

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAID COMMUNITY ATTENDANT SERVICES ACT OF 1997

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to introduce today the Medicaid Community Attendant Services Act of 1997 as part of my commitment to empowering all Americans and to the principles of community-based care. This bill allows for choices for persons with disabilities so that individuals can receive the care that is more appropriate for them. Everyone deserves the opportunity to lead a full and independent life and people with disabilities are no exception.

I believe that personal empowerment is essential to the pursuit of happiness and believe that this bill will begin a very important debate about long-term care in the Nation. During the 104th Congress, I submitted for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a statement in support of community-based care based upon the recommendations of a disabilities task force on disabilities which I appointed in Georgia and the work of advocates for community-based care from around the Nation.

The bill I am introducing today is the starting point for the dialog about the best way to empower persons with disabilities. I am aware that this proposal may have significant cost implications, so I encourage careful consideration and additional input to help ensure a sound policy decision.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Congressmen VIRGIL GOODE, JIM KOLBE, NATHAN DEAL, PAUL GILLMOR, and FLOYD SPENCE, am introducing a constitutional amendment that will implement a more effective method by which States could take the initiative in the process by which the Constitution is amended. This legislation already has the support of Gov. George Allen and Gov. Mike Leavitt.

At present, article V provides for two ways to amend the Constitution. The first involves the presentation of an amendment by Congress to the States for ratification. The second is by Constitutional Convention, convened at the request of the State legislatures. Even with both methods available, to date, all amendments to the Constitution have been enacted following passage by the Congress and ratification by three-fourths of the States. Some have asserted that the second method has not been as effective as intended by the Framers. Persuasive arguments have been made that a

Constitutional Convention might alter the Constitution more expansively than intended by proponents of a specific proposed amendment.

The Framers did intend that the States have an effective manner by which to modify the Constitution. We are proposing a process that allows the States to initiate the amending process that is devoid of the perils of a Constitutional Convention. Under our proposal, an amendment would be presented to Congress after two-thirds of the States indicated approval via their State legislatures. If two-thirds of each House of Congress does not agree to disapprove of the proposed amendment, it would be submitted to the States for ratification. Upon ratification by three-fourths of the States' legislatures, the amendment would become part of the Constitution.

I urge your support for this commonsense legislation that returns as an option, the power to amend the Constitution to the States, as the Framers intended.

IN HONOR OF THE SPACE TECHNOLOGY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the employees of NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, OH, who have been inducted into the U.S. Space Foundation Space Technology Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame was established in 1988 to recognize and honor innovators who have transformed space technology into viable commercial products. It also raises public awareness about the benefits of space spinoff technology and encourages further innovation.

On April 3, 1997, the Space Foundation Hall of Fame paid tribute to the technologies and the many professionals who developed America's most Advanced Communications Technology Satellite [ACTS] Program. The ACTS Program was developed to promote America's satellite industry and its position in the commercial communication satellite market. Members of NASA Lewis Research Center's ACTS Program continue to impact the role America's satellite industry has as world leaders in this market.

ACTS and NASA Lewis Research Center have stimulated the growth of a new generation of services as is evident by as many as 15 new communications satellite systems proposed for operation in the Ka-band frequency spectrum. These systems will offer services for a variety of business, medical, and long-distance learning applications. Many ACTS technologies have already been incorporated and even adapted for commercial systems.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in recognizing the following Space Foundation Hall of Fame inductees from NASA Lewis Re-

search Center who are helping to build the advanced technology bridge to the 21st century: Roberto Acosta, Robert Bauer, Ronald Bexton, Thom Coney, Richard Gedney, William Hawersaat, Doug Hoder, Howard Jackson, Michael Jarrell, Russell Jirberg, Rodney Knight, Richard Krawczyk, Keven McPherson, Mark Plecity, Joanne Poe, Karl Reader, Rich Reinhart, Ronald Schertler, Phil Sohn, Ernie Spisz, David Wright, and Michael Zernic.

TRIBUTE TO SUE BEITTEL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual on the occasion of her 70th birthday, Mrs. Sue Beittel. Mrs. Beittel has devoted tremendous time and energy working for the betterment of her community in Marin County, CA.

Over the course of more than 30 years of public service, Mrs. Beittel focused her attention on the issues critical to a successful community. She has felt passionate about working for schools, housing, transportation, the environment, and preserving the democratic process. Mrs. Beittel served two terms on the San Rafael Board of Education and was on the statewide task force on vocational education. In recognition of her work for housing, Mrs. Beittel was the recipient of the 1997 Mel Boyce Award from the Ecumenical Association for Housing in San Rafael.

Some of the many organizations she has been active with include: the Audubon Society, the Family Service Agency, the League of Women voters, the Marin Education Fund, the Mental Health Association, the North San Rafael Coalition of Residents, the San Rafael Housing Coalition, and the St. Vincent/Silveira Citizens Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Sue Beittel. She embodies a truly selfless sense of volunteerism. I wish her, her husband Dan, and their family, the best.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, each year during the month of October, the National Storytelling Association [NSA] holds the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, TN. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the festival.

Considered one of the top 100 events in North America, the festival draws an average of 10,000 visitors per year. The NSA has received 70 percent of the funds required to

• 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.

build a National Storytelling Center in Jonesborough. An estimated 80,000 tourists are expected to visit northeast Tennessee per year generating revenue as well as jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to praise the many educational benefits of storytelling. The art of storytelling allows teachers to develop student interest in literature and history. By telling stories, students learn excellent communication skills while being given the unique opportunity to speak to a large group of people. Storytelling teaches students to be aware of the many diverse cultures in the United States. In addition, many businesses use storytelling to enhance presentations and seminars.

In order to further promote storytelling across the Nation, the National Storytelling Association hosts Tellabration on the Saturday night before Thanksgiving. Tellabration occurs in several States and NSA hopes to declare the week prior to Tellabration, National Storytelling Week. I commend the National Storytelling Association on their efforts and wish them continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD G. WARD, JR.

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a truly fine gentleman and friend, Donald Grady "Jack" Ward, a lifelong resident of Henderson County, NC, in the Eleventh Congressional District.

Jack was the son of Katherine Harris Ward of Hendersonville and the late Donald G. Ward. He served his country in the Army during World War II, and was a member of the VFW and American Legion. Jack continued his service to America very ably as a member of the Republican Presidential Task Force under Ronald Reagan and George Bush. Further, he was a member of Dana United Methodist Church.

As founder of his own business, Ward Brothers Tractor, he was a 10-time honoree of the Red Book Business Character Award. He was also a long time leader in the apple industry in Henderson County.

Henry David Thoreau once said that doing good was the only full profession. Jack believed that doing good was not only a profession but a way of life. I join Jack's family, friends, colleagues, and the citizens of Henderson County, in recognizing Jack for his leadership, community service, and service to the country.

Jack was a fine American and a loyal friend and supporter. My sympathy is extended to his lovely wife Katherine, his son Donald III, and the rest of the Ward family. It was indeed an honor to represent him in Washington, and to be an honorary pall bearer at the request of his family.

TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEER EFFORTS
AT CUESTA COLLEGE

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the tireless efforts of the 1,000 volunteers at Cuesta College, in San Luis Obispo, CA, who have shown exemplary dedication and a profound commitment to serving the needs of its students, and members of their community. These individuals provide us all with a bright example of how the spirit of volunteerism and the vigilance of engaged citizenship can make a difference in the lives of individuals and that of their community.

We should commend Cuesta College and these volunteers not just for their work, but for their example. I am extremely proud of these individuals because they speak to the limitless possibility that exists when we give our energies and talents toward improving our communities and the opportunities they provide. They show us how taking responsibility for those things we value, such as educating people, can have a great impact on our future.

Mr. Speaker, government cannot be expected to solve all of our problems, so it has become increasingly important for individuals across our nation to take part in lending their effort to such endeavors. These 1,000 volunteers from Cuesta College have taken the lead in this pursuit and for that I commend them. I request, Mr. Speaker, that the House extend them the same honor.

IN HONOR OF GERALD A.
ESPOSITO

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to Gerald A. Esposito. Tonight, community board No. 1 of Greenpoint and Williamsburg, Brooklyn, will be honoring Mr. Esposito on the 20th anniversary of his appointment as district manager.

Gerald Esposito has dedicated many years of magnanimous service to the community. His lifelong residency of Greenpoint-Williamsburg has been filled with community service work. His benevolent community work began at the Boy Scouts of America and progressed to work with VISTA. The Peace Corps, and nonprofit and local government.

Much of Mr. Esposito's time has been dedicated to improving the community. Among his many accomplishments, he has fought to protect the rights of the public by battling consumer fraud and he has served as an advocate for housing and other legal matters.

In 1977, community board No. 1 hired Mr. Esposito, making him the youngest district manager in the city of New York. Over the past 20 years, he has guided the board through many of the community's complex issues and resolved numerous problems with service delivery, budget and planning. He has proven to be excellent at negotiating, building partnerships and resolving problems.

Throughout his tenure with community board No. 1, Mr. Esposito has maintained his ties with the community by belonging to various fraternal organizations and alumni associations. He has also continued in his father's footsteps by becoming Scout Master of Troop 604 and being appointed chairman of the Boy Scouts of America Lenape Bay District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Gerald Esposito. The Greenpoint-Williamsburg community and community board No. 1 are lucky to have such a great man and leader among them. I am thrilled to have Mr. Esposito in my district.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHAMPTON
PRESS NEWSPAPER ON ITS 100TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Southampton Press, the venerable community newspaper of Southampton, Long Island that is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

Since its first edition in 1897, the Southampton Press has exemplified the finest traditions of American community journalism, providing Southampton residents with superlative coverage of local news, the arts, agriculture, business, and editorial analysis. Devoting itself fully towards serving the communities it covers, the Southampton Press has earned the highest regard of its readers and peers because it so faithfully maintains the highest journalistic ideals.

It was one of Long Island's most prominent publishers, Walter R. Burling, who founded the Southampton Press, naming his son, George, as editor and producing the inaugural issue on May 29, 1897. A newspaper veteran, Walter Burling founded and operated both the Sea-Side Times, of Southampton, and the East Hampton Star, a well-respected paper still in publication. Through 1971, the Burling family name was associated with the Southampton Press, until it was purchased by Donald Loucheim, who today publishes the paper in conjunction with his son, Joe.

The editors and writers at the Southampton Press have built a proud tradition of excellence, as evidenced by the dozens of awards and honors from the New York Press Association. In diverse categories from best editorial to spot news, coverage of the environment, education and advertising excellence, the staff at the Southampton Press has garnered the kudos of its journalistic peers.

The Southampton Press today has a higher circulation—as verified by the Audit Bureau of Circulation—than any other weekly or daily newspaper in the region. The Southampton Press now publishes two editions, each tailored to communities on either side of the Shinnecock Canal that divides the town of Southampton in two.

In recognition of the Southampton Press' role in the heritage of the town, the Southampton Colonial Society opened a special exhibition on the newspaper's history at the Southampton Historical Museum. The exhibit captures the newspaper's unique role in Southampton's history by tying its press coverage to objects and artifacts from the museum's collection.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saluting the Southampton Press on its 100th anniversary. In doing so, we also recognize the vital role that community newspapers serve in the civic realm, providing their readers with the news and analysis they need as citizens of America's participatory democracy. Congratulations, Southampton Press.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BERNICE
IVY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the loving memory of Bernice Ivy of Paterson, NJ.

Bernice was born in Pavo, GA on October 11, 1928 and departed this life after a long illness on Thursday morning June 12, 1997. She was third eldest of nine children born to James and Dora Thompson. In 1928 while still an infant, her family moved to Florida where Bernice was raised and educated, attending Carver High School of Delray Beach, FL.

In 1946, Bernice married James Henry Ivy, Sr. of West Palm Beach, FL and 13 children were born from their union. The couple resided in Florida a few years before moving their young family to Paterson, NJ in 1954. It was there that they first began their work in the ministry pastoring a small church—the Church of God on River Street, Paterson. With fervent spirit, the young couple became well-known in town as they ministered in meetings on the streets of Paterson, proclaiming Christ and evangelizing the lost to the Kingdom of God. Later, they joined Faith Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, renamed Gilmore Memorial Church of God in Christ, pastored by the late Bishop Clarence and Dr. Arlene Gilmore. They were faithful members for 29 years.

In 1962, Bernice's interest in hair care led her to pursue an education in cosmetology, enrolling in the Scotts Beauty School of Newark, NJ. Later, she obtained gainful employment at the North Jersey Training School for the mentally handicapped for nearly 25 years. Failing health forced her retirement in 1989.

In November of 1990, Bernice and her husband James relocated back to Delray Beach, FL, where they moved their church membership to Sutton Chapel Church of God in Christ. Bernice returned to Paterson in July 1996 for vacation, but failing health prevented her return home to Florida.

The Reverend and Mrs. Ivy had one of the biggest families in their church. It was common knowledge that their trusted station wagon usually made two trips on Sunday.

As a loving wife, wonderful mother, daughter, sister, and friend, Bernice leaves to mourn a husband of 50 years, the Rev. James H. Ivy, Sr.; three sons—Collious and Timothy Ivy of Paterson and Calvin Ivy of Boston; six daughters—Paulette Williams and Bernice La Vonda Lockhart of Florida, Vanessa Dale Wilder, Alicia Marie Ivy, Kathy Ann Kuykendall, and Denise L. Coba, all of Paterson; 33 grand-

children and 9 great-grandchildren; 3 daughters-in-law—Donna Ivy, Elaine Ivy, Velda Ivy; 5 sons-in-law—the Rev. Jerry Wilder, the Rev. James Kuykendall, Bill Coba, Reggie Lockhart, and Jerome Williams; her mother—Dora Thompson; 1 aunt—Dinah Mae Hayword; 4 sisters—Pearline Famon and Juanita Tripp of Paterson, Carol Pittman of California, and Willie Mae Wilson of Florida; 1 brother—Danny Thompson of Paterson; 8 sisters-in-law—Ella, Colinthia, Agnes, Jewel, Janie, Elmora, Shirley and Dorothy; 5 brothers-in-law—Sonny, Raymond, George, Eddie and Chuck; nieces, nephews and a host of relatives and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Bernice's loving family and friends, and the city of Paterson in remembering the kindness of Bernice Ivy and extolling her memory.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF DR.
INGE GENEFKE SECRETARY GENERAL—THE INTERNATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNCIL FOR TORTURE VICTIMS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is a little understood, yet tragic fact that today one-third of the world's governments utilize torture as an instrument of political power. Torture has become an effective method to suppress political dissidence, and for those governments which lack the legitimacy of democratic institutions to justify their power, torture can provide a bulwark against popular opposition.

I recently had the opportunity to confer with Dr. Inge Genefke, a Danish physician who for more than 20 years has been a pioneer in the study of the political use of torture and the consequences that torture has upon its victims. Dr. Genefke has been an outspoken and courageous bellwether in the field of finding ways to treat victims of torture, and more important, alerting the international community as to its widespread practice so that the countries that care about human rights can take concerted action to alleviate this scourge. Dr. Genefke rightly points out that torture is the most insidious weapon used by opponents of human rights, because torture can literally blot out the human spirit and eliminate the will to resist tyranny and oppression.

Beginning her clinical work investigating ways to treat torture victims in 1973, Dr. Genefke came to the conclusion that since torture was so commonplace in nondemocratic states around the world, there needed to be international outreach in order to identify and treat victims. In 1982, in Copenhagen, Denmark, Dr. Genefke established the Research Center for Torture Victims. In 1985, the center for the victims of torture was established in Minneapolis, MN based upon the Copenhagen Center's model. In 1988 the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims [IRCT] was formed to coordinate the guidance and establishment of treatment centers in the countries which required them around the world. Today there are some 144 existing centers and programs in 76 countries.

The definition of torture comes from the U.N. convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which entered into force in 1987. In the convention torture is defined,

Any act which serves by severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent and acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in official capacity.

Dr. Genefke rightly points out that for political leaders of undemocratic societies, torture is useful because it aims at destruction of the personality, to rob those individuals who would actively involve themselves in opposition to oppression of the self-confidence and other characteristics that produce leadership. I quote from a recent speech by Dr. Genefke:

Sophisticated torture methods today can destroy the personality and self-respect of human beings. . . . Many victims are threatened with having to do or say things against his ideology or religious convictions, with the purpose of attacking fundamental parts of the identity, such as self-respect and self-esteem. Torturers today are able to create conditions which effectively break down the victim's personality and identity and his ability to live a full life later with and amongst other human beings.

The work of Dr. Genefke and the IRCT is in part made possible for the U.N. Voluntary Fund or Victims of Torture. It is profoundly disturbing that in view of the essential nature of the work of the treatment centers around the world that bears upon the heart of our human rights endeavors, only slightly less than \$4 million has been contributed or pledged to the Voluntary Fund in 1997. While the United States will provide \$1.5 million in fiscal year 1997, and \$3 million in both fiscal year 1998 and fiscal year 1999, countries like Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom only contribute a fraction of these amounts.

I urge our Government and our U.N. representative to help publicize the excellent work the IRCT performs around the world and to assist Dr. Genefke and her courageous colleagues around the globe to continue the innovative assistance they provide to the struggle to promote human rights and the establishment of democratic governments. There is enormous work yet to be done in this field. In countries like Iraq, Iran, and China the victims of oppression demand our attention.

An important step in assisting in the work of the IRCT to receive attention would be for President Bill Clinton to visit the Copenhagen Center during his upcoming visit to Denmark next month. The publicity that would be afforded to the vital work of Dr. Genefke and the IRCT by a Presidential visit would be invaluable to helping raise international awareness of the importance of this practical support for human rights. I hope that the President will give every consideration to such a visit, which I have suggested in a recent letter to the President.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GEN. JOHN E.
MILLER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives and the American public the distinguished record of service to our Nation by a fellow Missourian, Lt. Gen. John E. Miller. He is retired from the U.S. Army today after serving this great Nation for over 34 years.

Entering the U.S. Army in 1963 as an infantry officer, Lieutenant General Miller started his career by serving two tours in Vietnam, first as the commander of B Company, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division and then as a district senior advisor. Advisory Team 68, Delta Regional Assistance Command. During his service in Vietnam, he earned a Silver Star, a Bronze Star with the "V" device, an Air Medal with the "V" device, a Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Lieutenant General Miller has served in many diverse assignments, including commanding general, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth; deputy commanding general for combined arms, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command; and commandant, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Other key assignments include: commander of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell; deputy commandant, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; assistant division commander (Maneuver), 8th Infantry Division; assistant deputy chief of staff for combat developments, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, VA, commander, 1st Brigade, and later chief of staff, 9th Infantry Division (Motorized), Fort Lewis, WA.

In culmination of his long and illustrious career, Lieutenant General Miller served as deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, VA. In this capacity, he has been the driving force as the architect of the future for the Army, developing and integrating future concepts and requirements for doctrine, training, and combat developments for Army XXI to operate with joint, combined, multinational, and interagency organizations. Lieutenant General Miller provided vision and guidance in the development of the Army After Next Program and has been instrumental in integrating Army models and simulations into a dynamic, efficient, and effective program. He has led the effort in developing investment strategies which lay the foundation for the Army to grow into the early 21st century. In addition to his combat decorations, Lieutenant General Miller has earned the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Soldiers Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. He has also earned the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Mr. Speaker, there is not enough time in the day to thoroughly highlight the many contributions that this outstanding Missourian has made to our Army. He has dedicated his life

to our soldiers and our Nation. He is truly a leader of leaders.

**ALBANIA—DEMOCRACY AT A
CROSSROADS**

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in March 1991, Albania held free elections for the first time in 45 years. Since then, Albania has adopted a democratic form of government, launched economic reforms, and tried to re-integrate itself into Europe. Today, however, Albanian democracy is at a crossroads.

During the cold war, the Communist Albanian Party of Labor, lead by Enver Hoxha, exercised total political control over the Albanian people and virtually cut off relations with the rest of the world. Large student demonstrations in late 1990 challenged the Communist Party's exclusive hold on power and forced the government to accept multiparty elections. Although the elections' fairness was questioned by outside observers, the Albanian Party of Labor, later renamed the Albanian Socialist Party, won two-thirds of the vote. Large-scale strikes and demonstrations ensued, forcing the Socialist Party to cede power in June 1991 to a coalition government. The coalition government comprises members of all political parties, including the Socialist Party and the Democratic Party.

The March 1992 general elections resulted in a resounding victory for the Democratic Party, which gained 62 percent of the vote. The Albanian Parliament, known as the People's Assembly, elected Sali Berisha to the presidency. The Democratic Party under President Berisha has led a strong and stable government and enacted numerous economic and human rights reforms. While Albania still remains the poorest country in Europe, its economy has grown significantly since 1989. Large, inefficient industries were abandoned and collectivized farms were swiftly dismantled. As a result, Albania's economic growth rates surpassed expectations. In 1993, Albania experienced 10-percent growth in gross domestic product [GDP], and agriculture output of 14 percent. The economy continued to grow at 8 percent in 1994, and 6 percent in 1995. Furthermore, in 1995, the Albanian parliament passed a law "on genocide and crimes against humanity" that facilitated the prosecution of crimes from the Communist period.

Albania's political and economic successes, however, are in jeopardy. Parliamentary elections were again held in May 1996. Amidst allegations of voter fraud, almost all opposition parties pulled out before the polls closed. The Organization for Security and Cooperation [OSCE], as well as other U.S. and international election observer organizations, noted "serious irregularities" during the vote, including voter fraud, ballot surfing, intimidation, and coercion. The European Parliament and the OSCE called for new elections and President Berisha agreed to a partial rerun of the election in 17 districts. The opposition demanded a full election and boycotted the partial rerun. The Democratic Party was re-elected with more than a two-thirds majority. In addition to

Albania's elections problems, in later 1996, Albania's high-risk investment plans, known as pyramid schemes, collapsed. The pyramid schemes, which promised exorbitant returns on investments, attracted over \$1 billion in private investment. The collapse of these schemes affected 800,000 Albanians, many of whom had invested their entire life savings. Following mass riots in January 1997, the Government seized the accounts of two investment groups, banned further pyramid schemes, and approved partial compensation for the investors.

Earlier this month, I had the honor to meet with the Speaker of the Albanian Assembly, Pjeter Arbneri, to discuss the upcoming election and the situations in Albania. Arbneri spent almost three decades in prison for his resistance to Albanian Communist dictator Enver Hoxha. Speaker Arbneri conveyed to me the urgency of the situation in Albania and the crisis facing Albanian democracy. He reassured me that the Democratic Party in Albania will honor the results of the June 29 elections. I was impressed by Speaker Arbneri's dedication to democracy and his strong commitment to the Albanian people. I believe that the United States should do all it can to ensure a democratic Albania.

As a result, I have introduced a resolution expressing congressional support for democracy in Albania. My resolution expresses the sense of the Congress that: First, the June 29 elections in Albania should be free and open and second, all political parties of Albania should honor the results of such elections. Through this resolution, the United States can show solidarity with the Albanian people during the June 29, 1997 elections.

A stable and democratic Albania is vital to the security of Europe and the United States. Should democracy falter in Albania, the world could be confronted with another Bosnia. The Albanian people need to know that America stands firmly behind their struggle to maintain and entrench democracy after years of Communist, totalitarian rule. Now, more than ever, the Congress of the United States needs to make clear its strong Commitment to a free and democratic Albania.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE ALCOHOL
TAX EQUALIZATION ACT OF 1997**

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Congress will adjourn for recess at the end of this week. By the time we return on July 10, beer and wine will have taken a toll in human life and injury, especially among teens and other young people, because these alcoholic beverages are less costly and have become a virtual part of the holiday itself. By blinking at beer and wine through the Tax Code, Congress will be actively complicit in this carnage.

That is why today I introduce the Alcohol Tax Equalization Act of 1997, a bill that would increase the taxes on beer and wine so that they are taxed according to their alcohol content at the same level as hard liquor. The bill creates a substance abuse prevention trust fund for alcohol prevention programs. The kinds of programs that work include cross-

peer mentoring by high school students about alcohol and drug abuse and traffic safety; teen courts to decide appropriate penalties for other teens who abuse alcohol; community-based prevention programs for pregnant women and high-risk populations; and 100 percent drug and alcohol-free clubs. The programs would be implemented through grants from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Ask Congress to explain why a can of beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine, and a shot of hard liquor which have the same alcohol content, are not taxed equally. The answer is plain—the beer and wine industries want it that way. Expect them to fight to preserve the enormous tax break they enjoy compared to their counterparts in the distilled liquor industry.

The Senate Finance Committee has just proposed substantially raising the taxes on cigarettes to discourage teenage smoking. The very same reasoning applies to beer and wine. Minors consume more than 1 billion beers each year. Teens are price sensitive because they have less disposable income. By taxing beer and wine substantially less than liquor, we bring the price down and encourage teens to make these the drinks of choice.

Because the Federal excise taxes on liquor are substantially higher than taxes on beer, Congress in sending the message to teens that these drinks are OK and are not as dangerous and addictive. Congress therefore bears a heavy part of the responsibility for the fact that alcohol abuse is the leading cause of death among teenagers and young adults.

Here in the District where there are so many low income and teen drinkers, taxing beer and wine fairly would be an important step in reducing alcohol-related traffic fatalities, accidents and disease. The need here is urgent. The District of Columbia death rate from alcohol is almost three times the rate in Maryland and Virginia—14.4 in the District, compared with 5.8 in Maryland, and 5.7 in Virginia (1994). I am pleased that the District is 1 of 39 States that has enacted impaired driving legislation. The bill I introduce today will take, District of Columbia and the entire country closer to the national goal of reducing alcohol-related fatalities to no more than 11,000 by 2005.

Beer is what America, and especially young, the America, drinks. In 1995, 60.3 percent of all alcohol sold was beer and 11.4 percent was wine. Only 28.4 percent was hard liquor. America is getting drunk on beer and wine. It is time for the taxes on beer and wine to reflect their alcohol content. A can of beer, a 5 ounce glass of wine, a wine cooler, and a shot of vodka are the same thing.

In America today, parents rarely give permission to teens to drink, but Congress does. It is time we withdrew that permission. This bill does just that.

RECOGNITION OF NIKOLA TESLA

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the vast accomplishments of an often neglected figure in our Nation's

history. A man who strived to fulfill the American dream and in doing so aided in the synthesis of some of the most significant scientific advancements of this century. The man I wish to acknowledge is Mr. Nikola Tesla: a student, an inventor, and a hero of the American industrial revolution.

Nikola Tesla was born on the morning of July 10, 1856 in the midst of a tumultuous thunderstorm. The weather conditions surrounding his birth led some to call him the storm child while his mother preferred to assume the positive approach and affectionately referred to her son as the child of the light. Both these names proved to be reflections of Nikola's later life as an ingenious inventor. His innate love for scientific discovery became apparent at an early age and lasted throughout his lifetime.

After completing an advanced degree in the field of engineering, Tesla pursued a career as an electric engineer in the United States. He worked closely with Thomas Edison, the world renowned American inventor, to bring the wonder of electricity to the growing metropolis of New York. Allied with the commercial distribution strength of George Westinghouse, Nikola Tesla began his quest to spread the power of electricity across this great country. In 1893, Tesla was commissioned to generate the thousands of volts of electrical power necessary to light the Chicago World's Fair. In addition to this engineering feat, Tesla was also responsible for the design of the Niagara Mohawk Falls power plant which to this day provides an ecological and economical means of power to the upper portion of New York State and parts of Canada.

At the turn of the century, Nikola Tesla dedicated himself to independent research which led to a series of landmark discoveries. During this period Tesla conceived such innovations as the alternating current generator, the properties of the spinning magnetic field, the Tesla coil, the basic principals of broadcasting, as well as 700 other significant inventions and theories. Many of Tesla's discoveries form the foundation upon which our current technology is based, yet presently he receives little recognition for his contributions to the modern world. It is distressing that this man who transformed science fiction into a tangible reality is not properly credited with his accomplishments.

Nikola Tesla is a man who deserves acknowledgment for his numerous contributions to the advancement of American as well as world technology. It is an undebatable fact that Tesla was an essential component in providing the economical distribution of electricity to this country, an important factor in the industrialization of our Nation. In an age in which technology and scientific advancements are vital to everyday life, we are particularly indebted to the work of this unsung hero. The modern day conveniences of electricity, telecommunications, and broadcasting are reason enough to take time to acknowledge the man who is responsible for the basis of these innovations. Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize the achievements of this American citizen before the U.S. House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL A.
BRAVETTE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Michael A. Bravette of Cedar Grove, NJ.

Michael was born on September 19, 1926 in Newark, NJ to Pasquale and Philomena Bianco Bravette. One of two children, he was raised in the city of Newark and attended the city's Barringen High School. During World War II, at the age of 18, Michael entered the U.S. Navy. He served as an electronic technician's mate, third class aboard the heavy cruiser U.S.S. *Bremerton*, CA-130, flagship of the Seventh Fleet in the Pacific Theater of Operations and earned five medals for his bravery and valor.

In 1949, Michael graduated from the Newark College of Engineering, now known as N.J.I.T., with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering and a master of science in management engineering. He was a founder and an officer in the fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi and earned a Student Council Pendant Award, for his service as a class officer and in other campus activities.

Michael's first professional position was as a material handling sales engineer who sold the largest single contract in the history of the company—overhead traveling cranes for maintenance on the then-new Tappan Zee Bridge.

A retiree since 1989, Michael was employed for over 30 years in marketing with both the Kearfott-Singer Co. and subsequently, the Plessey Co., as manager for advertising and customer relations. While at Kearfott-Singer, he cochaired their first successful motivation program, was the communications chairman for the zero defects program and served as president of the company's Toastmasters Club. During his many invaluable years of service, Michael was listed in Who's Who in America, Finance and Management.

One of the highlights of Michael's career was touring the company's facilities for 2 days with Apollo 13 astronaut, Fred W. Haise, Jr. He also prepared presentations and tours for astronauts Terry Hart and Mark Lee, Senator Bill Bradley, Congressman Jim Courter and Congresswoman MARGE ROUKEMA.

In 1964, Michael was appointed by then New Jersey Governor Richard J. Hughes as a tercentenary toastmaster lecturer for the New Jersey Tercentenary Commission. In this capacity, he was able to speak before several groups and was the guest speaker for the township of Cedar Grove 4th of July celebration held at the Memorial High School stadium. For his services, Michael was awarded by Governor Hughes a New Jersey Tercentenary Medal.

Michael is and always has been an active member of his community. He has been a parishioner of St. Catherine of Siena church since its construction and currently serves as one of the church's neighborhood ambassadors. Michael served as president of the Holy Name Society in 1960 and again in 1966. Under his leadership, membership in the society increased from 40 to 250. Also, Michael served as cochair of the 1965 fundraising drive which doubled the weekly donations to the church.

For several years, Michael was assistant coach and manager for Little League baseball and football in Cedar Grove. He also was a member of Cedar Grove's Democratic County Committee.

Michael remains active in the Cedar Grove Elks Lodge No. 2237 having served as exalted ruler and as chairman of the trustees. He was the public relations district chairman for the New Jersey State Elks Association 1975-76. He actively served on membership, handicapped children, housing, Memorial Day services, Flag Day, Mother's Day services, and investigation committees. He also served as the lodge's justice of the forum.

In 1989, Michael joined the Cedar Grove chapter of UNICO National and served as the chapter's vice-president, and president. Currently serving as publicity chairman, Michael authored special biographical news releases for Michael A. Saltarelli when he was elected auxiliary bishop, Archdiocese of Newark in 1990 and James Troiano who was appointed a superior court judge in 1992. He also promoted the special UNICO Dinner Dance held in 1996, in honor of Bishop Saltarelli who left New Jersey to become bishop for the diocese of Wilmington, DE.

As UNICO's membership chairman for 3 years, Michael nearly doubled the chapter's membership. He was appointed to the UNICO National Editorial Advisory Committee and the Gay Talese Literary Award Committee by the national president. He was honored by the Cedar Grove chapter as "Man of the Year" at the chapter' 10th Anniversary Dinner Dance in 1996. Michael is also a member of the Center for Italian and Italian-American Culture.

Michael is married to Florence Beltram whom he first met in high school. They have three children and five grandchildren. Their daughter Robyn is married to Craig Sloboda and the two live in Milford, PA. The couple has two daughters, Randi, 15 and Ashley, 10. Their son Brian is a CitiCorp vice-president and lives in Cedar Grove with his daughter Larisa, 12. Their youngest son, Barry, is a cardiologist and lives in Voorhees, NJ with his wife Cindy and his twin sons, Christopher and Matthew, 7.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Michael's family and friends and the township of Cedar Grove in recognizing Michael A. Bravette for his outstanding and invaluable service to the community.

PROVIDING FOR CONSOLIDATION
OF H.R. 1119, NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FIS-
CAL YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to oppose the rule. I have a great deal of respect for the chairman of the Committee on Rules, but I want those of my colleagues who can hear me, who can hear the sound of my voice to listen to my amendment which was turned down by the Committee on Rules yesterday.

We are talking about the military. We are talking about equipment and we are talking about facilities.

I had an amendment that said we have to honor our commitment to the men and women who serve in the military. I believe that if we are going to provide certain benefits—such as lifetime medical care—to them when they retire, then they are entitled to them and we ought to keep our promise.

That is the simple amendment. It's straightforward and it's honest. It's about making promises and keeping them.

I tell my colleagues, it does not make any difference how many pieces of equipment we have or what kind of facilities we build. If we do not have good men and women serving in the military it makes no difference how good our equipment or facilities are.

I went before the Committee on Rules to ask them to allow me to bring my amendment to the floor. All I was asking is that we honor the commitment we made to our military retirees and to honor the promises that we made. I was asking us to honor our commitment to them.

The U.S. military makes a commitment to a young person who comes in and signs up. They say, "We're going to give you health benefits for life when you retire." All of us here in the Congress know the military has repeatedly made that promise. We have the case-work to prove it over and over.

We also know that we have had problems delivering those benefits and even more problems keeping our word. This amendment would force the military to keep its word.

I am troubled that the Department of Defense doesn't support this amendment. Their legal counsel issued a three-page statement which said my amendment would "impose undesired inflexibility" on the Department. According to them, my amendment would be "unwise." It means they don't want to keep their word.

Mr. Speaker, what kind of message are we sending our retired military population when we hide behind our promises rather than honor them? Recently a Federal judge in Florida ruled that retirees over 65 years of age who enlisted in the military prior to 1956 may now sue the Government for breaking its promise of free health care for life.

Are we really supposed to sit here in the 105th Congress and tell the next generation of American military veterans that they may have to sue the Government in order to have adequate health care coverage simply because the Department of Defense is finding it difficult to live up to its word?

Mr. Speaker, we are asking the United States to honor its commitment to our veterans.

WHO WILL CARE FOR THE POOR?
NEW DATA SHOWS THE IMPENDING
HOSPITAL CRISIS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, we have just received the June report from our congressional hospital payment advisory panel—the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission—and it carries a dire warning about the future of the Nation's safety net hospitals in the era of managed care.

The report, "Medicare and the American Health Care System, Report to the Congress, June, 1997," contains the following statement and table. It is a matter of life and death to millions of our fellow citizens that we address the problem of the uninsured in these good economic times. When an economic downturn comes, the pressure on these safety net hospitals will be unbearable—and then who will care for the uninsured and poor?

Rising financial pressure has raised concern about the willingness or ability of many hospitals to continue providing uncompensated care in a more competitive marketplace. A previous ProPAC analysis suggested that high managed care enrollment is associated with increased financial pressure from private payers and with greater reductions in the amount of uncompensated care hospitals provide.⁴³ Between 1992 and 1994, private payer payment to cost ratios declined 4.5 percent for hospitals located in urban areas with high managed care penetration; uncompensated care burdens for these hospitals also fell by 4.5 percent (see Table 3-14). The experience of hospitals located in areas with low managed care penetration was quite different: Their private payer payment to cost ratios rose 4.1 percent, while uncompensated care burdens fell only 0.1 percent.

CHANGE IN HOSPITAL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE, BY
MANAGED CARE PENETRATION RATE, 1992-94
(in percent)

Financial performance	Low	Medium	High
Private payment to cost ratio	4.1	3.8	-4.5
Total payment to cost ratio	0.9	-0.8	-2.0
Uncompensated care burden	-0.1	-1.4	-4.5
Cost per adjusted admission	8.2	7.0	7.3

Note: Managed care penetration rates are based on enrollment in health maintenance and preferred provider organizations as a percentage of the total population in the metropolitan statistical area (MSA). Low penetration is less than 41 percent; medium is from 41 percent to less than 50 percent; high is from 50 percent to less than 60 percent. This analysis is limited to 89 of the largest MSAs and excludes those with penetration rates of 60 percent or more.

SOURCE: ProPAC analysis of data from the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals and the National Research Corporation.

The situation is particularly tenuous for hospitals that furnish a large amount of indigent care. They often lack the private payer base that can offset uncompensated care losses. Private payers' share of costs in public major teaching hospitals, for instance, is less than 15 percent (see Table 3-7). Moreover, compared with other institutions, these hospitals are already getting substantially higher private payments relative to costs, which makes it difficult for them to compete. The private payer payment to cost ratio for these facilities is 154 percent compared with an all-hospital average of 124 percent.

These hospitals are also in much weaker financial condition than other institutions, despite the additional subsidies they receive. Total gains for public major teaching hospitals, for instance, were only 1.5 percent in 1995, far below those for other hospitals. Given that one of their missions is serving the poor, they may not be able to reduce uncompensated care, particularly if other hospitals are doing so. Consequently, any increase in uncompensated care burdens could put such hospitals at serious financial risk.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN COOKSEY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. COOKSEY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I was not present to record votes on rollcall

votes No. 221, 222, 223, and 224. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 221, "aye" on rollcall 222, "aye" on rollcall 223, and "aye" on rollcall 224.

WARREN/WASHINGTON COUNTIES
ARC CELEBRATES 35 YEARS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to heap praise on one of the most valuable and important programs that has been operating for 35 years now in my congressional district. I'm talking about the Warren/Washington Counties ARC which provides quality services to people with disabilities and their families in my hometown and neighboring communities in New York's Adirondack Mountains.

The good people who work at and operate this fine chapter deserve all the credit in the world for the time and energy they devote to those less fortunate than themselves. Helping those who have the misfortune of being born with or acquiring disabilities, mental and otherwise, is truly one of the more admirable undertakings and one of the greater responsibilities in our society. I know those they are able to help and their families and loved ones greatly appreciate everything they do to help make their lives as full and complete as possible.

And you know, Mr. Speaker, that's the remarkable thing. We would all do well to emulate the spirit of giving of those who nurture those in our communities who may be less fortunate than ourselves through no fault of their own. The staff and administrators who have made up the history of the Warren/Washington ARC will tell you that their satisfaction comes not in feeling good about themselves, but in recognizing the joy of those they help.

Mr. Speaker, I have always been one to judge people based on what they return to their community. By that yardstick, the people of Warren/Washington ARC are truly great Americans. This is a country founded on the principles of volunteerism and helping others. What better way than to help those neighbors with disabilities enjoy the same opportunities we all enjoy to be part of a community? That's why Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members of the House rise with me in salute to this tremendous program and in wishing them another 35 years of unparalleled success.

AMENDING THE SAFE DRINKING
WATER ACT

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a noncontroversial bill which will make it much easier for States to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act amendments Congress considered last year, States are required to conduct source water assessments. These source water assessments de-

lineate and assess sources of drinking water within each State. They are an important part of our efforts to protect the public's drinking water.

When Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, there was the expectation that States could get their drinking water State revolving funds [DWSRF] up and running within a year. Accordingly, States have had the discretion to use up to 10 percent of their Federal capitalization grants for fiscal years 1996 and 1997 to conduct source water assessments. However, this short timeframe for funding has turned out to be problematic for the States. In fact, some States may not even have grant applications submitted during fiscal year 1997.

This bill would amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to fix this problem by giving States the discretion to fund source water assessments with their capitalization grants for 1 additional year. This bill would not make any new authorizations. It would place no new requirements on States, nor would it require funds to be spent on source water assessments. This bill simply gives States discretion in how they use funds they have already been granted.

When Speaker GINGRICH proposed Corrections Day in the last Congress, he said that it should be used only for noncontroversial legislation of a limited scope. I have actively participated in the corrections advisory group for the last 2 years and believe that this proposal is the ideal candidate for the Corrections Day calendar.

I have consulted with the Office of Drinking Water at the Environmental Protection Agency who have raised no objections. In fact, there is no known opposition to the bill at all. This bill is supported by the State drinking water administrators, the water supply industry, and the environmental groups.

The Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, the American Water Works Association, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the Association of California Water Agencies, Clean Water Action, and the Natural Resources Defense Council all support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every Member to support this noncontroversial bill. Congress should act quickly to send this to the President to become law.

STATEMENT ON THE RETIREMENT
OF COL. DAVID HARRINGTON,
U.S. AIR FORCE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Col. David G. Harrington, a resident of the District of Columbia, on his retirement and to thank him for his 29 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Air Force.

Colonel Harrington joined the Air Force on July 25, 1968, and has served at several locations throughout the United States and Europe. His most recent experience has been in human resources. He has attained the position of chief of the education and training division at headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

Colonel Harrington has devoted his 29-year career to helping the men and women of the

U.S. Air Force through the development of systematic policies that improve their personal and professional readiness to defend the United States and its allies. The colonel has received many awards and decorations for outstanding service during his career.

Upon the completion of such exemplary service to our Nation, I commend Colonel Harrington and wish him well in the future.

IN HONOR OF CHANCELLOR DR.
VIVIAN B. BLEVINS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER OF RANCHO
SANTIAGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Dr. Vivian B. Blevins' extraordinary commitment to education and to providing access to all students throughout her tenure as chancellor of Rancho Santiago Community College.

As chancellor, Dr. Blevins has been instrumental in promoting active engagement and participation between students, community leaders, and businesses. She has also been persistent in reaching out to the Asian-Pacific American and Latino/Chicano community.

Her many career accomplishments at the local level include: Kennedy Partners Board of the Orange County Human Relations Council, the Executive Board of Santa Ana 2000, the Board of the Delhi Center, the Advisory Board of Career Beginnings of Orange County, and the Board of Directors of KinderCaminata.

At the national level she has recently completed a 2-year term as chair of the Commission for the Office of Minorities in Higher Education of the American Council on Education. She was also chair of the Women's Caucus of the American Association of Higher Education in 1996-97 and is currently legislative liaison of the caucus. She is on the executive board of the board of directors of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities [HACU] and is currently working on a cultural diversity track for the second international conference sponsored by HACU and the Bureau of Land Management.

I would like my colleagues in Congress to join me in recognizing Chancellor Vivian B. Blevins for her outstanding service to her community. Her many outstanding accomplishments clearly mark her as an outstanding intellectual and inspirational leader. The citizens of Orange County have been very fortunate to have such a remarkable individual working for them. Let us wish Chancellor Blevins many years of enjoyment and happiness in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF DR. AND MRS.
OSCAR C. ALLEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the momentous occasion of Dr. Oscar C. Allen and Hattie Lawson

Allen's 50th wedding anniversary on June 14, 1997. The celebration was elegantly orchestrated by the couple's daughters, Dr. Adele Allen and Dr. Carol Allen, both medical doctors and accomplished pianists.

Dr. Oscar Allen was born in Baltimore, MD, where he attended public schools prior to his entering Virginia State College [VSC]. After graduating from VSC he received his bachelor of science degree. Oscar Allen entered and graduated from Howard University in Washington, DC, and received the degree—doctor of medicine in March 1944.

Dr. Allen managed to garner numerous awards and distinctions throughout his career. Among his most notable professional credentials are his awards for his Outstanding Physician Award from the Provident Clinical Society of Brooklyn; Physician Honoree of the State University of New York, Downstate Health Science Center; Alumni Award of the Greater New York chapter. Included, and most important in his impressive list of accolades is Dr. Allen's union and dedication to his lovely wife, Mrs. Hattie Lawson Allen.

Mrs. Allen is a retired educator and was for many years the assistant principal of Clara Barton High School. In addition, Hattie is the co-author with Dr. Vashti Curlin, of a book entitled "Barron's: How To Prepare for the Practical Nurse Licensing Examination," first published in 1979. Hattie has managed to garner numerous distinctions, including her membership in the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the several civic and community organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and Dr. Allen and Hattie's family and friends, in recognizing the momentous occasion of Dr. Allen and Hattie's golden wedding anniversary.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1119) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Chairman, I oppose the Hefley amendment. This amendment would transfer the Naval Oil Shale Reserve Nos. 1 and 3 from the Department of Energy to the Department of the Interior so that they can be leased for oil and gas production.

The Commerce Committee shares jurisdiction over the Naval Petroleum Reserves and the Naval Oil Shale Reserves with the National Security Committee. Unfortunately, this amendment was allowed to be considered on the House floor before one of the committees of jurisdiction has had an opportunity to hold a hearing or fully study the proposal. Proceeding on this amendment without laying a proper foundation at one of the relevant committees, forced Members to vote on an issue without having answers to a number of questions raised by the proposed transfer.

And there are many unanswered questions about this proposal. For example, is the Federal Government receiving the maximum return for the leasing of this valuable asset? Are there more appropriate dispositions of this property that would result in greater returns to the Federal Government? Is the amount of bonus and royalty to be received from the proposed leasing appropriate? Is the sharing of revenues received from the leasing of this type of Federal land appropriate? Additionally, why does the Department of Energy retain responsibility for environmental restoration of the reserves after the transfer of the leasing authority to the Department of the Interior and what are the cost implications of having two Federal Department's with jurisdiction over these lands.

Finally, there is no reason why the Hefley proposal could not have been considered as a separate piece of legislation. In fact, in order to assure that maximum value is received for these assets, it might have been more appropriate to consider disposition of all the Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserve together. If this amendment becomes law we will be in the curious situation of having the Federal Government retain responsibility for the Naval Oil Shale Reserve No. 2 and the Naval Petroleum Reserves Nos. 2 and 3 with the others being sold or leased. This amendment is not so intertwined with our national security that it had to be included in this bill without allowing time for full consideration of all the implications of its provisions.

Thus, I oppose the amendment and believe its consideration is premature at this time.

IN HONOR OF MARIO JIMENEZ AND THE GRADUATES OF THE CENTER OF TECHNOLOGICAL BACCALAUREATES, NO. 175, CLASS OF 1997

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here assembled to join with me in celebration of this year's graduates. On June 28, 1997, my good friend, Mario Jimenez, will take part in the graduation ceremonies at the Center of Technological Baccalaureates, No. 175, Class of 1997.

Mario Jimenez is a leader in his community of Whittier, CA, which is part of the congressional district I represent in the House of Representatives. Mario travels to Huitzuco, Guerrero, in Mexico to contribute to this birthplace and to celebrate the great deeds of many young graduates. He received the great honor of master of ceremonies for the class of 1997 because of his contributions in California as well as those in Mexico.

This year's graduating class of the Center of Technological Baccalaureates includes 13 electrical technicians, 22 information systems technicians, 45 computer-accounting technicians, 8 medical technicians, and 7 computer secretarial technicians.

Electrical Technicians: Alcocer, Gonzalez Marco Vinicio; Campos, Ramirez Julio; Cazares, Cruz Luis Ricardo; Garzon, Robles Dario; Lagunas, Jennifer; Marban Garcia, Jose Antonio, Marban, Salgado Jose Antonio;

Marban, Vasquez Arturo; Najera, Cuevas Jose Alberto; Ortiz, Gutierrez Jorge Antonio; Varela, Sanchez Armando; Vega, Sanchez Ivan, and Villalva, Naval Fernando.

Information Systems Technicians: Barragan, Marban Georgina Alanis; Benitez, Bahena Elizabeth; Chavez, Reyes Stibaly; Figueroa, Molina Veronica; Garces, Jimenez Nancy; Gonzalez, Franco Pedro; Gonzalez, Guevara Victor; Gonzalez, Reyes Loraine; Martinez, Castro Adriel; Melquiades, Carvajal Jose Ulises; Najerasoto, Yeimy; Orduña, San Martin Marina Lisset; Pineda, Alvarado Atenodoro; Salgado, Losano Violeta; Sanchez, Arce Miguel Angel; Sanchez, Perez Iliana; Segura, Aleman Rosario; Tafoya, Perez Ubaldina; Tejeda, Sanchez Erika; Vasquez, Lome Vianey; Vega, Vergara Viridiana Aimme, and Zagal, Mata Dinora.

Computer/Accounting Technicians: Adan, Diaz Dalila; Arteaga, Ibarra Graciano; Carrillo, Nava Pablo; Cruz, Catalan Elodia; Damian, Leyva Santos; Diaz, Bautista Teresita Del Sagario; Espiritu, Rodriguez Enriqueta; Figueroa, Gaytan Tania, Gaytan, Meza Silvestre; Gongalez, Cadenas Edgar; Herrera, Robledo Jesus Arciando; Marban, Rebollo Fernando; Morquecho, Rosales Angelica; Najera, Astudillo Celika; Ramirez, Betancourt Carmen; Roman, Lopez J. Bernardino; Roman, Tellez Miriam; Romero, Villanueva Erasmo; Sanchez, Mayag Saul Heriberto; Sanchez, Munoz Emilio; Sonido, Oropeza Epipania; Soto, Tenorio Miguel; Zavaleta, Apaez Gabriel; Andrade, Marban Lissete; Avila, Castro Rebeca; Bahena, Barcenias Maritza; Barrera, Trinidad Maria Guadalupe; Beltran, Astudillo Guillermo; Carrasco, Lucas Alberto; Castillo, Cuenca Alinee Anabel, Flores, Velazquez Gamaliel; Guerrero, Zamora Francisco Javier; Martinez, Castro Zaida; Martinez, Ortiz Araceli; Miranda, Melchor Moises; Peralta, Landa Cindy Cecyl; Reza, Cruz Iganacia; Riquelme, Najera Miriam; Rodriguez, Villegas Luis Enrique; Salazar, Vite Luz Maria; Salinas, Mateos Abel; Sanchez, Benitez Yanet; Villalva, Nava Luciano; Virgos, Rocha Eduardo y Viveros, Ayala Martza Roxana.

Medical Technicians: Cardenas, Villegas Laura Elena; Marban, Linares Martha; Mata, Vargas Margarita; Oregon, Porras Mayer; Reyes, Miranda Josue; Rodriguez, Gomez Claudia; Rosendo, Garcia Josefina, and Vargas Vazquez, Maria Guadalupe.

Computer Secretarial Technicians: Castrejon, Ocampo Rosa Maria; Herrera, Peralta Jose Alfredo; Salgado, Barrera Carolina; Salgado, Estrada Blanca Yanet; Santiguillo, Noveron Hugo; Teliz, Sanchez Olga, and Vargas, Panchito Miriam.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I send my best wishes to all the new graduates of the Center for Technological Baccalaureates and to a great civic leader in our community, Mario Jimenez.

GLOBAL WARMING AND POPULATION GROWTH: INSEPARABLE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues an article that appeared in the Monday, June 23, edition of the

Christian Science Monitor. Written by Dr. Werner Fornos, president of the Population Institute, it identifies the relationships between global warming and population growth. With the special session underway at the United Nations to review progress on the Rio Summit, his words and insights are timely and valuable for all Members of Congress.

[From the Christian Science Monitor, June 23, 1997]

GLOBAL WARMING AND POPULATION GROWTH:
INSEPARABLE

(By Werner Fornos)

During President Clinton's weekend conference in Denver with leaders of the "Group of Seven" and his address today before a special session of the United Nations General Assembly, global climate change will be among the primary topics of discussion.

It appears that the issue is heating up these days—and for good reason. As the result of a UN-estimated average global temperature rise of 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit in the next century, the world may experience widespread flooding, the disappearance of small island nations, and rowboat-only access to Bourbon Street, Broadway, and countless other coastal spots. This prognosis will be compounded by a world population that could reach 10 to 12 billion, or higher.

Although the United States, the European Union, and 153 other nations officially recognized the problem of global climate change at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, the United States remains woefully behind in fulfilling the Bush administration's pledge to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. Public awareness of the pending disaster has lagged behind as well, because of efforts by fuel companies and other corporations who see themselves harmed by emissions limitations.

Global climate change results when increased levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere block the escape of infrared, or thermal, radiation. Human activities in recent years have increased the levels of all of these gases, including carbon dioxide, ozone, methane, nitrous oxide, and chlorofluorocarbons. Water vapor is the only exception.

Carbon dioxide is the most troublesome, accounting for 60 percent of the enhanced greenhouse effect. Fuel burning, agriculture, automobile exhaust and other human emissions contribute an estimated 22 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide each year, and have caused an unprecedented 10 percent increase in atmospheric levels of the gas in the last 20 years.

Negligence by the US and the six other industrial nations of the Group of Seven—which account for 38 percent of greenhouse gas production—could lead to an estimated one to three foot increase in sea level and a mid-latitude climate zone shift of approximately 200 miles in the next century.

There is no question that controlling greenhouse gas emissions is a priority for achieving sustainable human development. And, surprisingly this is one key step toward self-preservation that can actually be beneficial to economics. Mr. Clinton has proposed an international strategy of establishing a greenhouse gas emissions quota based on a financial credit system. A similar program to control acid rain has been environmentally successful as well as cost-effective. In addition, incentives could be extended for the research and development of alternative energy sources and more efficient technologies.

The recent attention to global climate change is encouraging, but any energy policy that seeks to halt global warming cannot ig-

nore the fact that the current world population of 5.9 billion people is projected to double in only 40 years—with 98 percent of the increase occurring in the developing world. As nations such as China and India—accounting for over 2.2 billion people—seek to industrialize, what level of havoc will their greenhouse gas emissions wreak on the atmosphere?

We must recognize that global climate change and other abuses of the environment are symptoms of the strain imposed by rapid population growth and a reversal of the warming trend is unlikely unless there is a meaningful reduction in fertility.

The time is now for Clinton and other world leaders to set a course for our planet that looks beyond the present and minimizes the damage humanity has already inflicted.

The residents of numerous small island nations, who face sci-fi horror in the real-life possibility of being reclaimed by the sea, would be the immediate beneficiaries. In the all-too-near future, however, the beneficiaries would include everyone's children and grandchildren.

NIKE'S RESPONSE

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a report that former Congressman, U.N. Ambassador, and Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young recently wrote on Nike's labor practices. I also am including in the RECORD Nike's response to the Young report.

Earlier this year, Nike asked Ambassador Young to conduct an independent review on the implementation of Nike's code of conduct and provide specific recommendation on what Nike was doing right, and what can be done better.

That report, which was released June 24, lays out some very meaningful recommendations which I believe my colleagues would be interested in reviewing. Nike's response to the Young recommendations demonstrates that this Oregon-based company is truly committed to being a leader on these issues. With my colleague from Oregon, Mr. BLUMENAUER, I commend the Young report on Nike's response, and urge my colleagues to review it.

NIKE'S RESPONSE TO ANDREW YOUNG'S REPORT ON THE NIKE CODE OF CONDUCT

Our NIKE Code of Conduct sets out a basic goal—for NIKE, and for all of our business partners—always to do what is *expected*, as well as required, of a leader.

In this spirit, in February, we decided to seek a separate and independent assessment of the extent to which our contractors are complying with that Code. We turned to one person we thought had three attributes that would make that assessment most valuable.

First, a truly independent voice. Second, a person with experience and understanding of the developing world, where most of the world's apparel and footwear products are made. And third, someone who was not party to the issue—who would bring a fresh perspective to bear.

Andrew Young, former United Nations Ambassador, life-long human rights advocate, with a wealth of experience in labor and factory issues, was an obvious choice.

Today, after four months of investigation, Ambassador Young delivered his report.

His overall assessment is that we are doing a "good job." But good is not the standard NIKE seeks in anything we do.

We are acting now to improve in every area he suggests. His recommendations, and our response, are:

1. Recommendation: "NIKE should continue its efforts to support and implement the provisions of the Apparel Industry Partnership."

Action: NIKE was the first company to join. We will continue to work with our Partnership colleagues from the apparel industry, and related labor, human rights, religious and consumer groups. NIKE is represented on all of its various subcommittees, addressing implementation of the new Code and its monitoring principles. The most recent meeting was held the very day Ambassador Young presented his report to US.

We will carry this message of industry, labor and rights groups cooperation to all of our business partners and others in the industry. We will urge other apparel and retail companies to sign on. In the past two weeks we have already begun to do this with other athletic, dress and casual footwear companies.

2. Recommendation: "NIKE should take more aggressive steps to explain and enforce the Code of Conduct."

Action: As a result of comments made during Ambassador Young's factory inspection tour in March and April, NIKE reinforced implementation of the Code of Conduct and its monitoring principles by conducting eight weeks of training for NIKE production people and contract factory management in Asia, in 11 countries and 15 cities. We will follow up by:

a. Ensuring that contractors provide every employee with renewed Code of Conduct training and a simplified, written form of that Code.

b. Redoubling our efforts to ensure that every NIKE contract factory has the Code posted visibly in every major workspace, in the language of both the worker and the manager, when those language are different.

c. Add to our auditing procedures to assure that the Code of Conduct is understood, that training, posting and personal copies of the Code have the desired impact: that workers truly understand their rights, and management its obligations.

3. Recommendation: "NIKE should take proactive steps to promote the development of 'worker representatives' in the factories who can effectively represent the workers' individual and cumulative interests."

Action: NIKE contract factory worker representation spans a broad spectrum around the world, from worker management committees to full trade unions. NIKE will survey existing worker representation processes and require each of our contract factories to redouble its efforts to assure that workers truly have a voice in workplace issues.

4. Recommendation: "NIKE should insist that the factories which manufacture its products create and enforce a better grievance system that allows a worker to report a complaint without the fear of retribution and abuse."

Action: NIKE will survey existing grievance procedures in our contract factories and with other industries and factory groups. We will require each of our contract factories to adopt and implement one of several model procedures, as appropriate to its size, current representation system, and the effectiveness of that current system.

In addition, NIKE will create several pilot ombudsman projects to determine how well an outside voice can supplement and enhance the grievance procedure.

5. Recommendation: "NIKE should expand its dialog and relationship with the human

rights community and the labor groups within the countries where they produce goods and with their international counterparts.”

Action: NIKE has already begun this process. Starting in major source countries, we are seeking to establish regular sessions with groups who can foster productive dialog on contract labor issues. The Apparel Industry Partnership and a quarterly conference call with concerned investor groups are two of several forums in which we will continue to address these issues with affiliated and interested international parties.

6. Recommendation: “NIKE should consider some type of ‘external monitoring’ on an ongoing basis as a way to demonstrate its commitment to the Code of Conduct and to insure its effective application.”

Action: Specifically, Ambassador Young recommends two steps: (a) establish an ombudsman function, and (b) establish a small panel of distinguished international citizens to provide a continuing oversight role similar to that undertaken by the Ambassador. We’re already doing the first, as noted above. We’re working now to appoint an international oversight panel to fulfill the second.

Because NIKE is a leader, we have decided to take further steps beyond Ambassador Young’s recommendations, but speaking to issues he raised.

1. NIKE will strengthen the penalty system for contract factories found in violation of the NIKE Code of Conduct. This includes escalating monetary penalties, whose proceeds will fund: (a) remedial action to correct the violation or (b) investment in worker education, recreation or habitability enhancement programs.

2. We are determined that the 500,000 jobs created by NIKE’s contract relationships around the world continue to be the best jobs in the business, if any contractor consistently fails to adhere to our Code of Conduct, we will terminate their relationship with NIKE.

3. With our partner factories, NIKE will establish an ongoing training system for managers and supervisors that includes (a) basic people management skills; (b) education in local culture for expatriate managers and (c) learning the local language.

4. Ambassador Young has identified the need for a higher level of host country management in factories owned and operated by foreign investors. NIKE will assess current levels of indigenous management, and establish action plans with each contractor to assure that local management is integrated at the highest levels.

5. NIKE will continue to test pilot projects to measure the effectiveness of independent monitoring by third parties. To date two such projects have been undertaken in two countries. A third is underway.

NIKE will implement each of the actions noted above by January 31, 1998, and then reassess further steps or the enhancement of those already taken.

In addition, NIKE will continue to implement a comprehensive factory inspection program, called SHAPE (Safety, Health, Attitude of Management, People Investment, Environment) in all contract factories worldwide. Our aim is to ensure that every aspect of the factory work experience meets NIKE standards, from fire drills and sanitation to worker training and recreation programs.

Since 1994 NIKE has had independent auditors test factory compliance with our Code of Conduct. We are encouraged that Ambassador Young has found these audits to be “professionally done, (and) rigorous.” We will redouble our efforts to assure they are an effective tool. By August 1, 1997 NIKE will have in place a single, unified set of instruc-

tions to make sure that every independent audit, anywhere in the world, by any auditor, is done to the same standard.

NIKE management appreciates not only the independence and objectivity that Ambassador Young has brought to these issues, but the many other voices in government, the human rights, labor, religious, consumer and business communities, that have also contributed valuable insight.

Ambassador Young has demonstrated—on assignment for NIKE, but also over 40 years of public and private service in human rights arenas—that these issues are always best served by reasoned, honest and respectful discussion. We are committed to that course.

THE CRACK COCAINE EQUITABLE SENTENCING ACT OF 1997

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Crack Cocaine Equitable Sentencing Act of 1997. The bill, if enacted, would remove the arbitrary and unfair distinction between powder and crack cocaine sentencing. As predicted, earlier this month, the U.S. Sentencing Commission again concluded that Federal drug laws that treat crack cocaine defendants 100 times more severely than powder cocaine defendants cannot be justified. I am proud to be joined in sponsorship of this important bill by a majority of the Congressional Black Caucus.

In 1995, the U.S. Sentencing Commission released a study of Federal sentencing policy as it relates to possession and distribution of all forms of cocaine. Specifically directed by the Omnibus Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the Sentencing Commission reported on the current structure of differing penalties for powder cocaine and crack cocaine offenses and to provide recommendations for modification of these differences. Again, following a congressional mandated study, the Sentencing Commission has restated their stance against the current 100 to 1 ratio. This time, the Commission voted unanimously to lower the sentencing disparity and asked Congress and President Clinton to address the issue within 60 days. Your support of the Crack Cocaine Equitable Sentencing Act of 1997 as an original cosponsor will facilitate timely consideration of the Commission’s request.

Included in the mandatory minimum penalties enacted by Congress in 1986 and 1988 was an arbitrary distinction between crack and powder cocaine that singled out crack cocaine for much harsher treatment. The laws had the effect of creating a 100 to 1 quantity ratio for triggering equal treatment for the two pharmacologically identical drugs. For example, under current law, if a person, tried in Federal court, is found in possession of 5 grams of crack cocaine, he would be subject to a mandatory 5-year penalty. If that same person is found with 5, 50, or 400 grams of powder cocaine, he would face a maximum penalty of 1 year in prison. It would take 500 grams of powder cocaine to bring the same punishment for possessing 5 grams of crack cocaine.

One of the effects of this legislation is to punish small-scale crack cocaine users and dealers more severely than we punish their

wholesale suppliers. Continuing this unfair treatment threatens to undermine the authority of the 14th amendment to the Constitution that guarantees equal protection under the law from disproportionate punishment. In addition, current policy threatens the 14th amendment’s equal protection guarantees for those who live in areas where crack cocaine is more readily available and cheaper than powder cocaine, namely African-Americans and Latinos. These positions are outlined in the accompanying Letter to the Editor from a May 13, 1997, letter to the Wall Street Journal.

The Crack Cocaine Equitable Sentencing Act of 1997, brings back a sense of fairness to the Federal sentencing process. I challenge this Congress to adopt this legislation to promote that ideal.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM THE HONORABLE CHARLES B. RANGEL

I write regarding Mr. Wayne J. Rocques’ opinion-editorial that appeared in yesterday’s Wall Street Journal. In the article, Mr. Rocques’ condemns Reverend Jesse Jackson and me for our views regarding the mandatory Federal Crack Cocaine sentencing law, which we regard as unjust due to its disproportionate application to African American defendants, who represent almost 90% of the defendants in these cases. Current law mandates that persons convicted of possessing 5 grams of crack cocaine receive the same sentence (five years) as persons convicted of possessing 500 grams of powder cocaine. Since enactment of this law, the 100-1 quantity ratio has had a devastating and disproportionate impact on the African American community. The evidence is indisputable.

First, almost 97% of all crack cocaine defendants are Black or Latino despite the fact that these groups represent less than 50% of all crack users and less than 25% of the general population. In Los Angeles, from 1988 to 1991 the U.S. Attorney’s Office prosecuted no white suspects on Federal crack cocaine charges while hundreds of white suspects moved through the state court system. In 1992, this two track system was repeated in 17 states.

Second, although Mr. Rocques notes the difficulty of attacking the wholesale marketing of crack cocaine, he neglects to explain the reasoning behind this statement. Crack cocaine and powder cocaine are virtually identical from a pharmacological standpoint, and crack is derived directly from powder cocaine. Consequently, wholesale powder cocaine dealers also serve as wholesale crack cocaine dealers. The consensus among drug control advocates, including Mr. Rocques, is that this is the group that must be targeted for severe sentencing. Meanwhile, small time street-level crack dealers, who often produce the crack themselves can fill our jails and face kingpin sentences with possession of as little as \$50 worth of crack.

Third, to answer Mr. Rocques’ question regarding why advocates for fair sentencing would concern ourselves with drug criminals, I would remind him that the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution requires equal treatment under the law. This sentencing disparity breaks that promise and undermines the foundation of fairness that our country is built upon.

Finally, though Mr. Rocques would have your readers believe that only Rev. Jackson and I have spoken out regarding polarizing effects of the Crack Cocaine Sentencing Law, in truth, we have been joined by others in-

cluding the entire Congressional Black Caucus, Supreme Court Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy, former Drug Czar Lee Brown and Senator Robert Dole.

Even more significant are the Congressionally requested studies produced by the bipartisan United States Sentencing Commission, which in 1995 and yesterday, unanimously, released studies that found such a disparity insupportable. Furthermore, the Sentencing Commission explained that, "the current (100-1 sentencing) policy must be changed to ensure that severe penalties are targeted at the most serious traffickers." The rejection of the current biased system should guide Congress to act on these recommendations in an expeditious and responsible manner.

The Sentencing Commission's report should also spur immediate action in President Clinton, Attorney General Janet Reno, and Drug Czar Barry McCaffrey. The challenge of overcoming the zealous rhetoric of detractors demands that they fight for the commission's responsible proposal rather than issuing pensive and avoiding promises to give the report, "very serious consideration."

In addition, although Mr. Rocques' diatribe would label me as a supporter of drug legalization, nothing could be further from the truth. I have spent my entire professional career—first as a Federal prosecutor, then as a New York State Assemblyman and finally as a United States Congressman—advocating for increased awareness of drug abuse and control.

Despite the fact that I originally supported the Crack Sentencing legislation, I now recognize that its application has revealed a strongly biased and flawed statute. My strong advocacy against drug trafficking and abuse does not blind me from my responsibility to correct failed policy, no matter the author.

AMENDMENT TO THE TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1997

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, for the information of the House, today I have submitted for printing in the RECORD a copy of a proposed amendment to H.R. 2014, the "Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997," as reported. I have requested that this amendment be incorporated into the base bill upon adoption of the rule. The following is an explanation of the amendment:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ARCHER AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2014

1. MODIFICATIONS TO THE CHILD TAX CREDIT

The amendment would provide that in the case of lower- and middle-income taxpayers, the otherwise allowable child tax credit is not reduced by one-half of the otherwise allowable dependent care credit. Under the amendment, the reduction only applies to taxpayers above certain thresholds of modified adjusted gross income ("modified AGI"). For married taxpayers filing joint returns, the thresholds is \$60,000. For taxpayers filing

single or head of household returns, the threshold is \$33,000. For married taxpayers filing separate returns, the threshold is \$30,000. The reduction is phased in over the first \$10,000 (\$5,000, in the case of single individuals and \$5,000, in the case of married individuals filing separate returns) of modified AGI above the threshold. The rules for determining a taxpayer's modified AGI and marital status under the bill remained unchanged. The effective date would be years of beginning on or after January 1, 2000.

The amendment would provide that the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit notice to all taxpayers of the passage of the child tax credit. In addition, the amendment would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to modify withholding tables for single taxpayers claiming more than one exemption and for married taxpayers claiming more than two exemptions to take account of the effects of the child tax credit. The adjustments to the withholding tables would apply to employees whose annualized wages from an employer are expected to be at least \$30,000, but not more than \$100,000.

2. ESTIMATED TAX SAFE HARBOR

The amendment would change the 110-percent-of-last-year's-liability estimated tax safe harbor to a 105-percent-of-last-year's-liability safe harbor for 1998.

3. REPEAL ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX DEPRECIATION ADJUSTMENT

The amendment would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study of whether the repeal of the depreciation adjustment for minimum tax purposes would have the result of permitting any corporation with taxable income from current year operations to pay no Federal income tax and, if so, the policy implications of that result. The study would be due no later than January 1, 2001, to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance.

4. AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXCISE TAXES

The amendment would provide that the deposit rules with respect to the commercial air passenger excise taxes are modified to permit payment of these taxes that otherwise would have been required to be deposited during the period July 1, 1998, through September 30, 1998, to be deposited on October 13, 1998.

5. MODIFICATION TO TAX BENEFITS FOR ETHANOL AND RENEWABLE SOURCE METHANOL

The amendment would delete those provisions in the bill relating to a reduction in tax benefits for ethanol and renewable source methanol.

6. NAME OF THE ACT

The amendment would change the name of the Act from the "Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1997" to the "Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997".

7. CHANGE IN BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN EXPIRING PROVISIONS

The amendment would amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to provide that any preferential rate (or any credit or refund) that is scheduled to expire and that, under current scorekeeping conventions, is presumed to be extended for purposes of determining the present-law revenue baseline shall, for budget scorekeeping purposes, be assumed to expire on the scheduled expiration date.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1119) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Brady-Pombo amendment to H.R. 1119, the fiscal year 1998 Defense Authorization Act. Congressman BRADY and I are offering this amendment in response to statements made by Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Timothy E. Wirth regarding the use of U.S. soldiers in foreign countries to guard rain forests and endangered species. On June 3, 1997, at the Western Hemisphere Defense Environmental Conference, Mr. Wirth stated that using troops as glorified park rangers was "a legitimate military issue."

Mr. Chairman, President George Washington once said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." I believe this unprecedented notion of sending American military forces for purposes of "environmental crusades" is misguided and fundamentally flawed. America's ability to maintain its military readiness and leadership should not be compromised at the expense of sending our troops to foreign lands to defend rain forests and endangered species. At a time of significant military downsizing, we must ensure that our military remains in a position to protect and defend our own national security threats, not environmental quests in foreign countries.

While it is true that America is a global power with vital interests in key regions of the world, this new role for the military is inappropriate and unwise. The Quadrennial Defense Review's [QDR] recommendations, stated that "military readiness must first and foremost remain a measure of our Nation's ability to deter, and when necessary, to wage war in defense of our national interests." I believe sending American troops jeopardizes the ability of U.S. military forces to maintain military readiness as the top priority as indicated in the QDR. I believe it is important that Congress express its strong support for maintaining military readiness and not allow our well-trained troops to be sent on missions that detract from their primary mission: To preserve and protect our Nation's freedom.

I urge my colleagues to support the Brady-Pombo amendment. Our brave men and women in the Armed Forces deserve nothing less.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1119) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, the amendment to H.R. 1119 that I bring to the desk requires the Defense Department, by January 1, 1998, to submit to Congress a report on the feasibility and desirability of converting active guard reserve (AGR) personnel (active duty reservists who are involved with organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing, or training other reservists) to dual-status technicians.

Mr. Chairman, my involvement in this issue comes from the best example of the democratic process at work; a constituent request. During the 105th Congress, a constituent implored me to look into this program, ask for a study that would hopefully lead to a change in it by converting AGR personnel to dual-status technicians in order to save the tax payer more than 2.61 billion dollars per year. This number has been confirmed by General Accounting Office studies and should not be ignored. Therefore, I ask that Congress require the Secretary of Defense to conduct its own study which I and many others believe, will yield the same evidence from the G.A.O. and Rand Corporation studies.

In the current political climate where Federal governmental agencies and programs like N.E.A. and welfare are being scrutinized for their relevance and cost-effectiveness—Pentagon programs should be subject to the same scrutiny and analysis, DOD should be required to undergo the same type of introspection, study and analysis. My amendment requiring the DOD to undertake this study is non-controversial, pragmatic and necessary if Congress is to gain a full and objective picture of the age—dual status technician issue and its possible reform. I thank you for your consideration of this amendment.

VETERANS' CEMETERY PROTECTION ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Military Construction Appropriations Subcommittee, I know that our military men and women devote years of service to our country. We must honor our commitment to our current military, but must not forget about our veterans. To do so would be to abandon the very things that our veterans have fought so hard to preserve.

The American Government entered into a compact with the men and women who put

their lives on the line for our freedom. We must make sure that the Government lives up to its end of the bargain. We owe our veterans the respect they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women buried at national cemeteries across the country deserve our deepest respect and thanks. Unfortunately, vandals and thieves have made a mockery of their final resting places by desecrating Riverside National Cemetery, which is located just outside of my district in Riverside County, and most recently, the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

I applaud my colleague from Riverside for his swift work to introduce and bring to the floor H.R. 1532, the Veterans' Cemetery Protection Act. Ken Calvert recognized that deliberate acts of vandalism against America's fallen comrades must not be tolerated. Demeaning and degrading the final resting place of veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for the Nation strikes at all veterans and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, as a former naval officer, these acts of vandalism touch me directly. I firmly believe that criminal penalties for theft and vandalism and National Cemeteries must be imposed. The Veterans' Cemetery Protection Act will do just that. I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to support this important legislation. Our veterans gave their all for our country. We must give them nothing less in return.

THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF MISSION SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S GREAT TREASURES

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today is the 200th anniversary of Mission San Juan Bautista, which was founded on June 24, 1797, by Father Fermin Francisco de Lasuen, a Spanish basque Franciscan priest. It was the feast day of Saint John the Baptist.

As we go about our daily business in the Capitol, we frequently see the statue of Junipero Serra, the founder of what became the 21-mission system which begins in the south at San Diego and extends over 600 miles to the north.

Father Serra had the vision of missions that would be the centers of Christian education and practice in their particular area. The missions were ultimately also the educators and the producers and manufacturers of the clothes and food needed in what was to become the State of California in 1850.

In modern management terminology, Father Serra was the visionary chairman of the board/chief executive officer. Father Lasuen was the quietly effective chief operating officer with the talent and organizational skills to carry out the vision. With the death of Serra in 1784, Lasuen soon became his most energetic successor. In 1 year, Lasuen founded four missions including San Juan Bautista. Given the difficulties of transportation and communication that was a remarkable feat.

San Juan Bautista is the largest mission in continuous service since its founding. It is the only mission with three aisles. Some of the

other missions are in ruins. Still others, such as Santa Barbara, have been beautifully restored after an earthquake in 1925. Fortunately, San Juan Bautista is still in its original condition, despite being within a mile of the San Andreas Fault. Eight miles away is Hollister, the county seat of San Benito County. That community of 20,000 is known as "the earthquake capital of California." The Franciscan priests were architects, builders, administrators, and educators, among their numerous roles. With foresight, the mission is constructed of large adobe bricks. They have now withstood the tremors of two centuries.

The bicentennial festivities were spread over the period from Friday, June 20 through Wednesday, June 25. Friday began with a 6:30 p.m. Kiddie Parade.

Sunday was not only a beautiful day to celebrate the continuity provided by the mission but also the first formal recognition of the role of Father Lasuen.

All of us were delighted that a delegation of community leaders from Vitoria, Spain, were able to join us. Father Lasuen grew up in Vitoria, the capital of a largely Basque province. A relative of the distinguished American author of the history of the Basque people read a letter from his uncle, Robert Laxalt, author of the *Sweet Promised Land*. Laxalt described Lasuen as "The Quiet Legend who was seasoned by experience, a wise administrator and a spiritual leader tempered by reality."

Under the dedicated and able leadership of Bicentennial Committee Chairman Leonard Caetano, who with the help of his wife—and my classmate—Rosemary (Mim), and a hard-working group of committee members an amazing array of activities were arranged for the several thousand who participated in this unique celebration.

Some of the Sunday events included:

6:30 a.m.—Re-enactment of the founding of the mission.

7:00 a.m.—Bilingual mass followed by a pancake breakfast.

10:00 a.m.—A parade which included bands, dancers, horses and wagons, one of which was masterfully driven by Romaldo Martin of the M & M Farms who was joined by his friend George Nunes. They ably made it through the streets with this U.S. Representative, who grew up on a ranch five miles from the mission, standing up and waving to a friendly crowd.

11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.—A chicken barbecue.

3:00 p.m.—Dedication of the bronze bust of Father Lasuen.

4:00 p.m.—Grand prize drawing for a pickup truck. This is still farm country.

The dedication was particularly moving. The Native Sons of the Golden West, the Native Daughters of the Golden West, and the Daughters of the American Revolution presented generous checks for the restoration fund. Besides myself, Assemblyman Peter Frusetta made a formal presentation on behalf of the California State Assembly. A representative of State Senator McPherson made a similar presentation on behalf of the State Senate.

The crowd was pleased to hear from the current priest Father Edward Fitz-Henry. His predecessor was Father Maximilian Santa Maria, who inspired the community to celebrate this significant milestone in the history of the mission. His humor was enjoyed by all. He

was the able translator for the guests from Vitoria.

The bust of Father Lasuen by Alberto Forrester was appreciated by all. It contains the likeness that various accounts of the time have noted and as historian Robert Laxalt has summarized: Father Lasuen "was a young man of medium height, a ruddy complexion, a pock-marked face—probably from small pox, a moderate growth of beard, black-eyed and black hair."

The letter from Robert Laxalt and the words from the heart of the delegation from Vitoria were well received.

Throughout the celebration, there was active participation by a number of the Native American tribes such as the Mutsun whose ancestors made San Juan Bautista one of the most prosperous of the 21 missions. Their artistry was in evidence throughout the city.

Mission San Juan Bautista was also a major center for church music. In the early eighteen hundreds, Indiana youth were trained to read music and harmonize by following their colored notes up and down the scale. Their voices filled the air as the chords and bells were heard in the small town that was growing and in the productive green valley that lies below.

Cheryl Miller, a reporter for the Hollister Free Lance interviewed Sonne Reyna, a member of the local American Indian Intertribal Council, who said that "the bicentennial is a time for 'reconciliation' between the Native American and mission communities." Reyna added that the members of "the bicentennial committee have been very sensitive of what we as an Intertribal Council want to do to honor the ancestors."

Other active participants were the California state park rangers who provide interpretation of the history of the area from the Castro House and the Plaza Hotel on the south of the mission plaza and the barn, stable, and houses on the east. There are some fine specimens of equipment and wagons from the latter part of the 19th century.

Eleven miles away is Fremont Peak, named in honor of John Charles Fremont, "the Pathfinder," whose topographic expedition came to the area in the 1840's and raised the American flag over what was then Mexican territory. General Castro looked at the Americans through his spyglass. They looked down at him. No damage was done by either side. After three days, the Fremont expedition headed east to the United States of America whose boundary was still far from the Pacific Ocean.

Mr. Speaker, it was a privilege to be asked to speak on this significant occasion. When I was in grammar school at San Juan, my mother, Isabelle McCaffrey Horn, was the speaker at an annual "Peak Day" to celebrate Fremont's raising of the American flag for the first time in California.

Then and now, San Juan is "A City of History" as the banner was inscribed at the western entrance.

For the return of a native son who has never forgotten his roots, it was also an opportunity to see classmates from both elementary and high school and to meet the current community leaders.

If our fellow citizens wish to live for a moment in a proud past, they should visit San Juan, its mission, El Teatro Campesino, its well preserved homes from another century, and meet the dedicated group of those who

deeply care about historic preservation. It would be time well spent.

Mr. Speaker, I have attached some of the newspaper coverage which preceded the celebration. They include the Pinnacle (June 19, 1997), the Hollister Free Lance (June 20, 1997), and the Dispatch, located in Gilroy which is 10 miles north of San Juan.

[From the Pinnacle, June 19, 1997]

SAN JUAN TO CELEBRATE MISSION'S 200TH BIRTHDAY

Beginning tomorrow (Friday) and running through Tuesday, Mission San Juan Bautista will be a beehive of activity as thousands of visitors are expected to help celebrate the mission's bicentennial.

A Kiddie Parade will kick off activities Friday, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, beginning at 8 a.m., there will be a reading of names of individuals buried in the mission cemetery, followed at 10:30 by a Native American blessing.

From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. the Fiesta, complete with food, games and entertainment, will take place and at 5:30 p.m. there will be a bilingual mass. Crowning of the queen is scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday on the plaza, followed by two dances at 9, one featuring Mexican music at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall and another, at the Community Center, for the country music crowd.

A full day of activities is slated for Sunday, beginning at 6:30 a.m. with re-enactment of the founding of the mission, at 7 there will be a bilingual mass and pancake breakfast.

The parade through downtown San Juan Bautista will be at 10 a.m. Chairman Leonard Caetano is expecting more than 100 entries in the parade.

A second day of Fiesta activities begins at 11 and continues until 5 p.m. The chicken barbecue will also take place between 11 and 5.

At 3 p.m. Sunday there will be a dedication of the bronze statue of Father Fermin de Lasuen, founder of the mission. At 4 p.m. the grand prize drawing of a pick-up truck will take place.

A bilingual prayer session is set for 6 p.m. on Monday.

On Tuesday, beginning at 10 a.m. a blessing of the chapel service is scheduled. The bicentennial luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by a mass at 3 p.m. and reception at 4:30. The bicentennial dinner dance is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday and is the final activity of the four day event.

[From the Hollister Free Lance, June 20, 1997]

MISSION CELEBRATES 200TH YEAR

(By Cheryl Miller)

A celebration 200 years in the making starts tonight with a parade commemorating Mission San Juan Bautista's bicentennial.

The Kiddie Parade begins at 6:30 p.m. at Mutkelem and Third streets and ends at the corner of Polk and Second. A full slate of ceremonies, games, dances and meals resumes at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

Preparation activities were still under way Thursday afternoon.

"We'll be ready when it gets here," said Leonard Caetano, chairman of the mission bicentennial committee. "We're busy as a bunch of beavers."

The official bicentennial is Tuesday. On that day 200 years ago, Father Fermin de Lasuen, a Franciscan priest, established the mission along what is now known to be the San Andreas Fault.

The mission was one of eight established by de Lasuen and the 15th among 21 founded

by the Franciscans in what was referred to as Alta, California. Thanks to the work of members of various Native American tribes, Mission San Juan Bautista became one of the most prosperous sites in the Franciscan's chain.

The mission today is one of the best preserved sites in the former statewide chain. Its church is the only one with three aisles and officials claim a Mass has been said there every day since its founding.

The mission has had a lasting impact on the city that grew up around it. San Juan Bautista was once an important stopping point for stages that traveled between Northern and Southern California. Tourism remains a top industry today in the town often referred to as the Mission City.

A state park grew up around the mission as well. Today, 40,000 fourth-graders is it the park annually to study the buildings of the people who lived near the mission in its various eras.

The mission itself remains an active Catholic church. The mission hosts regular services for parishioners, weddings and ceremonies for the community. The total theater group, El Teatro Campesino, plays to sold out crowds in the mission every holiday season.

The weekend's activities include a full slate of tributes to the founders, Native Americans, and others who contributed to the mission.

A bronze statue of Father de Lasuen, donated by the residents of his hometown, Vitoria, Spain, will be dedicated in front of the mission Sunday at 3 p.m.

A Native American blessing will be said at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, at the plaza. A roll call of the names of about 200 Mutsun Indians buried in the mission will then be read.

Sonne Reyna, a member of the San Juan American Indian Intertribal Council, said the bicentennial is a time for "reconciliation" between the Native American and mission communities.

"We feel that the padre and the bicentennial committee have been very sensitive of what we as an Intertribal Council want to do to honor the ancestors," Reyna said.

Members of the San Juan Indian Council and an inter-tribal delegation will be participating in various bicentennial events.

A fiesta featuring a barbecue, a raffle, games and music will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Events resume Tuesday when Bishop Sylvester Ryan will bless a newly restored chapel located behind the current church. The tiny chapel was built in 1797 but abandoned by the church in favor of a larger facility.

It was used as a schoolroom and gift shop and then nearly forgotten until restoration work began last year. After the bicentennial celebration, the chapel will likely be opened for regular use, according to church officials.

The weekend's bicentennial celebration is being dedicated to Anthony Botelho, a San Juan resident who was active in both the community and mission life. He died last November at the age of 83.

"He was probably as active as anybody ever was," said Caetano. "He started (working in the mission community) when he was 16 and he was even planning for the bicentennial when he fell ill and passed away."

A ceremony in Botelho's honor is tentatively scheduled between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday at the plaza.

[From the Gilroy, CA Dispatch, June 20, 1997]
CELEBRATION OF MISSION SJ BAUTISTA'S 200TH YEAR

(By Cheryl Miller)

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA.—A celebration 200 years in the making begins tonight in the

Mission City commemorating Mission San Juan Bautista's bicentennial.

"We'll be ready when it gets here," said Leonard Caetano, chairman of the mission bicentennial committee. "We're busy as a bunch of beavers."

A Kiddie Parade begins at 6:30 p.m., and a full slate of ceremonies, games, dances and meals resumes at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

The official bicentennial is Tuesday, and on that 200 years ago, Father Fermin de Lasuen, a Franciscan priest, established the mission along what is now known to be the San Andreas Fault.

The mission was one of eight established by Lausen and the 15th among 21 created by the Franciscans in what was then referred to as Alta California. Thanks to the work of members of various Native American tribes, Mission San Juan Bautista became one of the most prosperous sites in the Franciscan's chain, producing the largest crop among the 21.

The mission today is one of the best preserved sites in the former statewide chain. Its church is the only one with three aisles and church officials claim a mass has been said there every day since its foundation.

The mission has had far-reaching effects on the city that grew up around it as well. San Juan Bautista was once an important shopping point for stages that traveled between Northern and Southern California. And tourism remains a top industry today. The town is often referred to as the Mission City.

A state park grew up around the mission as well. Today, 40,000 fourth-graders visit the park annually to study the buildings of the people who lived near the mission in its various eras.

The mission itself remains an active Catholic Church and hosts daily services for parishioners, weddings and ceremonies for the community.

The weekend's activities include a full slate of tributes to the Spaniards, Native Americans and others who contributed to the mission. A bronze statue of Father de Lasuen, donated by the people of Vitoria, Spain, de Lausen's hometown, will be dedicated in front of the mission Sunday at 3 p.m.

A Native American blessing will be said at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the plaza. A roll call of the names of about 200 Mutsun Indians buried in the mission cemetery will be read.

Sonne Reyna, a member of the San Juan American Indian Intertribal Council, said the bicentennial is a time for "reconciliation" between the Native American and mission communities.

"We feel that the padre and the bicentennial committee have been very sensitive and very supportive of what we as an Intertribal Council want to do to honor the ancestors," Reyna said.

Members of the San Juan Indian Council and inter-tribal delegation will be participating throughout the weekend's events.

A fiesta featuring a barbecue, raffle, games and music will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Events resume Tuesday when Bishop Sylvester Ryan will bless a newly restored chapel, located in back of the current church. The tiny chapel was built in 1797 but abandoned by the church in favor of a larger facility.

It was used as a schoolroom and a gift shop and then nearly forgotten until restoration work began last year. After the bicentennial celebration, the chapel will likely be opened for regular use according to church officials.

WHERE IS THE SUCCESS IN OUR CURRENT POLICY TOWARD CHINA?

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I have voted against MFN status for China every year since becoming a U.S. Representative in 1993. I will vote against MFN status for China again today.

The economic reforms initiated by the Chinese Government in 1978 have vastly improved the lives of the Chinese people. I understand the argument that this improvement has led to better opportunities for the people of China and I hope that China's economy will keep growing and the lives of its people improve. However, I cannot ignore the fact that this economic liberalization has been carried out under a politically repressive regime that does not respect the basic rights or dignity of its people. Hopefully, in the years to come, more economic freedom will lead to political freedom. But, until that day comes, we cannot close our eyes to the Chinese Government's unparadonable behavior.

The United States has much to gain by engaging the leaders of China on a broad range of issues. Nonetheless, engagement must not become an excuse for a lack of principle or a lack of will on the part of the United States to stand up for American beliefs. Respect for Chinese sovereignty does not mean that the United States must ignore behavior by the Chinese Government that we regard as reprehensible.

For many years, the debate on MFN served as a useful inducement for the Chinese Government to improve its human rights record. There are good people in the United States who believe that the annual debate now does more harm than good. They believe ending China's MFN status would serve no useful purpose. I disagree. One compelling reason the debate carries little weight with the Chinese Government now is that China has come to take annual extension of MFN status for granted. I question whether the leaders of the Chinese regime would treat American concerns so cavalierly if they believed that China would suffer an economic disadvantage because of their behavior.

Since President Clinton delinked human rights from the extension of MFN, China has exported nuclear weapons technology and ballistic missiles in violation of its treaty commitments. It has supported nations hostile to the United States and continues its military threats

against Taiwan. China has also failed to enforce bilateral agreements with the United States on intellectual property which costs American businesses and workers billions of dollars in lost profits and wages.

But even worse, China has imprisoned still more domestic critics and threatened foreign individuals and organizations who rightly criticize the government in Beijing. China increasingly jails those who practice their faith. In short, China has failed to comply with human rights conventions it has agreed to in international treaties and it has flagrantly disregarded attempts by the United States to achieve a better footing for bilateral relations. The delinking of human rights from MFN has caused more harm than the much-needed Congressional debate on Chinese behavior.

Although China does offer an important and growing market for American goods, the American business community has seen minimal gains in many Chinese markets—and suffered in others—as China plays one nation off against another in an attempt to affect policy. I agree that trade with China is a matter of great importance, not only to our trade-based economy and our national security, but also to the future development of China and the rights of its people. But trade, and our overall relationship with China, must be a two-way street. American policy cannot be based on what Beijing wants. Our policy should reflect what is in the long term interest of our fellow citizens.

Soon, Hong Kong will be controlled again by China. What will the United States do if freedom is smothered by the Chinese authorities? What will this House do? The current U.S. position on engaging China is more hope than policy. I applaud the efforts of many of my colleagues—including David Dreier, Chris Cox, Robert Matsui, John Porter, and others—who are working on legislation that will establish a meaningful policy of engagement with China. We need a framework that will propose real actions to engage and respond to China and a policy that China cannot take for granted.

Whether or not the United States and China can coexist peacefully in the next century is one of the great questions we must all consider. If we are to live in peace, how will we establish a relationship to do so? The United States must develop a plan for working realistically and constructively with China to solve the many issues of concern to both countries. The United States and China need to establish a relationship based on mutual trust and respect. Unfortunately, I do not believe such a relationship exists today. I cannot vote to support MFN in good conscience because of the many serious concerns I have stated. However, I strongly support efforts that offer the promise of a real dialogue with China about fundamental American beliefs regarding dignity and fairness. I also strongly support the creation of a relationship in which American concerns are treated with the same sensitivity as America has treated China's concerns.