EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DOUG MARTIN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the life of one of our country's leading disability rights advocates, Douglas A. Martin. UCLA and Doug's family will commemorate his remarkable contributions at a memorial on May 8, 2003.

Doug's commitment to disability rights began in a very personal way. When he arrived for college orientation in a wheelchair, he was told he must pass a physical exam in order to be in good standing. When Doug did not pass the physical due to his disability from contracting polio as a child, he made a vow that he would pursue his education to make sure this would not happen to anyone else. Doug applied at UCLA and later graduated with the highest honors, earning his bachelor's and master's degrees simultaneously. He completed his Ph.D. in urban studies two years later.

Doug went on to uphold his vow in a truly remarkable and sweeping fashion. He became a strong voice for our country's disabled population and helped shape our national disability rights policies.

After graduation, he began his career as a pioneer in the field of disability rights, earning honors and praise from every level of government, the public sector, and private industry. Doug became an original founder of the Westside Center for Independent Living (WCIL) and developed a modern model for independent living. WCIL remains a leader in independent living skills and is an indispensable resource for residents of Los Angeles County.

Doug was appointed to the State Council on Disabilities by Governor Edmund G. Brown in 1981, and was later appointed to the Governor's Advisory Task Force on Long Term Care, receiving the Governor's Trophy Award in 1985. As a member of the State Building Standards Commission, Doug was instrumental in the creation of California's seminal accessibility requirements. He also was a lead participant in developing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

Doug joined UCLA as a Special Assistant to the Chancellor in 1989, where he continued to work until recently. In this capacity, Doug initiated a disability overhaul for the campus. Doug's work resulted in UCLA adding access ramps, handrails and curb ramps in inaccessible areas, and providing volume amplifiers and special telecommunications devices on pay phones for the deaf and hearing-impaired. Evacuation chairs have been added in numerous buildings for use in emergency situations, and signs in Braille have been installed as well. Doug also oversaw the addition of accommodations for students with learning disabilities, including note-takers, disability counseling and peer-mentoring support groups.

When Doug arrived at UCLA in 1989, 75% of the campus buildings were largely inaccessible to people with disabilities. Today, that number approaches zero, as almost every building has been modified to accommodate the disabled.

In addition to Doug's work at UCLA, he has served on a number of important committees and has played a vital role in all of them. He was a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, a member of Senator BARBARA BOXER's Central District Judicial Appointment Advisory Committee, a member of the Advisory Committee for the National Council on Disability, and a participant in both the National Council on Disability Forum and the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Forum.

Doug was a founding member of the Society for Disability Studies, a fellow with the World Institute on Disability, the chair of the Social Security Subcommittee of the National Council on Independent Living, and a member of the National Invitational Working Group.

Our nation owes Doug a debt of gratitude for his profound commitment to the disabled and for leaving a legacy of action that will forever enrich their lives. I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Doug's tremendous contributions and in expressing deepest condolences to his family, his colleagues and his friends.

HONORING COACH DOUG DICKEY UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS MEN'S ATHLETICS DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Coach Doug Dickey upon his upcoming retirement as the Men's Athletics Director at the University of Tennessee, UT. Throughout his impressive career, Coach Dickey has set an example of leadership and service not only to the University of Tennessee, but also to the entire State of Tennessee and Volunteer fans around the Country.

Although Coach Dickey will soon be retiring, the legacy of excellence he has so well established will continue to inspire the University and its athletic programs for years to come. I am proud to call Doug a personal friend, and I join the entire UT community in wishing him the very best in his future endeavors.

Doug has been Athletic Director at the University of Tennessee for the past 17 years, but his support of collegiate athletics includes time spent as quarterback for the University of Florida's football team, an assistant coach, head coach, as well as, administrator.

During his tenure as the Men's Athletic Director for the University of Tennessee, Doug has raised the standard of excellence for all UT athletics. During the past several years alone he has seen the school earn the National Championship in football, go to the College World Series in baseball, reach the NCAA finals in tennis, become the NCAA champions in track and field to name only a few.

In addition to the remarkable leadership he has brought to UT athletics, Doug has been recognized nationally for his abilities by being asked to serve on numerous collegiate athletics boards and committees. More lasting than titles and athletic accomplishments, however, Doug has provided consistent and exceptional leadership for his coaches and players.

This Nation is a better place today because of the work he has done for the University of Tennessee and, more importantly, the inspiration and guidance he has given to so many young people who are still doing good and great things for this Country.

Each Member of this body has a favorite collegiate athletics program, but I believe we can all agree that it is the caliber of individuals like Coach Dickey that makes these programs the success they are. To Doug I say congratulations on your retirement, and on behalf of UT fans everywhere I say thank you.

HONORING DAVID RAY MEYER FOR EARNING THE SILVER AWARD OF VENTURING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize David Ray Meyer, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America and Venturing, and in earning the most prestigious Silver Award.

David has been very active in Venturing, having camped 349 nights, traveled afoot or afloat for 873 miles and taking expeditions at Packard in 1999, Philmont from 1999–2002, Pamlico in 2002, as well as visits to resident camps at Naish, Bartle, Geiger and Chickahominy. In the 11 years he has been involved in Boy Scouts and Venturing, David has served in many leadership capacities as Boy Scout senior patrol leader, patrol leader, scribe, instructor, troop guide, junior assistant scout master, Venturing president, vice-president, treasurer, and quartermaster, as well as VOA treasurer, president, and program director, and OA Lodge treasurer, chapter secretary and vice chief.

Additionally, David has received numerous awards for his many achievements. He has been honored with the Arrow of Light Award, the Eagle Scout Award, 6 Eagle Palms, the Gods and Country Award, the Bronze and Gold Venturing Awards and the Venturing Leadership Award.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending David Ray Meyer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and Venturing and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Silver Award.

TRIBUTE TO THE STUDENTS FROM HALF HOLLOW HILLS EAST HIGH SCHOOL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students from Half Hollow Hills East High School in Dix Hills, NY for their top-ten finish in the ''We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution'' national finals.

The students, Andrew Blaesser, Hye Yeon Choi, Paige Gottheim, Farhang Heydari, Ravi Kambhampaty, Ross Kaplan, Cecilia Lero, Lauren Lichtman, Amitai Perline, Amreen Quadir, Jeremy Rovinsky, Joseph Schlingbaum, Sunjeet Sidhu, Brett Streisand, Tiffany Teng and Joshua Wiener, led by their teacher Scott Edwards, demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

It is truly an honor to call these outstanding young Americans my constituents. Their success in this competition is also a testament to the exceptional teachers at Half Hollow Hills East High School and elsewhere on Long Island.

I offer my congratulations on their hard-won honorable mention and commend these students on their dedication to the study of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL RUSSELL AUSTIN NEWMAN (RET.)

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 22nd, 2003, Tennessee lost one of its finest soldiers. Colonel Russell Austin Newman (ret.) was a man who spent his life dedicated to serving and protecting Tennessee and its citizens.

Colonel Newman was born in Knoxville, TN on December 9th, 1929. He grew up there and attended the University of Tennessee, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration in May of 1953. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry in the U.S. Army from ROTC.

His military education included the Infantry Officers Basic Course, the Armor Officers Advanced Course and the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College, C&GSC. Colonel Newman, during his career, served in numerous command and staff positions while on active duty and in the National Guard. He served as the first Regimental Commander, designated as the First Colonel of the 278th Armored Calvary Regiment, ACR, in Knoxville when it was initially organized in the Tennessee National Guard in 1977. This unit became one of only two heavy armored cavalry regiments in the Nation. It is today an enhanced brigade of the Army National Guard of the United States, a very prestigious designation that keeps it a state-of-the-art unit.

Colonel Newman served as an instructor for the Tennessee Military Academy's Officer Candidate School, the Army National Guard Professional Education Center, and the United States Army Command and General Staff College. His military awards include: the Legion of Merit, the Army Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Many East Tennesseans served under Colonel Newman's command. As a former Guardsman, I served as his Judge Advocate General. I appreciated both his leadership and friendship.

After retiring from the military in June of 1985, with nearly 32 years of military service, Colonel Newman joined the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, TEMA. In March of 1986, when TEMA was organized into regions along the lines of the State's three Grand Divisions, Colonel Newman was named the first director of the East Region and retired from that post in March of 1999.

Colonel Newman was well known throughout East Tennessee in both roles and through public service. He was the first of only seven officers to command the 278th ACR and his later emergency management work included developing plans for local governments that still bear his stamp. Colonel Newman did not limit his work to East Tennessee; one of his first acts after becoming East Region director was to go to West Tennessee and help write the regional earthquake response plan.

Colonel Newman was a past president of the National Guard Association of Tennessee and served numerous public service organizations in East Tennessee, including tenure as Chairman and member on the Board of Directors of Goodwill Industries, President of the Knoxville-Knox County Volunteer Emergency Rescue Squad, Vice Chairman of the Knox County Emergency Management LEPC, President of the North Side Optimist Club, Chairman of the Knox Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, and a counselor for the John Tarleton Home for Children.

Colonel Newman was the only son of Russell A. and Georgia Newman. His loving daughter, Ann Rita Ditmore, son, Sergeant Charles Newman, only grandson, Hunter Ditmore, son-in-law, Floyd Ditmore, sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Howard Bozeman, and brother-in-law, J. W. Morton, all of Knoxville, Tennessee, mourn the passing of this great commander, soldier, leader, father, grandfather, father-in law, brother and brother-in-law.

A celebration of life and reception was held at the Tennessee Army National Guard Armory on Tuesday, March 25, 2003, prior to inurement at the Tennessee Veterans Cemetery in Knoxville.

HONORING DANIEL ADISON AYERS FOR EARNING THE SILVER AWARD OF VENTURING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel Adison Ayers, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America and Venturing, and in earning the most prestigious Silver Award.

Daniel has been very active in Venturing having camped 383 nights, traveling afoot or afloat for 491 miles and taking expeditions at Boundary Waters in 1997 and Philmont in 2000. In the 12 years he has been involved in Boy Scouts and Venturing, Daniel has served in many leadership capacities as patrol leader, junior assistant scout master, assistant scout master, senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, VOA vice president, crew secretary and crew president.

Additionally, Daniel has received numerous awards for his many achievements. He has been honored with the Arrow of Light Award, the Scout Through Life Award, the Eagle Scout Award, the Bronze and Gold Venturing Awards and the Venturing Leadership Award.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel Adison Ayers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and Venturing and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Silver Award.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK 2003—NURSES: LIFTING SPIRITS, TOUCHING LIVES

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Nurses Week, an established recognition event created to pay tribute to the nurses who give care to millions of patients every day. National Nurses Week is celebrated every year beginning May 6 and ending May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday. ''Nurses: Lifting Spirits, Touching Lives.'' is the theme for 2003.

As a nurse for over thirty years, I am proud to be part of such a caring and compassionate group of professionals. And as a Member of Congress, I have the wonderful opportunity of fighting for issues and policies that affect nurses and the nursing profession.

A major national issue concerning the nursing profession is the growing nursing shortage. With various new career options for healthcare professionals today, prompting nurses to gradually move away from patient care and into fields with better pay and benefits, nurses are grappling with becoming financially competitive.

Of the estimated 2.5 million licensed nurses in our country, 400,000 have left the profession for other pursuits. In 2000, Long Island had an 8 percent RN vacancy rate and a 16 percent LPN vacancy rate. Nationwide, hospitals need more than 125,000 nurses to fill all the nursing positions available today.

Over the past few years, I have been successful in educating my colleagues on both sides of the aisle about the importance of addressing the nursing shortage. It is vital for the health of this nation that the nursing field continues attracting experienced and educated candidates.

To that end, I played a lead role in the passage of H.R. 1436, the Nurse Reinvestment Act last year. This critical piece of legislation

combines my own bill to provide money for Magnet hospitals Accreditation and another bill I offered to retain and attract nurses. Magnet hospitals enjoy low turnover and top-notch work conditions. Nurses at magnet hospitals consistently report greater job satisfaction than other nurses, and patients also give these types of hospitals high ratings. Attracting more nurses to move into positions at magnet hospitals will both lower the nursing shortage and help the profession remain competitive with other health care fields.

Although last year's legislation is a good start, more needs to be done to find ways to recruit more young people to the nursing profession. That is why earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 934, the Teacher's and Nurses Support Act of 2003. This bill provides loan forgiveness for teachers and nurses around the country. I want to encourage every student that nursing, in my view, is the best profession in the world. This legislation would help eliminate financial barriers to pursuing a nursing career.

In closing, I urge my fellow nurses to tell friends, children and neighbors about all the positive aspects of being a nurse. We need to excite our students in high school and junior high about our career choice and how nurses are always there to help the sick get better and to make sure the healthy stay that way.

HONORING THE SELECTION OF MS. ERIN BEAULIEU FOR THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Ms. Erin Beaulieu upon her selection as one of two recipients of the Virginia 2003 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Erin, a Red Cross member and eighth-grader at Whitman Middle School in Alexandria, Virginia, started a Red Cross student chapter at her school and encouraged her fellow students to become involved! The chapter now boasts more than 30 members dedicated to helping the American Red Cross respond. For her efforts, she was selected from more than 24,000 nominees to receive a Spirit of Community Award.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, constitute America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteer service. The award was created with the intent to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example.

Erin should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Erin for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Erin for all that she has done.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JESSE BROWN

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleague, the gentleman from Chicago, DANNY DAVIS in recognizing a true American hero, the Honorable Jesse Brown. The late Jesse Brown served as the Secretary ''for'' Veterans Affairs from 1993–1997. Jesse insisted that people refer to him as the Secretary ''for'' Veterans Affairs in order to emphasize his role as a champion of veterans. It is for this role that he will always be remembered.

Jesse spent his teens and early adulthood in Chicago where his mother, Mrs. Lucille Brown, continues to reside today. It is fitting that we re-name the West Side division of VA Chicago in his name.

Jesse was a personal friend of mine, but thousands of veterans in this Nation also recognized him as a friend. He oversaw a period of growth and improvement in the VA health care system that changed many Americans' view of the health care system by modernizing and greatly improving the quality of its services and allowing new access to millions.

Jesse never took ''no'' for an answer. When it came to demanding the best for our veterans, he would even take on the President. I remember the legendary stories of his trips to the White House to challenge the President's budgets for veterans. He always wanted more and he almost always won. Even at his memorial service, which I, along with former-President Clinton, attended this past summer, long-time friends and associates spoke of a man to whom it was impossible to say no.

Jesse's path was probably laid for him when he was wounded in combat while on patrol in Danang. The injury would leave him partially paralyzed for the rest of his life. After a long period of recuperation, Secretary Brown began a career in veterans' advocacy that spanned the remainder of his life. The Secretary worked his way up the Disabled American Veterans structure culminating his 25-year career by serving as executive director from 1989–1993.

As Secretary ''for'' Veterans Affairs, Jesse fought to make good on his promise of ''putting veterans first.'' He made it his priority to meet veterans whose needs had long gone unrecognized—he made homelessness ''the fifth mission'' of the VA. He added counseling for women who experienced sexual trauma during military service. He worked tirelessly to expand benefits for veterans who were former prisoners-of-war and for those exposed to Agent Orange, radiation and mustard gas. He began an aggressive research agenda into the causes and effective treatments for veterans of the first Persian Gulf War.

Even toward the end of his life, Secretary Brown continued his advocacy for veterans as the first executive director of the Disabled Veterans Life Memorial Foundation. Sadly, Jesse left us all too soon after a struggle with Lou Gehrig's disease this past summer. He is survived by his wife Sylvia, along with two children Carmen Stewart and Scott Brown and many other relatives and friends.

As a fellow Marine, Jesse truly knew the meaning of ''leave no man behind.'' He lived his life according to that creed. He has earned the honor we are bestowing upon him today.

IMPROVING EDUCATION RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last week the House considered H.R. 1350, Improving Education Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003. I would like to add the following list of organizations opposed to H.R. 1350 for inclusion in the RECORD:

National PTA, Children's Defense Fund, National Association of Education of Young Children, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Association on Mental Retardation, American Association of University Affiliated Programs, American Council of the Blind, American Counseling Association, American Music Therapy Association, American Occupational Therapy Association, American Physical Therapy Association, American Society for Deaf Children.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, The Arc of the United States, Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, Association of University Centers on Disabilities, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Council for Exceptional Children, Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, Disability Service Providers of America, Easter Seals, Epilepsy Foundation, Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health.

Higher Education Consortium for Special Education, Learning Disabilities Association of America, National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations, National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils, National Association of Mental Illness, National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, National Association of School Psychologists, National Association of Social Workers, National Center for Learning Disabilities, National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness, National Coalition of Parent Centers, National Committee of Parents Organized to Protect IDEA.

National Consortium for Physical Education and Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities, National Down Syndrome Congress, National Down Syndrome Society, National Mental Health Association, Research Institute for Independent Living, School Social Work Association of America, TASH, Teacher Education Division/Council for Exceptional Children, The International Dyslexia Association, Tourette Syndrome Association, UCP.

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATOR—SR. JOEL READ RETIRES AS PRESIDENT OF ALVERNO COLLEGE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 22, 2003 the Milwaukee community will honor Sr. Joel Read for 35 years of distinctive and dedicated service to Alverno College.

A member of the School Sisters of St. Francis and President of Alverno College since 1968, under her leadership, Sr. Joel and Alverno College have gained national and international recognition for their innovation in education. Sr. Joel's commitment and hard work has led to the introduction of Alverno's ability-based curriculum, which has placed Alverno at the forefront of education as a liberal arts college.

Her efforts in this area have brought her high honors from other educators. Sr. Joel has been described by her colleagues as someone who has emerged as one of the country's most remarkable leaders in higher education. She is legendary in our community for her passionate spirit and steadfast approach to getting results.

So distinguished is her reputation that educational associations across the nation seek Sr. Joel's assistance. She has received numerous local and national awards and recognitions for her dedicated support to higher education, the advancement of women and the development of our communities. Awards and recognitions include: Anne Roe Award, Pope John XXIII Award, Morris T. Keeton Award, Sacajawea Award, Lifetime Leadership Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Outstanding Woman of Achievement—just to name a few.

Sr. Joel is actively involved in volunteering her time and talents to various organizations and causes. She is a founder of the Milwaukee Achiever Program, has served with the Goals for Milwaukee 2000 Task Force, the United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and the Mayor's Beautification Committee and was appointed by the Governor to the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board. Currently, she serves as a board member in several organizations, including the Greater Milwaukee Committee, Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, and the YMCA.

I congratulate Sr. Joel for 35 years of visionary leadership and devotion to Alverno College and to women in higher education. Her significant contributions have broken educational ground and have placed Alverno College on the map as a national and international leader in education. May God continue to bless her in her retirement, and as she takes on new challenges within the community.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1894, TO PROHIBIT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISCRIMINATORY PRECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, the earned income tax credit is an important program to assist low-income families and move them from welfare to work.

The IRS is proposing a precertification program for EITC unlike that applied to any other tax benefit program, or for that matter any other program. As proposed, the IRS's precertification program will have the consequence of excluding persons who clearly qualify for EITC benefits. This is because, as proposed, many of the precertification requirements simply cannot be met. As one example, marriage certificates are required in certain instances. In several states, however, the waiting period to receive this documentation may be years. It is for this reason that I am cosponsoring H.R. 1894, introduced by Representative CHARLES RANGEL.

Because of my strong support for EITC, I also support both simplification of the EITC documentation process as well as fair and appropriate review of the program's eligibility and enforcement processes. This will guarantee that those persons who are eligible to receive the credit receive the benefits to which they are entitled, and that those persons who endeavor to take unfair advantage of the EITC are prevented from doing so. Fraud certainly cannot and will not be tolerated, but we also should not punish people who fairly qualify for this credit by making them provide documentation that they cannot acquire. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Internal Revenue Service in ensuring that these dual aims are accomplished.

PUBLIC HOUSING DRUG ELIMINATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 on behalf of myself and 71 original co-sponsors.

We have been fighting to reauthorize this HUD program as well as appropriate money to the program for a long time. As a matter of fact, on July 10, 2002, I offered an amendment to the Housing Affordability Act for America, authorizing the Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHDEP) through 2005.

Despite the drug elimination program's widespread success and the bipartisan support, President Bush eliminated funding for the program in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget and has again zeroed out funding for the program in his Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04) budget. We must understand that programs like drug elimination ease the strain on public housing's capital improvement and maintenance funds. Programs like drug elimination protect the elderly, who compose one-third of all residents who live in public housing, working families and children. I believe there is more we can do to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans, and I'm sure all of my colleagues would agree.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination Program funded employment of security personnel, reimbursement of local law enforcement agencies for additional security, drug education and prevention; physical improvements designed to enhance security, and youth programs. In my own district, the Oakland Housing Authority funneled their money into five different areas. They created three Boys & Girls club programs on-site; the local Museum of Art which ran an after-school performing and visual arts program—serving forty at risk youth daily; the City of Oakland's Discover Center operated a program with PHDEP dollars called, ''Science in the Hood,'' which taught hands-on general science, physics, and chemistry; and the Asian Community Mental Health center provided health, educational, and employment assistance and cultural services for Asian residents, filling a gap in community service.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination is a real tool to combat real bad actors from public housing, all while protecting youth and tenants. This program, unlike the one-strike policy (upheld in *U.S. HUD* v. *Rucker*), puts the power to change the community in the hands of the community, it's leadership, and public housing officials. Hand and hand, the drug elimination program and a modified eviction policy could help end the criminal activity that takes place in public housing.

Mr. Speaker, one-third of all residents who live in public housing are elderly. If we fail to at least authorize this program we will in fact allow thousands of elderly people to live in fear and potentially unsafe environments. We are the richest country in the world. Housing is a basic human right. We can do more to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans and we can do more to make public housing safe.

Today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 to authorize this program and allow appropriators to commit such sums as they deem necessary. I ask that my colleagues join me in support of this important program and this bill.

RECOGNIZING LUIS TIANT FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAME OF BASEBALL AND FOR HIS CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT IN THE BOSTON LITTLE LEAGUE COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Red Sox pitching legend Luis Tiant for the contributions he has made to the game of baseball and for his continued involvement in the Boston Little League community. On Saturday, May 3, 2003, the Luis Tiant Field at Peters Park in the South End of Boston was dedicated to this sports icon in recognition of all that he has contributed to the game.

Luis Tiant was born in Havana, Cuba in 1940. He learned to love baseball at a young age because his father excelled at the sport and he passed that passion on to his son. Luis flourished in the local Little League program and eventually made the Cuban Juvenile League All-Star Team in 1957.

In 1961, the Cleveland Indians signed Luis Tiant to a contract, and he made the majors with that ballclub in 1964. In 1971, his career in a Red Sox uniform began. El Tiante, as he is known in New England, led the American League with a 15–6 record and a 1.91 ERA in 1972.

For three of the next four seasons, Luis Tiant won at least 20 games. He won 18 games in 1975, helping propel the Boston Red Sox to the American League Championship. He excelled in the 1975 post season, winning Game One and Game Four of the World Series for the Red Sox.

Luis Tiant has many impressive baseball accomplishments, including having the lowest ERA for a Boston pitcher since 1920. He also holds that same record with the Cleveland Indians.

In 1978, the Boston Red Sox lost Luis Tiant to the New York Yankees—but Red Sox fans don't dwell on his time in the pinstripes. El Tiante currently lives in Boston with his family.

It is only fitting that a Little League field bear the name of one of the greatest pitchers in Boston Red Sox history. He means so much to the game of baseball and has contributed so much to his community.

FUNDING CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAMS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I would first like to take this opportunity to thank the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations for providing $218 million for Basic Education programs last year and for protecting and expanding the Child Survival and Health Fund. Their leadership on these highly successful and cost-effective programs has been outstanding.

I would also like to thank one of my constituents, Phyllis Alroy, who is a member of RESULTS, a national group dedicated to ending hunger and poverty worldwide. She and RESULTS have been champions in bringing these important initiatives to my attention. I applaud their efforts and encourage all to follow in their courageous footsteps.

In the world today, one in five people must survive on less than their local equivalent of $1 per day. Nearly half the world's population survives on less than $2 per day. Approximately 113 million primary school—age children are not in school—more than the total number of primary-age children in school in the United States, Europe, and other more developed countries. In the least developed countries, 40 percent of children who enroll in primary school do not complete five years, the minimum required for basic literacy. Nearly 11 million children under the age of five die annually in the world mostly from preventable diseases and malnutrition.

One-third of the world's population, many of them parents, are infected with the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, a disease that kills 2 million people per year. As HIV infection rates rise around the world, not only in those countries already hardest hit by the virus but soon in ''second-wave'' countries identified by the National Intelligence Council (India, Russia, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and China), TB rates are expected to rise rapidly.

While these statistics are staggering, there is some good news: Three million more children a year now survive beyond their fifth birthday than in 1990. More than 60 countries have achieved a one-third reduction in their infant and under-5 child death rates. The world has come very close to eradicating polio, and is poised to do so by 2005. Also, in 2000, the United States and 188 other countries committed to the Millennium Development Goals and pledged to reduce severe poverty by half by 2015 and meet a set of accompanying goals, including halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS and TB, reducing deaths of children under five by two-thirds, and ensuring universal primary education.

These goals are achievable, but only if we act now. The United States must lead in the global effort to save and improve children's lives, by expanding funding for the simple and effective treatments that we know work.

We must protect and expand funding for Child Survival programs. Half of all children who die in developing countries fall prey to just four conditions: pneumonia, diarrheal diseases, malaria and measles, combined with malnutrition. Each of these conditions can be treated or prevented—and other critical child health needs can be met as well—for precious little money. A few cents can provide a child with a vitamin A capsule a few times a year to prevent blindness and death. Five days worth of antibiotics to cure pneumonia cost just 25 cents. A packet of Oral Re-hydration salts to prevent fatal dehydration from diarrheal disease costs just 33 cents. I have asked the Foreign Operations Appropriations Committee to expand funding for Child Survival in your 2004 Foreign Operations Bill by $150 million.

Other low-cost solutions can positively impact children's lives by helping their families. Two million people die each year from tuberculosis, and 8 million people become sick with the disease. TB is the leading killer of people with HIV/AIDS. TB primarily strikes adults during their productive, child-rearing years. Those who become ill often lose months of work. Sometimes, TB patients' children must leave school to work or care for their sick parent. Globally, $750 million per year could bring TB under control. I have asked the Foreign Operations Appropriations Committee to protect the bilateral TB control programs, and ensure that the funding is appropriately used as effectively as possible for direct, on-the-ground interventions and treatment.

Another important tool for fighting TB is the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria (GFATM). Malaria kills nearly 1 million people each year, most of them children. AIDS has orphaned 13 million children already and, at current rates, there will be 40 million AIDS orphans by 2020.

The GFATM is an accountable multilateral mechanism capable of ensuring that drugs and treatment are efficiently disseminated to where they are needed on the ground. The GFATM is a public-private partnership, independent from the United Nations and other international bodies and working as a complement to existing bilateral international health efforts. I have asked the Foreign Operations Appropriations Committee to provide $1 billion in 2004 to this program, and ensure that it reaches as many countries as possible.

In addition to these programs, you have my support to expand funding for Basic Education programs in 2004 to $350 million (from all accounts), and to provide not less than $120 million for UNICEF, and $200 million for microenterprise programs, with at least half of that amount going to programs that target the very poor.

Again I would like to thank the Subcommittee for its outstanding leadership in saving and improving children's lives around the world by expanding funding for these critical health interventions.

TRIBUTE TO CAROLYN BETZ

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and JOHN LARSON our Ranking Member, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Assistant Counsel Carolyn Betz of the Office of General Counsel for the House. Ms. Betz has served in the House Counsel's Office since November 1995 and will shortly be relocating to upstate New York. We will miss her.

During the past seven and a half years, Ms. Betz has provided frequent and valuable service to the Committee on House Administration, and our staff has come to rely on her legal guidance, as well as her common sense approach to problem-solving. She has assisted us not only with legal advice but also with creation and implementation of numerous policies of significance to the House as an institution. Most recently, Ms. Betz was instrumental in finalizing the terms of the House's participation in the debt collection program offered by the Department of the Treasury. While in the House Counsel's Office, she has handled a wide range of legal issues, and we know that her expertise is greatly valued by other House offices.

On behalf of the Committee on House Administration, I would like to thank Carolyn Betz for her devoted service to the house. We wish her great success in her future endeavors.

55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. EDWARD L. SCHROCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share the following article written by a constituent, Rabbi Israel Zoberman. Today is the 55th Anniversary of the State of Israel.

ISRAEL AT 55

The 55th anniversary of the State of Israel is not an ordinary occasion even under normal circumstances. So much more so as the small Jewish state is challenged in a way no

other nation is by forces of terrorism begrudging its very survival even prior to its 1948 rebirth and ever since.

Israel is a remnant of and collective address of a historical people suffering untold persecution as a powerless minority, which culminated in the consuming Holocaust's vast tragedy. It sought security through the normalcy of returning to its geographic and religious roots reflected in the unique Biblical heritage, only to be rejected by a hostile neighborhood alien to both its Jewish message and Western mindset.

Miraculously returning to the soil from which it was driven by the power of the Roman sword, Israel proved the superior quality of the soul. Taking into long exile and dispersion the cherished memory of Zion and Jerusalem, it faithfully incorporated it into its spiritual life enabling an unparalleled homecoming. The national revival and cultural renewal in a vibrant democratic context was accompanied by giant strides, turning a country poor in natural resources and devastated by past trouble into an oasis of a highly developed technological society in a sea of Arab feudalism and neglect. All that while defending against a relentless enemy and absorbing millions of displaced Jewish refugees, unlike the refusal of its neighbors to welcome as equals the Palestinians in their midst.

Its tenacious will to live at last convinced Egypt, the leading Arab country, and Jordan, of the futility of fighting Israel as well as the wisdom of making peace with it, providing instead for their internal front begging transformation. Of course, the rewards of the Israeli willing evacuation of the Sinai and its oil fields along with American support packages were added incentives. While Syria, a terrorist state, is still holding out, Chairman Arafat of the Palestinian Authority tragically proved that he lacks the conviction and courage of martyred President Sadat and Prime Minister Rabin, and the late Prime Minister Begin and King Hussein. In a moment of truth on July 2000 at Camp David Arafat dashed the dreams of so many, turning his back to most forthcoming Prime Minister Barak with President Clinton's risked prestige, converting vision into violence with suicide-homicide bombings lowering inhumanity's bar.

First Palestinian Prime Minister Abu Mazen will hopefully demonstrate to rightfully and responsibly expecting Prime Minister Sharon an abandonment of terrorism's path, with commitment to peaceful co-existence at Israel's side benefiting both long-suffering peoples. However, Israel should never compromise on its security and survival. The unimaginable evil events of September 11, 2001 have highlighted the direct dangers also to America and world stability by the forces of militant Islam. The war in Iraq under President George W. Bush's decisive leadership of a man carrying the burden of a wounded nation, toppled Saddam Hussein's terror-filled regime with freedom's hammer hand-delivered by Lady Liberty's daring children. Consequently, the new vistas have the great potential to infuse the Middle East with essential democratic spirit, providing renewed promise to that critical region that is the cradle of the three great monotheistic religions, to once again bless humanity rather than dooming it. The unshakable bond between the United States and Israel, both victims of terrorism, born of common vision, values and valor for shalom's yet enduring victory, remains a reassuring beacon of light in history's darkness.

Rabbi Israel Zoberman, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, is son of Polish Holocaust survivors.

MILITARY IN-STATE TUITION

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Military In-State Tuition Act of 2003.

Currently, there is a patchwork of state laws regarding residency requirements for in-state tuition rates for military personnel and their families. When service members are given transfer orders that relocate them to a different state, college students in the family must often face tough choices regarding tuition costs at the college or university in their home state.

There are three residency requirement issues that have been identified by military leaders in my state. First, it is difficult for some families to maintain their eligibility for in-state tuition within their state of legal residence, if they have been assigned outside of that state. For example, a military family may be stationed in another country or state while maintaining residency in the member's home state. Upon return to their state of residence, they find they are not eligible for in-state tuition. My legislation would ensure that soldiers and their families are always eligible for in-state tuition rates in their state of legal residence.

Second, some dependents of military personnel have trouble maintaining in-state tuition at their current college or university, if their sponsoring active-duty parent is transferred out of state. My legislation would address this concern by ensuring that students receive in-state tuition even if the military parent or guardian is reassigned out of state.

Last, most active duty military members who are transferred out of state while enrolled in a state college or university do not qualify for in-state tuition in their new state of assignment until a lengthy residency requirement is met. My legislation would ensure that soldiers, who have been reassigned due to military orders, and their families are eligible immediately for in-state tuition.

Given the sacrifices that active-duty military personnel make for our country, I believe that it is only fair that if they and their families enroll at state colleges and universities, they should qualify for in-state tuition. These active duty members should not be penalized by having to pay higher tuition rates when they are reassigned to another military facility in a different state.

I hope my colleagues will join me by supporting and cosponsoring this legislation.

TIME MAGAZINE REPORTER JIM LACEY EMBEDDED WITH 101ST AIRBORNE

HON. GENE TAYLOR

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I submit the attached report of Time Magazine correspondent Jim Lacey for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TIME MAGAZINE REPORTER JIM LACEY EMBEDDED WITH 101ST AIRBORNE

Since returning from Iraq a short time ago I have been answering a lot of questions about the war from friends, family, and strangers. When they ask me how it was over there I find myself glossing over the fighting, the heat, the sandstorms, and the flies (these last could have taught the Iraqi army a thing or two about staying power). Instead, I talk about the soldiers I met, and how they reflected the best of America. A lot of people are going to tell the story of how this war was fought; I would rather say something about the men who won the war.

War came early for the 1st Brigade of the 101st Airborne when an otherwise quiet night in the Kuwaiti desert was shattered by thunderous close-quarters grenade blasts. Sgt. Hasan Akbar, a U.S. soldier, had thrown grenades into an officers' tent, killing two and wounding a dozen others. Adding to the immediate confusion was the piercing scream of SCUD alarms, which kicked in the second Akbar's grenade exploded. For a moment, it was a scene of near panic and total chaos.

Just minutes after the explosions, a perimeter was established around the area of the attack, medics were treating the wounded, and calls for evacuation vehicles and helicopters were already being sent out. Remarkably, the very people who should have been organizing all of this were the ones lying on the stretchers, seriously wounded. It fell to junior officers and untested sergeants to take charge and lead. Without hesitation everyone stepped up and unfalteringly did just that. I stood in amazement as two captains (Townlee Hendrick and Tony Jones) directed the evacuation of the wounded, established a hasty defense, and helped to organize a search for the culprit. They did all this despite bleeding heavily from their wounds. For over six hours, these two men ran things while refusing to be evacuated until they were sure all of the men in their command were safe.

Two days later Capt. Jones left the hospital and hitchhiked back to the unit: He had heard a rumor that it was about to move into Iraq and he wanted to be there. As Jones—dressed only in boots, a hospital gown, and a flak vest—limped toward headquarters, Col. Hodges, the 1st Brigade's commander, announced, ''I see that Captain Jones has returned to us in full martial splendor.'' The colonel later said that he was tempted to send Jones to the unit surgeon for further evaluation, but that he didn't feel he had the right to tell another man not to fight: Hodges himself had elected to leave two grenade fragments in his arm so that he could return to his command as quickly as possible.

The war had not even begun and already I was aware that I had fallen in with a special breed of men. Over the next four weeks, nothing I saw would alter this impression. A military historian once told me that soldiers could forgive their officers any fault save cowardice. After the grenade attack I knew these men were not cowards, but I had yet to learn that the brigade's leaders had made a cult of bravery. A few examples will suffice.

While out on what he called ''battlefield circulation,'' Col. Hodges was surveying suspected enemy positions with one of his battalion commanders (Lt. Col. Chris Hughes) when a soldier yelled ''Incoming'' to alert everyone that mortar shells were headed our way. A few soldiers moved closer to a wall, but Hodges and Hughes never budged and only briefly glanced up when the rounds hit a few hundred yards away. As Hodges completed his review and prepared to leave, another young soldier asked him when they would get to kill whoever was firing the mortar. Hodges smiled and said, ''Don't be in a hurry to kill him. They might replace that guy with someone who can shoot.''

The next day, a convoy Col. Hodges was traveling in was ambushed by several Iraqi

paramilitary soldiers. A ferocious firelight ensued, but Hodges never left the side of his vehicle. Puffing on a cigar as he directed the action, Hodges remained constantly exposed to fire. When two Kiowa helicopters swooped in to pulverize the enemy strongpoint with rocket fire, he turned to some journalists watching the action and quipped, ''That's your tax dollars at work.''

Bravery inspires men, but brains and quick thinking win wars. In one particularly tense moment a company of U.S. soldiers was preparing to guard the Mosque of Ali—one of the most sacred Muslim sites—when agitators in what had been a friendly crowd started shouting that they were going to storm the mosque. In an instant, the Iraqis began to chant and a riot seemed imminent. A couple of nervous soldiers slid their weapons into fire mode, and I thought we were only moments away from a slaughter. These soldiers had just fought an all-night battle. They were exhausted, tense, and prepared to crush any riot with violence of their own. But they were also professionals, and so, when their battalion commander, Chris Hughes, ordered them to take a knee, point their weapons to the ground, and start smiling, that is exactly what they did. Calm returned. By placing his men in the most nonthreatening posture possible, Hughes had sapped the crowd of its aggression. Quick thinking and iron discipline had reversed an ugly situation and averted disaster.

Since then, I have often wondered how we created an army of men who could fight with ruthless savagery all night and then respond so easily to an order to ''smile'' while under impending threat. Historian Stephen Ambrose said of the American soldier: ''When soldiers from any other army, even our allies, entered a town, the people hid in the cellars. When Americans came in, even into German towns, it meant smiles, chocolate bars and C-rations.'' Ours has always been an army like no other, because our soldiers reflect a society unlike any other. They are pitiless when confronted by armed enemy fighters and yet full of compassion for civilians and even defeated enemies.

American soldiers immediately began saving Iraqi lives at the conclusion of any fight. Medics later said that the Iraqi wounded they treated were astounded by our compassion. They expected they would be left to suffer or die. I witnessed Iraqi paramilitary troops using women and children as human shields, turning grade schools into fortresses, and defiling their own holy sites. Time and again, I saw Americans taking unnecessary risks to clear buildings without firing or using grenades, because it might injure civilians. I stood in awe as 19-year-olds refused to return enemy fire because it was coming from a mosque.

It was American soldiers who handed over food to hungry Iraqis, who gave their own medical supplies to Iraqi doctors, and who brought water to the thirsty. It was American soldiers who went door-to-door in a slum because a girl was rumored to have been injured in the fighting; when they found her, they called in a helicopter to take her to an Army hospital. It was American soldiers who wept when a three-year-old was carried out of the rubble where she had been killed by Iraqi mortar fire. It was American soldiers who cleaned up houses they had been fighting over and later occupied—they wanted the places to look at least somewhat tidy when the residents returned.

It was these same soldiers who stormed to Baghdad in only a couple of weeks, accepted the surrender of three Iraqi Army divisions, massacred any Republican Guard unit that stood and fought, and disposed of a dictator and a regime with ruthless efficiency. There is no other army—and there are no other soldiers—in the world capable of such merciless fighting and possessed of such compassion for their fellow man. No society except America could have produced them.

Before I end this I want to point out one other quality of the American soldier: His sense of justice. After a grueling fight, a company of infantrymen was resting and opening their first mail delivery of the war. One of the young soldiers had received a care package and was sharing the home-baked cookies with his friends. A photographer with a heavy French accent asked if he could have one. The soldier looked him over and said there would be no cookies for Frenchmen. The photographer then protested that he was half Italian. Without missing a beat, the soldier broke a cookie in half and gave it to him. It was a perfect moment and a perfect reflection of the American soldier.

HONORING JUAN MARTIN CASTILLO

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Juan Martin Castillo, the recipient of the 2003 Human Relations Award given by the Orange County Human Relations Commission.

The recipients of the Human Relations Awards are named for making significant contributions to the county, by demonstrating commitment to human and civil rights, and by fostering respect and understanding among people of all backgrounds.

Mr. Castillo has met all of the above. He organized the very first meetings of the Latino branch of the Orange County Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

With Mr. Castillo's help and dedication to the organization, monthly meetings consist of dozens of parents and friends who gather to share stories and laughter, and to offer support.

I am very proud of the work Mr. Castillo has done in his community. I commend him for his work to make our world a more tolerant place to live.

BLACK LUNG BENEFITS SURVIVORS EQUITY ACT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation aimed at providing equity in the treatment of benefits for eligible survivors of recipients of black lung benefits.

By way of background, in 1981 the Black Lung Benefits Act was amended in several respects at the urging of the Reagan Administration. The driving motivation for this legislation at the time was to shore up the finances of the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund through which benefit payments are made to beneficiaries where mine employment terminated prior to 1970, or where no mine operator can be assigned liability.

After the enactment of this legislation, administrative actions and a number of extremely harmful court decisions made it extremely difficult, if not almost impossible, for those suffering from the crippling disease of black lung to qualify for benefits. However, today, a large number of the problems claimants faced have been remedied by a Clinton Administration rulemaking that was finalized on December 20, 2000.

Yet, two provisions of the 1981 Act in particular continue to be most troublesome, and largely impact, in a very adverse way, surviving widows of coal miners who die as a result of black lung disease.

As it now stands, due to the 1981 amendments, there is a dual and inequitable standard governing how benefits are handled for surviving spouses of deceased beneficiaries. In the event a beneficiary died prior to January 1, 1982—the effective date of the 1981 Act—benefits continued uninterrupted to the surviving spouse.

However, if the beneficiary dies after January 1, 1982, the surviving spouse must file a new claim in order to try to continue receiving the benefits and must prove that the miner died as a result of black lung disease despite the fact that the miner was already deemed eligible to receive benefits prior to death. This is illogical, unfair and outlandish.

In addition, as a result of the 1981 law, there is also a dual and inequitable standard governing the basis by which a miner or his widow is entitled to benefits under the Act. For pre-1981 Act claimants, a rebuttable presumption of the existence of black lung disease is established if the miner worked for 15 years or more in underground coal mines and if over evidence, such as an X-ray, demonstrates the existence of a total disability respiratory or pulmonary impairment. This rebuttable presumption, however, does not apply to post-1981 Act claimants.

The legislation I am introducing today removes the requirement that a surviving spouse must refile a claim in order to continue receiving benefits. It also applies the rebuttable presumption of black lung disease for pre-1981 Act claimants to those filed after the effective date of that statute.

This is a fair and just proposal, and one which should have been enacted years ago. In fact, I have introduced various black lung bills since 1988. During the early 1990s the House of Representatives on two occasions passed reform legislation. Much of what was contained in these comprehensive reform bills was finally addressed by the Clinton-era rulemaking. However, the subject matter of the bill I am introducing today demands action by the Congress.

I urge the leadership of this body to consider this matter, and to allow this bill to be acted upon this year.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1298, UNITED STATES LEADERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS, AND MALARIA ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to applaud Chairman HENRY HYDE and the International Relations Committee on their Herculean efforts to save lives in the developing world. As of last year, an estimated 42 million individuals were infected with HIV worldwide. Seventy-five percent of those individuals live in developing nations in Africa and the Caribbean. As the leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa, AIDS has killed more than 20 million people in that region alone. This global pandemic shatters families and wrecks any potential for prosperity in developing nations. Indeed, AIDS has nearly annihilated entire segments of society in Africa.

Like some of my colleagues, I have had an opportunity to visit some the nations hit hardest by AIDS. Just months ago, I visited a small town just outside of Capetown, South Africa. There, I was told that at least 30 percent of the town's residents were infected with HIV. The nearly incalculable costs associated with such widespread suffering almost certainly damn South Africa's children to poverty.

Notwithstanding this horrific situation, I was struck by the success of some heroic efforts to fight back against HIV. In the same town, the international aid organization Doctors Without Borders, has been running a small clinic devoted to treating pregnant victims of HIV. In treating these women, Doctors Without Borders has also prevented the spread of HIV to the unborn children of its patients. Efforts like this one have effectively saved the lives of hundreds of those who might otherwise face death as a result of AIDS.

Perhaps one remarkable aspect of this effort is that it shows what a small investment in public health can do to alleviate mass suffering in the developing world. Imagine what organizations like Catholic charities and Doctors Without Borders can do with a multi-billion dollar commitment by the United States of America. Today's legislation shows leadership and it demonstrates our resolve in the fight against AIDS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and congratulations to the International Relations Committee on a job well done.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROARING SPRING LIONS CLUB

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on May 10, 2003, the Roaring Spring Lions Club will be celebrating their 50th anniversary. I rise today to congratulate the members of this exceptional club for such a momentous occasion. The current members have continued a long standing Lions Club tradition of excellence. They should be proud of their commitment to assisting their community and fellow citizens through numerous service activities.

The Roaring Spring Lions Club is one of many thousands of local clubs located in 190 countries across the globe, with a world wide membership of more than 1 million members. As an internationally known organization, the many local Lions Clubs make up a large web of community service projects that range from improving the environment, to helping local youth through outreach projects, to assisting the disabled in the community. Lions Club members are truly exceptional people and prove their commitment to the Clubs' motto ''We serve'' each and every day.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have had the opportunity today to pay tribute to and recognize the members of the Roaring Spring Lions Club for their 50th anniversary. I encourage the members to continue in their efforts to better their community through service oriented projects and I wish them each the best of luck in all their future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING AUSTIN DOUGLAS PICKRELL

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker,

Whereas, Austin Douglas Pickrell has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Austin Douglas Pickrell has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Austin Douglas Pickrell has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Austin Douglas Pickrell must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with Troop 126, the residents of Zainesville, and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Austin Douglas Pickrell as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

HONORING MAX HALLMAN

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Max Hallman. Max Hallman has dedicated his life to education and the community of Merced has benefited greatly from his efforts.

Max Hallman was instrumental in starting the Honors program at Merced College thirteen years ago, bringing the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society to the campus. Max was a founding member of the Califomia/Nevada Region of the Honors Society, and has received several awards recognizing his achievements. Max Hallman has been named Merced College Instructor of the Year, is the recipient of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development's Teaching Excellence Award, six different Phi Theta Kappa recognitions and is prominently featured in the directory, Who 's Who Among America's Teachers.

Max Hallman has spent his life teaching the young to think, to question, to aspire for something greater. Max Hallman has become an expert in the works of Frederick Nietzsche, who once wrote, ''Out of damp and gloomy days, out of solitude, out of loveless words directed at us, conclusions grow up in us like fungus: one morning they are there, we know not how, and they gaze upon us, morose and gray. Woe to the thinker who is not the gardener but only the soil of the plants that grow in him!'' Professor Hallman has long been teaching his young students to garden—to be responsible for their minds and lives, and many of them are the better for it.

It is my honor and privilege to recognize Max Hallman for his service to the community. Throughout his career, he has distinguished himself as a leader and mentor. I am delighted to recognize his service and his retirement as I wish him the best in the years to come.

IN HONOR OF MARY BALL WILLIAMS MIDDLETON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mary Ball Williams Middleton for her lifetime achievements and continued involvement in the community. Born in Charleston, South Carolina on March 26, 1901, Mrs. Middleton turned 102 this year. Since moving to Harlem at the age of 16, she has demonstrated her commitment to bettering society. Mrs. Middleton has been an active member of her church, the Cathedral of United Methodism in Harlem, NY for over 40 years. Over the years she served as a member of the Stewardess Board No. 4 and the United Methodist women, and as chairperson of Dignity Channel. Her community involvement is also demonstrated through her involvement at the A. Philip Randolph Senior Citizens' Center, the Harlem Council on the Aging, and the New York City Senior Citizen Volunteers. I commend Mrs. Middleton on her lifetime of community involvement and sincerely hope that she will continue to impart her wisdom and love on the community for the benefit of today's youth.

HONORING CHIEF CAMERON PHILLIPS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fire Chief Cameron Robert Phillips, of Garden Grove, California.

Chief Phillips, a native of California and a man who has dedicated his time to the City of Garden Grove, will be retiring this month as fire chief of the Garden Grove Fire Department.

Chief Phillips began his career with the fire department in 1974, when he became a firefighter. He later became a paramedic, and then went on to be a fire engineer. With hard work he was promoted to fire chief in 1999.

Chief Phillips has also been very active in his community, serving as Vice Chair of the Governing Board at Garden Grove Hospital. He has also been involved with the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the National Fire Protection Agency.

Chief Phillips has dedicated his life to serving his community and putting his life at risk to save others. I wish him well in his retirement.

PUBLIC HEALTH

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support legislation I am introducing today that will improve the public health of communities throughout America, make worksites safer for thousands of corrections officers and staff, and help to improve the health of inmates in correctional facilities.

Every year, more than 11 million people are released from prisons and jails across America, growing numbers of which suffer disproportionately from mental illness, substance abuse, and communicable diseases, such as HIV, hepatitis and tuberculosis.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, infectious diseases are more prevalent among correctional inmates than the general population. For AIDS, the prevalence among inmates is 5 times that of the general population. Tuberculosis infection rates are substantially higher among inmates, with estimates from 4 to 17 times higher. And the prevalence of hepatitis C among inmates is 9 to 10 times higher than that of the general population.

The health care needs of inmates have expanded as the incarcerated population has aged, succumbing to the same ailments that afflict the elderly in the outside world—such as diabetes, hypertension, and stroke.

It is a sad reflection of the inadequate health care system in America that many times inmates receive health care for the first time after they enter correctional facilities. Indeed, it is likely that the majority of inmates with communicable diseases entered correctional systems already infected. Having millions of inmates with serious communicable diseases threatens the health and lives of thousands of dedicated corrections officers and all who work in correctional facilities, as well as the rest of the prison population as well. Most inmates are released after they've served their time. Upon release, the threat to public health becomes clear, as inmates return to live and work in our communities. There is no doubt that correctional facilities play a key role in the battle against the spread of disease.

The challenge faced by correctional facilities is enormous. In an era of shrinking resources, corrections staff are called upon to do more with less. My bill is intended to assist them in this challenge.

To respond to this critical need, I am introducing legislation which would establish an Office of Correctional Health within the Department of Health and Human Services and would setup a program for States to combat hepatitis in correctional facilities. The proposed office would coordinate all correctional health programs within HHS; provide technical support to State and local correctional agencies on correctional health; cooperate with other Federal agencies carrying out correctional health programs to ensure coordination; and provide outreach and facilitate information exchange regarding correctional health activities.

As a result of discussions with a broad range of groups about the need to combat hepatitis, the bill that I am introducing will include a program to provide matching grants to States for the screening, immunization, and treatment of hepatitis A, B, and C in correctional facilities. This new program is based on recommendations in a report published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention entitled, Prevention and Control of Infections with Hepatitis Viruses in Correctional Settings. States will have flexibility in this program to screen, treat, or immunize inmates or employees.

The public health implications from joining this battle are clear. If we give corrections professionals the tools and resources they need to identify, treat, and prevent communicable disease, we protect those who reside both behind bars and beyond the gates.

I urge my colleagues to support this important public health measure.

LEGISLATION TO DEFER THE CAPITAL GAINS TAX ON MUTUAL FUND INVESTORS UNTIL SHARES ARE SOLD

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, millions of working Americans depend on mutual funds to invest and save for their future. Fund investors are overwhelmingly middle-income families and individuals who are investing for the long term and mutual funds provide an ideal way for smaller investors to invest in the U.S. economy. Easing the burden to invest and increasing the opportunities for these investors to put more into their portfolios is especially critical now given the nation's current economic health.

Because mutual funds are primarily used for long-term investments, many fund investors are understandably frustrated by a tax rule that forces them to pay tax on capital gains before they sell their shares in the fund. To further their long-term savings and investment goals, fund investors typically choose to have any capital gains distributions, which they would otherwise receive from the fund, automatically reinvested in the fund. Nevertheless, under current tax law, these fund investors are required to pay tax on such amounts even though they took no action to trigger those gains and their investment dollars remain in the fund. As widely reported in the press, fund investors find this tax rule inconsistent with both the long-term nature of their investment and their understanding of how investments are taxed.

This tax problem would be solved with my legislation by permitting fund investors to defer tax on mutual fund capital gain distributions that are automatically reinvested in the fund. These gains would be taxed when the investors sell their shares in the fund. Postponing the capital gains tax until the fund investor decides to sell his or her shares in the fund is consistent with the basic philosophy that a capital gains tax on an investment is not due until you sell the investment. This is the way an investor who holds stock directly is taxed.

Deferring capital gains tax on mutual fund investors until they sell their fund shares will promote savings by middle-income investors. Adoption of this approach will permit those savings to grow more rapidly and remain invested in America's economy as intended by the fund investors.

My bill will promote personal savings and investment in the national economy by changing tax rules to reflect the continuing nature of the shareholder's investment in the fund.

FREEDOM'S OBLIGATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an essay written by fellow Kansan, Christina Lachut. Ms. Lachut, from Fort Riley, Kansas, is this year's Kansas winner of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest. I am very proud of Ms. Lachut and her accomplishment.

FREEDOM'S OBLIGATION

(By Christina Lachut)

Freedom. The very thought of it conjures visions of blue skies, soaring eagles, and star spangled banners fluttering in the breeze. However, every Veterans' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, and now Patriot Day, we are reminded of the many lives sacrificed at ''Freedom's altar.'' Freedom's altar lies not in a single land, but across many, from the fields of Gettysburg to Flanders field, from Pearl Harbor to the Mekong Delta, from the sands of Iraq to the hills of the Balkans, and from the streets of New York City to the rocks of Afghanistan. In every land where an American in Freedom's name falls, a lighthouse of hope is raised. Yes, one can easily see that our liberties as Americans are not without a price. This American freedom is not as much a right as it is an obligation; an obligation to be a torch of freedom and justice to every dark shore our nation beholds.

Even in its birth, our country inspired other peoples in far away lands to begin their pursuit of the ideals our Founding Fathers themselves sought. As our nation matured, it fought its own battles into adulthood and came to more fully realize the breadth of the concept of the Freedom it embraced: the state of being fully without bonds and lawfully equal to all people regardless of color, heritage, gender, ability, or belief. As an individual, each has a responsibility to help preserve another's freedom, and not to aid in impeding it. As well as to

the individual, this concept of responsibility must be applied to the nation as a whole.

Prior to the Second World War, the United States tried to remain isolated from the conflicts that engulfed Europe. The United States only joined these wars after it was impossible to do otherwise. Little by little, though, our country has learned to heed the warning presented by Martin Luther King Jr. that, ''A threat to freedom anywhere is a threat to freedom everywhere.'' Freedom and oppression simply cannot coexist.

Why, though, are Americans now so willing to fight for such an abstract idea as freedom? Perhaps it is because we have beheld the horrors of the Holocaust, the terror of the Khmer Rouge, and the stranglehold of the Taliban. This loyalty to freedom, though, lies more likely in the essence of the American spirit, that every-gnawing hunger for fairness, justice, and the righteousness of the Golden Rule. A long line of Americans fighting on foreign soil have justified the war to themselves by reasoning that they have liberty because someone they never knew paid the price for it, and it is only fair that they, in their state of freedom, be willing to do the same for another.

It is our duty, as partakers of freedom in this part of the world, to be defenders of freedom throughout the world. Abraham Lincoln stated this obligation best when he surmised; ''In giving freedom to the slave we assure freedom to the free, honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve.'' By the freedom that has made our own nation great, we must humble ourselves, and share the wealth with which we have been so mightily blessed.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF FATHER WILLIAM GULAS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Father William Gulas, beloved Pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish in Slavic Village and beloved mentor, leader and friend of many.

For nearly a decade, Father Gulas gently led his flock at St. Stanislaus Parish, offering spiritual and emotional guidance to every parishioner. Moreover, Father Gulas reached out, with caring and compassion, to residents of Slavic Village and neighborhoods beyond, providing a helping hand or kind counsel whenever needed. Father Gulas was ordained as a Franciscan priest in 1961. He was head of the Franciscan Order for the Assumption Province, which spans several states, including Ohio. His service to our Cleveland community began in 1993, when he joined the parish of St. Stan's as pastor. Reflecting a strong desire to connect with parishioners, Father Gulas learned to speak Polish to be able to communicate with every parishioner.

Father Gulas was an articulate and graceful liturgist. His sense of timing and wit, combined with his kindness and warmth, defined his ministry. Father Gulas leaves behind a rich legacy of a life dedicated to spiritual guidance, leadership, and helping others. For our Cleveland community, Father Gulas leaves behind a legacy of healing and uplifting our Slavic Village neighborhood, which radiates throughout his congregation, and resounds throughout our entire community. Father Gulas was instrumental in the renovation of the historic St. Stanislaus church. His dedication to restoring this magnificent, century-old structure equaled his dedication and success in restoring the heart and soul of this Cleveland neighborhood—one struggling family at a time, one lonely neighbor at a time, one troubled child at a time.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join us in tribute and remembrance of Father William Gulas, whose compassion, understanding and inspiration, through his words and his deeds, kept hope and faith alive in everyone he knew. His presence among us was a gift, and he will be deeply missed by the countless lives he touched, including ours. We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Father Gulas, to the parishioners of St. Stanislaus, and to the entire Slavic Village community. Throughout his tenure along Fleet Avenue, Father Gulas was deeply committed to helping those in need—young and old, black and white, believers and non-believers. Father Gulas was a living light for everyone in this community, and as deeply as he loved the people of Slavic Village, they in turn, loved him. Most significantly, the love and light that Father Gulas gave so freely to the people of St. Stanislaus and streets beyond, will be a guiding force within our community always, and will live within our hearts forever.

INTRODUCING THE FILIPINO VETERANS FAIRNESS ACT

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Filipino Veterans Fairness Act in commemoration of Corregidor Day, and all the Filipino veterans who fought against the Japanese Imperial Forces in defense of America.

Sixty-one years ago today, in the island fortress of Corregidor, Philippines, approximately 15,000 American and Filipino troops fought the four-months long resistance against the Japanese forces.

In the early days of World War II, these Filipinos fought alongside Americans as they were battered by constant shellfire and aerial bombardment.

Corregidor Day evokes memories of how these valiant soldiers disrupted the Japanese conquest of the South Pacific, allowing valuable time for the United States to recover from Japan's initial onslaught.

After the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, they also attacked and defeated Hong Kong and Singapore, our allies in the war. The one bright spot in those dark days was in the Philippine Islands where Americans and Filipinos made a stand in Bataan, Corregidor and the southern islands of the Philippines.

At the conclusion of World War II, there were more than 400,000 Filipino veterans. Only 50,000 Filipino veterans are living today and approximately 13,000 of them reside in the United States.

I pay tribute to these magnificent Filipino soldiers, loyal and dedicated to the war effort, who distinguished themselves in the four months of combat. With their fiber helmets and canvas shoes, they were armed with little more than personal courage. These valiant men deserve no less than recognition of their military service and fairness under the law.

Proper recognition and honor of the military service of these Filipino veterans is long overdue. I ask my colleagues to remember Corregidor and to support the Filipino Veterans Fairness Act. My bill mirrors Senator DANIEL INOUYE's S. 68 and also guarantees Filipino veterans' representation in the Center for Minority Veterans, and ensures they receive the same social benefits like education, housing loans, vocational rehabilitation and job counseling as available to the American soldiers with whom they fought side by side in Corregidor.

FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Delegate Joanne C. Benson—a woman of integrity, principle, love and passion for helping others. As a Member of the Maryland State House of Delegates since 1991 and an educator in the Prince George's County School System for forty years, Joanne Benson has touched the lives of thousands in her service to people. On this very special occasion of celebrating her retirement we must all give great thanks for the difference she has made in carrying out her life's work.

Having known this extraordinary woman for all my years of public service, I have seen first hand her compassion and unfailing love for children, family and community. Her motto, ''If not now, when? If not us, who?'' exemplifies her tireless efforts in being a voice for the voiceless, a power for the powerless and a fighter for those who have given up the fight.

Born in Roanoke, Virginia, the daughter of Reverend and Mrs. William Claybon, she is one of six children. After graduating from South Hagerstown High School, she received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Bowie State University and later achieved a Master of Arts Degree from Catholic University. Her career in education began as a teacher in Calvert County and soon thereafter she began to work for the Prince George's County School System, where over the years she has served in a number of capacities including teacher/facilitator, master teacher, instructional support specialist, human relations specialist, Principal and parent involvement specialist. And throughout this long tenure there is one thing she has always been—one of the strongest and most ardent activists for improving the quality of life and the quality of education for our children.

Joanne is a caring individual. Story after story can be told of her purchasing shoes and coats for children in need; bringing food to a hungry family; accessing free health and dental care for children; and finding shelter for the homeless. It was her work while she was Principal of John H. Bayne Elementary School that started the first after-school program in which teachers, parents and community leaders volunteered to work. She began a clothes closet and food pantry and started adult education classes for parents. And she was an early advocate of school uniforms, recognizing that if a child looks good, they feel good.

From an early age, Joanne learned that the rewards we receive are from the work we do. She has carried her concern and compassion for children to her work at the Maryland General Assembly where she is one of the most vocal and respected legislators and where she has been able to implement policies to better life for youngsters. She was an original sponsor of the Primary Seat Belt Law which serves as a national model for children's car seats and seat belt laws. She has gained the reputation as always being there for her constituents, whether it is help to get more funding for public education or safer streets in their community, and always takes positive action.

One of her proudest achievements has been the establishment of the not-for-profit organization known as SAFE STREETS 2000. This program, designed to educate and strengthen our communities and organizations, has helped many become more knowledgeable of available resources in the prevention, intervention and rehabilitation of senseless violence. For this work, Delegate Benson was profiled on the front page of the Washington Post and the Prince George's Journal and was featured on Nightline with Ted Koppel and Night Watch with Charles Rose.

Her endless commitment to children has earned her many other awards: For the Love of Children Award from the Kiwanis Club of the Capitol Area; Outstanding Educator from Prince George's County Schools, Who's Who Among Notable Educators in Maryland, Woman of the Year from Metropolitan Business and Professional Women, Humanitarian Award from Zeta Phi Beta and Outstanding Community Service Award from Las Amigas.

There are so many accomplishments and so many awards, but anyone who knows Joanne knows the things which make her the happiest and the proudest are the small unnoticed acts of kindness. Joanne, you are blessed with an irresistible spirit which is transmitted to all you touch. And we are all so grateful for all you have done. We thank you for your friendship, your leadership and your commitment to improving the lives of children and all the citizens of Prince George's County and the State of Maryland. We salute your 40 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Prince George's County School System.

PUBLIC SAFETY ACT

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Public Safety Act, a bill designed to put a stop to the privatization of an extremely important public safety responsibility of government: the incarceration of criminals.

The Public Safety Act, which I have introduced in each of the last two Congresses, enjoys the wide support of many groups that represent the interests of correctional officers. The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), as well as several other prison interest groups, all support this legislation.

When governments contract out their responsibility to incarcerate inmates to private prison corporations, taxpayers lose much of the valuable oversight that they have of government agencies. Nevertheless, taxpayers are still forced to assume much of the financial and legal liability associated with the operation of private prisons. If there are riots or breakouts, local government authorities are often called in to handle the situation. Furthermore, when a private prison official violates an inmate's rights, the taxpayers from the community—not the prison corporation—foot the bill for the lawsuit. To address these growing concerns, I will be reintroducing the Public Safety Act, which would prohibit the privatization of federal prisons. The bill also would prohibit state and local governments from using any federal funds made available to them for the purpose of providing core correctional services (such as the housing, safe-guarding, protecting, and disciplining of inmates) to contract out those services to private corporations.

A common argument used by privateers is that the private sector can incarcerate prisoners more cheaply, thereby saving taxpayer dollars. Having worked in a prison, however, I know that the easiest way to cut costs in a correctional facility is to cut the wages and benefits of the personnel. The result of this is to employ a poorly trained staff with little experience, creating a danger for everyone who works in the facility and everyone who lives in the surrounding community. The result of cutting expenses in corrections is cutting corners, and cutting corners is unacceptable when it comes to protecting public safety.

My bill will prohibit the Federal Government from contracting out its responsibility to incarcerate criminals. The bill would also prevent States and local governments from using federal funds to contract out core correctional services to private corporations. Even as I speak, the Bureau of Prisons is asking Congress to appropriate money for a new contract facility for female inmates, which is a giant step in the wrong direction from the BOP'S request from last year for dollars to build a government facility for female inmates. The Office of Management and Budget is also forcing the BOP to contract out part of its own workforce. The assault on public safety is not only at the federal level, however. There is even greater concern at the state and local levels that governments experiencing tough financial times may contract out their responsibilities with the hope of saving money. The Public Safety Act will prevent States and local governments from using federal dollars in the form of Homeland Security block grants or otherwise to forfeit their responsibility to administer justice.

I urge all my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation so that we can ensure that the Federal government fulfills its responsibility to provide for public safety, and I hope that the Public Safety Act will be considered by the House of Representatives soon.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEACHERS INDUCTED INTO THE NATIONAL TEACHERS HALL OF FAME

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on National Teacher Day, to recognize this year's inductees into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas. All of us have had special teachers in our lives, and we are forever indebted to them for their motivation, their compassion, and their desire to see students achieve their full potential. Now in its 14th year, the Hall of Fame continues its mission to honor exceptional teachers and promote excellence in teaching. Congratulations to the 2003 inductees: Larry Statler, Cynthia Jones, Ruth Ann Gaines, Kathleen McGrath, and Carol Strickland.

At Santa Teresa Elementary in San Jose, California, Larry Statler has used his talents to create the Discovery program. Discovery is a collaborative effort between special and general educators. Although Larry specializes in special education, his superintendent calls him 'a man for all children.'

Cynthia Jones, a third and fourth grade teacher at Cason Lane Academy in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, has shared her love of education around the world. She has presented original research in Durham, England, and in Washington, DC. She participated in the White House Conference on Education from 1995 to 2001 and also traveled to Japan in 1999 as a Fulbright Scholar.

According to a former student, Ruth Ann Gaines takes teaching beyond the classroom. At East High School in Des Moines, Iowa, she has created the 'Sisters for Success' program, a mentoring organization for African-American high school girls to build self esteem and facilitate academic success. She has also created the Leadership Council, a school organization that helps address problems of diversity in the school and community.

Kathleen McGrath of Ocala, Florida, loves knowledge and conveys that to her students through her dedication to teaching. Every student TRIES in her classroom. This motto stands for Trust, Relationships, Involvement, Expectations, and Success. Kathleen is also a three-time recipient of the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship in 1992, 1999, and 2001.

I am especially proud to recognize Carol Strickland, who is from Emporia in my home state of Kansas. Carol won the Kansas Teacher of the Year award in 1999 followed by the U.S. Department of State Secondary School Excellence Award in 2001. Her accomplishments include launching an Applied Communication class to help students with Limited English Proficiency transition from high school to the working world.

Larry, Cynthia, Ruth Ann, Kathleen, and Carol exemplify what it means to be a teacher—what it means to make a difference. These five inductees collectively have 143 years of teaching experience. I salute these men and women for their dedication to the youth of our country. It is my hope that they will find satisfaction in knowing the influence they have made on the lives of their students.