

He was secretary-treasurer of the Indiana State AFL-CIO from 1958 until his retirement in 1985.

"The death of Max Wright is a loss for all citizens of Indiana." Gov. Evan Bayh said in a statement. "Max was a pillar of the union movement in our state . . . He was a constant advocate of worker causes for his entire career."

Chuck Deppert, president of the Indiana State AFL-CIO, said Mr. Wright dedicated his life to helping others.

"He did everything he could to help you with your problem," Deppert said, "That's the way I'll remember him."

A sheet metal worker by trade, Mr. Wright was elected business agent of Sheet Metal Workers Local 7 in Terre Haute in 1943. He served in that capacity until being elected to the state labor position 15 years later.

After he retired, he was given the title secretary-treasurer emeritus, and the AFL-CIO state headquarters's in Indianapolis was named after him.

As a minister, Mr. Wright preached to Church of Christ congregations throughout Indian. He was a member and elder of Fountain Square Church of Christ, and he was a former elder at Farmersburg Church of Christ. As a gospel music singer, he performed with the Melody Boys Quartet.

Mr. Wright also was a licensed auctioneer. He was active in the sale of livestock at 4-H exhibitions, including the Sullivan and Vigo county fairs.

He served on numerous civic and public boards and commissions, including the Indiana Employment Security Board, Indiana Vocational Education Board, Ivy Tech State College board, Goodwill industries, the Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Indiana board and executive committee, the Maryvale Senior Citizens Retirement Home, Indiana Council on Economic Education, Indiana Emergency Training Committee, Governor's Youth Unemployment Committee, Indiana Private Industry Council and Indiana Council on Aging.

He also was Indiana's delegate to the White House Conference on Aging in 1961, 1971 and 1981.

Mr. Wright received the City of Hope's "Spirit of Life" award in 1974. He was named Sagamore of the Wabash by Govs. Matthew Welsh, Edgar Whitcomb, Otis Bowen, Robert Orr and Bayh.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Max F. Wright Memorial Education Fund, c/o Citizens Bank of Central Indiana, Greenwood.

Services: 1 p.m. March 18 in Fountain Square Church of Christ. Calling: 2 to 9 p.m. March 17 in Little & Sons Funeral Home, Stop 11 Road, and from noon to 1 p.m. March 18 in the church.

Survivors: wife Lanore Elwood Wright; children Diane Hauser, Marcia Payne, John M., David J., Lloyd Wright; brother Leo Paul Wright, sister Marietta Riggs Schumann, 15 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren.

FISCAL YEAR 1996 OMNIBUS
APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud my colleagues in the Senate for adding by voice vote an amend-

ment to the fiscal year 1996 omnibus appropriations bill that repeals the requirement that all HIV-positive members of the military be dismissed. In a show of bipartisanship, the appropriations bill was passed by the Senate 79-21, and was supported by Senators CONNIE MACK, JOHN MCCAIN, and SAM NUNN among others.

The HIV provision, which was included in the fiscal year 1996 Defense authorization bill that was signed by the President on February 10, discharges within 6 months the 1,049 dedicated HIV-positive men and women who have been serving their country without fail for years. Half of these servicemembers are married and, on average, have served in the military for more than a decade.

This provision immediately cuts off health care benefits to the servicemembers' dependents. Therefore, this new policy will not only deprive many men and women of their livelihood, but will leave their families—their spouses and children—without health care.

All of the individuals who will be impacted by this provision are able to perform their jobs. They are senior officers, lawyers, computer specialists, intelligence officers, missile specialists, doctors, mechanics and others. Replacing them and retraining new servicemembers is not only unjust, it is inefficient.

This unnecessary measure was neither sought nor supported by the Department of Defense. Both the Assistant Secretary for Force Management Policy and the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel have stated that the provision would do nothing to improve military readiness while depriving the Armed Forces of experienced individuals who are ready and able to perform their assigned duties.

Furthermore, the number of servicemembers infected with HIV is small, comprising less than one-tenth of 1 percent of the active force. Current law already requires that such individuals be separated or retired when their condition makes them unfit to perform their duties.

This provision is unwise and unjust—it hurts not only those men and women who are serving our country with distinction but also their families. This provision kicks HIV-infected servicemembers when they are down and I hope that this body will follow the Senate's lead and repeal it.

TRIBUTE TO NEW YORK CITY
MAYOR ABE BEAME ON HIS 90TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Honorable Abe Beame, Mayor of New York City and dedicated public servant. Today, March 20, 1996, we are happy to celebrate the 90th birthday of Mayor Beame and we remain forever grateful for his many years of service to New York City.

Abraham David Beame became New York City's first Jewish Mayor in a landslide election

in 1973. At the time he entered office, the City had a \$12 billion budget and \$1.5 billion deficit. At the end of his administration, in 1977, New York City had a cash surplus of \$250 million. Under his guidance, New York City also regained its reputation as a national center—it was the host to the Democratic National Convention and the Bicentennial's Operation Sail. During his tenure, he convinced the United States Open to remain in Flushing Meadows.

These successes are largely attributable to his many years of experience as the City's Budget Director and Comptroller. Because of the dire fiscal situation and Washington's refusal of support, Mayor Beame was forced to take drastic economic measures. Mayor Beame cut the City's spending by \$100 million, reduced the work force by 65,000, and he convinced the trustees of the five pensions funds to buy nearly \$4 million in New York City bonds. Such drastic measures, born of fiscal experience and skill and sound management procedures, returned New York City to the road to fiscal health.

Mayor Beame had begun his public service in 1946 with a position in the budget office of Mayor William O'Dwyer. He eventually rose to Budget Director and was later elected to the position of City Comptroller. Describing himself as a New Deal Liberal, Mayor Beame won the Democratic party nomination for Mayor in 1965, but was defeated by John Lindsay. It was not until 8 years later, in 1973, that Mayor Beame would declare victory and become the 104th Mayor of New York City.

Ninety years ago today, on March 20, 1906, Abraham David Beame was born in the East End of London. His parents were fleeing from Warsaw, Poland where his father had participated in an underground movement against the Russian Czar. They were en route to New York City, and the cold water tenement on Stanton Street in the Lower East Side, where Mayor Beame would spend his childhood.

While in the seventh grade at P.S. 160, Abe Beame began working after school in the paper factory where his father was foreman. He would continue working at the factory and contributing part of his paycheck to his parents throughout high school and while attending Baruch College at night. In February of 1928, the same month he graduated from college, Abe Beame married Mary Ingerman, whom he had met over a game of checkers at a gathering of the University Settlement, a community organization. The Beames moved to Brooklyn, where they had two sons and where they began a life heavily involved in City politics. Before joining Mayor O'Dwyer's budget office in 1946, Abe Beame was an accountant and public school teacher in Brooklyn, and a member of the Madison Democratic Club. Mary Beame was to remain devotedly at his side for 67 years. Since leaving office, Mayor Beame's commitment to public service has continued through his participation in dozens of philanthropic organizations that benefit the city and nation.

Today, on his 90th birthday, I am very pleased to recognize Mayor Abraham David Beame's contribution to the great City of New York and thereby to the Nation. I ask that my colleagues join with me in this celebration by paying tribute to his nearly 70 years of accomplishments and dedication to public service.