

them to rubble, in order to drive out the ethnic Albanian inhabitants, inflicting heavy material losses upon the ethnic Albanians in Kosova;

Whereas hundreds of ethnic Albanians, including women and children, have been killed and over two hundred thousand ethnic Albanians have been forced to flee and have become refugees as a result of this Serbian military action;

Whereas the stubborn denial of human rights and political rights to the ethnic Albanian majority in Kosova by the Government of Serbia has been the major factor in the radicalization of the political situation in the province and made the prospects of a peaceful resolution of the conflict there difficult if not impossible; and

Whereas the United States and the governments of other countries have blocked the assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) that the Congress*

(1) deeply deplores and strongly condemns the appalling loss of life and the extensive destruction of property in Kosova that is the consequence of the brutal actions of Serbian police and military forces against the ethnic Albanian population of the province;

(2) believes that the government of Serbia is primarily responsible for the loss of life and destruction of property, and thus Serbia should bear the principal burden of providing compensation for the loss of life and for the costs of rebuilding areas which it forces have devastated;

(3) urges the President and officials he designates to work with the Congress to draft legislation and regulations which will permit ethnic Albanians from Kosova who have suffered as a consequence of the brutal actions of Serbian police and military forces in Kosova to make claims against the assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) which are in the control of the United States or which have been blocked by action of the United States government, and in drafting this legislation and regulations special consideration should be given to the circumstances of the Government of the Republic of Montenegro and to persons located in and organized under the laws of the Republic of Montenegro;

(4) urges the President and the Secretary of State to urge all other countries to follow this same policy to permit claims by ethnic Albanians who have suffered as a consequence of the brutal actions of Serbian police and military forces in Kosova to make claims against the assets of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) which are in the control of the respective country; and

(5) requests that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President and the Secretary of State by the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to clarify my vote on Roll Call vote 384, Mr. Bass' amendment to the Commerce, State, Justice, and the Judiciary Appropriations bill. Yesterday, I inadvertently voted "Nay" when I intended to vote "Aye."

Mr. Bass' amendment would have transferred funds from the Advanced Technology

Program (ATP) to the Edward Byrne grant program at the Department of Justice, an effort which I strongly support. The Byrne grant program is a valuable tool for local law enforcement in the fight against the crime and drug problems that threaten our neighborhoods. I believe that scarce taxpayer dollars are better spent in this anti-crime program than in the "corporate welfare" ATP, which I have consistently opposed.

#### HONORING JACK SULLIVAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John (Jack) Sullivan of Sandwich, Massachusetts, who retired July 31, 1998, from the Internal Revenue Service.

Jack is truly one of the finest public servants I know. Not only did he do his job professionally, responsibly, with dignity and with courtesy, he sought to teach those attributes to those around him.

Jack continues to serve the public through his civic activities. He believes in the importance of getting involved, and exemplifies the idea that one man can truly make a difference, and that all men should try. As the leader of the NTEU Massachusetts Coalition, he has dedicated himself to educating public sector employees and the public sector about the importance in getting involved in legislative and political activities. He was part of the fight to ensure that federal employees have more of an opportunity to exercise their political rights and then to persuade them to use those political rights. And, he has taken the time to educate me about the issues that are of importance to federal employees—especially those of the employees at the IRS.

I am proud to call Jack my friend, proud to know that our country was served for over thirty years by such a dedicated public servant and proud that I will continue to be able to work with Jack on the federal employee and PKU issues that are so important to him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the best of luck to Jack and his family upon the occasion of his retirement.

#### TRUE REALITIES OF OUR HEMISPHERE

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, August 6, 1998*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, with an eye toward this country's emerging all-embracing trade arrangement with our Latin American neighbors, as outlined in the recent second heads-of-government meeting at the Summit of the Americas in Chile, we in this country would do well to better familiarize ourselves with the true realities found in the rest of the hemisphere. We will then be in a better position to discharge our responsibility of expressing some words of caution or encouragement to our citizens and U.S.-based corporations

that are considering whether to make investments throughout the region, including in Argentina.

Over the last few years, Latin America undoubtedly has made genuine improvements in the fields of economic development as well as in its observance of minimal standards of human rights, but much work remains to be done regarding the region's respect for the rule of law. This was one of the main points made in a major article in the July 27th issues of the highly regarded British publication, The Financial Times, in which judicial corruption was listed as a major problem in Argentina today. Similar articles have indicated that problems stemming from a tainted judiciary are found throughout the region.

We are familiar with the need to wage similar battles in the U.S. to achieve the observance of justice and tough human rights standards, so we cannot be smug over such matters. But we can and must be forthright in expressing our opinions when the well being of our fellow citizens may be at stake and the welfare of one of our neighbor's citizens is being flagrantly flouted. After all, the same judiciary that protects the human rights of its own citizens in Latin America also enforces commercial law respecting foreign investments.

It is for this reason that, with alarm, we read reports issued by the OAS and USAID, as well as by the State Department, speaking about the inadequacies of the Latin American judiciaries, where the presence of corruption and venality is at times, almost beyond exaggeration, be it in Honduras—perhaps the worst case of a venal judiciary in the hemisphere, or Argentina (one of the worst). Without an honest judiciary there is no level playing field and no reliable rules of the game. The pseudo integrity of the Latin American court system is only rivaled in scope by the substitution of democratic form in place of substance in much of the region. This reality has to be of great concern to us.

Argentina is a good example of many of these points. Despite Buenos Aires' continued claim that it is reforming its admittedly gangster-like judiciary into one that is less at the mercy of politics, cronyism, influence peddling and payoffs, and more into one that can fearlessly uphold and conform to the country's constitution, there are good reasons to believe that its court system is apparently taking serious steps backwards. This is the case in spite of the fact that Argentine justice officials have begun to put together the long promised "Consejo de la Magistratura," which is a judicial oversight committee.

Unfortunately, the brutal military dictatorship, which wiped out a generation of democratic leaders during Argentina's "Dirty War" and drove much of its intellectual class into exile, has left a malodorous legacy in the person of many of the judges it selected who still sit on the country's bench. For years, the judiciary has enjoyed a period of relative anonymity from the scrutiny its tawdry performance all but required, but today it is subject for close examination by the international community, including the aforementioned issue of The Financial Times.

One example of the many instances of serious miscarriages of justice that have taken place in that country is provided by the bizarre case of the Buenos Aires Yoga School (BAYS), of which the following article from the