

Ms. Phyllis Seidman, for overcoming many obstacles in her life and becoming an inspiration to many others, in spite of having a progressive disability caused by multiple sclerosis.

Mr. Russell J. Tershy, for his commitment to providing individuals with the necessary training to find meaningful and well-paying employment, as the cofounder of the Center for Employment Training [CET] and its executive director.

Ms. Norma Williams, for finding the time to tutor Vietnamese and Chinese speaking people in English and instructing ESL classes, by using her background as a teacher.

Ms. Erica R. Yew, for devoting her time to providing emotional support, educational help, and fun outings for three young girls, as a child advocate for the past 3 years.

To all of these individuals who have given of themselves for the service of others, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending heartfelt congratulations.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO EXCLUDE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FROM TAXATION

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, Mr. OLVER and I rise today to introduce legislation that would exclude from gross income unemployment compensation benefits.

All the newspapers tell us that the economy is strong and that unemployment is down. Such headlines, however, mask a number of other things going on in the economy. First, in some regions of the country, including my home State of Connecticut, the recovery has lagged. In addition, the low unemployment rate belies the uncertainty and seemingly never ending corporate restructuring that continues despite the recovery. Second, while more Americans may have a job now than in the past few years, they are faced with paying income tax on unemployment compensation benefits at the same time they struggle to make ends meet.

In these 100 days we will debate tax cuts of all kinds. And we will debate who will benefit and who won't. I happen to think not taxing unemployment compensation is just about the most important tax cut we could provide for American families. The old days of working for a corporation for life are gone forever. A good deal of the unease felt by American families today stems from living in this global economy where you don't know from day to day where you have a job despite good performance reviews. This isn't a tax cut we have to debate because on any given day, any American could find him/herself unemployed.

We can't change the global economy but we can make commonsense changes to help every American breathe a little easier. I would urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this legislation.

SALUTE TO TONI MORRISON: NATIVE DAUGHTER AND NOBEL LAUREATE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, at the close of the 103d Congress, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus paused to salute the much celebrated Nobel Prize winner in literature, novelist Toni Morrison. Our colleague CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN preserved for posterity a fitting tribute to the life work and literary excellence of the Nation's most recent winner. As Howard University brings together on Friday, March 3, hundreds who gather to celebrate the extraordinary legacy of Toni Morrison; the members of the Congressional Black Caucus return to the words so eloquently spoken of her by Senator MOSELEY-BRAUN.

Ms. Morrison is the first American woman to win this signal honor in 55 years, the third American over a period of more than two decades, and the only African-American ever. As an element of this historic backdrop, it is noted that the Nobel Committee of the Swedish Academy has selected only two other African-American Laureates since the inception of this momentous ceremony—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and U.S. Ambassador Ralph Bunche—who both were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Of the numerous tributes which followed the announcement of 1994's prize for literature, the most animated have been those of her peers. In the words of contemporary novelist Alice Walker: "No one writes more beautifully than Toni Morrison. She has consistently explored issues of true complexity and terror and love in lives of African-Americans." Indeed the Nobel Committee's announcement stated that "Ms. Morrison gives life to an essential aspect of American reality" in novels "characterized by visionary force and poetic import."

Calling her "a literary artist of the first rank" the Academy's statement went further to say that "She delves into the language itself, a language she wants to liberate from the fetters of race. And she addresses us with luster of poetry."

A Princeton University professor, Morrison is the author of "Song of Solomon" winner of the National Book Critics Award, the Pulitzer Award winning "Beloved" published in 1987, the critically acclaimed 1992 work entitled "Jazz," along with other lyrically narrated novels on African-American life. The 1993-94 Nobel Laureate in Literature was born Chloe Anthony Wofford in Lorraine, OH, shortly after the onset of the Great Depression—the second of four children of sharecroppers and granddaughter of an Alabama slave. Reared in a low-income, integrated neighborhood, Morrison drew from this experience and the nurturing of her parents and inherited a gifted legacy and sense of history which permeates her works. Ms. Morrison, not surprisingly, learned to read at an early age and was the only child in her class to enter first grade with that skill. She would later earn a bachelor's degree in English from Howard University in Washington, DC, and a master's degree in English from Cornell University.

Her academic career would touch both historically black colleges and universities includ-

ing Texas Southern University in Houston, and Howard University, as well as New York State University campuses at Albany and Purchase, NY, and as a prolific essayist and playwright.

Toni Morrison, through her creative genius and vision has shown us how our culture teaches us and how our past can influence our future. She gives us the promise of good things to those who are true to their cultural ancestry.

As the chairman and on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, I join in this salute to her literary excellence and inspiration. The tribute that is made by the establishment of an endowed chair and professorship in the name of her mentor and the gifted writer and author, Sterling Allen Brown, is an appropriate gift to the African-American community and our Nation as a whole. Toni Morrison is indeed Howard's, the continent of Africa and Black America's native daughter. For, Mr. Speaker, in ways that few others have, Toni Morrison gives us inspiration to prevail in times where there is only the beauty and integrity of our language, our spirit, and our history to sustain us.

IN HONOR OF RAFAEL, ONE OF LATIN AMERICA'S MOST TAL- ENTED PERFORMERS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor to one of Latin America's greatest performers, Rafael. A true symbol of Spanish culture, Rafael has dazzled and entertained us with his magnificent talent.

A native Andalucian, Rafael moved to Madrid at a very tender age. While in Madrid Rafael began singing at the age of 5, thus began a singing career that would entertain and awe audiences worldwide. He won first prize for Best Voice in the children's category at the Salzburg Music Festival in Austria, an award that is of great prestige and acclaim. He began his professional singing career at the age of 14 and since then he has starred in several films, TV series, and innumerable musical specials. He has entertained and sung to millions of adoring fans.

Rafael is the only Latin American singer to win the Uranium Record Award. He has built one of the most successful singing careers selling over 78 million records, an achievement that made him one of the highest selling entertainers in the world. He has also been awarded 318 gold records and 46 platinum records. He has recorded a total of 70 LP's, 55 of them in Spanish.

His unique singing style has won him much praise. He has received countless standing ovations from crowds all over the world, from Russia to the United States. He has sung before sold out crowds at Madison Square Garden, the place where he made his first American appearance. Rafael has also appeared in other renowned theaters such as the Opera House in Sydney, Australia, the Kennedy Center in Washington, Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Theatre of the Opera in Leningrad and Moscow just to name a few. He has won

praise and recognition from world leaders, especially from the King of Spain, Juan Carlos I.

Rafael has enjoyed a long and distinguished career. He is one of the most unique individuals to grace the stage. His contributions to the Hispanic community are second to none. I am very honored to be recognizing such a wonderful individual.

THURGOOD MARSHALL HIGH
SCHOOL DEDICATION

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Charles Baxter, proviso township trustee, and Ms. Marilyn Thurman, school board member of district 88 of Bellwood, IL, and the alumni, faculty, students and parents of the Thurgood Marshall High School, on the occasion of the dedication and renaming of their high school.

Choosing a name or changing an existing one is an act of great significance for there is more force in names than most men dream of.

I commend you on your choice of Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, the only Justice who experienced segregation in the back of the bus. Thurgood Marshall demonstrated leadership and vision in the pursuit of liberty, conscience, and freedom from oppression, ignorance and deprivation throughout his life.

From his early life in Baltimore to the turn of the century to his retirement in June of 1991, after serving 24 years on the Court, Marshall was a man of passion and fury, a pioneering lawyer who became America's most prominent civil rights attorney, winning 29 of the 32 civil rights cases he argued before the Supreme Court. His crowning achievement was the decision reached in Brown versus Board of Education, which struck down the "separate but equal" doctrine that had upheld racially segregated schools throughout America.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the alumni, faculty and students, you have chosen one of this century's greatest American Patriots, Thurgood Marshall, to rename your school after, and it is my hope that Thurgood Marshall will serve as an inspiration to each of you and to future students.

I hope that each of you will not forget these remarks from Justice Marshall's 1992 Fourth of July speech at Philadelphia's Independence Hall on our Nation's 216th birthday:

The battle has not yet been won; we have barely begun, Americans can do better * * * America has no choice but to do better to assure justice for all Americans, Afro and white, rich and poor, educated and illiterate * * * Our futures are bound together.

Mr. Speaker, Justice Thurgood Marshall was the legal conscience of Americans, not just African-Americans.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
ENGINEER'S WEEK

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 45th year that National Engineer's Week has been celebrated, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the value of engineers in our society.

National Engineers Week is celebrated during this time of George Washington's birthday for a reason. Washington had the educational background of an engineer and land surveyor and is considered the Nation's first engineer. While President, Washington led a growing society toward technical advancements, invention and education. He promoted the construction of roads, canals, the U.S. Capitol, docks and ports and the development of manufacturing resources. I have been a registered professional engineer for only 3 years, but I have seen this country's technology and quality of life advance tremendously, largely due to its 1.8 million engineers.

An engineer's skills allow him or her not only to develop wonderfully creative ideas, but to bring them to the marketplace where they can solve problems and improve our standard of living. This is why we should strongly encourage the seventh and eighth graders who compete in the National Engineers Week future city competition. The students who participate in this national competition present their designs for cities in the 21st century using computer simulations and scale models. Many of these seventh and eighth graders will likely become the talented engineers of the future, and they will go on to lead this country well into the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, it is encouraging to know that many of my congressional colleagues are engineers. This fact alone goes to show that whether they are building a stronger bridge, designing a safer car or more efficient city, discovering a helpful drug manufacturing process, or making policy in our Nation's Capital, engineers contribute to advancing our technology, promoting the quality of our lives, and improving our society.

APPLY SPENDING CUTS TO
DEFICIT REDUCTION

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, like most Americans, I am deeply concerned about the Federal budget deficit and the need to get our fiscal house in order in Washington.

Every family and business in America has learned to live within their means, and it is time for the Federal Government to do so as well.

Clearly, the best way to balance the budget is to cut spending. There are many programs on the books right now which we do not need or cannot afford, such as the \$10 billion space station. I intend to continue my efforts to eliminate these programs, so we can get Federal spending under control and move toward a balanced budget.

Spending cuts are not going to do the job, however, unless we are diligent about applying the savings we achieve through spending cuts to deficit reduction.

For that reason, I am strongly opposed to the so-called middle-class tax cuts which have been proposed in recent weeks by both the President and the Congress. Deficit reduction should be the priority.

If these tax cuts are approved, they will add approximately \$200 billion to the budget deficit over the next 5 years—more than double the current budget deficit. In return, most American families can expect to receive a tax cut of about \$400 a year, or little more than a dollar a day.

Put another way, the typical American family could increase its buying power by about a cheeseburger a day. That might be good for McDonald's, but I am not sure it is so good for our country at this time.

In fact, given the choice, I am sure that most families would be willing to forgo a tax cut at this time if they knew the savings were being applied to deficit reduction, and not squandered on other spending programs.

Mr. Speaker, in the long run, deficit reduction is the best tax cut we can offer the American public. Keeping up the deficit fight means lower interest rates, lower inflation, and steady job growth. It means a stronger economy and a brighter future for our children and grandchildren.

For that reason, I have today introduced a resolution which expresses the sense of Congress that deficit reduction should be a top priority, and that the savings we achieve from spending cuts should be applied primarily to deficit reduction.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

HOUSE ACTS TO REVITALIZE OUR
NATIONAL DEFENSE AND RE-
EVALUATE OUR RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House, with my strong support, approved H.R. 872, the National Security Revitalization Act, legislation to maintain our national defense's strength and credibility, and to ensure that no U.S. troops are forced to serve under foreign commands.

This legislation which we have approved, 1 of the 10 points of the Contract With America, is designed to refocus our Nation's military priorities. The measure counters the policies of an administration that has cut the defense budget too deep, spread U.S. forces too thin on peacekeeping missions irrelevant to U.S. security interests, and subordinated U.S. policy to United Nations dominated goals.

As the chairman of the National Security Appropriations Subcommittee, I deal on a daily basis with the costs of providing for our Nation's defense. In my service on the subcommittee, I have fought cuts to our defense budget that I believe place it in dangerous decline. If steps are not taken to reverse this alarming trend, our ability to defend vital U.S.