

Act of 1996. I intended to support this amendment and offer this Extension of Remarks to reflect my support for this motion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on December 14 I was unable to vote on rollcall votes 861 and 862 because I had to attend a special Metro-Dade Commission meeting in Miami. I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 861, a motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 2621 and I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 862, final passage on H.R. 2621, a bill to enforce the public debt limit and to protect the Social Security Trust Fund.

FIRE AT THE MALDEN MILLS

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the firemen and the emergency services workers who worked so hard to extinguish a fire which burned down the Malden Mills in Methuen, MA, the region's largest textile manufacturer. I would particularly like to thank Chief Ken Bourassa of the Methuen Fire Department, who coordinated the firefighting efforts, and also Mayor Dennis A. DiZoglio, who is working with Federal and State agencies in order to rebuild the mills which are so important to his town.

On December 12, there was an explosion in one of the buildings of the mill complex. Within a short period of time, the flames spread to the surrounding buildings, reducing four of them to ashes and damaging a fifth. The flames were fanned by winds which exceeded 45 miles per hour which hindered the efforts to contain the blaze. Firefighters also experienced collapses in their water lines. Despite these and other problems, they were able to contain the fire within 12 hours.

Chief Bourassa assembled a force of over 100 firefighters from 30 departments throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts to combat the fire. The operation that he organized on that evening was a model of cooperation. If it were not for the dedication of these professionals, the fire would have spread further, damaging a large section of Methuen and leaving hundreds homeless.

Malden Mills is the region's largest manufacturer of textiles and also the town's largest employer. Each year, the company's sales exceed \$500 million, and the plant employs over 1,400 workers. Its presence in the region has brought economic prosperity to Methuen and contributed to Merrimack Valley's commercial growth.

Under Mayor DiZoglio's leadership, and with assistance from Lawrence Mayor Mary Claire Kennedy, plans are under way to rebuild the mills. He has secured funding from the Department of Labor and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to aid in the redevelopment. He has also been working to secure Federal disaster relief funds.

I applaud the efforts of these officials to rebuild Malden Mills. With the leadership of Methuen's officials and with assistance from State and Federal agencies, Malden Mills will be rebuilt quickly. Then, like the Phoenix, it will rise from its ashes and once again take its place as the leading manufacturer in this region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 846, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "nay". I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the permanent RECORD immediately following the above rollcall votes.

BARNEY GOTTSTEIN: PHILANTHROPIST, BUSINESSMAN AND EXTRAORDINARY AMERICAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Barney Gottstein through his life's work and achievements, has become the quintessential embodiment of the American Dream in its finest form. As Barney celebrates his 70th birthday, I rise today as a friend and an admirer to honor his extraordinary spirit and character.

Born of hardy pioneer parents who created a warm and nurturing home in the cold, forbidding, and primitive surroundings of Alaska in the early 1920's, he eagerly and gratefully absorbed their profoundly puritan values. Barney's father spent his first bitterly cold Alaska winter in a tent. His mother was an outstanding school teacher who overcame the physical hardships with her contagious and living passion for Alaska's children and the pursuit of knowledge.

Barney's life has consisted of a never-ending attempt to put the finest values on which this country was built into daily practice in all his endeavors. He served our country with great distinction in the military and he was a brilliant student at the University of Washington. His analytical excellence was widely acclaimed by his professors and fellow students. He was a magnificent father to his five children, and he contributed in a vast and unique way to the economic development of his beloved home State of Alaska.

His passion was to open doors of opportunity to others, and he found endless avenues to pursue these goals through local, statewide, and national leadership. He served as a Democratic National Committeeman, Democratic State Chairman, delegate to national conventions, strategist and leader in countless political races for local, State, and Federal office.

Barney Gottstein's philanthropic activities are far-flung, enormously generous, creative, and overwhelmingly anonymous. I have never met a person who is more interested in getting the job done and less interested in getting credit for it.

For many years, Barney has been a leader in helping Israel through a biotech venture capital investment foundation designed to make that country self-sufficient and functioning at the cutting edge of technology.

Despite his propensity for anonymous philanthropy, Barney has been widely recognized for his life's achievements. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws by the University of Alaska at Fairbanks in 1991 "for his outstanding record of public service and for his leadership in building and promoting Alaska's educational system." He was named to the Alaska Business Hall of Fame in 1989 for his immense contributions to the economic well-being of the State.

I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Barney on his 70th birthday for his many substantial contributions to our country and in wishing him many happy years with his wonderful family and many friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM LIGHTFOOT

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. LIGHTFOOT. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency I was unable to be present and voting on December 15, 1995.

Had I been present I would have voted in favor of the rule and final passage for H.R. 1530, the Department of Defense authorization conference report.

A TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS LEADER, LINWOOD PARKER

HON. DAVID FUNDERBURK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 18, 1995

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay special tribute to an outstanding citizen who is a civic, community, business, and political leader. Mr. Linwood Parker is an American success story, a model others should follow.

Mr. Linwood Parker is a resident of Four Oaks, NC, in the heart of the 2d district. He is married to Patsy Robert Parker and has two children; Lisa and Elizabeth. He is a member of the Four Oaks Baptist Church. Linwood Parker has an extensive education in the field of business. After going through Johnston County Public School and graduating four Four Oaks High School, he studied at East Carolina University, Georgetown University, American University, and Bentley College. He is a graduate of Hardbarger Business College and a fellow of the National Tax Practice Institute.

Mr. Parker has excelled in business endeavors in Johnston County. He is president of Linwood Parker and Co., Associates; is qualified by Treasury exam to practice before the IRS; and is president of White Swan Barbecue Restaurants.

He has made an outstanding mark in community activities and has gained statewide recognition and awards. Additionally he has been a leader of the Republican Party in his county, district, and State.