

aid since Mobutu came to power thirty years ago. Partially because of this assistance, Mobutu has been able to maintain control of Zaire and bleed the country into its current dismal state. In recent years, Mobutu has resisted both domestic and international pressure for democratization and continues to cling to power.

In both the 102d and 103d Congress, the House passed bipartisan resolutions calling on Mobutu to step down from power and urging that the United States continue active efforts to this end. Allowing Mobutu to visit the United States at this time would be directly counter to the letter and spirit of these resolutions.

We look forward to your early reply and to working with you on this issue.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.
BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,
Chairman.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1854) making appropriations for the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. FAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I share the concerns of the gentleman from Utah [Mr. ORTON], who is offering this amendment to add resources to the Superintendent of Documents.

The committee is undertaking an enlightened policy of providing the greatest possible incentives to Federal agencies to shift their reliance on traditional printing and switch to electronic dissemination of documents to the greatest extent possible. By shifting the cost of printing documents to the originating agencies instead of assuming responsibility for it in our legislative appropriation, it is thought that agencies are more likely to scrutinize their needs and consider whether making documents available electronically will suit their purposes just as well, with the added benefit of decreased overall costs to the Federal Government.

However, frequent users of our Federal depository libraries have raised some legitimate concerns.

First, our experience with electronic dissemination is limited. For example, last year the Government Printing Office acquired and distributed over 20 million copies of publications, some 65,000 titles—but only 306 titles were provided by GPO in electronic format to participating libraries.

Second, although we want to encourage electronic distribution of information, it is also likely that the nature of some documents will never make them suitable for only electronic transfer either because of the nature of their use, or because the users don't have access to computers, or because the libraries need a permanent printed copy for historical research purposes.

Last, there is also legitimate concern that agencies, faced with these additional costs,

will use the costs as an excuse not to comply with their obligations under the law in making documents available to depository libraries. Since at least some problems with fugitive documents are of concern to depository libraries already, then this changeover is certainly a process we want to monitor carefully.

Because of the legitimate concerns raised by librarians and others familiar with the depository library system, I offered and the chairman accepted language at the full Appropriations Committee meeting to ensure that the public's access to information will remain unchanged and to see that this changeover is administered smoothly. The language, which appears on page 31 of the report states:

The Committee's intent is that the public's access to information through Federal Depository Libraries will not be reduced as a result of these policies, but will be maintained and enhanced. The Committee expects the Superintendent of Documents to monitor these new policies and report about the progress of the agencies in converting to electronic format and distribution, complying with the reimbursement policy, and the effects of these policies on the availability of documents to the public.

So I share the concerns of the gentleman from Utah, and the committee has taken steps, as outlined in the report, to monitor this changeover carefully.

I am also concerned about offsets offered by the gentleman from the Botanic Garden's conservatory renovation funds. Although the funds provided by the committee appear to be a substantial boost to the Botanic Garden's normal appropriations, the additional funds represent a multiyear effort that is also dependent on private funds for this long-overdue project.

For both reasons, I oppose the amendment and urge my colleagues to vote against it.

NOTING THE PASSING OF FORMER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE IKE
THOMPSON

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to announce the passing of a former member of the Ohio State House of Representatives. On June 25, 1995, the Cleveland community mourned the death of Isaiah "Ike" Thompson. For 20 years, Ike Thompson represented Cleveland's east side in the Ohio Legislature. His district included portions of Glenville, Euclid, Bratenahl, and East Cleveland.

The passing of Ike Thompson brings to a close a distinguished career of public service. I join members of the Cleveland community, Ike's family and colleagues in mourning the loss of a talented legislator and a good friend. I rise today to reflect upon the life of Ike Thompson and to share with my colleagues some information regarding his political career.

Mr. Speaker, Ike Thompson was born in Birmingham, AL, and moved to Cleveland during his early childhood. He attended Central High School and Cleveland State University. In 1942, Ike became a factory worker for the Weatherhead Co. He began his political career when he became a precinct committeeman in 1963. Ike also later served as a Demo-

cratic ward leader. In 1970, Ike Thompson was elected to the State House of Representatives. He would spend the next 20 years serving his constituents in that legislative body. It was a job which he took very seriously.

During his first year in the legislature, Ike introduced a bill making it illegal for poll watchers to wear police uniforms and carry guns. He based his initiative on the fact that off-duty policemen entering voting places were intimidating and discouraging potential voters. Over the years, Ike would note that this was the most important legislation that he ever sponsored because it gave people the right to vote without fear. During his first term, Ike Thompson was named by his colleagues as the Number One Rookie Legislator, an honor in which he took great pride.

Throughout his political career, Ike Thompson earned a reputation for his strong legislative efforts on behalf of consumers. He was best known for getting the Ohio Legislature to approve the "lemon law," which protects new car buyers from manufacturing defects. It is praised as one of the strongest such laws in the country. During his tenure in office, Ike was also chosen to serve as executive vice president of the Black Elected Democrats of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Ike Thompson retired from the State legislature in 1990, following 20 years of service to the Greater Cleveland area. We mourn the recent passing of our friend, Ike Thompson. He will always be remembered for his dedication and commitment to public service. As we remember Ike Thompson, we pay tribute to a distinguished legislator who has earned a special place in our State's political history. I offer my condolences to Ike's family, including his wife of 60 years, Lodeamer, and his daughter, Arwilda Storey. I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to a gifted public servant, Ike Thompson.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF
WARREN, PA

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 1995

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the bicentennial of my hometown, Warren, PA. It is a great pleasure to join my family and friends in sharing this special historic event.

This year's Fourth of July celebration holds a special meaning for the people of Warren County. Not only will we commemorate the birth of our great Nation, we will also mark a great milestone in the history of an extraordinary town.

More than two centuries ago, European settlers achieved independence for the Thirteen Colonies, forming the United States of America. In 1795, the Pennsylvania legislature honored the great patriot Gen. Joseph Warren, by granting his name to a valley nestled between the Allegheny Mountains and the Allegheny River. Although General Warren never saw the land which bears his name, his memory lives through the people who reside in Warren today.

Reflecting on 200 years of stable existence, Warrenites have much to be proud of. The