stamp program into block grants to States, unlike previous welfare legislation. Instead of reducing the earned income tax credit as previous legislation did, this legislation incorporates the administration's recommendations to expand it.

I have actively urged my colleagues to increase child care funding in welfare reform. Following up on a meeting with Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, I, along with members of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, sent a letter to the House leadership urging them to provide States with more child care resources, to maintain the health and safety standards set by States, and to give States the flexibility to allow women with children under 6 to work 20-hour workweeks. I am pleased that all of these recommendations have been included in this legislation. This bill directs $20 billion to child care spending over the next 6 years—an increase of $3.5 billion in child spending over 6 years. These child care funds will allow women to enter the work force and help States to meet their work force participation requirements.

I remain concerned about the food stamp cuts contained in this legislation. Last month, I voted against the Kasich amendment that added these cuts. I also worry about the restrictive prohibitions on benefits for legal immigrants. As this legislation is enacted, I will carefully monitor the effects of these provisions with the intent of remedying them legislatively if necessary.

Today's vote marks a historic opportunity to change our welfare system so that we move families into work while maintaining a safety net to protect our Nation's children. It also marks the willingness of this legislative body to incorporate important changes, and I thank my colleagues for incorporating many of the changes I have requested.

ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, the first Catholic Church in Broward County. The church was constructed of formidable gray stone hauled in from the quarries of northern Florida and was dedicated in December 1921. There are 251 parishioners at the time of construction and it was decided that a school was needed. In 1926, St. Anthony School became the first Catholic school in Broward County.

Today there are more than 1,500 parishioners and the current pastor, Father Timothy G. Hannon, ministers to his parish in the grand tradition of the past. It has been a joy for me and my family to be parishioners and partake of the sacraments and blessings available. My children attended St. Anthony's School and both my daughters were married in the beauty of the Church sanctuary. I know from personal experience that our church has the longest aisle in Fort Lauderdale.

Members of the parish and the community are joining in 1996 to celebrate 75 years in Fort Lauderdale. We look forward to meeting again in 25 years to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our beautiful spiritual home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring St. Anthony's Catholic Church for its 75 years of service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO VINCENT L. JOHNSON, ESQ.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as a member of Brooklyn's legal community for over 30 years, Vincent L. Johnson has consistently demonstrated his commitment to community service and justice. Upon receiving his B.A. in economics from Brooklyn College, he enrolled in St. John's School of Law where he quickly excelled and obtained two degrees: an LLB and JD. Recognizing his vast skills and abilities, the Youthful Offender Bureau of the New York Supreme Court hired him as an assistant district attorney [ADA] in 1961. As an ADA, he prosecuted a wide range of criminal cases amounting to approximately 100 per year. One of the highlight's of his career was in 1968 when he founded his own law firm, Laufer & Johnson. While in private practice, he has represented clients in various legal matters and served as an inspiration to young attorneys following in his footsteps.

Further exemplifying his dedication to public service, Mr. Johnson is actively involved in numerous organizations including the Brooklyn Bar Association, Kings County Bar Association, New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Phi Alpha Legal Fraternity, the Brooklyn NAACP, Bedford-Stuyvesant Lions Club, and the Boys Welcome Hall.

Mr. Johnson and his wife, Gertrude, have three lovely children, Vincent, Jr., Melissa, and DaSylveiria. It is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Johnson and to introduce him to my colleagues.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3734, PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY RECONCILIATION ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to vote for this conference report H.R. 3734 reforming our Nation's outdated welfare system. The current welfare program has been the biggest social and financial failure in the history of the country. We are replacing it with a program of hope and responsibility.

It is a good thing we have Presidential elections occasionally. The President, who is now in an election, has said he will sign welfare reform after vetoing it two times before.

Over the past 30 years more than $5 trillion has been spent on welfare. That figure is more than the national debt. During that time the poverty rate went up, not down. More children are in poverty, more families have broken up than before the current program was adopted.

The American people have consistently said they believe in helping others and that there should be a safety net in society. They also do not want this help to be wasted on outdated formulas. This bill restores the promise of hope for the families on welfare and the trust between taxpayers and the managers of our welfare program.

In the final analysis, it is clear Republican leadership was necessary to finally tackle this problem. I am happy we were able to lead the President to reform instead of standing in the way.

DRUG TESTING REDUCES CRIME RATES

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I want to inform my colleagues on a legislative initiative which would assist in the effort to combat drug use and drug-related crime.

Thanks to the hard work and assistance of Subcommittee Chairman HAL ROGERS, $32 million in funds are included in the House version of the fiscal year 1997 Commerce-Justice-State appropriations measure to allow for the establishment of drug testing programs for prisoners, parolees, and individuals on bail or probation. The bill provides $7 million to establish a Federal drug testing program in the Federal prison system and $25 million to establish a competitive grant process to allow local jurisdictions the ability to drug test individuals in the local prison system.

Although various efforts have been initiated to address drug use and abuse in the United States, these efforts have not been completely successful. Regardless of the billions and billions of Federal and State funds dedicated to fighting an effective ''war on drugs,'' reality still dictates that a small percentage of heavy drug users are responsible for most drug use and most drug-related crime in the United States. In spite of our efforts, the number of heavy users has remained constant in recent years.

We can, and must, do better in the effort to fight drug use and abuse.

Prof. Mark A. Kleiman, lecturer in Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, recently analyzed Federal and State criminal data and reported that of the roughly 300 metric tons of cocaine illegally consumed in the United States every year, about 60 percent, or 180 metric tons, is consumed by people under the jurisdiction of the criminal justice system, individuals who are either on bail, probation, or parole.

In 1991, the Federal Department of Justice developed and implemented a test pilot program in which the Federal court system would require a drug test for those arrested while those released from jail or prison would be asked to submit for a drug test. Drug testing and sanctions would force drug-involved offenders to abstain from further illicit drug use or face the consequences. Those consequences would include no bail or probation. In short, it is a ''carrot and stick'' approach to staying drug free.

Currently 14 Federal judicial districts require such drug testing, and in December 1995 President Clinton issued a directive to the Attorney General to ''establish a program whereby federal prosecutors will seek appropriate

measures for arrestees who fail pre-trial drug tests'' and ''encourage States to adopt and implement the same policies . . .''

The Justice Department found that pre-trial and post-trial drug testing in the criminal justice system has ''the potential for far-reaching impact as a demand-reduction program, a supply reduction program (because it removes some retail dealers), and a crime-control program.'' This initiative in turn affects both property crime by users, and violence that is related to the drug traffickers by shrinking volume.

Advocates of this initiative assert that using the criminal justice system to reduce drug demand will accomplish more than any other level of drug law enforcement to break up open drug markets: a national program could reasonably be expected to reduce effective cocaine and heroin demand by 40 percent. Reduced demand means less revenue for drug dealers, which in turn means fewer guns, fewer shootings, less distribution of neighborhood life, and fewer kids lured out of school or legitimate work into the flashy, but eventually disastrous, life of retail drug selling. Thus, this legislation would benefit all aspects of the community.

In the 1997 budget request, the Clinton administration is requesting $42 million in grants to States to give drug tests to individuals in the criminal justice system. This initiative is modeled after the successful federal program.

I support the funds currently in the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations measure, and I intend to work with may colleagues to ensure that these funds are included in the final House-Senate conference agreement.

BIG BROTHERS–BIG SISTERS OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

HON. RAY LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and commend the Big Brothers–Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago. This organization is one of the most important charities serving the children of Chicago.

Congress has long been committed to Big Brothers–Big Sisters by providing needed funding and volunteer support. This support has been essential to the organization because Big Brothers–Big Sisters relies on significant support from individual donors, philanthropic organizations and the business community.

One important source of funding for the organization has been the Big Brothers–Big Sisters Pro-Celebrity Golf Classic. This golf tournament has raised over $250,000 over the past 5 years and is exclusively supported by generous donations from individual donors and corporations.

I, therefore, ask that August 19, 1996 be proclaimed as the Big Brothers–Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago Day, and I urge all citizens to recognize this organization for the many contributions it has made to provide services to needy children.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES—PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Big Brothers–Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago is one of the most important charities serving the children of Chicago; and

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has been committed to Big Brothers–Big Sisters by providing needed funding and volunteer support; and

Whereas, Big Brothers–Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago cannot adequately serve the needs of children without significant support from individual donors, philanthropic organizations and the business community; and

Whereas, the Big Brothers–Big Sisters Pro-Celebrity Golf Classic is an important source of funding for the agency having raised over $250,000 for the agency over the past five (5) years and is exclusively supported by generous donations from individual donors and corporations:

Now, Therefore, the Congress of the United States, do hereby proclaim August 19, 1996, to be Big Brothers–Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago Day, and urge all citizens to recognize this organization for the many contributions it has made to provide services to needy children.

Dated this 24th day of July 1996.

ARDSLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT, CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Ardsley Fire Department of the Village of Ardsley, NY, on the occasion of its centennial celebration.

The Ardsley Hose Company No. 1 was officially organized on January 25, 1896, eleven days after the Village of Ardsley was incorporated. The organization of the Fire Department was a motivating force behind the inception of the village. Since this time, the Fire Department has grown tremendously. In 1952, the Ardsley Hose Company No. 1 became Ardsley Engine Company No. 1 with full department status in the New York State Fire Service. However, despite its growth, it has remained a focal point in the Village of Ardsley.

The Ardsley Fire Department has a tremendous history of dedicated service to its community. Today's members are made up of people from all occupations such as plumbers, carpenters, mechanics, career firefighters, dentists, and lawyers. These men and women dedicate their lives to the protection of their neighbors. Through their efforts, they make their community a better, safer place.

Mr. Speaker, for the past century, the Ardsley Fire Department has been an integral part of the Village of Ardsley. I commend and thank them for their selfless acts and steadfast commitment to the citizens of Ardsley. I am grateful that I have this opportunity to honor the Ardsley Fire Department on the occasion of their centennial celebration.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEENAGE PREGNANCY REDUCTION ACT OF 1996

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1996

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of the Teenage Pregnancy Reduction Act of 1996. This legislation is an important commitment on the part of Congress to give local communities the resources they need to operate effective teenage pregnancy programs.

More specifically, the bill authorizes $10.5 million in total over 3 years—fiscal year 1997 thru fiscal year 1999—for HHS to conduct a study of effective teen pregnancy prevention programs, with an emphasis on determining the factors contributing to the effectiveness of the programs, and methods for replicating the programs in other locations.

It also authorizes the creation of an information clearinghouse to collect, maintain, and disseminate information on prevention programs; to develop networks of prevention programs; to provide technical assistance and to encourage public media campaigns regarding pregnancy in teenagers.

Finally, it authorizes $10 million in total over 3 years—fiscal year 2000 thru fiscal year 2003—for one-time incentive grants for programs which are found to be effective under HHS's study described earlier, to assist them with the expenses of operating the program.

Helping our communities prevent teenage pregnancy is an important mission. The United States has the highest teenage birth rate of industrialized countries, which has far reaching consequences for our Nation's teenager mothers and their children.

Unmarried teenagers who become pregnant face severe emotional, physical, and financial difficulties. The children born to unmarried teenagers will struggle to fulfill the promise given to all human life, and many of them simply will not succeed. Many of them will remain trapped in a cycle of poverty, and unfortunately may become part of our criminal justice system.

How bad is the problem? In 1960, 15 percent of teen births were out of wedlock. In 1970, 30 percent of teen births were out of wedlock. In 1980, 48 percent of teen births were out of wedlock. In 1990, 68 percent of teen births were out of wedlock. In 1993, 72 percent of all teen births were out of wedlock.

Why do we care about this? For the simple reason that beyond the statistics, this trend has devastating consequences for the young women who became unwed teen parents, and for the children born to them.

A recently released report, Kids Having Kids, by the Robin Hood Foundation quantified some of these consequences. Compared to those who delay childbearing until they are 20 or 21, adolescent mothers: Spend 57 percent more time as single parents in their first 13 years; are 50 percent more likely to depend on welfare; are 50 percent less likely to complete high school; and are 24 percent more likely to have more children.

Children of adolescents—compared to children of 20 and 21 year olds—are more likely to be born prematurely and 50 percent likely to be low-birth weight babies or less than 5½ pounds—meaning an increased likelihood of infant death, mental retardation, or illness, dyslexia, hyperactivity, among others.

However can we make a difference? By working in partnership with communities. At the national level, we need to take a clear stand against teenage pregnancy and foster a national discussion—involving national leaders, respected organizations, the media, and States about how religion, culture, and public values influence both teen pregnancy and responses to it. The Congressional Advisory