each other only occasionally. At one of their meetings the father told the son that many young people in the camp were managing to smuggle food to their elders—and why hadn’t Jack done the same? So, his father, handsome, Jack studied for days how to deal with an electric fence that stood between him and an SS kitchen and finally succeeded in burrowing his thin frame under it to steal food—tubato and some peels. But when he got the food to his father, malnutrition had gripped the older man and grossly swelled his body. He could not eat. Soon after, he died in the camp’s infirmary. Later, Jack learned that the death was directly caused by an injection of gasoline into his father’s veins.

As the winter turned to spring of 1945, Jack Tramiel himself grew increasingly fatalistic. But then a strange end-of-the-war tableau unfolded. First, the Germans vanished from the camp; second, the Red Cross moved in briefly, overfed the prisoners to the point that some died, and then left; third, the Germans returned and then vanished again. On their heels came two American soldiers—“20-foot-tall black men, the first blacks I’d ever seen,” says Tramiel—who loomed like gladiators, punched the prisoners hiding beneath the straw of their bunks, said something in English that one Jew gleaned as “More Americans will be coming.” Then, in a tableau that rolled up like a jew chappel in dress uniform, who declared in Yiddish: “You are free.”

The Germans returned and then vanished again. Together they stood a Jewish chaplain in dress uniform, who met, Helen Goldgrub, and took her to the Fifth Avenue lamp store; learned English from American movies; and at their end of the war there were two Rolls-Royces, a type of luxury too expensive for young people in the camp. Naturally, charity fundraisers took Tramiel up. When those for the Holocaust Memorial Museum appeared, he at first thought of it as just one more philanthropic cause to be supported. But his wife, Helen, 69, who spent her concentration camp days at Bergen-Belsen, is intensely aware that the fate of her and hundreds of millions of other Jews did not. “No,” she said adamantly, “for this one we have to go all out.”

TRAMIEL TAKES CONTROL

Tramiel then bought a typewriter shop in Toronto, in 1955, to found he got the owner a contract to service several thousand machines. “The guy flipped,” says Tramiel, “but did not get his enterprises a raise. ‘I have no intention of working on my new machine,’ he said.”

Commodore went public in 1962 at a Canadian bargain of $20 a share—a deal that raised funds Tramiel needed to buy off big loans he’d gotten from a Canadian financier named C. Powell Morgan, head of Glendon. The deal promptly erupted in the mid-1960s when Atlantic, to which Commodore was almost joined at the hip, went bang. It was a breach of fraudulent financial statements, dummy companies, and propped stock prices. Tramiel was never charged with illegallities, but an investigatorial commission concluded that he was probably not blameless. In any case, the Canadian financial establishment ostracized him. Struggling to keep Commodore itself out of bankruptcy, he was forced in 1966 to give partial control of the company to Canadian investor Irving Gould.

Commodore was still typewriter manufacturers and adding machines, but the electronic revolution was under way and setting up shop in Silicon Valley. Tramiel himself had moved there in 1968 and, displaying a speed-to-market talent that has characterized his whole life, had Commodore pumping out electronic calculators. In time, however, he learned that a calculator, even a good one, was not a profit-maker, certainly not as self-destructive as a commodore. It had to sell them at a price that Commodore couldn’t match.

With Commodore again reeling, Tramiel vowed never again to be at the mercy of a vital supplier. In 1976 he made a momentous acquisition: MOS Technology, a Pennsylvania chip manufacturer that also turned out to be extravagantly nurturing about 200 different R&D projects. Tramiel, a slash-and-burn, early-day Al Dunlap in management style, killed most of the projects immediately. But he listened hard when an engineer named Chuck Peddle told him the company had a chip that was effectively a microprocessor. And so, just as both Gould and others had predicted, “are going to be the future of the world.”

Tramiel wanted to take a limited gamble, Tramiel told Peddle that he and Tramiel’s second son, Leonard, then getting a Columbia University astrophysics degree, had six months to come up with a computer Commodore could display at an upcoming Comdex electronics show. They made the deadline. “And everyone loved the product,” says Tramiel, “we sold a billion of them in one year.”

Then, in 1978, the software industry was born. At long last, Tramiel and his Commodore 64 computer was really Tramiel’s last hurrah. True, he surfaced again quickly in the computer industry, forming in 1984 to take over—for a pitance—Warner Communications’ funding Atari operation. But in a business changing convulsively as IBM brought out its PC and the clones marched in, Atari was a loser and ultimately a venture into which Tramiel was unwilling to sink big money. Eventually he folded Atari into a Silicon Valley disk-drive manufacturer, KTS, in which he had a major interest but plays no operational role.

Today Tramiel is basically retired and managing his money. From four residences, he’s cut down to one, a palatial house atop a foothill in Monte Sereno, Calif. In its garage are two Rolls-Royces, a type of luxury to which Tramiel has long been addicted. Naturally, charity fundraisers took Tramiel up. When those for the Holocaust Memorial Museum appeared, he at first thought of it as just one more philanthropic cause to be supported. But his wife, Helen, 69, who spent her concentration camp days at Bergen-Belsen, is intensely aware that the fate of her and hundreds of millions of other Jews did not. “No,” she said adamantly, “for this one we have to go all out.”

Introductions of Remarks

Hon. James C. Greenwood

Of Pennsylvania

In the House of Representatives

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to treat the U.S. Postal Service the same as any private employer under the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

The fact that the Postal Service has not been covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Act in the way that private employers, including private employers with whom the Postal Service directly competes for business—is apparently due to the fact both that the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the Postal Reorganization Act were being considered at the same time by Congress, in 1970. It may even be true, although it is now an independent establishment of the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States—considered a “federal agency” for purposes of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

As a “federal agency,” under Section 19 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and Executive Order 12196, the Postal Service is supposed to comply with OSHA standards, but it is not subject to OSHA enforcement as are
private employers. Instead, the Department of Labor is authorized under Executive Order 12196 to conduct inspections of agency workplaces “when the Secretary [of Labor] determines necessary if an agency does not have occupational safety and health committees; or in response to reports of unsafe or unhealthful working conditions, upon request of occupational safety and health committees . . . ; or, in the case of a report of an imminent danger, when such a committee has not responded to an employee who has alleged to it that the agency has not adequately responded to a report.” In such cases, the Department of Labor is required to conduct an inspection without prior request to the head of the agency. In addition, under the executive order, the Secretary of Labor submits an annual report to the President on each federal agency’s workplace safety and health performance. However, neither the Department of Labor nor the state agencies which enforce OSHA requirements in 23 states have the legal authority to require the Postal Service to comply with OSHA requirements, or to issue citations or penalties against the Postal Service for violations of OSHA requirements.

As my colleagues may know, I have been working on the creation of the workforce development component of the workers compensation system for federal employees, known as the Federal Employees Compensation Act, or FECA, which is also the workers compensation program which covers Postal Service employees. The present program is expensive, has not been updated for years and is further complicated by cases of fraud and abuse, and in many cases discourages employees’ return to work. Measured by either total compensation costs or number of claims, Postal Service employees comprise one of the largest components of FECA.

During a hearing held on the FECA program on March 24 by the Workforce Protections Subcommittee, a representative of the American Postal Workers Union claimed that “[in] our experience, the federal government’s workplace safety and health program remains inadequate and deficient, and this is where the greatest savings could and should be achieved, in the cases associated with workers injured on the job in the line of duty.”

While I certainly do not share the view that the only problem with the FECA program is the lack of effort by the Postal Service or federal agencies generally to seriously address workplace hazards in order to prevent workplace injuries, it does seem to me reasonable and appropriate to require assurance that in addressing FECA we are not ignoring the issue of workplace safety. Nor does it seem unreasonable to me that the Postal Service, which increasing employs directly with private companies, should do so “on a level playing field” with regard to OSHA regulation and enforcement.

So for both of these reasons I am introducing legislation to treat the Postal Service the same as private employers for purposes of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Under the bill, the Postal Service would be subject to inspection, citation, and penalty by OSHA and approved state OSHA programs. I invite my colleagues to consider this legislation, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in order to pass this legislation during this Congress.

W. STANLEY GARNER HON. JAMES H. MALONEY OF CONNECTICUT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, April 23, 1998 Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives and the American people the celebration of an individual in Connecticut’s 5th Congressional District to be held this Saturday, April 25th, and the many accomplishments of New Fairfield, CT, native Mr. W. Stanley Garner. A lifelong resident of Fairfield, Connecticut, Family, friends and associates of Mr. Garner will gather at the new Fairfield Senior Center to honor him for his personal contributions to the Public Library and the community at large.

Born in New Fairfield on January 9, 1923, Mr. Garner involved himself in community affairs as a young man, and was an avid user of the New Fairfield Free Public Library when it was simply a corner room in the small town hall building before World War II. In 1967, Mr. Garner became a trustee of that library and served in that capacity for more than 20 years, a longer continuous tenure than anyone else. During these twenty plus years, and since, Mr. Garner has been at the forefront of all the Library’s construction projects and was primarily responsible for the establishment of the town’s Children’s Library. He served on the Building Committee for the present Town Library, built in 1975, as well as on the Building Committees for the addition to the New Fairfield Middle School, the Fire House and the town Police Station.

Mr. Garner’s reputation as a builder in the area is outstanding, having been responsible for the construction of hundreds of homes in the area, as well as several public facilities including the Parish House of St. Edward’s Church and its adjacent Sullivan Home. He was also a long time member of the Board of Directors of the Union Savings Bank in New Fairfield.

Throughout his life, Mr. Garner has given a level of public service that few achieve. He continues to serve today as an example of the type of service and dedication that all of us should follow. Despite his level of involvement, however, Mr. Garner has never allowed his outside activities to overshadow the importance of his family. This October 28th, Stan and Aileen Pulver Garner will celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary with their two sons. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Connecticut’s 5th Congressional District, and this House, I want to congratulate Mr. Stanley Garner on this life-long achievements and thank him for his service and dedication to New Fairfield, its institutions and citizens.

RECOGNIZING COLORADO’S FRONT RANGE CONTINUUM OF CARE HON. BOB SCHAFFER OF COLORADO IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, April 23, 1998 Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a citizen coalition known as Colorado’s Northern Front Range Continuum of Care, whom I recently met with in my Fort Collins office to learn of their assessment of the community’s need for affordable housing, transitional housing, group homes and homeless services. The Continuum of Care is comprised of over 125 individuals representing various community organizations including Alternatives to Violence, American Red Cross, Catholic Charities-Northern, House of Neighborly Service, WIRS, Area Action, Crossroads Place, Weld Food Bank, Greeley Interfaith, Right to Read, Cities of Greeley, Loveland, and Fort Collins, Neighbor to Neighbor, Fort Collins Authority, Larimer County Mental Health, Larimer County Department of Human Services, Loveland Housing Authority, Crossroads Safehouse, Crossroads Ministry, Colorado Division of Housing, Ft. Lupton Housing Authority, Greeley Housing Authority, Greeley Transitional House, United Way of Weld County, Greeley Area Habitat for Humanity, CARE Housing, and Funding Partners.

Continuum of Care was formed for the purpose of inventorying existing local resources in the community and to identify gaps in housing and service delivery for special populations. The assessments were achieved through the participation of these representatives who developed this analysis bringing their particular community experiences to the table.

The following facts were established concerning the value of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit:

H.R. 2900 would increase the Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to $1.75 per capita and index the cap to inflation.

The current cap is severely limiting the state’s capacity to help the thousands of lower wage families from renting decent, safe and affordable housing.

In 1996, Colorado was allocated $4.5 million in housing tax credits but the demand far exceeded this allocation with requests totaling $15.3 million.

The Low-Income Tax Credit is a federal tax credit to investors for ten years for up to 9% of their cost of constructing or rehabilitating apartments dedicated to lower-wage working families at restricted rents.

Since 1987, the housing tax credit has helped develop over 7,692 units of affordable housing in 40 counties in Colorado.

During that same time period in Larimer and Weld Counties, funds totaling $4,525,677 were allocated, providing 1,183 new housing units.

Facts were also presented in support of Private Activity Bonds: H.R. 979 increases the Private Activity Bond (PAB) cap from $50 to $75 per capita and index the cap to inflation.

This legislation will stimulate job creation, the production of affordable housing, industrial development, environmental cleanup and higher education in Colorado. Currently the cap is the greater of $50 per capita or $150 million per state per year. This computes to about $200 million annually in Colorado.

Annually, this cap is used-up completely. Demand exceeds supply by four-to-one.

In the last two years, over $414 million of private activity bond authority yielded a significant positive economic impact for Colorado.

Over $336 million in tax exempt bond financing for affordable housing for our blue-collar work force funded new home ownership and rental.

$41 million of financing for industrial development (manufacturing facilities) and agricultural loans.