

the momentous occasion that is "National Community Action Week," from Sunday, May 3, 1998 to Saturday, May 9, 1998. This proclamation is truly benefitting of the dedication and accomplishments of the members of the Paterson Task Force.

IN HONOR OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGE FEDOR MANOR

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 15th anniversary of one of the focal points in southeast Lakewood, Ohio, the George Fedor Manor.

This eleven-story apartment complex for the elderly provides residents with low-cost Section 8 housing and a breathtaking view of Lake Erie, the Gold Coast and downtown Cleveland. After attending the 75th anniversary of the founding of S.S. Cyril and Methodius Church, a group of parishioners decided that the large number of elderly people living in southeast Lakewood needed conveniently located, low-cost housing. The building's namesake, George Fedor, wanted to give something back to his community and was instrumental in arranging support for the project. He is a lifelong resident of Lakewood and a dedicated parishioner of S.S. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, and he understood the needs of this area of Lakewood.

Under the sponsorship of S.S. Cyril and Methodius Church and the leadership of George Fedor, and with funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the City of Lakewood, the complex was finished in May, 1983. Fifteen years later, the building continues to provide senior citizens and handicapped individuals with comfortable and affordable housing in a prime Lakewood location.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the perseverance of those who recognized a community's need for low-cost housing for senior citizens and have worked tirelessly to see that The George Fedor Manor has filled that need for fifteen years.

IN HONOR OF ANTHONY SUMMA

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 1998*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anthony Summa of Williamsburg, Brooklyn, who has been chosen as an honoree for the School Settlement Testimonial Dinner.

Anthony Summa graduated from Stuyvesant High School and earned a B.S. from New York University in 1953. Shortly after graduation he was drafted into the Army and carried out a twenty-month tour in Europe. Upon his discharge and return to New York, Anthony was employed by Alexander's Department Stores as a manager.

Mr. Summa then became involved in banking, first at Citibank as a senior examiner and

at the largest bank in New Jersey, First National State Bank. He then joined Irving Trust Company where he rose to the honorable position of vice president and deputy auditor. Mr. Summa is now chairman of Cross County Federal Savings Bank.

Mr. Summa remains active in his parish. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, where he has served as usher, lecturer, trustee, member of the Parish Finance Committee, past president of the Parish Council, and as chairman of the Mt. Carmel Parish Centennial.

Mr. Summa is also a past president of the Holy Name Society, a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus where he is a council recorder and community committee chairman. In addition, Mr. Summa is president of the Daughters & Sons of Italian Heritage Lodge of the Order Sons of Italy in America, as well as treasurer of the New York State Commission for Social Justice, which is an anti-defamation branch of the order.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me in this tribute to Anthony Summa of Brooklyn, New York as he receives this award for his dedication to his community. I am proud to have Mr. Summa as an active member of my district.

THE AMERICAN GI FORUM  
FEDERAL CHARTER ACT OF 1998

**HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 1998*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of myself and a number of my colleagues to introduce a bill to grant a federal charter to the American GI Forum (AGIF), a National Veterans Family Organization. I am proud to join an effort which is being advanced by the distinguished Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and his colleagues who have filed identical legislation, S. 1759.

The American GI Forum was founded on March 26, 1948, in Corpus Christi, Texas by the late Dr. Hector P. Garcia, a medical doctor and Army veteran of World War II. This year, the AGIF celebrates its 50th year of service to our Nation's veterans and their families. Today, the AGIF has over 100,000 members in 500 chapters across 32 states and Puerto Rico. Though predominately Hispanic the AGIF is an inter-racial organization open to all veterans and their families.

This is not the first time the AGIF has sought a federal charter. At least as early as the 1960's, in an era when Hispanic veterans were facing exclusion and discrimination, AGIF approached Congress for a federal charter. At that time, as now, the AGIF had the broad-based national and patriotic characteristics which would have entitled it to a federal charter. While numerous groups with similar stature as the AGIF were almost routinely given charters, the American GI Forum was effectively left out.

As the American GI Forum enters its 50th year, we believe it is fitting to secure passage of this important legislation which would finally grant the American GI Forum a federal charter. A federal charter is an honorary recognition that does not convey any special rights or authority. However, within the veteran commu-

nity, a federal charter is deemed to be recognition of a national veteran organization's commitment and service to our nation's veterans. Other entities sometimes distinguish between Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) which are congressionally-chartered and those which are not. For example, the Department of Veterans Affairs publishes a directory of VSOs, in which it separately lists groups based upon whether or not they are chartered.

The Hispanic community is among the most patriotic in America, historically ready to answer the call to service. Having earned the highest number of medals of honor per capita, Hispanic Americans have a distinguished record of valor and patriotism. There are over 1,000,000 Hispanic veterans alive today. On behalf of my colleagues and myself, I urge you to join us in sponsoring this legislation to grant a federal charter to this deserving organization.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE R. CODEY

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 1998*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Lawrence R. Codey of Spring Lake, New Jersey. Larry is President and Chief Operating Officer of Public Service Electric & Gas Company.

Larry was born and raised in Montclair. After graduating from St. Peter's College in Jersey City in 1966, he attended Seton Hall University's School of Law and was awarded his J.D. degree in 1969. Following admission to the New Jersey Bar, Larry entered military service, attained the rank of Captain, and spent one year of service in Vietnam.

Larry joined Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G) in 1973 and was named Corporate Rate Counsel two years later. In 1983 he was elected Vice-President. In 1987 he was elected Senior Vice President, Electric and in September 1991, was elected President and Chief Operating Officer of PSE&G and Director of the Public Service Enterprise Group, Inc. He was also appointed that year to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee. Recently, Larry became a spokesman on the environmental impact of energy deregulation and, in 1997, he spoke before the National Governors Association on the subject.

Larry serves as Director on the Boards of the Trust Company of New Jersey; United Water Resources, Inc.; Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey; Sealed Air Corporation; the Regional Business Partnership; the Chamber of Commerce of the Metro Newark Region, Inc.; the New Jersey Utilities Association; and the Edison Electric Institute. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of St. Peter's College and the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Larry's family and friends, the ARC of Essex County, and the County of Essex in recognizing the many outstanding and invaluable contributions Lawrence R. Codey has made to our community throughout the years.