

Mr. Speaker, I had the good fortune of working with Ben Gaeth in the Ohio Senate. From the days that Republicans were in the Minority to the time in which I served as President of the Senate, Ben Gaeth was seen as a hard working and outspoken advocate for his district. His diligent yet humble efforts made him a very well liked Senator by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I think I can speak for my colleagues in saying that it was certainly a pleasure to work with Ben Gaeth. His efforts will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that America succeeds due to the selfless acts of her sons and daughters. Whether it was on the battlefields of World War II, where he won the Purple Heart, to his days as Mayor of Defiance, to his current position in the Ohio Senate, M. Ben Gaeth has dedicated his life to service to his community, state, and country. He is a leader and a true American patriot. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to the Honorable M. Ben Gaeth, and in wishing him the very best in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSWOMAN
JANE HARMAN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of California's very distinguished and dedicated public officials, Representative JANE HARMAN. JANE is being honored as she retires from the House of Representatives after three terms of significant public service. I am proud to mark this occasion with my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives.

JANE is widely recognized for her instrumental work on behalf of women's issues in her service to California's South Bay. As a native Californian, private lawyer and legislator, JANE fought for a woman's right to reproductive choice and led investigations of sexual misconduct in the military, roles for women in combat, and access to reproductive services for military women and their dependents.

JANE's career accomplishments are many. Among the most noteworthy is her attendance at the bipartisan U.S. congressional delegation at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, where JANE solidly voiced her support for China as an appropriate site for a healthy debate on women's issues. As an esteemed Member of the House National Security and Select Permanent Intelligence Committees, JANE was first appointed to the Congressional Conference Committee to meet on the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Reauthorization. As a conferee, JANE consistently sought to reinstate the right of military women and their dependents to have access to a full range of reproductive choices. This year JANE was again appointed as a conferee member to the Fiscal Year 1999 National Defense Reauthorization where she had the lead role on the particularly contentious debate over how to best train our military's new recruits.

JANE has unfailingly served this institution over the years. After first serving as Legislative Director to U.S. Senator John Tunney (CA), and then as Chief Counsel and Staff Director to the Senate Judiciary Committee on

Constitutional Rights, in the late 1970s, she was Deputy Secretary to the White House Cabinet and Special Counsel to the Department of Defense.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Congresswoman JANE HARMAN. The State of California owes JANE a great deal of gratitude for her tireless efforts throughout her public service in the House of Representatives. I extend my hearty congratulations and best wishes to JANE, her husband Sidney, and her four children, for continued success and joy in the years to come. JANE HARMAN will be missed and remembered.

TRIBUTE TO JANE HARMAN

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to our friend and colleague, JANE HARMAN, who will be leaving Congress after 6 years of distinguished service.

I had the privilege of meeting JANE when we came to Washington as part of the 103rd Congress, often referred to as "The Year of the Woman."

At that time, there was great hope and expectations about the impact the new surge of women would have on Congress and our Nation.

JANE HARMAN has not only lived up to those expectations and hopes, but she has indeed exceeded them.

Clearly, no one works harder than JANE on behalf of her constituents and for the issues in which she believes.

When an issue is important to JANE, the word "no" is simply unacceptable.

JANE personifies the term "can do." If anyone doubts JANE's vigor, one need look no further than her stellar performance on the military basic training fitness test that she passed with flying colors.

Strong and determined, intelligent and bright, she is also compassionate and caring and willing to stand up for her beliefs regardless of the consequences.

Many times I witnessed JANE vote her conscience, knowing full well it could jeopardize her next election in the politically tough district she represents so well. She once said to me before a difficult vote. "I know it's going to hurt me politically, but I've got to vote for what I believe is right or I can't live with myself." She then made the tough vote.

Since our offices were across the hall from each other, I often witnessed JANE succeeding in the balancing act of being a legislator, manager, and mother. I remember on one occasion, amidst a series of votes, JANE was on the phone counseling her daughter and helping her with her homework.

JANE is proof positive that when given the opportunity, women can meet the challenges of national leadership with intelligence, dignity, and grace.

It may surprise you, but I'm not going to say goodbye. For I am convinced we haven't seen the last of you.

In fact, I suggest that in the not too distant future, we may yet address you as Madam Governor or Madam Secretary.

Thank you for all you have done and will continue to do for California and our Nation.

I'm proud to have served with you and proud to have you as a friend.

My best wishes are with you always.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 930, THE
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION
REFORM ACT OF 1998

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 930, the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998. This important legislation will streamline the way our Federal Government accounts for all job related transportation and travel expenses of Federal employees.

The idea of requiring the use of a Government-issued charge card for all official travel related expenses is long overdue. In December 1995, the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program [JFMIP] published a report detailing nine recommendations on improving temporary duty travel. Among these recommendations was the use of a Government charge card for all travel-related expenses. This provision creates an efficient standard for the Government to obtain the proper information needed to verify all business related charges.

By implementing such a requirement, the Government will be able to become more efficient in its operations while taking advantage of money saving charge card rebate programs. This bill is also a victory for Federal employees who currently utilize charge cards not specifically issued for Government travel.

While authorizing heads of Government agencies to hold employees responsible for being delinquent on their Federal charge card accounts, this measure clarifies the Federal Government's authority to access an employee's financial information, including accounts maintained by the Government. In order to protect an individual's privacy, this measure provides clear guidelines for accessing information relating to such charges.

In addition, the bill corrects an inadvertent tax liability imposed on Government employees during the tax years of 1993 and 1994. Since most Government agencies were not notified by the Internal Revenue Service [IRS] of a tax liability imposed on certain Federal employees created in the 1992 Energy Act until December 1993, many Federal employees became liable for taxes relating to business travel expenses. Fortunately, this bill authorizes reimbursement to employees who incurred such tax liabilities, along with interest and penalty charges for late payment.

Finally, this measure authorizes Government agencies to participate in travel pilot tests designed to save taxpayer dollars. Although this provision is limited to only 10 initial pilot programs in the areas of temporary duty and relocation travel, agencies are permitted to seek approval of the General Services Administration, along with congressional oversight, to initiate a specific pilot program. This will allow agencies to design and implement improved benefit systems to incur further savings.

Mr. Speaker, as we strive to help our Government agencies to become more efficient, we must upgrade agency management policies and practices to provide the most effective Government to our taxpayers. I believe

that H.R. 930 provides a delicate balance of greater Government efficiency, without compromising the integrity of its employees. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998. Our taxpayers and Government employees deserve nothing less. Vote "YES" on H.R. 930.

HONORING THE REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR CONTINUED EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Regional Workforce Development Board for its service to the greater New Haven community in Connecticut. The backbone of any community is the relationship between businesses and residents. For the past twenty years, the Board, which is the Private Industry Council for greater New Haven, has nurtured this relationship to expand the regional economy. The Regional Workforce Development Board has served as a liaison between the business community and area residents, narrowing the gap between employers' needs and the skills of the region's potential and existing workforce.

With advancing technology rapidly changing the business environment, employers face the challenges of upgrading the skills of their workforces. Employees must obtain the skills needed by industry. The Board has implemented a strategy that gives residents of Greater New Haven essential skills, and creates a pool of qualified individuals available to work.

The Regional Workforce Development Board provides job training to thousands of greater New Haven residents each year. It focuses on the entire community including summer youth job programs and special opportunities for the economically disadvantaged. The contributions that the Board has made to the New Haven community are remarkable. Its work truly represents the heart and the spirit of our community by ensuring that residents and businesses grow together.

1998 marked three anniversaries for the Board. It marked the twentieth anniversary of the creation of private industry councils. Fifteen years ago, the council assumed responsibility for overseeing federal employment and training programs. And, the Private Industry Council evolved into the Regional Workforce Development Board five years ago.

By administering a variety of innovative federal and state job training programs, the Board has filled a need for thousands of area residents and businesses. Businesses are helped by ensuring that job applicants have the training they need. Employees are helped by receiving skill training so that they are employable after downsizing or a layoff. Area residents have been trained to work in manufacturing, at hotels, and to develop the skills of at-risk youth. They have assisted many families in making the transition to the workforce following passage of the welfare reform bill.

The Workforce Development Board has made greater New Haven a far better place to

live and work. I am proud to honor the Board for these accomplishments, and for all of the work it has done to help our region's workforce, businesses and community.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BROWN'S BAKERY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding organization from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. This year, Brown's Bakery, in Defiance, Ohio, is celebrating a milestone achievement. 1998 marks the One Hundred Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of operations for Brown's Bakery.

Brown's Bakery has been a mainstay of the Defiance community for more than a century. Brown's Bakery is much more than just an employer for the area. Brown's has been and continues to be part of a close-knit family in and around Defiance. Brown's Bakery is an invaluable partner to Defiance and all those living in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Brown's Bakery embodies the spirit of enterprise that we hear so much about. Beginning in the early 1870's, Brown's Bakery started a long lasting tradition by making some of the finest baked goods and products found anywhere in Northwest Ohio. For more than one hundred twenty-five years, the Brown family has worked diligently to ensure that the vision set by Reinhard and Emilie Curdes Brown is continued.

Throughout its long and rich tradition, Brown's Bakery has been committed to the Defiance community. Again and again, Brown's Bakery has shown its dedication through support of various groups and organizations. Whether it is assisting Defiance High School with its football stadium, local groups like the United Way or Boy and Girl Scouts of America, or its forty-year sponsorship of Bunny League baseball, Brown's Bakery is always there willing to lend a helping hand.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to recognize Brown's Bakery on the special occasion of its One Hundred Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration. The Brown family and all those associated with Brown's Bakery truly embody the spirit of entrepreneurship, enterprise, and community-minded support and dedication. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in this special tribute, and in wishing them continued success in the future.

A SALUTE TO REPRESENTATIVE JANE HARMAN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a very unique Member of this body. Congresswoman JANE HARMAN is leav-

ing the House, and while we will miss her presence and service, we can't help but share in her excitement as she moves on.

Most of us know her as our friend JANE. But many in Washington call her GI Jane, and for good reason. This is the woman who makes it through the Army physical training test without breaking a sweat, and supports our military women and men without missing a beat.

I'll always remember how JANE forced this body to recognize that the women of our Nation's armed services should be rewarded, not punished, for their bravery and service. Yet when some in our Congress sought to limit their right to control their own bodies, JANE was always there to speak out for our women soldiers.

And JANE was always there when her district needed her. She saved jobs, protected her district's military base and worked to make our Federal Government accountable to its people. Mrs. HARMAN has been an especially indefatigable advocate for her native State of California.

We'll certainly miss Congresswoman HARMAN. But we have to realize that GI Jane has bigger and better things waiting to be explored, and she has another name as well: Mom. So JANE, as you return to your family, and to the life that awaits you after Congress, take with you the memories of your service in the House of Representatives. California—and Congress—is better for your time here.

HONORING THOMAS COURY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 12, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Thomas Coury, a kindhearted man that dedicated his life to enhancing the well-being of others.

Born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, Thomas Coury came to the Greater Cleveland area in 1958, along with his three brothers, in response to the need for concrete pouring. Within one year, Thomas and his three brothers established the Concrete Wall Company and began pouring foundations for homes all over Brook Park.

With an innate ability to care for others and a passion to reach out, Thomas and his brothers established Aristocrat Health Care. There, Thomas began his lifelong career in elderly care, converting schools, motels and other buildings into nursing and retirement homes. Through years of experience and development, Thomas and his brother have expanded Aristocrat Health Care into a multi-operational business. Stretching services throughout Cuyahoga and Lorain County extending into Florida.

Outside of the business sector Thomas Coury was a man of vision, and dedicated much of his time to civic and political affairs. Striving for our youth to succeed, Thomas helped many young people higher their education and set endowment funds at area Catholic Schools. In addition to helping the youth, Thomas was a leader in the community as well. In 1995, Thomas accompanied President Clinton and Hillary Rodman Clinton on Air Force One to Jordan for the signing of a historic Middle East peace accord.