

young children and an increased focus on intervening in a young child's life during the most sensitive of years in vitally important.

In improving the transition of children from Head Start programs to school, the bill would also require Head Start programs to coordinate services with the educational services of the local education agency projected to serve the children enrolled in their programs. The legislation would also require that the Secretary, in considering the expansion of Head Start programs, to consider the extent to which Head Start programs will coordinate services with local education agencies. Both of these provisions will ensure that the educational experiences and cognitive development gained by children in Head Start programs are not lost when they progress through school.

In addition, the bill improves the access of children with disabilities to quality programs and ensures that Head Start programs maximize their enrollment and resources and increase flexibility to deal with the transition of families from welfare to work by allowing the Secretary to permit up to 25% of enrollees in a Head Start program to be from families with incomes above the poverty line.

Title II of the bill amends LIHEAP. This legislation will maintain LIHEAP's focus on serving low-income individuals with the highest proportion of energy expenses. In addition, this bill reinforces that weatherization and energy-related home repair should be directed to low-income households, particularly those households with the lowest incomes and the highest proportion of household income for home energy. With this increased targeted emphasis on the poorest of our poor, the weatherization portion of LIHEAP will truly help those most in need.

Title III of the bill amends CSBG. Similar to the other two programs, a significant rewrite is not necessary, but the legislation does make several changes designed to improve the program. The bill raises the authorization level of the program by over \$100 million to \$650 million in FY 1999 and such sums in FYs 2000–2002. This will ensure that the significant increases in appropriations which this program has received in the last few years can be repeated. Also, the bill would give preference to private, non-profit organizations should an existing entity running a local program authorized under the statute terminate. In addition, this legislation would provide that CSBG carry-over funds are reprogrammed at the local level. For each of the last three years similar language has been attached to the Labor-HHS Appropriations bill requiring this provision. Lastly, the measure would allow local community action agencies to offer services to improve literacy in the community. This would be an new activity for local community action agencies to address the illiteracy—one of the most pressing problems and indicators of poverty in our nation today.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to stress that I believe this legislation is the beginning of another historic bipartisan effort to reauthorize and strengthen these programs. I urge all members of Congress to join me in supporting this legislation and to support the bill which will be the eventual product of our joint bipartisan discussions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS
KATIE PROPST

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Miss Katie Propst, a Merino High School Junior, residing in Merino, Colorado, Katie is the daughter of Ted and Penny Propst. Miss Propst recently drew honor to herself, her family, and her community by placing first place in the 43rd Annual Colorado Science and Engineering Fair.

Propst placed first in the contest's senior division of Health and Behavioral Sciences. Her project is entitled "Bacteriophage Therapy: Is It a Possible Alternative Treatment for Bacterial Infections?" Her immediate prize is an all-expense paid trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair in Fort Worth, Texas. There, she will compete at the International Science and Engineering Fair.

Katie has earned scholarships from Colorado State University and Colorado Northwestern Community College. She also received award prizes from the Colorado Association of Science Teachers, and the Rocky Mountain Inventors and Entrepreneurs Congress.

Propst's personal interests are in pathology and microbiology sciences. She believes that microbiology will help find alternatives to antibiotic resistant viruses. Propst undertook the study of treating an infection with a bacteriophage (virus) instead of the traditional antibiotic. The test subjects Propst used were tobacco hornworms. By injecting them with a bacterial infection and then treating the infection with a bacteriophage, Propst observed, "An antibiotic resistant alternative is needed for bacterial infections. If found successful in future studies, this form of treatment could possibly be used to treat infections."

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD, the following newspaper article about Katie Propst taken from the May 2, 1998, edition of the Sterling Journal Advocate.

Mr. Speaker, it is exciting to recognize Miss Katie Propst of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. She is obviously very bright and certainly motivated to succeed. Please join me in wishing her well in her academic endeavors.

MERINO GIRL YOPS STATE SCIENCE EXHIBITOR
LIST

(By Rebecca Giggs)

Katie Propst, Merino High School Junior, will soon be traveling to Fort Worth, Texas. It won't be a sightseeing trip, she will be competing at the International Science and Engineering Fair from May 10–16.

Propst's project "Bacteriophage Therapy: Is It a Possible Alternative Treatment For Bacterial Infections?" won top exhibitor at the 43rd Annual Colorado Science and Engineering Fair. Her prize is an all-expense paid trip to Internationals.

Propst placed first place in the senior division of Health and Behavioral Sciences. She earned scholarships from Colorado State University and Colorado Northwestern Community College.

Propst also earned \$50 Colorado Association of Science Teachers for excellence in the use of the scientific method and \$50 from the Rocky Mountain Inventors and Entrepreneurs Congress. Other winners at the fair

from Merino were Kari Accomasso and MacKenzie Peake. Propst and Accomasso presented their projects on Friday to the Colorado-Wyoming Junior Academy of Science, and they hope to get their work published.

Propst's study was to inject tobacco hornworms with a bacterial infection. "Rather than treating this with an antibiotic, the infection was treated with a bacteriophage (virus)." Propst said. The virus's job was to get rid of the infection without harming the worm. Propst said she decided to do this project "Because I'm interested in a major in pathology." She added, "An antibiotic resistance alternative is needed for bacterial infections. If found successful in future studies, this form of treatment could possibly be used to treat infections."

Propst decided on this project after reading about a similar experiment in mice. She adjusted her experiment for hornworms.

Propst began her research in August and started doing experiments in January. "It's a 12-hour injection procedure. Then I follow the data for a week," she said. Propst's mother is a science teacher at Merino. Propst said having access to the science room helped with her experiment. Propst said that her mother "Inspired me, she hasn't pushed me. Whatever I want to do is okay with her."

Propst didn't expect to win at the state fair. "I saw all those awesome displays and didn't think I had a chance. The key to winning is relating to the judges, be excited about what you are doing. The others who won were also personable. It's selling what you've found."

Propst said, "The people that deserve recognition are the school's faculty and administration. Without their financial and emotional support I wouldn't be doing this. There's an advantage to going to a small school. I'm looking forward to representing a small school."

Propst has been interested in pathology and microbiology since her last science project in the seventh grade. She said microbiology will help find alternatives to virus that have become resistant to antibiotics, viruses that have become more deadly. "It's amazing something so small can be so powerful," she said.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF MR.
ARNETT FLOWERS, WARDEN OF
EL RENO FEDERAL CORREC-
TIONAL FACILITY

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, recently, we recognized the hard work of the dedicated men and women who work in correctional facilities across the country. Today, I wish to honor the accomplishments and efforts of Mr. Arnett Flowers, who is the Warden at the Federal Correctional Institution in El Reno, Oklahoma.

Prisons and correctional facilities are not easy places to work. They are dangerous places and an officer risks his life every day he or she works there. We must therefore especially appreciate the excellent work of people like Warden Flowers, who go the extra mile to serve the public and keep our families safe.

For 26 years, Warden Flowers has dedicated his life to saving taxpayer dollars by running efficient prisons. Most recently, by

streamlining offices while maintaining the quality of prison maintenance at the El Reno facility, Warden Flowers has saved taxpayers \$850,000 in operating expenses.

Under his direction, the El Reno Facility has worked with several state and federal law enforcement agencies to improve the quality of law enforcement. For example, Warden Flowers worked with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to construct a badly-needed pistol range on Bureau of Prisons property, therefore allowing both FBI agents and state correctional officers to use the new facility to improve their training.

Perhaps Warden Flowers' most important accomplishment is his work to help prisoners rehabilitate themselves, to cut down on the rate of repeat offenders. He has worked with several youth crime prevention initiatives, public, private and religious in nature. Warden Flowers realizes the best way to prevent crime is to give kids a positive influence and spiritual guidance at an early age.

Dedicated correctional officers like Warden Arnett Flowers play an integral role in maintaining law and order in our society. All Americans should appreciate the efforts of the hard-working correctional officers across our country who help keep violent offenders behind bars and who work tirelessly to keep our families safe.

HONORING DR. CLIFFORD SMITH

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, many people in this chamber are aware of my commitment to improving access to health care for rural residents. A doctor who practices in my district, Dr. Clifford Smith, was recently honored by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) as the NRHA Rural Practitioner of the Year. He will officially receive this award tomorrow, May 15, 1998.

Dr. Smith was raised in my district, and I am pleased that he decided to remain in a rural area to practice medicine. I am wish to congratulate Dr. Smith for this fine achievement. I am honored to submit an article from the April 15, 1998 edition of the Monona Billboard which describes Dr. Smith's commitment to his patients.

I am grateful for the many years of service that Dr. Smith has provided to my constituents.

DR. SMITH NAMED NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER

McGregor physician Dr. Clifford Smith has been selected as the 1998 National Rural Health Care Association Rural Practitioner of the Year. He will receive the award during the NRHA's 21st annual National Conference May 15, at Orlando, Fla.

Dr. Smith has practiced medicine in north-east Iowa and southwest Wisconsin since coming to McGregor in 1962. He first practiced at the McGregor Hospital. In 1963, he moved his office to 626 Main Street in McGregor and in 1979 the clinic was built. Dr. Smith became affiliated with Gundersen 1987. Dr. Smith also comes to the Monona Gundersen clinic.

Smith was raised in Waterloo and decided as a youngster that he wanted to become a

doctor. His plans were temporarily sidelined by World War II when he joined the Army with hopes of becoming a fighter pilot. He was a member of the famous Tuskegee Airmen, the first squadron of black American pilots to be allowed to fight for their country.

Returning to Iowa he attended the University of Iowa and went to Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn. He worked in New Jersey for four years before starting his practice in McGregor.

In the nomination sent to the National Rural Health Care Association by Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital and the Smith Gundersen McGregor Clinic staff, several stories are related to Dr. Smith's compassion and bedside manner.

Until his affiliation with Gundersen, Dr. Smith was known to accept bartering in exchange for care when the patient could not afford to pay.

He always carries his black bag and continues to make house calls to patients unable to come to the clinic.

Jean Bacon, RNC of Monona, has worked with Dr. Smith since his first day in McGregor. Today as Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department Clinical Coordinator, she still works with him. She says "Dr. Smith has been my family physician since he moved to this area. My family dearly loves him as do all of his patients. When my children were young they spoke of him as being really cool." She adds, "He is respected for his knowledge, but even more so for his compassion, caring and leadership as a role model."

Ellen Nierling, RNC, education director at Memorial Hospital, recalled a particularly busy night at the hospital working with Dr. Smith that left them both wondering at their career choices, but the following day Dr. Smith said, "It feels great when you know you make a difference in a patient's life."

Marilu Benz MD, Chief of Surgery and Chief of Staff at Memorial Hospital, states, "Dr. Smith is always willing to lend encouragement to hospital staff, and has a talent for bringing out the best in all of us. Our lives are truly enriched by his fine examples of devotion, compassion and dedication."

Dr. Smith is looking forward to the trip to Orlando. He says he has never been any place like it and, it should be fun.

His patients are proud of his national recognition, but they are even happier that even at 72, he is still there when they need him.

BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of H.R. 2829, the "Bulletproof Vest partnership Grant Act of 1998." I would like to thank my friend from Indiana Congressman Visclosky, and my friend from New Jersey Congressman LoBiondo, for bringing this long overdue and much needed bill to the floor of the House. Times have changed and we must pass H.R. 2829 in order to protect the men and women who risk their lives everyday for our safety. The bulletproof vests of 15 or 20 years ago are no longer adequate protection. The passage of this bill would authorize

up to twenty-five million dollars a year for a new matching grant program to help state and local law enforcement departments purchase new bulletproof vests and body armor. The new body armor today is thinner, lighter and offers more protection. The vests can even be fitted with additional plates for even extra protection.

The bill would also give preference in awarding grants to jurisdictions where officers do not currently have vests. The grants will be sent directly to the agencies that apply for them, resulting in the officers getting their new vests and body armor that much quicker. From 1987 to 1996, 637 officers were feloniously killed by a firearm. Of that figure, 393 officers, roughly 62 percent, were not wearing a bulletproof vest or body armor when they were shot.

Every police officer and correctional officer in this country should have the protection of a bulletproof vest or body armor. This bill will go a long way in making that vision a reality. What better way to recognize national Police Week than by passing this legislation. Support H.R. 2829.

PERSECUTION OF ASSYRIAN CHRISTIANS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 1998

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to recognize the religious persecution and ethnic bigotry confronting the Assyrian Christian community in Eastern Turkey, Syria, Northern Iraq and Iran. As we consider the Freedom from Religious Persecution Act, I believe that the record should document our Nation's concern and commitment to stopping the violence and oppression facing the Assyrian people.

The Assyrian people have faced persecution throughout their history. As a religious and linguistic minority throughout the Near East, Assyrian Christians have long been the victims of violence and repression. Forced assimilation and gross brutality against this persevering people have occurred too often. From the murder of thousands of Assyrians by the Iraqi military in August of 1933, known as the Simele Massacre, to the recent attacks on Assyrian villages in Northern Iraq by Kurdish terrorist factions, the Assyrian people have and still continue to be the victims of violent persecution for their beliefs and values.

More than 30 Assyrians have been killed in Southeastern Turkey during the past three years. Assyrian Christians are caught in the escalating warfare that has long engulfed this crossroads at the head of two ancient rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates. The conditions facing Assyrian Christians continue to deteriorate. It is also clear that our nation must do more to protect the Assyrian people, their unique culture and their religious freedoms.

Reports of religious intolerance toward members of the Syriac Orthodox Church and the Church of the East have been documented by United Nations (UN) human rights observers. The education of young Assyrians about their history and the traditions of their ancestors has been prevented by national and local authorities across the region. This persecution threatens the ability of Assyrians to