

broadcasting, and I look forward to future votes to further this goal, but in this instance, I had to cast my vote against this amendment so that we can maintain the Title XI program.

ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION
STAMP CEREMONY IN BARODA,
MICHIGAN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special ceremony being conducted in my district in the town of Baroda. Today, the residents of Baroda are celebrating the issuance of the Organ and Tissue Donation stamp. This stamp has long been of extreme interest to me, and I am pleased to see it finally released today.

Last November, I attended the Dedication ceremony in Washington, DC, and at that time I was given a large, poster-size copy of the stamp. Since that time, I have displayed it in my congressional office, providing all visitors with the powerful message of organ and tissue donation; it gives me great pleasure to know that this message will now be received by the entire country.

Around our State and Nation, recipients of organ and tissue donation can testify to the need for greater public awareness of this issue. Although many lives have already been saved, those life-saving numbers can certainly go up through greater public involvement, education and outreach. The stamp being released today can help greatly in this cause.

I'm pleased that the U.S. Postal Service chose Baroda as the site for one of the "issuance" ceremonies given the long-time involvement of Baroda resident Edward Heyn. For many years, Edward Heyn sought to commemorate organ donation with the issuance of a United States postal stamp. Through letters to my office and the Postal Service, he and thousands of other concerned citizens made a compelling case as to the importance of such a stamp. Although Ed passed away 4 years ago, his memory and willingness to help his fellow citizen will endure through endeavors like today's postage stamp.

As many of us know, the need for organs is greater than the supply. Across the Nation, over 60,000 people are waiting for organs, with over 2,000 of those in Michigan. Ed Heyn was fortunate to receive an organ, and he had the vision to realize that with the issuance of a postal stamp the number of donated organs could only increase. Every time someone uses a postal stamp with the "Share Your Life" image, they will think of the importance of organ and tissue donation, and perhaps in return they will be more likely to donate themselves.

Therefore, this postal stamp has a message that is two-fold: first to express the true life-giving power of organ and tissue donation, and second to raise awareness of medical issues, in hopes that the number of donations and lives saved per year will increase. It is wonderful to see Edward Heyn's vision manifested today, and it is only fitting to have this

ceremony in his hometown where many of his family, friends and neighbors could share in this wonderful experience. One person can make a difference and clearly, Ed made a difference for generations to come.

VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST TO
TODAY'S YOUTH

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 5, 1998

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to have printed in the RECORD statements by high school students from my home state of Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people today.

STATEMENT BY KARL CLONEY, JESSICA MARTIN AND JONAH MONFETTE REGARDING HEALTHY ALTERNATIVES

KARL CLONEY: Karl Cloney, from North County Union High School. Our topic is healthy alternatives.

The Newport area recently has suffered the loss of four teenagers killed in a drunk driving accident on the way back from partying in Canada. Recently, there was a town forum held to respond to this tragedy. The community came together to discuss the issues and some ways to create healthy alternatives.

JESSICA MARTIN: Our group came together to propose a project to start an area teen center. The center will be a safe place for teenagers to socialize in a healthy manner. We further propose that we buy a space as a long-term investment in area youth and the community as a whole. We are looking at a size that would be large enough for a cafe for snacks to be served, a dance floor, and a space for a pool and ping-pong tables, some arcade games and video games. We also want an outside area for volleyball, skate-boarding, and roller blading. We would solicit funds as well as acquire grants and utilize state and federal funds set aside for alcohol-free events and activities and teenagers. We would like AmericaCorps and Vista personnel to staff the center full time. This would make our personnel more cost-effective and would include local, state and federal resources.

We would create a board of directors made up of parents, teens, business people and community leaders to oversee the center. Students would work in the center. This would give the teens responsibility, job skills, and the ability to work with adults to create their own place. The center would be a healthy alternative to hanging out on the streets to see our friends.

Our yellow ribbons symbolize the death of our young people, and also symbolize our hope and commitment to find healthy alternatives within our own community.

JONAH MONFETTE: The teen center could be put where the Department of Employment and Training is now. It is moving to the new building being built in Newport. It is an industrial building with space outside, and we want to buy the space so that it would be permanent.

Newport has high unemployment. The teen center would provide job skills for students helping with full-time staff.

The COURT: Thank you very, very much.

STATEMENT BY BRIAN HODGSON AND JESSICA RILEY REGARDING CHILD LABOR

BRIAN HODGSON: In our world today, there are 250 million people toiling in sweat-

shops around the globe, 250,000 working right here in the United States. These workers endure long hours in filthy, unsafe factories and plants for subsistence wages paying them barely enough to keep them alive.

A typical sweatshop contains unsafe numbers of people packed into poorly lit, dusty, disease-ridden workplaces, with no sufficient ventilation or running water. Supervisors yell, scream, threaten and curse at the workers and put constant pressure on them to work faster. For all their suffering, workers are rewarded with paychecks reflecting hourly wages of 20, 37, as low as six cents, often with unexplained fees and tolls removed from the take-home amount.

Any workers who dare to speak up, to complain about their working conditions or pay, are fired. If the workers try to defend themselves, to meet, to learn their rights, or organize a union, their employment is almost always illegally terminated. The most fundamental human and employment rights of these workers are being violated on a daily basis.

One million of these workers are children, sold or rented out by their parents, in countries such as India or Pakistan, into a life of hard, bonded labor at the hands of clothing and rug producers. Children who should be in school are working long hours in unsafe, abusive conditions. To these children, education is a fantastic privilege, and life a daily struggle.

The move to Third World countries, where the minimum wages are steadily dropping and where environmental and worker regulations are nonexistent, has become an all too common trend in big business. Some of the most heinous abusers of this form of labor produce staples in our everyday lives.

At a Disney sweatshop in Haiti, a worker who handles 375 Pocahontas shirts an hour is paid the minimum wage of 28 cents an hour, or \$10.77 a week, while the Disney shirts sell at Wal-Mart for \$10.97 each. A pair of Nike sneakers that sell in the U.S. for \$140 cost the corporation \$3.50 in offshore labor expenses. That is about a 97 percent profit.

These exploitative companies could easily afford to pay their workers a living wage, but greedily choose not to.

JESSICA RILEY: At the Student Progressive Coalition in Brattleboro Union High School in Brattleboro, Vermont, we have taken positive action against these practices. Devoting our time to these issues, we have gathered hundreds of signatures on a petition to the National Labor Committee calling for President Clinton to end sweatshop practices. We took part in the promotion of and attendance at the National Day of Conscience that took place here, in Burlington, on October 4th. We have educated our community through a candle-lit vigil, as well as taken our knowledge into an elementary school to inform students there. Our letters have also stimulated the local paper to editorialize on the issue. It is almost impossible to walk down the halls of the community center without viewing an informative poster or hearing an issue being discussed amongst the crowds.

By making the community more aware of this one virtually unknown issue, we help to create a more conscientious consumer. But awareness is only one part of the action needed. We also need the power of your law to help with the issue.

Mr. Congressman, the approval of your bonded labor bill is a huge and welcome step