

prior to the District gaining access to the municipal bond market in the early 1980's. It has not been used since; however, the bond market has looked to this Treasury window as the ultimate guarantor of securities issued by the District. Therefore, it is necessary to continue this access to the Treasury to maintain the marketability of the District's \$3.3 billion in outstanding long-term securities. The Federal Government in essence serves as the District's "State government" and therefore provides the necessary assurance required by the investment community.

Any funds borrowed from the Federal Treasury under this bill will be deposited into an account controlled by the authority and repaid by the District government at the going interest rate plus one-eighth of 1 percent. In addition, the authority will remain in existence until all of the amounts borrowed under the auspices of the authority, whether from the Federal Treasury or from the bond market, are repaid in full.

After the control period ends, The District will continue to have access to the Treasury window. However, under section 209 of the bill, the authority will be reactivated immediately if certain events occur, and one of the events that will trigger the reactivation is the mayor's requisitioning of advances from the Federal Treasury. If that should occur, the borrowed funds will once again be deposited into an account controlled by the authority.

So I feel comfortable that sufficient safeguards are in place to protect the Federal taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, I think this is a good bill and deserves the support of this House.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST LEGISLATURE ACT OF 1995

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, U.S. Representatives MAURICE HINCHEY, CYNTHIA MCKINNEY, PETER DEFAZIO, NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, and myself are introducing legislation today, on behalf of the Progressive Caucus, which provides a giant step forward to rebuilding public confidence in the integrity of the U.S. Congress. Our bill helps make certain that all Members of Congress keep our focus on the public interest by requiring that Members of Congress put their stock portfolios and other financial assets in blind trusts or divest.

Did you know that numerous State and local governments require that public officeholders recuse themselves on voting matters in which they have financial interests at stake?

But not the U.S. Congress.

Did you know that Federal law since the Civil War bars a government official in the executive branch from participating in policy matters in which that official has a personal financial interest?

But not the U.S. Congress.

Currently, House Rule VIII requires that a Member of Congress not vote on matters of personal financial interest to that Member. But in truth, the scope of this rule has been dramatically narrowed over time to where it is now interpreted to mean that a Member of Congress should not vote when the matter is personal to him or her, but may vote on the

matter if the question affects a Member of Congress as one of a larger class, such as stockholders of a company or bondholders of a municipality or corporation.

Even at that, compliance with the provisions of House Rule VIII is now at the discretion of each Member of Congress and entirely voluntary. In practice, this has created a very lax environment in which potential and perceived financial conflicts of interest are common and often go undisclosed to voters and the general public. When questionable cases do come to light, they serve to heighten general public suspicion about the impact of special interest money and influence-peddling on congressional decision-making.

That is why we are introducing our new bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act—The Public Interest Legislature Act—to respond to growing public distrust arising from many Members of Congress routinely voting on bills in which they have financial interests. We believe it will go a long way toward rebuilding public confidence in the integrity of the U.S. Congress. Fundamentally it will reassure all Americans that their elected representatives in Congress are working full time on public business and not distracted or tempted to cash in on public service in any sense of those words.

Our bill has three main provisions:

First, to require that Members of Congress—subject to civil and criminal penalties for failure to do so—either put their stocks, bonds, and other financial assets—excluding their principal homes—in excess of \$1,000 into blind trusts; or, divest themselves of their stocks, bonds, and other financial assets in excess of \$1,000—excluding their principal homes.

Second, to strengthen the financial disclosure requirements of existing law to require more detailed, accurate, and timely reports on the financial assets of Members of Congress, their spouses, and their principal staff members involved with legislative activities of the Congress. At present, the disclosure requirements are of such wide ranges and so loose as to make the current disclosure requirements of marginal use in informing the public about potential financial conflicts of interest; and

Third, to prohibit Members of Congress from using official expenses to pay the costs associated with preparing financial disclosure reports.

This week the Congress is acting upon another part of the Contract With America—a proposed constitutional amendment to impose term limits on how long a person can serve as a Member of Congress which is referred to as the so-called Citizen Legislature Act.

Like so much of the Contract With America, the proposed Citizen Legislature Act is a bogus bill with a misleading title that does nothing about the real problem undermining the respect of the American people for their Congress—the funneling of enormous sums of special interest money into congressional campaigns and legislative lobbying.

The degree to which big money skews congressional policy making in favor of special interests over the public interest may be debatable. But there is absolutely no debate that many Americans now perceive that many Members of Congress run for office to enrich themselves indirectly, if not directly. Unless the Congress takes serious action to correct this perception, fewer and fewer Americans will hold on to the belief that the Congress is

capable of acting for the public interest of all Americans and not just privileged economic elites.

Our bill meets this threat to American democracy by insulating Members from allegations and suspicions of personal financial chicanery in the conduct of the people's business. As part of the 11-part Progressive Caucus Alternative to the Republican Contract With America—The Progressive Promise, this legislation represents real congressional ethics reform in contrast with self-serving gimmicks like term limits that will do nothing to reduce the corrosive influence of big money on congressional decision making.

TRIBUTE TO RUDOLPH T. GIVENS:
42 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MIAMI,
DADE COUNTY, AND THE WORLD

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this Friday, March 31, the people of Dade County will recognize the career and contributions of a truly remarkable man, Rudolph T. Givens. After 42 years on the job at the Port of Miami—the port's longest serving employee—Rudy Givens has retired.

Over his long tenure, Mr. Givens has truly seen it all and done it all. He started out in 1952 as a dock cleanup man at what was then the city of Miami commercial docks, a small operation in a quiet, small town.

He caps his career as Assistant to the Director of the Port of Miami, one of the busiest cruise and cargo ports in the world. What he did in the years in between is the stuff of legend at the Port of Miami.

Rudy Givens is much more than a dedicated and valuable employee. Never content merely to do a job, in every position he has ever held he has sought to provide good service—to make the port run as efficiently and effectively as humanly possible and to meet the many needs of the customers of the port, who hail from all over the world.

Rudy Givens' knowledge, judgment, and dedication cannot be replaced. But his reputation for excellence, the example he set for those for whom he worked and for those who worked for him, and his dedication to service will continue to positively influence the Port of Miami for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join with me and our Dade County community in wishing Rudy Givens and his wife, Edith, our thanks and best wishes for happiness and success in all their endeavors in the coming years.

TRIBUTE TO EMANUEL TAPP

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Emanuel Tapp of my Los Angeles staff. For nearly 8 years, Emanuel has rendered outstanding service as my secretary

and staff assistant. He has been a loyal employee—an individual that my staff and I could always depend on to lighten our days with a funny story or a light anecdote. Regrettably, Emanuel is taking a disability retirement on Friday, March 31, 1995. Before he leaves my employ, however, I am proud to have this opportunity to commend him on his distinguished and dedicated service to me and the citizens of the 32d Congressional District of California.

Emanuel hails from Greensboro, NC, where his mother and father live, and where he has a large and loving family. Prior to the start of his congressional career, Emanuel served honorably in the U.S. Air Force. He also worked for Pacific Telephone Co., and the Security Pacific Bank in Los Angeles.

Emanuel arrived in my office on July 13, 1987. He was an immediate hit with my staff for his thoughtful and caring manner and his ability to handle the most difficult tasks. His many responsibilities have included scheduling and arranging appointments for me, and serving as an ombudsman for constituents seeking assistance from Federal Government agencies. He has been particularly effective in both areas, but especially as a troubleshooter for the many seniors who have called and/or visited my office. He has a distinct love for our seniors and developed an instant and special rapport with them. In addition, he has represented me at community events throughout my district and served as my community liaison with the United States Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution. In every instance, Emanuel's performance has been outstanding.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the contributions which Emanuel has made to my staff. We will miss his wit and winning ways; however, each of us is enriched by having had the opportunity to know and work with him. Although he is leaving my employ, he will always be a part of the Dixon family. And as an individual who has always maintained an active interest in the cultural life of Los Angeles, it is good to know that we can look forward to his continued involvement and support of the arts, and his service to others. As a fellow jazz enthusiast, I also am pleased to note that he will be able to further cultivate and enjoy his love of jazz and his large collection of CD's.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in commending Emanuel Tapp for his dedicated service to the citizens of Los Angeles, and in wishing him all the best.

Well done, my friend, well done.

THE 16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE HOLOCAUST

HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the 16th Annual Conference on the Holocaust which is being held March 19–27 at the University of Michigan. On this 50-year anniversary of the liberation of the death camps and concentration camps, the University has put together 19 events to remember the Holocaust and its victims.

Among the events scheduled for the conference are an afternoon discussion series, a

number of speakers and films, an art exhibit, a name reading vigil, an evening with survivors and a memorial service.

Those scheduled to speak include Art Spiegelman, author of critically acclaimed narratives Maus I and Maus II, David Wyman, a historian from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and Alvin Rosenfeld, Director of Jewish Studies at Indiana University.

The Conference on the Holocaust allows both students and community members to learn about the Holocaust in ways in which a history book does not allow. A planned trip to the Holocaust Memorial Center in West Bloomfield, MI, as well as the various discussion sessions and the 24 hour vigil allow participants to actively engage in discussions and remembrance of this tragic event.

I would like to acknowledge the University of Michigan for all of their hard work towards putting on this very worthy event. The events of the Holocaust must never be forgotten.

BOMB SUSPECT SAYS U.S. MERITS ATTACK

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 1995

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to recent comments by Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, the man arrested in Pakistan for engineering the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

With all of the gall he could muster, this terrorist stated that America deserved to be attacked because of our support for Israel. While denying carrying out the bombing which killed or injured many innocent civilians, Yousef stated: "The ability of Israel to commit these crimes is the direct result of the considerable military and financial aid which the United States of America provides annually to Israel, and it is this aid which gives Palestinians and Lebanese the right to attack U.S. targets."

A March 25, 1995, article in The New York Times, entitled "Bomb Suspect Says the U.S. Merits Attack", gives substantial coverage of this outrage. I insert a copy of this article to be printed in the RECORD at this point.

BOMB SUSPECT SAYS THE U.S. MERITS ATTACK; HE AVOWS INNOCENCE IN THE TRADE CENTER PLOT

(By James C. McKinley, Jr.)

Ignoring the advice of his lawyer, the man accused of engineering the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center released a diatribe yesterday saying that Palestinians had a right to attack the United States for its support of Israel.

In an eight-page statement, the man the authorities call Ramzi Ahmed Yousef said that his real name was Abdul-Basit Balochi and that he was an electronics engineer and explosives expert. He said he came from Pakistan and had family in both Iraq and Israel. He also claimed to have "friends and relatives who were killed in Palestine by the Israeli Army."

The statement, released yesterday by Mr. Yousef's court-appointed lawyer, was the first public comment from the trade center suspect since he was arrested in Pakistan last month, two years after the bombing that killed 6 and injured more than 1,000.

But it failed to clear up some of the central mysteries in the case, including the

true identity of the suspect. And it was unclear what motivated him to make the statement, since some of the remarks could be used against him in court.

Mr. Yousef said he believed the state of Israel had no legal right to be established in Palestine and accused the Israeli Government of "systematic murder, torture, imprisonment and deportation" of Palestinians.

"The ability of Israel to commit these crimes is the direct result of the considerable military and financial aid which the United States of America provides annually to Israel, and it is this aid which gives Palestinians and Lebanese the right to attack United States targets," Mr. Yousef said in the statement.

Mr. Yousef's lawyer, Roy R. Kulcsar, said he had advised Mr. Yousef against releasing the statement before his trial. "I told him that if it were me in his position, I would not make such a statement," Mr. Kulcsar said.

"I think he regards himself as a political prisoner, and part of that is the circumstances under which he was brought back to the United States," Mr. Kulcsar added. "He certainly feels the treatment he has received is because of his views."

Mr. Kulcsar said Mr. Yousef's statement was not a confession. He said Mr. Yousef still maintains that he is innocent and intends to fight the charges in court. The lawyer said his client was neither cooperating with the Government nor exploring a plea bargain agreement.

Prosecutors have depicted Mr. Yousef as a professional terrorist who was the mastermind of the bombing of the World Trade Center on Feb. 26, 1993. Four other men were convicted last year in connection with the bombing, but Mr. Yousef and a sixth man escaped.

Since he was arrested and flown back to the United States, Mr. Yousef's real identity has continued to be a mystery for the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney's office in Manhattan. No one knows for certain who he is or where he was born. More important, it is still unclear who provided the financial backing for the trade center bombing.

Abdel Basit Abdel Karim was the name Mr. Yousef used when he obtained a Pakistani passport from Pakistan's Consulate General office in New York in 1992. It was under this name that he reportedly left the country just hours after the explosion and flew to Pakistan.

Ramzi Ahmed Yousef was the name on a valid Iraqi passport that Mr. Yousef presented to United States officials when he arrived in New York on a plane from Pakistan in September 1992.

He immediately demanded asylum, and officials took his fingerprints as part of the application. Prosecutors say those fingerprints later turned up in the storage shed where they believe the trade center bomb was made.

The surname Balochi is common in the region known as Baluchistan, a remote and lawless border area between Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Law-enforcement sources said they had never heard Mr. Yousef called by that name before. When Mr. Yousef was arrested, Pakistani officials said they believed he came from the area.

Mr. Yousef's statement, however, suggests that he is Palestinian and even has relatives who were killed in the struggle against Israel. Calling Israel "an illegal and unlawful state," Mr. Yousef said that the Israeli lands should be returned to Arabs and that an international court should be convened to try the Israeli Government for war crimes.