

After the Expanded East Coast Plan [EECP] was implemented by the FAA in 1987, it took years for the FAA to even react to the significant increase in aircraft noise over New Jersey that resulted from their policies. The adoption of my amendment would ensure that the American people have an advocate in the FAA bureaucracy who will represent the concerns of residents affected by airline flight patterns.

This amendment also gives citizens someone to turn to should they have a comment, complaint, or suggestion, dealing with aircraft noise. As the experience in New Jersey demonstrates, the FAA views the real concerns of constituents regarding aircraft noise as nothing more than a minor inconvenience. For example, when the FAA was flooded by telephone calls from irate citizens after the EECP was implemented, their response was to belatedly install an answering machine on a single telephone line which was constantly jammed and to which citizens were unable to get through. The arrogance and insensitivity of this agency can no longer be tolerated. Our constituents deserve to talk to a real, live human being who can answer their questions about the decisions that directly affect their quality of life.

Furthermore, by requiring that the ombudsman be appointed by the FAA Board, and not by the Administrator, Congress will ensure that the position is filled by a fair and independent individual, and not simply by a mouthpiece for the FAA bureaucracy. The days of the FAA turning a deaf ear to the very people who pay their salaries are over.

Mr. Speaker, my amendment is extremely important to the people of New Jersey and to the residents of any area that could find themselves severely impacted after the FAA announces a change in flight patterns. After suffering for nearly a decade from a constant barrage of aircraft noise, my constituents have lost all faith in the FAA. As this committee takes a leadership role in restructuring the FAA, it is vitally important that Congress take steps to restore public confidence in this agency by giving citizens a voice inside the FAA. If any of my colleagues doubt the level of ire and disgust the FAA has earned over their mishandling of this issue, I encourage them to attend the November 9, Aviation Subcommittee hearing on aircraft noise in New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that my amendment passed the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee earlier today by voice vote, with Members on both sides of the aisle, including the distinguished ranking minority member from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR], speaking in support. I urge all my colleagues to support the Franks amendment to H.R. 2276 by becoming a cosponsor of this important bill.

REINSTATE EMERGENCY
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation today to reinstate the emergency unemployment compensation program.

In 1993, we were able to pass two extensions of unemployment benefits for the long term unemployed. Thousands of people were

exhausting their benefits each month, and when they lost their benefits, these American workers also lost any chance of further retraining and education. Mr. Speaker, we passed the benefits to forcibly pull our Nation out of the recession of the late eighties and early nineties.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I have news for some of my colleagues; unemployment is not over for every body. By not passing another extension in 1993, we removed a vital safety net for our chronically unemployed workers. I have been contacted by a number of coal miners in my home State of West Virginia, miners who for years had worked in the mines, only to see their jobs disappear.

One miner wrote to me saying, "My unemployment has run out. I need a way to support my family. I'm 54 years old and I am not asking for a handout or welfare. I'd like to have a job, I am tired of being out of work * * * extending unemployment benefits would help since it takes so long to find a job."

Another worker, who is attending a transition class at a vocational school, wrote to me to request an extension of unemployment benefits. This worker was not asking for a handout, he was asking for a helping hand so he could finish his class, find another job and continue supporting his family.

West Virginia coal has fueled this Nation's economy for over a century. Now, as we move into the 21st century, when a mine closes, often times the mine never reopens. Generations of miners must be retrained with new skills, and that Mr. Speaker, takes time, sometimes longer than the 26 weeks the State provides in unemployment benefits.

The legislation I have introduced today is straightforward. The bill will extend unemployment benefits for workers who have exhausted their State provided benefits for a period of 20 to 26 weeks, depending on each State's unemployment rate. It is funded through emergency funding provisions within the Budget Act because for any family with a long-term unemployed member, every single day without a job or paycheck is an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, it is urgent that we as a Congress act now on this measure. It is an urgent issue for families all across America. By passing this legislation, we will be providing a helping hand, providing a safety net and it will continue the work started in the 103d Congress to pull all of our Nation out of the recession created by the failed policies of the eighties. Mr. Speaker, this legislation will enable chronically unemployed workers who have lost their jobs to retrain and retool for the next century.

ELI HERTZ HONORED FOR FOSTERING COMMERCIAL TIES BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the achievements of Eli Hertz. Mr. Hertz will be honored on November 8 by the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry for his work in fostering commercial ties between the United States and Israel.

Mr. Speaker, since its establishment in 1953, the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been a major force behind the growth of trade and investment between the United States and Israel. Now in its 42d year, the Chamber counts among its members today's leading consumer, industrial and financial companies. Its effectiveness as a non-political, nonprofit organization has resulted in closer ties between our two great countries.

Mr. Speaker, the chamber could hardly have picked a more deserving honoree. Eli Hertz has been a leader in the personal computer industry for well over a decade. As the founder and President of the Hertz Technology Group, Eli is responsible for the overall management, strategic planning and new product development of one of the most highly successful companies in the industry.

The fact that the Hertz computer corporation has won numerous awards for design excellence and outstanding performance and technical support is a testament to Eli's vision and leadership.

In addition, Eli is a bestselling author, having written several highly successful books, including "Now That I Have Os/2 2.0 On My Computer, What Do I Do Next?", as well as many thoughtful industry-related articles.

Eli also authored the chapter on Science and Technology of "Partners for Change: How U.S.-Israel Cooperation Can Benefit America," detailing the promises of technology in Israel. This important book promotes ways in which our two countries can build on our shared values and mutual interests.

But Eli doesn't just write about United States-Israel economic cooperation. In 1991, his company established a subsidiary in Israel, and this year the Hertz Technology group's exports to Israel will exceed \$2.5 million. Eli is also a director of the Jerusalem-based Har Hotzvim Incubator project for hi-tech start up companies.

Eli gives his time freely to many important groups and causes, including his service on the Executive Committee of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, as Chairman of the American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise, and on the Executive Committee of the America Israel Friendship League.

It is indicative of his generous and caring nature that Eli has donated personal computers and computer consulting services to youth and disadvantaged children in this country and overseas. In particular, he contributed computers and technical assistance to three grade schools in Israel and four schools in Morocco.

Mr. Speaker, it is always a pleasure to learn that individuals who have given so much to our country and the world will be recognized for the work that they do. So I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Eli Hertz for his well-deserved honor and in wishing him many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORGANIZATIONS

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 1995

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is a crime that affects people