

small businesses. Those small businesses wanted access to credit union services, even though many did not meet the 500 employee threshold for a charter.

Thus, multiple group charters became a means of ensuring that those small businesses, as well as low-income consumers lacking access to more traditional financial services, were able to access the services of credit unions. I believe that these groups should to continue to have access to credit union services, whether through individual or multiple group charters.●

TRANSFORMATION IN THE HEALTHCARE MARKET

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, Medical schools and teaching hospitals, the training ground for our nations' healthcare personnel and the centers for world class cutting-edge medical innovation, are facing significant challenges as new efforts of cost containment force radical transformation in the healthcare market. There has been a steady decrease in the pharmaceutical R&D performed at medical schools and teaching hospitals. A study by three pharmaceuticals companies revealed that while pharmaceutical R&D is larger dollarwise than NIH, the university-based portion of clinical trials fell from 82% in 1989 to 68% in 1993.

Given this fact, I am pleased to be an original co-sponsor of The Medical Innovation Tax Credit introduced by Senator D'AMATO. This bill would give a tax credit of up to 20% on qualified research expenses to firms that conduct and expand their biopharmaceutical research activities at medical schools and teaching hospitals.

In my home state of Texas, medical technology is poised to become a high-tech boom industry. Texas is currently home to more than 500 medical technology companies with \$5 billion in annual sales, according to a new report released by the Austin-based Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute. Medical technology companies currently employ about 38,000 people, making it a medium-sized manufacturing industry comparable to the state's paper, lumber and aircraft industries.

Texas' growing presence in medical technology is firmly rooted in the state's universities and health-related research institutes. Academic health centers such as The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Baylor College of Medicine and MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, and the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth position Texas as a world leader in biomedical research.

By stimulating more private-sector research at these institutions, the Medical Innovation tax Credit will help ensure America's continued preeminence in bio pharmaceutical research; provide needed resources for medical schools and teaching hospitals; and en-

courage more clinical trials to be conducted in the United States.

Mr. President, I look forward to working with Senator D'AMATO and members of the Finance Committee to create an environment that will enable medical technology to grow and create jobs.●

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT JOHN BADEEN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a fine young man, John Badeen, for reaching the esteemed rank of Eagle Scout. Earning this coveted award is testament to the fact that he possesses a strong character and exceptional citizenship. Having reached Scouting's highest rank, John undoubtedly possesses the solid skills and values necessary to be a valuable asset to his community and to the nation.

John, as well as his family and friends should be very proud of his accomplishment. Scouting is a wonderful asset to our country that aids in shaping our young people into fine citizens. Boy Scouts in this country have grown to become prominent and respectable citizens within their communities.

I want to extend my warmest congratulations to John. I am confident that he will continue working for the good of his community and serving as an example to all young people. I wish him the best in all of his future endeavors. I would also like to add that it gives me great pleasure to give this award in the company of my good friends, Father George Shalhoub and Father John Badeen. ●

TRIBUTE TO MR. EDWARD J. PISZEK

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a constituent who has distinguished himself at home and abroad. This week, Edward J. Piszek will be honored in Philadelphia for receiving one of the Republic of Poland's highest civilian honors.

On March 16, 1998, President Aleksander Kwasniewski bestowed the "Polonia Restituta," or the "Commander's Cross with a White Star" upon Mr. Piszek. This medal is presented for extraordinary service to the nation of Poland. Recipients of the Polonia Restituta are celebrated for their achievements in government and public activities, for contributions to promote Poland's independence, or for advancing Polish culture in the areas of education, literature and the arts.

The son of Polish immigrants, Ed exemplified his parents' strong work ethic. It was a lesson well learned. In 1946, with \$350 and the help of a close friend, Ed founded Mrs. Paul's Kitchens, Inc. Under his direction, the company became one of America's largest producers of prepared frozen seafood and vegetables.

Ed began his philanthropic work in Poland during the 1960s. After witnessing the tremendous suffering caused by

the high incidence of tuberculosis, he donated an ambulance to the hospital in Tarnow in memory of his parents. Later, he would provide 11 mobile x-ray units and 42 support vehicles to transport technicians.

Mr. Piszek's commitment to the Polish people did not end with those initial acts of kindness. When the country suffered from food shortages in the early 1980s, he donated 10 million pounds of fishcakes. After the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl, Ed participated in an airlift of powdered milk and food to those who were affected in Poland. Mr. Piszek has also worked to help the Polish people elevate their culture. He and author James A. Michener established a Young Polish Writer's workshop. Similarly, Ed supported the "United States Peace Corps Partners in Teaching English" which has already trained 25,000 new English teachers in Poland.

On the home front, Ed has worked to elevate the image of Polish Americans. He purchased the home of General Thaddeus Kosciuszko—a Polish engineer who came to fight in the American Revolution and then later designed West Point—and donated the property to the National Park Service. In 1972, he founded the Copernicus Society of America. This private non-profit foundation strives to promote and encourage artistic, scientific, and historical activities throughout the world.

In countless many ways, Ed Piszek has helped build a cultural bridge between the U.S. and Poland. For instance, he hosted a visit from Lech Walesa at the Copernicus Society's headquarters in Fort Washington, PA. He was instrumental in making arrangements for ABC News to go "behind the walls" of the Vatican and film John Paul II in his work day and private moments. The end result was The Pope and His Vatican, an ABC News Special which aired Easter Night, 1983. Another of Ed's noteworthy achievements was coordinating with the Copernicus Society and Penn State University to hold Agricultural Economic Development Summits in the Pzeszow Province of Poland. These one-week seminars allow agricultural experts from Poland and Penn State to share their knowledge and their expertise with neighboring countries. Finally, Mr. Piszek is working to promote the national pastime in Poland. A board member of the Little League Baseball Foundation in Williamsport, PA, Ed is deeply involved in developing the Little League Baseball European Training Center in Kutno, Poland. He hopes that baseball will teach children of all nations the concepts of teamwork, leadership, and character. All things considered, Edward Piszek was an obvious choice to accompany President Clinton to Warsaw in support of NATO membership for Poland.

Mr. President, one man can truly make a difference. Mr. Piszek's work has touched thousands of lives. As he is