

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MEDICARE+CHOICE MENTAL
HEALTH COVERAGE ACCESS AS-
SURANCE ACT OF 1998

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Medicare+Choice Mental Health Coverage Access Assurance Act of 1998." This important legislation seeks to provide Medicare beneficiaries with appropriate and medically necessary mental health coverage under managed care.

Last year's Balanced Budget Act opened more managed care choices to Medicare beneficiaries through the establishment of the Medicare+Choice Program. In doing so, we enacted some patient protection measures for individuals enrolled or will be enrolled in Medicare managed care. However, because of managed care's history of putting more restrictive limits on mental health care compared to general health care, I believe that additional steps must be taken to ensure that Medicare patients with mental health needs will receive appropriate mental health care.

The amendments to the Balanced Budget Act that I am introducing today would give Medicare consumers emergency care in the case of a suicide attempt, coordination of post-stabilization care, clear descriptions of mental health and substance abuse benefits, access to mental health specialists and to inpatient treatment.

According to the Health Care Financing Administration, close to five million Medicare beneficiaries are mentally ill. Of these, 1.3 million are under age 65; they receive SSDI and Medicare due to a mental disability. The number of SSDI recipients diagnosed with a mental illness increased 17% between 1993 and 1995. And it is expected that the number of geriatric patients with mental disorders such as depression, anxiety, and Alzheimer's will grow rapidly in the coming years. To address these needs, Medicare spent close to four billion dollars on mental health services in calendar year 1994. Yet, the services presently received by Medicare beneficiaries are viewed by many as inadequate and fragmented.

While one may expect capitated systems to better provide for a full continuum of mental health care and serve individuals with mental health needs better, experience with this sector to date has been mixed. In the public sector, states are struggling to address fundamental questions of coverage, access, quality, and mental health's coordination with the rest of health care as millions of mentally disabled Medicaid beneficiaries are moved into managed care systems. It is worth noting that many public purchasers are placing their mental health and addiction disorder treatment and prevention programs into the hands of private companies far more rapidly than their own contracting abilities or the capabilities of the managed care companies may warrant.

Medicaid's transformation to managed care gives us reasons to proceed with caution. The federal government retains the ultimate responsibility of ensuring that taxpayers' money is well-spent and the mental health needs of Medicare beneficiaries are well-served if we are to turn their care over to private companies. This legislation that I am introducing today address these issues and requires the following minimum standards from health plans that wish to participate in Medicare.

First, a patient should get the psychiatric emergency care he needs if he has made a suicidal attempt or has made serious threats to inflict harm to himself. It seems that some managed care companies do not take a suicidal attempt seriously enough. According to the report Stand and Deliver: Action Called to a Failing Industry, 1997 by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, five of the nine largest behavioral managed care companies surveyed failed to provide a response that acknowledged a suicide attempt as a potentially deadly emergency requiring prompt attention.

Second, should a patient show up in an emergency room in an emotional crisis and the managed care plan decides that he does not meet the criteria for an inpatient admission, the plan must still do what it takes to stabilize the patient. Treatment decisions should include a realistic assessment of the availability of community supports and other treatment setting options that would serve as an alternative to inpatient care such as partial hospitalization or acute diversion units.

Third, Medicare beneficiaries are entitled to and should get a clear description of mental health and addictive disorder treatment benefits from health plans. This should include any front-end restrictions on utilization of mental health services such as premiums, co-insurance, deductibles, number of visits and days limits, and the range of services provided. In addition, plans should also disclose annual and lifetime limits on mental health spending. This would enable Medicare beneficiaries, and specifically those with mental disability, to make an informed choice of a plan that best serves their needs.

Fourth, a Medicare+Choice plan should provide beneficiaries access to mental health and addiction specialists. This requirement is particularly important to the severely and persistently mentally ill geriatric patients, whose complex medical, psychiatric, and cognitive impairments are frequently left poorly attended to.

Last of all, it must be emphasized that the treatment of serious brain disorders continues to require the availability of inpatient care. The decision to admit or to refuse a psychiatric hospital admission to a patient in distress can have grave and even life-threatening consequences. Thus, these decisions must be made in close consultation with the physician who wishes to admit a patient with serious symptoms to a hospital setting.

I urge my colleagues to join me in co-sponsoring this important and straightforward legislation. For too long, discussions of mental health and addictive disorders have been lost

in the Medicare debate. The elderly and disabled Medicare beneficiaries with mental health needs are a vulnerable population. They deserve our attention and our commitment to provide them with the best care we possibly can.

WHO WILL WIN THE SECOND
BATTLE OF SAIPAN?

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the following column by the highly respected writer Mark Shields appeared in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer on May 18, 1998 and describes the debate in Congress to reform the outrageous practices in the U.S. territory of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands that conflict with core American ethics and values.

"Made in the USA Is at Heart of the Second Battle of Saipan" describes the continuing, widespread labor abuses and problematic immigration policies in the US/CNMI that have prompted a bipartisan group in Congress to support legislation to bring these local laws in conformity with those that apply throughout the rest of our country.

Like the battle of Saipan during World War II when American troops fought for 25 days to capture the island chain, the clash in Congress is an uphill battle between those who are working to instill humanitarian reforms in the island's labor and immigration policies and those who hail the existing policies as a cornerstone of "free enterprise."

At the root of this "second battle of Saipan" is the local control over minimum wage and immigration policies that was temporarily granted to local authorities over twenty years ago when the US/CNMI first became a part of the United States. However, since this local control was granted, the US/CNMI has not made any serious attempts to either increase the local minimum wage to the federal level or closely control its borders to prevent an influx of immigrants as it had promised. Rather, the US/CNMI maintains an artificially low minimum wage of \$3.05 per hour and has opened its borders to a flood of foreigners who provide the labor pool for menial, labor-intensive jobs.

Currently, foreign workers compose 91% of the private sector workforce and significantly outnumber U.S. citizens in the US/CNMI. Local labor controls and law enforcement are severely lacking, company housing is squalid, abuse is common and this low-cost foreign workforce is easy prey for exploitation. And the nearly \$1 billion in garments produced in these conditions by foreign workers bears the "Made in USA" label, although the labor protections normally associated with this label are nonexistent. Foreign workers in the US/CNMI can be deported at a moment's notice if they complain about conditions and are forbidden from changing jobs if they have a problem

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

with their employer. Clearly, the experience of these workers in the US/CNMI is not representative of a work experience anywhere else in America. According to Mr. Shields, "toiling 12 hours a day, seven days a week, without any of the worker protections Americans are guaranteed, is tragically common."

Congress has the power and the duty to ensure that basic fundamental principals of labor and immigration law are adhered to throughout the United States and its territories. I urge my colleagues to read this column and decide for themselves how they would like to see the "Second battle of Saipan" play out. I think you'll agree that if our efforts to apply federal labor and immigration controls to the US/CNMI are successful, as Mr. Shields notes, "the United States and humanity will win."

[From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, May 18, 1998]

"MADE IN THE USA" IS AT HEART OF THE
SECOND BATTLE OF SAIPAN
(By Mark Shields)

For Americans of a certain age, Saipan will forever remain that Pacific Island battle where, during 25 days of hell in the summer of 1944, the U.S. Marines captured 47 square miles of strategic real estate. The price was high. U.S. combat casualties numbered 16,612, including 3,225 Americans killed in action.

For the Japanese, the numbers are still staggering: 23,811 known soldiers dead added to an overwhelming majority of the 18,000 Japanese civilians on the island who chose death over surrender by jumping off the cliffs into the sea. That mass Japanese civilian suicide helped convince the Truman administration that Japan would never surrender and that the use of atomic weapons would actually save Japanese and American lives.

Today, Saipan is the capital of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), a chain of 14 islands in the North Pacific. The approximately 28,000 indigenous people of the CNMI, following their own free vote, are all U.S. citizens. But the CNMI was granted local authority over immigration to the islands and over permitting island employers to pay workers at a lower minimum wage than that of the United States. Still, any clothing manufacturer in Saipan is entitled to sew the "Made in the U.S.A." label in every garment. And all such garments can enter the U.S. mainland market free of tariffs and quotas.

This has led directly to the "Second Battle of Saipan." The island has turned into a legalized sweatshop. Ninety-one percent of the private-sector work force, numbering 42,000, consists of foreign workers from China, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka who are too often exploited on U.S. soil.

According to the sworn testimony of U.S. officials, and human-rights and workers-rights professionals, those foreign workers—being paid barely half the U.S. minimum wage—live behind barbed wire in squalid shacks without plumbing. Toiling 12 hours a day, seven days a week, without any of the worker protections Americans are guaranteed, is tragically common.

Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., has personally visited the island factories. He has introduced legislation to raise the island minimum wage and impose federal control of immigration. With characteristic bluntness, Miller says: "Let's be clear. Foreign workers using foreign cloth under the eyes of foreign supervisors are working in a foreign-owned factory producing garments into which they sew a label that reads 'Made in the U.S.A.,' and that is the only reason these foreign fac-

ories are there—to escape U.S. duties and quotas imposed by the Congress to protect U.S. jobs."

But Miller is in the House minority. And Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, the House majority whip, who with his family was the New Year's Eve guest of the Marianas government, publicly has vowed to fight any federal takeover of Saipan's immigration and labor laws.

As seen and heard on ABC-TV News, DeLay told his host, "You are a shining light for what is happening in the Republican Party, and you represent everything that is good about what we are trying to do in America and leading the world in the free-market system."

DeLay does have a point that the foreign workers in Saipan are earning more and often under less brutal conditions than they could in their own homelands. But for those who remember the first battle of Saipan, the "Made in the U.S.A." label means standards of quality and standards of conduct. But more important than how something is made is how the people who make that something are treated, that they are free to worship and to complain and to quit.

One man who understands that well could be DeLay's worst legislative nightmare: Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, chairman of the energy and natural resources committee. Murkowski supports legislation similar to Miller's. But the conservative Alaskan has the clout to make things happen. Showing a sense of history, Murkowski rebuts defenders of the Saipan status quo: "The last time we heard a justification that economic advances would be jeopardized if workers were treated properly was shortly before Appomattox."

Frank Murkowski is right. If he is successful, the United States and humanity will win the second battle of Saipan.

CONGRATULATING THE BOYS' BASEBALL TEAM OF KEY WEST HIGH SCHOOL

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the boys' baseball team of Key West High School. The city of Key West prides itself as the home of the Ernest Hemingway Festival, Duval Street, and magnificent beaches. This year, the Conchs, the Key West High School boys' baseball team, has provided the city with another reason to burst with pride—a first place trophy in a national tournament.

Recently, the Conchs won the Pepsi All-Sport National High School Baseball Tournament with an 11-7 victory in Boca Raton over Monsignor Pace High School. This was the conclusive win which had been preceded by three other victories in five days and which gave the Conchs the much sought after title of national champions.

Although, this is not the first time that the Key West Conchs have participated in a national tournament, it is the first time they have been crowned as victors. Two years ago, the boys lost at the Dole Classic in California and last year at the USA Classic in Tennessee. This year, however, proved to be different. This season the Conchs made history for Key West High School by attaining the first place trophy in a national high school baseball tournament.

The championship roster includes: Michael Anderson, Dane Artman, Devin Butler, John Paul Castro, Lazaro Chavez, Marcus Davila, Peter Dunick, Khalil Greene, Ben Harrison, Daniel Hersey, Tommy Lambeth, Luis Leal, Aaron Marr, Juan Menendez, Sean Morales, Brian O'Connell, Stephen Parker, Troy Phillipps, Tony Ramos, Eduardo Rodriguez, Billy Spottswood, Christian Twyman. Overseeing this group were Head Coach Brooks Carey, Pitching Assistant Coach Randy Sterling, First Base Assistant Coach Chris Valdez, Third Base Assistant Coach Ralph Sanchez, Athletic Director Robert Price and Principal Alma Olson.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the students of Key West High School who continue to strive to achieve excellence. On behalf of the citizens of the Twentieth District of Florida, we congratulate the Conchs on an outstanding season.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FRESNO STATE WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fresno State University Women's Softball Team on their 1998 NCAA Women's College World Series victory. The win gave Fresno State its first National Championship in any sport. The Fresno State Women's Softball Team has exhibited the dedication and hard work that it takes to become world renown athletes. I applaud the perseverance of both the team and the coaches. They are all well deserving of this recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the following individuals of the Fresno State Women's Softball Team be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD: Laura Berg, Center field; Candice Bowlin, outfield; Kara Campbell, outfield; Angela Cervantez, 1st and 3rd base; Alicia Dowland, short stop; Jennifer Jokinen, Left field; Nina Lindenberg, 2nd base; Jaime Maxey, 1st and 3rd base; Lindsay Parker, right handed pitcher; Kim Peck, Left handed pitcher; Amanda Scott, right handed pitcher/outfielder; Jennifer Slaney, Catcher; Janna Todd, Catcher/DP; Vanessa Valenzuela, 1st base; Amber Wall, Catcher; Carolyn Wilson, Catcher/DP; Daviana Wisener, Outfield; Becky Witt, Outfield, and Margie Wright, Coach.

In the final game of the NCAA Women's College World Series on Monday, May 25, 1998, Nina Lindenberg's home run provided all the scoring as pitcher Amanda Scott limited the Arizona Wildcats to three singles. The victory ended a 29 game winning streak for Arizona, who had won the National title the previous two years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate the Fresno State University Women's Softball Team for their 1998 NCAA Women's College World Series victory. Their commitment and dedication should serve as a model for athletes the world over. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Fresno State Women's Softball Team many more years of success.

THE THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT
OF THE SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE
ON THE HONG KONG TRANSITION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to submit the Third Quarterly Report of the Speaker's Task Force on the Hong Kong Transition. It has been nearly one year since Hong Kong reverted to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997. Prior to that historic event, and at your request, Mr. Speaker, this Member formed the House Task Force on Hong Kong's Transition. In addition to myself as Chairman, the Task Force is bipartisanly balanced and includes Representative HOWARD BERMAN (D-CA), Representative SHERROD BROWN (D-OH), Representative ENI FALEOMAVAEGA (D-AS), Representative ALCEA HASTINGS (D-FL), Representative JAY KIM (R-CA), Representative DONALD MANZULLO (R-IL) and Representative MATT SALMON (R-AZ).

Mr. Speaker, as you requested, the Task Force expects to travel to Hong Kong, and other relevant destinations at least every six months for the foreseeable future to examine how the reversion has affected Hong Kong. The first such visit took place in December, 1997. The second is tentatively scheduled for early July of this year—one year after reversion. To day, the task force has prepared three quarterly reports accessing how the reversion has affected Hong Kong. The third report, which I submit today, covers the alternating quarter—January through March, 1998—in which there was no actual visit to Hong Kong by the Task Force. Despite a number of concerns in the areas of freedom of expression, the independence of the judiciary, the development of democratic institutions and the protection of intellectual property rights, we continue to describe the situation as "so far so good." Mr. Speaker, this Member submits the Task Force report to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE ON THE HONG
KONG TRANSITION

THIRD REPORT

(Presented by the Hon. Doug Bereuter,
Chairman)

The following is the third quarterly report of the Task Force on the Hong Kong Transition. It follows the first report dated October 1, 1997, and the second report dated February 25, 1998. This report focuses on events and developments relevant to United States interests in Hong Kong between January 1, 1998 and March 31, 1998—the third quarter following Hong Kong's reversion to China. (This is the alternating quarter in which there was no actual visit to Hong Kong by the Task Force since the mandate given to the Task Force by the Speaker is to visit Hong Kong only every six months. Therefore, the finding of this report are based upon indirect sources.)

BELJING COMMITMENTS

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) has now been under Chinese sovereignty for over nine months. Concerned observers both inside and outside Hong Kong continue to scrutinize the decisions and behavior of Chinese and Hong Kong authorities for evidence that China is maintaining its commitment to the "one-country, two systems" formula spelled out in the Joint Dec-

laration of 1984 which allows Hong Kong full autonomy in matters other than foreign policy and defense. As a dynamic regional financial and economic center, Hong Kong's continued autonomy is viewed as vital to the continuing economic health of the entire region.

The people of Hong Kong continue to maintain a high degree of confidence in the Hong Kong government. Confidence in Chief Executive C.H. Tung ebbed somewhat in January, as the effects of the Asian financial crisis rippled into Hong Kong and the public voiced its dissatisfaction with the government's handling of the "avian flu" problem. By late February, however, opinion polls showed a bounce back. Tung's overall approval rating rose to 63 percent—a four percent increase over the late-January figure. The polls also continue to show strong popular support for the "democratic" political parties, which are expected to do well in the May election in the seats open to universal suffrage.

Following Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese rule, we find that Chinese authorities continue to refrain from direct involvement in Hong Kong affairs. To date, there is no evidence of explicit Chinese interference in Hong Kong affairs. Our First Quarterly Report on Hong Kong described the situation in this regard as "so far, so good." The Second Quarterly Report echoed this judgment, with a slightly stronger caveat that the areas of concern—freedom of expression, rule of law, and protection of intellectual property rights, among others—warranted closer attention. In this report, we reaffirm or continue this assessment.

We see no clear threat to Hong Kong's autonomy. Chinese officials, both in Beijing and Hong Kong, scrupulously refrain from interference—at least in public. For example, five members of China's world-class swim team were unable to wangle their way into Hong Kong for an important meet after they neglected to apply for visas in time. Separately, the small People's Liberation Army garrison also continues to maintain a low-profile. However, several relatively isolated decisions and statements by Hong Kong officials, described below, have heightened anxieties concerning the apparent spread of a new concept of "political correctness." There is a small but growing concern that some Hong Kong authorities are giving undue consideration to Beijing's possible reaction before making decisions affecting Chinese interests in Hong Kong.

RULE OF LAW CONCERNS—FREEDOM OF
EXPRESSION

International confidence in Hong Kong is based on the commitment of the Hong Kong authorities to the rule of law which it inherited from the British. An integral part of this is the "check" on abuse of authority provided by the free expression of opinion. We find that political protesters and demonstrators continue to carry out their activities without restraint. One minor exception during the first three months of 1998 occurred during the January visit to Hong Kong of Chinese President Jiang Zemin. Hong Kong police kept anti-Jiang demonstrators at a considerable distance from the Chinese leader, thus drawing criticism for pandering to Chinese sensitivities. In response, Hong Kong authorities argued that it was important to demonstrate to the Chinese that they were capable of providing adequate security, lest the Chinese feel compelled to provide their own.

Hong Kong has traditionally enjoyed a free and vibrant press. The Hong Kong media continues to operate freely. There are no taboo subjects. Newspapers that appear to tread lightly on issues of concern to China or Hong Kong authorities one day may harshly

criticize them the next. There have been no reports of interference with the press by Chinese officials based in Hong Kong, nor by Hong Kong authorities. Nonetheless, self-censorship is widely perceived to exist. A February 1998 survey conducted by the Social Science Research Center of the University of Hong Kong showed that about 43 percent of those interviewed thought the media practiced self-censorship (down from 50.3 percent in December 1997), while 54 percent praised the media for fully exercising freedom of speech (slightly down from 57.5 percent in December).

Self-censorship is a subtle and insidious influence which is difficult to document and impossible to quantify. Official interference in or guidance of the media is a separate and more disturbing matter. The specter of official interference arose on March 4 when Hong Kong media magnate, Xu Simin, while in Beijing as a delegate to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference meeting, criticized the Hong Kong government-funded Radio-Television Hong Kong (RTHK) for airing shows critical of Hong Kong policies. Rather than refute Xu's remarks, Hong Kong Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa, also on March 4 remarked that "while freedom of speech is important, it is also important for government policies to be positively presented."

Tung's statement sent shudders through many concerned observers in Hong Kong. However, Hong Kong Chief Secretary Anson Chan, who heads Hong Kong's bureaucracy, immediately expressed "deep regret" at Xu's remarks, which she branded as "improper." Tung subsequently reassured the public, saying on March 6, "Of course RTHK has editorial independence. The government and I welcome criticism from the news media, and I think the news media has played a very important role in monitoring the activities of the government." We hope that Chief Secretary Chan's defense of RTHK prevails. [In a statement clearly intended to reassure the Hong Kong public, Chinese President Jiang Zemin followed with remarks to the effect that discussion of Hong Kong-related issues should take place in Hong Kong, not Beijing.]

RULE OF LAW CONCERNS—INDEPENDENCE OF
THE JUDICIARY

A fair and independent judiciary is another critical element of international confidence in Hong Kong's commitment to the rule of law and to its ability to maintain a high degree of autonomy. In general, the Hong Kong judiciary continues to operate independently and without taint of political influence. Judges continue to rule against the new HKSAR government. For example, in a highly publicized case, the courts ruled that the Hong Kong law denying right of abode to illegitimate children of Hong Kong resident fathers (but not mothers) violated Article 24 of the Basic Law, which grants rights of abode without reference to legitimacy or the sex of either parent.

Within the past three months, however, several incidents have focused attention on the possibility that Hong Kong's highly regarded legal institutions may be vulnerable to Chinese influence. In one case, the government's top legal officer decided not to prosecute a newspaper publisher who was politically well-connected to the mainland, despite the fact that three of the publisher's deputies were charged with fraud and that the publisher herself had been named in a report by Hong Kong's anti-corruption commission. Separately, the Hong Kong government decided not to prosecute the New China News Agency, or Xinhua, for violating Hong Kong's privacy statute, when it failed to respond by the legal deadline to a request

under Hong Kong's privacy law by a politician for a copy of Xinhua's file on her. Xinhua subsequently asserted that it had no information on the politician, a claim that left most observers incredulous, in view of the intelligence-gathering role widely attributed to Xinhua. Chief Executive Tung justified the government's decision not to prosecute Xinhua by saying that Xinhua's actions were only a "technical breach" of the statute. [Note: In early April, the Beijing-appointed Provisional Legislature, in one of its last acts before being dissolved, passed a law which classified Xinhua as a body of the "state" and thus exempt from certain Hong Kong laws. The implications of this action will be discussed in the Fourth Quarterly Report.]

THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

Hong Kong authorities and political parties continue their preparations for the May 24 election of a new Legislative Council (LegCo). The May elections will be carried out under a new law established under the HKSAR. The new law is controversial because it dismantles key provisions of the electoral reforms put into place by former Governor Patten in 1995. For example, it maintains the original formula of twenty LegCo members to be directly elected by popular vote, thirty to be elected by "functional constituencies" (initiated by the British in 1985), and ten to be chosen by a special Election Committee. However, the "functional constituent" electorate is reduced from approximately 2.7 million votes under the 1995 British reforms to about 180,000 voters. A voter registration campaign to expand the electorate for the 20 seats subject to popular vote was rather disappointing. A door-to-door campaign resulted in 264,000 new voters, but roughly 30 percent of those eligible declined to register. The disappointing response has been attributed to several factors. The complexity of the election system has discouraged many potential voters. Others are simply unfamiliar with or distrust elections. Still others are cynical about their ability to affect the eventual outcome. While others—reflecting Hong Kong's notorious preoccupation with making money—are simply not interested. Despite the widespread dissatisfaction among the political parties with the new election law, none has advocated boycotting the election.

ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

The United States has significant economic interests in Hong Kong. Hong Kong is the home of over 50,000 U.S. citizens. Over 1,100 resident American firms employ 250,000 Hong Kong workers, or 10 percent of the workforce. The financial crisis which has buffeted Southeast and East Asia starting in mid-1997 has not left Hong Kong unscathed. Nonetheless, Hong Kong's economy continues to grow, albeit at a slower rate than before. By the end of March 1998, deposits in banking institutions has increased, as has the ratio between the Hong Kong dollar and foreign currency deposits, suggesting that confidence in Hong Kong's dollar and banking system continues to recover unabated. The Hang Seng index remained relatively stable through the first quarter, while inching slowly upward. And, in a further show of confidence in the Hong Kong economy, new residential mortgage loans began to edge back up in January, in both number and value, and positively surged in March.

Nonetheless, most economic indicators have not returned to their pre-Asian financial crisis levels. Most analysts believe Hong Kong's gross domestic product will grow by only two percent in 1998, compared to the 3.5 percent predicted by the government—and the 5.0 percent and 5.2 percent it grew in 1996

and 1997, respectively. Another trend that bears watching is Hong Kong's growing role as a channel for foreign capital to China. The Chinese companies listed on Hong Kong's stock exchange, which now account for roughly nine percent of Hong Kong's market capitalization, seldom meet international corporate-governance standards. This growing segment of the Hong Kong capital market is expected by some to double in the next ten years. The lack of transparency of these Chinese companies is likely to add further volatility to the market.

Jeffrey Lam, Chairman of the Hong Kong Exporters' Association, stated that Hong Kong's manufacturing industry still maintains competitive advantages over Asian countries despite those countries' currency depreciations. The financial turmoil has not changed the volume of orders coming to Hong Kong. Despite this good news, however, the unemployment rate for the period December 1997–February 1998, rose to 2.9 percent, the highest in the last 18 months. The total number of unemployed reached 85,000, with the retail trade, hotel, property, construction and garments sectors the hardest hit. The government is considering setting up a retraining program for those laid off. Tourism, which has traditionally depended to a large extent on the growing Southeast Asian middle- and upper classes, has also suffered from the regional financial crisis. Furthermore, if China should succumb to the temptation to devalue its currency, as some skeptics have darkly predicted, Hong Kong would find it very difficult to maintain its current Hong Kong dollar–U.S. dollar peg.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND OTHER CONCERNS

The most serious U.S.–Hong Kong bilateral trade issue is the continued wide availability of pirated movie, audio and software compact discs and pirated trademark goods. This situation led the U.S. Trade Representative to place Hong Kong on the Special 301 Watchlist in April 1996. One disturbing development in the past year has been a change in the nature of intellectual property rights (IPR) violations in Hong Kong. While retail sales of pirated goods were the primary problem in the past, in recent months, the manufacturing of pirated compact discs has become a significant problem. (Some people speculate that this development is a result of greater IPR enforcement in mainland China.) Hong Kong officials have reiterated their commitment to combating piracy. In addition to stepping up Custom's raids on retail outlets, on March 25, 1998, they passed a new copyright law which, among other things, gives enforcement officials greater ability to control illicit production. [Note: Despite these efforts, the IPR situation in Hong Kong remained sufficiently troublesome to warrant its designation on May 1, 1998 by USTR on the Special 301 Watch List for the third year in a row.]

The Hong Kong government continues to cooperate fully with U.S. agencies in combating drug trafficking. We note, however, that many of the same favorable factors that make Hong Kong one of Asia's most important financial centers also make it attractive to criminals who wish to conceal the source of their funds through money laundering. Consequently, it is important that the Hong Kong government work with the international community to improve its laws and enforcement in this vital area.

We are pleased to observe that during the first quarter of 1998 we continued to have full cooperation in the area of export control, and no new incidents were reported. The U.S. Commerce Department continued to conduct pre-license and post-shipment checks. And in January, 1998, U.S. and Hong Kong export

control officials strengthened their already strong interaction by beginning a new series of consultations on licensing, enforcement and the exchange of information. The latter will include the U.S. sharing information relevant to Hong Kong's new "brokerage legislation," which was passed just prior to reversion. This new legislation will allow Hong Kong's authorities to prosecute people based in Hong Kong who are engaged in proliferation activities outside of Hong Kong.

We also note that serious concerns have been raised in some quarters about the adequacy of Hong Kong's export control regime and its ability to prevent the transfer of sensitive technology to unintended destinations. [Note: See CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, May 20, 1998, p. H3559.]

MACAO

Macao, a small Portuguese colony with a population of one-half million, will revert to Chinese rule at midnight on December 20, 1999. Like Hong Kong, it will become a Special Administration Region with a "one-country, two systems" formula. But Macao faces very different transition issues. In the political arena, Macao will not face the contentious debate that Hong Kong went through over its legislative body. In contrast to Hong Kong's legislative body, the Macao Legislative Assembly elected in 1996 will remain in place on a "through train" beyond the December 1999 reversion. But in other areas, there are causes for concern. The Portuguese colonial authorities have not trained and groomed local Macanese to replace Portuguese personnel in many key civil service positions. It also appears that a much smaller proportion of foreigners will remain in Macao, compared to the case in Hong Kong. One would hope that the Portuguese authorities will move with greater speed and resolve to put in place a strong professional local bureaucracy and judiciary, without which Macao cannot be expected to provide the functions required as the territory moves into the 21st century.

U.S. interests in Macao are by no means as large as those in Hong Kong, but they are nonetheless important. The largest bilateral problem is unquestionably Macao's role as a manufacturing center for pirated goods. The production of pirated compact discs is a particularly significant problem. According to knowledgeable sources, in 1997 estimates there were between 80–100 compact disc production lines producing up to 100 million compact discs and movies per year. Although the Macao government maintains that it is committed to tackling the problem, it has been unsuccessful in combating the pirating problem for a variety of reasons. For example, it lacks adequate legislation, enforcement mechanisms and manpower. It was said that the government is drafting legislation for the creation of a full customs service that would take on the anti-piracy function of the economic services department and the maritime police. It is in America's interests that Macanese authorities move forward forcefully. Separately, we note a continuing serious problem with the transshipment of textiles through Macao.

An even more troubling factor affecting bilateral relations, and, indeed, Macao's entire development, is the disturbing influence of organized crime. Macao-based triad societies, which once contained themselves primarily to the colony's lucrative legal gambling industry, have taken on a more public and more violent persona. Several well-publicized street shootings have driven away some of Macao's important tourist clientele. The triads, now in cooperation with crime elements from across the border in China, are believed to be deeply involved in the production of pirated compact discs and other

illegal smuggling activities, including the transshipment of drugs and money laundering. Macanese authorities recognize the danger these groups pose to Macao's society and economy and have worked to combat them. The triads have responded with retaliatory attacks against police and other public officials. We applaud the authorities' efforts to combat organized crime. The territory is unlikely to be able to effectively address many of the problems it now faces until it has successfully rooted out this scourge.

CONCLUSION

"So far, so good" continues to be the view of the Hong Kong Transition Task Force. As we noted above, the Asian financial crisis will have a still-to-be determined impact on Hong Kong's economy. As we have also noted, there are continuing concerns within the Special Administrative Region itself, particularly in the areas of freedom of expression, the independence of the judiciary, the development of democratic institutions and the protection of intellectual property rights. Given the complexity of the reversion in Hong Kong, this is, of course, important, but it should not be surprising. Nonetheless, this transition period in Hong Kong warrants the continued scrutiny of the international community and the Congress.

COMMENDING TED KARRAS, SR.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to commend to true sportsman from Indiana's First Congressional District, Ted Karras, Sr., for his induction into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. A resident of Gary, Indiana, Ted is one of nineteen inductees in the 1998 Indiana Football Hall of Fame class.

Ted Karras began his role as an important part of Indiana's football legacy during his days as a student at Emerson High School in Gary, Indiana. After graduating from Emerson and attending Purdue University for a semester, Ted transferred to Indiana University and played for Coach Bernie Crimmins. In 1956, Ted graduated from I.U. and joined the San Diego Marines where he played both offense and defense.

Ted's hard work and determination payed dividends when he was subsequently picked up by the Pittsburgh Steelers as an offensive lineman, and he helped his team to a second place finish during the 1957 season. After his short tenure with the Steelers, Ted Karras was signed by the Chicago Bears and played with them for five years. His determination and motivation again helped lead his team to success. This time though, the Chicago Bears won the championship in 1963. Ted eventually finished his career with the Detroit Lions in 1965.

While Ted Karras may have retired as a player, he never retired as a student of the game. Ted came home to Northwest Indiana and shared his knowledge with other students of the game. He remains heavily involved in football and helps mold young athletes into sportsmen as an Assistant Football Coach at Andean High School in Merrillville, Indiana. From the beginning of his football career as a young student and athlete to his current post as an assistant coach, Ted Karras, Sr. has served as an inspiration to thousands of stu-

dents, fans, and players of football in the State of Indiana.

Since its founding in 1973, the Indiana Football Hall of Fame has been honoring prominent coaches, players, officials members of the press, and citizens who have made lasting contributions to the advancement of football and sporting excellence. The Hall of Fame commemorates Indiana's prestigious football history throughout the century. Whether they were involved in football during the early twenties or the present day, the Indiana Football Hall of Fame is dedicated to recognizing those who were instrumental in creating, fostering, and adding to Indiana's excellent football legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ted Karras, Sr. on his induction into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. His lifetime of service, dedication, and success has left an indelible mark on Indiana football and Indiana's First Congressional District.

HONORING THE PONTIAC CENTRAL DELPHI FIRST TEAM

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the remarkable efforts and achievements of the Pontiac Central/Delphi Interior and Lighting Systems FIRST Robotics Team. This dedicated partnership has resulted in national recognition and a renewed commitment to excellence in science and technology.

For three years now, the fine students from Central High School located in Pontiac, MI, and the staff of Delphi Interior and Lighting of Troy, MI, have been competing in the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) national competition. As a rookie team in 1996, their efforts resulted in the National Competition Rookie All Star award. In only their second year of competition they were honored with the competition's highest award, the Chairman's Award for overall excellence. This year they placed first at the Southwest Regional Championship, New England Championship, and Great Lakes Regional Championship.

The Pontiac Central faculty includes: Dr. Willie B. Aldrige, Birta Allen, Michael Martus, Michael McIntyre, Lorene Phillips, Jamie Schutt, and Arthur Williams. The Pontiac Central students include: Tanea Andrews, Ben Arroyo, Stephanie Bonner, Phuong Bui, Dante Cabello, Steven Carpenter, Armand Collins, Lenwood Compton, Jose Diaz, Tabitha Durham, Alia Garrison, Glynn Gooch, Regina Griffin, Janine Harper, Hmong Her, Tawanda Hilliard, Travia Hilliard, Chris Jackson, Yvette Johnson, Albert Lee, Alva Liimatta, Myder Ly, Ilea Lyons, Koua Moua, Ronnitrea Pilgrim, Denneen Russell, Scotte Spencer, Austin St. Peter, Cary Xiong, Bob Yang, Lisa Yang, Mary Yang, Pa Yang, Peter Yang, Yang Yang, John Youngquist, and Timothy Youngquist.

Members of the Delphi Interior and Lighting Systems engineering team include: Dr. Barbara A. Sanders, Hassan Anahid, Mike Aubry, Craig Blanchard, Robert Brooks, Michael Ciavaglia, Joe Cranston, Dan D'Addario, Brian

Deplae, Jeremy Husic, Joseph Johnson, Marvin Lewis, Sandra Marion, Jane Maselli, Shannon Moore, Mark Nicholas, Amanda Offer, Joe Otenbaker, Tom Osborne, Chantell Parentea, Joe Picciurro, William Priest, Vijay Srinivas, Mark Steffe, Angelica Tasker, Ronald Wilde, Kimberely Will, Kevin Wright, and Joe Zwolinski.

Mr. Speaker, in order for our nation to remain a leader in the global economy we must recognize the importance of science and technology education. For three years, teachers, volunteers, sponsors and participants of the Pontiac Central/Delphi Interior and Lighting Systems FIRST Robotics team have been committed to ensuring that our nation's future doctors, engineers, and scientists have the skills necessary to succeed in the 21st century.

CONGRATULATING ANNE MCKEE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a much beloved Key West resident, Ms. Anne McKee. For the past twenty-six years, Ms. McKee has dedicated her life to serving her community, and it is therefore, no surprise to hear that she has been named the 1998 Florence Spottswood Humanitarian of the Year by the Monroe County chapter of the American Red Cross.

This is not the first time that Ms. McKee has been recognized. In 1993, she was named the Woman of the Year in Arts. To honor her achievements the mayor of Key West designated November 10, 1993 as Anne McKee Day. During her tenure as chairwoman of the Monroe County Arts Council, she successfully integrated the council into the South Florida Consortium and, in 1991, she founded the Anne McKee Artists Fund which has awarded more than 50 grants to local artists.

In the spirit of Ms. Florence Spottswood, the founder of the Florida Keys chapter of the American Red Cross, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Anne McKee for her tireless contributions to our island city.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clovis Unified School District's Liberty Elementary School for being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. Liberty Elementary is one of 263 elementary schools across the nation to be named a Blue Ribbon school. To receive this award, Liberty Elementary had to be recognized as a California Distinguished School and then pass a rigorous screening and two-day site visitation. The faculty and students of Liberty Elementary exemplify excellence in student achievement and are very deserving of this recognition.

A Blue Ribbon Award Ceremony was held in Washington D.C. on November 7, 1997

where representatives from Liberty Elementary were honored by the U.S. Department of Education and received a special plaque and flag in recognition of this achievement. Each of the schools were evaluated on outcome measures and conditions of effective schooling, such as leadership, teaching environment, curriculum and instruction, student environment, parent and community support, and organizational vitality. Recommendations on which schools best meet the Blue Ribbon criteria are made to the Secretary of Education by a national panel of distinguished educators and other prominent private citizens.

Liberty Elementary is located in the northeast area of Fresno in one of the fastest growing communities in the Clovis Unified School District. The school mission is to provide a comprehensive, quality education to the Sparthenian concept—"be the best you can be" in mind, body and spirit.

Liberty Elementary has over 700 Students in grades K-6. The student body is composed of 75.1% Caucasian, 10.8% Hispanic, 8.0% Asian, 3.0% black, 1.6% Filipino, and 1.6% American Indian Students. Goals of the school include: (1) earning "superior" ratings in all curricular, co-curricular, and school climate categories of the Clovis Assessment System for Sustained Improvement (CLASSI); (2) implementing a literature-based language arts program; (3) implementing a well-rounded science program utilizing alternative assessment strategies; (4) using team planning at each grade level to promote the concept of a "thinking" curriculum; (5) expanding the concept of technology stations into the classroom; (6) continuing to implement a student assistance program; (7) continuing to develop the philosophy of GoalSharing; and (8) promoting a school environment which fosters the development of character traits that lead to responsible, contributing membership in society.

After receiving the California Distinguished School Award, Liberty students soared to new heights in both academic achievement and co-curricular involvement. Liberty received the highest score in the Clovis West Area on the district's accountability model and earned the CUSD Exemplary School Award. Recognition such as this only comes about through extraordinary efforts of the community, the faculty, and the student body.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Clovis Unified School District's Liberty Elementary. The students and faculty of this school exemplify a care for the community and a dedication to hard work that has gained them national recognition. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Liberty Elementary many more years of success.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MIKE MARSH FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding individual from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Mike Marsh. On Thursday, June 4, 1998, Mike will step down as the Chairman of the Wood

County Republican Party after ten years of service.

Mike has dedicated much of his life to serving the community, to furthering the ability of the citizens of Wood County to participate in the American political process. As Chairman of the Wood County Republican Party, Mike has helped to build one of the most effective, energetic political parties in the state of Ohio.

Mike's contributions to the Wood County community do not stop with his service and dedicated efforts to the Republican Party. Mike is currently serving as Attorney for the City of Bowling Green. In addition, Mike has been a fair and impartial judge of electoral matters in Wood County through his membership on the Wood County Board of Elections.

Mike has a strong sense of dedication to the youth of the Wood County area. He is still serving our youth and pushing to ensure that they are afforded the best education possible as a member of the Bowling Green State University Board of Trustees. Through Mike's hard work, enthusiasm, and innovation, I know the students at BGSU are better equipped to learn and excel in the future.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Marsh has worked tirelessly to ensure that the citizens of Wood County have a community of which they can be proud. It has been said that America works because of the unselfish efforts of her citizens. Our democracy and our political process have certainly been strengthened by the tireless efforts of Mike Marsh. Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to rise and join me in paying special tribute to a great American, Mr. Mike Marsh, and in wishing him well in the future.

CONGRATULATING JUSTIN R. WOLF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate an exceptionally talented and dedicated member of Indiana's First Congressional District, Mr. Justin R. Wolf. A senior at Lake Central High School, Justin was recently named as a Finalist in the Imation Computer Arts Scholarship Program.

This program, announced last year by the Imation Corporation in partnership with the National Art Education Association and the American Association of School Administrators, honors high school students who create original works of computer generated art. This scholarship program is a unique approach to encouraging the use of technology and creativity in the arts today. Of over 1,200 students around the country who participated in this year's program, only twenty-five, including Justin, were honored as finalists. Each finalist received a \$1,000 scholarship, a trophy for his or her school, and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent, guardian, or school representative to St. Paul, Minnesota for a national recognition event.

In earning this scholarship, Justin has taken his art from the realm of personal enjoyment to the bright lights of national recognition. Indeed, rather than looking for recognition, Justin began utilizing his artistic talents only for personal enjoyment. Like many young people with artistic talent, Justin's interests have often

changed throughout his life and still remain broad and eclectic. As a young student, he expressed himself through sketching and drawing in his spare time. Fueled more by daydream and stream of conscious thought than a specific inspiration, Justin's idle artwork became much more when his talent was wedded to a computer. When his dual interests of art and computers mixed, Justin's gift became evident. However, Justin's interests are not just limited to computer art and design, but include computer graphics, internet web page design, and concept art.

Indeed, one of Justin Wolf's current endeavors includes a web page design company. With his high school days counting down to graduation, Justin is ready for the challenge of higher education. He will begin summer classes this month at Columbia College in Chicago, Illinois. His goal is to pursue a film major and put the justly deserved scholarship to use in learning about film, computer graphic design, desktop publishing, animation, and special effects.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Justin R. Wolf for his well earned scholarship in the Imation Computer Arts Scholarship Program. This young man's ability, excellence, and budding future are a shining example of the abilities of today's young people when given the proper opportunities for scholastic, artistic, or athletic excellence.

RECOGNIZING THE ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY 1998 HONOREES OF THE YEAR

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the recipients of the 1998 Woman of the Year and Family of the Year awards presented by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Dr. Dorothy L. Brown has been chosen as the Woman of the Year. Irene and Earcy Christmon, Jr. and family are this year's honorees as Family of the Year. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority will present the awards at the 15th Annual Finer Womanhood Scholarship Luncheon on June 6 in Pontiac, Michigan.

Dr. Dorothy L. Brown is a tireless volunteer in the Pontiac community. After retiring from North Oakland Medical Center in 1995 as a nurse, she continues to devote her life to easing the pain of others. Every week she is at the Bowen Center providing health information, taking blood pressures, assisting senior citizens with medical referrals, and providing numerous other services. She has conducted health care seminars at the New Bethel Shelter, the Women's Survival Center, and the Baldwin Shelter. Dr. Brown is a regular volunteer with the St. Joseph's Parish Nurse Project bringing together spiritual and physical healing in the community.

Currently the president of the Michigan Black Nurses Association, Dr. Brown also participates with the National Black Storytellers, the Red Cross, OLSHA, the NAACP, and the National Association of Black Professional Women. In January, 1998 she was awarded an honorary Ph.D. in Humanities from S.J. Williams School of Religion. In addition, Dr.

Brown is the mother of seven children by birth and four adopted children. A member of the Liberty Baptist Church, Dr. Brown has previously received the Foster Parent Award.

Over the forty-one years of their marriage, Irene and Earcy Christmon, Jr. have stood as a shining example of family unity. Their deep commitment to God, to each other, to their children, and their community, has touched numerous lives. Their extensive list of community activities includes, but is not limited to, the Urban League, the Credit Union Board, the Missionary Society, the Usher Board, the Food Committee and The Church of God Executive Board.

Their six children are a living testament to Irene and Earcy's love. They have endowed their children with the same strength and dedication that have been the cornerstones of their own lives. All of the children have assumed leadership roles in their chosen professions. Two of the sons have been entrusted by God to be spiritual leaders.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me today to congratulate Dr. Dorothy Brown and Irene and Earcy Christmon, Jr. individuals being honored by the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. They richly deserve the accolades being bestowed upon them.

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE HUOT

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and dedication of Bruce Huot who retired after 34 years of service in Kankakee County Government on June 1, 1998. Bruce was first elected to the Kankakee County Board in 1964. He most recently served as Kankakee County Board Chairman.

Bruce says his most significant accomplishments during his service as Board Chairman include the plans for a non-taxing mass transit district, the establishment of a county hearing officer and county Public Safety Committee, the revision of the procedure for revolving loan funds, the comprehensive mobile home parks study, and the establishment of a new Kankakee County Housing Authority board of commissioners. He also believes the strong teamwork displayed among county municipalities has played an important role in many projects.

Bruce and his wife, Patricia, are the proud parents of three children and the proud grandparents of 7 children. Bruce is the son of Beatrice Huot and the late Marvin Huot. He is a graduate of St. Patrick's High School in Kankakee, Illinois and the University of Notre Dame.

Even while maintaining a busy career, Bruce always gave of himself to many community activities which include the Heart Association, the United Way, the Kiwanis, the Elks, St. Martin of Tours Parish Council, and the University of Notre Dame Alumni Senate. He has also served the county in the capacity of the Charter President of Kankakee County Board of Health, of the Past Chair Kankakee Regional Planning Commission, of the Kankakee County Economic Development Council, Past President of Bishop McNamara High

School Board, and the City of Kankakee Planning Commission.

Bruce Huot's commitment and impact on his community is not only deserving of congressional recognition, but should serve as a model for others to follow.

At a time when our nation's leaders are asking the people of this country to make serving their community a core value of citizenship, honoring Bruce Huot is both timely and appropriate.

I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their congressional districts whose actions have so greatly benefited and enlightened America's communities.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF M.V. PANGILINAN ENTERPRISES, INC.

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago a \$5,000 bank loan was employed to finance a tailor shop. This small business venture gave rise to one of the most diversified groups of companies on the island of Guam.

For the last fifty years, M.V. Pangilinan Enterprises has been at the forefront in providing goods and services to the people of Guam and the man behind MVP Enterprises and its success is Marciano "Mark" Vega Pangilinan. Born in the town of Mexico in the Philippine province of Pampanga, Mark first established business contacts on the island of Guam immediately after World War II. Serving as a radioman in a Merchant Marine ship bringing troops back to the U.S. mainland, he got well acquainted with the island's business leaders.

In 1948, he opened a tailor shop which was expanded in 1949 and came to be known as the Agana Men's Apparel Shop. Mark went on to open a restaurant and a furniture shop before his ventures in construction, insurance, retailing, sporting goods, publishing, hardware and car dealerships. Several island businesses distinctly bear his name. Mark's Motors, Mark's Sporting Goods and Mark's insurance together with Ben Franklin Department Store, Ace Hardware and Guam Office Supply are companies that have become landmarks on Guam.

November 9, 1991 was proclaimed by Former Governor Joseph Ada as "Mark V. Pangilinan Day" for all his accomplishments as a pioneering entrepreneur. Prior to this, he had been named "Most Outstanding Filipino in Business" by the Philippine government in 1974 and Guam Business News' "Executive of the Year" in 1987. For his strength, keenness of vision, and great achievements in business leadership, he was elected to the Guam Business Hall of Fame on April 30, 1994.

Taking time out of his business ventures, Mark Pangilinan has also devoted vast amounts of personal time and resources to civic activities. He was instrumental in the establishment of the University of Guam and the Guam Memorial Hospital. On different instances, he chaired University of Guam Board of Regents and the Guam Power Authority. He was also the campaign chairman of the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross, a member of the COMNAVIMAR Civilian Advisory Board and the Guam Chamber of Commerce.

Aside from being a leader and spokesman for the Guam Filipino community, his humanitarian work have gone a long way in relieving his countrymen in Philippines from the devastations of volcanic eruptions and typhoons.

For his civic works and charitable efforts, he had twice been awarded the Ancient Order of the Chamorri, the highest award the Government of Guam can bestow. He had also been conferred an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Guam. His Holiness Pope John Paul II awarded him the Pro Ecclesia Pontificae for services rendered to the Catholic Church.

For fifty years now, Guam's business and commercial activities have reaped great benefits from the goods and services provided by M.V. Pangilinan Enterprises and most especially from the entrepreneurial spirit of its founder Marciano "Mark" Vega Pangilinan and MVP Enterprises has provided Guam, the island's business community and its people. Congratulations, Mark. I hope that the next fifty years will bring continued success to MVP Enterprises.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DONALD D. WARNER ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 23 YEARS AS SUPERINTENDENT OF RED BANK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 27, 1998, Dr. Donald Warner was honored on the occasion of his retirement as Superintendent of the Red Bank, NJ, Regional High School District, after 23 years of service. Dr. Warner's many friends and well-wishers, joined to show their gratitude and admiration at a reception at the Shore Casino in Atlantic Highlands, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Warner began his long and distinguished career in education 40 years ago, starting out as a classroom teacher. He earned his Bachelor's Degree at Temple University and his Doctor of Education Degree at the Pennsylvania State University. Over the years, he has received school and community awards too numerous to mention. In his nearly a quarter-century in the Red Bank area, he has taken on significant community and professional responsibilities, serving on various boards of trustees, foundations and task forces in Monmouth County and throughout the State of New Jersey.

A native of Pennsylvania, Dr. Warner now lives in Tinton Falls, NJ, with his wife Mercedes, a teacher in the Tinton Falls District. The Warners' three children have all achieved impressive success—not surprising, given the commitment to hard work and excellence instilled in them by both of their parents.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Warner's retirement will leave a tremendous void for the Red Bank Regional High School District. But Dr. Warner's tremendous legacy will be felt for years to come, through the admirable example he set for other administrators and teachers, and through the thousands of students who have been inspired by his devotion to education. A scholarship being established in Dr. Warner's honor will further that legacy by providing opportunities for students to expand their educational opportunities for years to come. I wish

Dr. Warner * * * on his retirement, and hope that he will continue to contribute his energy, enthusiasm and experience to our community.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO RYAN D. GALLAGHER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, NEW YORK

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Ryan D. Gallagher. Ryan recently accepted his offer of appointment to attend the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York, and will be joining the Cadet Class of 2002.

Ryan, who is from Sandusky, Ohio, will soon be graduating from Perkins High School, and will begin preparing for one of the most challenging, inspiring, and educational opportunities of his life, his four-year commitment to West Point.

During his time at Perkins High School, Ryan has demonstrated a strong commitment to academics. Ryan has excelled very well in the classroom by attaining a 3.54 grade point average. He is a member of the National Honor Society and attended the Carnegie Mellon University Pre-College Program. Ryan is a National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist, has been placed in the Who's Who Among American High School Students, and attended the USMA Invitational Academic Workshop.

In addition to his outstanding academic achievements, Ryan has distinguished himself as a fine student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Ryan has competed on the Varsity Cross Country Team and is a four-year letter winner. In addition, Ryan has been a member of the Varsity Track Team, the Varsity "P" Club, and the Perkins High School Marching Band and Pep Band.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities of Members of Congress is to nominate young men and women for appointment to the nation's military academies. I am pleased that Ryan was among those nominated for the West Point Class of 2002. He is an outstanding student and a fine young man. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying tribute to Ryan Gallagher, and in wishing him well at West Point and in the future.

COMMENDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS OF THE YOUTH OF THE CATHOLIC WORKER HOUSE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to a group of young people from East Chicago, Indiana, who have become environmental activists in recent months organizing and demonstrating to keep North-

west Indiana safe and clean. Pablo Villarreal, Daniel Bustos, Monica Bustos, Jennifer Ruiz, San Juan Guajarvo, Samuel Guajarvo, Franky Gonzalez, Alfredo Alsedo Flores, Michael Jimenez, Diana Dela Rosa, Ester Ramirez, Victoria Ramirez, Sandra Wojak, Evelyn Gamez, Josephine Gamez, Jennie Montantes, Jackie Montantes, Olivia Perez, Alex Perez, Nicole Garcia, Moises Cordon, Erik Cordon, Veronica Bustos, Jose Gonzalez, Vito McCormick, Yara Sota, Tiatsin J'shua, Sindy Santos, Santos Santiago, Olivia Bustos, and Roxanne Bustos have taken it upon themselves to become citizens in the best sense of the word. Unlike the negative stereotype of teenagers that pervades our culture, these real teenagers have been active in helping their community, and helping themselves.

They came together through the Catholic Worker House, where they hold regular meetings each week and engage in different projects—photography, poetry, drama—while establishing relationships with one another and the Bustoses, who supervise their activities. They choose to come to the Catholic Worker House instead of participating in gangs, and, in an area with a high drop-out rate, these young people choose to stay in school. But these young adults aren't just the recipients of community volunteerism. They are volunteers themselves. After hearing from a local environmentalist at the Catholic Worker House, these teens decided to get involved. They have garnered attention from local news agencies and helped to make all of the adults in their community become more aware of their environmental concerns.

The late Mother Teresa aptly described the volunteer spirit, when she said: "There is a tremendous strength that is growing in the world through . . . sharing together, praying together, suffering together, and working together." These young people worked together in the spirit of community, to bring attention to their cause and take on the role of active citizens. As young as they are, these students not only care what happens in their community, they accept the responsibility that goes along with that concern. These students are helping themselves, educating themselves, and using the power they get from these activities to help those around them. Mr. Speaker, these fine young men and women have demonstrated that they are clearly on the path to becoming mature, responsible adults, and I commend them to you.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM TREANOR OF PONTIAC, MICHIGAN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to commemorate a very special anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. William Treanor, of Pontiac, Michigan, will mark their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 19, 1998. The joyous occasion will be celebrated by family and friends on June 28, 1998 with a mass at St. Perpetua Catholic Church followed by a reception at Indianwood Country Club in Lake Orion, Michigan.

William Lawrence Treanor was born in Lansing, Michigan, served in World War II and graduated from Michigan State University in 1948. Rosella Caroline McIntyre was born in Charlotte, Michigan and graduated from St. Lawrence School of Nursing in 1945. Bill and Rosie were married on June 19, 1948 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Lansing, Michigan. They moved to the Pontiac area in 1949, where Bill worked for Interstate Motor Freight and Yellow Transport and Rosie worked at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac.

In 1950, they started their family which grew to include six children: Kenneth, Donald, Richard, Nancy, Janet and Susan. In 1965, Bill took ownership and operated a franchise of North American Van Lines until 1989 when he retired. Treanor North American Van Lines has continued to be a family business. Bill was an active member of the Jaycee's, Elks and Kiwanis clubs as well as involved with St. Benedict Catholic Church Parish, Boy Scouts and various fundraising activities. Rosie worked part time for pediatricians, Dr. James and Dr. Dinger. She was an active Boy Scout and Girl Scout leader throughout the children's elementary years.

Bill and Rosie have been blessed with ten beautiful grandchildren with whom they are very active. Bill and Rosie have lived in their present home for 39 years. They belong to St. Perpetua Church in Waterford, Michigan and are members of the Waterford Elks Club.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Treanor many more years of health and happiness. Their dedication to their family and community serves as a shining example to us all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHELLE NGUYEN

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Michelle Nguyen from Bourbonnais, Illinois. Miss Nguyen is a senior at Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School and has recently won Second Place in the Veterans of Foreign Wars "Voice of Democracy" broadcast script writing contest.

Michelle was one of 93,000 secondary school students from around the United States who were competing for 56 scholarships which were distributed among 54 national winners. The contest theme for this year was "My Voice in Democracy". Michelle's speech about her family's quest for the American Dream is inspiring and a perfect reminder of how precious our democracy and freedom are.

Mr. Speaker, Michelle will be attending the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana next fall. She plans on pursuing a degree in Medicine with the hope of one day becoming a doctor. With her long list of achievements in high school, including Class President, I am sure that Michelle will reach her future goals.

I know I speak for the entire House Mr. Speaker, when I say Congratulations Michelle on winning this award, and good luck with your studies in college.

Mr. Speaker, I insert Michelle's speech for the RECORD so that the whole House can enjoy her inspirational words.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

A voice can easily be compared to a rock that is thrown into the most tranquil pond. The size of the rock is irrelevant because the slightest touch can change the water's surface forever. The ripples that emerge cannot be stopped until they reach the edge of the pond.

22 years ago when my parents immigrated to the United States of America, their dream of having a voice in Democracy began as a tiny pebble. They had abandoned the only home they had ever known, to blend into a nation they had yet to understand. They were only 2 foreign people, yet it was the promise of freedom that fueled their desire to leave a war-torn country. The legacy began with my parents' arrival: a stone of hope had been tossed into the pond.

To be the daughter of immigrants is unique. I am a ripple: a continuation of my parents' voice. Their pebble has carried me only so far and now, I am getting ready to throw in my own rock to continue the cycle. My voice in Democracy speaks with the hope that, someday, there will exist a world where everyone can decide how his or her life will progress.

Democracy allows me, as an individual, to express concerns and beliefs without persecution. Many people do not understand that they have a gift. Their voices are heard in their actions as well as their speech. The worst crime an American can commit against his or her country is to be mute. Voices come in all shapes and sizes just like the stones that are thrown into the pond. A voice in Democracy need not be huge and bellowing to be noticed. Americans forget that ripples start out small and grow.

Democracy is not for spectators: it is an active sport that requires flexibility and at times, even arguments with referees. It is a game for and by the people, and its rules can change to help everyone be a winner. Democracy has the word "demo" in it, meaning I must be an example. I must demonstrate what it means to be an active voice. The responsibility I have is not only to myself but also to my neighbor who can gain inspiration from what some may call my courage.

I speak out on behalf of Democracy daily; my simple message is broadcast through my actions as a student, class vice president, and young adult.

My voice as a student interacts with many people of many nationalities and personalities. We share our aspirations and I have respect for the ideas of fellow classmates. Together, we are the future voices of Democracy. The greatest challenge I face is to learn more about the USA in order to effectively use my creativity to become more involved.

The responsibility of leadership can be a burden, as well as a reward. As class vice president, it is essential for me to realize the consequences of my actions beforehand. Democracy must benefit the majority in order to be successful. My voice in Democracy is not only a representation of myself, but also the needs of many. Remember, a voice should never be used selfishly.

As a young adult, my knowledge of the world is limited. However, I am preparing myself to face my country with a conscious effort to change the things that I can. After all, change starts with me. I cannot account for anyone but myself and have much enthusiasm for the power of my own voice in our Democracy. As I grow older, I hope that cynicism and doubt will not diminish the faith I have in my voice.

In his inaugural speech, John F. Kennedy once said: "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." What exactly does each one of us

owe to America? Everyone's task is different but it is evident that people are neglecting their duty to simply voice their opinion. America doesn't exist as a Camelot; nor should we pretend that it does. But an active voice in Democracy can open doors that were once locked. It is only through the participation of all that Democracy can be maintained. It is vital for every American to realize that we have the potential to be the rock that begins the ripple.

RECOGNIZING THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF THE KIDS FOR CORAL ORGANIZATION

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize an organization from the island of Guam which has demonstrated its ability to raise community awareness of the importance of our oceans. It is befitting to bring such recognition to this organization, at this time, since the United Nations has dedicated this year to the Oceans of the world.

The Kids for Coral organization, will celebrate its tenth year anniversary in the coming year. The organization's initial membership included only a handful of seventh grade students. Oddly enough, what began as a simple class project blossomed quickly to include all other middle and high school grade levels. The prompt response from other students demonstrates a new generation's willingness to weigh in on issues that lay by the wayside on the agenda of policy makers.

The continued existence of the organization confirms its commitment to raise interest in caring for the coral reefs which surround our tropical island. I am sure that some can argue that that which is closest is sometimes forgotten. This may be the case with Guam's reefs. However, despite the maturation of Kids for Coral's original members, its organization continues to grow and pursue its goals of awareness and preservation. This growth assures that coming generations will work towards preserving Guam's reefs and oceans.

Guam is especially dependent on the ocean for its survival. Surrounded by the Pacific Ocean, anything arriving or leaving the island must do so by air or by sea. The majority of our goods and products, are transported in and out of Guam by sea. Though Guam's trade deficit is a reflection of its location, our evolving exports of; fish and crustaceans, mineral fuels, oils, waxes, agricultural products, tobacco, and beverages rely on world oceans.

Historically, our way of life as well as other island nations, states, territories, and possessions are heavily dependant on a clean and healthy ocean environment. More than four thousand years ago, when the ancestors of the people of Guam inhabited the island, their prime source of nourishment, recreation, and education revolved around the existence of the ocean. This still hold true today, and the role of the ever-changing oceans has expanded.

The people of Guam rely on the oceans not only for their own pleasures but for others as well. Guam boasts a tourism industry totaling 1.4 million visitors annually. They come not only for the sun and fun, but for the surf and

sand. It is in our best interest to take positive steps to recognize the value the oceans have to offer. It is to this end that we must continue to bring consciousness to preserving this natural resource.

The means by which Kids for Coral has tried to reach this goal is nearly endless. Ideas, wholly generated by the students, have included design and sale of bumper stickers and t-shirts, beach clean-ups, an annual Save the Reef Week, an art show, and presentations to other students. Kids for Coral has also sponsored a Coral Reef Awareness Conference, where more than 350 middle school students gathered to discuss the preservation of Guam's reefs.

Kids for Coral's local achievements and activities brought them quick attention to island residents. In 1993, their popularity was bolstered by placing first runner-up in the Region IX Presidential Environmental Youth Awards Competition. The following year, their hard work again paid off. International recognition of Kids for Coral, and the Island of Guam, culminated in the bestowment of the United Nations Environmental Program Award, one of only six given to children's groups worldwide. This award recognized their dedication to heighten community awareness of the reefs and the oceans that surround the Island of Guam.

We should all be as diligent in our work to recall the importance of the oceans of the world. The majority of our livelihoods are in some way connected to the water. Transportation, recreation, and sustenance of the world population is an ever connecting bond that begins with our very existence. Once again, during this Year of the oceans, I am proud to recognize the hard work of Kids for Coral.

Lauren Ahillen, Joan Baluyut, Owen Bollinger, James Brenner, Chris Butler, Shirley Chu, Joyleen Co, Cody Cousineau, Barbara Cushing, Christina Del Rosario, Jessica Georgelas, Diwang Gomowad, Tara Gonzalo, Chantal Guedon, Yoo San Ha, Thomas Ham, Tera Hannah, Ronson Ho, Eva Huang, Dana lone, Jean Jastillan and Seena Kallingal.

Sung Yul Kim, Un Kyun Kim, Priya Kodiyaplakkal, Richard Lee, Alex Leon Guerrero, Chalani Leon Guerrero, Adeoye Mabogunje, Maria Manibusan, Mia McCully, Jaya Medabalmi, Maria Perez, Amanda Peterson, Peter Querubin, Lola Rosario, Pika Rosario, Aman Sobti, Margaret Suda, Saori Tembata, Emi Yen, Quinn Yeomans, Whitney Yuen, Deborah Zee and Advisor: Janette Deagle.

KENNY DESAI, PRESIDENT OF TAK CONSTRUCTION, INC., NOMINATED FOR MINORITY CONSTRUCTION FIRM OF THE YEAR

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kirti (Kenny) Desai, President of TAK Construction, Inc., of Clark, NJ, has been nominated by the Newark Minority Business Development Center of the Interracial Council for Business Opportunity, Minority Business Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, for Minority Construction Firm of the year

1998. It is for me a great honor to pay tribute to TAK Construction, and to its President, Mr. Desai, a resident of Livingston, NJ.

Last December, TAK Construction, Inc., celebrated its 10th anniversary. Mr. Desai is the driving force behind the company's success. He is a graduate of the M.S. University of Baroda, India, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. More recently, he earned his Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ. Prior to founding TAK in 1987, Mr. Desai was a project manager with a large construction company through which he achieved a broad background in various phases of the construction industry. During the past ten and one-half years, TAK has completed more than 150 projects valued at more than \$100 million. The company has demonstrated steady annual growth, taking great pride in its commitment to using new materials, practices and innovation, and working to stay on-time and on-budget.

Kenny Desai clearly takes very seriously the company's slogan of "Building for the 21st Century." Despite his significant investment of time in his business, Mr. Desai still manages to find time for a wide range of professional and community affiliations. He is a partner in the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey's Regional Alliance, and a Member of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, as well as local Chambers. He serves as Secretary of the Rotary Club International and is an Honorary Special Deputy Sheriff of Hudson County, NJ. Deeply devoted to his Indian heritage, Mr. Desai is Director and a founding member of the Indo-American Cultural Society of North America, a Trustee of "VRAJ" Religion Institute and Gandhi Mandir, and founding member of Kapol Samaj of North America and Vice President of Vegetarian Vision Inc.

Kenny Desai is a true American success story. As a minority business owner, he has had to overcome significant obstacles on his path to success. In so doing, he stands out as a fine role model for our young people. I wish him and the employees of TAK Construction continued success, and congratulate Mr. Desai on this richly deserved honor.

"DECLINE OF THE ASPEN"

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, if chaos befalls the Forest Service, and politicians don't care to hear, should Westerners persist in making noise? With apologies to Bishop Berkeley, the answer is a resounding "yes!" That is, at least according to Colorado's Club 20. Celebrating its 45th anniversary, Club 20 is an organization of counties, communities, businesses, conservationists, individuals, and associations cast throughout Colorado's 20 western counties. The group was created by Wester Slope business leaders to speak out on issues affecting rural economies and life in Colorado's mountain regions.

The U.S. Forest Service's performance is the subject of a just-released special report, produced by Club 20's Research Foundation. The missive is a must-read for anyone seri-

ously concerned about maintaining a vibrant forest system and healthy environment in the Rocky Mountain West.

The report should also serve as a bright wake-up call to forestry professionals and lawmakers, but most of all to Forest Service higher-ups in Washington, DC.

Entitled "Decline of the Aspen," the report documents the jeopardy Colorado's forests face due to years of mismanagement by the U.S. Forest Service. Citing the serious shortage of accurate scientific data on issues that affect the West, the foundation points out how the Forest Service has strayed from managing for multiple use and sustained yield.

One casualty of poor management is Colorado's aspen inventory. Aspen stands have declined at an alarming rate, causing researchers to predict most of Colorado's aspen trees will disappear within the next 40 to 50 years.

Maintaining and restoring aspen is of paramount importance to Colorado. Not only do the trees help entice \$6 billion worth of tourists each year, but aspen communities sustain tremendously high biodiversity covering thousands of acres across the Wester Slope.

The aspen, however, are just one indication of the harmful effect of poor planning and misdirected leadership within the Forest Service. In turning away from its "land-of-many-uses" philosophy, the Forest Service has engaged a policy of declining resources uses. Such a policy threatens the health of our public lands and the vitality of our western communities.

There has been an unprecedented increase in the annual net growth of national forests since the turn of the century. According to the report, without responsible harvesting, thinning or prescribed burns, timber inventory accumulates to the point where healthy growth is impeded, and stands become susceptible to wildfires, beetle infestations and disease.

The Club 20 report concludes that the Forest Service has suffered from a lack of direction, if not a lack of a clear mission. Political pressure, rather than science-based objectives for healthy, diverse forests, often motivates management decisions or at best favors poor ones by default.

Congress would do well to consider the findings of Club 20. Recent hearings by the House Resources Committee have focused on the appalling performance and financial audits of the Forest Service by the General Accounting Office (GAO). Club 20 clearly spells out how the GAO-exposed Forest Service deficiencies at the national level are directly threatening life in the West for communities and ecosystems.

Though long on criticism of federal agents, Club 20's report is replete with constructive proposals and thoughtful solutions. The work thoroughly documents the need for an open budget process, private timber management strategies, sound fire policies, professional staffing, and aggressive state leadership in getting federal forest management back on track.

Moreover, Club 20 correctly asserts the federal government's moral obligation as steward to vast public landscapes. "Federal ownership should imply federal responsibility to proper management."

Indeed, with 75 percent of Western Colorado under federal ownership, mismanagement is intolerable to the people of the region whose livelihood and quality of life depend

upon these public resources. From a forest health perspective, the environment and the economy are inextricably linked.

Club 20 should be commended for its balanced analysis, and for extending its hand of leadership and partnership in restoring the health of Western forests. In fact, the very future of the Forest Service may well be defined by its ability to accept the offer and thereby resume its historic mission of managing the forests for the benefit of forests, and for us all.

HONORING AUBREY AND SYLVIA
FARB ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Aubrey and Sylvia Farb of Houston, Texas, as they celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 26, 1998. Throughout their lives, Aubrey and Sylvia have provided tremendous examples of public service, contributing unselfishly to numerous causes while raising a fine family.

Originally from Galveston, Aubrey Farb moved to Houston to attend The Rice Institute, known today as Rice University. Because of his academic record, he was selected during the war to attend Japanese language school and become a Japanese interrogation officer. When he returned, he obtained his Master's degree from Columbia University.

Sylvia Farb attended The University of Texas at Austin and graduated shortly before moving back to Houston. In July 1947, Aubrey and Sylvia were invited by mutual friends to play bridge, a hobby they both enjoy. In Aubrey's words, "they have been playing bridge ever since." In fact, they play weekly and have become Grandmasters.

In May 1948, Aubrey and Sylvia were married in Houston, where they have lived during their entire 50 years of marriage. Aubrey worked as a CPA and Sylvia was a stay-at-home mother; both also volunteered their time to help others. The Farbs have been active in politics, the arts, and with the homeless. Their contributions to the community are many. Additionally, they started the Aubrey and Sylvia Community Service Fund at Congregation Emanu El to help with the synagogue's charitable projects.

Over the years, Aubrey and Sylvia have instilled their values and generosity in their children and grandchildren. The Farbs have four daughters, Helene, Roberta, Susan, and Loretta and three "sons by choice", Robert Scolnick, Douglas Colton, and David Morris, and six grandchildren—Leslie Scolnick and her husband Marc, Jonathan Scolnick, Evan and Julia Colton, and Hannah and Shara Morris.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Aubrey and Sylvia Farb on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary and commend them on a lifetime of achievement. Their commitment not only to one another, but to others as well, is an example for all of us. May the coming years bring good health, happiness, and time to enjoy their children and grandchildren. On this joyous occasion, I am pleased to join their family, friends, and community in saying congratulations and thank you.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL RICHMOND 1998 OAK CREEK CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly outstanding resident of my congressional district, Mr. Michael Richmond, whose years of dedicated service to his community and his country have been recognized as he has been named 1998 Oak Creek Citizen of the Year.

Mr. Richmond has made a positive impact on the lives of hundreds of Oak Creek, Wisconsin youth, first as a classroom teacher from 1974 to 1985, then as Athletic Director for the Oak Creek-Franklin School District from 1985 to the present. He has worked countless hours coaching boys and girls in track and cross country, as well as acting as the boys swimming and basketball coach. In 1984, he was named District 7 Cross Country Coach of the Year. Mike has also served as a volunteer coach for a number of basketball camps and tournament teams for the school district.

In addition to the many significant contributions Mike Richmond has made during his tenure as Oak Creek Athletic Director, he also served his country for 21 years as a member of the 84th Division of the U.S. Army Reserves, and was named Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year from 1983-1986. Mike's dedication also extends into the community of Oak Creek, where he has been involved in a number of activities, including community run/walks to raise funds for the community center, and city cleanup activities.

Mr. Richmond is an active member of the Oak Creek Education Association, having served for 24 years as chairperson of Public Relations, and is also a member of the Wisconsin Basketball Association, the Wisconsin Cross Country Coaches Association, the WADA National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, and St. James Catholic Church.

Mike is a caring and devoted educator and an excellent role model for Oak Creek youth. He is also a devoted family man who has been married nearly 28 years to his wife, Judy, and has been blessed with three children, Chad, Mark and Beth. Please join me in honoring Mike for all he has done to help make the City of Oak Creek such a special place to live and work.

A heartfelt congratulations to Michael Richmond, 1998 Oak Creek Citizen of the Year!

SPEAKER GINGRICH AND DEMOCRATIC LEADER GEPHARDT SHOW BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week a bipartisan congressional delegation led by our

colleagues, Speaker of the House NEWT GINGRICH and Democratic Leader RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, visited Israel to celebrate 50 years of friendly relations between the Congress of the United States and the State of Israel.

This was an extraordinary occasion, Mr. Speaker. The visiting Members of Congress spent many hours in serious and substantive meetings with the President, the Prime Minister, leading members of the Israeli Cabinet, and our counterparts who serve in the Israeli Knesset across the whole political spectrum.

During this visit, Mr. Speaker, significant remarks were made on a number of occasions by the leaders of the U.S. Congressional delegation. Two speeches on two separate occasions, however, stand out in my mind as being particularly important. The first was the address to the Knesset by our Speaker of the House NEWT GINGRICH on May 26. The second was the speech by Democratic Leader RICHARD A. GEPHARDT at the Gala Dinner at the Israeli Knesset Honoring Fifty Years of Congressional-Israeli Friendship on the evening of May 25.

Mr. Speaker, I include these two addresses to be included in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to consider thoughtfully these two statements on the importance of the United States relationship with Israel as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the modern state of Israel.

ADDRESS OF SPEAKER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NEWT GINGRICH TO THE ISRAELI KNESSET—MAY 26, 1998

Speaker Dan Tichon and Mrs. Tichon, ministers and deputy ministers of the government of Israel, members of the Knesset, former Knesset, speaker Shlomo Hillel, former members of the Knesset my congressional colleagues, distinguished guests and friends—and as I look out, I see friends, many of whom go back for many years.

It is a great honor to stand before you today in the Knesset, the one truly democratic parliament in the entire Middle East. For 50 years, the Knesset has led a nation that has gathered in people from over a 100 lands, survived the perils of many wars and built a thriving nation out of the desert.

As we celebrate the remarkable achievements of the last 50 years, let me simply say "Kol ha kavod"—to you."

Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt and I have joined with the largest bipartisan gathering of congressmen and senators ever to visit Jerusalem. We are here to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Israel's rebirth as a modern state. We commemorate 50 years of a close and cooperative relationship between our two countries and our two peoples.

In a sense, however, we are not only celebrating the last 50 years. The American and Israeli people are bound together by 3,000 years of a shared and ancient tradition. We are bound together by a common spiritual experience. It is a bond that is felt most powerfully here in this city. As we overlook Jerusalem, and look at the sights that touched the lives of Abraham, David and Christ, we understand the depth of a relationship that is far more than shared geo-political interest.

We are bound together morally. Our two countries are committed to freedom, democracy, the rule of law and individual rights.

We are bound together by pure friendship. It has been a privilege for me to return to Israel and spend time with our leaders, some of whom I've known for almost 20 years for Marianne, it has been a chance to see friends she worked with on the Israeli free trade zone issues.

A member of our delegation, Congressman Tom Lantos, a survivor of the Holocaust, first visited Israel in 1956. And this is his 57th trip to visit Israel. Two key chairmen in our delegation, Bob Livingston and Ben Gilman, have coupled their leadership in Congress with a deep understanding and love for the land and people of Israel. Another member, Congressman Henry Waxman, returns to Israel often to visit his daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren who live here.

The ties that bind America to Israel are greater than the economic and security interest that our nations share. We are two nations grown from a common source—both forged by the courage and imagination of pioneers, and both expressing in our founding documents our ultimate reliance on divine providence.

As we celebrate with you, we remember together the courage of David who established Jerusalem 3,000 years ago as the political and spiritual capital of the Jewish people. We commemorated that event the last time Marianne and I saw Prime Minister Rabin alive at an event in our Capitol, in the rotunda, to celebrate the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem. Prime Minister Rabin spoke with deep emotion of his own ties of Jerusalem, the city where he was born and the city he fought to defend throughout this life. We in Congress stood with him then and stand with you today in recognizing Jerusalem as the united and eternal capital of Israel.

We remember the commitment of the early Zionists who convened the first Zionist congress a century ago, lived through the horror of the Holocaust, and finally witnessed the birth of a Jewish homeland in Eretz Israel.

We remember the story of the last 50 years, of a state that has survived wars and countless acts of terrorism to maintain its place among the nations.

We remember with you because we believe that the anniversary of Israel's rebirth is not just a celebration for Israel alone. It is a celebration for all who are inspired by the faith that was born in this land. It is a celebration for all who see in Israel an outpost in the struggle for freedom across the globe. And it is a celebration for all who see in the fundamental relationship between our two countries a remarkable history and a great hope.

For we are here to celebrate more than the first 50 years. In a sense, we're here to celebrate the first 3,000 years.

And we're not just here to look ahead with you for the next 50 years. We dream of how we—and our children—can build a future that holds more than the hope for mere survival—a future that can lead to a lasting prosperity, an enduring peace and a truly free land.

Such a future—one marked by peace, prosperity and freedom—must be built upon an unending commitment to security for those who seek peace.

One of our greatest presidents, Ronald Reagan, had a simple strategy to expand freedom across the globe. It came down to three words: peace through strength. He knew that strength was the key to security and that security was essential to peace. He knew that a lasting peace required a durable security.

This truth was reinforced for me in a personal and powerful way during this trip to Israel. On Sunday, we visited the Weizmann Institute where we met with some of your most talented scientists to learn about the technological breakthroughs that will shape our mutual future. As we were leaving, I spoke to Manuela Dviri, whose son Yoni was killed in Lebanon on February 26 of this year. A 20-year-old staff sergeant from Kfar Saba, he served in an intelligence unit and died when a mortar round struck his position. Manuela had, in Abraham Lincoln's

words, "laid the most costly sacrifice on the altar of freedom." She had lost her son. She still has another son and a daughter and a granddaughter. Yet she said to me—unambiguously—that she did not believe peace could come without security and this was her formula: "You should not need two words," she said, "Peace has within it the word security. When you say peace, it must include security or it has no meaning." While this tragedy has deprived Manuela of Yoni, I know the deepest hope that she has for her granddaughter, Gali, is a future of peace, freedom and security.

We join Manuela Dviri and the rest of the Israeli people in their aspirations for peace. No one can understand the depth of that aspiration unless they have lived so long without peace. And no one can hope to achieve true peace unless it is always coupled with true security. The peace process must ensure that Israel will retain the ability to protect its own citizens from terrorism. It must ensure that Israel maintains secure borders with its neighbors. Without establishing those realities, it cannot succeed.

For this reason, we support the Clinton administration when it says that Israel alone must determine its security needs. We cannot allow non-Israelis to substitute their judgment for the generals that Israel has trusted with its security. If Israel is to take risks for peace, as she has often done in the past, it must be risks she accepts, not risks that are imposed upon her.

While the peace process is designed to provide security within Israel and on her borders, perhaps the greatest threat is beyond the peace process. Israel and the United States now face a growing threat beyond the horizon—weapons of mass destruction in the hands of outlaw dictatorships.

Through our victory in the Cold War, the United States and its allies defeated Soviet communism. In the subsequent years, however, rogue regimes in countries like Iraq, Iran, North Korea and Libya emerged from the shadows of the vanishing Soviet empire. In the hands of these dictatorships, weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them have become a dangerous threat to Israel, to the United States and to our allies.

Like few others on the planet, Israelis know the real palpable threat from dictatorships that are methodically developing these weapons and delivery technologies. In 1991, 28 Iraqi Scud missiles rained down on Israel, inflicting casualties and portending Israel's vulnerability. We, too, know the consequences of these weapons. Thirty-eight young Americans were killed when an Iraqi Scud struck their barracks in Dhahran.

Despite the partial effectiveness of Patriot missiles, at times our only defense was the inaccuracy of the Scuds themselves. In our review of the Gulf War, we discovered that not one Scud or Scud launcher was confirmed as destroyed on the ground in Iraq despite a great effort to do so.

Since 1991, rogue dictatorships have relentlessly worked to improve both their weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. Nevertheless, in some quarters, there is a breathtaking avoidance of what these facts imply. If dictatorships work while democracies talk, a catastrophe will become inevitable. For democracies to survive and dictatorships to fail, we must establish a vision of a secure democracy and we must implement three parallel strategies to achieve that vision. Our success must be built on the strategies of containment, defense and replacement.

First, we must put unrelenting pressure on anyone assisting these outlaw dictatorships with their weapons programs. We cannot have normal relations with governments, either tolerating or encouraging assistance to

these dictatorships, whether the governments are active participants or acquiescent partners.

Due to Russian assistance, Iran will reportedly be able to manufacture its own medium-range ballistic missiles by the end of this year, capable of striking Israel and parts of Europe.

Russia has also assisted Iraq with its own weapons program. It is time for our patience with the Russian government to come to an end.

It should be clearly communicated that Russia's relationship with the United States and Israel—and other nations of the West—will suffer if its actions do not match its commitments. The same message should be expressed to others, including China, who assist these countries in their nuclear, chemical, biological and missile programs. We have a range of policy instruments at our disposal, including diplomatic and economic levers, and we should be prepared to use them.

The United States must make clear that stopping Iraq and Iran from acquiring weapons of mass destruction is its most intense goal. And we should organize our allies to jointly prevent these dictatorships from acquiring weapons of terror.

Second, we cannot rely solely on containment to protect us from rogue dictatorships developing these capabilities. As these countries develop more and more accurate guidance systems for their missiles, with increasingly virulent biological and chemical warheads, it will become even more urgent to develop effective defenses against these systems.

In the United States today, we do not have the military capability to stop even one theater or intercontinental ballistic missile from reaching its target. Our senior military officers would be reduced to scanning the horizon like the rest of us, watching for the missile that could destroy our city, our family, our home. We are totally vulnerable. But we are told that a 25-year-old treaty with a nonexistent entity—the Soviet Union—prevents us from responding to this danger.

Israel, not bounded by an outmoded dogma, is taking steps to develop missile defense, and we're assisting in those efforts. We have joined the Israeli government in the Arrow Ballistic Missile Defense Initiative to protect your citizens from this very real threat. The Arrow program is a tribute to the ingenuity and determination of the people of Israel to forge an effective defense for your homeland. The United States must aggressively develop both theater and global missile defenses to complement and reinforce the protection Arrow will provide here in Israel.

Containment and defense provide interim security, but they cannot by themselves guarantee success. As long as individual dictators or regimes based on hatred work to develop terror weapons, all democratic societies will be threatened with catastrophe. A single nuclear, chemical or biological device in one of our great cities would create a tragedy of unthinkable proportions.

Our third strategy must be to pre-empt catastrophe by insisting that dictatorships be replaced with democracies. Clearly, the free world has the capacity to liberate the people of Iraq. Clearly, the free world has the resources to encourage the people of Iran to complete the process of change which hopefully began with the election of President Khatemi.

We need the will, the courage and the determination to work together to replace dictatorships seeking weapons of terror with democracies seeking friendship and economic prosperity.

This vision of democratic success and the failure of dictatorships will require the same

level of courage and commitment that in World War II defeated Nazi Germany, fascist Italy and imperial Japan. It will require the unrelenting persistence that for 45 years methodically contained; defended against; and in concert with the Russian and other captive peoples, ultimately replaced a communist dictatorship with fledgling democracies. Those democracies, while still struggling, have advanced freedom dramatically from the police state they replaced.

Free peoples who've faced down and defeated these dangers should see today's dangerous but fragile dictatorships for what they are: Our opportunities to expand freedom.

Sustaining security and establishing freedom will lead not only to peace, but also to economic prosperity. If we achieve peace through security in this region, the economies will flourish. They will flourish, first, because open borders and free trade produce wealth. No one should know this better than the Palestinians. When acts of terror force Israel to seal its border, it is the Palestinians who suffer most. They lose access to the strong Israeli economy, and 100,000 Palestinians are cut off from their jobs. When regional tensions choke off commerce, it is Israel's neighbors who suffer most. Open borders and free trade allow others to share in Israel's economic growth.

In addition, the region's economies will flourish as broad cooperation solves the most pressing problems in the next 50 years. Nowhere is that cooperation more vital than in dealing with the shortage in the region's most precious resource, water. Water has always been a central security concern in this land. Hezekiah enhanced Jerusalem's security dramatically when he protected the Gihon spring, his water source, by extending the walls of the city. Today, water is an equally critical security concern with the future of aquifers like the Yarkon as a principal issue in the peace process.

Right now, the United States gives incremental assistance to manage the problem. It has provided hundreds of millions of dollars to the Palestinians, primarily to tap new sources of water and manage the existing ones. In addition, it has assisted other countries in the region by providing them with Israeli expertise on things like drip irrigation and water recycling. Each of these efforts does assist countries that have a large and growing water deficit. They ultimately have a marginal impact, however. Our challenge for the next 50 years is to find the strategic solution to the shortage of water in the region. We must do more than manage an ever-scarcer resource. We must support the scientific and engineering advances that will erase the shortage of water forever.

Israel, the country that caused the desert to bloom, must lead this effort. From the cisterns of Massada to the drip irrigation of today, Israel has learned how to preserve a scarce resource. Today, it is the world's leader on those questions. In the future, Israel should become the world leader on expanding the supply of water. It has both the regional need and the human capital to lower the cost of desalination and end the shortage of water for the region. The United States has already invested in sharing Israeli expertise with the region, learning to manage a scarce resource. For the future, leadership demands that we do more than simply manage the current options. We, the United States, must invest with Israel to overwhelm the shortage of water with research that will provide fresh water from an abundant source—the oceans that cover most of our planet.

Our joint efforts for the future are built on the close relationship between our two countries. This relationship has been fostered in

a sustained way by the United States Congress. The strong personal bond that members of Congress feel toward Israel has led to consistent support for the state, reaching back to congressional resolutions as early as 1922 that supported a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Congress approved its first package of aid to Israel—\$65 million—in 1951. Congress pressed to maintain Israel's qualitative military edge. It provided emergency military assistance during the Gulf War. Congress approved \$10 billion in housing loan guarantees in order to absorb the flood of Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia. It is Congress that enacted legislation in 1955 that requires our government to move its embassy to Jerusalem, finally recognizing the fact that Jerusalem has been Israel's capital for the last 50 years.

As speaker of the United States House, I want to initiate a far more direct relationship between the Knesset and the Congress. Today, Speaker Tichon and I are inaugurating a new U.S.-Israel interparliamentary initiative on strategic cooperation to be pursued by members from the U.S. Congress and Knesset. This effort was conceived by Chairman Uzi Landau of the Knesset's Foreign and Defense Affairs Committee, and Senator Jon Kyl of the U.S. Congress. The initiative will focus on security issues, particularly the crucial question of missile defense. It offers an excellent starting point for broadening and deepening the interaction between the Congress and the Knesset.

The relationship we are establishing between Congress and the Knesset will not be unique. As democracy spreads across the region, as it inevitably will, we should work together to broaden the interaction with other democratic parliaments.

As we celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary, we honor those, both American and Israeli, whose commitment to security and freedom ensured Israel's survival. Today we must draw inspiration for their example.

And let me just close by sharing with you—we've had a wonderful several days. We just had a meeting with your Foreign and Defense Committee that was very direct and very candid on both sides—not quite up to the Knesset standard of bluntness, but we're trying to learn.

I just want to share with you for one brief moment the magic that you represent. One hundred years ago, this was Ottoman, Turkish land; Russia was czarist; Germany was imperial; China had not yet had the revolution that ended the Confucian domination and the Manchu was still there; Japan was Imperial in every sense; and democracy was a strange idea in only a few countries. One hundred years later, we're gaining. It's painful. It costs lives. We make big mistakes. If you go to the Yad Vashem, you're reminded with heart-rending clarity of the cost of being wrong.

And yet, in America, in Israel, in Europe, in more and more of Asia, in Russia, day by day, this thing that we jointly represent—elect people to speak for you, put them in one room and make them fight it out—this thing is slowly spreading across the planet.

I am convinced from our trip here that Israeli democracy has never been more vibrant. It's never had a greater range of potential leaders pushing, shoving, arguing. It's never wrestled more passionately with the future of Israel and its relation with its neighbors.

And as an American, I can tell you how much we gained from these days; how stronger we will going home; how much more grateful that you here in the city of David continue to stand for freedom; and how much we want to reach out to work with each and every one of you to make sure that 50 years

and 3,000 years from now freedom exists in this land.

Thank you for allowing us to visit.

STATEMENT OF HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER RICHARD A. GEPHARDT AT THE GALA DINNER AT THE ISRAELI KNESSET HONORING 50 YEARS OF CONGRESSIONAL-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP, MAY 25, 1998

I am honored to join you this evening in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the modern state of Israel.

The twentieth century has been marked by the worst cruelty and barbarity the Jewish people have suffered in this long history. Born after the Holocaust, this nation was envisioned by Claim Weizmann as "a resting-place in this terrible world." But it has become far more than that—serving as a beacon of justice, freedom, and hope for Jews of all nationalities.

Your country's democracy and its vibrant economic, cultural, and intellectual life have survived and prospered through nearly half a century of life under a state of war. Served as a source of pride for world Jewry, especially in America, and as a model for many nations.

Despite facing great adversity and hostility, you have been steadfast in your commitment to democracy. In fact, I am proud to stand here in the citadel of democracy in the Middle East.

In some ways, this is the greatest deliberative body in the world—few other assemblies have had the courage to carry on free and open democratic debate while facing so many external threats.

You have had the courage to disagree amongst yourselves. And you have always been united in trying to achieve peace and security in the region. Your dedication to the pursuit of peace in the face of constant threats of war and terrorism—across ideology and across the decades—from David Ben Curion and Chaim Weizmann to Menachem Begin, through Yitzhak Rabin to Binyamin Netanyahu—has garnered admiration and respect from millions around the world.

The American people's affinity and respect for the people of Israel is based on the pioneering spirit which both our people share. This has formed the core of the special bond between our two countries. And this is why the U.S.-Israel relationship is one of the strongest bilateral relationships in the world.

The U.S.-Israel relationship is also a tribute to the American Jewish community, many of whom have worked tirelessly over the years to keep our nation's leaders focused on the importance of this relationship, and some of whom are here tonight.

In fact, the American-Israeli relationship began in part as a result of the efforts of one American Jew who had a very influential friend in the White House.

In his memoirs, Harry Truman described an important moment in the development of his conviction about the creation of the state of Israel. His long-time friend Eddie Jacobsen urged Truman to meet with Dr. Weizmann.

Truman had been putting off the meeting, but at Jacobsen's urging, he relented. According to Truman:

"Dr. Weizmann came on March 18, and we talked for almost three quarters of an hour. He talked about the possibilities of development in Palestine, about the scientific work that he and his assistants had done that would someday be translated into industrial activity in the Jewish state that he envisaged.

"He spoke of the need for land if the future immigrants were to be cared for, and he impressed on me the importance of the Negev area in the south to any future Jewish state.

"Dr. Weizmann was a man of remarkable achievements and personality. His life had been dedicated to two ideals, that of science and that of the Zionist movement . . . He had known many disappointments and had grown patient and wise in them."

At this same time, the U.S. State Department attempted to have President Truman keep the territory under United Nations trusteeship rather than recognize a new Jewish state. George Marshall threatened to quit the Cabinet if Truman were to do this. George Kennan, one of America's most respected foreign policy experts, wrote to Truman:

"Ultimately the U.S. might have to support the Jewish authorities by the use of naval units and military forces . . . It is improbable that the Jewish state could survive over any considerable period of time in the face of the combined assistance which would be forthcoming for the Arabs in Palestine from the Arab States, and in lesser measure from their Moslem neighbors."

I would also note that Truman's approval rating at the time was 36 percent, and an election was looming that November. But despite all this, eleven minutes after Israeli leaders declared the existence of their new state, President Truman took a momentous step in recognizing Israel's security.

So from the beginning, it was in part through the efforts of Jewish-Americans that the relationship was formed and continually strengthened. Every person here tonight should be proud of their work to build on this partnership which has benefitted both the United States and Israel. And your efforts must continue so our children can stand here fifty years from tonight and celebrate once again.

President Truman wrote a letter to Dr. Weizmann six months after the founding of the Israeli state, and its words ring as true today as in 1948. The letter read:

"I want to tell you how happy and impressed I have been at the remarkable progress made by the new State of Israel. What you have received at the hands of the world has been far less than was your due. But you have more than made the most of what you have received, and I admire you for it."

As a fellow Missourian, I can do no better on this occasion than to simply restate to you and the people of Israel Harry Truman's words: "You have more than made the most of what you have received, and I admire you for it." But with a half-century of hindsight that President Truman did not have, I am confident that the best is yet to come for the State of Israel.

RECOGNIZING BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to send congratulations and best wishes to the citizens of the Bethlehem Township as they commemorate the 200th anniversary of the founding of their community. It is important that we recognize the magnitude of this anniversary and the events that have marked the history of this great township.

This is truly a day in which the citizens of Bethlehem can both rejoice and reflect upon. The township has endured many difficult times in its 200 years and has persevered through

them all. This is a time to celebrate the growth and achievements of the township and the efforts of all those who have paved its path to success. It is a time to remember the sacrifices of the good men and women, past and present, who helped to make Bethlehem what it is today.

Mr. Speaker, on June 6, the township will celebrate its Founder's Day, a day that will feature parades, a picnic, and a ceremony to honor its former mayors and other important residents who have made significant contributions. This is a time to remember all those who have made Bethlehem the prospering community that it is today. The parade is being hailed as a tribute to all citizens of the community. All attendees are encouraged to participate in the festivities as to truly symbolize the spirit of community in this great township.

Through both the remembrance of its history and the celebration of its present, this day promises to be a very special one. In the years to come, I am confident that Bethlehem Township will continue to build on its established foundations and will continue to enjoy the success that it has come to know.

I congratulate Mayor Walter Baumgarten and all of the township's citizens on this great honor. I am proud to have the township in my district.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT L. NOREM

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the retirement of Robert L. Norem after 30 years of service in probation and corrections with Stanislaus County in California's great Central Valley. Bob has served as the Chief Probation Officer with Stanislaus County Probation since March 30, 1985.

As a friend of mine, I can attest to Bob's commitment and dedication to those he has served. That service cannot go unnoticed. He has worked tirelessly to provide leadership to Stanislaus County and its residents. Bob has the vision to see the importance of the role of probation in our communities and in the future.

While many talk about what could be done, or perhaps what should be done, Bob is the sort of man who rolls up his sleeves and gets the job done. I consider it an honor to call him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege to honor Bob and commend him. I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives rise and join me in congratulating Bob Norem on a job well done and in honoring him on his retirement.

MOURNING LOSS OF AIDS
ACTIVIST STEVE MICHAEL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, we in the District and many others around the country will mourn the passing of valiant AIDS

activist Steve Michael, who died May 25th at the age of 42. As the founder of ACT UP-Washington and a ceaseless campaigner on behalf of men and women suffering from HIV and AIDS, Steve made an indelible mark on our nation's fight against this disease. We in the District are fortunate that Steve took as his own our fight for full democracy as well.

Steve arrived in Washington from Seattle in 1993, pressuring the Clinton administration on AIDS funding and on the rights of homosexuals. Steve's political career, however, was not limited to activism; he proved to be a staunch advocate of Home Rule, a frequent participant in the local and national political process, and finally a candidate for the District of Columbia City Council. His service on the DC HIV Planning Council as chair of the Fiscal Oversight Committee will not be forgotten by the citizens of Washington.

Steve's untimely death highlights the need for continuing research and funding as we work to find a cure for the scourge of AIDS. As the Washington Times noted, Steve pushed into the AIDS debate with "incredible energy," and his confrontational style broadened the health dialogue beyond the traditional corridors of power.

Steve Michael came to Washington as an angry young man. Until the end, he was angry enough to fight hard for the lives of others and then for his own life. In his activism over the years, Steve mellowed enough to develop a relationship with some public officials that became friendship. I count myself among those friends. I will think first and foremost of Steve this coming Sunday when I march in the annual Capital Pride parade for freedom from all forms of discrimination, including the homophobia that is still reflected in our laws. I will honor Steve's friendship, not with memories alone but with a continuing resolve to continue the fight against AIDS and HIV, against homophobia and for life.

BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I have great pride in standing before you today to announce that Whitney M. Young Middle School in my Eleventh Congressional District has been awarded the Blue Ribbon School Award. This prestigious award was given to 166 secondary schools this year, 14 of which are in Ohio. The Blue Ribbon School award recognizes schools that have strong leadership, up-to-date curriculum and instruction, provide challenges to the students, high quality teaching and produces a safe environment that is conducive to learning. Other criteria include parent and community involvement, clear vision and mission shared by the entire school, and evidence that it helps all its students achieve the highest standard possible and share these standards and practices with other schools. These schools must also integrate these practices while meeting local, state, and national goals.

The schools are judged on these major requirements by a distinguished panel of some 100 public and private school educators, college and university staff, state and local gov-

ernment officials, school board members, parents, the education press, medical professionals, and business representatives. Whitney M. Young Middle School passed this selection criteria and the necessary on site visits in order to be recognized for the innovative work it is accomplishing through the education process.

Whitney M. Young Middle School is located in an urban environment with a 75% minority student body. A major portion of the school's success is having a faculty that is willing to go that extra mile for their students by ensuring a proper and challenging curriculum is available. Teachers are not only available for extra time with students but with parents as well for conferences and team meetings. Many of the strategic approaches that are initiated at Whitney Young are teacher implemented and originated.

Whitney Young also recognizes the efforts of its student body by awarding achievement on a regular basis. Students are given the opportunity for a wide range of cultural activities based upon their academic performance. The Cleveland metropolitan area provides the middle school with a diverse variety of events for the students to attend. Corporate sponsors are involved in Whitney Young's phenomenal learning process as well, by each year sponsoring a special location for the National Junior Honor Society inductions.

Mr. Speaker, schools are the institutions that equip our young people with the necessary tools for dealing with the challenges of the next century. This prestigious award recognizes those schools that not only provide students with an education but do so with a degree of pride and excellence. I would like to recognize a few of the people involved in Whitney Young's educational success; Mrs. Elaine Davis, the principal, the faculty and staff of Whitney Young, and lastly the students for their incredible achievement. I am extremely proud that Whitney M. Young Middle School has been added to the roster of distinguished schools who have received this award.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1998 GRADUATES
RECOGNIZED BY THE CHALDEAN
FEDERATION OF AMERICA

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all the students being recognized by the Chaldean Federation of America at their Annual Commencement and Scholarship Program. The program is being held this afternoon at the Mother of God Chaldean Church in Southfield, Michigan.

An umbrella organization of Chaldean churches and civic organizations, the Chaldean Federation of America devotes the majority of its efforts to education. The Federation encourages Chaldean youth not only to remain in school, but to strive for academic excellence and achievement. Almost 400 Chaldean students graduating from southeast Michigan high schools or colleges and universities will be recognized.

Individual success and the prosperity of America depend on education. It is truly encouraging to know that so many of these students, who in many cases are first generation Americans, are learning this lesson early. Because of their success, the Chaldean community, Michigan and the United States will all benefit.

I commend the graduating class of 1998 and encourage all the individuals involved to remain students for life. I wish all the graduates—our future leaders—continued success.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER O'HARE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to introduce you to a remarkable man who has been very important to me, not only as a great friend but also as a mentor, Father Joseph A. O'Hare. Tonight, Father O'Hare will be honored with the 1998 Brien McMahon Award by the Fordham Club of Washington, DC.

Born in New York City on February 12, 1931, Father O'Hare attended Regis High School in Manhattan. Following graduation, he entered the Jesuit Order in 1948. Much of his early spiritual training took place in the Philippines, where he attended Berchmann College in Cebu City. After completing this intensive program, Joseph O'Hare was ordained a priest in 1961 in the Fordham University Church.

In addition to the Bachelor's and Master's degrees that Father O'Hare earned from Berchmann College, he also holds licentiate degrees in philosophy and theology from Woodstock College, and a doctorate in Philosophy from Fordham. His excellent educational background prepared him for a career as the longest serving President in the 157 year history of Fordham University. He served on the faculty of the College of Arts and Science at Ateneo de Manila Universidad in the Philippine capital from 1955 to 1958 and again from 1967 to 1972. Since joining Fordham University, he has served as Chairman of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities and Chair of the Associations of Catholic Colleges and Universities. He was named President of Fordham University, my alma mater, on July 1, 1984.

Father O'Hare's enviable efforts in his chosen career have been matched by a sincere civic commitment. Beginning in March 1986, he served on the Mayor Koch's Committee on Appointments. He was also a member of the Charter Revision Commission of the City of New York from 1986 to 1988. Soon after, Father O'Hare was appointed Chairman of the Campaign Finance Board. This Board, one of the first of its kind in the nation, was created to oversee a landmark voluntary city-wide campaign finance law. During Father O'Hare's tenure, the Campaign Finance Board has been hailed in a New York Times Editorial as a model for other cities. In recognition of his unique talents, he was reappointed by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani in 1994.

In light of these accomplishments, it is little wonder that Father O'Hare is this year's recipient of the Brien McMahon Award. This award,

presented annually by the Fordham Club of Washington, D.C., has a distinguished history. Prior recipients include Eunice Kennedy and Sargent Shriver. Adding Father O'Hare's name to this impressive list can only increase the prestige of this honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, thousands of Fordham alumni, and the Fordham Club of Washington, D.C. as Father O'Hare is honored with the Brien McMahon award this evening.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMWELL VALLEY FIRE COMPANY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Amwell Valley Fire Company on the commemoration of their 75th anniversary. It is my privilege and honor to recognize this organization that has protected the citizens of East Amwell for 100 years.

Every single day, these dedicated men and women get up ready to put their lives on the line in order to protect the citizens of East Amwell. Each and every one of us relies on the services of these brave men and women. They provide us with a sense of security that would be impossible in their absence. We tend to take their services for granted and do not often recognize them for their hard work. For one hundred years, they have been a consistent presence in East Amwell and a reliable source of protection for every citizen.

I applaud the efforts of the department, as they have been an invaluable service for East Amwell for so many years. It is my great pleasure to be able to recognize them for all that they have done. On this special occasion, I wish to thank Fire Chief Jeff Luster and the entire force for continuing their dedicated service. Congratulations to all who have served in the department over the last 75 years. It is an honor to have this great fire company within the borders of my district.

IN HONOR OF ROGER LEE

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Roger Lee after 29 years of dedicated service with the Modesto Police Department in my district in California's great Central Valley.

Roger Lee's career is noteworthy for many reasons. When he joined the Modesto Police Department in September, 1969, he became the first African-American police officer in the history of the police department.

Since then, I am proud to report, he has served in the entire spectrum of police work—from undercover drug enforcement and police sting operations to community policing. As a police detective, Roger Lee has maintained an 80–85 percent closure ratio on his cases, far higher than the national average.

In 1981, while assigned to an executive protection detail for a foreign dignitary, Detective

Lee drew great credit and distinction upon himself and the Modesto Police Department when he arrested a would-be assassin. Not only was Detective Lee credited with saving the life of the dignitary, very likely he averted an international incident by his actions.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor and privilege to honor Detective Roger Lee and commend him for his service and dedication to the citizens of Modesto, California. His selfless acts and professionalism reflect great credit upon himself.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives rise and join me in honoring Detective Roger Lee.

REGARDING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAL INNOVATION TAX CREDIT BILL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I include the "Remarks of Dr. Leonard Zwelling from May 14, 1998" for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

REMARKS OF DR. LEONARD ZWELLING, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER FROM MAY 14, 1998

Congressman Johnson, Congressman Doggett and staff, I thank you for the opportunity to speak today about the importance of the Medical Innovation Tax Credit legislation (H.R. 3815 and S. 1885). I am Dr. Leonard Zwelling, Associate Vice President for Research Administration at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

If you will excuse this transplanted New Yorker, I would like to tell you a Texas story about medical innovation. This is a story of persistence that illustrates the importance of medical innovation and the potential impact of this tax credit on the critical partnership between industry and academic medical centers like M.D. Anderson. This is a story about a woman who wanted to be a physician-investigator since she was three. She would accompany her father, who was a physician-investigator, to his laboratory and look into his microscope. She succeeded in her goal. She went to medical school and at graduation won all of the awards for research. She followed her husband to the National Institutes of Health where she began to investigate how white cells functioned, eventually becoming interested in how they killed cancer cells.

She was attending the American Association for Cancer Research meeting here in Washington in 1981 when she heard Dr. Josh Fidler describe a mouse model of cancer and how he was able to eradicate the cancer in the mice with a novel agent he had developed. She looked at the model and immediately saw that it resembled a form of bone cancer that occurs in children called osteosarcoma. As she was a Pediatrician, she saw the possibility that this new therapy could benefit these children if it could be demonstrated to be effective in people.

She began to work with Dr. Fidler, moving from the NIH in Bethesda to the new government facility in Frederick. Despite having had a new baby and despite the longer commute, the work was gratifying. She was able to reproduce Dr. Fidler's mouse findings

using human cells. Then, a problem arose. When it was time to do the human testing, the leadership of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda would not let this experienced physician, a board-certified Pediatrician, do the trials because she was not a trained cancer doctor.

Then fate smiled on the woman. Dr. Fidler was asked to lead a new department of Cell Biology at M.D. Anderson in Houston. He asked her to join his department and start the trials in Texas with help from a pharmaceutical sponsor. This time her husband followed her.

With a tremendous amount of effort, but strong encouragement from the faculty and staff at M.D. Anderson, this research physician began to test the new drug in Texas in patients with osteosarcoma who had not responded to chemotherapy. It worked! The drug activated normal white cells to kill tumor cells. Today, the final stages of testing have been completed in a nation-wide trial. The effectiveness of the drug will be known shortly. However, the drug was always in short supply. The company who made it barely gave the doctor enough to treat these patients. This was because osteosarcoma is a relatively rare form of cancer. Only 2000 new diagnoses were made each year in the United States. This is small when compared with the tens of thousands of patients with breast or lung cancer. A tax credit, such as that proposed by Congressman Johnson, might have provided the incentive to continue the work in this rarer malignancy and stimulated new investigations in patients with other forms of cancer.

Pediatric cancers are, thank goodness, rare. But that makes them an unattractive target for large-scale drug development. A tax credit such as this one, might be the very incentive needed to produce more investment in the treatment and eventual cure of patients with uncommon diseases. This would undoubtedly lead to treatments for the more common cancers as well.

This is a story I know well, for the woman I describe is Dr. Eugenie Kleinerman of M.D. Anderson who happens to be my wife. We are both very grateful for the wonderful opportunity of working these fourteen years at M.D. Anderson in the great state of Texas. But it shouldn't take 14 years to develop a new treatment for cancer. Perhaps, if this bill is passed, more people can be helped and helped faster by doctors like Dr. Kleinerman with the help of corporate sponsors.

Thank you Congressmen, and I will be happy to answer any of your questions.

TRIBUTE TO COL. MARY TRIPP

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, today I have the pleasure to recognize a great citizen of Illinois and one of the Air Force's finest officers on the date of her retirement from active duty. For over 23 years, Colonel Mary Tripp has served the Air Force with pride and with tremendous dedication. On April 15, Colonel Tripp returned to her family home in West Chicago, Illinois. We wish her God's speed and the gratitude of the Nation for her loyal service.

Colonel Tripp's final assignment was the director of the very successful program to honor the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force. This 16 month project blended a brilliant cam-

paigned of motivational and historic information, energizing both her fellow airmen and the American public. From the national recognition at the Tournament of Roses Parade to the Pentagon Cake Cutting Ceremony with the President, the hard work and dedication of Colonel Tripp shined in every event. She led a program which truly captured the hearts of each Air Force veteran and every American. The magnificent record of the United States Air Force over the past 50 years is a story worth telling. Through the handiwork of Colonel Tripp, this legacy will continue to grow.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my distinct honor to offer this tribute. As Colonel Tripp retires to private life, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the outstanding service she has given to our great country. On behalf of the people of the 14th Congressional District and especially her neighbors in the city of West Chicago, I wish her the very best.

REGARDING U.S. POLICY TOWARD IRANIAN REGIME

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last week marked the first anniversary of the election of Mohammad Khatami as president of Iran so this marks a fitting time to assess the realities versus the rhetoric of Khatami's regime.

Congressmen GARY ACKERMAN, BOB MENENDEZ, EDOLPHUS TOWNS, and JAMES TRAFICANT and I co-sponsored a briefing here in the House of Representatives on U.S. policy options and prospects for change in Iran.

We presented the following on Iran policy:

Nothing has changed under the administration of Khatami, and in many respects the evidence indicates that Tehran's outlaw behavior has worsened.

Factional infighting and domestic unrest are aggravating the instability of the ruling regime, raising new prospects for its replacement by a democratic government.

Our policy should focus on how to contain the threat from Iran, and on support for democratic alternatives within that country.

I urge my colleagues and the Administration to continue tough U.S. policies such as the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act as well as efforts to mobilize the international community towards a united-multi-lateral campaign to bring freedom and democracy to the people of Iran.

U.S. POLICY TOWARDS IRAN: A ONE-YEAR REVIEW

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues a very important matter. The last week of May marked the first anniversary of the election of the so-called "moderate" president of Iran. I think it is very important after one year of President Mohammed Khatami's rule to look closely at the facts in evaluating his adminis-

tration's true colors. Some of you may have seen the press reports from the "Briefing on U.S. Policy Options and Prospects for Change in Iran" that I co-hosted on May 21 along with my colleagues Mrs. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. MENENDEZ and Mr. TOWNS. Our effort was aimed at advocating an Iran policy of firmness and resolve, which allies the United States with the Iranian people and their resistance movement, the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

The impressive turnout for the event, especially among members of the diplomatic corps, indicated to me that the call to scrutinize our Iran policy was timely. Just this past week, Khatami underscored the role of the Revolutionary Guards Corps in maintaining the regime in its totality and said it represented the regime's most pious and dedicated forces. "With our body and soul, we are all proud of the Guards Corps," Khatami said in praising the regimes' main organ of suppression, rendering hollow his claims of "freedom and civil society." This further proves the assessment of the speakers during our briefing that Khatami has neither the interest nor the influence to initiate any change in this theocratic regime.

Mr. Speaker, in light of the importance of this discussion, I submit my remarks entitled "One Year of Khatami," as well as the remarks of Ms. Soona Samsami, a representative of the National Council of Resistance in Washington, to be printed herewith in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ONE YEAR OF KHATAMI—REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE GARY L. ACKERMAN

I would like to first welcome all the members of the diplomatic corps and the press for joining us here today to mark the one year anniversary of President Mohammad Khatami's election. We have a very interesting forum scheduled, and once everyone completes their statements, we will open up for questions and answers. First, I'd like to introduce my colleague Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen from Florida, with whom I've worked on this issue long and hard. Unfortunately, she must leave early so she will get this briefing started with her remarks.

After her we will hear from Congressmen Bob Menendez, Jim Traficant and Ed Towns, as well as former Ambassador James Akins, and lastly from Soona Samsami who will be representing the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

Representative Ros-Lehtinen.

When Mohammad Khatami was elected president a year ago, many in the West insisted that he was a genuine reformer who would, while upholding the clerics' reign, would begin halting state terrorism, would begin an end to enmity to the Middle East peace process, a lessening of flagrant abuses of human rights and the stoppage of the stockpiling of weapons of mass destruction.

I'm sorry to say that some in our administration bought into that view. Travel restrictions to Iran by American citizens have been relaxed a bit, and most recently, the administration has just waived punitive action, as required by law, against 3 foreign oil corporations who plan to invest more than \$2 billion dollars in the Iranian oil industry.

Unfortunately, it is clear that some policy-makers have learned little about the brutal thug mentality of those who rule in Iran. When this year's State Department report on terrorism named Tehran the number-one state sponsor of terrorism, Iran's ruling mullahs openly and celebratorily acknowledged responsibility for the terrorist attacks

listed in the report, declaring that they not only pursued and attacked the Iranian Resistance, on foreign soil, but that they expected to be rewarded for what they called "combating terrorism."

Let me make it very clear we are hard pressed to find any moderates with whom we can reach out to in the Iranian government, and contrary to the hopes of many in the West, Mr. Khatami's election a year ago has not resulted in any positive changes in Iran's domestic or foreign policies. It has, however, gravely aggravated the infighting among rivals. In fact, we all read recently about the arrest of Tehran's mayor, a close affiliate of Khatami, just this past month. It is no secret that the conflicts among the rival camps are intensifying with each passing day.

You may have also noticed news reports just this past weekend that the Government of Argentina arrested 8 Iranian residents and ordered the expulsion of 7 of the Iranian embassy's staff of 8 and required them to leave by yesterday. The 1992 bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, as well as the 1994 bombing of the AMIA, the city's main Jewish community center, has been investigated by the Argentines, aided by the F.B.I., and has found the trail leads to Tehran. 114 people lost their lives in these horrific terrorist attacks.

Many of you however do not know that one of the key sources for the evidence that linked Tehran's government to the community center bombing was the National Council of Resistance, which learned from its sources in Iran that the bombing had reportedly been ordered by Iran's Supreme National Security Council. The NCR reported its findings to a congressional subcommittee, which then forwarded the information to the State Department. Last month, I personally brought this information to Argentina.

Ironically enough, the Iranian Resistance is the very same movement that the Department has added to its list of terrorists, virtually turning the intent of the law upon it on its head. This same list contains unquestionably terrorist groups such as Hizbollah and Hamas. This ill-advised "goodwill gesture," as it was thus quoted by a senior administration official in the L.A. Times last October, has profound implications. By mislabeling the main resistance force against the ayatollahs, we are not helping the Iranian people in their legitimate cause. Goodwill gestures will achieve little, and will only serve to embolden the Iranian mullahs to continue their non-stop campaign of terror and repression—both inside and outside of Iran. Under the current circumstances, Tangoing with Tehran's tyrants will lead nowhere. I think it's interesting to note however that the idea behind the State Department's publishing a list of terrorists was to isolate the exact brand of terrorism that the Tehran regime actually supports and provokes! Even more importantly, and contrary to some expectations, the regime's opposition to the Middle East peace process has not slackened one bit. In fact, just a few weeks ago, the founder of Hamas, Sheikh Yassin, was in Iran on an official visit. President Khatami met with him, and expressed his support for the terrorist group. Prior to that, senior Hizbollah officials also traveled to Iran, for meetings with the top leaders. Officials, including Khatami, have emphasized that they will continue their active opposition to the peace process, and will not rest until the complete destruction of the State of Israel. Nor will the mullahs ever be satisfied with our gestures. The old adage of "give em and inch, they'll take a mile" certainly applies here.

I think what we have seen in the past year since Khatami's election has been the abso-

lute inability of the mullocracy to reform. Khatami has been part of this system, and understands full well that any move towards liberalization contradicts the regime in its entirety. Fortunately, there are signs that this is the end of an era.

Infighting has engulfed both the military structure, meaning the Revolutionary Guards, as well as the clerical hierarchy. These are all promising signs that the mullahs' repression and dictatorship may be nearing an end. Nonetheless, we need to continue a sound policy of isolating Iran. We certainly can not begin to ease up now, just as the sanctions are beginning to bite and Iran's rulers are desperate for economic relief. That would be a travesty and undermine all of the good we have striven to accomplish. We need to realize that this new president is no more moderate than his predecessors. We must retreat from this illusion before it is too late.

And for that very reason, we in Congress shall continue to advocate an Iran policy of firmness and resolve. The realities of Iran dictate that the United States must recognize the right of the Iranian people to resist, and its own moral obligation to keep a distance from this medieval and utterly oppressive regime. A proper policy must take stock of the continuing realities in Iran, with the realization that the Iranian Resistance presents some new prospects for a change in government. Instead of trying to shore up a sinking ship, we must quickly ally ourselves with the Iranian people and Resistance, whose democratic, pluralistic and secular platform makes for a far better lasting solution with the retrogressive and brutal ruling regime.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would now like to introduce our next speaker, Ambassador James Akins. Ambassador Akins served our Nation's Foreign Service with great distinction for over 20 years, until his retirement in 1976. He spent much of his career in the Middle East—in postings such as Damascus, Beirut, Kuwait, Baghdad and Saudia Arabia—and has written numerous articles about the subject. He is now an international and economic consultant and still maintains very close ties to the region he knows so very well. Ambassador Akins.

SPEECH BY SOONA SAMSAMI, MEMBER, FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RESISTANCE OF IRAN, MAY 21, 1998

Ladies and gentlemen, I am very pleased to have this opportunity today to address this gathering. The situation in Iran is changing rapidly, as the dark era of suppression, execution, stoning, fundamentalism and terrorism comes to an end. But these changes are not originating from within the regime or the administration of Mohammad Khatami, in whom some in the West have great hopes. The source of these changes is the Iranian people and their Resistance.

Two weeks ago, one of the southern neighborhoods of the capital city of Tehran erupted, as 10,000 people protested against the killing of 16 year-old street vendor at the hands of the Revolutionary Guards. The unrest continued for four hours. Chanting "death to Khamenei, death to Khatami," the crowds clashed with state security forces. A number of government buildings were damaged.

Protests and unrest are spreading throughout the country. Late last week thousands of people in western Iran, in Kermanshah, staged a similar demonstration. Fighting broke out among the public and Revolutionary Guards.

The turmoil in Tehran had not yet subsided when unrest, strikes and student protests broke out in Gilan Province in the

north, the cities of Yassouj and Dezful in the southwest, Tabass in eastern Iran, and Isfahan in the central part of the country. A major labor strike has been going on for the past several weeks in the provincial capital of Rasht. Dozens of workers have been arrested, but the strikes are continuing. The regime's leaders are very uneasy about the implications of this unrest for the future. Let me give you a couple of examples:

On May 14, Khamenei was speaking about the recent demonstrations in Isfahan Province, when he directly pointed to the Mojahedin as the source of the unrest.

In remarks he delivered in Sistan-Baluchistan Province in the south, Khatami explained, "We are threatened by the Mojahedin and Zionists."

The Parliament Speaker, Nateq Nourri, reiterated Khamenei's warnings on May 17, telling the assembly: "In Isfahan, what's left of the Mojahedin are active. . . We must all stay alert, and stay away from matters that have to do with groups and factions, which would allow a third party to come in and grab the Revolution itself and run off with it."

The Parliament Speaker continued: "These conspiracies are not just taking place in Isfahan; these are unpatriotic actions, threatening national security. The security apparatus needs to get in there and deal with this in a serious manner. We should stop worrying about what the foreigners are going to say to us. . . America, the Monafequin [Mojahedin] . . . they have essentially invested in the universities, where they can use the pro-western intellectuals, and take advantage of the open atmosphere to hatch some plots."

In a meeting on May 16 with the Bassij forces, Rafsanjani urged them to "neutralize the plots of the agents of the Arrogance and the Monafequin [Mojahedin]."

Khamenei said on April 16: "The enemies sending out propaganda from abroad. . . are pursuing a policy of divisiveness. . . We must beware, we must beware."

Tehran's Friday prayer leader said on April 10: "These disorders are like a tank full of gasoline. . . All the enemy has to do is to strike a match."

Mokaram Shirazi, another of the regime's mullahs, said on April 12: "In the not too distant future, we shall witness a major crisis. . . or a painful scandal."

The executive director of the regime's Supreme National Security Council said on April 13: "There will be no winner in this crisis, but there will be a big loser—the Islamic system."

On May 23, 1997, when Khatami was elected president, there were many in the West claiming that from now on, the regime would follow the path of moderation. But from the very first, the Iranian Resistance was convinced that the new developments would weaken and further divide the regime internally. Moderation and reform would never happen. A year later, this has become an indisputable fact.

Crisis after crisis, without any prospect of a solution, pretty much sums up the past year. The arrest and then release of Tehran's mayor created an unprecedented emergency, which was only brought under temporary control through the intervention of Khamenei. The underlying crisis has not been resolved, however.

Agence France Presse wrote in its analysis that "there is still a long way to go before the war ends between the two sides. . . The conflict between the two warring factions subsided only after shaking the foundations of the regime as a whole." The news report adds that everyone was afraid that "the whole regime would be harmed."

A diplomat in Tehran had this to say: "Throughout this nation's history, it has

been shown that spontaneous street demonstrations in Iran can overthrow a government or regime."

The commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guards threatened recently to crack down on a wave of internal dissent and criticism, saying it jeopardized the country's security. "The universities are in the hands of the opposition, and young people are chanting 'death to despots.' We have to behead some and cut off the tongues of others," he said.

Within the clerical hierarchy, there is increasing opposition to the ruling clique, which has failed to eliminate Montazeri, the former successor to Khomeini, from the picture. In terms of religious credentials, Montazeri outranks all of the ruling regime's officials. He was shelved in 1988 by Khomeini after he protested the massacres of Mojahedin. In his correspondence with Khomeini at the time, he had written: "You cannot annihilate the Mojahedin with executions. They are an idea. Killing them will only spread their ideas."

Despair and apathy have taken their toll on the Revolutionary Guards, the regime's principal military force. Three of the corps top 6 commanders, and at least 150 other officers have resigned. If we consider the Revolutionary Guards' unique role in safeguarding and prolonging the regime, the gravity of this crisis becomes clear. Tehran's rulers are in dire need of a foreign crisis they can use to shore up their eroding forces.

At the same time, the regime is facing a profusion of economic problems. Projections for oil revenues in the mullahs' budget exceed 16 billion dollars, but the actual figure is hardly 10 billion dollars. Inflation is increasing with each passing day, and with it the pressure on the public. 80% of the populace is living below the poverty line. Meanwhile, corruption and embezzlement scandals involving billions of toumans are rampant throughout the regime.

Policy Options: Here in Washington, there have been a number of discussions over the past year about various approaches to Iran. Some people in this city are saying that Khatami is different than other mullahs, and America should officially recognize these differences. Of course, this is a coy way of promoting the sort of appeasement policy that ended in the Irangate scandal a decade ago. Appeasement was at the heart of the administration's Iran policy over the past year.

But if you will permit me, let's be realistic. Contrary to America's expectations, Tehran did not make any changes in its policies of terrorism and fundamentalism. In fact, after the State Department published its annual report on terrorism, naming Tehran the world's most active state sponsor, the mullahs took responsibility for the entire list of their terrorist acts, especially their attacks on the Mojahedin.

The distinguishing characteristic of this theocratic regime, which sets it apart from all other dictatorships of the twentieth century, is its export of terrorism and fundamentalism. If the mullahs take a step back in this direction, they will lose their ability to enforce the domestic suppression as well. Before they can transform themselves into a modern, twentieth-century dictatorship, they will be swept aside by the Iranian people.

The inability of certain circles in America to comprehend this stubborn reality is behind the notion that you can turn the anti-human rulers of Iran into moderates. The events taking place in Iran today signal the weakness and disarray of the regime and the prospects of its overthrow, not some sort of trend toward liberalism. Goodwill gestures by the U.S. government, such as the inclusion of the Mojahedin on its list of terrorist organizations, will only serve to goad the re-

gime on, and to give the Iranian people the negative impression that once again, the U.S. government is on the wrong side.

This is the same mistake made almost twenty years ago, during the last year of the Shah's reign. President Carter referred to the Shah's Iran as an "island of stability," and the British Foreign Secretary at the time stressed Britain's full support for the monarchy up until the final months. At that same time, western intelligence agencies said that Iran was not in the revolutionary stage, or even the pre-revolutionary stage. I don't think I need to remind you of what happened next. Today, the circumstances are similar. Events are happening very quickly in Iran, and it seems that the U.S. is not keeping up with them. As the leader of the Iranian Resistance has stated, the Iranian people will not recognize any contracts signed to find and drill Iranian oil.

The conflicts and clashes between various bands in the regime are a reality that will not go away. The most fundamental and essential conflict in Iran, however, is between the people—who desire freedom and democracy—and the religious, terrorist dictatorship ruling over them, whose survival depends on denying the people's demands. Despite an absolute repression, these demands have been embodied in a nationwide resistance movement. It is no accident that the regime's most viscous forms of repression are practiced on the resistance at home. Even abroad, beyond its terrorist attacks, the regime's primary demand from its international trading partners is that they adopt an anti-resistance, and specifically anti-Mojahedin policy.

If I may draw some conclusions: The religious despotism ruling Iran is an absolutely illegitimate regime, which has no place among the people of Iran. This regime and all of the factions affiliated with it, are partners in the murder and plunder of the people of Iran. The infighting within the regime is simply a power struggle.

The Iranian people demand the overthrow of the entire regime, and all of its factions. As the leader of the Iranian Resistance has stated, "The stage of this regime's overthrow and the need to prepare for it has arrived."

The National Council of Resistance of Iran, a coalition of 570 personalities and organizations representing the democratic forces of Iran, is the sole legitimate, popular, and the democratic alternative to the mullahs' regime. The NCR has committed itself to free and fair elections within six months after the overthrow of the mullahs. The vast majority of Iranians, in Iran and around the world, support the NCR's President-elect, Maryam Rajavi, and look to this alternative for hope in their struggle to rid themselves of the repression of the mullahs and establish a free, prosperous Iran.

PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE IN IRAN

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, on May 21 I joined a Congressional panel on U.S. policy options and prospects for change in Iran. The panel discussed President Khatami's election and Iran's efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in recognizing the threat that Iran would pose to the U.S. and the region if it is successful in acquiring nuclear weapons.

I have introduced legislation (H.R. 3743) to thwart Iran's development of nuclear weapons. The Iran Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1998 will require the withholding of U.S. proportional voluntary assistance to the International Atomic Energy Agency for programs and projects of the Agency in Iran. The bill seeks to limit assistance from the Agency for the completion of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant in Iran. It is believed that the completion of the Bushehr plant will result in the transfer of civilian nuclear technology and training that could help to advance Iran's nuclear weapons program.

Firmness is the only means of deterring Khatami and the clerical regime from their quest for an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. We must make it clear, especially now when the mullahs may well be on their last legs, that we support the kind of progress towards democracy and genuine reform promised by the democratic opposition.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting my remarks to the panel on this matter to be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

I want to thank the National Council of Resistance of Iran for organizing this event and for their ongoing efforts to focus attention on the rogue regime that continues to reside in Tehran under President Khatami.

Each of us here today, looks forward to the day when Iran rejoins the community of democratic nations. However, today is not that day. President Khatami, while slightly more moderate than his predecessor will not or cannot overcome the political forces in Iran which avidly pursue the development of weapons of mass destruction and continue support for terrorism.

We have heard many disturbing facts and figures, about Iranian human rights violations, about chaos and conflict within the country, and about Iran's support of international terrorist organizations, such as Hizballah, Hamas and the Palestine Islamic Jihad, all of which are responsible for terrorist attacks on Israel. Each of these facts reflects the ruling regime's status as a rogue state, which considers itself above international law, with little respect for human life, let alone human rights. The prospect of that regime armed with nuclear weapons is not a pleasant one.

Just this week, Russia and Iran announced that over the strong objections of the U.S. and Israel, that they would be stepping up their cooperation in the field of nuclear technology. In fact, Iran's Atomic Energy Minister made it clear that the two countries are considering further cooperation beyond their current project to build a nuclear power plant in Iran.

To give you a little background, Iran has been seeking nuclear power since the early 1970's, when the Shah attempted to build two reactors in Bushehr. The project, begun by a German company in 1974, was suspended following the 1979 Revolution. The clerical regime's efforts to obtain nuclear capability began in earnest in the midst of the Iran-Iraq War, in 1985, and in February of this year, Tehran announced its intention to construct two Russian reactors in Bushehr.

The question remains, why has Iran devoted such colossal resources, money and effort to build the Bushehr power plant. Iran claims to need the Bushehr nuclear reactors to supply energy to the country. Yet, Iran's immense oil and natural gas reserves call into question its motives for constructing expensive nuclear reactors. Iran has 9.3 percent of the world's oil reserves and natural gas reserves, second only to Russia. Clearly, Iran does not need additional energy sources,

nor is nuclear energy an economic choice for Iran. So what is the motive?

It should not be a revelation to anyone that Iran is seeking to acquire nuclear weapons.

In 1991, Ayatollah Mohajerani, one of Rafsanjani's deputies, clarified the need to obtain nuclear weapons. "Since the enemy has nuclear facilities," he said, "Islamic countries must be armed with the same capacity."

In 1989, Rafsanjani underscored the need to obtain an atomic arsenal, stressing that "Iran cannot overlook the reality of nuclear strength in the modern world." Nuclear arms, in the Tehran mullahs' view, are "the most important strategic guarantee" of their survival.

For this reason, I introduced the Iran Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act. The bill will eliminate the use of U.S. taxpayer dollars to the International Atomic Energy Agency to provide assistance to Iran for the completion of the Bushehr plant. The U.S. believes that the completion of the Bushehr plant could provide Iran with substantial expertise to advance its nuclear weapons program. It is ludicrous for the U.S. to support a plant—even indirectly—which could pose a threat to the United States and to stability in the Middle East.

Beyond, Iran's nuclear weapons development program, there is substantial evidence of its efforts to develop other weapons of mass destruction.

Last year, Satellite reconnaissance of the Shahid Hemat Industrial Group research facility, not far south of Tehran, had picked up the heat signature of an engine test for a new generation of Iranian ballistic missiles, "each capable of carrying a 2,200-lb. warhead more than 800 miles," within strategic range of Israel.

In January, a senior Clinton administration official told the Associated Press that "Iran's purchase of Russian missile technology is giving Iran an opportunity to 'leap ahead' in developing new weapons" and according to a CIA report, Iran remains the largest illicit buyer of conventional weapons among 'pariah' states, buying an estimated \$20 million to \$30 million worth of U.S. military parts in 1997.

After the cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq War in 1988, Tehran stepped up its efforts to produce an indigenous chemical and biological arsenal. Thanks to equipment and technology legally or illegally imported from abroad, the Tehran regime is presently able to produce a series of biological and chemical weapons. Defense Secretary Cohen has expressed concern that Iran may have produced up to 200 tons of VX nerve agent and 6,000 gallons of anthrax.

Tehran's unrelenting quest for nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles clearly attests that the clerical regime has no intention of moderating its behavior. Appeasement by the West will only provide the mullahs with more room to maneuver. We need a comprehensive policy, that both protects us from the current threat and safeguards our future interests in that part of the world.

Firmness is the only means of deterring Khatami and the clerical regime from their quest for an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. We must make it clear, especially now when the mullahs may well be on their last legs, that we support the kind of progress towards democracy and genuine reform promised by the democratic opposition.

IRAN: HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS
PERSIST

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, over the past year, I have listened with interest to promises of moderation and reform from Iran, but after a year of Mohammad Khatami's tenure as president, I cannot but help to conclude that the current regime continues to be one of the major violators of human rights and proponents of terrorist activities around the world. The only policy that can be successful vis-a-vis Iran is a policy of firmness. Firmness, however, will only prove effective when it is coupled with support for the establishment of democracy in Iran.

On May 21st, I had the honor of hosting a gathering at which a number of my esteemed colleagues as well as experts on Iran and the region addressed various aspects of the question. In urging the administration to pursue a policy in favor of the Iranian people and their resistance, the speakers emphasized that the U.S. should not make the same mistake made during the Shah's time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the remarks I prepared for this briefing for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I would like to thank every one of you for participating in this event today. I believe it is very important that we keep our focus on the issue of human rights. Not long ago, I watched a video tape smuggled out of Iran by the Mojahedin Opposition Movement. It showed for the first time actual scenes of people being stoned to death in Iran. Four individuals were brought out, buried up to their waists, and stoned to death in the most cruel, gruesome and painful scene I have ever witnessed in my life. And this still goes on in Iran, officially. Since the election of Iran's new president, the government has announced the stoning of 7 people, four of them women.

Tens of thousands of Iranians have been executed for their political beliefs since 1981. My question is, what is our administration doing about these ongoing rights violations? What have we done to relieve the suffering of the Iranian people?

I believe our policy must be very firm about condemning human rights violations in Iran, and about supporting advocates of democracy, such as Maryam Rajavi. Change will come to Iran, but not from the current regime. We will not get anywhere by cuddling repressive dictators.

THE SITUATION IN IRAN

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Iranian government under President Mohammad Khatami remains a brutal and oppressive regime. Despite words of moderation and conciliation, the Iranian government continues to actively and aggressively sponsor international terrorism. It continues to brutally oppress the Iranian people. In today's Iran there is still no freedom of the press. Under the Khatami government, there is still no freedom of religion or

freedom of speech. Human rights abuses continue unabated.

On May 21st, a number of my colleagues in Congress held a press briefing in the Rayburn Building to discuss the prospects for change in Iran, and how U.S. policy should be shaped to encourage democracy and freedom in Iran. While I was unable to attend the briefing, I did release a written statement. In addition to Members of Congress, other distinguished experts participated in the briefing, including former U.S. Ambassador James Akins, who served in our nation's Foreign Service with great distinction from 1956 to 1976. Ambassador Akins spent much of his career in the Middle East in such places as Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. He is the author of numerous articles about the Middle East. He is now an international and economic consultant. I would like to insert into the RECORD the written remarks I prepared for the briefing, as well as the remarks made by Ambassador Akins.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR., BRIEFING ON "U.S. POLICY OPTIONS & PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE IN IRAN", MAY 21, 1998

As we approach the one-year anniversary of Mohammad Khatami's election as President of Iran, it is appropriate to assess how much Iran has changed over the past year, and how U.S. policy should be shaped to encourage democracy and freedom in Iran. While President Khatami has spoken quite differently than his predecessor, Iran's actions both domestically and internationally, have not materially changed.

Iran still supports international terrorism. Iran continues to deny its people basic freedoms and human rights. Iran continues to treat its women like cattle.

There is chaos and conflict throughout the government. One thing is clear—President Khatami may have—may have—good intentions, but his good intentions have not yet resulted in a change in Iran's behavior internationally or internally.

Yet, our State Department continues to grope, hope and search for moderates in the Iranian regime. Our State Department continues to pursue a flawed policy of appeasement. When will the State Department learn that the moderates in the regime they are so desperately searching for, don't exist!

It's time for the State Department to recognize and support those Iranians inside and outside Iran who are struggling on behalf of a democratic and free Iran—including the Iranian Resistance.

The State Department's refusal to recognize the Resistance, and their labeling the Resistance as a terrorist organization is a travesty! Such a policy of appeasement and weakness plays right into the hands of the terrorist strongmen ruling Iran.

Let me repeat: there are no moderates in the Iranian government. Goodwill gestures from the U.S. will be perceived by the Iranian regime as a sign of weakness. Such gestures will achieve little, and will only embolden the Iranian mullahs to continue their non-stop campaign of terror and repression.

Contrary to the hopes of the Clinton Administration, Khatami's election last May has not resulted in any changes in Iran's domestic or foreign policies. Iran still poses a grave threat to U.S. security and world peace. Iran's ongoing support for terrorist groups such as Hamas and Hizbollah continues to threaten the Oslo Accords and other initiatives to establish a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Khatami's election has not halted or diminished Iran's efforts to expand its arsenal

of weapons of mass destruction, including the development of ballistic missiles that could threaten Israel, Western Europe and U.S. troops stationed overseas. Iran also continues its covert efforts to develop nuclear weapons.

Instead of trying to appease the Iran regime, the Clinton Administration should adopt tough policies that make it clear that the U.S. will not, in any shape or form, condone the outlaw behavior of the mullahs. Such a policy should include a real trade embargo, an all-out diplomatic offensive to get our allies to abandon their appeasement policies and join the U.S. in a total embargo of the Iranian regime, and open and full support for those Iranians dedicated to the principles of democracy, religious freedom and equality—including the National Council of Resistance.

The NCR has made remarkable and dramatic strides forward in recent years. It has brought together Iranians from all walks of life in a unified effort to bring democracy, freedom and human rights to Iran. Like many groups struggling against a repressive and cold-blooded regime, the NCR has evolved over the years. It has undergone a number of dramatic changes.

Let there be no illusions about how seriously the Iranian regime takes the threat to their rule posed by the NCR. All over the world, members of the Resistance have been assassinated by the regime. If, as the regime claims, the NCR does not have any support inside Iran, why does the regime continue to go to such great lengths to assassinate Resistance leaders? Why does the regime go to such great lengths to discredit and undermine the Resistance? It is because the Iranian Resistance has real and deep support—both inside Iran and among those Iranians living in exile.

Instead of employing a gross and outrageous double standard, the U.S. government should officially recognize and support the Iranian Resistance and other groups struggling for freedom in Iran. History shows that the worst way to deal with a dictatorship is through appeasement. Just ask Neville Chamberlain.

THE "NEW" IRAN—

For a quarter of a century from the early 1950's when the CIA restored him to his throne until the late 1970's our policy was one of unconditional support for Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Along with Turkey and Israel, Iran became one of the "pillars of our defense" in the Middle East. Our diplomats, our secret service and indeed our presidents were so beguiled by the Shah that they were blind to unmistakable signs that his people has turned against him. President Carter's New Year's eve 1978 toast to his country as "an island of stability" in a sea of chaos has made the history books. Much worse, the first cable from the Embassy suggesting that his regime just might be in serious trouble was sent to Washington in October, 1978. About the same time the CIA reported that Iran was "not in a revolutionary or even a pre-revolutionary stage."

The Shah fled the country three months later and after a brutal internal struggle, secular opponents of the monarchy were killed or driven out of the country and a theocracy was established. It opposed the West, it opposed all liberal thought and it characterized the United States which had been so closely associated with the Shah as the font of all evil, as the embodiment of the Great Satan himself.

One year ago Iran had its first relatively free presidential election. Only four candidates out of 238 aspirants were approved by the Council of Guardians, which itself had

been chosen by Ayatollah Ali Kamenei, the supreme religious leader. But there was a real choice. The government's favorite, Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri, was a dour conservative of the Khomeini model; there were two non-entities and the fourth was Mohammad Khatami, an obscure cleric who had served as Minister of Islamic Guidance in the 1980's.

To the world's surprise and the consternation of the ruling mullahs, Khatami won 70 percent of the votes—not so much for any reputation for moderation but simply because he was most certainly not the government's favorite. He was installed as President and he survives. Some American policymakers and American businessmen have read much into his implied promises of reform and change. They even argue, in face of strong evidence to the contrary, that internal reforms have already been adopted or that they are about to be so. While some of these Americans are, no doubt, sincere, others who argue for a softening of American sanctions on Iran may have allowed their judgment to be colored by the prospects of lucrative contracts for new oil and gas pipelines from the former Soviet Union through Iran to Turkey or to the Persian Gulf.

The State Department is clearly divided and confused. In an admitted effort to curry favor with the mullahs at no apparent cost to the United States, one branch of the State Department branded as a "terrorist organization" the Mujahedin Khalq, the largest and best organized of the Iranian opposition movements and the prime target of official Iranian terrorism at home and abroad. History repeated itself; during the Iran-Contra affaire the mullahs insisted on the same condemnation of the Mujahedin and the State Department complied. The mullahs welcomed the announcement as a triumph of their regime as they did 15 years earlier but, again exactly as in the mid-1980's made no changes in internal or external policies. Not much later another branch of the State Department ranked Iran as the "most active state sponsor of terrorism."

But hasn't there been some evidence of change? Well, in the last several years a few restrictions on social life have gradually been relaxed; the Revolutionary Guard is less fervently revolutionary and can now usually be bribed not to break into private homes where "immoral activities" might be suspected. Visitors to Tehran—but no place else—notice that the all-encompassing chedors prescribed for women are not quite as concealing as they had been; some have even reported seeing wisps of feminine hair slipping out from the head covering. The state-run press is free to criticize certain actions of government officials, mostly those of rival factions. As American team of wrestlers was allowed into the country where it was received with wild popular enthusiasm. And Khatami spoke of "opening up informal contacts" with the United States.

But nothing more. The basic reforms and changes in theocratic rule which most Iranians want have not been made. Any one suspected of questioning the religious basis of the ruling theocracy is arrested, tortured and murdered. In the year of Khatami's presidency tens of thousands of "enemies of the people" usually accused of "drug use", "adultery" or general "corruption" have been arrested and often tortured. According to official figures, 199 have been executed; Iranians believe the true figure is much higher. Moderate religious leaders, including the highly respected Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, who have questioned the actions of the ruling mullahs, are imprisoned or kept under house arrest.

Opposition to the Arab-Israeli peace talks is as strong as ever but the tone has changed to triumphalism now that "the peace talks

have clearly failed". Iran continues to give financial and military support to the Hizbullah and Hamas and to welcome their leaders to Tehran.

The death threat against Salman Rushdie has not been lifted; indeed, the reward for his murder has been increased. Critics of the regime continue to be assassinated abroad. In the year of the Khatami presidency 24 have been killed, a sharp increase compared to the previous year.

Iran, whose natural gas reserves are the second largest in the world, could enjoy exceedingly cheap electricity. Yet electricity remains in short supply and the regime continues the fiction that the nuclear reactions under construction are exclusively for production of domestic electricity. It imports missile technology from China, North Korea and Pakistan, and has recently tested missiles with a range of 1400 kilometers.

The "opening to America" which Khatami seemed to favor was dismissed contemptuously by Ayatollah Kamenei. Khatami then quickly explained that he had been misinterpreted. The United States remains the "great Satan" and the anniversary of the capture of the "Nest of Spies", the American Embassy, is still celebrated.

The failure to proceed with a rapprochement with the United States can not be ascribed to Khatami who, for all we know, may well be a closet moderate, a modernizer who would really like to make life easier for his countrymen. He simply does not have the ability—even assuming the will—to make significant changes. His title of "President" implies authority when he has little; he is outranked and frequently overruled by Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the head of the Council of Expediency and by the Supreme Guide himself, the Ayatollah Khamenei.

The Iranian people revolted against the Shah not to turn the clock back to the Middle Ages but because they were sickened by the corruption of his court and his government, by the lack of freedom of expression and by the excesses of SAVAK, the Shah's secret police. Ayatollah Khomeini promised them a "government of God on earth" but he and his successor have given them a government whose corruption exceeds that of the Shah and whose human rights abuses are an order of magnitude worse. In the 20 years of the rule of mullahs, 120,000 Iranians have been sentenced to death after quasi-legal proceedings—some 40 times the number executed during the entire reign of the late Shah.

The election a year ago was important. Although it was not so much the victory of Khatami as it was the humiliating defeat of Neteq Nouri, the Ayatollah's favorite, the Iranian people convincingly demonstrated its desire for real change, real liberalization and an end to corruption and oppression. Some, perhaps many Iranians hoped that Khatami would be the instrument to achieve these goals but he has done nothing. And now, after a year, all illusions about the new President have evaporated; the mass of Iranians who want radical reform must look elsewhere. And they do. In almost daily demonstrations in Tehran and in all provincial capitals the mullahs' favorite old chant "Death to the Israel and America" has given way to youthful shouts of "Death to Despotism".

The leader of the Iranian Resistance, Massoud Rajavi, may well be right when he said recently "The government of the mullahs is entering its final stage; the time to prepare for its overthrow has arrived."

My enduring nightmare is that one of our major foreign policy blunders in the Middle East is about to be repeated. The United States supported the Shah long after it was clear to every objective observer that almost all Iranians had turned against him. It would

be ironic, it would be tragic if we were to open relations with the Iranian theocracy just as the Iranian people have concluded it must go.

A SPECIAL SALUTE TO THE
"ARTISTIC DISCOVERY" WINNERS

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the young students from the Eleventh Congressional District of Ohio who participated in the annual "An Artistic Discovery" competition. Later this month students from all around the nation will have their artwork displayed in the Rotunda Tunnel in the Capitol Building. I take special pride in sponsoring the "An Artistic Discovery" competition for the students in my Congressional district. This art contest provides an innovative way to recognize the talents of many of our nation's youngest creative minds. This contest also provides a forum in which we can encourage our young people to develop their talents in a positive way.

I am proud to report that in the Eleventh Congressional District, "An Artistic Discovery" is as successful as it has been in the past years. This year there were more than 300 entries from 10 different schools within the district. The judge, who had the arduous task of choosing the best entry out of an outstanding array of talented work, decided upon Becky Miklos, a 16-year-old tenth grader from Bedford High School. The sophomore's artistic endeavor entitled "Pensive" is a very poignant pastel drawing that truly deserves the honor of Best-in-Show. I look forward to welcoming Becky to Washington, D.C. for the grand opening of the "Artistic Discovery" national exhibition. Last year's winner was also from Bedford High School, senior Monica Grevious, so I am very pleased to recognize Bedford High School for its encouragement of the artistic talents of these young people.

As we conclude this year's "Artistic Discovery" competition in the Eleventh Congressional District, I want to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude toward not only this year's participants but also their art teachers. Many of these young people have grown from this experience and it was essential to have the encouragement of friends, family, and educators behind them 100 percent. The role of art teachers in the tutoring and development of many of these young students is also very important. If it were not for the art teachers in the Eleventh District, I am sure this competition would not be as successful as it has been these past years.

Mr. Speaker, I feel the achievement of "Artistic Discovery" is one that should be continued. After my retirement at the end of this year, I hope that my successor will continue this program that rewards the artistic endeavors of young people. As a firm supporter of the arts, I realize we should start investing time and encouragement into artists at a young age. The success of this competition only proves that many young people, given the proper encouragement, can be winners.

Every single one of the students who participated throughout the Eleventh District is a winner in their own right and I want to offer them my personal congratulations. Given an opportunity to showcase their talents, these young people have responded to the call for art with a very positive and talented display of ability. They should all be saluted.

Beaumont School: Amanda Amigo, Cara Bastulli, Missy Blakeley, Cristin Brown, Michelle Burkacki, Monique Christian, Clare Christie, Asia Clark, Kim Cunningham, Catherine Davenport, Kara Dunne, Katie Fejes, Carol Ferkovic, Maggie Garvey, Laura Golombek, Roberta Hannibal, Melissa Harasty, Dana Hardy, Meredith Harger, Christine Havach, Lindsey Hubler, Jennifer Jansa, Sara Jenne, Raina Kratky, Jessica Kress, Quinn Kucia, Daniella La China, Megan Lewicki, Carmen Licate, Halle Malcomb, Kate Marotta, Lisa Mawby, Sarena McKee, Christine Miller, Meghann Mooney, Liz Nielsen, Christina Pamies, Susie Quilligan, Jennifer Reali, Leda Remmert, Jamie Reynolds, Nicole Rimedio, Julie Shina, Sarah Stanitz, Daniela Tartakoff, Jenni Traverse, Sarah Venables, Julia Wadsworth, Margaret Wadsworth, Meg Winchester, Maggie Wojton, and Lisa Yafonaro. Art teachers: Ellen Carreras and Sr. M. Lucia, O.S.U.

Bedford High School: Ian Adams, Joe Allie, Zayle Anderson, Daniel Apanasewicz, Kelly Apanasewicz, Bryan Braund, James Bruce, Jessica Bruening, Karen Certo, Danielle Coleman, Jessica Coleman, Robert Cooper, Robin Davis, Eric Delphia, Megan Duffy, Judah Early, Becky Frank, Sean Goins, Jessica Janaco, Michelle Janacek, Sandeep Kaur, Papawee Koontaweelaphon, Erin Long, Sarah Long, Alyssa Lyons, Carlos Mann, Angela Mecone, Becky Miklos, Anthony Mooreland, Michelle Moran, Alyssa Ottaviano, Melissa Petro, Michael Pietrzak, Erin Posanti, Kara Pusniak, Kristen Roberts, Ariel Robinson, Nikolas Rongers, Stephen Stubbs, Talia Thomas, Brandon Vecchio, Amy Virotsko, Josh Wells, and Kevin Williams. Art teachers: Bob Bush, Dagmar Clements, Lou Panutos, and Jennifer Pozz.

Cleveland Heights High School: Jo Anna Adorjan, Rebecca Chizeck, Larry Chy, Lauren Kalman, Bram Lambrecht, Kelsey Martin-Keating, Elise McDonough, Brian Ross, and Theresa Vitale. Art teacher: Susan Hood-Cogan.

East High School: George Moss, Chris Quackenbush, and Derrick Walker. Art Teacher: Jaunace Watkins.

Cleveland School of the Arts: Monique Boyd, Brandon Huon, Richard E. Jackson, Joshua Jones, Michael Lemieux, Kevin Melicant, Nicole Murray, Isaiah Perkins, Nakia Pollard, Bayete Shropshire, and Rodney Taylor. Art teachers: Danny Carver and Andrew Hamlett.

Garfield Heights High School: Kate Bednarski, Jennifer Bucell, Amanda Bujak, Joelle Burchfield, Frank Buttitta, Amber Chapek, Karen Cherney, Dan Dregely, Anthony Evers, Alisha Fogle, Kevin Gliniski, Keith A. Goose, Jr., Lauren Harper, Jeremy Jakupca, Christy Jeffries, Suzanne Jones, Ben Klein, Jennifer Langman, Becky Merbler, Justin Meyers, Katherine Parker, Terry Phillips, Alena Quinones, Ralph Rasiak, Ryder Reynolds, Stephen Romain, Alyssa Sedlecky,

Lorinda Svihik, Amanda Thomas, Lana Witkowski, and Adam Zimmerman. Art teacher: Christine French.

John Hay High School: Lillian Bryant, Armid burton, Rosolyn Carter, Pamela Davis, Michelle Denson, Quan Duong, Otis Hope, Shamica Jackson, Luddie Long, David Malone, Jason Moorman, Kenneth Roberts, Lavar Thompson, Kenneth Wallace, Jr., and Andre Whittingham. Art teachers: Richard Chappini, Harriet Goldner, and Kathleen Yates.

Maple Heights High School: Rahan Boxley, Emily Bryant, Andre Burton, Soo Choi, Shaunte Conwell, Danielle Czaplenski, Bonnie Glover, Maria Kopec, Calvin Little, Shayna Papes, Brent Peters, Henry Sharpley, Anthony Simmons, Sarah Titus, Sara Trinidad, and Richard Trojanski. Art teacher: Karen Mehling-DeMauro.

Lutheran East High School: George M. Bruhn, Lori Ann Kusterbeck, Jennifer Moore, and LaToya Nicole Vaughn. Art teacher: Rhonda Wadsworth.

Shaker Heights High School: Kamilah Butler, Sayaka Fujioka, Sarah Rebecca Glauser, Scott Green, Rochana M. Jones, Jennifer Kaufman, Carrie LeWine, Christine Powers, Melanie L. Pulley, Matthew B. Schorgl, R. Matthew Shenk, John Stephens, Kimberlee Venable, and Lindsey Wolkin. Art teachers: Malcolm Brown, James Hoffman, and Susan Weiner.

IN HONOR OF LARRY DICK

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Dick and to offer my congratulations on the opening of the Veteran's Affairs Modesto Outreach Clinic in California's great Central Valley.

The Modesto Outreach Clinic has been a tremendous success. Much of this success is directly because of Larry's efforts. Not only has he been working with the VA Screening Program for 11 years—which translates to 379 Fridays—during which time he has screened more than 8,500 veterans, Larry has tirelessly "beat the bushes" for veterans.

He and the American Legion Post have served as sponsor, administrative coordinator, publicist and very strong advocate for the VA Modesto Outreach Clinic.

A past Commander for American Legion Post No. 74, last year Larry was named "Man of the Year For Community Services" in Stanislaus County, California.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a privilege to honor Larry and commend him for his efforts on behalf of veterans. His willingness to be such an exemplary model of volunteerism reflects great credit on himself. He is truly an example of one man standing up to make a difference in the lives of those around him.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives rise and join me in honoring Larry Dick.

RECOGNIZING THE BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE AND THE HIGH BRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Borough of High Bridge on their 100th anniversary. A Borough rich in history and deep in tradition, High Bridge is deserving of many well wishes as they celebrate this special event.

While the Borough will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year, the community surrounding the original forge has existed for nearly 300 years. High Bridge was named for a 1,300 foot long bridge originally constructed in the early 1800's. While the bridge was deemed too costly to maintain and was subsequently filled in with an embankment, the citizens have continued to prosper throughout its history. Originally only a farming community, High Bridge has developed into a community of many facets.

Also on this day, we celebrate the centennial of the High Bridge Fire Department and its Fire Chief, Jeffrey Smith. The department has served the High Bridge Community for 100 years, providing it with dedicated service and excellent protection. Every morning, these individuals wake up and put their lives on the line in order to protect the community. I applaud each and every one of them for their efforts.

High Bridge's excellent school system was founded in 1925 and has continued to function as one of the finest in the state. Dating back to the revolutionary times, the beautiful landscape and homes of High Bridge have survived difficult times much like its citizens. It is for this determination and success that I commend the borough and offer my warmest congratulations on this momentous occasion. Congratulations to Mayor Alfred Schweikert III and the Borough Council on this special day.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN TANNER AND JACK PORTER

HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to two outstanding Hoosiers, Mr. Glenn Tanner and Mr. Jack Porter, whose exemplary foresight and perseverance have proven invaluable to Indiana.

During the early 1980s, Glenn Tanner and Jack Porter realized the value of a divided, four-lane highway running east-west through North Central Indiana. They created a committee for the Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce to study the economic impact of improved transportation in the area. As a result of this effort, communities along the proposed corridor joined together to promote the importance of an improved highway system. Today, the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor Inc. is comprised of concerned citizens, businesses, and governmental officials promoting a four-lane highway from Fort Wayne to Lafay-

ette along the routes of US 24 and Indiana State Road 25.

Many towns, including several industrial communities, will greatly benefit from an easily accessible connection to our nation's interstate system. In fact, it has been determined that for every \$1 spent on the construction of the corridor \$3.50 will be created in the communities along the corridor.

It is reassuring to know how two individuals can have the foresight to see a need greater than themselves, act upon it, and lead it to a reality. Their efforts on behalf of the corridor are an example of what America is at heart. As President Lincoln said during his Gettysburg Address, "government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

The Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor has been designated as a part of the National Highway System and a High Priority Corridor by Congress. The naming of the two bridges in Lewisburg along the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor is most appropriate for these two gentlemen.

Mr. Tanner and Mr. Porter have brought honor and distinction to their efforts for their continued interest and dedication to ensure that the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor becomes a reality. They truly are an inspiration to the American dream.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow should be the day. This is the day that supporters of campaign finance reform have been promised for over a year. Tomorrow the House of Representatives will begin debate and a vote on campaign finance reform. I applaud the leadership for finally allowing a discussion of this important issue.

As we begin debate tomorrow we will have eleven substitute amendments made in order. Each of those amendments offers a wide variety of ideas on how we shape our campaign finance system. I am encouraged by the diversity of proposals we will consider. The process will allow the public to see who supports campaign finance reform and who does not.

Ultimately this debate comes down to the question; Do you believe that there is too much money in the political process? Those members of Congress who support big money will oppose campaign finance reform, and support those bills that claim to be reform but are not. My constituents have told me repeatedly that they are tired of the amount of money being spent on campaigns and they want Congress to do something to fix the system. Tomorrow I will take a stand in support of campaign finance reform, I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me.

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN INTEGRITY ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2183) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reform the financing of campaigns for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes:

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Chairman, literally, money talks and when it speaks it practically drowns out all other political discourse. Money has distorted, corrupted and perverted our political system.

It's time to get back to the basics of democracy. We are past the time for half way and half hearted patches on the system. Belief that disclosure alone will remedy the problem is like believing in the tooth fairy. Solving the problem by just regulating "soft money" is about as likely to happen as expecting pigs to fly.

I believe that the basic principles of campaign reform are these:

1. Seriously take some of the money out of the equation.
2. Provide some public financing for all federal campaigns.
3. Set a limit on federal candidates use of personal funds.
4. Provide voters with enough unfiltered information to make informed choices. Open up T.V., radio and other media for discussion of the issues by the candidates.
5. Shorten the election cycle.
6. Create a truly independent regulatory agency to monitor and make public the spending of campaign monies.
7. Require paid lobbyists to publicly report who and when they lobby.
8. Create universal voter registration. Encourage experimentation with mail and electronic ballots and multiple day elections.
9. Require full disclosure of all independent expenditures.

The fact that many Americans indicate that they have lost confidence in the functioning of our democratic elections and that many do not vote should be both a warning and a summons for us to act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that we take heed.

IN HONOR OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS WILLIAM E. BARBER, WALTER D. EHLERS, KENNETH A. WALSH, CLARENCE B. CRAFT, JOHN P. BACA, NELSON M. HOLDERMAN, CHRIS CARR, DONALD A. GARY—ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to the following men who are being commemorated with memorial plaques on May 30 at the Civic Center "Walk of Honor" in

Santa Ana, California. These Medal of Honor recipients are again being honored for their bravery while serving in the military for our country. These exceptionally brave heroes live or have lived in Orange County for some time in their lives.

William E. Barber, 78 of Irvine, California, was a captain of 220 men in Korea in 1950. During a fierce battle with the Chinese, he ignored orders to withdraw and fought with his men for five days in sub-zero temperatures. This extraordinary feat of bravery and fortitude saved thousands of American lives.

Walter D. Ehlers, 76, of Buena Park, California, fought during the D-Day invasion in 1944. He singlehandedly eliminated an entire machine-gun crew. During this battle, he was shot by a sniper and yet he was not deterred. He carried a wounded rifleman to safety and returned to the fight.

Kenneth A. Walsh, 81, of Santa Ana was a Marine pilot fighting against the Japanese formations over the Solomon Islands in 1943. He fearlessly dived into the Japanese squadrons and shot down two Japanese dive bombers and a fighter even though his own plane had been hit several times.

Clarence B. Craft, 76, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, was born and raised in Santa Ana California. As an Army private he led a grenade charge from the top of Hen Hill on Okinawa. Under the blaze of heavy artillery fire, he charged the enemy troops, driving them into a cave. He threw a satchel of grenades into the cave which caused an explosion killing the enemy troops.

John P. Baca, 49, San Diego and Huntington Beach, California, fought in Viet Nam in the 1970's. When a hand grenade was thrown into the midst of his platoon, the Army specialist fourth class covered the grenade with his steel helmet and fell on the helmet, thus saving the lives of eight men.

Three of the men honored today are deceased.

Nelson M. Holderman, was a World War I Army captain who lived in Santa Ana. Though wounded three times in 1918 in the Argonne Forest in France, he carried two wounded men to safety through enemy fire.

Chris Carr, was a World War II Army sergeant who lived in Huntington Beach, California. His troop was pinned down near Guignola, Italy, in 1944. Carr climbed around a flank of German soldiers and captured five positions, killing eight and capturing 22.

Donald A. Gary lived many years in Garden Grove, California. He was a World War II Navy lieutenant. When the USS Franklin was attacked by aircraft near Kobe, Japan, the munitions and stockpiles exploded. Gary assisted several hundred men to safety who were trapped in the smoke-filled compartment.

Each of these men has served the country and their fellow Americans by disregarding their own safety and their own lives. Extraordinary men, extraordinary feats. Their acts of heroism saved many American lives. I ask you to join me today in recognizing these remarkable men who played a most vital part in the preservation of America's freedom.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER PORTER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Walter James Porter a founding member of the Rotary Club of Southeast San Diego, a retired educator, community activist and "all-around good guy!"

Dr. Porter and his wife Betty, also a retired educator of distinction, have served the community of San Diego with dedication and compassion for many years. While Dr. Porter's career was in the field of education, he is also widely known for his many civic and social contributions.

Dr. Porter was an early founder of the San Diego County Human Relations Commission, and the San Diego Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. His early political involvement began as a staff member to then California State Assemblymember Peter R. Chacon and later as an associate of such important California political figures as former Congressmen Mervyn Dymally, Gus Hawkins, and State Senator Bill Green.

Dr. Porter has always been in the forefront of grassroots political organizations in the community. Most recently, he joined the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Democratic Club, of which he is a charter member.

With his very busy schedule, he still finds the time to contribute to such worthy community organizations as "100 Black Men" and the very prestigious Alpha Pi Boulé of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, which consists of a sterling body of professionals that represent some of the best and brightest minds in my Congressional District.

However, Dr. Walter Porter's most glowing accomplishments in the educational field continue to be the brightest star in his galaxy of achievements. His pioneering efforts during the era of the Model Cities Program, most significantly marked by the opening of the Educational Cultural Complex, today stand as a testament to his ingenuity.

On Friday, June 5, 1998 during an evening of light-hearted fun, friends, associates and community leaders in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Southeast San Diego, will sponsor a roast in his honor. Dr. Walter Porter is more than a versatile jazz aficionado, and more than the visionary of Adult and College Education. Dr. Walter Porter is this community's icon of professionalism and leadership!

RECOGNITION OF FINDLAY HIGH SCHOOL'S OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE "WE THE PEOPLE" NATIONAL FINALS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the outstanding performance of my hometown high school in Findlay, Ohio, in the "We The People * * * the Citizen and the Constitution" national finals held in Washington, D.C. this May. I would like to congratulate

Findlay High School students Amber Ayres, Richard Bornhorst, Rebekah Browning, Andy Cole, Jill Crusa, Annie Davis, Brian Fiske, Julie Francis, Levi Gephart, Phillip Hodgman, John Kennedy, Scott Kidwell, Mark Laux, Kurt Lindamood, Nick Lotz, James Ring, Kate Scoles, Hannah Shadle, Michael Taylor, Evalyn Vanderlaak, Taryn Wilgus, and their teacher, Alvin R. Bell, for their in depth knowledge of congressional issues and legislative procedures. The national finals competition simulates a congressional hearing whereby students testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges. These outstanding young people competed against 49 other classes from across the nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American government. They are prime examples of all that is right in our local education system. They are to be commended for a job well done.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. REICH

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the career of a lifelong public servant, Mr. William E. Reich. Mr. Reich is a native of New York State, born and raised in the Village of Tannersville, Greene County, New York. Bill is the devoted and loving husband to his wife, the former Elizabeth Ann Parslow. Despite significant hardship and adversity in his life, Bill has always maintained a commitment to himself and his family to persevere. Bill and Betty Reich are the loving parents of two children, Glenn and Wendy, as well as grandparents of 6, 3 boys and 3 girls. Bill is also active in his community and is a Member, Mt. Tabor Lodge, F&AM #807; Member, Catskill Council #78 Royal and Select Masons; and Member of the Royal Arch Mountain Chapter 250 Masons.

Mr. Speaker, Bill has served on the County Highway Department for thirty-nine years. In his professional capacity, Bill was appointed Greene County Superintendent of Highways in 1979. Since this appointment, Bill has volunteered his time in many Statewide Associations including the New York State Association of Counties and the New York State Association for Solid Waste Management.

Prior to Bill's appointment as Greene County Superintendent of Highways, Mr. Reich served in the Greene County Highway Department as general foreman from 1970-1979; working foreman from 1966-1970; engineering aid from 1964-1966; motor equipment operator from 1963-1964; and road maintainer/laborer from 1959-1963.

In addition to Bill's efforts to provide a safe and efficient infrastructure for the safety of the motoring public in Greene County, Bill served with distinction as the Mayor of the Village of Tannersville, New York. A lifelong member of the Republican Party, Bill proudly serves as a Member of the New York State and Greene County Republican Committees.

Mr. Speaker, the membership of the New York State County Highway Association, affected industry, as well as New York's motoring public, are grateful to Bill for his dedication

in securing adequate State and Federal transportation funding for county governments across New York State. Bill has exemplified the term public servant and has devoted himself to community service in both his professional and personal lives. Mr. Speaker, I have always said you can judge a person by how much he returns to his community. By that measure, Bill Reich is a great American.

STATE CHAMPIONS FROM THE
SIXTH DISTRICT OF NORTH
CAROLINA

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as we conclude the school year, I would like to take a moment to recognize some outstanding young people in the Sixth District of North Carolina who can rightfully wear the title of "champions." We are proud to say that seven schools in our district have produced state champions in baseball, soccer, wrestling, tennis, and cheerleading. We are proud of these individual and team achievements and wish to recognize our North Carolina scholar-athletes.

We begin with a soccer team that is not only the best in our state, but is rated number one in the nation. The Greensboro Day School girls soccer team completed an undefeated season with its fourth consecutive independent school state championship on May 16. The team ended its season with a perfect 21-0 record. In fact, the Bengals have won 42 straight games and their perfect season vaulted them to the top spot in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America-Umbro Top 20 soccer poll.

Congratulations are in order to Head Coach Kim Burroughs, her assistants Paul Lieb and Dana Tilley, and every member of the Greensboro Day School squad. Contributing to the number one ranking were Christian Anton, Lindsey Marshall, Sara Pickens, Katie Carson, Mary Katherine Davis, Gabi Lieb, Brooke Marshall, Kelli Robinson, Annie Shulman, Landy Douglas, Lauren Groat, Kathleen Martin, Christie McGroarty, Emily Norman, Suzanne Cole, Jenee Kwaitkowski, Jenny Gilrain, Kirsten Paul, and Kendra Kasik.

Everyone contributed to the perfect season and the national recognition. After winning another state title, Athletic Director Freddy Johnson told the Greensboro News & Record that he had t-shirts printed with their number two national ranking. When the Greensboro Day School girls soccer team made it all the way to number one in the nation, the athletic director told the newspaper "I've got to get them new shirts." That way everyone will know that the Bengals are number one in North Carolina and the U.S.A.

In fact, our district is the home of two state soccer champions this year. On May 30, the High Point Central High School girls soccer squad captured the North Carolina 1-A/2-A championship with a 4-0 win over Eastern Alamance High School. The Bison were led by MVP Lee Culp who had two goals and an assist. The opposing team's coach, Kevin Farrell, told the High Point Enterprise, "She's (Culp) a great player. She's able to run and run in this heat, and I think that was a big difference."

Culp told the newspaper that the win was a team effort. "I was surprised, but I don't think I deserve it (the MVP award) because we have 18 great players on this team." Everyone would agree with that statement. Joining Culp on the championship squad were Sarah Luther, Caithlin Williams, Price Keever, Mandi Tinsley, Leslie Olsen, Katie Copeland, Jenny Thomas, Jenni Tinsley, Lindsay Walker, Erica Bell, Lindsay Holbrook, Mary Orr, Jessica Harrison, Tina Tinsley, Graham Magill, Andrea Brown, and Lindsey Husted.

Congratulations also are in order for Head Coach David Upchurch, his assistant Pete Chumbley, and managers Scott Salter, Robert White and Kim Liptrap. MVP Culp told the newspaper, "Right after the game, we just turned around and said, 'We're going to be back here next year.'" That may or may not happen, but one thing is for sure, we need to congratulate the High Point Central girls soccer team for winning this year's 1-A/2-A championship.

Now that we are in the middle of the baseball season, we are pleased to announce that two high schools in the Sixth District have captured state championships. Eastern Randolph High School won North Carolina's 2-A baseball title while Northwest Guilford High School captured the 4-A crown.

Eastern Randolph defeated Whiteville 8-2 on May 31 to win the 2-A championship. Wildcat Head Coach Tommy Maness told the Greensboro News & Record that the state title was the goal which was set on the first day of practice. "It seems like it's been an eternity since February 9," Coach Maness said. "These guys, back then, they set a goal and said 'hey, we want to win a state championship.'" It was a goal that may have been set last year when Eastern Randolph made it to the state semifinals.

This year, the Wildcats made it all the way to the top thanks to the contributions of Coach Maness, his assistants Neill Kivett, Harold Kivett, Danny Martin, and Cecil Mack, statisticians Brandie Craven and Mary Beth Butt., and every member of the talented Wildcat squad. Congratulations go to Darren Beasley, Anthony Birchette, E.J. Brower, Matt Brown, Mickey Burgess, Andrew Conner, Morgan Frazier, Rod Goldston, Michael Johnston, Jonathan Kirkman, James Lowe, Zack Moffitt, David oats, Greg Rich, Thomas Seawell, Nathan Sheppard, Darrin Stewart, and Brian Wright.

The other Sixth District high school to win a state baseball title was Northwest Guilford. Not only did the Vikings capture the state 4-A baseball championship on May 31, but the win culminated the 32-year career of an outstanding baseball man, Northwest Guilford Head Coach Sandy Gann. Coach Gann's final victory gave him a career record of 422-248 and the first state championship of his remarkable baseball tenure.

Northwest Guilford defeated Raleigh Athens Drive 7-5 in the championship game to capture the 4-A crown. The win was remarkable for several reasons. First, Raleigh Athens Drive was ranked 23rd in the nation going into the tournament. Second, the Vikings' starting pitcher had thrown only two innings all year while the Jaguars' starter was ranked by Baseball America as one of the nation's top 10 juniors. Finally, not many thought Northwest Guilford would even make it to the postseason when the team began the season

with a 6-9 mark. The Vikings regrouped, however, to finish 18-9 and win the state title.

Again, congratulations to Head Coach Sandy Gann, his assistants Donnie Redmon, Sonny Gann and John Hughes, scorekeeper Alan Brown, and every member of the Northwest Guilford squad. Contributing to the state title run were Andrew Angel, Brad Comer, Matt Crayton, Jeff Fisher, Eric Freeman, John Gann, Justin Hall, Jamie Hemingway, Eric League, Josh McCall, Phillip Nicolette, Justin Smith, Jason Walker, Jeremy Walker, and Henry Williams.

Our district is also home to a tennis champion this year. Western Alamance High School defeated Statesville 7-2 in May to win the North Carolina boys 2-A tennis title. The championship win culminated a 20-1 record for the season with the only loss coming to 4-A champion Raleigh Broughton High School. Head Coach Barry Sumner has compiled an impressive 68-4 record in only three seasons at Western. Coach Sumner told the Alamance News that the win reflected a season of hard work and dedication. "The team played real well," Coach Sumner told the newspaper, "and the guys composure was good. We're very happy for both the school and community."

Congratulations to Coach Sumner, his assistant John Dutton, manager Bonnie Richardson, and every member of the tennis squad, including Brandon Smith, Kevin Kriner, Robert Siletzky, Blair Smith, Richard Dutton, Justin Kilpatrick, Bradley Blanks, T.J. Stecker, Matthew Walton, Jonathan Walker, and Brian Smith.

Every sports team needs cheerleaders and the Sixth District of North Carolina is home to one of the state's best. The Southwestern Randolph High School cheerleaders won the North Carolina 2-A cheerleading title in February. This was the seventh time the Cougar cheerleaders have won the state championship but it was the first for new Head Coach Jamie Hogan. Hogan followed in the footsteps of longtime Southwestern Randolph cheerleader Head Coach LuEllen Morgan who was Hogan's assistant this year.

Congratulations to Coaches Hogan and Morgan, and every member of the squad, including Darian Walker, Alicia Miller, Sara Knapp, Katie Copple, Melissa Foster, Jamie Parrish, Kelly Bryant, Ashley Davis, Marie Nance, Danielle Tedder, Jessica Mullis, Casey Swart, and Jenny McGaha.

Finally, the Sixth District was the home this year to an individual athlete who won a state championship. Andrew Slack, a junior at Ragsdale High School won the state 3-A wrestling title in February. Competing among 16 wrestlers in the 130-pound class, Slack captured the 3-A title in Charlotte.

Andrew told the Jamestown News, "I prepare myself to win by working hard every day and trying to improve myself every day." Slack accomplished that goal by winning the state 3-A wrestling championship.

In fact, that is what epitomizes these talented students from all seven schools. All of them worked hard to prepare themselves to win. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we offer our congratulations to outstanding student athletes at Greensboro Day, High Point Central, Eastern Randolph, Northwest Guilford, Western Alamance, Southwestern Randolph and Ragsdale.

TRIBUTE TO DEACON ELMO
COOPER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to congratulate Deacon Elmo Cooper for 60 years of service to Canaan Baptist Church of Christ which is located in my Congressional District.

Born in Lake City, Florida, Deacon Cooper joined Canaan Baptist Church in 1936 and since that time, has served the church and the community in numerous ways.

Upon first joining the church, he was appointed as the Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School, a position he held for 16 consecutive years. He was ordained a Deacon in 1938 and appointed Chairman of the Official Board in 1957. Though he retired this year from his position on the Board after forty consecutive years of service, he continues to serve as a Deacon at Canaan, with the honor, dignity, and grace he is known to possess.

Other affiliations at Canaan include Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Canaan Housing Development Corporation, member of the Canaan Baptist Development Corporation, and Second Vice President of Canaan's Federal Credit Union.

Deacon Cooper is an active member of the Louis H. Pink Senior Service Center in Brooklyn where he instructs a Spiritual Enlightenment class. He is a frequently sought after Keynote Speaker for various worship services and religious functions, and is a member of the New York State Deacons' Convention.

Deacon Cooper is married to the former Rose Newton and in October of this year, they will celebrate 65 years of marriage. His lovely wife also gives of her time and spiritual talents as she is a Deaconess at Canaan Baptist Church. The Coopers have five children: Joyce Goodridge, Alvin Cooper, Carl Cooper, Carol Cooper, and Myra Kiffin.

Deacon Elmo Cooper is one of our community's most beloved and respected leaders. His years of service and dedication have earned him the esteemed honor of Chair Emeritus.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle join me in honoring Deacon Elmo Cooper for his many years of unselfish devotion to Canaan Baptist Church of Christ, and to the community.

STATEMENT CONCERNING EN-
FORCEMENT OF THE U.S.-JAPAN
INSURANCE AGREEMENT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of this body and the American people a matter of serious concern regarding current violations of the U.S.-Japan Insurance Agreement. Against a backdrop of a rapidly expanding trade deficit, continuing Asian financial crisis, and growing skepticism regarding international trade agreements and institutions such as the IMF, it is crucial for the Administration to ensure that major U.S. trad-

ing partners live up to their obligations under existing trade agreements with the United States. Nevertheless, clear violations of the U.S.-Japan Insurance Agreement are now taking place virtually unchallenged.

The U.S.-Japan Insurance Agreement is designed to promote liberalization of the Japanese insurance market by preserving the third sector, where U.S. companies have traditionally had success, until the primary first and second sectors have been liberalized by the Japanese Government. This basic bargain, struck by the governments of Japan and the United States in 1994 and strengthened in 1996, has been put at serious risk by the activities of Yasuda Fire and Marine Co., Ltd. who has used its relationship with its affiliate and de facto subsidiary INA Himawari Life Insurance CO., Ltd. to prematurely ramp up its presence in the third sector.

The seriousness of this breach cannot be overstated. If Yasuda is allowed to continue expanding its presence in the third sector prior to the substantial deregulation of the life and non-life sectors, the Agreement will be left without its primary incentive for compliance by Japanese firms (i.e., the promise of access to the third sector).

Yasuda's current activities also pose a serious challenge to U.S. trade policy. The Japanese insurance industry knows that obtaining this agreement required intense efforts by senior U.S. Government officials, including the President of the United States. If the United States is unable to take vigorous actions against Japan's clear violation of the U.S.-Japan Insurance Agreement, it will send a lasting and damaging message to Japan and Japanese industry, as well as to those countries that would negotiate with us in the future.

Despite its failure to comply with the Agreement's critical third sector provisions, Japan appears ready to start the two and one-half year countdown to opening the third sector to large Japanese companies on July 1 of this year. Absent measures to correct the violations, this action would breach both the letter and the spirit of the U.S.-Japan Insurance Agreement. This situation requires swift action by the Administration. The U.S. insurance industry's continued viability in the Japanese market depends on the full and effective enforcement of this agreement.

TRIBUTE TO GARY L. BARR

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gary L. Barr, for his leadership and efforts to improve the quality of life in our community. Gary is a determined, hard working individual who has dedicated his time to the law and judicial communities, and other organizations in the San Fernando Valley.

After graduating from Southwestern University School of Law in May 1997, Gary worked as a Deputy City Attorney in the Office of the City Attorney in Los Angeles. After two years of work, including an intensive training program, trials, motions and daily court appearances, he moved on to act as the Supervisor, Central Trials Section, Criminal Branch, and then onto the General Counsel Section, Civil

Branch at the Office of the City Attorney. In 1982, Gary decided to move into the private law sector, joining Alpert, Barr & Gross, where he is still a practicing member of the firm.

With his vast law and judicial experience, Gary was appointed as a Family Law Mediator and judicial referee at the Los Angeles Superior Court. Currently, he spends time as a temporary judge in the Los Angeles Municipal Court's Small Claims Division and at the Los Angeles Superior Court.

In addition to his career as a respected law practitioner, he has been elected president of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association in 1991 and 1992, and currently acts as the Vice Chair of Executive Committee of the Fee Attribution Panel of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. He was also a trustee and director of the San Fernando Valley Community Legal Foundation and the San Fernando Valley Bar Association Settlement Services, Inc., respectively.

Along with Gary's dedication to his judicial responsibilities, he has found the time to play a community leadership role in the San Fernando Valley. Since 1992, Gary has been a member of the California Manufactured Housing Institute, and acted as a Vice-Chair from 1995-1997. Gary has also held important positions at the Neighborhood Planning Advisory Council for Woodland Hills/West Hills, TreePeople of Los Angeles, United Chambers of Commerce of San Fernando Valley and the Woodland Hills Chamber of Commerce. He has been a member of Temple Eliyah since 1983 and was recently acknowledged for his work as a judge with the Los Angeles Times Community Partnership Award.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Gary L. Barr. He has shown an unwavering commitment to the community and deserves our recognition and praise.

HONORING FATHER MARTIN
CARTER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Martin Carter who has dedicated his life to the ministry.

Father Martin Carter is a native of High Point, North Carolina and a priest of the Society of the Atonement. He holds a doctorate of ministry from McCormick Seminary, Chicago, Illinois. His seminary studies were completed at Pope John XXIII National Seminary, Weston, Massachusetts, where he earned a master of divinity with a bachelor of arts degree from Chicago State University, with a concentration in psychology and counseling.

Father Martin has ministered in several countries in Africa, Europe, and the Caribbean. He presently serves as Director of the Office of Black Ministry in the Brooklyn Diocese. His work has been published in the New Catholic Encyclopedia, The Jurist, Journal of the Society of the Atonement Ecumenical Trends and various magazines and newspapers. He has also coauthored a book that describes the African custom of Kujenga, a growth and leadership rite. The book, entitled Kujenga: Black Catholic Youth Leadership

Conference, now serves as an educational tool for many black children and their parents.

Father Martin uses his education to reach out to communities everywhere. Through his faithful service, he has worked with the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches. At this meeting, he represented African American Catholics and submitted a report entitled "The Unity of the Church and the Renewal of Human Community."

Father Martin's extraordinary contributions to the community have merited him numerous awards and honors. North Carolina State University bestowed him with a community service award and Shaw University awarded him with a Salute to Greatness Award for his ministry as director of the Office for Black Ministry, Evangelization, and Episcopal Vicar for African American Catholics.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Father Martin Carter for his valuable contributions to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, on May 22, I was unavoidably detained during rollcall vote number 192. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO THE DANIEL BOONE HERITAGE TRAIL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to clarify, for the record, a technical correction within H.R. 3978. I am the primary sponsor of the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail project that was included in the recently passed transportation reauthorization measure H.R. 2400, and is listed as project number 746 in the Conference Report on H.R. 2400, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century Act.

The Daniel Boone Heritage Trail is of tremendous historical importance to our Nation. Early in our Nation's history, the trail served as the major artery of passage for settlers crossing the Appalachian Mountains on their way westward. Over the last two hundred years, the covered wagon has been replaced by more modern forms of transportation and portions of the original trail eventually fell into disuse and were reclaimed by nature. However, a determined group of local citizens in Southwest Virginia, Eastern Kentucky, and Eastern Tennessee have joined together recently to locate and restore the trail. I have been supportive of these efforts and included within the transportation reauthorization measure funding to help purchase a parcel of land containing a segment of the trail.

In the original BESTEA measure, and in the subsequent conference report passed by the House on May 22, 1998, the project description for the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail describes the land to be acquired as being within

the Jefferson National Forest. However, the acquiring group may desire to purchase privately owned land instead.

It was my intent that the technical corrections measure, H.R. 3978, strike the reference to the Jefferson National Forest within the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail project description, creating the flexibility for the purchase of either publicly owned or privately owned land. Unfortunately, although non-controversial, language to strike the reference to the Jefferson National Forest from the project description was not included in H.R. 3978. I rise today to state for the record the project's original intent.

LIBERTY ENTAILS HARD WORK

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, most westerners, of course, know the difference between freedom and liberty. Excessive freedom is license. There is no such thing as too much liberty.

Our founders understood these terms and used them frequently, but not interchangeably. Freedom is a statement of sovereignty about individuals or political jurisdictions, and it relates to independence. Liberty, however, is of a social quality, saying more about how we live among others.

Recently, on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, I delivered a speech on the topic of school choice. I quoted British poet John Milton who wrote of liberty in his 1671 poem, *Samson Agonistes*:

But what more oft in nations grown corrupt
And by their vices brought to servitude
Than to love bondage more than liberty,
Bondage with ease than strenuous liberty.

Real liberty never comes at anyone else's expense, is retained only through great effort and fortitude, and once given away is not easily retrieved. That is what revolutions are all about.

As a Member of Congress, I reflect daily on these great themes. The intricacies of government, absent discipline, can distract from the big philosophical precepts that separate Americans from the rest of the world.

I view my role in Congress as a peaceful revolutionary fighting incrementally to return the power that our Constitution, under the Tenth Amendment, observes belongs to the states or to the people. I tend toward classical liberalism, which is an attitude placing a premium on the liberty of individuals and communities to control their own lives.

Since this philosophy harks back to the Federalist Papers, in America I am considered a modern conservative. The Republican Party best represents me, and I'm drawn to the words of the first Republican president Abraham Lincoln:

"You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot help the wage-earner by pulling down the wage-payer. You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves."

The right to liberty, life, and property are considered "natural rights," given by God, not granted by government. These rights we en-

joyed prior to government which was only created to secure and protect them. The Constitution accordingly, is a code of limited government.

I once heard Lady Margaret Thatcher speak in Colorado about property rights as a "moral quality," providing the individual substantial leverage against the tyranny of excessive government. She expressed her belief that American liberty has passed the test of time precisely because of our traditions of private property ownership. It's what makes America great.

The protection of private property in the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment, has become a battleground in the War on the West. Protecting private property rights is not an issue for just farmers and ranchers.

Most of us were taught as children simple lessons like, "don't take things that are not yours." However, Washington, D.C. is replete with bureaucrats who believe many public objectives should be achieved even at the exclusive expense of private individuals. For example, the expense associated with saving an endangered species falls squarely on the shoulders of the poor individual who owns the land upon which the species is found, or might one day take up residence. Rather than purchase desirable parcels at fair market prices, the government effectively "takes" them through prescriptive rule.

President Thomas Jefferson concluded that there are only two prevailing forces at work in any political system each advocating its way to organize societal affairs. One acts coercively, through government mandates. The other responds voluntarily, through the private interaction of individuals, clubs, churches, associations, businesses. The latter is the basis for a civil and just society.

It is obvious that we need a certain amount of government to protect life, liberty, and property from various threats, foreign and domestic. At the same time, it is equally obvious that the chief goal of Congress should be to minimize, thereby honoring our liberties, the role of government in our lives.

To this end, I have long admired the work of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association in its efforts to preserve our western heritage of self-sufficiency, rugged individualism, and abundant liberty.

Throughout my nine years in the Colorado State Senate, and during my first term in Congress, our partnership has allowed us to achieve meaningful progress. And through my service on the House Agriculture Committee, and the House Resources Committee, I'm proud to say we have done much to preserve our western way of life.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIMMY WAYNE EASTERLING

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jimmy Wayne Easterling, who has been named the Alabama Small Business Person of the Year for 1998 by the U.S. Small Business Administration. He is among 53 top small business persons—one from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands and Guam—who are being honored by

the U.S. Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C., from May 31 to June 6.

Born in Chilton County in 1941, Jimmy Easterling started Wayne Industries, Inc. in his garage with \$500. Since then, he has turned his company into one of the largest employers in the county.

Wayne Industries manufactures portable, modular and corporate signs for such companies as Whirlpool, DuPont, General Motors, Suzuki and Chester's Chicken. The company also manufactures custom signs for mom-pop businesses across the nation. Wayne Industries' customer base has spread from the Southeast to include the entire United States, Canada, England, Germany and Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, Jimmy Easterling's success story is a classic example of the American dream. Here is an individual, who had an idea and turned it into a reality.

While Jimmy has been a major contributor to the economic prosperity of Chilton County, his service to his friends and community did not stop there. After graduating from Chilton County High School, Jimmy enlisted in the Alabama National Guard. Though he began his military career as a private, Jimmy retired thirty-five years later as a full colonel. During his tenure in the military, he was part of the elite Special Forces Green Berets, and received numerous awards and decorations for outstanding service and duty.

Throughout it all, Mr. Speaker, Jimmy has remained a devoted husband and father. His commitment to his family, Wayne Industries and his surrounding community is an example to all of us. I would ask that my fellow colleagues join me today in recognizing this man, and congratulating him on this award, which he so justly deserves.

SALUTE TO COL. JERRY E.
KNOTTS, USAF (RET.)

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, each year the Conejo Valley, California, Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars presents its Red, White and Blue Ball to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism. At the Ball, each year an individual is honored who has demonstrated exceptional patriotism and who has made significant contributions to the community. This year, on June 6, 1998, an outstanding individual, Colonel Jerry E. Knotts, USAF (Retired) will be presented with a special Patrick Henry Medallion as the "Patriotic Citizen of the Year."

I am pleased to call Colonel Knotts a friend. Jerry retired from the Air Force with 24 years of service. His last assignment was as commander of the Washington Area Contracting Center at Andrews Air Force Base. He was responsible for Air Force procurement throughout the Nation's Capital, and a region from the Azores to Saint Louis. His responsibilities included the White House and the Presidential VIP aircraft fleet.

As part of the Defense Logistics Agency, Jerry previously oversaw production of aircraft gas turbine engines, diesel engines, and ar-

mored vehicle transmissions at Detroit Diesel Allison of Indianapolis, Indiana. His career also included fourteen years in the Big Safari special reconnaissance program at General Dynamics in Fort Worth, Texas; E-Systems in Greenville, Texas; and Lockheed Aircraft Services in Ontario, California. Jerry was responsible for creating and flight testing a number of specially configured aircraft, including the Combat Sent, Combat Talon, Cobra Ball, Rivet Joint and many others. During 1968, he completed 112 missions over North Vietnam in an F-105 Wild Weasel.

For his outstanding service to our nation, Jerry received the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with 13 oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Today, Jerry is manager of financial programs for the California Manufacturing Technology Center and serves as a Ventura County Airport Commissioner. He and his wife, Mary, and daughter, Stephanie, have been residents of Thousand Oaks since 1984. Since his retirement from the Air Force, Jerry has devoted thousands of hours to a multitude of charitable organizations. He currently is chairman and president of the Thousand Oaks Youth Leadership Conference, the Westlake Village Cultural Foundation, and the Stagecoach Inn Museum Foundation, which he created.

He also has been active in the leadership of the Community Leaders Club, the Conejo Symphony, the Conejo Valley Historical Society, the Conejo Valley Genealogical Society, the Conejo Futures Foundation and several fraternal organizations. For the past 15 years, Jerry has been responsible for the majority of the patriotic ceremonies held in the Conejo Valley. He is the past commander of Conejo Valley Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars and has served as master of ceremonies for the organization's Red, White and Blue Ball for 11 years.

For his remarkable public service, Jerry has received numerous awards. In 1996 he was honored by the Conejo Valley Historical Society. That same year, Jerry and his wife, Mary, both received the William E. Hamm Award from the California Lutheran University Community Leaders Club. Jerry also has been honored for his community service by having a seat designated in his name in the Thousand Oaks Civic Center Forum Theater. He previously received the Outstanding Service Award and the Silver Patrick Henry Medal from the Military Order of the World Wars.

Mr. Speaker, my friend Colonel Jerry Knotts exemplifies the best spirit of patriotism and service to our Nation and his community. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on being named the Patriotic Citizen of the Year and for being selected to receive the Patrick Henry Medallion.

TRIBUTE TO H. LEE HALTERMAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the excep-

tional work of an exceptional person, my former colleague and close friend Lee Halterman, on the occasion of the celebration of his retirement from Capitol Hill.

H. Lee Halterman worked for my predecessor, the Honorable Ronald V. Dellums, for 27 years. During that time, Lee served Ron and the constituents of the then 7th, then 8th, now 9th Congressional District of California in a wide variety of capacities. Lee began as a teenage volunteer, too young to vote, but not so young that he couldn't run a successful campaign in the Berkeley area of the District. While attending the University of California at Berkeley, Lee was the Berkeley District Office Director and after graduation was able to work full time during the day while attending Bolt Hall School of Law in the evenings.

In 1978, Lee took a leave of absence to accept the prestigious position of legal officer at the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva, Switzerland. Lee returned to the United States to work in the Dellums Berkeley office, and then the Oakland office as District Counsel and co-District Director.

In 1993, when Mr. Dellums became chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Lee commuted regularly between the Congressional District and Washington to serve both as the Counsel to the House Armed Services Committee and as General Counsel to Representative Dellums. At the same time, Lee directed the policy staff which developed the Committee's agenda and advised the Chairman on military and foreign diplomatic issues of the day.

The list of positions held by Lee tells only part of the story. His work is well known among local and national progressive political activists, academics, and policymakers. The 1983 book, *Defense Sense: The Search for a Rational Military Policy*, which was written by Ron Dellums with Lee Halterman and the late Max Miller, serves even today as a primer for those who seek a constructive alternative approach to the formation of the nation's foreign and military policies. Lee has demonstrated the ability to use his keen native intelligence, considerable political acumen, insight, wit and humor, to bring together the most disparate parties and work out solutions to the most intractable problems.

As a result, Lee is accepted and respected by progressives and conservatives, civilians and General-grade officers, public and private officials alike. His counsel and assistance on complex problems is not only welcomed but sought. During his tenure on Capitol Hill, he was generous with his talents, not only with the House Armed Services Committee and Representative Dellums' office, but with the House Leadership and other Committees as well.

Lee Halterman has been a trusted advisor, skillful manager, and extraordinary writer, a political observer, a legislative strategist, and many other things, but perhaps most of all Lee has been a true and gentle friend to so many of those he has worked with, and who have come to know him over all of these years. I know I speak for all of them when I wish him well in all of his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING BOB WALLACH
AND MICHELLE MINI ON THEIR
MARRIAGE

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Bob Wallach on his marriage to Michelle Mini on June 7, 1998. I am honored to call Bob my good friend, as he is a remarkable individual. Not only is Bob the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Robert Plan Corporation, one of the most successful insurance companies on Long Island, he is also a leader in our community—a true fighter for all people.

Bob's achievements throughout the history of the Robert Plan Corporation are incredible. The Corporation is a leading servicer and underwriter of private passenger and commercial auto insurance, specializing in urban markets. At a time when traditional insurers stayed away from the urban areas because they were deemed unprofitable, the Robert Plan Corp. went into these areas to provide people the opportunity to buy insurance. And in doing so, their aggressive street smart philosophy actually stabilized insurance rates for its customers. And today, the company is the acknowledged leader in fighting automobile insurance fraud.

The Robert Plan Corp. regularly receives accolades from the media, the insurance industry, law enforcement officials and its clients. In 1993 Bob was honored with the Entrepreneur of the Year award in a competition sponsored by Inc. Magazine and Ernst and Young, and in 1996 the company was named Employer of the Year by Adults and Children with Learning and Developmental Disabilities.

During his "free" time, Bob commits a great deal of his energies to numerous service organizations to improve the lives of our youth. As Chairman of the Children's Health Fund/Insurance and Banking Industry National Child Health Partnership, Bob's goal is to vastly improve access to comprehensive primary health care for medically underserved children. He is a major contributor and Chairman of the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit, as well as a member of the President's Council of the Gay Men's Health Crisis. Bob is a founding supporter of The Harlem Little League, serves on the Board of the Diabetes Institutes Foundation and actively supports the Boys Club of New York, the Newark YMWCA and numerous sports teams throughout the metropolitan area.

Bob Wallach embodies the highest ideals of citizenship. For over thirty years, Bob has been both an advocate and speaker for ALL Americans. His innovativeness in the urban insurance business, as well as his commitment to serving others, is greatly valued by all those who know him, work with him and love him. With great admiration for them both, I congratulate Bob and Michelle on their marriage and I wish them many years of happiness.

JOHN HANLEY HONORED FOR
DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and accomplishments of Mr. John Hanley who represents the very best in public service and to thank him for his

years of service to our joint constituency in the 13th Congressional District as he leaves to continue his career across the Bay.

A graduate from Fordham University in New York, Mr. Hanley began his career with the Social Security Administration as a Claims Representative in New York in 1971. Since then, he has held increasingly responsible positions, including Operations Supervisor, Staff Specialist in the Regional Office, Area Administrative Assistant, Assistant District Manager, and District Manager in two Bay Area districts—meanwhile finding time in the evenings to complete his MPA at California State University Hayward.

Mr. Hanley has been SSA District Manager for the Hayward, CA District for seven years where he displays an exceptional ability to balance operational and administrative responsibilities. He consistently demonstrates a personal involvement in all aspects of operations, and can be depended upon to be well informed on technical changes as well as on new policies and procedure that impact operations and service delivery. Due to his strong analytical skills, his suggestions for changes and improvements benefit not only his District but the entire Region.

Under Mr. Hanley's exceptionally effective leadership, his District is a model for timeliness, accuracy and courteous service. John's blend of consistently efficient service without sacrificing compassion has earned him the respect of peers and community alike and has made my job easier! My office has observed his office as a hallmark of public service and has enjoyed many years of close cooperation and responsiveness.

I join many in our community in thanking John for his strong leadership within the Administration and for having a caring heart for the claimants.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 1998, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 5

9:30 a.m.

Select on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters.

SH-219

Joint Economic

To hold hearings to examine the employment-unemployment situation for May.

1334 Longworth Building

JUNE 8

1:00 p.m.

Special on Aging

To hold hearings to examine the international trend of increased life expectancy.

SD-628

JUNE 9

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (Treaty Doc. 105-43).

SD-419

2:00 p.m.

Foreign Relations

East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine congressional views of the U.S.-China relationship.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Agency for International Development.

SD-192

JUNE 10

9:00 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine livestock issues, including demand, overseas de-

velopment, pricing, and industry structuring.

SR-332

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Bureau of Indian Affairs school construction.

SD-106

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Government of the District of Columbia and to examine their financial plan.

SD-192

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Financial Services and Technology Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine whether financial institutions are properly preparing for the Year 2000 conversion.

SD-538

Joint Economic

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Reserve's monetary policy and economic outlook.

SH-216

JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

Employment and Training Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine child labor issues.

SD-430

10:00 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Energy Research and Development, Production and Regulation Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the federal oil valuation regulations of the Minerals Management Service.

SD-366

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Recreational Fee Demonstration program.

SD-366

JUNE 12

9:30 a.m.

Special on SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM

To hold hearings to examine how the Year 2000 computer conversion will affect utilities and the national power grid.

SD-192

JUNE 16

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine mergers and corporate consolidation.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of State.

SD-192

JUNE 17

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To resume hearings on S. 1253, to provide to the Federal land management agen-

cies the authority and capability to manage effectively the federal lands in accordance with the principles of multiple use and sustained yield.

SD-366

JUNE 18

10:00 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

To hold joint hearings with the House Commerce Committee to examine organ donation allocation.

2123 Rayburn Building

2:00 p.m.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control

To hold hearings to examine United States efforts to combat drugs, focusing on international demand reduction programs.

SD-628

JUNE 24

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1771, to amend the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act to provide for a final settlement of the claims of the Colorado Ute Indian Tribes, and S. 1899, "Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky boy's Reservation Indian Reserved Water Rights Settlement Act of 1998".

SR-485

JUNE 25

9:30 a.m.

Labor and Human Resources

To hold hearings to examine health insurance coverage for older workers.

SD-430

JULY 21

10:00 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Justice's implementation of the Violence Against Women Act.

SD-226

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

JUNE 11

2:00 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To resume hearings on S. 1253, to provide to the Federal land management agencies the authority and capability to manage effectively the federal lands in accordance with the principles of multiple use and sustained yield.

SD-36