

friends and colleagues on the committee to see this bill through the legislative process. I think it is important that we hold a hearing on this matter. When the Members of this body are able to hear firsthand the stories of these ordinary, hard-working people from east Texas, I know they will understand the injustice of what has happened to them. I urge my colleagues to take a look at this matter, read the bill, talk to me, talk to the people involved, and you will see that we must pass this bill.

TRIBUTE TO DR. YOUSSEF  
YOMTOOB

**HON. LYNN N. RIVERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a former school board member, a State legislator, and Member of Congress. It is a distinct pleasure for me to recognize and honor my friend Dr. Youssef Yomtoob today. Dr. Yomtoob will retire this year from his post as superintendent of the Willow Run School District after spending over 30 years of his life in the field of education. From his position as a mathematics teacher in the 1960's in Niles, MI, to his current post as superintendent, Dr. Yomtoob has continuously left a legacy of extreme competence and knowledge. He has co-authored 16 books, primarily dealing with mathematics and has served on dozens of educational advisory boards such as the Michigan Educational Research Association, the Michigan Department of Education variable task force, and the validation team for the Michigan Department of Education.

More importantly, over the past three decades, Dr. Yomtoob has left an indelible mark as a warm and kind-hearted man who values the students, teachers, and administrators with whom he works. Dr. Yomtoob has always taken pains to personally know the students in the schools in which he taught or administered.

While Dr. Yomtoob has accomplished an extraordinary amount in the academic field, he has dedicated much of his time to community activities and public service projects as well. Dr. Yomtoob has been involved in the United Way for well over a decade and currently serves as the Washtenaw County division chairman. He served as chairman for the Willow Run Christmas dinner for the homeless and served on the Ypsilanti Press Give-A-Christmas task force. Dr. Yomtoob has been active in his congregation as well. He served as president of the Men's Club at Temple Beth Israel in Jackson, MI, for 4 years and has been a member of Temple Brotherhood for 4 years. Dr. Yomtoob has been involved in countless other community projects that are simply too numerous to list.

In the past few years, Dr. Yomtoob has been recognized several times for his accomplishments. He was recognized as the recipient of the Minority Business Organization of Washtenaw County's Education and Community Award and in 1992 was selected by the Ypsilanti Press as their Person of the Year. It gives me great pride to recognize Dr. Yomtoob once again for his many years of service both in the education community and the community at large. Although he is leaving us in Michigan, I am certain that Dr. Youssef

Yomtoob will continue to enrich the educational community and to brighten many lives.

COMMENDATION TO STEVE  
MAISNER FOR RESCUE

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a hero—a young man from my district who should serve as an inspiration to us all. As you know, southern California has been reeling from the "storm of the century," a storm that cascaded more than 8 inches of rain on area neighborhoods during the course of one afternoon. The storm produced extensive flooding, not just through the storm drains and along watercourses, but through neighborhoods and canyons.

In the community of San Pedro, a mother and her 5-year-old daughter were caught up in a flood current and swept beneath a car. A young man named Steve Maisner rushed to the scene and retrieved the little girl, quickly administering back blows and chest thrust to restore her breathing. Then, with assistance from the neighbors, Steve pulled the mother, Edith, from under the car. She was not breathing and had no pulse. He would not give up, however, beginning CPR immediately and continuing until the paramedics arrived. I am happy to say that both mother and daughter are home today, thanks to Steve's knowledge and skill.

I went to Steve Maisner's home several weeks ago—to thank him on behalf of the community. He was modest about what he had done, and said he hopes to make a career as a paramedic in the fire department. He has certainly proved his skill and courage, and I am proud to commend him for his heroism.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT  
OR BUST

**HON. STEVE GUNDERSON**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I have been looking forward to this day since I was elected to the Congress 15 years ago. The first bill I ever introduced, and the first speech I ever gave on the floor of the House, called for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. Back then the deficit was about \$74 billion, far less than what we face today. But a number of us thought that a \$74 billion deficit was a serious problem because it was a drag on the economy and it saddled future generations with obligations that are not of their own making. We felt that an amendment to the Constitution was necessary to impose some fiscal discipline and ensure that Congress would make the tough choices necessary to balance the budget. Unfortunately, we weren't successful then in persuading our colleagues.

Fifteen years later, with the deficit at \$202 billion and over \$3.5 trillion added to the national debt, it is time to get this done. The defi-

cit is an even greater weight slowing down our economy. Our national debt is so large that almost \$130 billion of the fiscal year 1994 budget must be devoted to interest payments on the debt. That is more than half of our current budget deficit. It is more than four times what we currently spend on all discretionary education, training, and social services programs. Similarly, the dollars that future generations will need to pay back our debt are funds that could otherwise be spent on improving roads, supporting programs for disadvantaged students, or reducing our tax burden. Instead, these dollars will go to investors that have lent the Federal Government money by purchasing Government securities. This must stop.

While I have argued that the best solution would be to pass a straightforward amendment requiring that Federal outlays not be permitted to exceed Federal revenues, many here in Congress support adding a three-fifths majority requirement for any future increase in taxes. While it is true that the Federal Government has become inefficient and we need to slim it down, I have concerns about tying the hands of future Congresses on how we should attain balanced budgets. Nevertheless, I think such concerns, while important, are outweighed by the urgent need to pass a balanced budget amendment. Further, a three-fifths majority requirement was included in the version described in the contract With America. While I voted for the three-fifths majority requirement, I urge all of my colleagues to support House Joint Resolution 1, the balanced budget amendment, whether or not they vote for the three-fifths majority requirement. We cannot allow another decade or more of deficits to pass before we stop adding to the looming debt of this country. We must begin the process of restoring fiscal responsibility to the congressional budget process.

INDIA REPUBLIC DAY: A CELEBRATION  
OF 45 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 26, 1995

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today, January 26, is a date of enormous significance for all the people of India, and for the many sons and daughters of India living in the United States and around the world. Today marks the celebration of Republic Day, a national holiday that holds the same significance for Indians as the Fourth of July does for Americans.

On January 26, 1950, India became a Republic. The country adopted a Constitution which enshrined the principles of democracy and secularism. At that time, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the nation's first President. Since then, despite the challenges of sustaining economic development while reconciling her many ethnic, religious, and linguistic communities, India has stuck to the path of free and fair elections, a multi-party political system and the orderly transfer of power from one government to its successor.

I would like to draw particular attention to the similarities and shared values of the United States and India. The framers of the Constitution that Indians celebrate today drew on