

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TEACHER TECHNOLOGY TRAINING ACT OF 1997

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Teacher Technology Training Act of 1997 offered by my friend and colleague, Representative MORELLA, who heads the Science Committee's Subcommittee on Technology. I am proud to be a sponsor of this important legislative initiative.

Hooking schools to the Internet and improving access to technology are crucial first steps towards ensuring our Nation's students can compete in the increasingly global economy of the 21st century. However, access to technology is only half the equation. Making sure teachers and students are able to do more than admire the brand new computers in their classrooms and actually use them is the second half of the equation. The Internet is truly the world's first global teaching tool, but we will never realize the power and potential of the Internet as a teaching tool until we equip teachers with the necessary training to know how to optimize its use in the classroom.

The Teacher Training Technology Act is a legislative initiative introduced in Congress geared solely towards funding for teacher training in technology. Many Federal programs have money available for teacher training, but there are frankly too many claims and demands on these funds to accommodate teacher technology training. Included in the President's Technology and Literacy Program, is a proposal set aside of funds for technology in education, but a glaring defect is that no funds are focused specifically on technology training for teachers.

This legislation recognizes the technology training deficit and provides for both in-service training for existing teachers, and pre-service training for new teachers, so that both groups will be better prepared in the classroom.

Just as a dictionary cannot be used as a resource by someone who is unable to read, computers in our classroom are only useful to the extent that teachers are able to understand their operation and apply this know how in the classroom today and tomorrow. I ask that my colleagues support this bipartisan legislation.

U.S. GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute three outstanding young women who have been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by the Michigan Pine and Dunes Girl Scout Council in Muskegon, MI. Debbie

Christenson, Shannon Jones, and Randi Durst were honored May 15, 1997 for earning the Gold Award, the highest achievement award in U.S. girl scouting.

The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the career exploration pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project.

As members of the Michigan Pine and Dunes Girl Scout Council, Debbie, Shannon, and Randi have been working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award for over a year. Debbie completed her Gold Award project in the area of developing pride for girl scouting in younger members by honoring the Girl Scout founder, Juliette Low. For her project, Shannon coordinated and promoted the 85th anniversary celebration of girl scouting, while Randi's project was in the area of scholarship funding for wider opportunity participants.

I would like to commend these three young women for the significant service they have provided to their community and their country and congratulate them on receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

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. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, many Department of Energy sites have dramatically downsized over the past three years. In fact, each of the three largest sites—Hanford, Savannah River, and Oak Ridge—have seen reductions in employment of at least 30 percent during this time frame. Each has had its work force reduced by at least 3,100 employees. This has had a dramatic impact on these areas, especially those located away from a metropolitan area.

In spite of these reductions, the committee cut section 3161 economic transition funding from \$70 million to \$22 million—more than a 60 percent reduction.

My amendment would restore \$44 million to the program, and require that the Department contract with a private auditing firm to conduct a study examining the impact of the program in the past 2 years, and an estimate of the number of jobs created in each community under the 3161 program.

This is a responsible, commonsense way to ensure that current programs continue, but that we also take steps to ensure that the money is spent efficiently.

If the report suggests otherwise, Congress can then take action to address the program's deficiencies.

As a result, I urge a "yes" vote on this amendment.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF A. JASON BONAPARTE

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 1997

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise to recognize high school senior, A. Jason Bonaparte, for his outstanding contributions to our community as a member of the Beautillion 1997 Program. The success of our Nation lies in the hands of our youth as they mature into the next generation of decisionmaking adults. It is particularly reassuring to see a young man such as Jason make a concerted effort to secure his future and the future of our Nation.

This spring, Jason Bonaparte achieved two important milestones. In addition to receiving a high school diploma, he also graduated from the Beautillion 1997 Program. Sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, this program is dedicated to assisting in the advancement of African-American males in our communities. The Beautillion prepares a select group of individuals for life in college and beyond through various educational, outreach, and service-oriented activities. Jason and his fellow participants took on tough issues facing our Nation through discussion groups, and had an opportunity to gain valuable insight from community leaders through a guest lecture series.

The hard work and dedication of Jason Bonaparte and his fellow participants in the Beautillion Program is deserving of our recognition. In their efforts, these young men have become role models for our Nation's youth. The have made a positive investment, not only in their own lives, but in the future of our country as a whole. I commend them on their efforts.

DISAPPROVAL OF MOST-FAVORED- NATION TREATMENT FOR CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose this resolution. The debate today comes down to two simple questions: Will we choose to isolate China, or will we remain actively engaged with China through trade and economic cooperation?

• 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.