

Alliance, a nonprofit organization established to assist and support disabled veterans. He was instrumental in securing procurement goals from the California Public Utilities Commission of 1.5 percent, and from the county of San Bernardino of 3 percent, which translates into over \$70 million being targeted for DVBE's.

Mr. Hernandez has dedicated a substantial amount of his own time and money lobbying for the advancement of DVBE's at both the State and national levels. He also serves on the county of San Bernardino's Contract Compliance Advisory Board, which has the responsibility of overseeing the county's efforts to increase procurement opportunities for women, minority and disabled veteran business enterprises. In 1995 he created a DVBE plan room at Arid Construction which receives plans and specifications from public and private agencies at no charge. This allows DVBE companies to increase the number of projects they can bid on since their capital will not be tied up in plan deposits.

Last year Arid Construction Technologies Inc. was also recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency as the 1996 Minority Construction Firm of the Year for seven southwestern States. Originally specializing in the waterproofing trade, the company has expanded into general contracting as well with emphasis on the design-build and construction of child care centers.

Through his company, Mr. Hernandez has demonstrated support for the local community by renovating a building located in an older section of town and participating in a community service project each year. These have included the repair of the exterior of a children's museum, the cleaning and sprucing up of the city's memorial to war veterans, and the sponsorship of a team for the March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon. Mr. Hernandez also sponsors youth sports teams.

In being named the 1997 National Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year, Mr. Hernandez set an example of dedication, integrity, and innovation which makes him a role model for small business persons in the United States. I am very pleased to have Mr. Hernandez being honored this week. It is my hope that he will serve as a model not only for other business men and women in my congressional district, but also entrepreneurs nationwide. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Hernandez all the best in his future endeavors and I hope that others will follow the sterling examples he has set for all small businesses.

**SISTER JACQUELINE BURNS: LED
THE COLLEGE OF ST. ELIZABETH
INTO A NEW ERA**

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Sister Jacqueline Burns, S.C., upon her retirement as president of New Jersey's oldest Catholic college for women, the College of St. Elizabeth at Convent Station, Morris Township. During her tenure, Sister Jacqueline has expanded the college's mission while retaining its focus on offering

quality educational opportunities to young women in a Catholic environment. Sister Jacqueline has been successful in launching Saint Elizabeth's into the 21st century while retaining the values that have made the college a treasured institution since 1903.

A New Jersey native, Sister Jacqueline has devoted more than 50 years to Catholic higher education. In 1946, she became a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth and earned a bachelor's degree in history from the college in 1957. She continued her education at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, earning a master of arts in 1963 and a doctorate in history in 1967. Upon returning to New Jersey, Sister Jacqueline began a 30-year career at her alma mater culminating with her appointment as president of the College of St. Elizabeth in 1981.

Sister Jacqueline Burns recognized early in her tenure the educational challenges presented by today's rapidly changing workplace and the promise the next century will offer to future alumni of St. Elizabeth's. In order to prepare for this challenge, Sister Jacqueline enlarged the college's endowment by more than 1000 percent, increased financial aid opportunities, opened the college to more minority and international students, worked to improve opportunities for faculty growth and leadership, and expanded coeducational programs in nursing and adult education. Additionally, St. Elizabeth's now boasts a coeducational graduate division and a campuswide computer information network.

Beyond her work at St. Elizabeth's, Sister Jacqueline has been a leader and an excellent spokesperson on educational issues through her membership on the board of directors of organizations such as the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of New Jersey, the Morris County Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. In the past, Sister Jacqueline has also served on the boards of two area hospitals and a seminary, and she currently serves on the Presidential Advisory Council for Intercampus Telecommunications Network, the New Jersey Independent College Fund, and the board of directors of the Public Leadership Educational Network. Throughout the years, she has been recognized as a leader by Seton Hall University, Douglas College, the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, the Northeast Coalition of Educational Leaders, and various local women's clubs.

However, even as she moves on to other challenges for the Sisters of Charity, Sister Jacqueline will be remembered, above all, by the 30 graduating classes of students that have passed through the College of St. Elizabeth during her time as a professor and as president of the institution. All of these women graduates take with them an element of Sister Jacqueline's thirst for knowledge, her desire to create a culture of giving and her hope for the future.

Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to commend Sister Jacqueline Burns for her tireless efforts on behalf of the students at the College of St. Elizabeth and for her selfless contributions to New Jersey and Morris County.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MSGR.

HAROLD J. BURKARDT

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a long time servant of the people, Rev. Msgr. Harold J. Burkardt, who on June 1, 1997, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Please join me in wishing him the best of luck on this wondrous milestone.

A native of Johnstown, PA, Monsignor Burkardt currently resides in Altoona, PA, which is located in my congressional district. He was raised in a strongly religious family and was joined by his brother and sister in pursuing a life with the church. He was ordained in 1947 at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, OH. After ordination he dedicated himself to a teaching career, focusing in math and the sciences at Josephinum, where he remained until 1971. Monsignor Burkardt then spent 2 years as an Assistant Pastor at Holy Name in Ebensburg, PA. In 1973 he moved to Immaculate Conception in Altoona where he became Pastor, dutifully serving the residents of Altoona until 1988.

Monsignor Burkardt continues to keep busy in his semi-retirement by assisting at St. Patrick's Church in Newry, PA. He continues to say Mass and enjoys keeping fit with his daily morning walk.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by once again asking you to help me pay tribute to Monsignor Burkardt on this, his 50th anniversary of Ordination. His life has been one of service and dedication to others and I am honored to have him as one of my constituents. I would like to thank Rev. Msgr. Harold J. Burkardt for his life long commitment to others and wish him well in all that he pursues.

**REMARKS OF CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN
GILMAN BEFORE THE
POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS**

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the recent address of Congressman BENJAMIN GILMAN before the Polish American Congress. Mr. GILMAN spoke to the Congress on the anniversary of the 3rd of May Polish Constitution of 1791. The address, received by Polish Prime Minister Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, was very insightful. Mr. GILMAN, the distinguished chairman of the House International Relations Committee, spoke of the past and future of Polish democracy and the democratic fate of all of Eastern Europe. I commend Chairman GILMAN's remarks to all of my colleagues.

CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN A. GILMAN'S REMARKS ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE 3RD OF MAY POLISH CONSTITUTION OF 1791

Good Morning.

I am pleased to be here with all of you this morning, and with our honored guest, Prime Minister Cimoszewicz of Poland.