

admitting financial defeat by filing bankruptcy when it becomes impossible to repay one's debts, we must make an effort to restore the justifiable sense of embarrassment Americans once felt asking their neighbors to shoulder their burden.

Another concern is that the current system—which breeds financial irresponsibility—is not the cure-all imagined by those who live beyond their means. By allowing people to escape from their financial obligations, we are doing those individuals a disservice by not encouraging them to manage their finances and control their debt. The end result is a citizenry caught in a never-ending cycle of debt. With bankruptcy filings expected to reach historic levels this year, I have grave concerns for the stability—economic and emotional—of the American family.

The time is now, while our economy is robust, to reform. Waiting until the dawn of the next recession or economic downturn will only allow this outbreak of bankruptcy to run into an uncontrollable epidemic. Historically, bankruptcy was intended as a last resort pursued only under the most dire of situations. We are committed to ensuring that the code will help those in dire circumstances get back onto their feet while protecting responsible consumers who are unfairly bearing the cost.

HONORING TROUSDALE HIGH
SCHOOL STATE FOOTBALL
CHAMPIONS FOR AN OUTSTAND-
ING SEASON

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young men who worked together in the true spirit of sportsmanship to achieve a long-awaited goal.

The group is the Trousdale High School Yellow Jackets football team of Hartsville, Tennessee, and that goal was winning the state 1-A championship game. Their hard-fought victory, and the hard work and dedication they demonstrated throughout the year will not go unnoticed.

After all, they were honored as Region 3 1-A Champions, 1-A State Champions, and had a perfect 15-0 record.

These men of Trousdale High School trained vigorously, played tirelessly, and deserve recognition for a job well done.

I congratulate each member of the team, their Head Coach, Clint Satterfield, and all the assistant coaches, managers, school administrators and all other support staff. I know they won't soon forget this milestone, and those that are still to come.

The players are true champions: Taylor Dillehay, Brandon Eden, Thomas Payne, Ell Sanders, Robert Duncan, Chris Sutton, Travis Marshall, Casey Marshall, Jason Everts, Dominique Harper, Jason Vootoo, Corey Harper, Brandon Samson, Brent Dalton, Colin Meyer, Ryan McCellan, Nick West, Renard Woodmore, Craig Moreland, Bowdy Fain, Shawn Vaughn, Jatarius Osborne, Adam Harper, Daniel Towns, Joe Cornwell, Bobby Livingston, Adam Keeton, Tony Jewell, Junior

Fields, Benjamin Blair, Earl Carman, Timmy Tomlinson, James Keller, Pete Wilkerson, Michael Scruggs, Blake Holder, Baxton Adams, Dion Burnley, Adam Bratton, Brian Haney, Corey Timberlake, Justin Smith, John Carey and Kevin Gregory.

IN RECOGNITION OF MONTANA
PERRY ROMINE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Montana Perry Romine, a native of Mount Hope, West Virginia, who retired from the Mine Safety and Health Administration on January 3, 1998, after more than 47 years of federal service.

Mrs. Romine was first hired on June 26, 1950, by the U.S. Bureau of Mines in Mount Hope. During her career, she offered professional and dedicated service to the people of the United States through her work at the Bureau of Mines, the former Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration, and finally with the Mine Safety and Health Administration. In recognition of her service and professionalism, Mrs. Romine earned numerous awards, including a distinguished career service award.

I am sure that Mrs. Romine's many friends and colleagues at the Mine Safety and Health Administration will miss her both personally and professionally. Today, I join them in congratulating her for her service and wishing her continued health and happiness in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD P.
SMITH, JR., ASSISTANT TO THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR
NUCLEAR AND CHEMICAL BIO-
LOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to the numerous accomplishments of my constituent, Dr. Harold P. Smith, Jr., the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs. He is leaving his position to return to California. In his service to the Administration, he directed programs that re-focused national defense to respond to the growing threat posed by the potential proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

One of the most noteworthy programs benefiting from Dr. Smith's skillful leadership was the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) program. This program was designed to help the successor states to the Former Soviet Union eliminate WMD delivery systems and to promote the safety and security of the weapons remaining in Russia. Dr. Smith established a dedicated Program Office which successfully implemented agreements with the Former Soviet Union that eventually resulted in the denuclearization of Belarus, Kazakhstan, and

Ukraine. This program initiated the construction of a major fissile material storage facility in Russia to provide secure, long-term storage for approximately 12,500 nuclear warheads. In addition, supercontainers, specialized railcars, emergency response equipment, computerized inventory and personnel reliability capabilities were provided to enhance the safe and secure transportation and storage of Russia's nuclear warheads. He personally negotiated an agreement with Russia to design the first Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility to begin the destruction of 40,000 metric tons of chemical weapons.

Dr. Smith significantly advanced the U.S. Chemical Demilitarization Program. The destruction process for the United States chemical weapons stockpile is currently underway at Johnston Island and Tooele Army Depot in Utah. Construction of destruction facilities at the other seven storage sites in the United States is on schedule to meet the requirements of the Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty that entered into force in 1997.

Unprecedented changes affecting nuclear matters occurred during Dr. Smith's assignment. He worked successfully with the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to balance the nuclear stockpile in a non-testing environment. In anticipation of implementation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, he collaborated with the Department of Energy to develop the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Plan (SSMP). This plan will eliminate nuclear explosive testing requirements. Dr. Smith also improved significantly our capability to monitor world-wide nuclear testing and organized the Department of Defense for this support.

In response to shortfalls in military capabilities identified during Operation Desert Storm, Dr. Smith established a Joint Program Office to ensure better management and higher visibility of Department of Defense chemical and biological defense programs. Resources required to counter proliferation of weapons of mass destruction were moved from research and development status to procurement programs in support of troops on the battlefield. He was instrumental in joint military service improvements of biological agent detection systems such as the establishment of the Joint Vaccine Acquisition contract. As a result, shortages of equipment critical for U.S. forces to survive and fight on contaminated battlefields have been remedied.

Two Defense agencies have enhanced their missions under Dr. Smith's leadership. The Defense Special Weapons Agency (DSWA) has responsibility for supporting a variety of programs dealing with WMD. This mission includes support for CTR, research and development for counter proliferation and arms control, as well as facility vulnerability assessments. DSWA is now the center for nuclear expertise in the Department of Defense. The On-Site Inspection Agency has set international standards in arms control monitoring through professional execution of inspection, reduction, liaison, escort, and monitoring missions for various regimes.

I commend Dr. Smith's leadership and accomplishments in reducing the threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction. He successfully tackled a very challenging mission and his contributions towards improving our nation's security are many and enduring.