

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO SISTER ELLEN SPRINGER

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding educator who was recently honored for her half century of dedication to the young people of her community.

Sister Ellen Springer, the chair of the Nazareth Academy science department, recently received a Citation for Excellence in Science Teaching from the Pittsburgh Conference Science Week Committee.

Sister Springer first joined the La Grange Park, IL, based school in 1946. In her 50 years with the school, she has helped students adjust to many changes, as the formerly girls Catholic high school became a coeducational institution.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sister Springer on this important honor and on her five decades of dedicated service helping to shape the minds and spirits of the young people of her community.

### CONGRATULATING THE AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, the Air Force Sergeants Association [AFSA] is celebrating a special event this month. On May 1, the AFSA turns 35. That is 35 years spent serving the needs of the active and retired members of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard.

Created in 1961, AFSA's mission was to provide the Air Force enlisted members a voice on the Hill. Today there number and members have grown. Currently there are 300 AFSA chapters and 160,000 members, but their mission remains the same. To speak to Congress on behalf of their members.

Through the efforts of AFSA, Congress is kept informed on important issues to the active, reserve, and retired Air Force personnel. Programs such as pay raises, dental insurance, colas, mobilization insurance, and adequate housing for service members and their families are just a few examples of AFSA's success.

Today educating Congress is just one way the AFSA works for its members. In 1983, the Airmen Memorial Foundation was established. Through this fund, the AFSA has furthered their members educational goals by providing grants, scholarships, and awards. Having a longstanding tradition myself of wanting the best educated military possible, I applaud AFSA's efforts in this area.

But the AFSA knows that higher education is not for everyone. Some of their members are more interested in starting a new career when their tour is up. To help in this area, the AFSA created the postmilitary employment program. Again providing for the needs of its members.

As the AFSA begins its celebration, I would like to extend my congratulations and wish them another 35 years of success.

### HONORING THE RED BOILING SPRINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DE- PARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Red Boiling Springs volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent on Tuesday, April 30, 1996. Had I voted on H.R. 3008 and H.R. 1824, I would have voted "yes" on both.

### STAND UP FOR HEAD START DAY

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Head Start Program. Since 1965, this program has helped millions of low-income children prepare intellectually, physically, and emotionally for entrance into our school system.

I have spent my career as a Congressman in pursuit of ways to ensure that the paths to success are accessible to all. Head Start represents a program that leads our country closer to this goal by providing low-income children with educational training, as well as hot meals and essential medical services. By emphasizing community and parental involvement in achieving school preparedness, the Head Start Program helps kids take the first step toward achieving self-sufficiency.

I have visited Head Start facilities in my district of Dayton, and have been impressed with the demonstrated success of these projects. During the past few months, I heard from many parents whose children have benefited from enrollment in Head Start, and who expressed their concerns over the future of funding for the program.

Head Start serves as an example of what this country is doing right. It is not a charity program, but the type of empowerment program that is instrumental to breaking the chain of poverty in this country. I am relieved that after months of debate on appropriations for 1996, the final budget package restores funding for this initiative, because we should not allow our children to be defeated before they begin.

### HONORING MRS. CARLEAN OWINGS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Carlean Owings, who has dedicated her life's work to the education and nurturing of the children of Fairfax County in the Eleventh district of Virginia. After devoting 36 years to teaching, Mrs. Owings will be retiring this year from Armstrong Elementary School in Reston, VA.

Mrs. Owings started her teaching career in Baltimore, MD, where she taught for 8 years. In 1968, she came to Fairfax County to teach at Mosby Woods, Hunters Woods, and Terraset Elementary Schools before joining the Armstrong faculty in 1986 to teach third-grade students. Outside the classroom, Mrs. Owings continually participated in education development activities and served as a member of both the Virginia and National Education Associations.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In light of the increasing pressures we place on our educators to not only teach our children reading, writing, and arithmetic, but to discipline and provide guidance to them outside the classroom, Mrs. Owings' unwavering commitment to her student make her a model of excellence in the teaching profession. She promoted a positive classroom and school environment by encouraging her students to build personal relationships with peers, staff, and the community. With her professional and caring attitude, Mrs. Owings has inspired the many achievements of her students as well as the commendations of their parents and her colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues would like to join me in applauding Mrs. Owings for her invaluable contributions to our community and to wish her and her husband much success in their future endeavors.

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AMADOR HIGH SCHOOL  
RECOGNITION

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, they did it again. A remarkable group of students from Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, CA once again made it to the final round of the national "We the People \* \* \* the Citizen and the Constitution" competition after winning the California State championship earlier this year.

Unlike last year, the Amador bunch did not win the national championship. Yet their achievement is no less formidable than it was in 1995. The top three schools were separated by only five points. And the calibre of the East Bay students' knowledge and obvious expertise was beyond question.

Praise for the Amador Team went beyond appreciation for their scholarship. As one competition judge put it, "I've been working with kids a long time, and I've never seen such an energetic, lovable group of kids."

The "We the People" Program encourages analysis and discussion among high school students as they evaluate how the Constitution is best understood within its own historical context and how it applies to current issues. The competition, established by the U.S. Congress and the Department of Education, is an effective way of encouraging young men and women to consider the ongoing importance of the Constitution to our daily lives.

The members of the Amador Valley team and their remarkable coach, civics teacher Skip Mohatt, merit high praise for their determination, dedication to excellence, and commitment to understanding those principles which embody our national life. In taking second place in the national competition, they did not lose. They simply demonstrated that a commitment to knowledge cannot be measured strictly in terms of an award. It is manifested in the way we live our lives, make decisions, and participate in society as members of a free Republic. In such an effort, there can be no true loss.

HONORING THE PUTNAM COUNTY  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Putnam County Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

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TRIBUTE TO MARY MANLEY  
HOWARD

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 2, a retirement dinner is being held in honor of Mary Manley Howard. Mrs. Howard is "a woman for all seasons." She has spent all of her life achieving. And through those achievements she has been better prepared to help others.

Mary Manley was born to Susie Manley in Louisburg, NC. Her family had very limited resources yet she was instilled with a sense of pride and accomplishment and was taught that she could be anything she wanted to be if she worked for it.

She knew the value of education and diligently worked to complete hers. During the summer months she would come to Jersey City, NJ, a city in my district, to work in different factories in order to save for a college education. During those summer trips she met and later married Donald Howard. Still committed to obtaining her degree, she returned to North Carolina with her husband and continued her education. She graduated from North Carolina Central University with a bachelor of arts in social studies and library science. Her studies didn't end there. She earned certificates in seven different education areas. She

attended graduate school and graduated from Jersey City State College with a master of arts in reading.

Upon her return to Jersey City, she was employed by the Jersey City Board of Education. Her career in the Jersey City school system has spanned more than 36 years. She has worked as a librarian, a classroom teacher, a reading specialist, and as a title I reading coordinator.

The saying goes, "to get something done ask a busy person." That is certainly true in Mary's case. Not only has she taken care of a family but she has also lent herself to her community. She has been active, very often in leadership roles, with the College Women of Jersey City, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Phi Delta Kappa, the International Reading Association, the New Jersey Reading Association, the National Council of Negro Women, the New Jersey Education Association, the Jersey City Education Association, the Hudson County Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Pavonia Girl Scouts of American, Monumental Baptist Church, and she served as a head teacher at summer school and as a volunteer probation officer.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will join me as I offer congratulations to Mary Manley Howard. I would also like to extend my best wishes to her and her family—her husband, Donald; and her three children, Deborah, Deirdre, and Donald, Junior.

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CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3019,  
BALANCED BUDGET DOWN PAY-  
MENT ACT, II

SPEECH OF

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 1996*

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, pleased that we finally have something a bit more palatable to the American people in terms of fiscal year 1996 funding levels for education, health, job training, and environmental protection but disappointed that it has taken months, two Government shutdowns, and undue hardship for the citizens of this Nation in order for the Republican leadership in this body to realize that their extreme ideological fervor and authoritarian agenda is not shared by the majority of the population across this country.

Almost 6 months after the fiscal year 1996 appropriations process was to have been completed, the GOP is just now finishing their work. What the heck have the Republicans been doing all this time? Not a whole lot it seems.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have resoundingly said "no" to the Gingrich gang's bloodthirsty budget axe, said "no" to drastic cuts in Federal support or elementary and secondary schools, college loans, summer youth jobs, Head Start, low-income energy assistance, and community policing, and said "no" to protecting polluters who violate our environmental.

Because of these loud voices, the bill before us today restores \$2.8 billion in funding, up to the fiscal year 1995 level, for title I educational

programs serving the needs of our most underserved and disadvantaged children. In addition, the conference report contains vital resources to combat drugs and violence in our schools through the safe and drug free schools initiative. This is another program the GOP sought to decimate.

Also added back due to the pressure of the American public, the White House, and the Democratic leadership is \$625 million to provide for positive job alternatives for our youth with the Summer Jobs Program. Again, the Republicans would have rather left these kids standing on a street corner with nothing to do than give them a chance to gain the skills, confidence, and guidance necessary to succeed and build a brighter future for themselves.

From a \$1.3 billion restoration of LIHEAP dollars for heating and cooling assistance for low-income families and seniors to \$1.4 billion injection of funds to fully phase in President Clinton's important 100,000 cops on the beat in our local communities, this bill mirrors the foremost needs, and desires spoken by my hard-working constituents in the Chicago metropolitan area and not those of the monied interests so familiar to my friends on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I will vote for this legislation because it protects the Democratic Party's principles and priorities and reflects a more rational and humanistic approach to bringing our Federal fiscal situation under control. I hope, with the final version of this bill serving as a prime example, the GOP finally takes notice of the fact that their so-called Contract With America has been declared null and void by the American people and the court of public opinion.

#### THE 1996 NATIONAL FINALS

#### HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, from April 27 to April 29, 1996, more than 1,300 students from 50 States and the District of Columbia competed in the national finals of the We the People \* \* \* The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that a class from Nogales High School represented Arizona's Second Congressional District. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning the State competition in Arizona.

The distinguished members of the team representing Arizona are: Veneranda Aguirre, Victor Ahumada, Gerritt Bake, Melinda Bejarano, Hector Ceballos, Karina Celaya, Chris Chapman, Micheal Cooper, Lily Courtland, Odette Felix, Tadeo Garcia, Carlos Gonzalez, Dino Hainline, Jacob Kory, Aishah Levine, Melissa Leyva, Marco Lopez, Danny Mandel, Hector Martinez, Miguel Montiel, Loren Pruzin, Daniel Rodriguez, Peter South, Isreal Valenzuela, Alberto Vega, Sarah Wright, and Priscilla Yubeta.

I would also like to mention their teacher, Mr. George Thomson, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team. The State coordinator, Ms. Lynda Rando also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help Nogales High School reach the national finals.

The We the People \* \* \* The Citizen and the Constitution Program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People \* \* \* Program now in its ninth academic year, has reached more than 70,400 teachers and 22,600 students nationwide at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers.

The We the People \* \* \* Program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective on the significance of the U.S. Constitution and its place in our history and our lives. I am proud that the students from Nogales High School were able to take part in the national finals, and look forward to their continued success in the years ahead.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH H. POTTER

#### HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of an accomplished businessman and civic activist. After 38 years of leadership at the Washington Trust Co. of Westerly, RI, Mr. Potter has chosen to retire. I would like to recognize him for his dedicated service and commend him as a model businessman: Dedicated to company, community, and family.

Joe joined the "home-town bank" of South County in 1958 and has presided over the bank's tremendous growth and profitability. While tending to the heavy demands of a successfully growing business, Joe also found the time to become active in both the business community and as a civic leader.

Joe has served as executive vice president and president of The Rhode Island Bankers Association, as well having served as a member of the board of directors of Washington Bancorp, Inc. The Westerly community also benefited greatly from his generous contributions.

In a town proud of its Italian heritage, Joe currently serves as the president of the Permanent Columbus Day Committee, working diligently to make the Columbus Day Parade Westerly's finest procession each year. Additionally, Joe serves as a member of the Board of Governors of Rhode Island Junior Achievement and the Board of Governors for Community Health of Westerly.

From 1968 to 1974 Joe served the community through the State legislature, serving in the Rhode Island House of Representatives. As a public servant, Joe was instrumental in drafting the State Civil Defense Preparedness Act of 1974. He also received the coveted Department of Defense Award, one of the highest awards bestowed upon civilians.

As the Congressman representing Rhode Island's Second District, I am proud to acknowledge an individual who exemplifies true humanitarianism, citizenship, a strong work ethic, and sense of commitment. Joe, your contributions to the State of Rhode Island and the town of Westerly are an inspiration to all residents of the Ocean State.

Congratulations on the culmination of a wonderful career with the Washington Trust Co. Please accept my best wishes for all your future endeavors.

#### HONORING THE ROCKVALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Rockvale Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

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By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

#### ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

#### HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 24, 1996*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Armenian community in my district to mark the 81st anniversary of an unspeakable tragedy. I am referring to the genocide of 1.5 million of their people by the Ottoman Empire.

On April 24, 1915, 200 Armenian religious, political, and intellectual leaders from Istanbul, taken to the interior of Turkey and summarily murdered. Thus began an 8-year campaign to eradicate or deport all Armenian citizens from Anatolia and western Armenia.

Yet, today, many people are unaware of this vicious crime against humanity. There is little

mention of it in our history books. It is not taught to our children in school. And now, the Turkish Government is funding Chairs of Turkish history at prestigious American universities in order to cleanse its image and deny its past. For example, the Republic of Turkey endowed Princeton University with \$1.5 million for its Atatürk Chair of Turkish Studies. The professor who holds this chair is the former executive director of a Turkish institute that works to discredit scholarship which mentions the Armenian genocide.

However, my colleagues and I are here today to let the Armenian people know that we will not forget. We will not forget the aggression of the Ottoman Empire against innocent lives, particularly those of women and children. We will not forget that when the genocide ended, half of the world's Armenian population had been decimated. We will not forget that by 1923, the Turks had successfully erased nearly all remnants of the Armenian culture which had existed in their homeland for 3,000 years.

I stand here today to say that the genocide did happen. Nobody can erase the painful memories of the Armenian community. Nobody can deny the photos and historical references. Nobody can deny that few Armenians live where millions lived over 80 years ago. It is our responsibility and our duty to keep the memories of this tragedy alive. A world that forgets these tragedies is a world that will see them repeated again and again.

We cannot right the terrible injustice inflicted upon the Armenian community and we can never heal the wounds. But by properly commemorating this tragedy, Armenians will be least know the world has not forgotten the misery of those years. Only then will Armenians begin to receive the justice they deserve.

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### CONDEMNING THE MASSACRE IN AUSTRALIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of the 35 people who were killed this past Sunday in Australia. Allegedly killed by a 28-year-old man with a history of mental illness, the killer was random and deadly with his rifle. The victims were visiting a popular tourist site in the Australian state of Tasmania when their day was interrupted by this horror.

Mr. Speaker, it is tragedy enough when one person is shot and killed. However, it is nearly unthinkable to have 35 dead and have the lives of many more changed forever because of this violence. The victims ranged in age from 3 to 72 and came from all parts of the world. On behalf of the people of the State of Florida and the entire United States, I extend my sincere condolences to the people of Australia and to all those who mourn this tragedy.

### TRIBUTE TO ANDREW P. HOGAN

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a man who devoted much of his life to helping and improving the lives of others through his dedication to the fire service. Andrew P. Hogan, a lifelong member of the fire service, passed away recently in his home in Woodlyn, PA on April 20, 1996.

A member of the fire service for over 40 years, Andy was a key leader in the State and national effort to improve the public's recognition of the fire community. Andy served as a lifetime member of the Woodlyn and Milmont fire companies, belonged to the board of directors of the Milmont fire company, and was active in the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association, the Pennsylvania State Fire Police Association, the Keystone State Fire Chief's Association, and the Delaware County Fire Police Association.

During his many years of service, Andy was honored for his dedication and work on numerous occasions. In 1980, he was named Fireman of the Year by Ridley Township. Andy was also honored in 1991 by the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association who awarded him first place in their Fire Prevention Awards.

Andy took great pride in his involvement in the fire community. Because of his efforts, the fire service in Pennsylvania and throughout the United States is better off. Mr. Speaker, I know you and my colleagues join me today in celebrating the many accomplishments and achievements of Andrew Hogan and in honoring his memory.

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### CLINTON PUTS FRUITS OF COLD WAR VICTORY AT RISK

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an excellent analysis of the failures of the Clinton administration in Europe by retired Gen. William Odom.

For over 3 years, I and other Republicans have been warning of the dangers inherent in appeasement, the preferred policy of this administration. As General Odom notes, Clinton's appeasement of Russia on the question of NATO expansion puts at risk the fruits of our victory in the cold war.

What is so astonishing, Mr. Speaker, is the Clinton administration's stubborn refusal to adapt its NATO or Russia policies to the changing realities in the region. Four years ago, Russia was led by a team of young reformers determined to set Russia on a path toward democratic, free market modernity. It is these reformers whom the Clinton administration ostensibly wanted to help when it announced its massive and poorly thought out aid proposals in 1993. It is these reformers whom the Clinton administration ostensibly wanted to help when it began appeasing Russia at every turn in 1993, claiming that confronting Russia would embolden the hardliners.

Well today, not one of these reformers from 1992 and 1993, not one, remains in power. The hardliners we tried to discourage a few years ago are in control and are very much emboldened. Yet despite the fact that the resurgence of these hardliners has occurred in an atmosphere of unmitigated appeasement, the response of the Clinton administration has been, well, more appeasement.

Where does this leave us? With our NATO alliance adrift. With our friends in Central Europe in limbo. With a dangerous strategic vacuum in a historically unstable region. With a Russian Government peopled entirely by ex-Communist apparatchiks whose commitment to democracy and the free market was unknown until the Clinton administration said it was so. With the U.S. taxpayer on the hook for billions of dollars which have disappeared into a black hole. And with a Russia whose foreign and military policies become more reactionary and anti-Western by the day.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, it leaves us, as General Odom puts it, with the fruits of victory in the cold war at risk.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 28, 1996]

WE'RE RIGHT TO BE WARY

(By William E. Odom)

Europe, from the Oder River to the Ural Mountains, may appear placid, but it is fast becoming a strategic vacuum, conducive to violence and competitive diplomacy that could eventually cause major instabilities. Only U.S. leadership can reverse this trend. But on the two central issues in the region—Bosnia and the expansion of NATO—the Clinton administration dallies and speaks in contradictory language.

The proper U.S. strategy to cope with the challenge of peaceful European realignment is simple. It consists of keeping the NATO peacekeeping forces in Bosnia long after their scheduled withdrawal in December, and of a limited expansion of NATO into central Europe. As Clausewitz observed, everything in strategy is simple but very difficult. The longer the United States hesitates in central Europe, the more difficult the challenge.

At risk are the fruits of victory in the Cold War. During the years 1989-91; Europe experienced its largest strategic realignment in history. Not only was Germany reunified and kept in NATO, but Soviet military forces completely withdrew from eastern Europe. All such earlier realignments involved wars. Thus far, this one has only catalyzed small military conflicts in the Balkans—and in the Caucasus not traditionally considered part of Europe. The key was the U.S. presence in Europe. Without aggressive U.S. diplomacy, Germany might never have been reunified, much less kept in NATO.

But this achievement, while difficult to exaggerate, is still incomplete. The West must now contain and resolve the Balkan wars and consolidate the new democratic states of central Europe against resurgent Russian ambitions. The Clinton administration's approach to these two issues is not reassuring.

Rhetorically, Clinton has defined the Bosnian issue well. He told the American people that the establishment of a stable Bosnian government is the primary goal of the NATO deployment and a critical U.S. strategic interest. The architect of the Bosnian peace agreement, Richard Holbrooke, added the logical corollary: "We cannot afford to fail." But Clinton remains committed to withdrawing the NATO peacekeeping forces by December (even if U.S. officials now acknowledge that some troops will stay longer). After that, the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency has warned, the opposing forces are likely to partition

the country and then resume fighting. If withdrawal may well lead to another war, why does the Clinton administration remain committed to it.

Similarly, Secretary of State Warren Christopher has recently told Russian leaders that NATO expansion will go forward but was ambiguous about the timing. Such hesitation gives Russian hard-liners time to whip up domestic public fears and to pursue a diplomacy aimed at defeating the expansion.

Moscow has already succeeded in prodding German chancellor Helmut Kohl to retreat on the issue. He had been for it but recently called for taking it off the current agenda in light of Moscow's attitude. To be sure, the impact of Russian policy in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia has been largely negative. When Russian Foreign Minister Yvegeny Primakov visited Hungary last month, he demanded that Hungary desist from joining NATO; Hungarian Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs refused, reiterating Hungary's desire to enter the western alliance. Primakov was sufficiently jolted, to leave the door slightly ajar for a "compromise," "taking into account the concerns of all sides." But how long can these governments withstand Russian pressure? What alternatives will they be forced to seek?

Opponents of NATO's expansion say that the central European states should be satisfied with membership in the European Union and its security sub-group, the Western European Union. As these countries are beginning to realize, the European Union is setting economic criteria for admission that they cannot meet in this decade, and perhaps not in the next. They are likely to react by pushing much harder for early admission to NATO. If they don't get it, the only alternative for central European countries would be accommodation to Russian demands.

The hesitant U.S. policy on NATO expansion reflects anything but strong U.S. leadership. Why the delay? Several technical reasons have been advanced. The armies of these countries are insufficiently modernized to meet NATO standards. The military costs to their weak economies are too high at present. The cost to the United States of accepting the defense of these countries is too high. These arguments are mostly spurious.

The external military threat to the region is so small that it imposes virtually no risk to the United States and its NATO allies for years to come. Moreover, the cost of defending the eastern border of Poland is far less than the cost of defending the inter-German border during the Cold War. And what about the more distant eastern border of Turkey we are now committed to defend? Nor is there good reason to demand that the Polish, Czech, and Hungarian armies meet NATO standards in the short term. Spain joined NATO without being able to meet them. And some countries already in NATO hardly meet them.

The real reason for hesitating on NATO expansion is fear of Russia's reaction. Admitting even three, maybe four central European countries, some administration officials believe, will strengthen Russian hard-liners, divide Europe, and provoke a milder version of the Cold War. This fear should be taken seriously—but only because the administration's policy of forbearance on NATO expansion is encouraging Russian beligerence.

In the summer of 1993, Russian President Boris Yeltsin told the Polish and Czech governments that they could join NATO if they desired. He returned home and reversed his position under pressure from hard-liners in his military and in the parliament. This apparently convinced the administration that postponing NATO expansion would strength-

en Yeltsin and his liberal advisers. During the subsequent two and a half years, those advisers have been replaced by hard-liners, and Yeltsin now sounds like the Russian defense minister, Gen. Pavel Grachev, the ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and the Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, all of whose bash NATO expansion. In other words, hesitation has strengthened precisely those Russian leaders it was intended to weaken. If Russia's intentions beyond its current borders are in doubt, the Duma's non-binding rejection in March of the treaty ending the Soviet Union should clarify Moscow's aims; today the restoration of the Soviet Union, tomorrow Russian hegemony over central Europe.

Most American opponents of NATO expansion insist that no Russian, now favors NATO expansion. This, of course, is true. The climate of intimidation that delaying expansion has allowed to develop in Moscow makes it unsafe to express honest views on the matter. In a recent visit to Moscow, I was told by two former government officials that the United States should expand NATO quickly right after the June presidential elections. That would take the air out of the balloons of the Russian hard-liners, and they would soon come to accept it. My interlocutors also confirmed my suspicions about the climate of intimidation that prevents them and others from speaking out in favor of NATO expansion.

All this is not to say that NATO expansion is simple. Legitimate questions can be raised about the security of countries not included, particularly Ukraine and the Baltic states. Still, leaders in all of these countries privately concede that a limited NATO expansion is better for them than none, especially if additional future expansion is not ruled out in principle.

The main purpose of NATO expansion is not primarily military protection for new members but to provide an umbrella that engenders confidence among democratic and market reformers and intimidates extreme nationalists who might try to exploit ethnic minority sentiments in the way former Yugoslav communists used them to create the war in Slovenia, Croatia, and Bosnia.

The opportunities for nationalist provocation are real. A large number of Hungarians live uneasily in southern Slovakia, in Romanian Transylvania and in northern Serbia. Russia has been pressing Poland for a ground corridor to its Kaliningrad enclave on the Baltic Sea (formerly East Prussia). A Polish minority lives in Lithuania, while Latvia and Estonia have large Russian minorities. Moldova formerly part of Romania, faces an uncertain status. NATO expansion is to preempt some of these problems and to give pause to those who might exploit them.

Indeed, we cannot afford to fall in Bosnia, even if it takes more than a year to succeed, any more than we can afford to encourage an irresponsible Russian foreign policy by delaying a limited expansion of NATO. The two challenges are a single piece of cloth. And they are the unfinished business of the peaceful strategic transformation of Europe.

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HONORING THE EASTERN ILLINOIS  
UNIVERSITY 1995 FOOTBALL SEA-  
SON

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, it has been a part of our heritage as Americans to recognize

excellence. The American Dream is built upon the premise that if someone gives his best, plays by the rules and never gives up, good things will happen. Today, I want to talk about one such success story that occurred this past fall in Charleston, IL.

The 1995 Eastern Illinois University Panther football team had an outstanding 1995 campaign. Under the leadership of Coach Bob Spoo, the Panthers finished the season with a 10–2 mark—the fifth best record in school history—while qualifying for the NCAA I-AA playoffs. The team was co-champion of the Gateway Conference, and has won 14 of its last 16 games. For these accomplishments coach Spoo was named Coach of the Year by the Gateway Conference and the American Football Coaches Association Region I-AA and Co-Coach of the Year by the Football Gazette National. These are the results when a team has good leadership and is dedicated to striving for excellence.

Mr. Speaker, as their record attests, Eastern Illinois University has one of the elite football programs in the country. The Panthers have been an enormous source of pride for the surrounding community, and the prospect of spring practice is eagerly anticipated. I am honored to represent Charleston and Eastern Illinois University in Congress. I wish Coach Spoo and his players continued success as they prepare for another season in the fall.

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HONORING THE SOUTHEAST  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Southeast Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTER FOR  
JEWISH HISTORY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Center for Jewish History. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the establishment of this very important institution and in recognizing the immeasurable contribution it will make to the study of Jewish history.

The Center for Jewish History is comprised of four established institutions: the American Jewish Historical Society; the Leo Baeck Institute; Yeshiva University Museum; and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. These established and highly respected institutions have become partners in the visionary creation of a center devoted to the study of Jewish history and culture. The goal of this major partnership is to house each of the partner-institutions' research libraries, preserve each of their collections of historical documents, works of art, and objects, and to plan and mount exhibits of these combined collections. The new Center for Jewish History will also publish important works of scholarship, present lectures and educational events, and sponsor fellowships in Judaic studies. With the cooperation of major universities, the center will also establish specialized graduate and post-graduate studies programs.

The collaboration of these four important institutions to form the center for Jewish History is an unprecedented enterprise. Sunday, April 28, 1996, marks the celebration of the center's founder's day. With the support of the Jewish community and the collaboration of the four established partner-institutions, the center is destined to become a major educational and cultural resource for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute here today to the inception of the Center for Jewish History, whose establishment marks an important milestone in the advancement of the study and preservation of Jewish history. I ask my colleagues to join with me in this tribute and to celebrate the creation of the Center for Jewish History, a very significant contribution to the resources for advanced Judaic scholarship in the United States.

ON COSPONSORING H.R. 3199, H.R. 3200, AND H.R. 3201, FDA REFORM

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to add my name as a cosponsor of the three bills that make up the comprehensive Food and Drug Administration [FDA] reform being considered in the House. Most Americans believe that the FDA approval process for new drugs, medical devices, and foods should be streamlined to ensure that citizens have access to life-saving products. Many believe, however, that this streamlining effort also must preserve the public's confidence in the agency's mission of protecting the health and safety of consumers. I agree

with both concerns and believe that both goals can be met through commonsense legislation.

While I have some concerns about these FDA reform bills, I strongly agree with the underlying principle that there are constructive reforms of FDA that should be enacted. I am cosponsoring these bills because I believe they are a step in the right direction. At the same time, I believe it is critical that the hearing process function as it should, providing an opportunity for all interested parties to air their concerns and assisting Congress in making changes in the legislation as appropriate.

Some of the people who have approached me about FDA reform have described it as a "work in progress." Therefore, I look forward to seeing what progress can be made to address some of the concerns I have heard regarding safety. In particular, I know that breast implant recipients, understandably, have some concerns along these lines. I also have had expressed to me an uncertainty about moving too quickly to privatization, as well as concerns expressed from the State level about changes in the State and Federal relationship.

I am convinced that a middle ground can be reached to reduce bureaucracy and delay, while also protecting the public health and safety. I believe that, while not perfect, these three bills set us off down that path toward appropriate FDA reform.

HONORING DELMONT LODGE 43,  
FORMERLY VALLEY FORGE  
COUNCIL, BSA

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a group of citizens that have had a tremendous impact on the 13th Congressional District over the past 66 years.

This year these citizens, members of an organization known as the Order of the Arrow, will merge their lodge, Delmont Lodge No. 43, with the founding lodge of the Order, Unami Lodge No. 1, to form a new lodge. They are merging as a result of a merger between two Boy Scout councils in the area. Valley Forge Council, which formerly served Montgomery and Delaware Counties, including the 13th Congressional District, and Philadelphia Council, which served the city of Philadelphia, consolidated their operations into the Cradle of Liberty Council on the first day of this year.

The Order of the Arrow is an honor camper society within the Boy Scouts of America. The scout units select from members in their troop those who have represented the best principles of Scouting and nominate them for membership in this organization. Following an ordeal which the candidates face several personal challenges, they become members of the brotherhood.

This organization has its roots in the Delaware valley. It was started in the summer of 1915 by E. Urner Goodman on Treasure Island, an island no more than 30 miles up river from Philadelphia in the middle of the Delaware River. He devised this organization as a means to keep young men interested in returning to summer camp every year.

Word of Goodman's organization spread, and some members of Valley Forge Council,

known at that time as Delaware and Montgomery Counties Council, were inducted by members of this original lodge. As time progressed, staff at the council's camp in Green Lane, Camp Delmont, decided to start their own lodge. In 1929, with the help of Jack Foster, Delmont Lodge was born, and with it increased opportunity for the scouts in the 13th Congressional District.

One of the crowning achievements of the order has been its ability to successfully combine youth leadership with adult advising. As a result, through participation in this organization millions of scouts have had the opportunity to experience direct leadership. The organization offers opportunities to work in event planning, publications, promotions, acting, and service.

Delmont's brothers have also spent innumerable hours giving service to the community and to Camp Delmont itself. They provide money for disadvantaged scouts to attend summer camp. They also promote the camp's program to over 150 individual scout units every year.

Delmont has also been recognized nationally for their outstanding level of service. In 1995, the lodge received the highest recognition any lodge can receive, the Urner E. Goodman Camping Award. It is only presented to eight lodges each year, two in each region. And in 1982, as well as every year from 1989 to 1995, they received national honor lodge recognition, ranking it consistently among the best of the lodges across the country.

Mr. Speaker, while on September 1, 1996, Delmont Lodge will merge with Unami Lodge, and despite that the name and number of this institution will no longer exist, the spirit and dedication of the individuals associated with this brotherhood will help preserve what they have accomplished over the years. These citizens will work to ensure that the new lodge works just as hard to provide assistance to just as many, if not more members of the community, and will honor their former lodge in all their endeavors.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK  
HAWK SHOOTDOWN

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, April 14 marked the second anniversary of the Black Hawk shootdown, an accident which claimed the lives of 26 international servicemen. Among the victims was Capt. Patrick McKenna, the son of my constituents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. McKenna of Columbus, GA.

Captain McKenna was among an elite group of brave men and women who sacrificed their lives to complete a mission of selflessness in the face of tyranny. Their bravery and courage epitomize the strength of the human spirit and the dedication of those who give their lives to defend others.

To commemorate this heroism, the Eagle Flight Detachment Memorial Monument was constructed at the Giebelstadt Army Airfield in Giebelstadt, Germany. This memorial provides a tangible reminder to the victims' families and friends that their loss will never be forgotten. I commend all parties involved who had a hand in making this project a reality.

There are still many unanswered questions concerning this accident, yet one thing is certain. These men and women died for the honor and glory of giving to others. This is an example from which we can all learn.

In remembrance of this tragedy, I would like to once again express my heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of those lost. May they all rest in peace.

HONORING THE RIDDELTON/DIXON  
SPRINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-  
PARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Riddleton/Dixon Springs Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within 1 year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

COMMENDATION FOR POLICE OF-  
FICER JOSEPH WITTE ON HIS  
RETIREMENT

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Philadelphia's finest police officers, Joseph Witte, on the celebration of his retirement from the force on March 22, 1996.

Joe's dedication and hard work on the police force lasted over 26 years. His police work in Philadelphia started when Joe was appointed to the police department on September 29, 1969. Four months later, he graduated from the police academy and was assigned to the sixth district where he patrolled the streets of Center City.

On July 19, 1971, Joe was transferred to the accident investigation division to inves-

tigate fatal, serious injury and hit and run traffic accidents. He was one of the first police officers to be certified as a breathalyzer operator where he performed sobriety tests on persons arrested for driving under the influence. Less than 10 years on the force, Joe was promoted to corporal and assigned to the police radio room supervising call takers and dispatchers for the northeast division. Shortly after his promotion to corporal, Joe was transferred on January 30, 1975, to the 25th district and supervised that district's operation center and cell room.

Moving up the ladder at the police department continued for Joe when he was promoted to detective and assigned to the east detective division on October 18, 1976. In 1979, Joe was transferred to the homicide division. On March 1980, he returned to the detective division and was selected as one of the first detectives assigned to a divisional, special investigation unit by then Lt. Edward McLaughlin—now deputy commissioner of license and investigation. His responsibilities ranged from investigating high profile cases to multiple crimes and acting as a liaison with other police departments.

Joe's next step up the ladder with the police force was his promotion to sergeant in 1981. He served as a patrol supervisor in the 15th district in northeast Philadelphia and 16th district in west Philadelphia. In 1986, Joe was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and again returned back to the east detective division.

On September 19, 1989, Joe was transferred back to the homicide division where he presided over the operations and investigations of No. 1 platoon. During his tenure at homicide, Joe supervised many high profile murder cases with No. 1 platoon and led his division in solved investigations. As a lieutenant with the homicide division, Joe dealt with both the broadcast and print media on a daily basis. Joe became well known to the reporters on the police beat and was often complimented for his relationship with him.

Finally, on December 19, 1994, Joe was transferred back to the east detective division and commanded that division's special investigations unit, which was responsible for the arrests in the Quaker Lace fire, The narcotic processing unit, robbery, burglary and stolen auto teams. He also acted as the division's executive officer taking over the command duties in the absence to the captain.

Now Joe is starting his career as the director of the Pennsylvania Masonic Foundation for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among Children. He works with the State department of education which pays for the training of student assistance teams in schools throughout the commonwealth. Also, this group provides the training facility, lodging, meals and recreation for the police officers throughout the State while they train to be D.A.R.E. officers.

Joseph Witte's accomplishments as a dedicated and valiant officer of the Philadelphia Police Department have earned him well-deserved respect and praise from his peers. Mr. Speaker, I wish Joe all the best in his retirement from the Philadelphia Police Department.

A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL  
AMERICANS: JANIE A. GREENE

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay homage to an individual who serves as an inspiration to many. Her life of 101 years leaves an indelible impression on all with whom she comes in contact. Her life is a testament that humanness is a factor that matters most in life. Mrs. Janie A. Greene is a model human and a great point of light whose contributions to this Earth must not go unacknowledged.

For over 55 years, Mrs. Greene has worked tirelessly for the People's Institutional A.M.E. Church. She is a pillar of support in the church and has become a reliable church laborer. Throughout her five-decade service, Janie Greene has been involved with the Shut-In Club and the South Carolina Club. She has been a member of the stewardess board, trustee, auxiliary, and the missionary society. Presently, Ms. Greene is a charter member of the South Carolina Club and a member of the Virginia Smith Missionary Society.

Admirably, Janie Greene is one who knows how to enjoy life in its purest form: She is the matriarch of a prosperous family. She serves as a guiding light to those whom she welcomed into this world: her children, Thelma Greene McQueen, deceased, Clifton S. Greene, Oreda Greene Dabney, and Myrtle Green Whitmore; 11 grandchildren and scores of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. At the very least, Walley Greene, Janie's husband who passed on in 1931, has a lineage which is very well preserved.

Born in Georgetown, SC, to Prince and Clara Browne, Mrs. Janie Greene has been a beloved resident of Brooklyn for over 60 years. During this time, Janie has lived in appreciation of every hour of life. This is evident in the way she chooses to enjoy precious moments. Under no circumstances does she reserve enjoyment to those her junior. Janie enjoys gardening, reading, listening to the radio, and watching television. Mrs. Greene's favorite pastimes further include attending public events, shopping, and decorating. Preparing daily brunch for the family and sending greeting cards are also regular forms of recreation for Janie Greene.

Service to God, family, and community can be a difficult task to accomplish. Consistently, Janie Greene has made it appear to be effortless. I sincerely appreciate the richness, beauty, and dedication that mark Mrs. Greene's life. Janie Greene is a great point of light for all of the people of America to revere.

IN HONOR OF NORTH MIAMI FOUN-  
DATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS'  
SERVICES

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, May is Older Americans Month and on May 1, 1996, the North Miami Foundation for Senior Citizens' Services will celebrate 21 years of community service at its 18th annual volunteer recognition luncheon.

In the increasingly busy world in which we live, it is vitally important to recognize the efforts of those who give freely of their own time. Without volunteers, many services would go unprovided.

In 1995 alone, the North Miami Foundation provided to North Dade's elderly 26,545 hours of chore service, 38,388 hours of friendly companionship visits, and 56,519 telephone reassurance calls. In addition, 6,227 hours of special projects were conducted by local organizations and schools. These volunteer hours are equivalent to 47 full-time staff positions.

It can easily be seen that the North Miami Foundation is exactly that: a foundation. Upon their shoulders rest thousands of people who can not as easily help themselves. The groundwork that they and their volunteers provide is truly the basis on which a community is built. I am proud to say that they are part of my constituency and rise today to thank each volunteer for their efforts.

TRIBUTE TO REV. CURLEE  
WINDHAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Rev. Curlee Windham for his longstanding service to God and the community of Brooklyn and the members of Liberty Baptist Church. Reverend Windham is a native of St. George, SC. Employed as a New York Housing Authority housing inspector, Reverend Windham is guided by spiritual faith and devotion.

As the pastor of Liberty Baptist Church he has been instrumental in mentoring and creating spiritual leadership within the church community and the community at-large. Under the pastor's religious and organizational direction his congregation has retired the mortgage on his church. Additionally programs that nourish the soul, body, and mind have been developed under Pastor Windham's guidance. His initiatives include a 12-step program of Narcotics Anonymous, and programs that provide food, clothing, tutoring, and community outreach.

Reverend Windham has established himself as a pillar and visionary in the community. On May 3, 1996, he will celebrate his 13th anniversary of service to God, his church, and the community. I am pleased to recognize his selfless efforts and dedicated service.

ALLISON OWENS WINNER IN VOICE  
OF DEMOCRACY CONTEST

HON. TOM BEVILL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. BEVILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Allison Owens of Gadsden, who is the State winner of the Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its ladies auxiliary.

I am very proud of Allison who wrote a stirring script based on the patriotic theme, "Answering America's Call."

With your permission, I would like to submit her winning script for the RECORD:

ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

(By Allison Owens)

SSSHH. Can you hear it? It echoes in our spacious skies, it rings from purple mountainside, and crashes in our waves, from sea to shining sea. It is America's call. Can you hear it?

Washington heard it as he took a challenge many would not face by becoming this country's first President. As a general, he took many risks for this great country because he heard her call to him. But, America does not call without firmness. The call to her people is not weak. But, is strong and stern. Abraham Lincoln heard it as he took the measures needed to preserve his country in its greatest hour of trial—The Civil War. Theodore Roosevelt heard it. His answer prepared America for her role in the twentieth century as he built the world's first modern Navy. Franklin D. Roosevelt heard her call, though it was not an easy one. He responded by saying "Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

But, fear is little when you live in a country as strong as our America; we proved this in WWII. Her call is reflected with determination by her people. The slogan of the U.S. Air Force is "The difficult we do immediately, the impossible takes a little longer." Some of America's calls are quite difficult.

John F. Kennedy heard it. "A Nation of Immigrants," he called her. And, we are. Sometimes, people especially from such a diverse group of backgrounds, have a difficult time understanding each other. Kennedy also said "In the final analysis, our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this small planet. We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future. And we all are mortal." Kennedy answered her call by submitting civil rights legislation to Congress to ensure equality for all. America is calling for unity. E Pluribus Unum—From Many—One. That is America. That is her call. Do you hear it?

America is facing many more trials. Her people are suffering. Franklin D. Roosevelt also said, "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." He answered this call by passing Social Security legislation to protect all Americans from catastrophes like the depression. America is still today calling for those who have no voice. Can you hear it?

Ronald Reagan heard it. He held the hand of a dying American spirit. He heard her call for what many people thought would be the last time. Spirit like ours. DOES NOT DIE, but will live forever no matter what trials may come our way. We overcame Vietnam. We overcame Watergate. We overcame the Iranian Hostage Crisis. Every time America has called, her people have answered. America is calling for a resurrection of triumph. We will overcome the seemingly impossible trials that lay in our path. America will never die. Answering America's call keeps her alive. Can you hear it?

Do you hear her calling to you? In big ways and small, she calls to us for we are Americans, and answering this call is part of our duty. Not just for this country, but for the world. Dwight D. Eisenhower heard it and said "Whatever America hopes to pass in this world must first come to pass in the heart of America." The Heart of America, where her call begins. Is the Heart of America not the heart of her people? Is the call of America not the call of her people? Of our people, the young, the old, the poor, the prosperous, the weak, and the strong. The

ones who call to us loudly, and the ones who suffer silently. They are all America's calls. Can you hear it? Will you answer? Theodore Roosevelt said, "There can be no 50/50 Americanism in this country. There is room here for only 100% Americanism." And how can you be 100% American if you do not answer America's call? Listen, can you hear it? I can!

HONORING THE PEA RIDGE  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Pea Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 24, 1996*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues today in remembering the tragedy endured by the Armenian people in the years 1915-23.

Extensive massacres of Armenians took place during that period in eastern Anatolian plains in an atmosphere akin to a horrible civil war. Those events have indelibly and permanently marked the consciousness of many Americans, including Americans of Armenian descent, who are commemorating April 24, 1996, as a national day of remembrance of man's inhumanity to man and a special day of remembrance for the Armenian victims of strife in the early years of this century.

April 24 marks the 81st anniversary of the calamity. It is appropriate on this occasion to

direct our attention and prayers to the memory of the vast number of victims who died in these tragic events.

It is in the interest of all of us and in the interest of mankind that this type of tragedy not occur again. The leading organizations of the Armenian-American community have been seeking to work within our political system for a statement concerning these critical events in their heritage.

This year in the House of Representatives that vehicle is House Concurrent Resolution 47, honoring the memory of the victims of the massacres of Armenians, of which I am proud to be a cosponsor. No one can deny these events and the centrality of these events in modern Armenian history. I am proud to be associated today with my colleagues on this important day of remembrance.

I would also like to salute the Republic of Armenia, which continues to move forward in its democratic and economic reforms. This country of 3.3 million people is already developing important ties with the United States. Americans have an interest in the economic development of Armenia, its progress toward a free market economy, and its development of democratic institutions. We want to work with Armenia and its neighbors to insure peace, stability, and progress in their search for greater freedom and security. There is no better way to honor the misdeeds of the past than rededicating ourselves to a better future.

Today in Europe, we have a chance to advance the cause of peace and stability more vigorously and on a wider scale than ever before. I salute all governments, private organizations, and individuals, including the Armenians, who are working toward this end. I hope that their efforts will make the world a safer place, where innocent people no longer suffer the unspeakable crimes of war and terror.

TRIBUTE TO EDGAR BRONFMAN,  
PRESIDENT, WORLD JEWISH  
CONGRESS

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, on April 24, 1996 the Senate Committee on Banking held a hearing to return the missing Jewish money, deposited by many Jews before the Holocaust, to their survivors. I would like to commend Mr. Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress for his tireless efforts and his dedication to obtain a full and independent accounting of Jewish and Nazi assets in Swiss banks. Mr. Speaker, I ask for you to have the testimony given by Mr. Bronfman at this hearing inserted into the RECORD, and I hope all my colleagues will take the time to read these important words.

TESTIMONY OF EDGAR M. BRONFMAN, PRESIDENT, WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, WORLD JEWISH RESTITUTION ORGANIZATION

Mr. Chairman, I want to commend you for holding these hearings and for the outstanding job your staff has been doing in ferreting out information long lost or concealed. That which you are doing is of great historic significance. Our collective mission here is nothing short of bringing about justice. We are here to help write the last chapter of the

bitter legacy of the Second World War and the Holocaust.

Today, Mr. Chairman, I am acting in my capacities as President of the World Jewish Congress and as President of the World Jewish Restitution Organization. I am also testifying on behalf of my Co-chairman, Mr. Avrum Burg, the Chairman of the Jewish Agency.

The WJRO was created in 1992 by the leading international Jewish organizations and the survivor's groups to coordinate claims for the return of Jewish community property and the transfer to the Jewish people of heirless holdings. We also work to secure for individual Jews no longer resident in the countries in question the same rights that would obtain for local Jews who remain. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to submit as part of my formal testimony, the list of the international organizations that make up the WJRO. [List to be appended]

The WJRO has also been designated by two successive Prime Ministers to represent the State of Israel in these matters. It has also concluded agreements with Jewish Communities in several countries in order to coordinate restitution efforts.

I hope it will not sound presumptuous, Mr. Chairman, but I speak to you today on behalf of the Jewish people. With reverence, I also speak on behalf of the six million, those who cannot speak for themselves.

The issue before us today, the one I want to talk to you about, can be summed up in a single word: Justice.

Fifty years after the Holocaust, as Germany and the collaborationist countries have sought to face their responsibilities and make restitution, there remains the glaring void in the behavior of the banks of Switzerland.

Just a year ago today, the bipartisan leaders of the United States Congress declared in a letter to the Secretary of State, and I quote:

"It should be made clear to the countries involved that their response on this [restitution] matter will be seen as a test of their respect for basic human rights and the rule of law, and could have practical consequences on their relations with our country. It is the clear policy of the United States that each should expeditiously enact appropriate legislation for the prompt restitution and/or compensation for property and assets seized by the former Nazi and/or Communist regimes. We believe it is a matter of both law and justice."

President Clinton has declared:

"We must confront and, as best we can, right the terrible injustices of the past. I thus support the efforts of the World Jewish Restitution Organization and the World Jewish Congress to help resolve the question of Jewish properties confiscated during and after the Second World War."

Mr. Chairman, I wish to personally commend Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat for his contribution to this effort. President Clinton assigned him a special mission to assist in this task while he was the United States Representative to the European Union, and although he returned to Washington earlier this month to become Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade, he will continue his efforts as Special Envoy on Property Claims in Central Europe. He has been doing an outstanding job serving the interests of all Americans, not only Jews.

I would also like to take this opportunity of adding that the European Parliament unanimously added its voice to that of the United States, expressing the same view and declaring that restitution is a matter of justice which must be fulfilled.

Mr. Chairman, as the Congressional letter made clear, what today's hearing is about is

"respect for basic human rights and the rule of law." Nothing less.

I am not here to talk about whether there is only \$32 million remaining in Swiss banks belonging to Holocaust victims and survivors or, as may be closer to the truth, several billion. Nor am I ready to endorse those who say the records were purposely destroyed and the money confiscated.

When I met with the Swiss Bankers Association on September 12, 1995 in Bern, I was struck by one comment they made to me. "Mr. Bronfman," they said, "we do not wish to hold on to one Swiss franc that is not ours."

I told them that I certainly agreed with that sentiment. I explained to them that the World Jewish Congress initiated activity aimed at the recovery of Jewish property even before the war in Europe ended. In November 1944, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, the co-founder of the World Jewish Congress raised the issue at the War Emergency Conference in Atlantic City. He declared then:

"The principle that Jewish assets must be given back to their legitimate holders wherever possible must be regarded as inviolable."

Now that the Swiss Bankers have told me they accept this universal principle, Mr. Chairman, I ask that you, your Committee, this Congress and our Government help the Swiss Bankers fulfill their own wish not to hold on to a single Swiss franc that is not their own.

A word of concern, Mr. Chairman: time is running out for those who will be the primary recipients of this restitution. Knowing you as I do, I am confident that your investigation will be thorough and will result in the full exposure of the facts.

At the aforesaid meeting in Bern September last, I did not discuss dollar amounts. What I sought was an impartial audit. I came away thinking that we had agreed on that, but in February, the Swiss Bankers Association unilaterally announced they had done their own survey and had found only \$32 million—an amount that defies credibility.

"Trust us," they told the victims of the Holocaust, "we looked into our records and our own vaults and that's all we could find."

One of the documents already uncovered and released by your own investigators, Mr. Chairman, suggest that at a single Swiss financial institution, the present values of deposits may be nearly that much alone.

Mr. Chairman, as you may know, heading these two organizations is not my only job. I am also a businessman.

As a businessman, I often deal with bankers. I know that the most important asset any banker can have is his reputation, the trust of his customers. If we cannot have faith in the integrity and trustworthiness, in the honor of the banker to protect our deposits, to give a faithful and accurate accounting, then we must go elsewhere.

Dealing with the Jewish people must be for the Swiss bankers and issue of trust.

What is urgently needed, Mr. Chairman, is a transparent mechanism to conduct a verifiable audit of all Nazi-era assets, those deposited by Jews and those assets stolen from the Jews by the Nazis and also deposited in Switzerland and their disposition so that all the parties involved can be satisfied justice has been served.

The Swiss bankers cannot be permitted to come back and say, once again, that they will create such a process, but that they want to be the ones who appoint the auditors. Their repeated failure of integrity over 50 years has forfeited for them such a privilege. There must be an arm's-length process that is credible to the entire world.

There is already much to learn from the very beginning of the documents uncovered

by your Committee and by others working elsewhere. They demonstrate that during the Nazi era the Swiss were far from neutral. Their assistance to the Nazi war machine, through the clandestine conversion of looted gold into Swiss francs, enable the Germans to buy fuel and other raw materials they needed to prolong the war. Some estimates in testimony before the U.S. Senate hearings following the War suggest the cost may have been staggering in the lives of American soldiers, Allied soldiers, Jews and other civilians across that continent.

The Germans were looting synagogues, schools, museums and the bodies they were about to toss into the ovens. They snatched works of art. They took wedding rings and gold teeth and melted them down. They cast ingots that were falsely marked to appear as if they were pre-war gold and, as records are showing, they took it to bankers who were only too willing to look the other way.

Mr. Chairman, many Jews in Central Europe, and many others in those countries, saw the Nazis coming and made the trip to Switzerland because they thought their assets could be held safely there. They put their faith in Swiss neutrality and the integrity of that nation's banking system. It appears they were betrayed.

Only through a full, fair and impartial audit can we uncover the truth. I would hope the Swiss bankers will cooperate fully in this endeavor as it appears to be the only way to deal with this crisis in confidence they have created and has been called into question by so many.

Mr. Chairman, I do not propose here a discussion of specific amounts of money. Yet, I believe that each dollar recovered represents a little piece of dignity, not just for the survivors who will benefit, but for all mankind who will have demonstrated that it remains morally unacceptable for anyone to profit from the ashes of man's greatest inhumanity to man.

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### MEDICARE

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Budget Office has recently reported that Medicare is in far worse shape than the Clinton administration originally led the American people to believe. Left unchecked, Medicare beneficiaries face losing coverage and in the process our children will be robbed of the benefits of a balanced budget.

Last April, the Clinton administration predicted the trust fund would take in \$45 billion more this fiscal year than it would spend. Instead, it is \$44.2 billion in the hole in just the first half of this fiscal year.

According to a new CBO study, the trust fund will be in the red \$443 billion by the year 2005. That \$443 billion figure represents the extra money the Government would have to add to the trust fund over the next decade to pay for benefits through the end of 2006. Even with the honest numbers of the CBO, the President and his advisers refuse to recognize the grave situation facing Medicare. My Republican colleagues and I have faced the challenge head on.

We have proposed measures that will not only save, but improve Medicare. The President has consistently refused to come to the table. He would rather make this an election-

year issue, demagoging Medicare and scaring our seniors.

Medicare's problems are much more serious than President Clinton and his Medicare trustees will admit. It is now apparent that more is needed than the same old smoke-and-mirror gimmicks this administration relies on.

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### THE TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the Senate Concurrent Resolution 55, making corrections to the Terrorism Prevention Act and adopted on April 24, 1996, under a unanimous-consent agreement, made a number of substantive changes to sections in the jurisdiction of the International Relations Committee. I am very supportive of the goals of the Terrorism Prevention Act and am concerned that several of these changes may actually undermine U.S. efforts to address the terrorism threat.

I am astounded that these changes were made at the last hour, without even a single call to the minority members of the International Relations Committee. The issues involved are troubling and far-reaching—not technical. They require a full airing by the committee of jurisdiction to understand all the ramifications for U.S. security and foreign policy concerns. Had I had warning, I would have objected to the inclusion of these provisions in a bill to be considered in the House under a unanimous-consent agreement.

First is the change to Section 801, Overseas Law Enforcement Training Activities. In the conference report, this section authorized the Departments of Justice and Treasury to conduct overseas law enforcement training activities "subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State." This language, requested by the administration, was necessary to ensure coordinated, targeted, and cost-effective overseas law enforcement assistance. The new language permits the Departments of Justice and Treasury to go overseas "in consultation with the Secretary of State." This undermines the Secretary's statutory authority to conduct U.S. foreign policy and raises the likelihood of an explosion of uncoordinated training programs.

I support the Justice and Treasury Departments' law enforcement activities, including their overseas efforts to reinforce the protection of law enforcement in the United States. But we need coordination of overseas training if those programs are to be effective. The State Department, which has the global perspective on U.S. foreign policy, is the only agency with the ability and authority to coordinate U.S. civilian activities abroad.

Next are the changes to sections 325 and 326, which amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. The conference report's section 325 stated the President may withhold foreign assistance from any country, whose government aids the government of a terrorist State. The report's section 326 provided that the President may do the same with regard to governments providing lethal military equipment to terrorist states. The concurrent resolution turned "may" into a "shall," tying the Presi-

dent's hands. The provisions retain a national interest waiver. But, they will complicate and obstruct the President's ability to conduct foreign policy.

We should press other countries to oppose terrorist governments. But we must find creative ways to fight terrorism, not tie the President's hands in making case-by-case judgments in this very important, but highly fluid, area. What does it mean that a third country provides assistance to a terrorist state? Is the President now required to cut assistance to our allies participating in the KEDO program? That program ensures that North Korea does not engage in a nuclear weapons program, and it may be undermined by this new prohibition. Does section 326 now prohibit our assistance to Russia and other emerging democracies in Europe, or our assistance to some of our most important allies? These are the questions we should have fully examined in open and closed sessions before the prohibitions on the President's authority became law.

I conclude by repeating my distress at the process in which these important statutory and policy changes were made. The changes have far reaching troubling ramifications, and should not have been done under unanimous consent without consultation of the appropriate committees of the House.

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### A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO DORIS PARKER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues of the House,

I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention a very special person in my 15th Congressional District who always seems to go beyond the point of commitment.

The woman of whom I speak is Doris Parker, this year's recipient of the Ted Weiss Community Service Award which will be presented to her by the Three Parks Independent Democrats on Sunday, May 5, 1996.

Ms. Parker, who is the widow of the late great musician Charlie "Bird" Parker, is certainly deserving of this award, for her commitment to the community and her tireless efforts, are well known by many.

She serves as treasurer of the 24th Precinct Community Council; recording secretary for the North West Central Park Multiblock Association, Inc.; member of the board of directors for Veritas Therapeutic Community Foundation; member of the board of directors for the Westside Crime Prevention Program; and is first vice president of the Federation of West Side Neighborhood and Block Associations.

These are just a few of the many community outreach efforts that Doris Parker gives her time and talents to.

New York is blessed to have this hard working and faithful community activist, and I am proud and fortunate to be able to call her my friend.

Doris, this is for you.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote number 139 on the Journal I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes." I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD immediately following rollcall vote number 139.

## GAS TAX RESTITUTION ACT OF 1996

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to transfer to the highway trust fund revenues received from the 4.3 cents of the Federal motor fuel tax that is currently going to the general fund.

Many of us concerned with our surface transportation infrastructure were troubled when in 1993 this tax of 4.3 cents per gallon of motor fuel was imposed not for the purposes of bolstering receipts into the highway trust fund, but for the purpose of deficit reduction. I would note, however, that this was not the first time this occurred. As part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, the Federal motor fuel tax was increased by 5 cents, with one-half of this amount dedicated to the general fund. This 2.5 cents was later restored to the highway trust fund effective September 30, 1995.

As we all know, the basic premise of the Federal motor fuel tax is that it is a user fee collected for the express purpose of making improvements to our road and highway infrastructure. It is one of the few taxes where Americans can see an immediate and direct result for having to pay it as they drive on the Nation's highways.

Today, the debate is centered on repealing the 4.3-cents-per-gallon tax. I offer an alternative. Restore it to the highway trust fund.

Few, if anyone in this body, can say that the areas they represent do not require road and highway improvements. The legislation I am introducing today will not only restore faith with the American people on the uses of the Federal motor fuel taxes, but will certainly assist in making needed surface transportation enhancements.

## THE COMMON SENSE PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM ACT

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the following statements, made during a press conference on April 30, 1996, marking the transmission to the president of the Common Sense Product Liability Reform Act.

First, a statement of former Attorney General Dick Thornburgh; second, statement of

Lewis Fuller, president of Fuller Medical Company; third, Tara Ransom, 9-year-old girl who uses a silicone shunt; and fourth, Linda Ranson, mother of 9-year-old Tara.

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER DOLE AND HOUSE SPEAKER GINGRICH BRIEFING ON PRODUCT LIABILITY LEGISLATION

Speaker GINGRICH: Let me thank all of you for coming today. We are transmitting to the president today our product liability reform bill. We believe that product liability reform will lower prices to consumers, lead to the faster development of better products, and as you'll hear today, in some cases literally save lives, because of some products which are being priced out of existence and threatened out of existence by lawsuits and by the problems of unnecessary litigation.

We believe that the product liability reform bill is an important reform of the legal system. I would just point out that Dr. Edwards Deming, the founder of the quality movement and the man who taught the Japanese the concept, said consistently for his entire lifetime that the American litigation system was a major blockage point to us being able to compete in the world market, that it caused unnecessary lawsuits and led to unnecessary expenses and did unnecessary harm. We hope that the president will decide in the interest of lower consumer prices and better products and greater American competition in the world market, that we need a product liability reform bill, and I hope—we hope that he will sign this bill. And I think when you've listened to today's statements, and particularly listened to Linda and Tara Ransom (sp), you'll see why it is vitally important to have a product liability reform bill to help Americans in a variety of ways.

And let me now turn this over to former Attorney General Dick Thornburgh.

Mr. THORNBURGH. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. As a former governor of the state of Pennsylvania and attorney general of the United States, I've been a long-time advocate of civil justice reform. The damage lawsuit abuse does to our economy and to the rule of law in this country has reached the stage where reform is absolutely necessary. As you will hear, today's distorted system inflicts injury on thousands of small businesses like Louis Fuller's (sp), and it can do real harm to shunt-dependent children like Tara Ransom and my son Peter.

Congress has finally wrapped up its long and productive debate over civil justice reform. And I want to commend Majority Leader Dole and Speaker Gingrich, in signing the letter of transmittal for this measure today, and sending it to the president. And we must acknowledge something else, something remarkable that happened in this session of Congress to make this day possible. This was a bipartisan effort.

Senators Rockefeller and Lieberman joined Senators Dole and Gorton in spearheading the passage of this legislation to curb lawsuit abuse through its voyage through the Senate—a truly non-partisan effort against some truly non-productive practices.

As Senator Lieberman said, "This is a moderate, thoughtful bill reflecting years of effort and many compromises." He observes, "Opponents of this bill have tried to paint the bill as pro-business and anti-consumer, but the status quo is terrible for consumers. The current system is inefficient, unpredictable, costly, slow and inequitable."

He continues: "Injured people wait years for judgments. Some of those with the worst injuries are under-compensated, while those with smaller injuries are over-compensated. Businesses act defensively, avoid innovation as too risky, and devote enormous numbers of personnel and resources to litigation. The length between fault and judgments and set-

tlements is more and more attenuated. Consumers pay higher prices in order to cover product-related costs." "And," Senator Lieberman acidly concludes, "lawyers prosper."

Reform has been too long coming. This is a modest measure. It corrects the worst abuses of our current system while fully respecting the plaintiff's need for justice. Yet defying his own personal history of support for this legislation, and after offering signals that he would sign this bill, President Clinton has promised so far to veto it. So this looks to be the message from the White House: No matter how desperately the Louis Fullers (sp) and the Tara Ransoms (sp) of America may need lawsuit reform, we're going to have to wait for a change of heart by the president, or a change of presidents to get it. I don't like to draw invidious conclusions; it's not my style. But it doesn't take this former law enforcement official long to make a link between the promise of a veto and the motive for the president's threatened action. Where's the smoking gun? I'm compelled to respond: Follow the money.

Trial lawyers give a great deal of money in political campaign contributions, more than the top 10 oil companies and the big three auto companies combined. And the doors of the Clinton White House appear to have swung wide open for this lobby of greed, while closing the door on average Americans who seek justice.

The top 50 big-giver trial lawyers contributed a total of \$2.6 million to Mr. Clinton's 1992 campaign. In just the first nine months of 1995, lawyers and law firms pumped another 2½ million into the president's reelection campaign coffers.

Listen to Senator Jay Rockefeller. He said, "The president needs trial lawyers and their money more than he needs good public policy." Now the president obviously does not want to appear to be buckling to this special interest, so he says he opposes reform because he's concerned that the measure will be unwarranted intrusion on state authority. This argument was dismissed years ago, when the National Governors' Association, true defenders of state authority, called for a uniform national product liability standard. Among them at the time was then-Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas. He was in fact part of the very committee that persuaded his fellow governors to call for national lawsuit reform to greatly enhance the effectiveness of interstate commerce.

Now President Bill Clinton espouses a kind of phoney federalism to resist reform. Now he chooses to put the interests of the trial lawyers ahead of those of thousands whose lives depend on medical innovation. Now this president is banking his campaign on the forces of greed and putting the rewards of a small, powerful elite before the national interest.

And unless he has change of heart, President Clinton will be putting the interests of those trial lawyers before the lives of those like this little girl that you will hear from later, Tara Ransom (sp).

We should call and we do call on President Clinton to take a second look at his promise to veto this bill. It's not too late to change one's mind, and it's certainly not too late to change one's heart.

Mr. LOUIS FULLER (sp): Thank you, General Thornburgh.

My name is Lewis Fuller. I live in Gadsden, Alabama, where I am the president of a small medical supply company.

Every now and then, I hear Alabamans debate whether or not we need a state lottery. I remind them that we already have one—it's called the civil justice system.

I'm sure most of you have heard about the lawsuit in Alabama where a wealthy doctor

won a \$2 million judgment because the paint job on his car was partially refinished. It was a paint job that lead to a snow job on American justice. That decision was so bad—the judicial system that arrived at that decision is so corrupted by trial lawyer money—that this case is now before the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Alabama trial lawyers are capable of generating that kind of national publicity makes me mad. It makes me mad because Alabama is a great state, a great place to live and—all things considered—a great place to do business.

We don't deserve to live under the kind of system that we have. The cost of that system goes far beyond car companies. Lawsuit abuse hurts us all—as consumers, workers, taxpayers.

Yet our state is dominated, top to bottom, by the trial lawyers and the judges whose campaigns they bankroll. In a state where you can get \$2 million for a car paint job, the danger of a reckless, ruinous punitive award is taken very seriously, a threat to one's very livelihood. That's why we have 10 times the punitive damage settlements as our four neighboring states combined.

This is the constant threat I live under as a small businessman. This is the liability threat that forced me to stop supplying my community with products that can mean the difference between life and death.

I am sad to report that because of the possibility of a ruinous lawsuit, Fuller Medical had to stop offering baby monitors designed to warn parents of the possible onset of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

We have no choice. We cannot afford the insurance premiums that would allow us to continue offering these in-home-life-support devices.

We were forced to shut down this part of our operation in 1993 and no company in our immediate area has filled the gap. Thanks to the greed of trial lawyers, a potential life-saving device has been strangled in the crib.

Another casualty of lawsuit abuse is our van conversion business.

I'm not talking about making vans prettier. I am talking about making them more accessible to handicapped citizens. We did these conversions for several years, which made the vans hand-controlled, giving a handicapped driver greater mobility. But under our system of joint-and-several liability, we could be sued for any problem with a van, even if we were not actually at fault.

I have no trouble with reasonable damages for genuine fault. But I cannot pay an unlimited damage for any mistake someone else might make.

In these two ways, you see how the threat of limitless punitive damages and joint-and-several liability forced us out of these two ventures. Both of these measures would be addressed by the reforms Congress is sending to the President.

I cannot understand why Mr. Clinton has threatened to veto this bill. I cannot understand why an Administration that gives so much lip service to small business would defend a system like this one.

I cannot understand why Bill Clinton would take this stand, when any former governor must surely know that the ultimate victims are not the large corporations, or small businesses like mine. It is not even the consumers who must pay higher prices.

It is the handicapped, who need a way to drive themselves to work.

It is the parents, who don't want to lose another child to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

And it is tens of thousands of people like this sweet little girl, Tara Ransom, who depend on medical innovation and technology just to stay alive.

Mr. President, if you hear my words, please change your mind. Not simply for my small business, but for this little girl. Mr. President, it is not too late to do the right thing.

PHOENIX, AZ,  
March 29, 1996.

DEAR MR. CLINTON: My name is Jara Ransom. I am 8 years old. I'm in 3rd grade at Magnet Traditional School.

I have a silicone shunt for hydrocephalus. I get the hydrocephalus when I was a baby. I have had 5 operations.

I need the shunt to live. I have talked to Congress about it when I testified last summer. Mom says we need a liability bill. I only know a little bit about it, but I know it will help me live. Please sign it.

I know Mrs. Clinton likes kids. Can she help me too?

Sincerely,

JARA RANSOM.

My name is Linda Ransom. I'm not a lawyer. I'm not a lobbyist. I'm just a desperate mother.

My daughter, Tara, and I have flown here from our home in Phoenix, Arizona to give President Clinton this message: President Clinton, it's not too late to change your mind. It's not too late to help Tara. Please don't veto this bill.

You see, Tara has a medical condition called hydrocephalus, and the only treatment for it is a surgically-implanted shunt in her brain which is made out of silicone. The shunt takes the excess cerebral fluid away from her brain in a silicone tube and carries the fluid down through her chest into her abdomen, with the help of a small pump under her scalp. Kids outgrow shunts, and Tara has already had 5 surgeries. She will have to have more—that is, if the shunts are still available.

They may not be, under our current legal system. Already, three of the major suppliers of raw materials have decided to restrict or stop supplying manufacturers of medical implants. One of them, Dow Corning, is the sole supplier of the raw silicone used to make Tara's shunt. While the shunt is still available for the 50,000 hydrocephalics who depend on it to stay alive, the situation is looking worse and worse for the medical device industry.

Outrageous punitive damages awards are not really the problem, although the risk is always there. The medical implant industry is more threatened by the day-to-day cost of defending itself from thousands of lawsuits, only to be found not liable again and again. Many times, the cost of the raw materials in a medical device—the Teflon in a pacemaker, or the polyester yarn in a suture—amounts to just pennies. But these suppliers are forced to spend millions of dollars defending themselves in court, from lawsuits that they shouldn't have been dragged into in the first place.

This bill would change that. Caps on punitive damages will help, but more importantly, ending joint and several liability will mean that only those who are responsible for damages will be brought to court. This will free up millions of dollars in legal costs that could be better spent on research.

Tara's long-term future lies in the hands of medical researchers—the ones who might invent a better device that won't need surgery, or maybe a drug to control the excess fluid in the brain. Today, not enough bright young people are going into research, and I think a lot of it has to do with the frustration of not getting devices off the drawing board because of the liability.

Tara may be the person to find the cure for AIDS or become the first woman President. She is a very bright girl, who is at the top of

her class and has skills is beyond her current 3rd grade level at the Magnet Traditional School. Whatever her future is, she has a future because of a tiny piece of silicone plastic.

Tara is the perfect example of hope—hope in the surgeon's skills, hope in medical technology, hope in the shunt itself. She is also the perfect example of faith—faith in the belief that God's miracles are the hands of the surgeons and the minds of the scientists who make the discoveries and create the devices. Senator Dole and Speaker Gingrich have done their job in getting the bill passed. President Clinton, it's up to you. Don't take our hope away. Sign this bill.

CONGRATULATIONS ON 55  
SUCCESSFUL YEARS

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friends Frances and Bartlett Smith, of Milford, who are celebrating their 55th year of marriage this year.

In 1937, they came to Detroit to seek their fortune and found each other. Frances, with her sister Ann, came from Milford to work at Detroit Bank & Trust. Bartlett B. Smith came from Kalamazoo to attend the Detroit College of Law and work at the National Bank of Detroit. Bart and Fran met, courted and were married May 17, 1941, at the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in the Indian Village area of Detroit.

Following Bart's graduation from law school, they moved back to the family farm in Cooper Township near Kalamazoo where Bart's family had been original settlers. Not only did he work the farm, he worked 12-hour days welding tanks for the war effort as he awaited the results of his bar exam. When Bart joined the U.S. Army, 3d Armored Division in Fort Knox, KY, Frances and their two young children, John and Sarah, moved back to Milford, MI, to be near her family.

At the end of the war, Bart joined the Oakland County prosecutors office and served for 2 years. He opened his own firm in Milford, practiced for 46 years and retired in 1993. He was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court having been sponsored by U.S. Senator Philip A. Hart and Oakland County Circuit Judge William John Beer. Frances joined the practice as secretary in the late 1950's and son Christopher joined him as partner following his graduation from law school.

Civil duty has long been a family tradition. Frances has served on the Milford Township Library Board for 47 years, the last 30 as president of the board. She continues to serve today.

Bart served as Milford Village president, councilman, member of the township board, and justice of the peace. He is a member of various civic organizations including the American Legion, Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, and Masons. His service began in the 1940's, when as "Sam McCall's son-in-law" he was grand marshal and led the V-J Day parade down Main Street on horseback.

Oldest son John is a veterinarian practicing in Ypsilanti, MI. Daughter Sarah Redmond is a financial advisor for American Express Financial Advisers. Son Steve lives in Johnson

City, TN. Youngest son David lives in Howell, MI. Bart and Fran have nine grandchildren, Karen, Jeff, Brian, Kristen, Angela, Kevin, Courtney, Michael, and Paul; and two great-grandchildren, Justin and Cassandra.

Growing up on stories of the Civil War and early pioneers to standing on the edge of the 21st century, they have seen much, shared greatly, and anticipate the new century. Congratulations and best wishes.

#### THE FIRST STEP TOWARD A BALANCED BUDGET

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, last week my Republican colleagues and I passed an historic bill which will save the American people \$43 billion. It eliminates over 200 wasteful programs—more than 100 in the Labor, Health and Human Services bill alone. And it puts us on target for a balanced budget in 7 years.

In his attempt to put his best spin on this bill, President Clinton demanded we present him with a balanced budget. Apparently, he forgot—we did. He vetoed it. The President has shown little sign that he is truly committed to balancing the budget. He refuses to make tough decisions that count—like real welfare reform and saving Medicare from bankruptcy.

My Republican colleagues and I are now looking toward next year's budget. We are committed to real budget reform that balances the budget, creates real jobs and ensures a bright future for our children. We remain committed to the five keys to a balanced budget—genuine welfare reform, real reductions in spending, tax relief for families and job creation, moving power out of Washington, and saving Medicare from Bankruptcy.

Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues and I have proven our resolve for a balanced budget. When, the President presents us with a budget that really balances and tackles the tough issues, we will know he too is serious about saving our children's future.

#### EARTH DAY

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 1, 1996 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

#### EARTH DAY 1996: PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

On this, the 26th anniversary of Earth Day, we can take great pride in the advances that have been made in environmental protection. We have succeeded in reducing the levels of lead and other dangerous pollutants from the air. Lakes and rivers, once so contaminated they could catch on fire, now support large fish populations. Forests are rebounding. Endangered species, like the eagle and the buffalo, have been saved from extinction and are now thriving.

Hoosiers strongly support cleaning up our air, water, and land, and they want to leave the environment safe and clean for the next

generation. They do not want to cut back on our environmental investment. Hoosiers do not say to me that we have too many parks, or that the air and water are too clean. They overwhelmingly support sensible, targeted and moderate laws necessary to keep the environment clean. They also support the view that states and localities have a greater role to play in the environment, and that environmental laws should be based on sound science and a careful balancing of costs, benefits and risks. I agree with their common sense beliefs.

Several federal laws provide the foundation for environmental protection in this country. As we celebrate the 26th Earth Day, it is helpful to understand how these laws work, how they have contributed to a cleaner environment in Indiana and around the country, and how we can improve them as we meet new challenges.

#### IMPROVING AIR QUALITY

The Clean Air Act, originally passed in 1970, seeks to protect human health and the environment from outdoor air pollution, such as car exhaust and factory emissions. The Act has dramatically reduced air pollutant levels. From 1984 to 1993, emissions of lead declined by 89%, particulates by 20%, sulfur dioxides by 26%, and carbon monoxide by 37%.

Congress substantially revised this law in 1990 to strengthen the ability of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), states and the private sector to work cooperatively to improve air quality, particularly in cities with significant pollution problems. The new law also aims to reduce pollutants which cause acid rain and contribute to global environmental problems, including ozone depletion and global warming.

The new law also expanded efforts to develop cost-effective ways to reduce emissions for coal-fired power plants. Such utilities are common in southern Indiana and throughout the Midwest, providing relatively inexpensive electricity to residents in the region. The burning of coal, however, does contribute to air quality problems. The Clean Coal Technology Program, which funds six projects in Indiana, provides assistance to help defray the costs of pollution control.

#### CLEANING OUR WATER

The Clean Water Act, passed in 1972, is the main law protecting our streams, lakes, estuaries, and coastal waters. It aims to limit the amount of waste flowing into surface waters. It also provides local communities with low-interest loans to assist in the construction or upgrade of municipal wastewater treatment facilities.

Wastewater treatment has dramatically reduced pollution in our rivers, lakes and streams. These efforts have improved the quality of drinking water and preserved fish and other aquatic life. Since 1972 the number of people served by modern sewage treatment facilities has almost doubled and the level of pollution discharged by municipal treatment plants has declined by 36%.

The other important federal law protecting water resources is the Safe Drinking Water Act, passed in 1974. The Act requires EPA to determine which contaminants threaten public health and set standards for safe pollutant levels in drinking water. These standards generally apply to public water systems. The Act has made tap water safer from harmful contaminants, including bacteria, viruses, and certain chemicals.

I appreciate that improving water quality costs money. I am sensitive to the concerns of local leaders who want the flexibility to achieve cleaner water in more cost-effective ways. Consequently, I have supported measures to make federal rules more flexible, less costly and less complex to assist them in pollution control efforts.

#### CONSERVING THE LAND

The federal government has worked cooperatively with farmers since the Dust Bowl of the 1930s to control soil erosion. The Natural Resource Conservation Service, formerly the Soil Conservation Service, has national responsibility for helping farmers and ranchers develop and carry out voluntary efforts to conserve and protect our natural resources. This effort has helped improve farm productivity while preserving water and soil quality.

Considerable debate has focussed in recent years on wetlands conservation. Wetlands include swamps, bogs, marshes, and prairie pot-holes, and are considered crucial to water quality protection and flood control. The problem is that wetlands have been disappearing at a significant rate. Indiana lost well over 80% of its wetlands between the late 1700s and the mid-1980s. Nationwide, wetlands are declining, primarily because of growth and development, at a rate of 290,000 acres a year.

The key to wetlands conservation is finding a way to protect these valuable resources without imposing significant economic costs on farmers and other landowners. The 1996 farm act approved earlier this year takes some steps toward striking an appropriate balance between environmental and economic interests. The new law streamlines current rules and makes them more understandable to farmers and other land users.

#### CONCLUSION

Indiana and our country have been blessed with a bountiful environment. This blessing cannot be taken for granted. We all have a stake in the preservation of our environment. Earth Day reminds us of our successes over the last 26 years—cleaner water, cleaner air, cleaner land—while committing us to preserve our natural heritage for future generations.

The challenge facing the U.S. is finding an appropriate balance between preserving our environment and promoting economic growth. Cleaning the environment has become more complicated. We must search for more effective ways to protect the environment with less cost and less regulation. My view is that we do not have to sacrifice environmental protection to get economic growth. We can have both. Growth creates jobs and increases our standard of living; environmental protection improves public health, conserves valuable resources upon which growth depends, and preserves the natural beauty of this country.

#### LEGISLATION TO ENCOURAGE LONG-TERM-CARE INSURANCE

HON. RICHARD J. DURBIN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to encourage Americans to purchase long-term insurance and address the growing cost to the Medicaid program of long-term care services.

The Long-Term Care Insurance Incentives and Consumer Protection Act of 1996 provides incentives to buy long-term care insurance and assistance in paying for long-term care.

This measure helps families afford the cost of long-term care services by treating payments for long-term care services as medical expenditures eligible for the same tax deduction as other health care services—deductible

to the extent total medical expenditures exceed 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income.

The measure encourages families to buy long-term care insurance to cover future long-term care costs by providing a direct tax deduction for long-term care insurance premiums, without respect to the 7.5 percent of AGI floor that applies to other medical expenditures.

It revises the tax treatment of employer-provided long-term care insurance to encourage employers to make this coverage available to their employees.

It provides this new coverage beginning January 1, 1997.

The legislation helps protect consumers from unfair or abusive policies and marketing practices by providing this favorable tax treatment only for long-term care insurance plans that meet consumer protection standards.

The standards require the use of standardized benefits and terminology and a standard outline of coverage to make comparison shopping possible. They prohibit plans from requiring a hospital stay before coverage of long-term care services or imposing other unnecessary limits on when or from whom a patient can receive services; and prohibit a plan from discriminating against patients by providing a lesser standard of coverage for specific illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease, mental illness, or HIV.

The standards also require that consumers be offered the option of purchasing inflation protection so that the value of their benefits does not erode and become inadequate over time; provide a right to cancel a new policy within 30 days and receive a full refund of any premiums paid; and provide a partial return of premiums if a policy lapses before the death of the insured person.

In addition, the standards prohibit cancellation of coverage except for failure to pay premiums, fraud, or misrepresentations by the insured; and provide group policyholders an option to continue or convert coverage that would otherwise terminate because the person is no longer a member of the group.

This legislation will reduce Medicaid's future outlays by encouraging Americans to buy long-term care insurance rather than looking to Medicaid for this coverage. Long-term care takes up one-third of the Medicaid budget. More than half of all nursing home care is paid by Medicaid, along with a significant amount of home and community-based long-term care. As more people purchase insurance to cover their long-term care needs, fewer people will need to rely on Medicaid for that coverage.

Mr. Speaker, this measure provides stronger consumer protection standards than the similar legislation previously considered on the House floor, including stronger nonforfeiture benefits so that people do not lose everything they paid in if they must stop making payments before they obtain any benefits. This will increase consumers' willingness to buy a product that they may not need for 20 years or more.

In addition, this measure provides a stronger incentive to purchase long-term care insurance by allowing taxpayers to take the tax deduction for premiums without having to first exclude medical payments equal to the 7.5 percent of AGI. For many taxpayers, the 7.5 percent exclusion that must be met before expenses become deductible under the GOP bill virtually eliminates the value of the tax deduc-

tion. My legislation allows premiums to be deducted directly, without a 7.5 percent exclusion, which increases the incentive to obtain long-term care insurance.

Mr. Speaker, the number of senior citizens in our Nation will grow substantially in the first part of the 21st century as the baby boom generation retires. Between 1980 and 1990, the 65-and-older population grew by one-fifth. During that time, while the entire U.S. population of all ages was growing by one-tenth, the over-80 population grew by one-third. The Bureau of the Census estimates that there will be 31 million people over age 80 in 2050, around the same number as the total number of people over age 65 today.

These are the people most likely to need long-term care. An expansion in long-term care insurance coverage now can ease the burden on government to provide the care that will be needed later.

I urge my colleagues to join me as a co-sponsor of this bill to encourage Americans to purchase long-term care insurance and help reduce our future Medicaid long-term care costs.

#### TRIBUTE TO PASSAIC SEMI-PRO BASEBALL

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five members of the Passaic Semi-Pro Baseball League. Baseball is as American a tradition as Mom and apple pie. Since the middle of the last century, children and adults alike have played this wondrous game. Since the Great Depression, baseball has provided Americans with an outlet to step back from the world for a while. Although baseball at the highest level has been through ups and downs over the years, the game itself has remained pure for the millions of people, adults and children alike, who are players or fans. There is no question that baseball is truly America's pastime.

We in the Eighth Congressional District of New Jersey have indeed been fortunate to have enjoyed a rich baseball tradition for decades, one that has been carried forth by a high level of competition which has come to characterize the Passaic County Semi-Pro League. On Friday, May 3, 1996, that tradition will again be celebrated with the 11th annual Passaic semi-pro baseball reunion dinner, at the Knights of Columbus Regina Mundi Hall No. 3969 in Clifton, NJ. Hosted by the organizing committee of Ted Lublanecki Sr., Ted Lublanecki Jr., Ben Lublanecki, Jean Lublanecki, and Mike Ivanish, I am sure this celebration will be a tremendous success benefiting the honorees' accomplishments.

This year's event is highlighted by the extraordinary careers of men who brought distinction not only to themselves but also to their teams and the Passaic Semi-Pro League. This year's honored group includes Jack Brady, Edward Janusz, Andy Romanko, Bob Varettoni, and Richard Zurichin. For the benefit of our colleagues, I would like to allude to some of the accomplishments of these remarkable gentlemen:

Jack Brady began his baseball career by playing 4 years of varsity ball at Pope Pius

High School. While still in high school, Jack also displayed his considerable skills playing for the Clifton American Legion Team Post 8 for 1 year and then playing on Pete Reno's Passaic Memorial Post 200 Legion Team for 2 years. Following high school, Jack played for a number of semi-pro teams. Possessing great all-around skills, Jack played both infield and outfield on such local teams as the All Passaics, the Drazins, the Red Socks, and the Wallington Hillside. Jack's love for baseball eventually gave way to his educational needs, as he graduated from the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Art. He is currently operating his own industrial advertising agency.

Edward Janusz learned to play this great game on the sandlots of Wallington. From there, Edward went on to play in the outfield for Lodi High School, where he became the leading home run hitter in Bergen County. For this accomplishment and his overall play, Edward was chosen for the first team All-State in Group III. He then moved on to Rutgers University, where he played 4 years of varsity ball and led the team in batting and most hits in 1951. Edward actually began his semi-pro career in 1944, playing for the Wallington Tigers, Wallington Coopers, and, like Jack Brady, the Wallington Hillside. He signed on with the Passaic DeMuro Comets, one of the best teams in the area, in 1951 and led his team to the Passaic City League championship the following year.

Unfortunately, a knee injury forced Edward to retire in 1955, but not before some memorable moments. In 1951, he hit a triple batting against New York Yankee Hall-of-Famer Whitey Ford while playing in Fort Monmouth, NJ. He also hit a grand slam home run during a college game in 1952. His love and knowledge of the game, as well as his generosity toward and love for children, led him to coach Little League teams in Wallington for 22 years, leading two of his teams to State championships in 1968 and 1971. He also became an umpire in 1947 and, displaying his dedication to the game of baseball and the larger community in Passaic County, worked fast pitch softball, Little League, Babe Ruth League, and semi-pro games for 46 years. He still lives with his wife Margaret in the house where he was born.

Andy Romanko's passion for the game of baseball was lit the moment he was introduced to the game. Andy initially played for a variety of semi-pro teams in the area, where he developed into an outstanding pitcher. These teams included the Passaic Comets J.V., the Passaic Highlanders, and the Garfield Benignos. For the majority of his career, Andy played for the Passaic Demuro Comets, arguably the best team in the area. One of the best moments of Andy's career came while pitching for the powerful Comets when Andy pitched both games of a doubleheader and won them both. His proudest accomplishment as a baseball player is completing one year with 22 wins and only 2 losses. During this phenomenal year, in which his winning percentage was an astounding .909, Andy pitched a no-hitter while striking out 17 batters. Andy's love of the game led him to coach Little League for a number of years. Andy's passion for the game has never diminished, as he anxiously anticipates the Passaic semi-pro Baseball Reunion Dinners each year.

Bob "Chick" Varettoni had already developed a nasty sinker ball by the time he hurled

his first semi-pro game as a 13-year-old for the Wallington Panthers. For the next 4 years, Chick played varsity ball for Pope Pius XII High School. While still in school, Chick also starred in American Legion, first pitching for Memorial Post 200 and later for Rosol-Dul Post, pitching the former to the State semifinals in 1948. Like Jack Brady, Chick's semi-pro career began with the Passaic Drazins in 1948 and continued with the Passaic Red Sox in 1949. Chick's career culminated with many stellar performances for the Passaic DeMuro Comets, one of the finest teams in the metro area.

While pitching for this championship team, Chick twice faced New York Yankee Hall-of-Famer Whitey Ford of the Fort Monmouth Army team. His excellent performances in these high-profile games earned Chick an offer to join the Boston Braves farm system. He declined this offer, however, in favor of completing his studies at Seton Hall University. He was attending Seton Hall on a scholastic scholarship, from which he graduated magna cum laude. Following graduation, Chick entered the U.S. Navy, where he served as a communications officer aboard the USS *Midway*. After his release from the Navy, Chick entered upon a 34-year executive career with the New York Telephone Co. At the same time, he remained active in the Naval Reserve Intelligence Program, eventually rising to the rank of captain. He retired in 1990 and continues to live with his wife, Frances, in Totowa.

Richard Zurichin was an exceptional all-around athlete, excelling in basketball, football, and baseball. Yet, his first love was baseball. Although he received the Most Valuable Player Award from the Passaic Time Out Club for his efforts as a quarterback, Dick went to Seton Hall University and starred for the baseball team. His 1.80 earned run average earned him the honor of being named to the Collegiate Baseball All Star Team. Playing the mighty Passaic DeMuro Comets, Dick's biggest thrill was playing the U.S. Army East District Champions at Fort Dix, NJ, where Dick pitched the DeMuro Comets to the upset victory. His lifetime record for the Comets was an impressive 27 wins and 3 losses.

Mr. Speaker, each of these outstanding individuals, through their countless contributions not only to the game of baseball but also to the communities of Passaic County, have touched and enriched the lives of thousands of people in this area. For this, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring these gentlemen during the 11th annual Passaic semi-pro baseball reunion.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH  
WEEK, MAY 5-11, 1996

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, raising a child is one of the most difficult and challenging jobs, and the difficulties are augmented when a child has an emotional, behavioral or mental disorder. Not only are parents challenged to prepare their child for an increasingly technical job market, but also must help their child understand, cope with and overcome their disorder.

A group of dedicated parents, mental health professionals and mental health agencies all over the country work tireless hours to inform the public about disorders in children and provide information on services available. Because of their efforts, this year Children's Mental Health Week will be celebrated on a national level for the first time. During the week of May 5-11 the group's goal is to disseminate information to communities about the needs of these special children and their families. I urge my colleagues to become involved with Children's Mental Health Week.

Little is known about mental disorders. Even less is known about the mental disorders in children. Diagnosing disorders in children is more complex than diagnosing adults and is very difficult to understand. While treatment is focused on the children, support and guidance is also important for families who suffer from stress. Comprehensive effective services on a local level are essential to aid communities. Continued research on the effectiveness of programs should be supported.

Mental disorders do not discriminate on the basis of income, education, race, ethnic or religious groups. Disorders are found in children of single parents, two-parent families, adoptive and foster families. Some children are born with the disorder while biological, environmental, social and psychological factors cause disorders in other children. A mental disorder, which can strike anyone at any time, range from serious to minor and include attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, clinical depression, panic disorder and learning disabilities.

Public Law 102-321, the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration [ADAMHA] Reorganization Act, provides block grants to States to provide community mental health services for children. The 22 5-year grants are being used to implement community-based programs. Although data on the effectiveness and outcome of such support is not yet available, I urge my colleagues to continue to support the grant programs. I also urge my colleagues to recognize and commend these dedicated parents for their continued efforts to educate the public on emotional, behavioral, and mental disorders in children.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF CROATIAN CATHOLIC UNION OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Croatian Catholic Union of the United States of America and Canada [CCU] as it celebrates its 75th anniversary and legacy of accomplishment for Croatian-Americans. The celebration will begin this Saturday, May 4, during a luncheon at the Croatian Catholic Union home office in Hobart, IN. The celebration will continue on Sunday in Chicago, with a mass at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. The CCU is honored to have His Eminence Cardinal Franjo Kuharic, the archbishop of Zagerb, Croatia, and Msgr. Valdimir Stankovic, the director of pastoral care for Croatians aboard and director of Croatian Caritas, preside over the anniversary

celebration. In addition, Melchior Masina, the national president of the CCU, and Myrna Jurcev, the national secretary treasurer of the CCU, will be speaking. Both the residents of Indiana's First Congressional District.

The CCU is a fraternal benefit society incorporated in 1921 under the laws of the State of Indiana as a nonprofit organization. This organization provides life insurance and other benefits to its members and promotes religious, civic, charitable, educational, social, and cultural programs for the enrichment of its members. Furthermore, the CCU promotes the values of its members' Croatian Catholic heritage.

In 1970, through its religious programs, the CCU erected two Marian Chapels, which make up the Croatian Marian Shrine in the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. This Croatian Marian Shrine offers a place to worship and it serves as a symbol of Croatian-American contributions to the New World. Moreover, it unites all visiting Croatian-Americans in a strong bond of mutual solidarity and identity. Each year, the CCU organizes a national pilgrimage to the shrine.

While the CCU's programs are civic in nature, the CCU participates in all events sponsored by the National Fraternal Congress. For example, the CCU raised significant funds to restore the Statue of Liberty, and it also made donations to Habitat for Humanity. In fact, many charitable donations have been made throughout the CCU's history, especially at times of great disasters. The CCU has raised millions of dollars in cash donations, medical supplies, food, and clothing for the refugees and orphans in the Balkans.

According to the CCU, the purpose of the organization is service to God. The center of the CCU's mission is service to Croatian-American people. The core of their vision is service, solidarity and love for one another.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the Croatian Catholic Union of the United States and Canada during its 75th anniversary celebration. All the CCU's members should be commended for their dedication to preserving their culture, as well as assisting Croatian-Americans and others in times of need.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

HON. MIKE PARKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Speaker. In just a few hours, Americans across this great Nation will recognize one of the most important annual events for the future of our Nation—the National Day of Prayer.

Tomorrow, May 2, people of all ages, races and denominations will bow down to give thanks for the many blessings this Nation has received. And tomorrow, hundreds of thousands will offer up prayers for the healing of our Nation and for divine guidance for its elected leaders. As Members of Congress, no matter what our religious affiliation, we should be appreciative of the intercessory prayer being offered on our behalf.

I hope that each of my colleagues, in your own personal way, will observe the National Day of Prayer—a tradition since Congress

passed a resolution in 1952—and will welcome the many visitors to our Nation's Capital who come to pray for you.

As always, I commend Wanda K. Wigley for making the Mississippi National Day of Prayer a priority in our State. God bless America, guard us and guide us, and give our Nation peace.

#### IN HONOR OF SAM GIBBONS

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to our distinguished colleague, Mr. GIBBONS. The unwavering determination and fighting spirit of this war hero and political hero will be sorely missed when he leaves this body.

Appointed to the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee in the 103d Congress, his tenure was much too brief. Congressman GIBBONS currently serves as the ranking Democratic Member.

First elected to Congress in 1962, which makes him a Member of this House for more than three decades, Mr. GIBBONS is never far from the action—in fact, we usually can find him right in the middle of it. This Congress he has been a noted and passionate defender of Medicare and Medicaid, school lunches and a welfare system that creates long-term solutions to the cycle of poverty.

The Member from Tampa has a long history of shepherding domestic programs through the House. In the 1960's, President Johnson entrusted SAM to manage on the floor much of his Great Society Program, which included the very successful Head Start and Job Corps Programs.

Congressman GIBBONS has served his country for all of his adult life, beginning with his valiant service in World War II, when he parachuted into France the night before the Normandy invasion and received a Bronze Star for his heroic efforts.

Congressman GIBBONS's contributions to this House are legion. We will miss particularly his spirit, his tenacity, his humor, and his commitment to improving our country. I join with all of my colleagues in wishing our friend well as he moves on to his next challenge.

#### INJURED FEDERAL WORKERS

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I have recently introduced three bills, along with my colleague from Washington, Representative JENNIFER DUNN. These bills, H.R. 3203, H.R. 3204, and H.R. 3205, would, if enacted, make only minor changes to our labor law, yet will provide major changes in the quality of the lives of many who serve this Nation as employees of the Federal Government. These bills not only continue this Congress' effort to force the Federal Government to conform to the laws that apply to all other citizens in this great country, but also bring additional accountability to one

of our Government's largest Federal bureaucracies, the Department of Labor.

Mr. Speaker, of all the worker's compensation programs nationwide, only the Federal Government's does not allow for judicial review of cases to insure fair and equitable access and redress. Although proposals have been introduced in the past to address this question, the opportunity for success in this endeavor has never been greater. The culture of Congress has changed, and with this change, there is a newfound persistence in finding innovative solutions to vexing problems which previously were more easily buried or ignored.

H.R. 3205 not only provides a more equitable review process, but also provides reasonable time limitations in their deliberation. This bill expedites the initial decision process, eliminates the practice of redundant second opinions without legitimate legal or medical provocation, and provides the opportunity for claimants to have their own physician or representative present during the examinations. These provisions will significantly reduce the size of the quiet second opinions cottage industry that has developed in the wake of cases lasting up to 10 years, ruining the lives of the injured employees, and costing the Federal Government hundreds of millions of dollars.

Additionally, H.R. 3205 requires the Secretary of Labor to fix physician fees at a level comparable to the limits placed on fees charged by the claimants own physicians. By equalizing compensation levels and structures, Federal workers can be assured that they are getting a fair hearing with honorable medical representation.

Finally, H.R. 3205 requires the Secretary of Labor to provide reemployment and vocational skill training to injured workers to quickly return the injured employee to the workplace. Federal employees are valuable assets to the Federal Government, with millions of dollars spent every year in training. It makes little sense to waste the capabilities of these workers developed over years of experiences in the Federal workplace by forcing them to sit on the sideline, and in many cases, extract millions more from the Federal Government through disability and other compensation.

H.R. 3203 and H.R. 3204 are bills with similar purposes, to streamline and expedite the workers compensation policies of the Federal Government to provide fair and equitable access for all workers. Specifically, H.R. 3203 would require that in cases requiring a second opinion, that physician will be selected on an impartial basis. H.R. 3204 would require that physicians selected to provide medical opinions be board certified in the medical specialty which is being called into question. Mr. Speaker, you would be surprised to learn that despite repeated attempts by my office to have the agency in question voluntarily modify this practice, my constituents continue to be diagnosed by physicians with no certification to diagnose injuries of the nature in dispute.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, these bills are commonsense solutions to very specific problems. They are not legitimately controversial, and will truly make a legitimate difference in the lives of the hard-working Federal employees who provide valuable and necessary Government services. Besides the relatively mundane Federal workers that staff our bureaucracies, these unsung heroes also include the

valiant members of Border Patrol agents, Federal Firefighters, U.S. Marshals, Drug Enforcement Agents, and the Secret Service who put their lives and bodies in harm's way every day.

Representative DUNN and I are committed to expediting the journey of these bills to the floor of the House of Representatives, and I urge the committee of jurisdiction to examine these issues in the context of this year's hearings, and move forward as quickly as possible.

#### HOOSIER BUSINESS GROWTH

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 24, 1996, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

#### HOOSIER BUSINESS GROWTH

When politicians and the media talk about the economy, they tend to focus on the big, negative stories. Everyone has heard about how major corporations like IBM and AT&T are laying off workers in an attempt to downsize and become more competitive. Hoosiers have not been immune to such news. Recently Colgate in Clarksville and Randall Textron in Switzerland County, among others, have announced layoff plans. News like that causes all workers to feel anxious about their job security and the future. Hoosiers, however, should take some comfort that the Indiana economy has improved and is generating thousands of new jobs.

#### CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

In recent years the unemployment rate in Indiana has been consistently lower than the national average, and the earnings of Hoosier workers have grown faster than in the rest of the country. At the end of 1995, the unemployment rate in the state was 4.6%, compared to 5.6% nationally. Economists tell us that the Indiana economy is operating at near full capacity, inflation is in check, and interest rates are low. In 1995, more than 50,000 net jobs were created in Indiana, and Hoosiers' real earnings grew by 3.4%, well ahead of the national average of 2.1%. Leading the way in job and earnings growth was the manufacturing sector, with a 7% increase in employment and a 6.6% increase in earnings.

The performance of the economy in the 96th District mirrors that of the state as a whole. The manufacturing sector is the single largest employer in our part of the state, and other important sectors are retail trade, services, construction, and agriculture. The I-65 corridor from Columbus to the Ohio River is one of the fastest growing areas in the state. Small businesses, in particular, are playing a major role in the expansion and diversification of southern Indiana's economy. Indeed, small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy as a whole, responsible for generating the majority of all new jobs. There are almost 6 million small businesses in the U.S. today, employing more than 92 million workers. In Indiana alone, 129,000 small businesses employ more than 2.1 million Hoosiers.

#### EXPANDING BUSINESSES

Helping the economy of the 9th District has been one of my priorities, and I want to share with you a few of the stories I have heard recently about companies that are doing well, expanding, and creating jobs in the region.

Companies involved in the auto industry have been particularly successful in creating jobs. In Perry County a company that makes castings for auto and machine parts, as well as engine supports, recently invested \$60 million in a 200,000 sq. ft. facility, creating 220 new jobs. In Switzerland County a company is expanding its manufacturing facility to make a brake system component for General Motors, creating up to 100 new jobs. In Jefferson County a company that makes die castings for the auto industry recently invested \$14 million to expand its operation, creating 100 new jobs. In Clark County a Houston-based company announced plans to build a \$12.5 million plant at the Clark Maritime Centre that will produce thermal plastic resins for the auto and appliance manufacturing industries, creating 72 new jobs. At the Northern Industrial Park in Scottsburg a new company will produce plastic-injection components for the auto, appliance, and electronics industries and will create 60 new jobs over 3 years.

Manufacturing companies other than those involved in the auto industry are also doing well. In Jeffersonville the country's largest inland shipbuilder recently received its biggest order since World War II. The ships are to be built between now and 1999, and at least 250 new jobs will be created to fill the order. In Perry County a furniture manufacturer recently increased its plant capacity, creating 60 new jobs. In Ripley County another furniture maker specializing in entertainment centers plans to expand production and create 45 new jobs by June.

It is not just manufacturing companies that are succeeding in the 9th District. In Jeffersonville a trucking company is investing \$17.5 million to enlarge its truck fleet and real estate holding and to update its terminal. It will purchase 285 new trucks and add 200-300 new jobs. In Jennings County a Texas-based company is constructing a \$35 million indoor shrimp-breeding facility, creating 40 new jobs once it is fully operational. In Floyd County an operator of consumer merchandise rent-to-own stores reported record results in 1995, with revenues up 35% over 1994.

Some large corporations are also playing a positive role in the region. For example, Toyota recently announced its plans to build a new \$700 million truck assembly plant in Gibson County, which will create hundreds of well-paying jobs throughout southern Indiana. Hyatt is building a 118,000 sq. ft. entertainment pavilion and 200 room hotel along the river in Ohio County. That project should create about 3,000 new jobs. Similar entertainment projects are underway in other counties.

#### HELPING BUSINESS GROWTH

Local business and community leaders certainly take the lead in boosting job growth, but there are several ways the federal government can help.

Because small businesses are the engine of growth, we have to find ways to help make them be more competitive. One step is to make sure that affordable financing is available to them, through the private sector and the Small Business Administration. In addition, we must continue to reduce the federal budget deficit. We have cut the deficit in half in the last four years, and bringing it down further will help keep interest rates low and make it less expensive for businesses to borrow. We also have to continue reducing unnecessary, burdensome regulations that impose unreasonable costs on small businesses, and we should reform the tax code so it encourages greater investment and savings.

At the same time, we need to increase the quality of the workforce by investing in the

education and skills training necessary to make Hoosiers competitive in today's economy. Finally, we should invest in affordable housing and in improving the local infrastructure, particularly roads, bridges, local airports, and water systems. A strong infrastructure helps to attract and maintain jobs in Hoosier communities.

#### CONCLUSION

There is no higher priority for me than helping to expand job growth and opportunity in southern Indiana. I am immensely pleased with the progress recently made. Working together, there is a lot we can do to ensure that the local economy remains healthy for years to come.

#### DAWNING OF A NEW ERA

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there is a great appreciation in our country for hard work and diligence. Those who exhibit those characteristics are usually held in the highest regard. Not everyone achieves the recognition of hard work and diligence on their own. Rather, they earn it through a combination of their own efforts with the willingness of others to provide meaningful opportunities.

The Opportunities Industrialization Center of Metropolitan Saginaw has for the past 26 years scrupulously followed its philosophy of "helping people to help themselves." Thanks to the hard work of Rev. Roosevelt Austin, S., and Martin H. Stark, in cooperation with local businesses like General Motors, Dow Chemical, and Dow Corning, more than 10,000 young men and women have been given a renewed opportunity to show that they can be successful members of society, an inspiration to their communities, and find a new sense of self-worth.

This weekend, OIC of Metropolitan Saginaw will be celebrating the grand opening of its new facility, boasting 14 classrooms including a science lab, a day care center, dining facilities, a 250 seat auditorium, a library, and other impressive resources. It is a true tribute to Frederick D. Ford, who took over as executive director of OIC of Metropolitan Saginaw, 22 years ago, and created the vision of a state of the art building that would provide the combination of resources needed for a successful job training and development program.

This building and OIC shows what can happen when visionary individuals have the opportunity to combine public support, garnered by building fund campaign chairman Henry G. Marsh, with that of State and Federal Government assistance to create the kind of program for which we have even a greater need. Money from the Job Training Partnership Act and the Department of Housing and Urban Development leveraged private donations to create this magnificent facility. People are eagerly looking forward to this new building which will continue the impressive record of accomplishment earned by OIC of Metropolitan Saginaw.

People of all ages will benefit from this facility that will be able to provide them with the best possible training using the most modern techniques and equipment. The high national rankings earned by OIC of Metropolitan Sagi-

naw will continue to pour in, I am sure, as those who support OIC set their sights on even newer challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me and OIC national founder Rev. Leon Sullivan in wishing the OIC of Metropolitan Saginaw every success for its future, and congratulations on its most recent accomplishment.

#### 19 MEMBERS OF CROATIAN FRATERNAL LODGE CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 19 outstanding individuals who are celebrating 50 years of membership in the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge 170. The festivities will begin this Sunday, May 5, with a mass at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Gary, IN, followed by a banquet at Lodge 170 in Merrillville, IN. The esteemed guest speaker at this celebratory event will be the Hon. John Buncich, Sheriff of Lake County, IN.

At this time, I would like to recognize the following members who be will honored on Sunday for their 50 years of membership in the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge 170: Rosemary Adams, Bryan Magdaline; John V. Chelich; Alvin Eugene Erbesti; Lillian Gorski; Andy Horvatch; Pauline Jocha; Mary Klen; Francis Medved; Jennie Miller; Anna Mordi; Rosemary Petrovich; John Pitula; Shirley Pollizatto; Robert Razumich; Anne Wagner; Catherine Yavor; Catherine Zitz; and Christine Zivcic. These 19 members of Lodge 170 have lived up to the highest ideals of their solidarity with the people of Croatia and service to the Croatian-American population.

I would also like to recognize Ms. Elizabeth Morgavan, who has served as president of Lodge 170 for over 10 years. As an honorary lifetime member, she has dedicated her efforts to all facets of the Croatian Fraternal Union. In 1992, Elizabeth was named "Woman of the Year" by her peers at Lodge 170 for the countless hours she has dedicated to various projects and programs within the Lodge and the Croatian-American community.

Over the years, it has been my privilege and honor to work with the membership of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge 170. They have, in no uncertain terms, played a key role in promoting fraternal and cultural activity among the Croatian-American population of northwest Indiana. Lodge 170, the largest Croatian Fraternal Union lodge in the United States, has provided its many members with opportunities to share their ethnic heritage with their fellow countrymen. More importantly, Lodge 170 has provided social assistance and insurance benefits for its members, as well as other Croatian-Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other colleagues to join me in commending the dedication and longevity of all those who have served for 50 years as members of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge 170.

STATE OCCUPANCY STANDARDS  
AFFIRMATION ACT OF 1996

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill, the "State Occupancy Standards Affirmation Act of 1996" to assert the rights of States in establishing occupancy standards for housing providers. Currently, there is no Federal law to establish the number of people permitted to live in a housing unit. It is imperative that we ensure that States retain the right to set reasonable occupancy standards; my bill does just this.

There is a national consensus that the appropriate level for most apartment properties is two-people-per-bedroom. Most States have adopted a two-per-bedroom policy, and HUD's own guidelines state that this is an appropriate level to maintain public housing and section 8 housing. Beyond this level, the negative effects of overcrowding can be triggered, including decreasing the stock of affordable housing.

However, HUD's Fair Housing Office has initiated legal actions over the past 3 years. And then last July, HUD issued a memorandum, without any consultation, that would pressure housing providers to rent to substantially more than two-per-bedroom or be potentially subject to lawsuits charging discrimination against families.

All types of housing providers, including managers of seniors housing and public housing, were dismayed with HUD's proposal. If this change were permitted to stand, it would adversely impact all involved in housing, from tenants who could be crowded into inadequate housing, to housing providers who would have to provide services for more residents than they may be equipped for, and whose property would deteriorate.

In the fiscal year 1996 VA/HUD appropriations bill, Congress disallowed HUD from implementing its July memorandum. But we need to go one step further.

The bill I am introducing is a simple clarification of existing law and practice. It says that States, not HUD, will set occupancy standards and that a two-per-bedroom standard is reasonable in the absence of a State law. American taxpayers have spent billions of dollars on HUD programs designed to reduce crowding. It is time to ensure that overcrowding will not be a possibility.

## CONCERNING ACID RAIN

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, important new long-term research shows that acid rain negatively impacts soil chemistry, which in turn has a deleterious effect on our Nation's forests. This ground-breaking study was conducted by Dr. Gene E. Likens, the director of the Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, NY. Dr. Likens' findings were recently published in the respected professional journal, *Science*. Dr. Likens' work continues to provide and sustain the policymaking process. As an elected official, I am grateful for his positive efforts.

Whereas earlier research has suggested a link between acid rain and harmful impacts on deciduous forests, the Likens study provides more conclusive evidence of the damage caused by acid rain.

On Monday, April 22, we celebrated the 26th Earth Day. Let me remind my colleagues that every day is Earth Day for those of us who are entrusted by the American people to protect and conserve our Nation's natural resources. We must be responsible stewards of the environment and we have an obligation to use the best possible science and insights available to us when making critical decisions affecting America's natural treasures. Dr. Likens' study provides important new information concerning pollution and forests. I am including a New York Times article about the Likens study for the RECORD. I hope my colleagues will take a few minutes to read this important article on the topic of acid rain:

[From the New York Times, Apr. 16, 1996]

THE FOREST THAT STOPPED GROWING: TRAIL  
IS TRACED TO ACID RAIN

(By William K. Stevens)

In the first long-term study of its kind, researchers have found that a New England forest whose soil chemistry has been altered by acid rain essentially stopped growing nearly a decade ago and will probably be a long time in recovering.

The impact of acid rain on American forests has been a contentious subject. A 10-year Federal assessment of the problem concluded in 1990 that with some exceptions, there was no clear evidence linking acid precipitation to any important harmful effect on forests. Many scientists objected, arguing that the impact of changes in soil chemistry was not yet clear but that those changes would probably be damaging in the long term.

Now investigators have examined more than three decades of data from the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and discovered that increased acidity has deprived the soil of alkaline chemicals, mainly calcium, that are essential for plant growth. At the same time, they found that the annual rate of accumulation of forest biomass—its total plant material—dropped to nearly zero in 1987 and has remained there. Finally, they discovered that the soil was recovering its calcium and other alkaline chemicals very slowly because precipitation contains about 80 percent less of them than it is estimated to have contained in 1950.

The alkaline chemicals, or cations (pronounced CAT-ions), are leached from the soil by acid precipitation and carried away by streams. The precipitation contains sulfuric acid and nitric acid, produced by the burning of coal, oil and gasoline. A major source of these chemicals raining down on the Northeast has been the sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emitted by Midwestern power plants and borne eastward by prevailing winds; they form sulfuric acid and nitric acid when they mix with water.

Congress amended the Clean Air Act in 1990 in an effort to cut the emission of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides in half by 2000. But the findings from the Hubbard Brook forest suggest that this will not be enough if forests are to recover any time soon, said Dr. Gene E. Likens, the leader of the study.

Dr. Likens, an ecologist, is the director of the Institute of Ecosystem studies at Millbrook, N.Y., a nonprofit research and educational institution formerly associated with the New York Botanical Garden. The institute has been collecting a wide range of data since 1963 on the functioning of the

Hubbard Brook forest, a 7,500-acre tract owned by the United States Forest Service. It is one of only a few ecological research projects looking at ecosystem behavior over the long term, and it is probably the only one to come up with decades-long detailed measurements on the effects of acid rain on American forests.

The report of the new findings appears in the current issue of the journal *Science*. It was prepared by Dr. Likens, Dr. Charles T. Driscoll of Syracuse University and Donald C. Buso of the Millbrook institution.

"It's just a landmark paper," said Dr. David Schindler, a prominent acid-rain researcher at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. "Hubbard Brook has the only data set that's thorough enough and long enough to show this happening."

Until now, Dr. Schindler said, the idea that acid rain is harming deciduous forests has amounted to a "robust" hypothesis. The Hubbard Brook results are "the clincher," he said, adding: "I think there's concern for the whole northeastern United States and eastern Canada that this is occurring."

Some other researchers were more cautious. "The large majority of forests in the eastern U.S. seem to be growing quite well," said Dr. Jay S. Jacobson, a plant physiologist at the Boyce Thompson Institute at Cornell University. While the Hubbard Brook results are suggestive, he said, other factors should be considered before reaching a firm conclusion on the effects of acid rain. These include the effects on forests of climatic changes and possible changes in the deposition of nitrogen, a critical forest nutrient.

Assuming that forests are recovering slowly, Dr. Jacobson said, "are we as a nation willing to accept slower growth of forests in order to avoid placing additional controls on emissions of pollutants?"

In their paper, the Millbrook researchers stopped short of asserting a firm cause-and-effect relationship between the depletion of cations in the soil and the slowing of forest growth. Pinpointing the cause of the slow growth, they wrote, "should become a major area of research." Dr. Likens said, "If indeed the forests has become limited in its growth by the disappearance of these base cations—and I emphasize the 'if'—then that's a very serious implication of these results."

Dr. Likens compared the action of acid rain in depleting the soil of cations with that of stomach acid eroding an antacid tablet. In the case of the Hubbard Brook forest's soils, he said, "it's like half the antacid has been eroded away, and you've only got half of it left." The continuing deposition of acid is making the system even less able to neutralize it. "The system is now very sensitive," he said.

The observed effects on soil chemistry were unexpected, Dr. Likens said, and neither those effects nor other data based on long-term observations were reflected in the 10-year Federal study, the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program. The study found that acid rain generally causes significant ecological damage, but not so much as originally feared.

Among other things, the study concluded that acid rain was harming aquatic life in about 10 percent of Eastern lakes and streams, that it was reducing the ability of red spruce trees at high altitudes to withstand the stress caused by cold and that it was contributing to the decline of sugar maples in some areas of eastern Canada. While forests otherwise appeared healthy, the study said, they could decline in future decades because of nutrient deficiencies brought on by acid rain.

BEN GILMAN: A REAL FRIEND OF  
THE IRISH

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I commend to our colleagues an article written by Father Sean McManus, the president of the Irish National Caucus, that appeared in the Irish Echo on April 3, 1996, about our colleague, Chairman BEN GILMAN of New York.

This article describes the efforts of the Republican Congress to fight for fairness and peace in Ireland, and the great leadership of BEN GILMAN on these issues.

BEN GILMAN is proving that Republicans in the Congress do fight for justice around the world, especially in Ireland. I applaud him for his leadership, and I urge my colleagues to read the following article:

MY IRISH HERO IS A JEWISH CONGRESSMAN

(By Fr. Sean McManus)

I don't think that Irish Americans are sufficiently aware of the extraordinary revolution that has taken place in the U.S. Congress regarding Irish affairs.

For over 20 years the Irish National Caucus had campaigned for Congressional Hearings on Northern Ireland. But famous Irish-Catholic speakers of the house—with names like O'Neill and Foley—steadfastly blocked all hearings. They didn't want to offend Her Majesty's government:

"An ad hoc Irish committee of 119 members has been formed in Congress. But the committee's attempts to publicize the outrages being committed in Northern Ireland, along with the efforts of the Irish National Caucus, have been blocked by House Speaker Tip O'Neill and other congressional leaders (Jack Anderson, "Carter Pressured on Northern Ireland," Detroit Free Press, Oct. 29, 1978.

When the MacBride Principles were launched in 1984 we had an even more legitimate reason for hearings because U.S. dollars were subsidizing anti-Catholic discrimination in Northern Ireland, where Catholics are twice likely to be unemployed as Protestants. But again—and now under speaker Tom Foley—hearings or legislative action were blocked. Furthermore, the then-chairman of House Foreign Affairs (now called International Relations Committee, Rep. Lee Hamilton, the Indiana Democrat, kept telling me there was no interest in the MacBride Principles among members of the Committee.

This was a deeply distressing experience. We knew we had a perfectly valid case for a hearing, yet it was being unfairly and undemocratically blocked in the interest of the English government (with the connivance of the then Dublin Government).

Yet oddly enough, some Irish Americans thought that when the Republicans seized control of both House and Senate in 1995, the Irish cause would suffer. But not this Fermanagh man. The first thing the Republican takeover meant to me was that our very best ally, Rep. Ben Gilman of New York would become chairman of the House International Relations Committee.

Ireland has never had a more dedicated, consistent, or genuine friend than Ben Gilman.

As far back as July 1979, Rep. Gilman, then a member of both the Committee of Foreign Relations and the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, commissioned Rita Mullin, executive director of

the Irish National Caucus, to conduct an investigation of the hiring practices of U.S. companies doing business in Northern Ireland. This was the first-ever American study of those companies and it marked the genesis of the MacBride Principles.

Rep. Gilman has been a champion of every Irish issue: the Birmingham Six, the Guilford Four, the right of political prisoners etc. He has been absolutely fearless on the Irish issue, never allowing the State Department or any foreign government to silence him.

One of the first things Chairman Gilman did early on in the 104th Congress was to hold hearings, the first on Northern Ireland since 1972. Then, despite heavy lobbying and pressure, he attached the MacBride Principles to the International Fund for Ireland. The House International Relations Committee, after spirited debate, voted on the issue on May 15, 1995. There are 41 Members of the Committee. Thirty-two voted for MacBride Principles, only 8 voted against. And yet for all those years I had to listen to Lee Hamilton tell me there was no interest in the Committee on MacBride.

The MacBride legislation is part of the American Overseas Interest-Act, H.R. 1561. The legislation has now been passed twice by the House of Representatives. It has also been endorsed by the House and Senate Conference. And the entire Republican Leadership—from Sen. Jesse Helms—are all on record of supporting the MacBride Principles, while the State Department opposes these efforts.

What an extraordinary political realignment. None of which could have happened without Ben Gilman's leadership.

For years I have been preaching the message: "Human Rights for Ireland is an American issue—not just an Irish-American issue." And I deeply believe that. Nonetheless, I am still deeply touched when someone who is not Irish stands up for Ireland. And there are many in the Congress who do: African-Americans, Italians, Polish, Jewish, etc.

Rep. Gilman is Jewish American. Isn't it extraordinary that it took a Jewish American to move the Irish agenda to the very top of the U.S. Congress? Isn't it truly amazing that while some powerful Irish Americans in Congress were too scared to take a stand, this quiet, unassuming man has emerged as Ireland's best friend in the U.S. Congress.

Every Irish-American worth his or her salt must stand up and cheer Ben Gilman. He is my Irish Hero.

I should end by explaining that the Irish National Caucus is nonpartisan: neither Democrat nor Republican. So I do not want readers to think this is a pro-Republican article. It is not. In fact, I've personally never voted Republican in my life. But then, I've never lived in Ben Gilman's district.

#### TRIBUTE TO DICK HOAK

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, when I think of the past 35 years of the Pittsburgh Steelers organization, certain memories come to mind. The rough and tumble Steelers of the early sixties with Bobby Layne and John Henry Johnson; the glory years of the seventies when the Steelers won an unprecedented four Super Bowls coached by Chuck Noll and under the leadership of Terry Bradshaw, Mean Joe Greene, Jack Lambert, Franco Harris, and

other stars too numerous to mention; and finally the current Steelers, the reigning AFC champions. All these memories have one constant. That constant is Dick Hoak.

As we honor Dick Hoak this evening, we remember the enormous contribution he has given to the Steelers as both player and coach. When Dick graduated from Penn State in 1961, he was drafted by the Steelers in the seventh round. During his 9 years as a player, Dick led the Steelers in rushing for 3 years and also was named to the Pro Bowl in 1969. Dick is the fourth highest leading rusher in Steelers' history.

Dick also has made a profound impact as a Steelers' coach. For the past 24 years, Dick has been in charge of the offensive backfield and most recently has exclusively coached the running backs. Under Hoak's guidance, the Steelers have produced such notable running backs as Franco Harris, Rocky Bleier, Frank Pollard, Earnest Jackson, and more recently Barry Foster and Bam Morris. Dick has the distinction of being the longest-tenured coach in Steelers' history.

I am honored to present Dick with this letter of commendation. The city of Jeanette is truly blessed to call Dick one of its own.

#### A VISION OF VALUES

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, all too often people dwell upon the failings of our society, and ignore the true accomplishments of many devoted Americans. Nowhere is this more evident than in the case of talking about the misfortunes of those who either lose their jobs or simply fail to find one all together. I want our colleagues to know about a man who believes that success breeds success, and who for more than 30 years has worked to have that success serve as the foundation for even more success. I am talking about Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, the founder of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, Inc.

There are many people in our society who need retraining to gain improved skills to find new jobs, and others who need basic training to find meaningful jobs. Since 1964, Reverend Sullivan has worked to provide comprehensive employment training and placement for disadvantaged, unemployed, and unskilled Americans. Many of us recognize the symbol, OIC, and have seen it in our congressional districts. I am sure, however, that not many fully appreciate the effort and devotion demonstrated by Reverend Sullivan over these years.

The first OIC was founded in an abandoned Philadelphia jailhouse. It expanded to more than 70 centers around the country, and 28 centers overseas. In its more than 30 years of operation, OIC has trained and provided assistance to more than 1.5 million people.

Particularly at times like these when we are looking for private solutions to significant national problems like unemployment, Opportunities Industrialization Centers are more important than ever before. Growing from his ministry at the Zion Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Reverend Sullivan established a day care center, a credit union, an employment agency, a community center for youth and

adults, adult education reading classes, athletic teams, choral groups, and family counseling services. This wonderful range of programs that became OIC goes to the heart of recognizing that the true solution to any difficulty lies within each of us personally as we take greater responsibility for solving the problems life presents to us, while taking the fullest advantage of the opportunities the same life presents to us.

Rev. Leon Sullivan has been rightly honored before for his work, having won more than 100 national and international awards, as well as the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His position on the boards of numerous corporations gives him a unique opportunity to see the kind of workers that successful businesses need so that OIC can train the best possible candidates.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of the OIC of Metropolitan Saginaw greet Reverend Sullivan at the dedication of their new facility, I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in thanking this great man for bringing hope and opportunity to the many that OIC has touched, and pledging to work with him and his associates to restore the American dream for those who are still waiting.

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COMMEMORATING A 25TH ANNI-  
VERSARY—AND CREATING A  
NEW OSHA

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 25th anniversary of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act [OSH Act] and the agency it helped to create, OSHA. Throughout the week events will commemorate not only the anniversary of OSHA, but highlight the importance of workplace safety. It is certainly appropriate and important for employers, employees, and public officials to be reminded of the importance of workplace safety—and of the cost to lives, families, and businesses when safety is not emphasized and accidents occur.

The 25th anniversary of the OSH Act is being used by some people for something else as well: to criticize Republicans who have been critical of OSHA.

Indeed, many of us in Congress have been critical of OSHA. We've claimed that it has too often been overreaching and lacking in common sense in its regulations, and adversarial and punitive in its enforcement. And we've said that it has not been cost effective in promoting worker safety and health.

The Clinton administration has agreed with many of our criticisms of OSHA. For example, just 1 year ago, President Clinton, speaking at a small business in Washington, DC, called for creation of "a new OSHA," an OSHA that puts emphasis on "prevention, not punishment" and uses "commonsense and market incentives to save lives." Vice President GORE was even more direct when he spoke to the White House Conference on Small Business last year: "I know that OSHA has been the subject of more small business complaints than any other agency. And I know that it is not because you don't care about keeping your workers safe. It is because the rules are too

rigid and the inspections are often adversarial."

And in criticizing OSHA we've said nothing more than OSHA's record surely shows. Stories abound of OSHA's enforcement of rules that have little or nothing to do with workers' safety. We've sometimes been accused of fabricating stories about OSHA, but in each case not only has the example been true, but OSHA has then tried to quietly undo the fabricated regulation. Last year the owner of a small bakery near Chicago told the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections about her OSHA inspection, in which she was fined for not having the required documents on the health hazards associated with laundry detergent used to clean hands and aprons in the bakery. The head of OSHA publicly denied that there was any such requirement, and then quietly sent out new instructions to OSHA inspectors to "go easy" on issuing citations for such common household items. Similarly, Labor Secretary Reich assured at least two congressional committees that OSHA had no regulation banning gum chewing by workers doing roofing work: "pure fiction" he said. Then a few weeks later his own Department of Labor issued a report highlighting the same gum-chewing regulation as one that should be deleted from OSHA's books. I'll assume that when he testified before Congress the Secretary just did not know OSHA's 3,000 pages of rules in sufficient detail. But if he were a roofing contractor, rather than the Secretary of Labor, his ignorance of OSHA's rules would be no excuse, and he could be cited and fined if one of his employees violated the gum chewing ban.

Are such examples of silly and unproductive regulations and enforcement just aberrations? Hardly. Despite spending over \$5 billion in taxpayer money over the past 25 years, there is little evidence that OSHA has made a significant difference to workers' health and safety. Example after example and study after study show that OSHA's focus on finding violations, no matter how minor and insignificant, has actually made OSHA ineffective in improving safety and health in the workplace. Why is that? One important reason appears to be that when the focus is on issuing penalties rather than fixing problems, there is much less attention paid to fixing problems. One study showed that the time required of OSHA to document citations increased an average inspection by at least 30 hours, thus greatly decreasing the number of workplaces OSHA could inspect. Penalties are sometimes necessary to compel irresponsible employers to address health and safety for their workers. But as the Clinton administration itself has said, inspections and penalties have not produced safety. OSHA must find new ways of operating.

The apparent agreement between the Clinton administration and those of us in Congress who support reform of OSHA marked a significant convergence of views. The 25 year history of OSHA has been marked by sharp partisan and philosophical differences over the value and direction of OSHA. So the unusual agreement in analysis and prescription for improving OSHA between the Clinton administration and Congress presented an unusual opportunity to use the 25th anniversary of OSHA to make meaningful changes.

Now the Clinton administration seems to be walking away from its own analysis and initia-

tives. Recently, with bipartisan cosponsorship, I introduced the Small Business OSHA Relief Act, which would enact several of the specific changes already proposed or endorsed by the Clinton administration for OSHA. We even borrowed the Clinton administration's language, so that there would be no dispute that these are initiatives to which they have already agreed.

Organized labor, which has opposed the Clinton administration's "reinvention" of OSHA all along, is also opposing the legislation, and their influence on the Clinton administration has never been stronger than it is in this election year. So the President must choose: did he really mean what he said about "a new OSHA," or will he stop meaningful change to OSHA, change which he has already said is needed, to appease his union supporters?

The 25th anniversary of OSHA is a timely opportunity to look back but also to look ahead. The President and Congress have an opportunity to enact needed reforms that will make OSHA more fair and more effective. Last May, speaking about OSHA, the President said, "Let's change this thing. Let's make it work. Let's lift unnecessary burdens and keep making sure we're committed to the health and welfare of the American workers so that we can do right and do well." If the President stands by his own words, we can in fact begin to create a "new OSHA" for the next 25 years.

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BAY AREA URBAN LEAGUE CELE-  
BRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE  
FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC  
EQUALITY

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 21st century, our Nation faces important issues of priority for the betterment of our citizens. We need not reinvent the wheel. We need only to look at our local communities for the richness and wealth of experiences to achieve social and economic equality.

The Bay Area Urban League [BAUL], 1 of 144 affiliates of the National Urban League and founded in 1946, is a tremendous resource in the Ninth California Congressional District. It is a model of diversity, both in its members and the community it serves. BAUL is an interracial, nonprofit community service organization in the five Bay Area counties that helps African-Americans and minorities achieve equal opportunities in education and employment. It provides employment counseling, on-the-job training, sponsors job fairs, HIV-AIDS prevention projects, and runs the Oakland-Emiliano Zapata Street Academy for at-risk youth. BAUL's economic development program in low and moderate income communities advances economic development that promotes affordable housing and community and business lending as well as consumer education.

The five decades of outstanding and effective contribution to the community is equally marked with the recent appointment of Ms. Carole Watson, the first woman president in the Bay Area Urban League's history. Under her leadership and in her own words "BAUL is

needed today more than ever before. There are still a large number of African-Americans and people of color who are not getting access to all the opportunities of our technological world. We need to push for new activities that foster racial inclusion". This is the history and legacy of the Bay Area Urban League as it celebrates its 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD JAMES  
BALLARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great friend and community leader who passed away this week: Harold James Ballard.

Those of us in the educational community know that Harold always worked to make life better for everyone, especially our children. He lived the belief that activism was better than lipservice, progress better than the status quo.

In 1952, a young Harold Ballard decided to serve his country, joining the U.S. Army. He received the Army Occupation Medal while in Germany. For his service in Korea, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, and the United Nations Medal. Following his discharge from the Army in 1955, he served for 30 years in the Army Reserve.

Those of us who care about the students in San Diego have all benefited from his many years of service. Harold started working with schools when his children were in grammar school. His concern was not limited to his own four sons, he was involved in parent groups throughout San Diego for over 30 years. He was awarded a lifetime membership in the PTA for services rendered to students and parents.

Harold supported the Encanto Little League and was honored with the Silver Beaver Award for leadership in Boy Scouts. Any child could go to him for help.

Also known as Jimmy, he volunteered as a member of the district advisory council [DAC], the school site council/school advisory council. Over the years, he served as the DAC representative for Johnson Elementary, Crawford High School, and Gompers Secondary School. His service on the DAC was recognized by his selection as its chairman. His leadership was rewarded with the Citizen of the Year for 1994-95 Award by Phi Delta Kappa, and his nomination for the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award. I came to call him "Mr. Title I" for his commitment and service to our poorest and most disadvantaged students.

In this lifetime, we all come across a small number of special people, those who touch our minds, hearts, and souls with their activism, optimism, and dedication to making everyone's life richer. Harold was one of those chosen few. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Jean, and his family, friends, and the community. This world needs more people like Harold Ballard. He will be sorely missed.

SALUTATIONS TO A LOCAL HERO

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Coast Guard earlier this year presented its highest lifesaving honor, the Gold Lifesaving Medal, to Kenneth M. Bauer of Mentor, OH.

On the afternoon of June 21, 1995, Bauer was mowing the backyard of his father's home on Thunderbird Drive in Mentor-on-the-Lake when he heard cries for help coming from Lake Erie. He could see two men about 200 yards offshore, both struggling to retrieve an inflatable raft. With no thought to his own safety, Bauer grabbed two floatation devices and ventured into the 65-degree waters, battling the merciless, 5-foot Lake Erie waves.

I would like to think if we were faced with the same circumstances as Bauer—two men pleading for help in the choppy waters of Lake Erie, unable to reach their raft, we would react in the same manner and place the lives and safety of others above our own. However, I think we know that would not be the case. Some would react with cowardice, indifference, paralyzing fear or panic. Fortunately, Bauer did not.

He swam out into the lake, gave one of the personal floatation devices to the nearest victim, Tim Novak, and continued farther out to reach the second victim, Christopher Arhar. By the time Bauer reached Arhar, he had slipped under the water. Bauer didn't give up. Instead, he continued to dive under the waves until he reached Arhar, dragging him to the surface by his arm. For 15 minutes, without any floatation device of his own, Bauer held onto Arhar, keeping his head above water.

Tragically, a wave crashed down and Arhar was ripped from Bauer's grasp. Again, he searched for Arhar, but could not find him. Exhausted, Bauer returned to shore.

What Ken Bauer attempted to do that afternoon was not only heroic, but miraculous. One man, Novak, owes his life to Bauer. Another, Arhar, sadly lost his, withering in the icy grip of the lake that has claimed so many over the years.

Shortly after the heroic rescue, Bauer spoke to reporters about the last words he heard from Arhar before his struggle ended: "Please help me."

I would imagine Bauer has relived this scene in his mind countless times, and maybe even second-guessed himself. "Please help me" are words that would haunt anyone. However, this extraordinary man should know that he did all within his power to save these two men, far more than most would do. At that moment in life when Bauer faced a true gut-check, he showed a valiant, selfless side we all must admire.

Bauer possesses the proudest of legacies of what it means to be an American—about our absolute necessity to help others in times of dire crisis. He restores our faith that good deeds indeed happen. This is one that will not go unnoticed.

There are times in life when we need affirmation that ours is a Nation made up of compassionate, thoughtful people. Sometimes we need to be reminded that Americans do extraordinary deeds for others every day, not because they seek recognition, but because everyday life requires it.

What Ken Bauer did last June 21 was, by definition, an extraordinary deed. On behalf of the residents of the 19th District of Ohio, he deserves our highest praise and thanks.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
DEBATE TEAM

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the debate team at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, located in my congressional district. This team of outstanding young students has distinguished itself yet again by winning the National Championship Tournament of the National Cross-Examination Debate Association.

The contest was held March 29 through April 1, 1996, at California State University at Long Beach, with each of the teams arguing the benefits and detractions of the U.S. foreign policy in Mexico. For the first time in the championship's 11-year history, judges handed SIU the tournament victory after the final debate between SIU and Fort Hays University of Fort Hays, KS.

The SIU debate team has an excellent history in debate competitions, winning the national championship from 1986 to 1989. This year's victory shows the team's ability to put together a winning performance with a talented group of individuals.

Their championship victory is a testament to the outstanding scholarship and dedication by the SIU debate team. I want to congratulate the member of the SIU debate team, including Zachery J. Anderson; Sean M. Featherstun; Jason E. Griffith; Melissa D. Horn; Glenn P. Frappier; Matthew M. Moore; Zachary A. Sapienza; Bill M. Shinn; Joseph M. Vulgia; Jeremy J. West; and Wendy D. Woolery. I also want to congratulate Faculty Director Gregory D. Simerly, Assistant Coaches Stephen K. Hunt, Edwin D. Phillips and Yuri V. Kostun, as well as Dean John Jackson of the College of Liberal Arts. I ask my colleagues to join me in offering congratulations on a job well done in this prestigious academic competition.

KRISTINA WONG, CALIFORNIA WINNER OF SCRIPTWRITING CONTEST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kristina Wong, the California winner of the 1995-96 Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Contest. More than 116,000 students participated in the competition for 54 national scholarships. I am proud to include the text of her award-winning script in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

(By Kristina Wong)

"Hello . . . Oh, America! How are you! . . . Great. I'm sure you're still as generous as always . . . What's

that? . . . Sure. . . Of course I will. Of course! If you are kind enough to create such opportunities, I should be gracious enough to offer you what I can in return . . . No, no, no. . . Don't be silly, we depend on each other. Without you I couldn't be here . . . And you couldn't be where you are . . . Alright, thanks for calling. Bye."

That was America calling. She calls on me as she does all of us to take advantage of her innumerable opportunities. Now, more than ever, the chance for America to answer her call is marvelous. These opportunities are practically flung at America, so how could anyone resist-answering America's call?

America was founded over 200 years ago on the principle of life, liberty, and freedom, and she calls on us to take advantage of these principles. In regards to life, the chance is ours to live where we want, how we like, and with as much education as we would like to receive. Of course in doing this we must also respect other Americans' rights to live as they choose. We are offered excellent free public education. We are offered financial assistance when we stumble. The life America offers is unique from that of all other countries. Nowhere else in the world is there such a diversity of talent, culture, and experience.

We are granted liberty—the opportunity for us to live with rights not granted by other countries. We may speak freely as long as we do not take license which injures others in doing so. America welcomes refugees whether that are political prisoners, prisoners of war, or those who are oppressed by the economic shackles that have bound them in their native lands. In America, we can speak out to government about issues that concern us.

Along with liberty, we are granted freedom—freedom to exercise our rights to pursue the religion of our choice, to elect the candidate we support, and to assemble at will. We have the right to publish our ideas and share them with other Americans, no matter how orthodox or unorthodox they may be. We can also create groups to reform government or educate the community on the issues of concern.

It can clearly be seen that America's opportunities are hard to turn down! But America doesn't just call on us to take advantage of her bounty, she also asks us to help sustain her services by giving back to her something in return. By doing this we keep America in balance. Without contributions from America, she is incapable of fulfilling the promise of life, liberty, and freedom. She needs our help.

One way we help is through the financial contributions we make each April—those infamous taxes which fund the services America offers. Another way we contribute is in the form of direct service. Some of us are called to serve in the military to fight to defend America, while others of us are asked to serve in the community by volunteering our time and skills to assist those in need.

And America, most of all, requests the moral support of her citizens. We sing the National Anthem before sporting events to remember the efforts of those who defended our country. We also build national spirit by observing holidays such as Veterans Day, Independence Day, and Presidents Day. We display our national pride by hanging our American Flag as a symbol of unity and spirit.

I, too, have answered America's call. I have taken a citizen's role in government through my work canvassing for the Sierra Club on environmental protection issues. I have also served America by giving my time at a convalescent home where I assisted the elderly with their art activities. I have donated time at a local soup kitchen, serving meals to the homeless. I have further involved myself in working for the environment by being on my

school's Green Team, which collects recyclable in the school. My team's efforts enabled us to earn a can crusher this year to further our recycling activities. This work led me to volunteer at a local recycling center where I have spoken to the community about keeping open recycling centers which were scheduled to close.

America has kept her promise of life, liberty, and freedom. She gives us the right to voice our opinions on our government. She gives us the freedom to pursue our goals and to reach for excellence. She gives us the opportunity for education and success. She only asks that we answer her call by giving her our time, service, and talents in return. So, the next time America calls, don't hang up.

#### STRICT LIABILITY/RIGHTS OF WAY LEGISLATION

HON. WES COOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. COOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Rural Right-of-Way Fairness Act to make small but necessary adjustments to the way the Government manages right-of-ways [ROW] over Federal land. The provisions of the bill address situations involving right-of-way fees and liability standards affecting rural electric cooperatives and other ROW lessees.

These situations constitute examples of all too typical insensitivity on the part of Federal land regulators—particularly felt in the Western States where high percentages of Federal land ownership require rural citizens to depend on land management agencies to operate as good neighbors. Unfortunately, it appears that with regard to the management of right-of-ways for the transmission and distribution wires needed to bring electricity to the rural West, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have chosen, in some instances, to make life rough for the private citizens who live next door.

The first section of the bill deals with strict liability standards included in the contracts between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management and ROW lessees. The provisions of those contracts set out the responsibility of each party for things that may go wrong on a Federal right-of-way.

Unfortunately, from time to time, things do go wrong. It would seem to make common sense that the responsibility for picking up the pieces in those instances should lie with those shown to be at fault. However, common sense seems to play little part in the calculation. In fact, as a matter of being able to qualify for use of a Federal right-of-way, rural electric cooperatives and other lessees are currently forced to take responsibility for anything that may happen on those right-of-ways whether they were at fault or not.

The 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act provided the Federal agencies with the authority to impose strict liability for costs associated with hazards on Federal lands. Prior to 1976, agencies recovered costs associated with hazards, such as costs required to put out a fire, through normal negligence. The agencies use crossing permits, which are a grant of right-of-way for a certain period of time, as the method for imposing strict liability.

Strict liability means that costs associated with a hazard are recovered from the holder of the rights-of-way without regard to who is re-

sponsible for the hazard or whether or not any negligence was involved. Normal negligence requires that costs associated with a hazard are recovered from whomever is responsible for that hazard.

Mr. Speaker, let me illustrate how this works on the ground by telling a story involving Midstate Electric Cooperative located in LaPine, OR. As a matter of prudent maintenance practice, Midstate Electric trims or removes trees on right-of-ways that pose a risk of falling onto electric lines. On Federal ROW's, the cooperative consults with the appropriate land management agency—who has ultimate authority to approve such actions.

After having proposed the removal of a number of trees on a Forest Service ROW in 1984, Midstate was told by the agency that it could cut some down, but had to leave other specified trees standing. Of course the predictable happened—one of the trees that Midstate had proposed cutting, which the Forest Service had refused to allow removed, fell into a power line and started a fire. It cost over \$350,000 to put that fire out—a bill that was eventually forwarded to Midstate Electric. Knowing that the fire resulted from a management decision of the Forest Service, Midstate was forced to initiate court action to attempt to appropriately assign the financial liability of fighting the fire. It lost that action because of a ruling which interpreted ROW contracts as holding the co-op—and other ROW lessees—to a "strict" liability standard.

The legislation that I am introducing today removes that strict liability standard for a more commonsense one—returning to a normal negligence standard that is routinely used in private ROW contracts. In essence, the new standard will say: if you caused it, you are responsible for it. By enforcing any standard more rigid than that, the Federal Government is purposefully transferring costs to private citizens. The minimum impact of the current strict liability policy is higher electric rates for those rural communities unfortunate enough to live adjacent to public lands. The possibility exists, however, of even more punitive impacts in the form of the loss of insurance coverage for entities with Federal right-of-way liability.

Utilities, telecommunications providers, and others in the West find it impossible to avoid Federal lands in providing area coverage. In some cases, the Federal agencies are the users of the services that require crossing permits across Federal lands.

No other landowner in the United States has the power to impose strict liability for hazard costs for grants of rights-of-ways. The Federal Government can do it because it owns so much land in the West and has the power to pass laws and regulations. Normal negligence is seen as adequate protection for landowners and for holders of non-Federal rights-of-way in the United States. The Federal Government should live by that same standard.

The second section of my bill deals with ROW fees for rural electric and telephone cooperatives. In 1984, Congress passed and President Reagan signed PL 98-300, an act clarifying that rural electric and telephone utilities were to be exempted from Federal ROW fees. The legislation was put forward out of frustration that the Forest Service and BLM were not using existing authority granted to

them in 504(g) of Federal Land Protection and Management Act [FLPMA] to reduce or waive right-of-way fees for nonprofit organizations found to operate in the public's interest.

This congressional fix has not proved entirely successful. Unfortunately, as in the case with the strict liability issue, the example is a utility located in my district.

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative [OTEC] of Baker City, OR, has the distinction of being the newest formed rural electric cooperative in the United States. It was created by private citizens who formed a cooperative to buy out the facilities of an investor-owned utility which had found that serving rugged, rural territory is not a profitable venture. The buyout served to ensure continued electric service for the citizens of that part of Oregon and, significantly, was achieved without relying on government financing.

It is this last fact that is at the root of the issue. Instead of being rewarded for avoiding the use of government financing, the Forest Service has sought to penalize OTEC. The vehicle they are using is the language included in PL 98-300 which describes fee exempted cooperatives as "financed pursuant to The Rural Electrification Act of 1936." What had been a convenient way to describe cooperatives in 1984—because 100 percent were REA-financed—no longer holds true. Despite the obvious congressional intent in PL 98-300 of exempting all cooperatives; despite the numerous attempts to get the agency to utilize other administrative authorities; the Forest Service is now charging OTEC full ROW fees. Ironically, one of the ROW's is used to serve a Forest Service Office.

As an example of the attempts to reason with the Forest Service, I ask unanimous consent that a letter to the Forest Service from the Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative on OTEC's behalf be inserted in the RECORD after my statement.

The language of my bill is simple and straightforward. It would change FLPMA to exempt from ROW fees those electric and telephone utilities that are eligible for rural utility service financing rather than those utilizing it. In this era of budget consciousness, the last thing we need is to continue a monetary incentive to perpetuate reliance on government funding. We should be congratulating the OTEC's of the world rather than burdening them with ROW fees that other, government-financed, co-ops are exempted from.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, my bill attempts to correct yet two more examples of the Federal bureaucracy run amok. I believe that the Forest Service and BLM already have the administrative authority to solve the problems that I have identified. Unfortunately, they have refused to do so. Rural citizens who want nothing more than to have access to reasonably priced electric and telephone service have to appeal to the jurisdiction of last resort—Congress.

It is my hope that the Resources Committee will take up this legislation, whether as a free-standing measure or as an amendment to another bill. As public servants who understand the challenges of country life and the importance of keeping the lights on in areas that are rural, small, and distant, I trust that the members of the committee will ensure that a measure of common sense prevails with regard to Federal right-of-way policies.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST  
GENERATING COOPERATIVE,  
Portland, OR, July 20, 1994.

Mr. JIM GALABA,  
U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region,  
Portland, OR.

DEAR JIM: Thank you for taking the time to meet with me during my recent trip to Portland. As I mentioned last week, both the Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative (PNGC) and Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative (OTEC) are very interested in revisiting the issue of whether Forest Service right-of-way fees should be waived for OTEC electric transmission lines.

I appreciated your willingness to run through the Forest Service regulations in an effort to help me understand earlier Forest Service decisions to charge OTEC right-of-way fees and to help explore areas of possible compromise. Per your request, I have attached several documents detailing the Congressional history surrounding the enactment of P.L. 98-300—the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) amendment requiring that ROW fees be waived for rural electric and telephone systems financed by the Rural Electrification Administration (REA).

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

As you can see from the enclosed Senate Energy Committee report, at the time of the bill's consideration, both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) opposed the legislation because of their feeling that "there is no equitable basis for granting rural electric or telephone cooperatives free access and use of the public lands, especially when regulated private utilities and their customers are treated differently." At issue was the BLM and Forest Service's failure to waive right-of-way fees for cooperatives under the existing FLPMA section 504 (g).

The prevailing concern articulated by the agencies was that cooperatives engage in "practices comparable to private commercial enterprise." It is interesting to note that this is the same basis upon which OTEC's request of a fee waiver has been so far denied. In enacting P.L. 98-300, Congress explicitly rejected the agencies' reasoning in favor of holding down the cost of electric and telephone service to rural consumers. It is also interesting to note that Senator Hatfield, who supports a fee waiver for OTEC, was a member of the Senate Energy Committee at the time of its consideration of the waiver legislation.

While the legislative history does make a number of references specifically to entities funded through the REA, the enclosed floor statements from Senator Baucus and Congressmen Lujan, Oberstar, and Boucher make clear that Congress's prime concern was supporting rural electric and telephone consumers that receive service from member-owned cooperatives. Mr. Oberstar's statement includes the sentence: "It makes little sense for a Federal agency to impose new charges on these companies, most of whom borrow from REA to build and improve their systems." Mr. Boucher refers to Congressional intent, in passing FLPMA, to "exempt or reduce fees for nonprofit utilities."

As I mentioned during our visit, we believe that Congress, in enacting P.L. 98-300, sought to clarify their intention that the Forest Service and the BLM waive right-of-way fees for rural electric cooperatives—regardless of their financing. The goal, as evidenced by the testimony, was to help keep electric and telephone costs down for rural consumers. This is precisely the reason REA exists in the first place. It is contradictory to charge fees to the types of non-profit associations that are so worthy in the eyes of

Congress as to spawn a subsidized loan program. It is important to remember that OTEC remains eligible for REA financing because it is helping to fulfill the REA's mandate of rural electrification.

A further irony is that OTEC does not now have any REA loans in an effort to keep their costs as low as possible to their members—the exact goal in mind when Congress passed the amendment. OTEC should not be penalized for pursuing that end.

#### EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION

P.L. 98-300 was clearly an attempt to clarify whether rural electric cooperatives provided a public benefit sufficient to warrant a waiver of their right-of-way fees. The legislation originated out of frustration that the agencies were not properly utilizing administrative discretion already enacted by Congress in FLPMA. The Senate report states that "both FLPMA and the regulations contain a provision which explicitly grants discretionary authority to the relevant Secretary (Agriculture or Interior) to issue rights of way to nonprofit organizations for such lesser (or zero) charge as the Secretary finds equitable and in the public interest."

Even if the Forest Service continues to deny OTEC a fee waiver under P.L. 98-300 based on a strict reading of the statute rather than its intent, it is clear the Congress believes that the agencies have broader administrative discretion to grant the waiver under existing FLPMA section 504(g). Accordingly, we would be active in urging the Forest Service to exercise that discretion in favor of a fee waiver. Oregon Trail is a nonprofit association that provides substantial benefit both to the public and (because they serve the Forest Service) the programs of the Secretary. However, we believe a more immediate decision favorable to OTEC is warranted given that the legislative intent of P.L. 98-300 was to provide a fee waiver to all rural electric cooperatives.

#### SCOPE OF DECISION

As I mentioned during our meeting, the impact of granting OTEC a waiver, does not set a large precedent. Nationwide, out of roughly 1,000 existing rural electric cooperatives, only approximately 32 do not have REA financing. Of these, the majority are located in the Midwest and South. Only a handful are located in public land states and fewer still have service territory comprised of large amounts of Federally owned acreage. While the amount of money at stake is minuscule in terms of any impact on the Federal Treasury, it is important to the customers of Oregon Trail.

Again, thank you for taking the time to visit with me. Your willingness to review OTEC's waiver request and to explore a solution to this problem is very much appreciated. If I can provide additional information or be helpful in any other way, please feel free to contact me at either 202/857-4876 or 503/288-1234.

Sincerely,

R. PATRICK REITEN,  
Director of Government Relations.

#### MEDIGAP PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce vital consumer protection legislation, H.R. 3374, for Medicare beneficiaries. H.R. 3374, the Medigap Protection Act of 1996, will provide real freedom to senior citizens to

choose between traditional fee-for-service Medicare and managed care Medicare programs without risk of penalty. It does so by guaranteeing access to Medigap supplemental insurance for seniors who choose to enroll in fee-for-service Medicare after participating in a Medicare managed care plan.

Congress is currently debating fundamental changes to the Medicare system. The Republican plan to reform Medicare would strongly encourage Medicare beneficiaries to enroll in managed care plans. Nationwide, approximately 13 percent of the Medicare population have enrolled in managed care options. I support providing freedom of choice for senior citizens, but the choice must be real and not coerced. As more senior citizens enroll in managed care plans, we need to ensure that they can reenroll in Medicare without losing benefits or paying a financial penalty.

Under current law, Medicare beneficiaries can enroll in either a managed care product or traditional Medicare Program. Many enrollees in traditional Medicare choose to purchase supplemental insurance policies, called medigap to cover the cost of copayments, deductibles, and other uncovered benefits such as prescription drugs. When Medicare beneficiaries make this initial choice, current law protects them by requiring all insurers to sell medigap insurance. Regrettably, this consumer protection is not provided after this initial enrollment period.

H.R. 3374 would require guaranteed issue of medigap policies for those senior citizens who choose to enroll in traditional Medicare after leaving a managed care Medicare Program. This bill would require any issuer of medigap insurance to provide an annual enrollment period of 30 days for those Medicare beneficiaries that reenroll in the traditional Medicare Program. The Secretary of Health and Human Services would issue regulations to enforce this act. The bill would become effective 90 days after enactment.

Without this protection, senior citizens do not have real choice. In addition, many senior citizens are not aware of this lack of protection and may enroll in managed care plans without knowledge of this problem. A constituent of mine, Ms. Nona Phillips of Pasadena, contacted me when she had difficulty obtaining medigap insurance after switching back to fee-for-service Medicare from an HMO. Consumers should be able to choose plans without financial coercion or penalties, such as lack of medigap insurance. For many senior citizens, medigap benefits are extremely important because traditional Medicare does not provide prescription drug coverage. I want to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries make a choice between equal options. It also provides greater freedom and choice for seniors without forcing them to cover the costs of higher copayments, deductibles, and prescription drugs.

This is another incremental health care reform we can pass immediately that should be supported on a bipartisan basis. President Clinton has endorsed this provision as part of his 1997 budget. We need to pass common sense, reasonable legislation, H.R. 3374, that will improve the Medicare Program so senior citizens are protected and have real choice. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to strengthen consumer protections for Medicare beneficiaries.

IN CELEBRATION OF EMANUEL  
DAY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues and the members of Temple Emanuel of Great Neck, as they gather on May 5, 1996, in Temple Emanuel to celebrate Emanuel Day, the end of a 10-year effort that has served to beautify the synagogue, and enhance it as an ongoing source of inspiration to its congregants and the Great Neck community. Conceived by Rabbi Robert Widom, spiritual leader of Temple Israel, the project evolved into the design of six stained glass windows for the synagogue's sanctuary, a new ark and eternal light. The initial project, under the direction of Rabbi Widom, undertook a search that would last for 10 years until the appropriate artist was selected and the creative plans were developed.

An extensive search by the rabbi and the congregation's refurbishing committee yielded Paul Winthrop Wood, a Canadian born artist, who comes from a family of renowned architects and builders. Mr. Wood brought to Temple Emanuel an innate understanding of the Old Testament and the many creative and imaginative themes that flow from it. It was his early upbringing by his mother that endowed him with a rich blend of talent and insight that would be brought to fruition by the many religious building challenges he undertook.

A native of Port Washington, Mr. Wood continues the family tradition of building and design. He began his early studies in the Art Studies League and the National Academy of Design. Soon thereafter, he founded his own school, and began a career that would include the design and construction of more than 100 churches and synagogues throughout the United States and 30 houses of worship on Long Island.

In rising to the challenge of bringing to the synagogue and sense of love, understanding, and compassion, Mr. Wood succeeded grandly. It is with great pride and love that the trustees of Temple Emanuel of Great Neck have declared Sunday, May 5, as Emanuel Day. As the hundreds of congregants of Temple Emanuel gather on this day, it is most exciting and reaffirming that in the truest tradition of the American spirit, this beautiful congregation continues to so willingly give of itself, to its members and the community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. AND  
MRS. MATTHEWS

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker. There has been a great deal of discussion about the importance of family values in America during this session of Congress, and I can offer no better example than of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews of Bessemer, AL.

This Wednesday, May 1, will mark the 50th wedding anniversary of William and Margaret Matthews. By celebrating 50 years of mar-

riage, they are serving as a shining example of what love, commitment, and dedication can do for a loving relationship and for society. I want to offer them my personal best wishes and congratulations on achieving this milestone in their relationship.

HATS OFF TO THE WOODLAND  
WAL-MART DISTRIBUTION CENTER

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women of the Woodland Wal-Mart Distribution Center which is located in my congressional district. The Woodland Center was recently singled out by the Wal-Mart Corp. for its President's Award for Excellence. The President's Award is no small honor as it is only bestowed upon one center per year and its winner is generally recognized across the Nation as the top distribution center of the entire Wal-Mart Corp.

As if this was not enough, the private fleet operation at the Woodland Center also received the President's Award for Excellence in the area of dispatch, centerpoint and shop operations for 1995. These two awards are a testament to the drive and professionalism of the Woodland Center's employees who day in and day out do a first-class job for both their company and their community.

I will close by once again congratulating all the folks at the Woodland Center for a job well done. Your commitment to excellence speaks very well for both Wal-Mart and the people of west central Pennsylvania and it is my honor to represent you. Hats off to the best of the best. Hats off to the Woodland Wal-Mart Distribution Center.

TO AMEND THE INDIAN HEALTH  
CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to extend the demonstration program for direct billing for Medicare, Medicaid, and other third-party payors to September 30, 1998.

Section 405 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act established a demonstration program to authorize up to four tribally-operated Indian Health Service [IHS] hospitals or clinics to test methods for direct billing for and receipt of payment for health services provided to Medicare- and Medicaid-eligible patients. This program was established to determine whether these collections could be increased through direct involvement of the tribal health provider as compared with the current practice which required such billings and collections to be channeled through the IHS.

Currently, there are four tribal health care providers participating in this demonstration project, the Bristol Bay Area Health Corp. of Dillingham, AK; the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium of Sitka, AK; the

Mississippi, Choctaw Health Center of Philadelphia, MI, and the Choctaw Tribe of Oklahoma of Durant, OK. All participants have unanimously expressed success and satisfaction with the demonstration program and report that dramatically increased collections for Medicare and Medicaid services, thereby providing additional revenues for Indian health programs at these facilities; significant reduction in the turn-around time between billing and receipt of payment; and increased efficiency by being able to track down their own billings and collections and thereby act quickly to resolve questions and problems.

The IHS is required to monitor participation and receive quarterly reports from the four participants. The law also requires the IHS to report to Congress on the demonstration program on September 30, 1996, the end of fiscal year 1996. This report is to evaluate whether the objective have been fulfilled, and whether direct billing should be allowed for other tribal providers who operate an entire IHS facility.

All four participants seek to extend the demonstration program authority for 2 more years to give Congress time to review the report IHS must submit on September 30, 1996, and determine the future of the program.

Without the extension, the four participants would have to close down their direct billing-collection departments and return to the old system of IHS-managed collections. This would mean the dismantling of highly specialized administrative staff and would have an immediate negative impact on revenue collection.

This is a technical amendment to extend the program in 2 more years so that the existing participants can continue their direct billing collection efforts while the required report from the IHS is reviewed.

CODY JESSE CRAIG ATTAINS  
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to present to you Cody Jesse Craig who, on February 20, 1996, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank awarded in the Boy Scouts of America. The achievement of the Eagle Scout rank for any young person is indeed a major accomplishment that eloquently addresses their personal character, diligence, initiative, tenacity, and many other equally desirable characteristics that we all admire in individuals. The factor that focuses the attention on his personal victory and sets him apart from most of the recipients of the Eagle Scout rank is that he is 15 years old; starting his scouting when he was 6 years old, subsequently earning every award offered as he progressed from the Cubs, Webelos, and on to the Boy Scouts. He obviously is a goal-oriented young man who has a bright and exciting future.

In addition to being an outstanding Boy Scout, Cody is an honor student who has been recognized by the Duke University Talent Search. In this hour of troubled times for many of the youth of America, Cody is truly a Point of Light that illuminates a living example and role model for other young people to emulate.

TRIBUTE TO MARY LOU PRATT

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a woman who has worked tirelessly to make the lives of our disabled veterans a little brighter. Mrs. Mary Lou Platt of Westford, NY, is the New York State president of the American Legion Auxiliary, and a member of the Milford Unit #1566.

The American Legion Auxiliary has been helping veterans and their families for more than 75 years and Mrs. Pratt has proudly kept up that tradition. President Pratt has developed a program called RAVE which stands for recreation, audio and visual entertainment.

Many hospitalized veterans spend endless hours in their rooms or on hospital grounds. Some used to enjoy reading, but now find it difficult or impossible due to poor eyesight. Others used to enjoy listening to music on their radios, but can now only hear faint sounds. Even watching television can be difficult for many of these veterans.

President Platt has traveled extensively throughout New York's 62 counties helping veterans with her program. RAVE has provided veterans with large print books for easier reading, audio books for those who can no longer read, and VCR's and videos. RAVE even provides some video games and equipment to stimulate veterans both physically and emotionally. This program has benefited veterans in New York State VA medical centers and nursing homes.

Our veterans have sacrificed too much for their country to be left as prisoners of unproductive and frustrating lives. President Platt is trying to see that this does not happen. I think we should all RAVE about President Platt and the efforts of the American Legion Auxiliary.

NATIONAL HEAD START DAY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to National Head Start Day. Head Start demonstrates the type of innovate, cost-efficient, and proactive solution necessary to address the national dilemma facing economically disadvantaged preschoolers. The holistic approach taken by Head Start addresses the needs of both parent and child. Preschoolers are provided with educational, health and social service support, while parental involvement ensures support networks for parents.

Extensive studies in child development have shown that a quality early childhood experience returns anywhere from \$5 to \$7 for every dollar invested. We also know that one-third more children who attend quality early childhood programs graduate from high schools, as opposed to those children who did not have the benefits of programs such as Head Start. Without question, the future of America's poorest children is brighter because of the work of Head Start. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary work of Head Start.

IN HONOR OF SAM GIBBONS

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly respected 34-year veteran of the U.S. Congress. SAM GIBBONS has served the people of our great State of Florida and his Tampa congressional district with honor and distinction. Having demonstrated exceptional leadership in this extensive time span, he is well-deserved of recognition.

Serving our country in World War II, SAM proved to be a genuine hero as he took part in the parachute landing behind German lines on the Normandy coast the night before D-day. It was with this same vigor that he worked as a freshman Member of Congress to pass the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

As an outstanding leader and public servant, SAM has rendered vital assistance in a number of important matters. In 1966, he succeeded in getting the House Education and Labor Committee to meet and vote in open sessions. He later went on to write the first formal rules for that committee and also the Ways and Means Committee.

In the early 1970's, SAM championed the initiative that ended the practice of anonymous voting on the floor of the House. Twenty years later, as chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade, he was instrumental in crafting the two biggest trade agreements in history—NAFTA and GATT.

SAM GIBBONS has dedicated most of his life to improving this great Nation of ours. What is even more incredible is the fact that he raised three children and four grandchildren while doing so. Serving as a Congressman, a role model, and a good friend of mine, SAM has achieved the esteemed status of a truly great man. His image is impressed upon our hearts and will serve as an inspiration for leaders yet to come.

THE FIRST HISPANIC WOMEN'S  
HEALTH CONFERENCE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, in an effort to help the Nation's health care system better serve the Hispanic population, the First Hispanic Women's Health Conference will be held in the Knight Center on May 9 and 10.

It is sponsored by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in collaboration with the Little Havana Activities and Nutrition Centers of Dade County and the University of Miami School of Medicine.

Hispanic women have a number of health problems that are complicated by the cultural differences. A doctor who is unaware of the culture framework of her patients will find her job that much harder.

For example, cancer carries a greater stigma in Hispanic populations, which results in a lack of early detection and the complications that then follow.

The conference will hear from a number of individuals with practical experience in the delivery of health care to the Hispanic population. Among the topics they will address are diabetes, breast cancer, mental health, heart disease, osteoporosis, and Alzheimer's disease.

The objectives of this conference include helping the health care system to reach out to the Hispanic population in general and to Hispanic women in particular.

The conference will provide a forum for the mutual exchange of information about the health needs and concerns of Hispanic women and to develop plans that will work in harmony with the cultural traditions of 27 million Americans.

I congratulate all who are involved in this project for their work on this important conference and wish them success in this effort to improve the quality of life for so many.

CONGRATULATING THE J. FRANK DOBIE HIGH SCHOOL DECATHLON TEAM

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the J. Frank Dobie High School Academic Decathlon Team for winning the national title in Atlanta. Their hard work and dedication is truly remarkable. I commend the faculty, students, and the parents at Dobie High School for their commitment to creating an excellent scholastic environment at Dobie.

I know I speak for the entire State of Texas when I say how very proud I am of your outstanding accomplishment. It is wonderful to see that the pursuit of academic excellence is alive and well in Texas.

DISAPPROVING OF ORDERS NUMBER 888 AND 889 BY THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a joint resolution to disapprove the rules submitted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Wednesday, April 24, promoting wholesale competition through open access transmission services by public utilities.

The economic benefits of open transmission are great, as energy companies will be able to freely purchase the least expensive power from any generating facility and use open transmission lines to bring it to their customers. In fact, FERC estimates that consumers will save between \$3.8 and \$5.4 billion annually on their energy bills.

However, in formulating these rules, FERC has ignored the dramatic environmental impact that open transmission will have on the quality of air that drifts into the Northeastern United States. FERC's own numbers show that open transmission will result in an in-

crease in several hundred thousand tons of nitrogen oxides into the 27 States east of the Mississippi River.

Since January, the Governors of several Northeastern States, 20 Members of Congress, and the Ozone Transport Commission urged FERC to consider environmental mitigation in the promulgation of these rules. Even the Environmental Protection Agency formally stated that this rule should be adopted only if FERC makes an appropriate commitment to mitigation of potential environmental harm.

Mr. Speaker, the restructuring of the electric power industry must only be done in conjunction with appropriate mitigation of power plant emissions. Until such measures are in place, this rule should not move forward.

Therefore, I am introducing this joint resolution to disapprove of these rules. I encourage the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to work with the appropriate government agencies so that utility deregulation can proceed correctly. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

HONORING PATRICK A. RODIO

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Patrick A. Rodio, who is and continues to be an outstanding member of the Fairfax City community in my State of Virginia. On Sunday, May 5, 1996, the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce will be honoring Mr. Rodio for his numerous contributions to northern Virginia and for his loyal commitment to his family and fellow Virginians.

Mr. Rodio grew up in southern New Jersey as the 8th of 10 children before moving to Fairfax City in 1957. He was the first in his family to complete his education and received many U.S. Army and Navy commendations for his work as a munitions expert. After joining the Fairfax community, Mr. Rodio quickly became an active community participant and leader by contributing his endless energy and vast knowledge to many civic organizations, services, and local legislative bodies.

Mr. Rodio has been instrumental in building and strengthening area youth programs through the Fairfax Police Youth Club and has always been a major supporter of programs and activities for senior citizens. From 1958 to 1968, he acted as the coach and manager of the Fairfax Little League and served as its president in 1963. He also coached and managed the Fairfax Babe Ruth Baseball League for 9 years, was an assistant scout master for 4 years, and worked as an active member of the Fire and Rescue Services Task Force and the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Review Team. Mr. Rodio participated in the noonday Optimist Club and earned its 1985-86 Club Service Award. Additionally, he is a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Leo's Catholic Church, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks.

For 8 years, Mr. Rodio headed the Fairfax City Republican Committee as its chairman and received a well-deserved Award of Appreciation for his service to the committee in 1991. He achieved a perfect attendance

record as a member of the Fairfax City Council from July 1984 to July 1994 and represented the city of Fairfax in the Virginia Silver-Haired Legislature.

His dedication to his community has proven instrumental to the achievement of many important changes in the city of Fairfax. His assistance was vital to the transformation of the old Fairfax High School into the City of Fairfax Museum and Visitors' Center and to the creation of the Veterans' Memorial Statue and Amphitheater at Fairfax City Hall. Without question, Northern Virginia gained a loyal and devoted citizen when Mr. Rodio arrived in the city of Fairfax in 1957. We are extremely proud and honored to count him as one of our own and to have the opportunity to thank him for his years of service.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when localities are trying to find ways to promote community service and harmony, I know my colleagues will join me in applauding Mr. Rodio's enduring contributions to his fellow citizens.

THE RYAN WHITE CARE ACT SAVES LIVES

HON. SUSAN MOLINARI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman LIVINGSTON and the entire Appropriations Committee for their efforts to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act.

The Ryan White CARE Act programs play a vital role in the delivery of services to AIDS and HIV-positive populations in New York City and around this country. First authorized in 1990, this legislation authorizes agencies of the Public Health Service to enhance the provision of prevention, testing. And care services to people with HIV who do not have insurance and who do not yet qualify for Medicaid or Medicare.

In New York City there is a \$101 million portfolio of 300 contracts, mostly with community-based organizations. Although our Nation is facing budget restraints, we cannot ignore our Nation's health. In the United States, there is one AIDS-related death every 15 minutes; every 9 minutes another person is diagnosed with AIDS, and someone is infected with HIV every 13 minutes. Even more distressing is the fact that 17.9 percent of all the AIDS cases diagnosed in our country have been in New York City. Since 1988, AIDS has been the leading cause of death in New York City for men and women between the ages of 25 and 34. These statistics are at the very least sobering, at most they demonstrate the need for reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act.

Last March I was given a most vivid reminder of why I was driven to a career in public service. That afternoon, I met with several people from the Staten Island AIDS Task Force including Carol and Joseph Di Paulo. Joey is 15 years old and was infected with the AIDS virus when he underwent surgery in 1984. After speaking with Joey and his mother for an hour I couldn't help but be moved by their plight.

Like any mother, Carol DiPaulo wants what is best for her child. However, her only desire is to keep Joey healthy and alive for as long

as possible. We know very little about the AIDS virus. But one thing about which we are sure is that we have no cure for this deadly disease. The best that we can do is to provide treatment through the Ryan White CARE Act.

Joey and his mom are two very courageous people. Carol is a single mother of two chil-

dren, one happens to be very sick. She has taken her campaign to fight AIDS beyond her home and into the highest levels of Government and the media. Joey met with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, spoke before the United Nations, and has even done public service announcements for MTV. He is

truly a hero, not merely because of what he has done, but because he is motivated not by self-gain or prosperity. Instead, he and his mom are driven because they have seen firsthand how AIDS can destroy not only an individual but a family as well.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 1996, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 3

- 9:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Department of Veterans Affairs. SD-192
- Joint Economic  
To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for April. SD-562
- 10:00 a.m.  
Finance  
To hold hearings to examine transportation fuel taxes. SD-215

MAY 7

- 9:30 a.m.  
Environment and Public Works  
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on the General Service Administration's Public Buildings Service program request for fiscal year 1997 and on disposal of GSA-held property in Springfield, Virginia. SD-406

- 10:00 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism Subcommittee  
To hold oversight hearings on the Federal Trade Commission. SR-253

- Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1997 for the U.S. Coast Guard. SR-385

- Judiciary  
To resume hearings on S. 1284, to amend title 17 to adapt the copyright law to the digital, networked environment of the National Information Infrastructure. SD-106

- Small Business  
To hold hearings on proposed legislation relating to Small Business Investment Company reform. SR-428A

- Joint Library  
Business meeting, to consider a report of the General Accounting Office on the Library of Congress. SR-301

- 2:00 p.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on S. 1662, to establish areas of wilderness and recreation in the State of Oregon. SD-366

MAY 8

- 9:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Defense Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Department of Defense, focusing on environmental programs. SD-192

- Rules and Administration  
To resume hearings on proposals to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for a voluntary system of spending limits and partial public financing of Senate primary and general election campaigns, to limit contributions by multicandidate political committees, and to reform the financing of Federal elections and Senate campaigns. SR-301

- 10:00 a.m.  
Judiciary  
Youth Violence Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine Federal programs relating to youth violence. SD-226

- Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the reform of health care priorities. SR-418

- 2:00 p.m.  
Appropriations  
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. SD-192

- Appropriations  
Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury. SD-138

MAY 9

- 9:30 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold oversight hearings to examine the recent increase in gasoline prices. SD-366

- Indian Affairs  
To hold oversight hearings on the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Seminole Tribe v. Florida* on the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988. SD-G50

- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Federal Transit Administration. SD-192

MAY 14

- 9:30 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1997 for the Federal Aviation Administration and the Airport Improvement Program. SR-253

MAY 15

- 9:30 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to examine how the Commodity Futures Trading Commission oversees markets in times of volatile prices and tight supplies. SR-332

- Energy and Natural Resources  
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business. SD-366

- Rules and Administration  
To resume hearings on proposals to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for a voluntary system of spending limits and partial public financing of Senate primary and general election campaigns, to limit contributions by multicandidate political committees, and to reform the financing of Federal elections and Senate campaigns. SR-301

- 2:00 p.m.  
Appropriations  
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. SD-192

MAY 16

- 10:00 a.m.  
Appropriations  
Transportation Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the United States Coast Guard. SD-192

MAY 17

- 9:30 a.m.  
Appropriations  
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Corporation for National and Community Service. SD-192

MAY 22

- 9:30 a.m.  
Rules and Administration  
To resume hearings on issues with regard to the Government Printing Office. SR-301

MAY 24

JUNE 5

SEPTEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Appropriations  
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-  
committee  
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-  
timates for fiscal year 1997 for the En-  
vironmental Protection Agency.

SD-192

9:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to examine proposals to  
reform the Commodity Exchange Act.  
SR-328A

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs  
To hold joint hearings with the House  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs to re-  
view the legislative recommendations  
of the American Legion.  
334 Cannon Building