time on this Earth, Jay touched many lives. I hope that in the days ahead, the Smith family and Jay's many friends will be comforted by God's healing powers, by our prayers and best wishes, and by the gratitude each of us feels for his service to the United States of America.

THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Hazardous Materials, I am pleased to introduce, along with my distinguished ranking minority member, the gentleman from New York, Mr. MANTON, the Federal Trade Commission Reauthorization Act of 1996. This bill simply reauthorizes the agency for fiscal years 1997 and 1998 at a current services level.

At the moment, we see no need for major changes to the FTC's authorizing statutes. The Commerce Committee completed the first major reauthorization of the agency in the 103d Congress, the first reauthorization of the agency since 1980. In that legislation, we made major changes to the Federal Trade Commission Act and the operations of the FTC, so as to improve its ability to meet its mission of protecting consumers from deceptive trade practices and unfair methods of competition. The changes we made earlier are only just being implemented and need to be evaluated before going forward with more legislative changes.

The FTC is a regulatory agency which fulfills its mission with a minimal burden on the taxpayer. More than half of its annual budget is raised in fees from the corporations that it regulates. Under the leadership of FTC Chairman Pitofsky, the agency has begun a program of evaluating old rules and regulations and discarding those which are no longer needed. It is looking at old rules—such as the Made in America rule—and considering whether they need to be updated to reflect our modern global economy. This is the kind of forward thinking that is important for modern regulators to engage in, and I am pleased to see that the FTC has undertaken many of these initiatives of its own accord.

Certainly the FTC is not perfect. Particularly during the 1970's and 1980's, numerous decisions made by the FTC reflected the extreme viewpoints of a handful of commission members and staff, and detracted from the majority of the good work done by the agency. Today, however, such incidents are far fewer in number and less severe in nature. As part of the reauthorization process, the Commerce Subcommittee will look closely at the continuing operations of the FTC, and carefully evaluate their effectiveness. By looking at issues like enforcement versus rulemaking, modernization of rules, and other issues, we can fulfill our oversight obligations within the context of this reauthorization.

I hope that all of my colleagues will join Mr. MANTON and me in supporting this bipartisan legislation when we bring it to the floor.

STOP BURNING CHURCHES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of concern for the increasing number of churches that have been destroyed by arson over the past 3 years. The burnings of New Mount Zion Baptist Church in Ruleville, MI and Elbethel Church in Sartartia, MI which are in my Congressional District as well as St. Paul AME Church in Hatley, MI constantly reminds me of that early Sunday morning in 1963 when a church in Birmingham, AL was firebombed killing four little girls while they were attending Sunday School. As many of my colleagues will agree, this was a horrible crime and to allow this episode to remain unchecked in 1996 would be an atrocity.

Mr. Speaker, we must make a concerted effort to assure the American people that the church is a sanctuary from the violence which is rampant in society, and not a place where God-fearing Americans should fear for their lives. While many of us would like to believe that the days of Jim Crow and hate crimes are a part of the past, to others these church bombings are evidence that the brutal, destructive force of racism and intolerance is alive and growing in America.

While Federal law enforcement officials conclude that they have found no evidence of these crimes being racially motivated, I cannot, knowing the history of the Ku Klux Klan, the Skinheads, the White Aryan Resistance, and the Christian Identity movement, wholeheartedly believe that these church burnings are more than coincidental.

Knowing that most of the bombings happening in southern States, gives a lot of credence to the theory that they have been perpetrated by the purveyors of hate and division.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to do all within its power to see that these acts of violence are fully investigated and these criminals are brought to justice. Let's make our churches, temples, and mosques a safe place to worship.

HONORING CARTER AND LOUISE JACKSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 30, 1996

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives a great gift from Carter and Louise Jackson to the State of Colorado.

Last year, the Jacksons donated 300 acres of their spectacular property as a conservation easement to Colorado Open Lands, a group that is dedicated to preserving open space.

This spectacular pasture, which spreads beneath the stunning Mount Sopris, is prime land for development, but the Jackson family did not want to see that happen. They wanted to see their beautiful land preserved for future generations, and with their unselfish donation to Colorado Open Lands, this will indeed happen.

As David Frey wrote in the Glenwood Springs Post, ''Jackson's property is a rare gem—a shimmering green swath of open space . . . In a time of booming growth in the Roaring Fork Valley, Jackson's property is a high-prized, easily developed land. But most of it won't be developed. Ever.''

The property will likely be used in the future for hiking and fishing access along the river. ''An A-frame cabin along the riverbank has hosted scout troops for decades,'' Frey writes, ''and highway commuters and river runners alike have watched the seasons change on the property over the years.''

Mr. Speaker, by selflessly giving of themselves and future generations of their family, the Jacksons have ensured that future generations of all Coloradans will enjoy this spectacular land in its natural state.

OMNIBUS CIVILIAN SCIENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 29, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3322) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for civilian science activities of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the revised Cramer amendment. I am glad that changes have been made in Mr. CRAMER's amendment since the Science Committee markup to reflect the best interest of the American people.

Although I agree with the concept of certification in the amendment offered by my colleague, Mr. CRAMER, the certification process called for in his amendment offered in committee was far too expensive and time consuming. In addition, the amendment reinstated costly and unnecessary provisions which maintain the current, outdated systems and place the safety of citizens at risk.

Considering the certification provisions and phase-out requirements, the amendment would have exceeded the transition costs called for in H.R. 3322 by $20 million.

In its previous form, the National Weather Service would have been forced to devote resources toward bureaucratic paperwork associated with closing obsolete weather service offices.

I support the immediate implementation of NEXRAD with certification which includes no additional cost to taxpayers.

It is vital that we get this NEXRAD system in place as soon as they are operational. This is very important to my district which continues to be at a disadvantage because portions of my district are not now covered by NEXRAD.

We need to get the NEXRAD systems up and operational now to protect the people of Tennessee.

The amendment in committee would have delayed getting this system in place to protect the people of Tennessee.

Now that the flaw in the amendment has been corrected, I now support the amendment from Mr. CRAMER and urge my colleagues to support it.