

Earlier, I stated that H.R. 3246 was not fair to either small business or employees. I believe that the moral strength, and the economic vigor of this country derive from a healthy balance of power between employer and employee. H.R. 3246 would destroy that balance by removing some of the fundamental protections of workers in this country. For all of the reasons above, I urge my distinguished colleagues to vote against H.R. 3246.

PROJECT HOPE

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I come to the well of the House today to recognize a community success story: Project HOPE (Hayden Offers Positive Encouragement).

Project HOPE is a pro-recreation program for youth in Hayden, Arizona. The program was started by David Elmira, a former Hayden town councilman, in 1993 and has been supported every year since then by Hayden's mayors, Melesio R. Chavez and Jose Aranda. The program's purpose is to encourage youth to participate in after-school activities in order to keep them from getting into trouble.

Mr. Speaker, we often talk about the importance of local control. This program helps youth without the bureaucratic strings from the federal government. More importantly, Project HOPE doesn't rely on federal funds. Therefore, they can craft a program that fits their youth, instead of the federal government's "one-size-fits-all" approach. This gives them the freedom and flexibility to create a program that can succeed.

Project HOPE organizes various sporting activities including basketball, golf, and volleyball tournaments and football pass, punt, and kick competitions. Night swimming also remains a central component of this program. The program enters its fourth year under the leadership of Hayden Vice Mayor David Aguirre, who heads up the town council's Parks and Recreation Department. Carlos Galindo-Elvira, who is the Economic Development Program Coordinator, also deserves credit for the success of this program.

Project HOPE is primarily funded by the Town of Hayden, along with various grants. The year, Project HOPE will open a new youth recreation center. The center, a renovated fire station located in downtown Kearny, will have a physical exercise room and group activity room for all youth from the surrounding community to enjoy. It is local programs like this that need to be replicated in other communities. I wish Project HOPE continued success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA'S FAIRFAX COUNTY 1997 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AND MERIT AWARD WINNERS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, my colleague Mr. DAVIS of Virginia and I are honored to recognize four outstanding Northern Virginians who are being recognized this week by the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association as the Citizen of the Year and as Citation of Merit Award recipients for their community contributions.

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations is a volunteer, nonpartisan, umbrella for the organized citizenry of Fairfax County. For the past forty years it has represented the interests of hundreds of civic, condominium and town house associations working together with the magisterial district councils of citizens associations.

Minerva W. Andrews is the Fairfax County of Citizens Associations 1998 Citizen of the Year award recipient. Ms. Andrews' record of lifetime achievement and her dedication to country issues sets a shining example of public service for the Fairfax County community. Born and raised in South Carolina, Ms. Andrews distinguished herself by pursuing a career in law at a time when social mores directed women toward "traditional" occupations. She came to Fairfax County after graduating from the University of Virginia's Law School in 1948. Formerly a partner with McGuire, Woods, Battle and Boothe, Ms. Andrews specialized in real estate law. Her professional interest and civic commitments dovetailed as she worked to strengthen land development environmental practices. Ms. Andrews assisted in drafting the very first Erosion Control Ordinance adopted by Fairfax County.

During the 1950's, when Virginia entered the era of "massive resistance," Ms. Andrews served as the Fairfax League of Women Voters' President. Under her leadership, the LWV strongly supported integration of public schools and took the lead in opposing the states' actions to close the public school system. Ms. Andrews has been active in providing opportunities for young people throughout her life. She served on the Fairfax County Vocational Educational Foundation Board for 25 years (renamed the Foundation for Applied Technical Education) and served as the organization's President from 1977 to 1980.

Since her retirement, she has increased her participation on the National Society of Arts and Letters Board, an organization that recognizes talented students in the creative and literary arts. First associated with the Washington Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters, she served as the Chapter President from 1973-1974 and more recently has served as the National President from 1994-1996. Ms. Andrews has been an active member of the Fairfax-Falls Church United Way Executive Committee for many years and is a past chair of the Government Relations Committee.

Ms. Andrews was an early supporter of the Fairfax Committee of 100 having served on its

Board and as its volunteer registered Agent. Until her retirement she also served for twelve years as a board member of the Greater Washington Research Center, a forum supported by the business community to encourage research on regional business, social issues and public policy, with an emphasis on transportation issues.

In addition to her county-wide and national activities, she has been active in her home community of McLean, serving as the president of the McLean Citizens' Associates from 1971-1972 and working with her husband Robert in forming the McLean Planning Commission that helped secure a federal grant for McLean's central business district. She has also served as a board member of the McLean Citizens' Foundation, the McLean Community Center and the McLean Project for the Arts.

She is a life Elder in the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and has just completed a term as vice President on the board of the National Capitol Presbytery. She is also on the board and serves as counsel for the Lewinsville Retirement Residence.

In addition to Ms. Andrews, three citizens will be honored with Citations of Merit. They include: Mildred Corbin who will be recognized for her work in many county wide organizations such as the National Political Congress of Black Women, the Fairfax Care Network for Seniors, the Fairfax Commission for Women, the Route One Human Service Task Force, the Fairfax Committee of 100, and the Steering Committee for the Human Services Alliance to name just a few. She is also a two-term member of United Community Ministries and dedicates time to the Mount Vernon Mental Health Center and the Eleanor Kennedy Homeless Shelter. She actively supports Fairfax Offender Aid and Restoration Program, Black Women United for Action, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and the American Association of Retired Persons. In 1997, she became the District representative to the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging. Ms. Andrews also participates in the Pinewood Lake Civic Association. Her volunteer contributions span more than forty years of service to young people, as well as senior citizens in the Northern Virginian community.

Shirely O. Nelson will also be recognized for her contributions to the Chantilly community and for her county-wide volunteerism. Her work has focused on innovative and practical youth programs, such as the Chantilly Pyramid Minority Achievement Committee (CPMSAC), a program that serves twenty eight schools. CPMSAC works toward improving youth motivation and awards academic achievement; it is currently in its thirteenth year. She also has been a lynchpin in saving and expanding the Saturday Toward Excellence Program (STEP). After serving on the Fairfax County Council of PTA for seven years, Ms. Nelson became its first African-American President in 1996. Since then she has spearheaded planning and communications program activities for the PTA. She has also coordinated community activities such as the first County-wide extended Family Solutions Conference. Additionally, Ms. Nelson founded and directs the Young Voices of Chantilly, an ensemble of fifteen elementary, middle and high school students. This group provides positive and inspirational messages to youth through song.

Thomas E. Waldrop will add the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations

Citation of Merit award to his 1998 Jinx Hazel Arts Citizen of the Year Award, a Northern Virginia Community Foundation Founders Award in 1997 and his designation in 1996 as the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. He has served for an unprecedented third term as Chairman of the Board of the Arts Council and is on the Board of Directors for numerous arts and educational organizations. In addition, he has supported many county-wide and national human service causes such as the American Heart Association, United Way, the Hospice of Northern Virginia, the Women's Center, the Adopt a Family Program, and Ronald McDonald House to name only a few.

Mr. Speaker, we thank you for this opportunity to recognize such valuable members of the Northern Virginia community. We wish each of them the best in their endeavors to improve the lives of our constituents. Their life time dedication to volunteering is truly an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM L. CULVER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a fellow Missourian, Mr. William L. Culver, for his contributions to culture and history. In February 1998, Bill Culver participated in a C-SPAN contest that outlined the travels of Alexis de Tocqueville. He captured in art the essence of Tocqueville's travels in search of American democracy and was recognized as a top 10 national prize winner. He is an avid C-SPAN watcher and has faithfully shared his caricatures with this organization.

Bill Culver has been interested in art since he was a small child. He grew up in Northwest Missouri, attended the University of Missouri Law School, and successfully practiced law for many years. Bill now spends time doing what he enjoys most—writing and illustrating children's books. Also, he teaches part time at Columbia College at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill Culver on this award and wish him good luck as he continues to illustrate art and developing legacies for future generations to enjoy.

PUT WORDS INTO ACTION: GIVE A TAX BREAK TO STAY-AT-HOME PARENTS

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last month, Congress voted on Daycare Fairness for Stay-at-Home Parents, a resolution recognizing the importance of stay-at-home parents and the care they give their kids.

I supported H. Con. Res. 202, because I believe that the Federal Government has for too long discriminated against parents who choose to stay at home to raise their children. We as lawmakers need to recognize the sac-

rifices these parents make to be at home with their kids, and encourage the kind of care that only they can give.

But a sense of Congress means nothing unless we back these words up with action. We should pass legislation that brings real tax relief to parents who stay at home.

The keystone of our child care effort should be to reverse current federal tax policy which effectively discriminates against parents who choose to stay at home to raise their children.

That is why I have introduced legislation that will universalize the Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC) to give stay-at-home parents tax relief equal to that received by parents who choose to leave their children with an outside caregiver. Under my bill, H.R. 3176, parents who stay at home with their pre-school age children will receive credit on \$2,400 of expenses for one child, and \$4,800 for two or more children.

The Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC) is currently available only to working parents for expenses related to non-parental child care. In effect, the DCTC subsidizes parents to leave their children in the care of others. In my view, this is a fundamentally misguided and harmful policy.

While I supported H. Con. Res. 202, parents who sacrifice a second income to stay at home with their kids deserve more than just a pat on the back. Let's show stay-at-home parents that we mean what we say. Support extending the Dependent Care Tax Credit. America's families and our children will be better off for it.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IDENTITY PIRACY ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced the Identity Piracy Act to give the Secret Service and prosecutors more crime fighting tools to protect victims of identity fraud. Under current law, the attempt to defraud an individual by using his or her identity is not by itself a punishable offense. The Identity Piracy Act (IPA) closes this loophole, and makes the theft of one's identity a specific category of crime punishable under federal law.

In order to prosecute someone for identity fraud under current law, a person must commit another type of fraud such as wire, bank, or credit card fraud. The IPA would make the act of obtaining someone's identity with the intent to defraud a person or entity a federal crime. Punishment would include up to twenty years in prison, additional time for a conspiracy to commit identity fraud, fines, and restitution.

Imagine learning that someone has stolen your name and social security number and used an out-of-state address to apply for nearly 15 credit cards. Imagine that you didn't learn about the theft of your identity until the credit card company calls to check with you about \$2,500 worth of charges you didn't make. Under current law, only the theft of the \$2,500, and not the assumption of your identity, is punishable by federal law. The Identity Piracy Act (IPA) closes this loophole, and makes the theft of one's identity a crime.

The provisions of the IPA are similar to those of the Senate Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act. However, the IPA contains language endorsed by the Secret Service that clearly defines identity fraud as a federal crime and expands penalties for this crime.

Like the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act (ITADA), the IPA would give law enforcement officials more crime fighting tools to protect victims of identity fraud. It would also enable victims to seek financial restitution from identity fraud thieves, and give law enforcement officials expanded authority to seize the equipment that enable thieves to steal the identities of consumers.

Unlike other proposed identity fraud legislation, the IPA clearly defines the threshold that makes identity fraud a federal crime. The threshold provisions enable prosecutors to determine what actions trigger a federal identity fraud crime.

The IPA eliminates the dollar threshold for making identity fraud a federal crime. Under ITADA, a person must use an individual's identity to steal at least \$1,000 to make this type of fraud a federal crime.

The IPA would make taking the identity of both a person or an entity, such as a corporation, a federal crime. ITADA only covers theft from a person, not an entity.

The IPA refines what a court may provide in restitution to the victim of identity fraud. Under the IPA the court can provide restitution for attorney fees, to clear credit or debt history problems, and to clear debts and liens against a person. ITADA does not clearly define the restitution that can be provided.

The IPA refines the punishment for conspiracy to commit identity fraud. ITADA does not clearly define the punishment for conspiracy. IPA would increase the penalty for conspiracy by half of the maximum sentence for identity fraud.

The IPA creates definitions for what constitutes: a "means of identification," a "personal identifier," an "identification device," and "personal information or data." For example, use of data such as a fingerprint, a voice print, and a retina or iris image are identifiers that if used by an identity thief would be punishable under this law.

Federal law enforcement officials need to be able to keep up with changes in technology that have increased the number of identity fraud cases, in order to protect victims. We need to protect the rights of consumers like my constituent, Denise, whose case involving the theft of \$2,500 I described earlier. Denise has had to fight to clear her credit record of illegal charges. Since the initial theft, Denise learned that the identity thieves obtained credit in her name to lease housing. Landlords trying to collect from their tenants in out-of-state courts have led to a credit reporting nightmare for Denise.

The IPA would enable the Secret Service to pursue Denise's identity thieves. Under this bill, if these thieves are caught, they can be arrested on identity theft charges alone, their equipment for obtaining Denise's identity can be confiscated, and the courts can provide Denise the restitution she needs to clear her credit.

The IPA also gives people like my constituent, Denise, the assurance that law enforcement officials will have all of the tools they need to combat identity theft. I am sure that