

when friends and colleagues urged him otherwise.

Joel believed you do not have to give up your principles to work with people and to be pleasant. He said, "I have always been able to get along with people, people I disagreed with, to help find a way out of an impasse."

I considered Joel both a friend and respected colleague. He will be deeply missed, not only in Washington State, but also here in Washington, DC.

Today I would like to pay respect to Joel Pritchard and to send from the House of Representatives our sympathy to his family. Joel, you will most certainly be missed. I hope that we in Congress can continue to work across partisan lines that you so aptly personified in your exceptional career.

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#### THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] is recognized during morning hour debates for 3 minutes.

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, tonight the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues will be celebrating its 20th anniversary. Since 1977, the Caucus has worked to ensure the well-being of women, children and families, and has played a major role in the enactment of more than 100 laws or provisions of laws. The Family and Medical Leave Act, child support enforcement legislation, child care legislation, expanded funding for women's health research, civil rights legislation, the Violence Against Women Act, just to name a few, are among the achievements of the Caucus.

In the last Congress, I had the honor of cochairing the caucus with my good friend and colleague, NITA LOWEY. We had the difficult assignment of guiding the caucus from its former status as a legislative service organization with a separate office and five paid staffers to the current status as a congressional members organization, without paid staff or office space.

While many of the caucus' folded under the lack of financial and staff support, the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues continued to thrive and contribute its energies to legislation benefiting women, children and families.

In the 104th Congress, the caucus successfully worked on behalf of increased funding for the Violence Against Women Act, women's health research, and other priorities at a time when funding was reduced for many other programs. We worked to preserve the title X Family Planning Program and the Women's Educational Equity Act, and, as part of health care reform legislation, the caucus won the inclusion of provisions to prevent discrimination by health plans against domestic violence victims and on the basis of genetic in-

formation. A provision requiring insurers to guarantee minimum hospital stays for new mothers was also approved.

We successfully fought for substantial increases in funding to the States for child care under welfare reform, and the caucus child support enforcement initiative was made part of the bill as well. Most recently, provisions to expand Medicare coverage to include annual mammograms and bone density testing for the diagnosis and prevention of osteoporosis were also made part of the Balanced Budget Act, which is now law.

I am pleased to join with my colleagues today and later tonight in celebrating the work of the caucus over these past 20 years, from the initial founding of the caucus by Margaret Heckler and Liz Holtzman with a bipartisan group of 15 women, through the distinguished leadership of OLYMPIA SNOWE and Pat Schroeder, to today's organization, comprised of 50 women Members of the House under the able leadership of cochairs NANCY JOHNSON and ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

As we celebrate 20 years of accomplishment in sisterhood, I know that the caucus will only continue to grow, leading to new advancements for women and their families. We still have a long way to go in achieving our goal, but we also need to stop and acknowledge the long journey we have already traveled.

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#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REGINA FRANKIEWICZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, when citizens are elected to have the great honor of serving in Congress, there are numerous individuals who help to make that experience possible for us. Each Member of Congress has family, friends, and supporters who have worked hard and sacrificed to elect us to office and to make our system of representative government work.

Today I would like to take just a few moments to honor the memory of one of my most faithful friends and supporters, Regina Frankewicz. She passed away yesterday in central Florida, and I would like to extend my very deepest sympathy to her husband, Leonard, and to her family.

While Regina was not a State or national figure, she was one of those great individuals in our Nation, one of those untold heroes who indeed helped make our democratic system function. Besides being a devoted wife and mother, Regina would often roll up her sleeves, and she went to labor in the political vineyards to support her candidates and her party in an untiring fashion.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to pay a very special tribute to the

memory of my good friend, Regina Frankewicz. Without her kind, faithful, and devoted efforts, I am certain that I would not be serving in Congress.

Madam Speaker, I submit if every citizen would take up their political and electoral responsibility in a manner and fashion as exemplified by Regina Frankewicz, our Nation and our communities would well be served.

To Regina's husband, Leonard, today, and to her family and her friends, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy on their great loss.

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#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 12 noon.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 22 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 12 noon.

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□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mrs. EMERSON] at 12 noon.

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#### PRAYER

The Reverend Constantine Nicholas Dombalis, Dean Emeritus, Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Richmond, VA, offered the following prayer:

We thank You God, for the return of the mystic and quiet spell of this autumn season, that brings a majesty of color to the singing symphonies of our woodlands and our mountains.

In this Chamber, the finest minds of our Nation convene, responsible to the citizens, our laws, and on final account to You. May they never lose confidence, grow weary nor desolate. May they see in every adversity an opportunity, and serve Your will, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else.

We are strengthened by the House of Representatives, unafraid of standing for the dignity, worth, and rights of men as a special Congressional Gold Medal was presented this morning to His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, world leader of the Greek Orthodox Faith and the presentation of the honor, transmits an advocacy of religious freedom.

May we take something of the love of God wherever we go. Amen.

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#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

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#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr.