Throughout her career, she has been named to five different sports hall of fame.

More than 60 of her students, including Pat Bradley, have now become the mainstays of the LPGA. Her commonsense approach to personal responsibility and discipline has earned her the utmost respect of her hundreds of students and the praise of her colleagues.

In fact, she was recently recognized with an endowed teaching chair for faculty excellence by the college and was subsequently honored this year as 1 of 10 faculty members by the National Institute for Staff and Organization Development at a ceremony in Texas for achieving preeminent ''educational excellence and superior leadership.''

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES GIFT REFORM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong support for the gift ban legislation before the House, House Resolution 250.

Twice during the 103d Congress, this House approved similar gift ban legislation by solid bipartisan majorities only to see these measures stalled by filibusters in the other body. I am pleased that the Leadership has seen fit to allow us to consider this important bipartisan

legislation offered by Representatives SHAYS, MEEHAN, and BARRETT.

H. Res. 250 would limit the total value of gifts that a Member or staff member could receive to $100 from any one source; only gifts costing more than $10 would count toward this limit.

Furthermore, no Member or staff member could accept an individual gift, including meals or entertainment, that costs more than $50. These provisions would cover all employees of the House, including employees of Members, committees, joint committees, and Leadership offices.

By contrast, the substitute offered by Representative BURTON is a washed-out version of congressional gift reform. Under the Burton substitute, Members could still accept lobbyist trips, go to golf tournaments free of charge, and accept gifts up to $250.

My colleagues, let's take a stand in favor of real gift reform. Vote ''yes'' on H. Res. 250 and ''no'' on the Burton substitute.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1996

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