

<sup>21</sup> *California v. U.S.*, 438 U.S. 645 (1978).  
<sup>22</sup> "National Mission and Goals Statement," National Rural Development Partnership, at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/nrdp/goals.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/nrdp/goals.html).  
<sup>23</sup> Council on Environmental Quality, "American Heritage Rivers Initiative," at [www.epa.gov/rivers/fedreg2.html](http://www.epa.gov/rivers/fedreg2.html).  
<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*  
<sup>25</sup> U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 9, Clause 7.  
<sup>26</sup> Council on Environmental Quality, Draft Memo, "The American Heritage Rivers Initiative," provided to the House Resources Committee and the basis for questioning at a hearing on the Initiative. See *Oversight hearing on the Clinton Administration's American Heritage Rivers Initiative*, House Report 105-36, 105th Congress, 1st Session, July 15, 1997, pp. 81-82.

Just don't have them. Saving for retirement? Not possible. By increasing dependency upon governmental entitlement programs this legislation actually increases overall costs and the burden on the taxpayer.  
 Currently, many unions are looking for young energetic men and women to become apprentices. Is there an opportunity for underemployed inner city youths to learn a trade, have a decent paying job, and build a solid fiscal foundation for themselves and their families? I think so. But eliminate the prevailing wage requirements and you eliminate opportunity.  
 Are the lawmakers who passed this legislation and administrators who choose to implement it in on a conspiracy to hold down the working person? I don't really think they are but I do believe they are short sighted and may have a bad case of "I got mine".

on failed computer systems caused by the Year 2000 computer problem. H.J. Res. 130 will move the New Year's Day holiday in the year 2000 to Monday, January 3, 2000.  
 Mr. Speaker, congressional committees have been successfully working to prepare the nation for Y2K, and this is just another proposal that may help ease the difficulties we face. It is not a silver bullet to solve the problem. It is vital that all businesses and government agencies continue to mobilize and work to repair computers in the remaining 442 days before the Y2K problem strikes. H.J. Res. 130 simply ensures that businesses, the public and computer experts have an additional 24 hours to respond to problems that may arise.

LETTER FROM VINCENT PISCITELLO ON LIVING WAGES FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the issue of prevailing wages for workers on government construction projects has been a major topic of debate during the 105th Congress. In his letter to members of the Cleveland City Council, Mr. Vincent Piscitello, President of VIP Restoration Inc., presents an articulate and compelling argument for the importance of paying employees a living wage when they renovate schools in the Cleveland area. I commend Mr. Piscitello for his clear thinking and commitment to working families, and offer his letter to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

VIP RESTORATION, INC.,  
 Cleveland, OH, October 6, 1998.

Re the elimination of prevailing wage requirements for work performed at the Cleveland City Schools.

City of Cleveland Council Members,  
 Council Chambers,  
 Cleveland, OH.

DEAR COUNCILPERSON: You may or may not be aware that the Cleveland City Schools has dropped the prevailing wage requirement for construction projects on city schools and facilities. The prevailing wage guidelines require contractors to pay their employees a decent living wage. The elimination of this requirement is result of the passage of State Senate Bill 102.

Ostensibly, using underpaid workers reduces construction costs and therefore the tax burden on the citizens. While many good arguments can be made regarding the fallacy of the proposition that low paid, unskilled workers could complete projects on time, with high quality, and within budget, I believe that the more immediate and important issue is the elimination of good paying jobs with benefits.

Over the years unions (supported by prevailing wage requirements) have provided good paying jobs. They have enabled many to climb the ladder into middle class and prosper. Unions provide training, a living wage, and benefits. Union members have gone on to own their own business, send their kids to college, and generally benefit society by being able to provide for their families.

A non-union job paying \$9 dollars an hour without benefits is fine for a single young person with no dependents. But how do you expect a person (or two) who has worked a full day and takes home \$64 after taxes to support their family? Medical emergency?

State Senate Bill 102 does not require a school district to hire contractors who employ non-union personnel or pay low wages, a school system can choose to require prevailing wage. Other school districts have agreed to continue to use prevailing wage guidelines. The Construction Employers Association is working with many local school districts to inform them of their rights, the benefits of keeping prevailing wages, and the opportunities available to high school graduates looking to enter the trades.

It is important that your constituents have decent paying jobs allowing them the opportunity to provide for their families. We need your help to inform the powers that be that prevailing wage requirements need to be maintained when performing work at the Cleveland City Schools.

Please contact John Porada of the CEA at (216) 398-9860 or me at my offices with any questions.

Sincerely,

VINCENT PISCITELLO,  
 President.

HOW LONG UNTIL THE Y2K COMPUTER PROBLEM?

**HON. JOHN LINDER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, there is approximately 1 Year, 2 Months, 16 Days, 10 Hours, 56 Minutes, and 43 Seconds until the Year 2000 computer problem affects computers and computer chips worldwide on the morning of January 1, 2000.

As we know, many computers will be unable to process dates beyond December 31, 1999, making the year 2000 indistinguishable from the year 1900. The potential technological turmoil could cause computers to generate incorrect data or stop running. Credit cards, ATM cards, security systems, hospital equipment, telephone service, electricity, and paycheck systems could be affected. I don't think anyone is sure what will happen.

Fortunately, in the year 2000, we have a few days to recover after the Y2K problem hits because January 1 falls on Saturday. However, we lose one potential additional day because the New Year's Day holiday—by law—must be observed on the previous Friday, December 31, 1999.

I have introduced legislation that will provide the public and technology professionals with an additional day, prior to the start of the first workweek in January 2000, to work on repairs

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL FLEET ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Michael Fleet on his retirement from the Santa Ana Police Department.

Mike began working for Santa Ana Police Department on September 14, 1970 as a police officer. In September of 1986, he was assigned to work in the Canine Unit as a handler.

Officer Fleet and his canine, Carlos, were assigned to work narcotic enforcement where Officer Fleet remained for the duration of his career. Mike and Carlos achieved national records for drug seizures. They seized over \$56 million in drug monies and over 20 kilos of cocaine.

In 1991, Mike and his partner, Carlos, were awarded Uniformed Officer of the Year from the Drug Enforcement Agency.

During his career as a police officer, Mike distinguished himself as a hard-working and dedicated law enforcement officer. He has earned the respect and admiration of all of his colleagues in the law enforcement community for his commitment to the city of Santa Ana.

Mike is known to many around the department as a "Dad" for the generosity and compassion he shows to all of his colleagues. A true cowboy at heart, Mike enjoys riding horses and listening to country music in his free time.

I am very proud of you, Mike, for all your bravery and your selfless dedication to your career and your community.

Have a wonderful retirement!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Riverside, California, which was recently awarded the distinguished honor of being named an All-America City. The All-America City designation, first awarded 49 years ago, is designed to recognize cities across our nation that have exemplary programs and initiatives that combat problems

within their own communities. Thirty cities competed to be named one of ten All-America cities by the National Civic League. As a result of the President's Summit for America's Future, organizers of the All-America City program have asked cities to include at least one community youth program as part of their application.

The Mayor of Riverside, Ron Loveridge, credited three of the city's programs as being the key to the victory: the Passport to College Program, which is an innovative business, education, community, and family partnership that will make the dream of a college education possible for every Inland Empire graduate in 2004, the Youth Action Plan under which the city coordinates services for the region's youth; and the University/Eastside Community Collaborative after-school program that has enabled the city to keep at-risk youth away from the lure of gang activity.

Growing up in a neighboring city, I have seen Riverside face the challenges and seize the opportunities presented by the Inland Empire's significant population growth. Today, Riverside thrives with a population exceeding several hundred thousand residents and a diverse economic base. Representing the people of Riverside is truly a privilege. On behalf of all of the residents of the 43rd congressional district, I congratulate Riverside on being named an All-America City and wish them continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO REV. BERNARD  
GUEKGUEZIAN

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Bernard Guekguezian. Reverend Guekguezian will be honored by the members of the First Armenian Presbyterian Church at a Harvest Banquet commemorating their 100th Anniversary. First Armenian Presbyterian is the oldest Armenian Church in California.

Reverend Guekguezian has literally lived and ministered around the world. Born in Antioch, Turkey, the reverend emigrated to the Middle East in 1939. In 1952 he completed a combined course of study at the American University of Beirut and Near East School of Theology. He became a licensed pastor and served for two years in Alexandria Egypt before coming to the United States. He studied at the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena California and went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in Christian Education from the New York Theological Seminary.

Reverend Guekguezian was ordained a Minister of the Word in 1959, by the Congregational Conference of Massachusetts. He went on to assume the pulpit of America's oldest Armenian Church, the Armenian Congregational Church of the Martyrs in Worcester. Reverend Guekguezian engaged in doctoral studies at Clark University and in 1966 he accepted a call to the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, New Jersey where he served for 12 years. Guekguezian has served at the First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno for 20 years, the longest of any pastor at the Golden States oldest Armenian religious

institution. Reverend Guekguezian's tenure has been marked by outreach to native Californians as well as to Armenian immigrants from the Middle East and the Republic of Armenia.

Reverend Guekguezian has officiated at 163 weddings, 212 baptisms, and more than 200 funerals during his time in Fresno. In addition to his pastoral duties Guekguezian has served as a Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, Vice-President of the Armenian Evangelical World Council, Vice-President of the Armenian Theological Students' Aid Inc., and member of the Presbytery of the San Joaquin New Church Development Committee.

Reverend Guekguezian is married to the former Knar Kazanjian of Aleppo, Syria and they have two sons, Reverend Ara Guekguezian of Las Vegas, Nevada and Asbed Guekguezian Esq., of Boston Massachusetts, as well as three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Bernard Guekguezian as honoree for the First Armenian Presbyterian Church, 100th Anniversary Harvest Banquet. Reverend Guekguezian has served the community well in his time in Fresno and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in wishing him many years of continued success and happiness.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE  
LEONARDO SIMAO, FOREIGN  
MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
MOZAMBIQUE, AND HONORING  
THE WORK OF THE HONORABLE  
JOAQUIM ALBERTO CHISSANO,  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF MOZAMBIQUE

**HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, today as I welcome the Foreign Minister of Mozambique, the Honorable Leonardo Simao, I also Rise to Honor a true statesman and peacemaker—President Joaquim Alberto Chissano.

President Chissano assumed the Presidency of Mozambique in November 1, 1986, after his country has been at war—with almost no interval of peace—for more than 22 years.

Mozambique now has peace and a pluralistic democratic political system. Much of the credit for this—as well as for similar developments in other countries in the region—must go to the quiet and steady work of this Mozambican statesman. Chissano pursued peace by negotiation no matter how few the cards he held in comparison to more powerful players. HE earned respect from his people and from foreigners alike as he led his country through many difficult years.

In sum, Mozambique has suffered more than its share from war. It has given more than its share for regional peace and cooperation. They sought—and also gave—the hand of solidarity. President Chissano expressed these Mozambican values and gave them direction. Africa and the world can learn and take hope from his example.

TRIBUTE TO OUR MEN AND  
WOMEN IN UNIFORM

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, the military chiefs have brought their readiness problems to Congress, and the Secretary of Defense has brought his case for a bigger budget to the President. Here in Congress, we tend to see defense from a broad overview. We hear a lot about procurement cost overruns and too little about the men and women in uniform who work long hours, and through innovation and ingenuity, save their country millions of dollars.

I visited Shaw Air Force Base in my district over the August break. After seeing some of the efficiencies that Air force personnel have put into practice at Shaw. I asked Colonel Daniel P. Leaf, Commander of the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw, to give me a letter detailing their cost avoidance initiatives. Here is how Colonel Leaf described the efficiencies and savings that his personnel at Shaw have implemented:

"In FY 97, the innovation and ingenuity of our folks led to cost avoidance and savings of over \$3 million on 99 spare TF34-34-GE-100A engines. Our Regional Repair Center supports A-10 units at Pope AFB NC, Moody AFB GA, Eglin AFB FL, and Spangdahlem AB GE. NCOs suggested a change to erosion inspection criteria on TF34s engines. Once approved, that allowed us to reuse nine compressor rotors, \$513,693 and 1,350 man-hours in FY97 alone. Other TF34 repair centers adopted this change and saved the taxpayers \$684,924 and 1,800 man-hours. Our technicians came up with another high value initiative, recommending field replacement of high-pressure turbine blades in the field instead of sending the entire assembly back to depot. This change saved \$45,300 per engine or \$814,400 and 11,520 man-hours in FY97! These additional man-hours equate to more engines, more savings, and improved readiness. These and other changes to take us over \$3,000,000 in savings represent the best of the American spirit. In FY98 we've avoided expenditures and saved a total of \$1.6 million. Adding our engine savings up since FY94 comes to over \$16 million—I am immensely proud of this team!

"We have had several other 'airman-based' success stories I would like to share with you in a little less detail. As one of a few lead wings in the Air Force, we're converting all our F-16s from bias ply to radial tires. Radial tires provide 50 percent more landings, cutting man-hours and use of support equipment. The Corrosion Control Element identified a local source of Sherwin-Williams paint saving \$3,500 annually. This paint requires less thinner, improves adhesion, and reduces hazardous organic compounds 60 percent. The troops also developed a process reducing the chromate exposure while preparing aircraft for paint reducing environmental impact and protecting our personnel. Our people took the initiative to establish a state-of-the-art cable repair operation for our F-16s and support equipment. This is only one in Air Combat Command (ACC), and has already realized over \$20,000 in savings with an annual projection of \$260,000. Our specialists researched