

(Better Educated Students for Tomorrow), to provide computer training, tutorial assistance, and other enrichment activities to students in Los Angeles' low income neighborhoods. Under the program, parents are able to voluntarily keep their children at school from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each school day to learn and play. Today L.A.'s Best serves over 5,000 children each day, and has shown dramatic results in boosting students' academic achievement and self-esteem.

Mayor Tom Bradley shaped Los Angeles. He guided the City through enormous growth and change. His 20 years were marked by too many triumphs to count, and even in the bad times, during the devastating civil unrest that took place after the Rodney King verdict, his strong leadership and gentle demeanor brought Angelenos together to work for the common good. For many Angelenos, Mayor Bradley was a father figure: physically imposing at six-foot-four, and intellectually imposing as the sharp-minded, politically astute big city mayor, but always so warm and gentle that you instantly felt at ease when you talked with him. He was a great leader, but more than that, he was a great person. There are simply not enough people like him in politics.

Mr. President, I know that Tom Bradley will be remembered as one of the city's greatest and most beloved mayors. His loss is a blow to the City of Los Angeles. I know that I join all Angelenos today in sending my thoughts and prayers to his wife and daughters.●

SKIERNIEWICE, POLAND

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, five years ago, Mr. Irving Gross of Londonderry, Vermont returned to his father's birthplace, Skierniewice, Poland for the first time. During his trip he visited the city's Jewish cemetery. Like many other Jewish cemeteries in Poland, Skierniewice's had been destroyed by the Nazis and ravaged by time. The grounds were unkempt and monuments and headstones were broken, overturned or missing completely.

Today, through the efforts of Mr. Gross, Mr. Tadeusz Zwierzchowski, a former member of the Polish underground and a Skierniewice resident, and local Skierniewice authorities, the cemetery has been rehabilitated. It now stands as a memorial to the Polish Jews who perished under Nazi persecution and serves as a powerful reminder to the residents of Skierniewice of the vibrant Jewish culture that once enriched their city and their lives.

Mr. President, I would like to recognize all those who participated in this important effort to commemorate the role of the Jewish people in Polish culture and their plight during the Holocaust. In bearing witness to the past, the residents of Skierniewice have made a valuable contribution to their city's future.●

ACTON INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION AND LIBERTY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a very important organization the state of Michigan. The Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty is a unique resource dedicated to prosperity and progress and based in the virtues of religious liberty, economic freedom, and personal moral responsibility. The Acton Institute works hand in hand with church leadership, educational institutions, and individuals in business and the ministry, both in the United States and abroad, to promote an understanding of market principles and to encourage the economic freedom that creates opportunity for all.

This organization has assisted both elected officials and scholars alike with its well written policy papers and newsletters. My colleagues and I truly appreciate their insight and dedication to the free market. The Acton Institute will be celebrating their eighth anniversary today, October 5, 1998 with their Annual Dinner Gala in Grand Rapids. The Institute's Board of Directors and the Eighth Anniversary Host Committee has a wonderful evening planned. It will undoubtedly be a great success.

I extend my best wishes and congratulations to Father Robert A. Sirico, and everyone involved in making the organization a tremendous success. I wish the Acton Institute continued prosperity.●

TRIBUTE FOR NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to more than 25,000 Minnesota fire fighters in their dedicated efforts to reduce the dangers of fire and the impact it has upon our society. Fire fighters play an integral role in the communities of Minnesota each day, but their dedication will be highlighted October 4-10, as we recognize National Fire Prevention Week.

Fire Prevention Week is the result of efforts by the Fire Marshals Association of North America, under the non-profit organization, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The remembrance of the Great Chicago Fire of October 9, 1871 sparked the NFPA into action to increase public awareness of fire safety. It was not until 49 years later that President Woodrow Wilson issued an official proclamation declaring October 9 as National Fire Prevention Day. In 1922, President Warren Harding signed a proclamation pronouncing the Sunday-Saturday period in which October 9 falls a national observance.

Today, the goal of National Fire Prevention Week is to bring an awareness to the public to take an active role in fire prevention. Minnesota's dollar loss to fire last year totaled more than \$141 million. Experts tell us a commitment

to prevent fires before they occur is the only way to stop the significant loss of life and property from fire. For more than 70 years the NFPA has developed a theme motivating the public to actively participate in public education and fire prevention efforts. The theme for 1998 is "Fire Drills: The Great Escape."

Minnesota is working in conjunction with the NFPA and fire departments throughout the United States and Canada to implement the first-ever North American fire drill—"The Great Escape" on October 7. The Great Escape theme hopes to encourage citizens throughout North America to become actively involved in fire safety, specifically home escape planning and practice. Home fire escape planning and practice ensures that everyone in the household will know how to use what is often a small window of opportunity effectively and get out alive.

The 794 fire departments in Minnesota have been preparing for Fire Prevention Week by educating the public with guidelines and a map grid to help them design an escape plan. This awareness "Toolbox" has been distributed to schools and can be found at your local fire department. Their hope is to motivate people to think about fire safety in a positive, proactive way, and to start practicing their home escape plans regularly, at least twice a year.

School programs to teach children fire safety have always been an integral part of fire prevention. Minnesota will debut a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program this month. The program will provide training to identify, educate, bring to justice, and offer avenues for referral and restitution to the juvenile firesetters in Minnesota's communities. This will be supported through regional task forces across the state. In addition to these activities, the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division, in conjunction with Tandy Corporation (Radio Shack), has developed a "Free Smoke Detector Program." To aid in the detection of fires, 5,000 smoke detectors have been donated for installation in homes of at-risk individuals.

Mr. President, our fire departments have shown the highest level of dedication and service to protecting our homes and places of work from fire. I truly appreciate their unabated commitment to the safety of our communities and am honored today to pay tribute to the men and women of fire prevention.●

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

● Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the Internet Tax Freedom Act. In recent years, Internet use has exploded, creating unprecedented opportunities for individuals and businesses. We must not allow a complicated patchwork of taxes to impede future opportunities.