Support continued efforts in education reform, particularly in improving the math and science curricula.

Work with high schools and community colleges to develop a school-to-work initiative such as a tech-prep or apprenticeship (work-based learning) program to train entry-level bioscience technical.

Expand the county's existing community and four-year college efforts to train bioscience laboratory technicans, with particular emphasis on providing minority students with access to the high-growth bioscience industry.

Work with the scientific, academic and industrial communities to increase teachers' familiarity with commercial applications of science and science-related careers for students, especially in bioscience and biotechnology. This may be done in many ways, including workshops for teachers, teacher education programs or career-oriented video presentations.

Promote lifelong training for local bioscience workers in a manner that is accessible to the workers and that offers relevant courses developed in cooperation with bioscience companies.

PROUD OF EAST TENNESSEE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I have lived in east Tennessee all my life. It is one of the most beautiful parts of our country, but what makes it really special is the people who live there.

We now have many thousands of wonderful people who have moved in from other parts of Tennessee, other States, and even many from other countries. Most of them love east Tennessee, too.

But I have to say that to me, native east Tennesseans are pretty special, unique people. Our part of the country was settled primarily by poor Scotch-Irish mountain farmers.

They and their descendants have always been proud, thrifty, hard-working, neighborly kind of people.

They have always been fiercely patriotic in time of war, but fiercely independent in times of peace. They have never really liked big government or having distant bureaucrats tell them what to do.

Maybe it has something to do with a heritage of moonshine whiskey, but they have never cared much for Federal revenue agents, and I once was told that the Federal court for east Tennessee had the lowest conviction rate in IRS cases in the entire country.

For many years I have been teased about my east Tennessee accent. Sometimes people have called us hicks and hillbillies. Once, when I was in college, a man in New York said to me in much amazement: ''Your're from Tennessse, and you're wearing shoes?''

Perhaps because we have been teased and ridiculed and made fun of, we have been a little defensive at times. But I also think this has made us a little bit more loyal to each other.

At any rate, we have now become a secret that has been discovered. East Tennessee has become one of the most popular places to move to in the whole country.

Invariably, the people who have moved in tell that it was not only the beauty of our area that attracts them, but also the kindness of the people, their friendliness, their honesty, their work ethic, and so on.

I could say much more, because I am very proud of east Tennessee. It is home to me. It means family and friends and everything that is important and good to me.

I am just a visitor in Washington and even if someday I had to move to another part of our great Nation on a full-time basis, I would still tell people I was from east Tennessee.

I could go on and on, but what really prompted all this was a letter I read today in the Knoxville News-Sentinel from one of my constituents, and friend, John Mark Hancock.

In this letter, Mark, a seventh-generation east Tennessean, expresses far better than I have some of the great things about living where we do.

Because I was so touched by what he wrote, I wanted to call it to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

EDITOR, the News-Sentinel: I am blessed. As a seventh-generation native East Tennessean on both sides of my family, I am truly blessed for having had the opportunity to live and grow up in this area.

Many times in life we find ourselves chasing after things that are fleeting in both our personal and professional relationships, namely love and money.

In doing so, we take for granted all the little things that are so much more important—like walking, talking, seeing, hearing, touching, smelling and moving about this wonderful region of our planet.

I had the distinct pleasure and the wonderful opportunity to take my 3-year-old niece, Katie, to the Museum of Appalachia's Fall Homecoming this year.

As most of us know, it is a celebration of the fierce determination and independence of our ancestors who settled this area. It was satisfying to see the wonderment in the eyes of a new generation as we enjoyed the day together.

Listening to the strains of ''Orange Blossom Special'' wafting over the serene countryside, having traveled and lived all over the United States, I got a tear in my eye and a lump in my throat.

My heart and soul filled with pride upon hearing those sweet melodious tunes. They are from deep within our culture, and we should never forget what they mean to us.

That same weekend, I was privileged to witness another big University of Tennessee Volunteer football victory at the largest stadium in America. The pride in excellence of achievement, both athletically and academically, that my alma mater represents, is another part of our tremendous heritage.

The next day, I attended the harvest celebration at Dollywood and was again reminded of the bluegrass and gospel music that was born in these hills, mountains and valleys. Lyrics from ''Will the Circle be Unbroken?'' and ''Wildwood Flower'' pierced the crisp air.

It is truly a time for thanksgiving and prayerful reflection to know that there are some things in life that money cannot buy, like peace of mind and security. We race through life so rapidly oftentimes that we don't give ourselves the chance to take inventory.

The lessons our forefathers taught us in not ever giving up our faith in God and in ourselves are ones to be cherished and preserved.

In trusting love more than fear, we can love both ourselves and our neighbors. The people who settled this land knew what a great legacy they were leaving to us. The great English bard, Shakespeare, said that love looks with the heart and not with the eyes.

We must take to heart our beautiful ability to blend with nature and fulfill the dreams of those who have gone before us. Be appreciative of living and working in the richest area of the world, rich in resources and lore, for this is worth more than anything else.

Living in East Tennessee, we are all truly blessed.

JOHN MARK HANCOCK,
Knoxville.

INTRODUCING THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 1997

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I—along with our distinguished colleague from New Jersey, Mr. LOBIONDO, and over 80 of our other House colleagues—am pleased to introduce the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1997.

I was inspired to introduce this legislation when I learned that gang members in Northwest Indiana had the protection of bulletproof vests, but that many police departments simply could not afford to buy them for their officers. In fact, figures from the U.S. Department of Justice indicate that approximately 150,000 law enforcement officers—or 25 percent of the Nation's 600,000 State and local officers—do not have access to bulletproof vests.

The legislation I am introducing today would form a partnership with State and local law enforcement agencies in order to make sure that every police officer who needs a bulletproof vest gets one. It would do so by authorizing up to $25 million per year for a new grant program within the U.S. Department of Justice. The program would provide 50–50 matching grants to State and local law enforcement agencies to assist in purchasing bulletproof vests and body armor for their officers.

These grants would be targeted to jurisdictions where most officers do not currently have access to vests, and they are designed to be free of the red tape that often characterizes other grant programs. In order to make sure that no community is left out of the program, the matching requirement could be waived for jurisdictions that demonstrate financial hardship in meeting their half of the match.

This bipartisan bill has been endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Sheriff's Association, the International Union of Police Associations, the Police Executive Research Forum, the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, and the National Association of Police Organizations.

Far too many police officers are needlessly killed each year while serving to protect our citizens. Since 1980, 1,182 police officers have been feloniously killed by a firearm. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 42 percent of those officers could have been saved if they had been wearing bulletproof vests.

Bulletproof vests are so effective in protecting law enforcement officers from death and injury that the lives of more than 2,000 police officers have been saved because they were

wearing them. The FBI says that the risk of fatality to officers from a firearm while not wearing body armor is 14 times higher than for officers wearing body armor. One study indicates that between 1985 and 1994, no police officer who was wearing a bulletproof vest was killed by a gunshot that penetrated the officer's vest.

Mr. Speaker, if we are going to ask our law enforcement officials to risk their lives every day in the line of duty, it is incumbent upon us to give them every bit of protection possible. While no piece of equipment can save the life of every officer, having a bulletproof vest often means the difference between life and death. I would like to thank Mr. LOBIONDO, and my other colleagues who have already co-sponsored this important legislation, and I urge you and the rest of our colleagues to support it as well.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRED KRINSKY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Dr. Fred Krinsky, a rabbi, professor of political science and fanatic Dodger fan—Brooklyn and Los Angeles—who died last month at the age of 73. Despite being diagnosed with insulin-dependent diabetes at the age of 8, Dr. Krinsky lived a life of extraordinary energy and achievement. He never wavered in his desire to bring together people of diverse backgrounds and to foster the growth of Judaism in areas with small but devoted Jewish communities.

Born in Poland, Dr. Krinsky came with his family to the United States when he was 3. He grew up in Brooklyn, which explains his passion for the Dodgers. ''Passion'' is too weak a word: Dr. Krinsky spent much of his life in agony over the fact that Dodger catcher Mickey Owen dropped a crucial third strike in the 1941 World Series against the New York Yankees.

Dr. Krinsky received his master's and doctorate degrees in political science at the University of Pennsylvania. He was also ordained as a rabbi through a private Orthodox Yeshiva in Brooklyn. Dr. Krinsky taught at Syracuse University from 1947 to 1960 and the University of Southern California from 1960 to 1972. He moved to Los Angeles 2 years after the Dodgers, but he always insisted it was mere coincidence.

Dr. Krinsky was an ardent Zionist who led several trips to Israel. His class on Middle Eastern politics at Pomona College, where he was chair and chair emeritus in government from 1972 to 1997, was one of the most popular on campus. Former students would return to hear the magic of his words and the wisdom of his views. Dr. Krinsky firmly believed that only through dialog could Israelis and Arabs—and Jewish-Americans and Arab-Americans—resolve their differences over the Middle East.

Dr. Krinsky's legacy includes four reform congregations in southern California and a fifth in Scottsdale, AZ. In each case he was the founding rabbi.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Fred Krinsky, whose courage and humanity were an inspiration to us all. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT RICH GRAY

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with my colleague PETER VISCLOSKY of Indiana in introducing the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1997. This bill will create a new U.S. Department of Justice grant program which will assist State and local law enforcement agencies in providing their officers with the protection of bullet-resistant vests.

Mr. Speaker, since the introduction of the material used in vests, the lives of more than 2,000 officers have been saved because they were wearing protective vests or other body armor. Nonetheless, I was dismayed—but not surprised—to learn that 25 percent of our Nation's police officers are on the streets without vests due to a lack of available funding. This underscores the need to provide those resources for our States and localities so that they may purchase critically needed vests. To me its simple—when you get your badge and gun, you should get your vest too.

I owe my level of interest and involvement on this issue to my friend Sgt. Rich Gray of the Pleasantville Police Department. It was Sgt. Gray who first brought this issue to my attention several years ago soon after he founded *Vest-A-Cop Inc.* and was working intensely to get the program moving. *Vest-A-Cop* is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the objective of outfitting all full-time duly sworn law enforcement officers in Atlantic County, NJ. Not only is Sgt. Gray well on his way to being successful in reaching that goal after working diligently to secure funding from a variety of sources, but last year his tireless efforts resulted in Governor Whitman signing into law a bill which would create a funding source to buy protective vests for every police officer in the State.

Rich Gray is not only an exceptional police officer and dedicated president of the Vest-A-Cop organization, but is a model citizen in other ways as well. He regularly organizes the Millville Harley-Davidson & Pleasantville Police Department Toy Run—an effort dedicated to providing toys and canned goods to the needy in Atlantic County—as well as other worthy community projects.

For all his duty- and civic-minded devotion and commitment, I am taking this opportunity to publicly recognize thank Sgt. Rich Gray. He is a model citizen and personal friend and I am proud to work with him on this important issue.

HONORING REVEREND M. KEITH COOKSEY AND TRUE VINE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rev. M. Keith Cooksey on his installment as pastor of the True Vine Baptist Church of Houston. Reverend Cooksey will add to True Vine's great tradition of impassioned sermons and providing spiritual nourishment and community service.

Born and raised in Houston, Reverend Cooksey attended Isaac Elementary, Fleming Junior High, and Kashmere High School in Houston before graduating from Texas Southern University in 1986. He is currently pursuing his masters in education from TSU.

Reverend Cooksey began his ministry in 1992. He delivered his first sermon at St. Matthew Baptist Church in Houston in 1993. He joins the True Vine Baptist Church after being ordained while serving as Minister of Christian Education for First Baptist Church Greens Bayou. He has attended Southwestern Extension Seminary and College of Biblical Studies, and plans to pursue his Master of Divinity in 1998 from Southwestern Theological Seminary of Houston.

Reverend Cooksey joins a wonderful family at True Vine Baptist Church, which is dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of our community. For years True Vine has drawn parishioners from across the State with its inspired sermons, and now is also recognized for its leadership to young people. The pastors and parishioners of True Vine Baptist know that it is not enough just to tell young people to feel better about themselves. To build a sense of self-worth and a commitment to service, opportunities, and activities must be available to our young people.

Pastors Jesse Johnson, Jr., and Harry Jackson know that simple instruction and guidance from the church can make a huge difference in young people's lives. Pastor Johnson likes to tell of a story about a young boy who wanted to become a doctor, but was not showing the discipline and drive needed to fulfill that dream. Johnson told the young boy that only by possessing focus and a sense of purpose can one succeed in life. Reverend Cooksey will now add to that legacy by designing and implementing programs to enhance the education and spiritual needs of the young people of our community.

The congregation of True Vine Baptist Church are building a better future for Houston by instilling a sense of purpose and duty to the community. Reverend Cooksey will only add to a church dedicated to building a congregation of good citizens, one member at a time.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Reverend Cooksey as he joins the True Vine Baptist Church family. I wish him continued success in providing vital leadership and spiritual guidance to all in our community.

TRIBUTE TO AN INDISPENSABLE VISION NOVEMBER 5, 1997

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on previous occasions I have applauded President Clinton's assertion that this is an indispensable Nation. It is important, however, that this belief go forward with great humility. The United States is not the only indispensable Nation, and we are not the only people whose leaders have an indispensable vision. Dr. Tadahiro Sekimoto, the chairman of the board of NEC Corp., has