of a unilaterally declared Palestinian state is particularly offensive. It is also an affront to official U.S. policy. The Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 codified that “Jerusalem should be recognized as the capital of the State of Israel.” In light of Chairman Arafat’s repeated threats to unilaterally declare a Palestinian state, and due to the lack of clarity in the Administration’s position on this issue, it is important that Congress urge the President to state explicitly that a unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood is in contradiction to longstanding U.S. policy and is a violation of the Oslo Accords, and the United States will oppose and refuse to recognize such an action.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF ROBERT E. CHASE

HON. JANE HARMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to join the family and friends of Robert E. (Bob) Chase and commend him on his retirement at the end of this month as Assistant City Administrative Officer for the City of Los Angeles.

Bob, is retiring after 41 years of distinguished service during which he served the citizens of Los Angeles and four mayors—Norris Poulson, Sam Yorty, Tom Bradley and Richard Riordan. Soon after he first joined the city in 1957, Bob rapidly rose in the city administrative office, being named to the position of assistant city administrative officer and executive officer in 1971 in recognition of his management skills. These same skills earned him recognition within the Metropolitan Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, which elected him president in 1975.

Bob’s record tenure as Executive Officer of the city administrative office has been a source of stability and reassurance to the city’s residents. Indeed, the office has been at the center of all of the major events and changes which have shaped the city of Los Angeles. Most importantly, the administrative office enjoys a nationally-recognized reputation overseeing the fiscal affairs of the nation’s second largest city—due, undoubtedly, to Bob’s talents and those of the fine staff he assembled.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that Bob Chase is a constituent. He is an example of the high quality of public servants who serve the city and one of many who devote considerable time and effort to build a strong and stable community.

I know bob is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, Sallie, and their family. From time to time, I understand he will also hone his already formidable skills at golf. In all the future ventures he will endeavor, Bob, I know, will find the very best, and, again, join in thanking him for his service to the residents of the City of Los Angeles.

CELEBRATING BURBANK MIDDLE SCHOOL’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GENE GREEN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to Burbank Middle School on their 50th birthday. This wonderful school has been serving the community of Houston, Texas faithfully for 50 years, and is well deserving of recognition and praise.

Burbank Middle School is truly a model school that has a distinguished student body and staff.

Burbank was dedicated on September 20, 1949, with 1,700 students, parents, teachers, and school administrators in attendance.

The building’s original cost was $2,250,000. This was a large investment in those days and demonstrates the commitment that the residents had for quality education.

The dedication of the cornerstone was performed by past school board president Ewing Warlein. During the ceremony, he said: “This great structure is dedicated to education in the finest sense of the word and is not only a monument to education, but a monument to the American way of life, to free enterprise and our constitutional form of government. This building is dedicated not only to the education of the children of all the district but also to the boys and girls of generations yet unborn.”

Education is the key to our children’s future and the key to our country’s continued success. The teachers and staff at Burbank Middle School also believe this and have worked hard to ensure that all their students have an opportunity for quality education.

For years, families have known this school as a living monument in the community, making it a good place to study and learn. I am certain that the strength of this community would not be what it is today without the commitment of this school. I am honored to congratulate the members of the Burbank Middle School for making it a source of community pride for the past 50 years.