

of scientific knowledge on environmental issues, & support research, education, and information exchange to expand and spread the state of knowledge.

A National Institute for the Environment will allow the Nation to more effectively use science to improve environmental decision-making, thereby reducing costs and saving lives.

Section 3. Purpose: Create an institute to improve the scientific basis for decision-making on environmental issues by integrating the functions of knowledge assessment, research, information services, education & training, provide national leadership in environment science and research, and facilitate the sharing of public and private resources to enhance understanding and communication of scientific knowledge about the environment.

Section 4. Establishment: Authorizes and directs the National Science Foundation to establish a National Institute for the Environment with a mission to improve the scientific basis for decisionmaking on environmental issues. Directs that management of the Institute be awarded competitively.

Section 5. Duties & Functions: Sets the duties of the Institute to:

1. Initiate, facilitate, & where appropriate perform assessments of the current state of knowledge of environmental issues & their implications;

2. Award competitively peer-reviewed grants & where appropriate, contracts, for extramural scientific research;

3. Establish a National Library for the Environment as a universally accessible, easy to use, electronic, state-of-the-art information system for scientists, decisionmakers, & the public;

4. Sponsor education & training of environmental scientists & professionals & improve public environmental literacy.

Section 6. Governing board: Establishes a Governing Board composed of 18 members appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, which shall establish goals, priorities, & policies of the Institute, & will include approximately equal numbers of scientists & users of scientific information on the environment. Ensures diverse composition including representation of States, academic institutions, business, labor, environmental groups, other citizens groups, women & minority groups. Ensures geographic diversity. Provides for 6-year terms of office in order to provide stability. Designates one member of the National Science Board to serve on the Governing Board.

Section 7. Management and Staff: Provides for a Director, Assistant Directors, & staff. Directs that the Institute be operated by a non-profit organization under contract with NSF.

Section 8. Relation with National Science Board: Directs the National Science Board to recommend names for the Governing Board and to approve selection of the Director.

Section 9. Cooperation with Agencies: The Institute may acquire any unclassified data & non-proprietary knowledge possessed by Federal agencies. The Institute shall cooperate with the agencies to ensure that the information & products of the Institute are useful & accessible to the agencies.

Section 10. Interagency Advisory Committee: Directs the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources of the National Science and Technology Council or an equivalent body to serve as an interagency advisory committee, to ensure that the efforts of the Institute & Federal agencies are complementary.

Section 11. Grants, contracts, & other authorities: Provides the Institute with the same authority as NSF to enter into financial arrangements, including competitively

awarded grants, loans, cooperative agreements, & contracts to institutions, teams, & centers, after rigorous peer-review. States that scientists, engineers, & other researchers should be able to receive funding regardless of whether they are from government or private sector institutions. Allows the Institute to receive funds from Federal agencies, states, & private sector institutions to carry out particular projects & activities, subject to guidelines established by the Board. Directs that funds provided not be used to reduce amounts available to the Institute from appropriations.

Section 12. Authorization of appropriations: Authorizes such sums as may be necessary to NSF to be transferred to the Institute. Prohibits funds of NSF from being transferred.

Section 13. Definitions.

Environmental sciences—the full range of fields of study including biological, physical, chemical, geological, & social sciences, engineering, & humanities, relevant to the understanding of environmental problems.

Scientist—practitioner of science relevant to the environment.

Decisionmakers—elected or appointed officials of Federal, State, tribal, & local governments & similar individuals in the private sector.

TRIBUTE TO REST HAVEN CHRISTIAN SERVICES

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of Rest Haven Christian Services, a nonprofit Christian based organization which has facilities located throughout the metropolitan Chicago area. This organization provides hope and opportunity to those in need in a way unmatched by any other.

Tonight they celebrate over 37 years of care for the frail and infirm elderly, and over 80 years of serving the needs of the aged who are well. Rest Haven was formed in 1954 to serve the elderly. A sister organization, the Holland Home—originally begun in Roseland in 1914—was merged into the Rest Haven ministry in 1969.

This ministry now serves over 1,200 seniors with skilled nursing, subacute rehabilitation services, assisted living, independent living, and community based services through its Providence Home Health Care Division. These services are accomplished on its five campuses located in Downers Grove, South Holland, Palos Heights, Crete, and Homer Township.

I commend Rest Haven Christian Services for the way they impact lives and restore hope and for their commitment to make serving their community a core value of citizenship.

Rest Haven Christian Services pledges to hold these values: Protecting the client's dignity and privacy; preserving independence; caring for the whole person, physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally; and, to glorify God in all they do.

Rest Haven Christian Services is an organization that has greatly benefited and enlightened our community. Their commitment, hard work and dedication deserves the highest acclaim.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH WLODARZ

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a man in my district who embodied the spirit of America. Joseph Wlodarz died to this life on August 5, 1997 at the age of 85 years.

Joseph "Fudgie" Wlodarz came to East Toledo when he was 13 years old. An all-city football player at Toledo's Central Catholic High School, Joe went on to play with local semi-professional teams, the Jack Frost Sugars, the Vargo Coals, and the Birmingham Ads. In addition to his passion for football, Joe also played basketball, baseball, and softball. He passed on his passion and his skill to hundreds of youngsters at Holy Rosary Church and School, where he coached children in these sports for 60 years. His son noted at his passing, "He just loved to coach kids." Wlodarz Field at Ravine Park in East Toledo bears his name, a testament to his love of sport.

Joseph Wlodarz worked for 27 years at the former Unitcast Corp. in Toledo, where he left his mark as well. While at Unitcast, he organized UAW Local 48, and served many times as the union's president. He also worked as the labor-management coordinator.

Dubbed "The Mayor of Birmingham"—(the close-knit Hungarian neighborhood of East Toledo in which he lived—Joe took an active interest in the neighborhood's community and civic affairs, although he never held an elected office. He was a founder of the Birmingham Hall of Fame, helped organize the 20th Ward Democratic Club, was a member of the East Side Recreation Board, served on the city of Toledo advisory panel for parks and recreation, and labored to establish the East Toledo Family Center where he also served on the board.

Joseph "Fudgie" Wlodarz' life is perhaps best summed up in his eldest son's tribute to him, which is a most fitting epitaph, "He was never too concerned about making much money. He was always for his community and neighborhood, union, and helping people."

Our heartfelt sympathy to Joe's wife Garnet, his sons James, Jack, Joseph, Jr., and Steve, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We mourn your loss, but trust you will find comfort in his memory and the legacy of a life truly well spent and devoted to others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I regret that due to unforeseen circumstances I was unable to vote on H.R. 2570—roll call No. 598. If I had been present, I would have voted "aye".