IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating 25 years of women serving in the U.S. maritime industry. The California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, CA, is celebrating this occasion at a series of events scheduled today and I would like to commend the California Maritime Academy for its role in supporting and encouraging women in the maritime industry.

The California Maritime Academy was established through legislation signed in June 1929 to train merchant marine officers for the maritime industry. Cal Maritime, a campus of the California State University, is the only maritime academy in the western region of the United States.

Women first began pursuing careers in the maritime industry in 1972 when five female cadets enrolled at the California Maritime Academy. One hundred and thirty-seven women have graduated from the California Maritime Academy since 1972. One of the first women graduates at Cal Maritime, Lynn Fivesy Konwatch, went on to sail as the first female captain of an American flagship, and another, Jean Thatcher Arnold, became the first female to be licensed as chief engineer in the U.S. merchant marine.

Cal Maritime became the first maritime academy in the United States to have a woman serve as its president, Dr. Mary Lyons, from 1990 to 1996. Currently Sadie Rabe at Cal Maritime is the newly-selected corps commander whose responsibilities include administration and enforcement of all academy rules and regulations, and she conducts Cal Maritime can take great pride in the accomplishments and successes of both male and female graduates.

Again, I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating 25 years of women in the U.S. maritime industry.

IN HONOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a respectful tribute to the Polish National Catholic Church of the Resurrection on the 75th anniversary of its founding. The Church of the Resurrection has a noble history in serving the Polish community of Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

Twenty-five years after the founding of the Polish National Catholic Church in 1897, the
The oversight in this provision is the failure to exempt the Canadian nationals who previously have not been required to fill out INS documents, or I–94’s, at the border. In 1996, more than 116 million people entered the United States by land from Canada. Of these, more than 26 million were Canadian or United States permanent residents. As anyone who has crossed the United States–Canada border knows, congestion is a problem. The more than $1 billion of goods and services trade that crosses our border daily adds enormously to this congestion. For this reason, the United States was to implement the entry and exit procedures required by section 110, congestion would turn into a nightmare at the border.

After the Immigration Reform Act passed last year, Chairmen Simpson and Smith of the Senate and House Judiciary Subcommittees on Immigration, respectively, wrote to Canadian Ambassador Raymond Chretien assuring him that “we did not intend to impose a new requirement for border crossing cards or I–94’s on Canadians who are not presently required to possess such documents.”

Mr. Speaker, consistent with the intent of the United States–Canada Accord on Our Shared Border to open and improve the flow of United States and Canadian citizens across our common border after the intolerable congestion that would result from implementation of section 110 as it now stands, I am offering an amendment to the Immigration Reform Act. My bill simply exempts from section 110 Canadian nationals who are not otherwise required by law to possess a visa, passport, or border-crossing identification card.

This correction of an oversight in the 1996 Reform Act is the right thing to do, the practical thing to do, and it follows through on assurances made to the Canadian Ambassador that it was not congressional intent to reverse decades of practice with respect to Canadian nationals.

The text of the bill follows:

H.R. 3860

To amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 to clarify that records of arrival or departure are not required to be collected for purposes of the automated exit control system developed under section 110 of such Act for Canadians who are not otherwise required to possess a visa, passport, or border crossing identification card.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SEC. 1. EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ALIENS FROM ENTRY-EXIT CONTROL SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 110(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1221 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) SYSTEM. (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall develop an automated entry and exit control system that will—

“(A) collect a record of departure for every alien entering the United States and match the record of departure with the record of the alien’s arrival in the United States; and

“(B) enable the Attorney General to identify, through on-site screening procedures, lawfully admitted nonimmigrants who remain in the United States beyond the period authorized, the so-called overstays.

“(2) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ALIENS.—The system under paragraph (1) shall not collect a record of arrival or departure for an alien—

“(i) a Canadian national; or

“(ii) an alien having a common nationality with Canadian nationals and who has his or her residence in Canada; and

“(B) who is not otherwise required by law to be in possession, for purposes of establishing eligibility for admission into the United States, of—

“(i) a visa; or

“(ii) a passport; or

“(iii) a border crossing identification card.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–208; 110 Stat. 3009–546).

Tribute to Dr. James Billington on the 10th Anniversary of His Selection as Librarian of Congress

Hon. Tom Lantos
Of California
In the House of Representatives
Tuesday, September 16, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying a well-deserved tribute to Dr. James Billington, a dear friend of mine, who has served our Nation with great distinction as the Librarian of Congress for the last 10 years. This week we mark the 10th anniversary of the appointment of Dr. Billington to this important leadership position. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him as we celebrate this important milestone.

Dr. Billington was appointed the 13th Librarian of Congress by President Ronald Reagan in 1987, and he was subsequently confirmed to that position by the U.S. Senate. Earlier, he served as the director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and before that he was a distinguished professor and scholar of Russian history and culture at Princeton University.

The Library of Congress is the largest and most comprehensive library in the world with more than 110 million items in more than 450 languages. Managing that immense collection is a major task in and of itself, but Dr. Billington assumed the position as Librarian of Congress at a critical time in the Library’s history. The past 10 years have been a time of great change because of the rapid and complete transformation of information technology. At this critical time, Dr. Billington’s vision, insight, and skills have been a tremendous asset for the Library, for the Congress, and for the American people.

Dr. Billington was one of the first scholars and cultural administrators to recognize the significance of the approaching information age and its importance for the Library of Congress. At his confirmation hearing in 1987, Dr. Billington voiced his hope that “the Library might furnish new technologies boldly” and share its catalog and national treasures by the year 2000 with citizens in local communities across America. In 1994, Dr. Billington’s hope became reality when the National Digital Library was launched.

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