Our service men and women have also been our models. They have set a standard for our Nation in the eyes of the world.

As Woodrow Wilson stated on September 4, 1917: ''Let it be your pride, therefore, to show all men everywhere not only what good soldiers you are, but also what good men you are, keeping ourselves fit and straight in everything, and pure and clean through and through. Let us set for ourselves a standard so high that it will be a glory to live up to it, and then let us live up to it and add a new laurel to the crown of America.''

If we do not remember, we might forget and then their efforts might have been in vain.

President Eisenhower once called for Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. It is not only the job of our soldiers but the responsibility of all of us as American citizens to do what we can.

Our Nation's veterans have secured our Nation not only from attack but have secured our principles of freedom, equality, and democracy. These are the principles by which we, as American citizens live by.

For these reasons, let us remember all that our veterans have done for our Nation and our people not only today, but every day.

SALUTE TO KAUFMAN COUNTY RED RIBBON CONTEST WINNERS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of presenting awards on October 18 to the essay contest winners of the Kaufman County Red Ribbon Drug Abuse Awareness campaign. These students are Amber Whatley of Mabank High School, Krystal Nye of Terrell Intermediate School, and Kristin Hanie of Forney Middle School. All three wrote about the issue of teenage drinking, and they made some valid points.

Amber Whatley reflected on the death of Princess Diana of Wales and the reports that the driver of her car was intoxicated. She noted that every 27 minutes someone is killed in a drunk-driving related accident, a tragedy that leaves loved ones ''marred with grief and angered that society continues to produce propaganda promoting the appeal of alcohol.''

Krystal Nye discussed the adverse effects of alcohol and the pressures that sometime cause teenagers to begin drinking. She noted that parents should be role models for their children and that the media ''should not make drinking look like it is something that is healthy for you.''

Kristin Hanie also wrote about the effects of alcohol and some of the reasons why teens might be tempted to try it. She mentioned several programs that help teens with alcohol problems, such as Ala-Teen and Al-Anon, and concluded, ''I pray everyday that people will learn alcohol is not the solution, and that someday this problem will be stopped.''

I enjoyed visiting with these students at the awards ceremony, and I commend their efforts to enhance teenage awareness of alcohol abuse. This Red Ribbon Campaign is an annual effort sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with the Texas A&M University System. Red Ribbon Week is recognized by the National Red Ribbon Campaign, which was celebrated October 18–25. I am always honored when Rita Winton invites me to participate in this important occasion.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting these outstanding students of Kaufman County and all those young people throughout our Nation who recognize the dangers of teenage drinking and who are doing their best to help their fellow classmates and friends combat this problem. As Miss Whatley concluded, ''If action is taken by teenagers, America can look forward to society's success in developing alcohol-free individuals and a more productive future.''

SECTION 110 OF 1996 IMMIGRATION REFORM NEEDS THOUGHTFUL GO-SLOW APPROACH TO PREVENT CHAOS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, on September 16, 1997, I introduced legislation to amend section 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 by exempting Canadian nationals who are not otherwise required by law to possess a visa, passport, or border-crossing identification card. This bill, H.R. 2481, now has 41 cosponsors who recognize the urgency of correcting the flaws in section 110.

Section 110 of the 1996 Reform Act mandates that an automated entry-exit system be established that would allow INS officers to match the entrance date with exit dates of legally admitted aliens. Congress included this section at the last minute during the House-Senate conference of the bill with the intent of solving the problem of overstaying visa holders—aliens who enter the United States legally but overstay their allotted time. Because the U.S. does not have a departure management system to track who leaves the United States, a new entry-exit system was thought to be the vehicle to solve the problem.

In the rush to complete the bill before the end of the fiscal year on September 30, conferees did not have time to give this provision the scrutiny it deserves. As a result, Congress missed the realities of our northern border with Canada. Historically, Canadian citizens have not been required to show documentation, other than proof of citizenship, when entering the United States. The same courtesy is granted to United States citizens entering Canada.

Any attempt to install a documentation system at the northern border will bring intolerable chaos and congestion to a system already strained. Last year, more than 116 million people entered the United States by land from Canada. Of these, more than 76 million were Canadian nationals or United States permanent residents. More than $1 billion in goods and services trade crossed our border daily adding to the enormous traffic flow. To implement section 110 as it now stands would not only impede the flow of people and goods, it would counter the purpose of the United States-Canada Accord on Our Shared Border to ease and facilitate the increased crossings of people and goods between the United States and Canada.

As I have said before, I have a particular interest in the problem of delays and congestion at our northern-border crossings. My district, which includes Buffalo and Niagara Falls, has more crossings than any other district along the border. In a relatively small area, we boast four highway bridges and two railroad bridges. I know from personal experience the problems that delays and congestion can cause at these crossings.

Moreover, it is important to recognize the sense of borderless community that those living on the United States and Canadian sides of the border experience on a daily basis. Friends, family, and business associates travel easily, indeed seamlessly, across the invisible border to shop, enjoy theater and restaurants, athletic events, and other recreational opportunities. Hampering this camaraderie of community because of the need to resolve border problems that are not an issue at the northern border would be folly.

When I introduced H.R. 2481, my intent was not only to correct a flaw, but to initiate debate on the issue, to get the ball rolling, if you will, toward resolving a critical problem. This objective has been achieved. The response and enthusiastic support for this effort tells me unmistakably that this is a serious problem that must be fixed.

Today, I am introducing a bill that addresses the issue more broadly. The Border Improvement and Immigration Act of 1977 not only seeks to correct the problem at the northern border created by section 110, but it also takes a comprehensive but go-slow approach to analyzing the problem and determining the best solutions.

First, the bill would allow an entry-exit system to be implemented only at airports. It specifically exempts from section 110: any alien entering at land borders; any alien lawfully admitted as a U.S. permanent resident, or greencard holder; any alien for whom documentation requirements have been waived under the Immigration and Nationality Act, primarily Canadians.

Second, the bill requires the Attorney General to submit a report to Congress in 2 years on the feasibility of developing and implementing an automated entry-exit control system as prescribed in section 110, including arrivals and departures at land borders. The study must assess the cost and feasibility of various means of operating such an entry-exit system, including various means for developing a system and the use of pilot projects if appropriate. The report also would include how departure data would be collected if the system were limited to airports and a person arriving at an airport departed via land border.

Of particular note is the inclusion of possible bilateral agreements with Canada and Mexico to share entry and exist systems as a means to achieve the objectives of section 110. The proposal, which I have raised with the Canadian Ambassador and the Commissioner of the INS, would allow the United States to use, for example, Canada's entry data as our exit data; while Canada would similarly use United States entry data as its exit data. I believe this is an important cooperative effort that could be studied and possibly pursued under the umbrella of the United States-Canada Shared Border Accord.

Third, the bill will increase the number of INS border inspectors in each of 3 fiscal

years, 1998–2000, by not less than 300 full-time persons each year. Not less than one-half of these new INS inspectors shall be assigned to the northern border. Similarly, Customs inspectors shall also be increased at the land borders by not less than 150 full-time persons in each of 3 fiscal years, 1998–2000, and not less than one-half of the Customs inspectors in each year shall be assigned to the northern border.

Mr. Speaker, I believe my new bill more comprehensively addresses the problematic issues that currently are found in section 110. It is critical that section 110 as it currently stands be amended in order to avoid unnecessary chaos at both the northern and southern land borders. An automated entry-exist system is not one to be implemented without careful consideration of the many issues involved. The Border Improvement and Immigration Act of 1997 provides the basis for making a decision on whether to go forward with such a system.

STATEMENT COMMENDING HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize Hanover County public schools as the first school system ever to win the U.S. Senate's Award for Continuing Excellence, or ACE. The ACE is awarded to organizations demonstrating ''sustained exemplary performance in quality and productivity improvement.'' Since its establishment 14 years ago, it has only been given out six times, and never before to a public school system. Originally designed to recognize quality in private business, ACE has expanded over the years to include public sector agencies and remains one of the Nation's most prestigious awards.

Hanover County public schools have repeatedly been recognized for the excellence of their programs, the commitment of their teachers and administrators, the support of their parents and the community, and the achievement of their students. They qualified for the continuing excellence award by winning the Medallion of Excellence Award in 1991 and have continued to maintain a high performance on standardized tests, a high percentage of advanced studies graduates, and an exceptionally low drop-out rate.

The U.S. Senate's Award for Continuing Excellence is a tribute to the dedicated efforts of the many individuals who have created in Hanover County one of the finest public school systems in Virginia, and in the Nation.

STRONG ENCRYPTION NEEDED TO PROTECT NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, computers not only make virtually every aspect of our lives easier, we depend on their efficient operation to help safeguard our national security, economy, and way of life. Yet all it takes is a determined criminal with a personal computer and an Internet connection to cause a great deal of harm. That's why it's crucial that America protects sensitive information in computers with the best technology available.

Ensuring the security of information stored in computers, and preventing criminals from breaking into critical systems requires encryption software, which uses mathematical formulas to scramble sensitive information so it can only be accessed by authorized users, who have the 'key' to decode the material. The more complex the formula, the tougher it is for an unauthorized user to decipher the scrambled material. While American companies generally hold an edge over their foreign competitors in the development of advanced encryption software, export controls allow them to export only relatively simple encryption products. Over 400 companies outside the United States produce encryption software, and most are not subject to the same restrictions as U.S. companies. These companies are increasing their share of the rapidly expanding world market for encryption software at the expense of U.S. firms, which are not allowed to compete.

The Clinton administration has proposed a radical change in encryption policy, one that would impose a mandatory key recovery system on encryption software used in the United States and exported abroad. Key recovery would require the maintenance of a centralized databank with all the Nation's encryption keys, and is primarily intended to help law-enforcement and increase national security. If police or other law-enforcement officials believe criminals have encrypted information that would help prevent a crime or catch a lawbreaker, they would obtain a court order, then retrieve the key from the centralized database. They could then convert the encrypted information back into its original form. Not only does this proposal raise concerns about how to prevent criminals from breaking into the key database, and about the privacy of law-abiding users of electronic commerce and Internet communications, it probably won't work.

While the Clinton administration is working to require that U.S. companies only export advanced encryption software that uses a key recovery system, many other nations will impose no similar requirement on their firms. Because criminals will find it easy to import that software over the Internet, by electronic mail, on compact discs, or in some other way, they will continue to use encryption programs that U.S. law enforcement agencies don't have keys to. The people most affected by the mandatory key recovery system will be lawful Internet users, not the criminals and terrorists it is intended to combat.

Furthermore, prohibiting the export of encryption programs that don't include a key recovery system will make it impossible for American companies to compete with foreign firms that are not similarly limited. American companies will stop competing in a key technology in which they now hold a lead. It will cost U.S. jobs, and prevent advances in a technology that is critical to defending the United States from terrorists, criminals, and even simple hackers. Instead, Congress should lift the controls on encryption software, encourage development of this promising technology, and focus resources on helping police develop better tools to catch criminals who use encryption in the commission of a crime.

THE WORKING AMERICAN'S TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to improve take home pay and reduce taxes for every working American earning a paycheck. The bill, titled the Working American's Tax Relief Act, allows taxpayers to deduct from their taxable income that portion of their income withheld for payroll taxes.

The economic report of the Census Bureau this fall had good news for many Americans. The economy is growing, median income rose for the second straight year, unemployment is low, and welfare rolls are dropping.

However, the working families and small businesses of America are not reaping the rewards of our recent prosperity. Average wages for full-time male workers fell last year, and median income has not fully rebounded since the last recession, leaving the living standard of a typical family below 1989 levels. For the 60 percent of American households in the lower- and middle-income brackets, the situation is even more grim. Real income for these families has fallen for the past 7 years.

Mr. Speaker, this is why people seem to be working harder and longer and not getting ahead. This is why Americans working a 40-hour week struggle to make ends meet. There were many good provisions in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, and I supported the bill. However, the Working Americans Tax Relief Act builds on our success and offers much needed tax relief to every American bringing home a paycheck.

Including both the employee and employer contribution, over 70 percent of Americans pay more in payroll taxes than in Federal income tax. Even worse, the burden of this tax falls most heavily on the over 90 percent of Americans who earn $65,400 or less. Working, middle-class Americans earning up to $65,400 a year pay a combined 15.3 percent of their income to fund the Social Security and Medicare programs. For taxpayers earning more than that, every dollar earned over $65,400 is earned payroll tax free. Small businesses pay this tax regardless of the profits they make in a year, and for many small businesses payroll taxes have become the greatest tax burden. Small business owners and employees need relief from the tax. I am not proposing to change the structure of payroll taxes in America, but I am proposing to make the burden of the tax easier to bear.

American taxpayers currently pay income taxes on the portion of their income withheld from their paychecks for payroll taxes. Compounding the injustice of this tax is the fact that many of these taxpayers will again pay taxes on this income when they receive it back in the form of Social Security benefits after retirement. To eliminate this double taxation and offer the average American worker over $1,000 in tax savings, my bill grants all workers, including the self employed, a deduction from taxable income equal to the amount of that worker's payroll taxes.