

Whereas, not only to provide her wrong, but also to achieve something positive for the nation as a whole, Mr. Watson, in April of 1982, vigorously embarked on a nationwide crusade to secure ratification of the constitutional amendment; and

Whereas, Mr. Watson's astute efforts with respect to the 27th Amendment have been chronicled in many different places; he was featured in the June 1, 1992, issue of People's magazine and in the February 22, 1993, issue of U.S. News and World Report magazine; he was also prominently featured in such legal periodicals as 10 Glendale Law Review (92-109) during 1991 and 61 Fordham Law Review (497-557) in late 1992; he was cited in the Congressional Record by U.S. Representative J.J. Pickle on March 24, 1987; and

Whereas, Mr. Watson is an integral part of the 393 page novel, *Amending America*, by Richard B. Bernstein with Jermon Agel, which novel explores various amendments proposed to (some of which later successfully became part of) the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, Mr. Watson's work has been noted in countless newspaper articles, including, such trusted as the Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, USA Today and The Washington Post; and

Whereas, the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution of the United States of America, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, made its way into our Nation's highest law in early 1870, the legislatures of five other states which were part of the Union prior to its adoption, but which, like Tennessee, had not approved the amendment, post-ratified its many years after 1870; and

Whereas, for the past 21 years, Tennessee has stood alone as the only state in the Union, both well before Amendment 15 was proposed and long after it was adopted, whose legislature had never placed its own unique imprimatur upon these fundamental two sentences of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, on April 8, 1997, the 15th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified and signed by the Honorable Don Sundquist, Governor of the State of Tennessee; and

Whereas, it is fitting and appropriate that the elected Representatives of the State of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to an exemplary gentleman who has given unreservedly of himself, his time and his talent to perpetuate the public good; now, therefore,

I Jimmy Naifeh, Speaker, of the House of Representatives of the One-Hundredth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, at the request of and in conjunction with Representative Joe Armstrong, Chairman, Tennessee Legislative Black Caucus and its members do hereby proclaim that we recognize, honor and thank Gregory D. Watson for the integral part he played in "Amending America" and his many contributions to constitutional law.

Proclaimed in Nashville, Tennessee on this the 28th day of April, 1997.

Jimmy Naifeh, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Joe Armstrong, Representative, Knoxville. Henri Brooks, Representative, Memphis. John Deberry, Representative, Memphis. Larry Turner, Representative, Memphis. Joe Towns, Representative, Memphis. Barbara Cooper, Representative, Memphis. Tommie Brown, Representative, Chattanooga. Roscoe Dixon, Senator, Memphis. Thelma Harper, Senator, Nashville. Edith Taylor Langster, Representative, Nashville. Mary Pruitt, Representative, Nashville. Kathryn Bowers, Representative, Memphis. Lois

Deberry, Speaker Pro Tempore, Memphis. John Ford, Senator, Memphis. Ulysses Jones, Jr., Representative, Memphis. Larry Miller, Representative, Memphis.

## EDUCATIONAL CHOICE

### HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 8, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to read the following articles about educational choice. One is an editorial from the Wall Street Journal, the other, an article by Lindsay Sobel from The Hill, entitled "Voucher Opponents Send Own Children to Private Schools." I believe that it is crucial that every child of every background in every neighborhood is given the opportunity to access the best education possible. It amazes me that many of our colleagues continue to arrogantly refuse to offer the children in the failing District of Columbia schools the same educational opportunities that are available to their own children.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Sept. 8, 1997]

#### SIDWELL LIBERALS

Our vote for the worst scandal in America right now is the education monopoly that keep poor, inner-city kids trapped in awful public schools. Special mention here goes to the politicians who oppose giving these children the choice to escape even as they send their own kids to private schools.

Let's call them Sidwell Liberals, after the famous Washington, D.C., school where President and Mrs. Clinton sent their daughter. That school turned out to be a splendid choice for Chelsea Clinton, who is now moving on in impressive style to her freshman year at Stanford. Vice President Al Gore and his four children have also benefited from elite private education. Despite this personal experience, both men oppose giving the same kind of choice to kids who must walk through school metal detectors within miles of the White House.

Now comes a survey of Congress showing the same kind of Sidwell hypocrisy. Nina Shokraii, an education analyst at the Heritage Foundation, spent the summer asking Members of Congress where their kids go to school. She got answers from about nine of 10 House members and 77 Senators. Of those responding, 34.4% in the House and 50% of Senators with school-age or older kids have sent them to private schools.

Members of Congress are upper-middle-class folk with the income to afford private school tuition. This isn't true of most American families, which is one reason only 14% of school-age kids go to private school nationwide. For black and Hispanic children, the number is 8%. Yet the Heritage study shows that 32% of the Congressional Black Caucus, and 44% of the Hispanic Caucus, educate their children outside the same public school system they claim to hold so dear.

Many parents are satisfied with public schools, of course, and if you live in the likes of Winnetka, Ill., or Scarsdale, N.Y., or the state of Utah this is at least rational. Many of these parents figure they've already exercised "choice" in where they've decided to live. Their "tuition," if you will, comes in the form of high-priced real estate. This is one reason many middle-class voters have been reluctant to embrace a full-fledged voucher program, especially with the teachers' union demagoguing the issue.

But where this opposition is insane, and becomes a form of national self-destruction, is in the big urban school systems that work like the Mir space station. Some of the best of these schools have 50% dropout rates. Many teachers wouldn't dream of sending their own kids to the same urban schools they work in everyday.

It is precisely these horrendous schools that education reformers have begun to target with school-choice proposals that offer some kind of financial or tax help to low-income families. The Republican House passed a bill last year for the District of Columbia, 241-177, only to see it opposed by Senators who send their children to private schools. Ted Kennedy's kids went to private school, of course. Arlen Specter, a Republican from Pennsylvania, has also opposed the D.C. choice bill, but chose private schools.

The Heritage study doesn't get into individuals, but our own reporting shows plenty of Sidwell Liberals in the House, too. A couple of them belong to committees holding hearings this week on both the D.C. proposal and broader school choice. Missouri's Bill Clay is the ranking Democrat on the Education Committee and voted against the D.C. bill last year. So did Democrat Matthew Martinez of California. Yet both didn't object to private schools for their own offspring. Overall, according to the Heritage study, nearly 40% of the Members on the House Education committee, which has jurisdiction over school choice, have chosen private schools for their kids.

The political fashion among GOP pollsters now is that "school choice" doesn't sell to the middle class. But how about junking the polls for once and making the case based on justice and the national interest? America can't stay a great nation with millions of inner-city kids held hostage to a public school monopoly that turns them into truants or worse. Not every American kid can go to Sidwell, but none of them should be consigned to schools no liberal would accept for his own flesh and blood.

[From The Hill, Wednesday, Oct. 1, 1997]

#### VOUCHER OPPONENTS SEND OWN CHILDREN TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS

(By Lindsay Sobel)

Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun (D-Ill.) sends her only son to a private parochial school in Illinois. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass) sent his children to private schools in the D.C. area, while Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) sent at least one of her children to Georgetown Day School, a private school.

Others who sent their children to D.C. area private schools include Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) and Sens. James Jeffords (R-VT.) and Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.)

But none of them favor a proposal to give 2,000 D.C. students federally funded vouchers that would enable them to attend private schools.

Moseley-Braun said such a program would be "a dilution of support for public education," a sentiment echoed by the others.

But supporters of the measure argue that low-income families should have the same choices about where to send their children to school that members of Congress do. "The nation should be outraged that [congressional opponents] insist that school choice should not be an option when they send their children to private schools," said Star Parker, president of the Coalition on Urban Renewal and Education.

Although at least 20 members of Congress whose families live in the Washington area have school-age children, a survey by The Hill revealed none who send their children to

the beleaguered District of Columbia's public schools.

Most of these members support a proposal that would provide 2,000 D.C. students with scholarships to attend private schools, because they consider the D.C. schools so inferior. But some do not support a nationwide voucher program because they believe that most public schools provide an adequate education.

The measure is part of the House's District of Columbia Appropriations bill, but it failed in the Senate.

But Moseley-Braun said money spent on vouchers could be used "to fix up the crumbling public schools." She said everyone has the right to send their children to a private school, but added, "Taxpayers should not be forced to pay for it" because that is "paying twice."

The D.C. provision is different from most voucher proposals in several ways: The scholarship money for students to attend private schools does not come out of the public school budget. Families must be below the poverty level to receive the full scholarship.

Del. Norton opposes the plan on the basis that it violates D.C. home rule. Donna Brazile, Norton's chief of staff, said that supporters of the bill do not want to help D.C. students. "This is a form of national experimentation," said Brazile, adding, "They can't impose their will anywhere else in America, but they can impose it here."

Those who support the measure include those who sent their children to both public and private schools, Virginia Reps. Jim Moran (D) and Tom Davis (R) both send their children to public schools in their districts in the Virginia suburbs.

Moran said that while he supports vouchers in Washington because District schools are in a severe crisis, "I believe in public schools and wanted my kids to have a diverse experience." His first-grade daughter and third-grade son attend Cora Kelly Elementary School in Alexandria, which is 80 percent minority.

Asked if he would have sent his children to public schools if he lived in the District, Moran replied, "I would make the decision that almost every black middle-class parent has already made and not subject my kids to the D.C. public schools. 'Most low-income parents would do the same if they had the option,'" he added.

Davis, too, said he opposes vouchers in general. But he supports the proposal for D.C. because, "The city can't even certify that the schools are safe."

Acknowledging that he would never send his kids to D.C. public schools and doesn't know any members of Congress who do, Davis said he has three children in the public schools in Virginia. He called the difference between the two systems like night and day, adding, "The reason the middle-class has left the city is the schools."

#### IRS LESSONS FROM THE INS

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 1997*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, like millions of Americans around the country, I am still reeling from the Internal Revenue Service hearings a few weeks ago. Not all that was brought to light was very surprising. Anyone who has ever had to deal with the IRS knows just getting a phone call answered is comparable to climbing K-2.

But when confirmation of the agency's abusive practices and mismanagement turned to outright disregard for the law, I was not only outraged, but began to see striking similarities with another very political Federal agency, the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

In 1996, the Department of Justice Inspector General's Office found that high ranking INS officials had lied to Congress, instructed others to do the same and obstructed the subsequent investigation. The events leading to the investigation occurred during a congressional fact finding visit to the Krome Detention Facility in Miami.

Several individuals were eventually disciplined, however some received promotions during the investigation. And while the disciplinary recommendations from the inspector general ranged from demotion and suspension to termination, to date, almost all have been reinstated or reassigned and not one was terminated.

Mr. Speaker, the IRS hearings and the Krome case illustrate a disturbing pattern for this administration. Wrong doing is not only tolerated but encouraged and rewarded. The IRS now has the opportunity to do the right thing. Learn from the errors of another agency, put politics aside, identify those responsible and administer the fair hand of justice. This is a simple first step in restoring the confidence of the American people in their government.

#### A TRIBUTE TO CLIFF BARBER

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 1997*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make our colleagues aware that one of my distinguished constituents will be celebrating his 80th birthday this coming weekend.

Clifford Barber of the town of Montgomery, NY, has earned renown in our community as one of the most prominent and respected attorneys in Orange County. In his capacity as a counselor as well as a local judge in the town of Montgomery, Cliff became known as the embodiment of integrity and dedication.

In 1977, Cliff Barber became the Republican County chairman of Orange County. In that role, Cliff personified fairness and even-handedness in keeping the Republican Party synonymous with good government. An early and enthusiastic supporter of Governor Ronald Reagan for President, the people of my congressional district elected Cliff as a delegate to the Republican National Convention in Detroit in 1980.

Soon after President Reagan took office, he appointed Cliff as Superintendent of the U.S. Mint at West Point. The newest of our Nation's Mints, West Point was considered a stepchild in many ways. Under Cliff's leadership, the West Point Mint assumed the responsibility for most of our commemorative coins, which as we all know has earned a great deal of revenue for the Federal Government without burdening the taxpayers. West Point also continued to produce the bulk of our one cent pieces.

It was during his tenure as Superintendent of the Mint that Cliff became known as the champion of the rights of our Federal employ-

ees. He never hesitated to make certain that the health, safety and well-being of the employees at the Mint were never forgotten, and when Cliff retired in 1989 he was genuinely beloved by all who worked under him.

Cliff Barber's retirement from the West Point Mint freed him to resume his political activities in Orange County. Despite the 8-year hiatus, Cliff was re-elected Republican chairman in 1989, and served until 1995. His second tenure as party chairman was even more noted than his first, and he retired as the grand old man of the Grand Old Party.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with his wife Jane, his children, his family, and his many loved ones in coming together to wish Cliff the best on this milestone occasion, and our sincerest wishes that Cliff's coming years will be as eventful, productive, and healthy as the first 80 have been.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 1997*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a word of warning to House of Representatives leadership. Yesterday's failure to consider campaign finance reform in the Senate should not be used as an excuse against allowing a vote in this body.

I was very disappointed to see that a minority of the Senate was able to block consideration of the McCain-Feingold legislation. It is clear that the will of the majority is being denied by the procedural tricks of the Senate leadership. In the House, the will of the majority is being denied by the refusal of the House leadership to allow a vote.

While it may be easy for Members of Congress who oppose reform to point to the failure in the Senate as the excuse for inaction in this House, I will not accept that excuse. I will continue to demand that the House of Representatives be given the opportunity to vote on campaign finance reform.

#### TRIBUTE TO GERALD DAVID LLOYD

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 8, 1997*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who served his country, his community and his family. Gerald David Lloyd, known to family and friends as Joe, was a man whose civic responsibility was the foundation of his life.

Mr. Lloyd enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1968 where he served for 6 years, achieving the rank of Sergeant E-5 and receiving a number of prestigious awards and medals: National Defense Service Medal; Rifle Marksman; Vietnamese Service Medal with three stars; Vietnamese Campaign Medal with Device; Good Conduct Medal; and RVN Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

In 1974, Mr. Lloyd served as a fighter with the California Division of Forestry. Immediately thereafter, he began a career as a plumber