

would make you touch the paper with reverent hands.”

Mr. Speaker, the Liberty Tribune can take pride in being an important part of the strong tradition of balanced, community-minded reporting of which Mr. White spoke so eloquently.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGIL FROST ON HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant in northwest Ohio. On December 31, 1995, Virgil Frost retired from his position as a bailiff/probation officer for Bowling Green Municipal Court.

Virgil Frost was born in Athens, OH, and graduated from Athens High School. He received his undergraduate degree from Ohio University and completed his graduate work at Bowling Green State University. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Ohio Correctional and Court Services, the Kiwanis, and the National Criminal Justice Honor Society.

Virgil can look back on his career with great pride. In all of his duties, he has demonstrated a commitment to hard work and honest public service. During the course of his service, Virgil has held positions as a social worker with the Maumee Youth Camp and as the director of the Wood County Adult Probation Department. Because of his extensive experience, he has become a recognized expert in many areas of law enforcement and has received numerous performance awards for his work. Through his caring and dedicated efforts, he has literally improved the lives of a tremendous number of Wood County residents.

Americans would not be able to enjoy the blessings of our country without the tireless dedication of those who have the talent and willingness to work for the community. It is for this reason we owe a special debt of gratitude to people like Virgil, who have done an outstanding job for northwest Ohio. While he may be leaving his official capacity, I know he will continue to be actively involved in those causes dear to him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying a special tribute to Virgil, his wife, Patricia, and their sons, Mike, Mark, and Mathew, and wish them all the best in the years ahead.

FAIRNESS TO MINORITY WOMENS
HEALTH ACT; WOMENS HEALTH
EQUITY ACT

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is an epidemic in our country. The statistics on family violence are staggering. Each year 4 million women are severely assaulted by their current or former partners. In fact, domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women aged 15 to 44.

This national tragedy affects women from all social economic groups. However, poor immi-

grant women with children face unique challenges and bureaucratic hurdles. Under current law, legal residents who are in abusive relationships are not entitled to AFDC benefits or food stamps if they flee their homes to escape domestic violence. As a result, many women are forced to choose between feeding their children or being battered.

The current system has failed to provide protection and equity for battered immigrant women. This unfortunate situation had led me to introduce the Fairness to Minority Womens Health Act as part of the womens caucus' Womens Health Equity Act. My legislation would ensure that AFDC benefits and food stamps are granted to women and their children who escape domestic violent situations.

At times it is difficult for battered women to talk about domestic violence. This is especially true for language minority women who may feel intimidated by counselors who do not speak their language. My bill provides bilingual family planning and counseling services.

This legislation also calls for a study on violence in the lives of Latino women and their children. Gathering factual data on the causes and effects must be a priority if the true extent of the problem of violence is to be addressed.

Every woman should be able to escape domestic violence. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in sponsoring this historic piece of legislation. We must work to ensure that all women seeking safety for themselves and their children get the help they desperately need. It's an investment worth making.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT GROVER
CLEVELAND

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to President Grover Cleveland as we celebrate this year the 159th anniversary of his birth in the great State of New Jersey.

One of New Jersey's most famous sons, Grover Cleveland entered the public arena with plain, honest talk and unwavering, uncompromising principles. His forthrightness in telling the truth was overwhelmingly refreshing for his time. President Cleveland's blunt political style and sincere dedication to public service enabled him to enchant the American people.

During his first year in office, President Cleveland, still a bachelor, worked 18-hour days to prove to the American public that they had elected the right man for the job. In an era of low expectations for the Nation's Chief Executive, President Cleveland labored tirelessly to rejuvenate the prestige, honor, and authority of the Presidency.

After his failed attempt for reelection, Grover Cleveland never lost his zeal for reform or his resolve to succeed. Amazingly, he fully expected to be President once again; a feat in American politics equal to coming back from the dead. However, on the last day of President Cleveland's first term, his new bride, Frances, remarked to a White House staffer to take good care of the furniture because they planned to return in just 4 years from today. Indeed, 4 years later, President Grover Cleve-

land became the only President in American history to win a second term after a 4-year political hiatus.

Discipline, work, courage, perseverance, and honesty—these are the attributes associated with Grover Cleveland's legacy. I am proud to give praise and honor to President Cleveland's memory and his selfless service to our Nation.

AIDS NOW THIRD LEADING CAUSE
OF DEATH IN YOUNG WOMEN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am reintroducing legislation today to address the need for increased research on HIV-AIDS in women and more targeted HIV-AIDS prevention and outreach efforts for women. Senator PAUL SIMON will be reintroducing the bills in the Senate in the next several weeks.

AIDS is now the third leading cause of death among women who are 25-44 years of age, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The two largest increases in 1994, the year covered by the latest statistics, were a 30-percent increase among white women and a 28-percent increase among African-American women. AIDS was the cause of death for at least one out of every five young African-American women.

Women of color have been most severely affected; while African-American women and Latinas account for only 21 percent of women in the United States, they make up 54 percent and 20 percent of cumulative AIDS cases among women, respectively.

Since I first introduced legislation addressing HIV-AIDS and women in 1990, we have made progress on these issues. The National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] initiated the women's natural history study, the women's interagency HIV study, and has worked to increase the number of women in clinical trials. Both NIAID and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD] have increased the resources devoted to topical microbicide research. I commend the NIAID and NICHD for their efforts, and I urge the research community to continue the momentum in these directions. This year's research bill reflects the progress that has been made, and provides for additional funding to further these gains.

A major focus of our research bill continues to be funding for research on topical microbicides and barrier methods of protection from sexually transmitted diseases [STD's], including HIV, that women can use with or without their sexual partner's cooperation or knowledge. The development of a topical microbicide—a compound capable of preventing the transmission of HIV and a range of STD's—is critically needed and would revolutionize our U.S. and global HIV and STD prevention programs.

Current HIV prevention methods rely on the cooperation of male partners. Many women lack the power within relationships to insist on condom use, as well as the resources to leave situations that place them at risk. It is critical

that we acknowledge and respond to the issues of low self-esteem, economic dependency, fear of domestic violence, and other factors which are barriers to empowering women to negotiate safer sex practices.

The research bill also includes additional funding to continue the women's interagency HIV study, the ongoing study of HIV progression in women, and to conduct other research to determine the impact of potential risk factors for HIV transmission to women, such as infection with other STD's, the use of various contraceptive methods, and the use of vaginal products.

Other provisions include increased funding for support services, such as child care, in order to further the efforts by NIAID to increase enrollment of women in clinical trials. The bill also includes funding to increase data on women through gynecological examinations prior to enrollment in clinical trials and during the course of the trials. It is critical that the full range of questions important to understanding HIV in women are answered.

In regard to prevention, progress has also been made with the implementation of the CDC HIV community planning process. Through this program, State and local health departments work with local community-based organizations, community leaders, people living with HIV-AIDS, and groups at risk for HIV, to develop prevention programs for their own communities. However, despite the new statistics on HIV, most women still do not consider themselves to be at risk.

The prevention bill provides additional funding to family planning providers, community health centers, and other providers who already serve low-income women, to provide community-based HIV prevention programs. Many of them already provide unfunded prevention programs; this funding would allow them to expand their services and provide outreach to women who are not currently using family planning clinics or other community health services for women.

The bill also provides funding for referrals, including treatment for HIV and substance abuse, mental health services, pregnancy and childbirth, pediatric care, housing services, public assistance, job training, child care, respite care, and domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, we have made progress in addressing the needs of women in the HIV epidemic, but we have far more to do. We are running out of time for a generation of young men—we cannot afford to wait. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2202) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve deterrence of illegal immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel, by increasing penalties for alien smuggling and for document fraud, by reforming exclusion and

deportation law and procedures, by improving the verification system for eligibility for employment, and through other measures, to reform the legal immigration system and facilitate legal entries into the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Chairman, I insert the following for the RECORD.

GALLEGLY AMENDMENT

This amendment will undermine the well-being of Americans, while doing nothing to advance the goal of immigration control.—By allowing states to throw undocumented children out of public schools, this amendment would push children from their classrooms out onto the streets. The result is unlikely to advance the well-being of the overall community, because children growing up in the United States would be denied an education, and would often be left without supervision.

This amendment will cost—not save—money for state and local governments and public schools.—In order to implement an immigration restriction, public schools would have to document the status of every student. This means that already overburdened school personnel, who are not immigration experts, would have to confront a confusing array of immigration laws and documents. U.S. citizens who are mistaken for immigrants are likely to be harassed or prevented from enrolling in school. This amendment would allow states to create a climate of fear in the schools at a moment when the nation's attention should be turned to making our schools a safe place to get a solid education for all students.

The Supreme Court has addressed this issue, and ruled that the U.S. should not punish children who are innocent of their immigration status.—In the Plyler vs. Doe Decision, the Supreme Court found that it is in the public interest for every child living within the United States to have access to a public education. The Gallegly amendment would violate the law and lead to long, costly court challenges, simply to make a point about undocumented immigration which is being made in many other provisions of H.R. 2202.

This amendment is not doing a favor to states or local governments.—Though it is disguised as a "states rights" issue, this amendment does little to advance the cause of allowing state and local governments to make decisions affecting their own communities. If, as Rep. Gallegly argues, it advances the cause of immigration control to throw children out of school, this cause is only served if every state chooses to deny education to undocumented students, which is unlikely. Immigration control is a national matter, and, as this legislation resoundingly suggests, should be dealt with at the federal level. This amendment is neither consistent with sensible immigration control policy, nor is it consistent with the values of most Americans.

This amendment will do nothing to advance the goal of immigration control.—H.R. 2202 has a variety of enforcement provisions aimed at preventing undocumented immigration. This mean-spirited amendment is unlikely to advance that cause, because the education of children is not driving the immigration process. Instead, it would allow the states to punish innocent children on the basis of their immigration status, though the decision to migrate was not theirs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, due to a snow emergency in my district that began early March 19, 1996, I was unable to return to Washington, DC, until late evening on March 20, 1996. As a result of this unforeseen delay, I missed a number of rollcall votes during consideration of H.R. 2202, the Immigration in the National Interest Act. Had I been here for these votes, I would have voted as follows:

On roll No. 68, I would have voted "yea."

On roll No. 71, Beilenson, I would have voted "no."

On roll No. 72, McCollum, I would have voted "no."

On roll No. 73, Bryant, I would have voted "yea."

On roll No. 74, Velázquez, I would have voted "no."

On roll No. 75, Gallegly, I would have voted "yea."

On roll No. 76, Chabot, I would have voted "yea."

On roll No. 77, Gallegly, I would have voted "no."

On roll No. 78, Canady, I would have voted "yea."

On roll No. 79, Dreier, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXTENSION

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, March 22, 1996, I was in California, and therefore, was absent for consideration of H.R. 125. If I had been present for recorded vote No. 92 on passage of H.R. 125, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 125, the Gun Crime Enforcement and Second Amendment Restoration Act, repeals the misguided prohibition on the manufacture, transfer, and possession of semiautomatic assault weapons. I have consistently opposed any ban on these types of weapons.

The notion that assault weapons are disproportionately used in committing crimes is false. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms estimates that there is approximately one assault weapon traced for every 4,000 violent crimes reported to the police. Clearly, these are not the weapons of choice for criminals.

Furthermore, I believe that crime deterrence lies not in gun control but in the enforcement and strengthening of our laws. For example, H.R. 125 enhances our laws by creating mandatory minimum prison sentences for violent or drug-related crimes committed with a gun and establishing Federal task forces in each U.S. attorney's district to coordinate State and local law enforcement officers in Federal prosecution efforts.

Finally, despite predictions that the assault weapon ban would significantly reduce crime in America, it has become apparent that, in