

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SUPPORT THE HOPE FOR CHILDREN ACT

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, recently I received a letter from one of my constituents, Mr. Scott Thompson of Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Thompson and his wife are in the process of adopting a child and I was struck by what he was willing to go through to give a child a loving home.

Mr. Thompson writes:

To give some background, my wife and I have been going through the adoption process for about two years. During that time we have pursued many different paths and options, all unsuccessful, so far. As it stands now we are about six months from getting our child, hopefully. We have invested to date, roughly \$6,000. We will surely invest another \$10,000 before it is all over . . . It is, however, very sad that two people who wish to provide a loving and stable home to a child must endure . . . outrageous costs as well. In our case we will have to obtain a second mortgage on our home and us all of our savings to make this a reality. These payments will make it more difficult for us to give all that we want to our child. Passage of this bill will cost the Federal Government so little in the grant scheme of things. It will, however, provide much needed help to the searching families and the waiting children.

Mr. Speaker, as Mr. Thompson's letter indicates, the cost of adopting a child continues to go up. Many parents who want to give a child a loving home cannot because of the huge expense of doing so. Adopting a child can cost a family thousands of dollars; more than most families can handle. Today, I reintroduce the Hope for Children Act to help ease the financial burden on those who want to give a child a loving home.

The Hope for Children Act would increase the adopting tax credit for each adoption to \$10,000 and make the process more affordable for middle-class families. Present law only provides a \$5,000 tax credit per adoption and a \$6,000 tax credit for the adoption of special needs children. The current tax credit is far below the actual cost of adopting a child. Furthermore, the Hope for Children Act would index the credit for inflation and increase the earnings limit, expanding eligibility for the tax credit. The Hope for Children Act would also make the adoption tax credit permanent law, repealing the sunset, and exempt the beneficiaries of the credit from the Alternative Minimum Tax. This will ensure that parents receive the full benefit of this credit.

Mr. Speaker, my wife and I are adoptive parents. The Hope for Children Act will allow more families and children to experience the happiness my family has enjoyed. Most important, more children will have someone to call 'Mom and Dad' if the Hope for Children Act becomes law. With the average adoption costing between \$8,000–\$25,000, we need to do

more to promote adoption. The Hope for Children Act will make it possible for more children without homes to join loving families. The Hope for Children Act can make dreams come true for many people.

Today, thousands of children are without permanent families—it is time we all work together to fix this problem. We owe it to those children to put aside political differences and pass pro-adoption legislation this year.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL APPRECIATION DAY FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the National Appreciation Day For Catholic Schools. As a former Catholic school student, I know first hand the value of a Catholic education. Catholic schools teach students discipline, pride, and respect for learning.

I especially wish to recognize the delegation of students, teachers, and parents that make the National Appreciation Day For Catholic Schools a special day, they also know the value of Catholic schools. Their commitment to ensuring an exceptional Catholic education and maintaining quality Catholic schools means that Catholic students in the future will continue to benefit from outstanding educational opportunities.

I would also like to recognize the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) for their efforts to promote educational and catechetical goals. By sponsoring events like the Seton Awards, which recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Catholic education, the NCEA works diligently to insure better education across America.

Providing excellent educational opportunities for all children is one of the most important goals in our society. I am encouraged by the involvement of the students, teachers, and parents who are observing the National Appreciation Day For Catholic Schools.

SOCIAL SECURITY EARNINGS LIMIT ELIMINATION ACT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 519, the Social Security Earnings Limit Elimination Act of 1999. I invite my colleagues to join me in supporting this worthwhile piece of legislation.

The objective of this bill, H.R. 519, is simple and straightforward: It would fully remove in the future the limitations on the amount of out-

side income which working seniors who are receiving Social Security may earn while receiving benefits.

For too many years, those senior citizens, aged 65 to 69, who chose to continue to work have had their Social Security benefits deducted dollar for dollar once their earnings went over \$12,500 annually.

The 104th Congress made a much-needed change, raising the outside earnings limit to \$30,000 by the year 2002.

I believe that while this is a good step forward, more needs to be done on this issue. The earnings limit only serves to discourage many seniors from working and diminishes their potential impact on society. It is a condescending regulation that conveys the message that seniors have nothing to contribute and discourages them from serving in the work force.

I was pleased to hear the President, in his State of the Union Address, calling for the elimination of the earnings limit.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join in supporting this timely and important legislation.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE JOSEPH EDWARD STEVENS, JR.

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Judge Joseph Edward Stevens of Kansas City, MO. Judge Stevens was an honorable adversary in the courtroom, an outstanding jurist, and a warm and thoughtful friend.

Judge Stevens was born in Kansas City, attended Southwest High School, Yale University and Michigan Law School. He served as a Lieutenant in the Navy from 1952–1955. Before entering the Navy, he was a research assistant to Charles Whitaker. He was an attorney with Lombardi, McLean, Slagle and Bernard and then with Lathrop, Koontz, Righter, Blackwell, Gordon and Parker from 1956–1981. He was appointed by President Reagan in 1981 to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri and served actively until his death, presiding over some of the highest-profile cases in recent Kansas City history.

Judge Stevens taught at the Law Schools of the University of Missouri at Columbia and University of Missouri at Kansas City. He served from 1974 to 1982 as a member of the Board of Governors of the Missouri Bar and was president of the Missouri Bar from 1980 to 1981. He was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the Senate on April 6, 1995 as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, serving as president from 1997 to the present. He was a former member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association and of the Advisory Board of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Judge Stevens was awarded the Lon O. Hocker Memorial Trial Lawyer in 1962, and the Spurgeon Smithson Award in 1987 by the Missouri Bar Association. He was also awarded the President's Award in 1995 by the Missouri Bar President, the Charles E. Whitaker Award in 1996 by the Lawyers Association of Kansas City, and the William F. Yates Distinguished Service Medallion in 1998 by William Jewell College.

Judge Stevens was active in the community. He was on the Board of Trustees and sang in the choir at the Central United Methodist Church. He was a member of the Man-of-the-Month Fraternity from 1996 until the present, and of the Missouri Academy of Squires. He was a former member of the Board of Directors and later the Board of Governors of Truman Medical Center, 1981 to 1998, and a former trustee of the Bartsow School. He was on the Board of Directors for the University Club from 1994 until 1997, and was also a member of the Carriage Club, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, Epsilon Lambda Chapter. He was President of the Vanguard Club in 1993 and the Mercury Club in 1995.

Judge Joseph Edward Stevens will be missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife, Norma; his two daughters, Jennifer and Rebecca, and his sister and brother.

LEGISLATION TO AUDIT MILITARY PURCHASES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUY AMERICAN ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today I introducing legislation to direct the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to conduct an audit of fiscal year 1998 procurements of military clothing by four installations of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps (a total of 16 installations). The installations should be in the United States or U.S. possessions and territories.

The objective of the audit is to determine whether contracting officers complied with the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a) and the Berry Amendment (10 U.S.C. 2241 note) when they procured military clothing and related items. The audit should be completed by September 30, 2000 and the results submitted to Congress.

I introduce this legislation in response to the findings of an IG audit conducted last year pursuant to an amendment I had included in the fiscal year 1998 defense authorization bill, Public Law 105-85, directing the Pentagon's IG to audit the procurement of military clothing and related items.

I was deeply troubled by the findings of the audit (Report No. 99-023). The audit found, among other things, that "151 of 256 contracts (59 percent) did not include the appropriate clause to implement the Buy American Act or the Berry Amendment. The noncompliance

with the Buy American Act and the Berry Amendment resulted in 43 potential violations of the Antideficiency Act."

The audit only covered 12 military organizations. The likelihood is very high that there had been widespread violations of the Buy American Act throughout the military. The audit noted that procurement officials within the Department of Defense have agreed to issue policy guidance to contracting officers emphasizing the importance of complying with the Buy American Act. However, I am concerned that there will continue to be widespread violations of the Buy American Act unless the Congress exercises continued vigilance in this area.

That is why I am introducing this legislation. My bill will ensure the IG conducts a follow-up audit to determine whether or not the Pentagon has effectively addressed the widespread Buy American Act violations revealed in the original audit. I hope all Members will support this important bill.

HONORING WEST UNIVERSITY PLACE, TEXAS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate West University Place, Texas, on the occasion of its 75th anniversary, which they will celebrate with a series of events throughout 1999. The first event will be the reopening this Saturday, February 6, 1999, of the newly refurbished City Hall, which was built back in 1955.

West University Place was originally developed by former Tennessee Governor Ben Hooper, who wanted to build a community of country homes outside Houston out of an old Spanish land grant that had been surveyed by A.C. Reynolds. In 1912, Governor Hooper bought 750 acres of land that became the city of West University Place because of its proximity to Rice University.

West University Place, known affectionately as "West U," had humble origins. By early 1923, only about 40 families lived in West University Place, an area remembered as a low-lying, poorly drained swamp, that flooded whenever it rained heavily. West University Place incorporated to help its residents accomplish together what they could not do alone. That is, residents needed to build the necessary infrastructure to protect themselves and their property from heavy rain and flooding—streets, drainage systems and water sewers—and provide for schools, police, and fire protection.

In the first step toward incorporation, community leaders filed a plat of their proposed city in October 1923. There were 29 signatories, all of whom had lived in West U for at least six months. The petition to incorporate was filed with Harris County Commissioners Court on December 1, 1923, and signed by County Judge Chester H. Bryan. The Judge ordered an election for incorporation on December 18, 1923. The election drew a total of 30 people, all of whom voted to incorporate.

The incorporation papers were signed on January 2, 1924.

In the years since, West U has grown into a thriving community that, together with Houston and the rest of Harris County, is one of the nation's great metropolitan areas. Today, over 13,000 residents live in West U. The City has progressed toward its present position as one of the area's most desirable neighborhoods. Civic-minded citizens and small-town governments, combined with a proximity to major business, educational, cultural, and scientific centers have enriched life for all living in the Houston metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate West University Place and all of its citizens as they celebrate their 75 anniversary. I wish them continued success as they build on the strong sense of community they have established in West University Place, Texas.

IN MEMORY OF C. SAM THEODUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of C. Sam Theodous. Sam was a great national labor leader and a great friend to many, particularly in the Greater Cleveland area; I am proud to count myself as having been Sam's friend.

C. Sam Theodous was a key leader in the Teamsters. He was President of Local 407 from 1982 to 1987, and again from 1990-1995. Mr. Theodous was a member of Local 407 for 46 years. He was a man of the people, never placing himself above those he represented. He was dedicated to the advancement of ordinary working men and women, and he dedicated his life to improving the lot of others. This was his life's mission. In addition, Sam was a compassionate leader and loyal colleague.

For anyone who knew Sam, knew that he stood on principle, and was willing to stand up for those beliefs. He fought to introduce rank-and-file elections for national Teamster offices, an idea that was considered impossible at one time. Now, of course, it is the national policy. He also challenged the traditional practice of appointing local leaders; Sam worked to allow all members to determine the leaders. That was the essence of his legacy, fighting for the democratic principles of improving the representation of his fellow Teamsters.

I will always be proud of knowing and working with Sam Theodous. He was always in the trenches with the members, fighting every battle side-by-side with everyone else. Perhaps it was something he learned while serving his country in Korea. Sam's respect and confidence in the rank-and-file was recognized in 1991 when the Teamsters instituted their first rank-and-file election. He was the top vote getter for the position of vice-president in that election. Clearly the national Teamsters recognized what Local 407 had long known—that Sam Theodous was an incredible, compassionate, and dignified leader.

I will miss Sam. To his wife Lillian, and his loving family, I extend my heartfelt sympathies.

God Bless Sam Theodous.

TRIBUTE TO POLICE LEADER ED
KIERNAN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform the House of the passing of longtime New York City Patrolmen's Benevolent Association President Edward Kiernan, a dedicated leader and advocate for the needs and rights of our law enforcement officials. He made a major impact on their quality of life. Ed Kiernan died suddenly of a stroke on January 23 at his home in Congers, NY, at the age of 78.

A native of Queens, Kiernan was a longtime New York City police officer who worked his way up the leadership ladder in the Police Benevolent Association until he achieved the position of President in 1969. He moved to Rockland County in 1966, soon after successfully lobbying New York State to change its laws to allow New York City law enforcement officers to live outside the city limits.

I had the honor of working closely with Ed Kiernan on police related matters during my three terms in the New York State Assembly, and since coming to the Congress. Ed Kiernan was an outstanding police official and labor leader who made a genuine impact on the quality of life of those he worked so hard to represent.

Upon his retirement from the police department in 1973, Ed subsequently served as president of the International Union of Police Associations (IUPA), which he had founded, serving in that position from 1978 to 1982. At the time Ed founded the IUPA in 1978, it became the first new union accepted into membership in the AFL-CIO in over a decade.

A native of College Point, NY, Ed Kiernan was educated in parochial schools in that community. He served in the Pacific Theater of World War II in the Army Air Corps, receiving an honorable discharge in Oct. 1945 after distinguished service in Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines, and Okinawa.

Prior to his military service, Ed Kiernan had been employed by the Triboro Bridge and Tunnel Authority. While he was in the service overseas, he was appointed to the New York City Police Department, and was assigned to the 110th Precinct in Queens in Dec. 1945.

Ed was elected a delegate to the PBA in 1947, a trustee in 1953, second vice president in 1958, first vice president in 1960, and was elected president in June 1969. He served in that capacity until August 1972, 5 months prior to his retirement from the New York City Police Department in January 1973.

Beginning in 1959, Ed Kiernan served as chairman of the New York City PBA Legislative Committee. In that capacity he was chief architect and proponent of many bills enacted by the New York State Legislature of enormous benefit to law enforcement officials and their families.

Among his legislative work was: Reform legislation allowing policemen to accept part time work (the "moonlighting" bill); increases in pension, retirement, and health benefit programs; and elimination of the "death gamble" provisions. Ed considered the adoption of leg-

islation allowing New York City policemen to reside outside the city limits his greatest achievement.

President Nixon appointed Ed to the United Nations Committee on Crime and Its Causes. Ten years later, President Reagan appointed him to the President's Task Force on Private Sector Initiatives. In August 1972, Ed was elected President of the International Conference of Police Associations.

Ed Kiernan also served as Commander of American Legion Post #1103. He was a member of Lodge #877 B.P.O. Elks; of the Emerald Society, and the Brooklyn and Queens Holy Name Society. He was a lifetime member of the New York City Police Benevolent Association, the New York State Conference of Police, and the Metropolitan Conference of Police. He served as President of the Metropolitan Conference of Police Associations and was Director of the Eastern Conference on Health and Welfare Funds.

Ed Kiernan is survived by his wife Alice; his 5 sons, Edward Jr., John, Timothy, Kevin and Keith; his 3 daughters, Kathleen, Carol, and Karen; and his 10 grandchildren, Brian Jr., Paul, Marc, Scott, John, Christiana, Kristen, Anton Jr., Catherine and Zachary. I invite our colleagues to join with me in extending condolences to this great family. Hopefully, the knowledge that many share their grief will be of some comfort to them at this time of their loss.

Mr. Speaker, the passing of Ed Kiernan marks the passing of an era when our law enforcement officials fought successfully for the respect and dignity for those who put their lives on the line for all of us. Ed Kiernan was a general in that successful battle. We all owe him our eternal gratitude. He will long be missed.

IN MEMORY OF COUNCILMAN JIM
HAAKE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Councilman James B. Haake of Jefferson City, MO.

A lifelong resident of the Jefferson City area, Councilman Haake graduated from St. Peters High School before serving in the Navy during the Korean war. From 1957 to 1962, he was employed by the Jefferson City Fire Department. He owned and operated Riteway Limousine Service from 1961 to 1990. For the last 9 years he operated Riteway Courier Service and the Big Dipper.

Councilman Haake was an active member in the community, serving the Second Ward on the Jefferson City Council for the past 16 years. He was a member of St. Peters Church, a charter member and past president of the evening Lions Club and a past district governor of the Lions Club International, District 26B. He also received the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award from the Lions Club International.

During Jim's tenure on the Jefferson City Council, he displayed common sense and

worked hard for his constituents. He was a no-nonsense councilman, and he will be truly missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife, Catherine Fiend; his son, Charles; his two daughters, Karen and Christa; his two brothers, and his five grandchildren.

RAPHAEL UNDERWOOD'S
REFLECTIONS ON THE 106TH

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I took my son to the floor to witness the swearing in of his father. He submitted this report to his eighth grade civics class at Hayfield Secondary School:

My current events is not really an article, but based on a real life experience. On January 6, 1999, the first meeting of the 106th Congress took place. This was a day of finding a new Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Members to take an oath of office. Of the 427 Members present, 220 voted for Representative Hastert and 205 voted for Representative Gephardt, with Representatives Gephardt and Hastert voting "present." Speaker Hastert then swore in the Members to the 106th Congress.

I thought today was supposed to be one of joy for Members more than anyone else. What I found out was that today was not very pleasing. I knew that all U.S. Territories were represented by non-voting Delegates. By this I thought they could vote but it would not count. Today after the Roll, where each Member stated their vote for the Speaker's race, all five territories: District of Columbia, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and Guam were not allowed to show their support—not even called during roll call. This is when the Delegate from Puerto Rico stood up in protest, demanding that the Territories be heard. The Republicans answered with remarks such as "regular order" and "reread the Constitution." I think it was wrong for the Republican Party to act in this manner.

The clerk then spoke, "Only representatives-elect are able to vote." The Congressman then took his seat. I did not understand. The Delegates were elected the same way every Member on that floor. By voting for the Speaker you elect another voice, but a voice for all of the Representatives. To know that the Delegates don't get a chance to elect the Speaker, just as the people of their district elected them, does not fully fulfill the meaning of true representation.

I felt angry knowing that my father, who represents the United States Territory of Guam, who does the same work as any other Member on the floor is still denied his right to vote. Just because you live on the mainland it does not mean you are more American than an American living from far away lands.

Just because I was born on an island far away from the mainland does not make me more or less of an American born in New York, Florida, Virginia or Ohio. I may be considered a foreigner to some, but we were all foreigners at one time. We all pledge allegiance to the same flag, have the same government and share a President, yet are still denied to speak our voice—the voice of an American citizen.

H.R. 330, THE ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND TAX FREEDOM ACT**HON. RON PACKARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of our nation's families, and against the enormous tax increases imposed by the Clinton administration.

Today I cosponsored Congressman VITO FOSSELLA's (R-NY) bill, H.R. 330, which provides a 30% across the board income tax cut for all Americans. If we can not provide tax relief when we have a \$76 billion surplus, when can we? A 30% across the board income tax cut will allow our families to keep more of their money while encouraging our nation's economic growth.

It is time to let the hardworking men and women who generated the surplus keep some of this money for themselves. Too often our nation's families have to do without, so Washington bureaucrats can go on a spending spree. This money belongs to the people and should be spent by the people.

The fact is, if we keep this surplus in Washington, it will be spent. Let's stand up for the hard working men and women in America. I encourage all my colleagues to support a 30% across the board income tax cut.

IN MEMORY OF DEAN GRIFFIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Dean Griffin, president of the Cleveland chapter of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA). He was a consummate professional as a broadcaster and a strong proponent of achieving fairness in union representation.

Mr. Griffin was born in East St. Louis, IL and received a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Southern Mississippi. He held various radio jobs around the country before he moved to Cleveland and reported the news for WJKW radio and television in the 1960's and 1970's. He was known as an excellent political reporter and covered events such as national political conventions and the space program.

After 11 years at WJKW Mr. Griffin lost his job when the network was sold. I had the pleasure of working with Dean when he served as a liaison between the Cleveland City Council and the mayor's office. At this same time he held positions as secretary of the Fire Department, where he was known to fight for the local labor union on important issues, and as chief of the Burke Lakefront Airport.

In the 1980's, Mr. Griffin returned to radio and television, working for WAKR in Akron. While his daughter, Dawn, marched in the Brunswick High School Band Mr. Griffin announced the pregame, halftime, and competitive shows, continuing to announce the events even after she graduated.

Mr. Griffin spent his life illustrating how to be an outstanding journalist and broadcaster.

As long-time president of AFTRA he always worked diligently to better union representation and the lives of workers. He will be greatly missed.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF STEVE
AND ELEANOR ZARUTSKIE**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to call to the attention of our colleagues two remarkable residents of New York State who are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary this coming weekend.

Steve and Eleanor Zarutskie settled in Newburgh, NY, soon after their marriage in 1949, and have remained there ever since. They are both natives of the anthracite coal mining region of eastern Pennsylvania, both of their fathers having been coal miners. They have known each other since childhood. Eleanor was born in the small community of Frackville, and Steve in the even smaller adjacent community of Gilberton. Steve and Eleanor both graduated from Gilberton (PA) High School on June 6, 1944. Steve was class president, but his oration was interrupted by members of the audience leaving the auditorium to hear the latest radio bulletins on the D-Day invasion of Normandy, which took place earlier that same day.

With World War II in full swing, Steve enlisted in the Navy soon after graduation and asked Eleanor to wait for him. She went to work for the post office in Gilberton while he served in the south Pacific. Finally, upon his return from overseas and his military discharge, they were married in Maizeville, PA, on February 6, 1949.

Having spent their honeymoon visiting relatives in Orange County, New York, they decided they liked the scenic beauty of the mid Hudson valley, the employment opportunities of this crossroads of the northeast, and the friendliness of our New Yorkers enough to move permanently to our region. They settled in Newburgh during the summer of 1949, and soon became Orange County natives. Their family was extended by the birth of two sons, Andrew in 1950 and Stephen in 1954.

Mr. Speaker, in today's climate when commitment seems to have become passe, we can all join in our admiration and respect for Steve and Eleanor Zarutskie who worked as a team to raise their family throughout the trials and tribulations of the second half of the twentieth century.

I invite my colleagues to join in extending our congratulations on this milestone occasion to Steve & Eleanor Zarutskie and with best wishes for health and happiness in the years ahead.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS
WALSH**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay my respects and honor a community leader and

loyal democrat, Mr. Thomas Walsh. Thomas Walsh passed away last October at the age of fifty-seven.

Thomas Walsh was a devoted public servant and leader in the Chicago, Illinois community of Mt. Greenwood. Thomas Walsh lent his political expertise and strong leadership to numerous democratic candidates across the city, including myself. As a political strategist, Mr. Walsh contributed a working family man's perspective to numerous elected officials. Mr. Walsh was an Army Veteran and a career law enforcement officer, serving on the Chicago Police Department from 1966-1991 and as an Assistant Chief with the Cook County Sheriff's Department from 1991-1998.

An avid athlete, Mr. Walsh also found the time to coach various sports teams, including the Mt. Greenwood Little League and the Mt. Greenwood football program. Mr. Walsh played softball himself in the Chicago Police League from 1966 to 1998.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to pay tribute to Mr. Walsh. As a valuable and revered public servant, community leader, political confidante, and coach, he will be greatly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER BRAUN

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding citizen of Los Angeles, Peter Braun, who for the past 10 years has led a very extraordinary organization, the Los Angeles Alzheimer's Association. Under Peter's creative leadership, the Association is helping more than 150,000 families in Los Angeles who are dealing with the awful challenge of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The Association provides direct support and assistance, information, and referral to services for people with the disease and the families who care for them. It has also been instrumental in shaping the health and long term care system to which families turn for help, through training and direct advocacy with care providers and with local and state agencies and legislative bodies.

The following are just a few examples of the work the Los Angeles Alzheimer's Association is doing to shape the delivery of health care to people with dementia.

With initial support from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration and the California Department of Health, the Association has created national models of culturally relevant community services for Latino families in South Central Los Angeles and for African-American families in Inglewood.

Working again with the California Department of Health, the staff of the Association has led development of clinical practice guidelines for Alzheimer care that are being used by physicians throughout the state.

In partnership with Kaiser Permanente in Southern California, the Association is developing a model for managed care for persons with dementia—through clinical practice guidelines for diagnosis and management, physician and staff training, and case management.

Peter has built the Los Angeles program to become the largest of more than 200 chapters

in the national network of the Alzheimer's Association. But his commitment to the organization goes beyond his own chapter. He has been a key collaborator with his colleagues in other chapters in helping to shape the direction of the entire Alzheimer movement in this country. And just last week, the President of the Alzheimer's Association appointed Peter to serve on the management committee of the national organization.

On Friday, the people of Los Angeles will celebrate the tenth anniversary of Peter Braun's service to the Alzheimer's Association. It is a personal pleasure for me to join in recognizing his leadership, his commitment, and his dedication to his organization, to his community, to the Alzheimer movement, but most particularly, to the families who turn to the Association for help.

**BARB ALBERTSON: A POSITIVE
INFLUENCE ON BAY COUNTY**

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the toughest and most pleasing position in public service is that of local officials. It is the toughest because no matter where you go, you are always encountering constituents who rightly bring to you problems and concerns. It is the most pleasing because you get to see the effects of your efforts in the satisfied faces of the people you represent. For the past 38 years, the people of Bay County, Michigan, my home county, have had the good fortune to be served by an outstanding woman, Barbara J. Albertson, who retired on January 1st. This week she is being honored for her commitment to Bay County, and those honors are very well deserved, indeed.

Barb was hired in 1960 by former County Clerk Steven Toth. After four years, she was promoted to Chief Deputy Clerk, after the death of Barney Balcer. Since the Clerk's position is an elected one, Barb sought the people's approval in 1984 after Clerk Toth announced he would not run for another term. Barb took up the challenge and scored a decisive victory after going door to door, and from event to event. The lesson she learned in that campaign—it's important to make yourself as visible as possible—was a policy she kept alive as the Bay County Clerk herself.

During her fourteen years as Clerk, Barb Albertson modernized the recordkeeping system of the Clerk's Office, using a portion of a federal grant and a temporary staff of four to put all court documents and vital records dating back to the 1800's on microfilm. Since her initial efforts, all of these records, including births, deaths, and divorces are filmed each year, with the records being accessible by computer for the ease of everyone in the community. She also improved the election process by switching from voting machines to a computerized election system, which saves taxpayers at least \$60,000 per election.

Barb readily acknowledges the excellent work done by her staff of four full-time Deputy Clerks plus a Chief Deputy Clerk. Linda Tober, the Chief Deputy Clerk, recognizes the reason that this staff has been so successful when she says, "I feel like I've been trained by the best."

As Barbara Albertson begins her well-deserved retirement, and has the chance to spend more time with her husband, William Silvernale, and plans to fish, golf, and travel, it is only right that we all take a moment to say: Thank you, Barb. Thank you for caring about our community, our neighbors, our heritage and our future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in recognition of Barbara J. Abertson's outstanding career of public service. May all of our communities have the good fortune to be served by more caring and thoughtful individuals like her.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE STAND
DOWN AUTHORIZATION ACT OF
1999**

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Stand Down Authorization Act of 1999. This important legislation will build up and expand the VA's role in providing outreach assistance to homeless veterans.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), more than 275,000 veterans are without homes every night and twice as many may be homeless during the course of the year. Based on this statistic, one out of every three individuals who is sleeping in a doorway, alley or box in our cities and rural communities has put on a uniform and served our country. Unfortunately, these numbers are only expected to increase as the military downsizes.

In times of war, exhausted combat units requiring time to rest and recover were removed from the battlefield to a place of safety. This procedure was known as "Stand Down." Today, Stand Downs which help veterans are held across our nation. Stand Downs are grassroots, community-based intervention programs designed to help the estimated 275,000 veterans without homes in our country. Today's battlefield is too often life on the streets for our nation's veterans.

The Stand Down Authorization Act of 1999 will direct the VA to create a pilot program that would establish Stand Down programs in every state. Currently, only 100 Stand Down events take place in a handful of states annually. In addition, my legislation would also authorize the VA to distribute excess supplies and equipment to Stand Downs across the nation.

I have participated in several Stand Down events back in my home state of Minnesota. The Stand Down Authorization Act of 1999 will build upon the success of the Minnesota Stand Down and serve as a national role model for all states to adopt. Furthermore, the Administration allocated \$1.5 million in the Presidents Fiscal Year 2000 budget request to Congress. This will allow the VA to formally support Stand Down events for veterans without homes in Minnesota and across the nation. This budget request is only a one year proposal, however, my legislation will establish Stand Downs in each state each year starting in the year 2000.

The first such special Stand Down, held in 1988, was the creation of several Vietnam veterans. The goal of the event was to provide

one to three days of hope designed to serve and empower homeless veterans. Since then, Stand Downs have provided a means for thousands of homeless or near-homeless veterans to obtain a broad range of necessities and services including food, clothing, medical care, legal assistance, mental health assessment, job counseling and housing referrals. Most importantly, Stand Downs provide a gathering that offers companionship, camaraderie and mutual support.

Thousands of volunteers and organizations over the past decade have done an outstanding job donating their time, expertise and energy to address the unique needs of homeless or near homeless veterans and their families. Currently, the VA coordinates with local veteran service organizations, the National Guard and Reserve Units, homeless shelter programs, health care providers and other members of the community in organizing the Stand Down events annually. However, much more action is needed to address the persistent and growing number of homeless veterans who have fought honorably to preserve our freedom and now face personal crisis in their lives. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Vets (DAV) and the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) have endorsed this legislation. In addition, the Stand Down Authorization Act has the strong support from over 50 Members of Congress.

Veterans in past service unconditionally stood up for America. Now we must speak up and stand up for veterans today. I urge all members to join with me in providing outreach assistance to veterans without homes by co-sponsoring the Stand Down Authorization Act of 1999.

IN HONOR OF ERNIE LAMANNA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ernie LaManna. For 50 years Ernie, 60, has worked in the barber shop on the corner of Lorain and West 65th. When he emigrated to Cleveland from Bari, Italy, in 1948, he worked in his father's barber shop, shining shoes.

Ernie received his barber's license in 1954, a year before he graduated from West High School. Mr. LaManna briefly left the barber shop in 1956 to serve his country in the Armed Forces for two years. For a while in the late 1950's Ernie and his father, Frank, worked side by side. A picture showing Frank, Ernie, and another barber is a treasured keepsake for Ernie. Like many small businessmen, hard work and perseverance have helped the LaManna's barber shop to thrive. Ernie's dedication and commitment to his customers is outstanding. Among Ernie's many loyal customers is Dave Long who has had his hair cut by a LaManna for over 60 years.

After 50 years of work, Ernie LaManna still enjoys what he is doing. He likes the social aspects of his job and is always eager to strike up a conversation with passers-by. His enthusiasm and sense of humor have helped him to maintain a strong and vital business.

Ladies and gentlemen please join me in recognizing Ernie LaManna's 50 years of tireless work.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY VACCO
ON RECEIVING THE VILLAGE OF
BEDFORD PARK COMMITTEE'S
MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly remarkable public servant, Anthony (Tony) Vacco, who was recently selected to receive the village of Bedford Park, Illinois' 1998 Man of the Year award.

Mr. Vacco was appointed Mayor and Village President of Evergreen Park, Illinois on October of 1968 to fill a vacancy. He was so good at his job, that he was elected in 1969 and has been re-elected for each term ever since, and will again be a candidate for that office this spring.

Mr. Vacco serves his community in every aspect of his life. He supports and/or is a member of numerous local charities, civic, fraternal, service, educational and religious organizations. Among his charitable events is the Evergreen Park Cancer Society "Love Lights A Tree" program at Christmas. Through his efforts, the Evergreen Park Cancer Society unit is the most prosperous fundraising unit in all of Illinois. Mr. Vacco has taken on numerous leadership roles, including serving as President of the Southwest Council of Mayors since 1976.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Vacco on receiving this prestigious award, and extend to him my best wishes for continued service to the community.

ABSALOM JONES DAY CELEBRATION
BENEFITS BLACK EPISCOPAL
SCHOLARSHIP AND ENDOWMENT
FUNDS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in a tribute to the legacy and spirit of Absalom Jones, an 18th century slave and join the 1999 Absalom Jones Day Celebration presented by the Washington Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians. "Standing Firm in Faith: Accepting the Challenge" is the theme of the celebration.

Mr. Speaker, Absalom Jones, a house slave, was born in 1746 in Delaware. He taught himself to read from the New Testament and other books. At the age of sixteen, he was sold to a store owner in Philadelphia where he attended a night school for Blacks that was operated by the Quakers. At the age of twenty, he married another slave and purchased her freedom with his earnings. Absalom Jones bought his own freedom in 1784.

At St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church, he served as lay minister for its Black membership. Jones's active evangelism, and that of his friend Richard Allen, greatly increased Black membership at St. George's. The alarmed vestry decided to segregate Blacks into an upstairs gallery without notifying them. During a Sunday service when ushers

attempted to remove them, the Black parishioners walked out in a body.

In 1787, Black Christians organized the Free African Society, the first African-American society Absalom Jones and Richard Allen were elected overseers. Members of the Society paid monthly dues for the benefit of those in need, and established communication with similar Black groups in other cities. In 1792, the Society began to build a church which was dedicated on July 17, 1794.

The African Church applied for membership in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania with the following conditions: 1. That they be received as an organized body; 2. That they have control over their local affairs; and 3. That Absalom Jones be licensed as a layreader and, if qualified, be ordained as minister. In October 1794, it was admitted as St. Thomas African Episcopal Church. Absalom Jones was ordained as a deacon in 1795 and as a priest on September 21, 1802. The Reverend Absalom Jones was the first Black priest in the Episcopal Church.

Reverend Jones was an earnest preacher who denounced slavery. His constant visiting and mild manner made him beloved by his own flock and by the community. St. Thomas Church grew to more than 500 members during its first year. Known as the "Black Bishop of the Episcopal Church", Reverend Jones was an example of persistent faith in God and in the Church as God's instrument.

Mr. Speaker, the Washington Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians uses its Absalom Jones Day Celebration in two significant ways. First, the proceeds which are generated will be used for the benefit of the Black Episcopal College scholarship and endowment funds. Scholarship recipients include Saint Augustine's College which was founded in 1867 and is affiliated with the Protestant Episcopal Church. The college is committed to teaching the importance of achievement, leadership and community service. Saint Paul's College was founded in 1888 as Saint Paul's Normal and Industrial School, and became Saint Paul's Polytechnic Institute in 1941. It received authority to offer a four-year degree program in 1941, and the name was changed to St. Paul's College in 1957. Its liberal arts, career-oriented, and teacher education programs prepare graduates for effective participation in various aspects of human endeavor. Voorhees College stands as testimony to the faith and determination of its founder, Elizabeth Evelyn Wright. A former student of Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee, Miss Wright, at 23, dreamed the seemingly impossible dream of starting a school for Black youth in Denmark, South Carolina. From its founding in 1897 as Denmark Industrial School, Voorhees has evolved into a leading four-year, liberal arts college—the first historically Black institution in the state of South Carolina to achieve full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Secondly, the celebration will include recognition of a person whose life and work in the church and community exemplifies the legacy and spirit of the Reverend Absalom Jones. Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to join this tribute to the legacy and spirit of Absalom Jones and salute the honoree of the evening.

REINTRODUCTION OF SLUSH FUND
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, in the 105th Congress the Republican majority changed House rules to allow the creation of a nearly \$8 million "reserve fund" for unanticipated committee expenses.

With the advent of biennial committee funding, setting aside resources for unforeseeable contingencies makes sense.

No one can know with certainty 2 years in advance what demands House committees may face. If contingencies do not arise, and the funds are not needed, they can be used to reduce the public debt.

But somewhere a good idea went awry. Republican leaders used the reserve not as a rainy-day fund for unforeseen contingencies, but as a slush fund for their partisan projects.

Most of the nearly \$8 million was eventually disbursed, not for committee expenses a reasonable person would consider unforeseeable, but instead for political investigations of the administration and the working men and women of organized labor.

And under procedures established by the Republican leadership, these millions were disbursed without any vote of the House. Committees devised their plans for partisan investigations, often without even informing the minority. If Speaker Gingrich approved of a plan, the majority of the House Oversight Committee rubber stamped it in a "ministerial" act, and the money flowed.

There was no floor debate, vote, or accountability to the American people for how millions of dollars were to be spent.

To improve accountability and bring the process into the open, last March I introduced House Resolution 387, to require a House vote before any disbursements could be made from the reserve fund.

Unfortunately, the Rules Committee did not approve this reform. Today, I reintroduce it with the cosponsorship of the ranking Democrat on every legislative committee of this House.

I had hoped that with a new Speaker who spoke so eloquently on opening day about bipartisanship and meeting the Democratic minority half way, reintroducing this resolution might be unnecessary.

But the rules adopted by the majority that same day again permit creation of a slush fund, from which disbursements may be made without a floor vote, thereby signaling the majority's intention to proceed as before.

Until it is clear that the reserve fund will be used solely as a hedge against unforeseen contingencies, rather than as petty cash for political sideshows, then the House should debate and vote on how those funds will be used.

When Democrats controlled this House, the only way committees could get more funds for unanticipated needs was through debate and approval of a supplemental expense resolution on this floor. That is the time-honored, open process that lets the public see what's going on and know whom to hold accountable.

By contrast, under Republican control, committees can get more money through a process essentially hidden from public view and for which most Members are not accountable.

The lack of openness and scrutiny creates an opportunity for partisan mischief, and the majority yielded to temptation in the last Congress.

In this new Congress, let's not repeat our mistake. Let's following through on the Speaker's promise of bipartisanship and cooperation.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to eliminate the preemption of State prescription drug benefit laws in connection with Medicare+Choice plans. I am pleased to be joined in this endeavor by every member of the Massachusetts congressional delegation.

Mr. Speaker, on January 1, 1999 many seniors in Massachusetts lost the unlimited prescription drug benefit available from their Medicare HMO due to a provision in federal law that was interpreted by a court to override Massachusetts state law. Massachusetts is the only state which had a law of this kind—one which required Medicare+Choice plans doing business in the state to provide an unlimited prescription drug benefit to seniors. Despite the efforts of the entire Massachusetts congressional delegation, the Administration, and the Governor of Massachusetts to find a legislative or administrative fix at the end of last year, which included making it possible for the HMOs to do the right thing and extend the benefit, the HMOs refused to provide the unlimited benefit. This vital benefit must be restored, and the legislation I am filing today will restore the coverage this year.

Mr. Speaker, my Massachusetts colleagues and I believe that Congress did not intend to pre-empt the Massachusetts prescription drug benefit law and force seniors in Massachusetts to choose between prescription drugs and food or other necessities when it passed the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Congress can clarify its intent by passing the bill we are introducing today, and correct the gross injustice perpetrated upon Massachusetts seniors enrolled in these plans.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 520—THE DEVIL'S SLIDE TUNNEL ACT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, we on the Pacific Coast of our nation face the periodic wrath of nature when the El Niño storms lash our coast. We faced that last year. We faced a similar series of El Niño winter storms in 1983 which wreaked havoc with our coast. I am sure my colleagues remember the images of Pacifica, California, in my Congressional District of homes sliding down cliffs into the pounding surf below.

One of the most serious concerns along the Pacific Coast 12 miles south of San Francisco is the impact of these periodic storms upon a section of the Coast Highway, Highway 1,

which is known locally as Devil's Slide. This part of the highway precariously hugs a cliff high above the pounding surf of the Pacific Ocean 600 feet below.

In 1983, the winter storms forced the closure of Highway 1 at Devil's Slide for six months after a section of the roadway slipped into the ocean. In the winter of 1998 another series of winter storms resulted in the closure of the highway for several weeks.

The closure of the highway at Devil's Slide has left residents and businesses dangerously isolated. Perennial closures of Devil's Slide have had a devastating effect on coastal communities and residents. Residents have endured unbearable commutes; access to emergency medical care and other services have been threatened; businesses have lost thousands of customers; and some businesses have failed as a result of the closure of the highway. For residents and businesses along the San Mateo County coast, it is vital to maintain the integrity of Highway 1 in this area.

Mr. Speaker, 16 years ago, in 1983, heavy winter rains left a 250-foot-long crevice in the road which made the road impassible for 4 months. Then Chairman of the Surface Transportation Subcommittee, Glenn Anderson, held a series of field hearings in Half Moon Bay and Pacifica, CA, and committee members carefully surveyed the unstable roadway which was sliding into the sea at a rate of 3 inches a day. Committee members viewed 8-foot-deep cracks and fissures in the roadbed and determined that this vital transportation link was eligible for emergency Federal funds. At my request, the Congress provided funding for the permanent repair of Highway 1 at Devil's Slide.

The California Department of Transportation [CALTRANS] made temporary repairs to the roadway and proposed building a controversial 4.5 mile long bypass around Devil's Slide as the permanent repair. Many of the residents opposed the bypass on environmental and other grounds, and construction was delayed in the courts for over a decade. More recently, a false sense of security, brought on by 10 years of drought, ended in January 1995, when heavy rains again closed Devil's Slide for extended periods, disrupting the lives and livelihoods of tens of thousands of residents and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, after public debate and lengthy lawsuits, the voters of San Mateo County resolved the conflict in a referendum in which the voters decided overwhelmingly in favor of the construction of a mile-long tunnel at Devil's Slide rather than the earlier proposal for a bypass which would involve extensive cutting and filling of Montara Mountain. The referendum amends the local coastal plan, substituting a tunnel as the preferred permanent repair alternative for Highway 1 at Devil's Slide, and prohibits any other alternative unless approved by the voters. Following the release of a Federal Highway Administration sponsored study which found that the tunnel is environmentally feasible and its costs would not differ significantly from the costs of a bypass, CALTRANS reversed its opposition to a tunnel at Devil's Slide.

Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced H.R. 520, the Devil's Slide Tunnel Act, to ensure that funds already appropriated and obligated for Devil's Slide will remain available to CALTRANS to build the tunnel at Devil's Slide.

This legislation will provide greater flexibility to State transportation officials to use Federal funds already appropriated by Congress to fix this vital transportation link.

Joining me as cosponsors of this legislation are bipartisan members of the Bay Area congressional delegation whose constituents are most affected by the Devil's Slide highway problem—my colleagues, Tom Campbell of San Jose, Anna Eshoo of Atherton, and Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, if local and state agencies and the citizens of a region determine that a better transportation alternative exists than the alternative for which funds have been obligated, as was the case for Highway 1 at Devil's Slide, then the Federal Government should provide greater funding flexibility, as long as all other Federal laws are complied with. It is important that we not permit these funds to lapse. The rebuilding of a severely damaged highway in its existing location may no longer be feasible, and in such cases funds already available to a community should continue to be available.

History tells us that Devil's Slide will wash out again—it is only a matter of time. It is my hope that swift enactment of this legislation will ensure a permanent solution to the residents of the San Mateo County Coastside. I urge my colleagues to support the "Devil's Slide Tunnel Act."

TRIBUTE TO MARCY TUBLISKY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marcy Tublisky, Executive Director of the Hauppauge Industrial Association, who is being honored on February 9, 1999, by the members of the HIA on the occasion of her 10th year of service to them.

Marcy's career is reminiscent of many success stories in the manner of our great American tradition.

Marcy Tublisky began her working life as an Elementary School Teacher in the Bronx, but she did not rest when the school bell rang to end the day. Through her extensive years as a volunteer, she served the PTA as its President, gave her time as Pink Lady at St. John's Hospital, and was appointed to the Small Business Advisory Council. Marcy is an alumna of the Citizens Police Academy, and a member of the Suffolk County Police Reserves. In addition, she has received the Distinguished Business Leaders Award from the March of Dimes.

Since 1989, she embraced the challenge of Executive Director for the Hauppauge Industrial Association. Under her tenacious, caring and committed leadership, the membership has more than doubled.

She has led this organization and its members into partnerships with outside agencies to establish programs that not only have proven beneficial to the HIA membership and their families, but also have enabled them to expand their companies nationally and globally. She is very proud of her membership involvement in HIA's 17 active committees and partnerships with schools, police departments, ambulance corps, and charitable organizations.

Under her watchful eye, the HIA planted the seed for the nation's first intergenerational day care in an industrial park. She embarked on this venture in 1989, and with a handful of volunteers developed and realized her dream. Today, that day-care program has more than 100 participants.

Concentrating on providing the best she could for the membership, she encouraged and convinced the Suffolk County Police Department to place a defibrillator in the Park's police sector car, and to establish a medical emergency police vehicle to provide immediate assistance to the victims of emergency situations in the Industrial Park.

Marcy is a life-long resident of Long Island, where she lives today with Mark, her husband of 35 years. Her pride and joy are her two daughters: Ilyse, a Physical Therapist at South Side Hospital, and Beth, a health-care consultant for Price Waterhouse.

A person is truly judged successful if she is able to bring about positive change that enhances and broadens the lives of others. Clearly, Marcy fulfills this notable standard.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in saluting Marcy Tublisky for her outstanding leadership, creativity and commitment, and to extend our best wishes and congratulations as she is honored by the members of the Hauppauge Industrial Association.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent yesterday, Tuesday, February 2, 1999, and as a result, missed rollcall votes 7 and 8. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 7 and "yes" on rollcall 8.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL A. DEFRANCISCO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great public servant, Paul A. DeFrancisco. Mr. DeFrancisco served the people of Bedford Heights for nearly three decades.

Mr. DeFrancisco worked for 35 years in radio and television. As an employee Paul was diligent, intelligent, and optimistic. His unfailingly positive nature was infectious, and his technical skill helped "Today in Cleveland" run smoothly.

Mr. Paul DeFrancisco's greatest legacy is that of public service. For 29 years Paul worked on the Bedford Heights City Council. His wit and charm converted former foes into lifelong friends. Political opponents spoke highly of Paul's work. The City of Bedford Heights could not have asked for, nor could have received better representation than the high level of service provided by Mr. DeFrancisco. With graciousness and dignity, Paul served his community with humility and honor.

Following ill health in mid 1998, Mr. DeFrancisco resigned from the city council. After his passing the flags in front of the Bedford Heights City Hall flew at half mast, a symbol of his fellow citizens' respect for his long-time public service. To think of Bedford Heights without Paul DeFrancisco is almost impossible. His work and service to the community will be felt for years to come. To be loved by friends and admired by opponents and to serve both is the goal of all great leaders; it is a goal which Paul admirably attained.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in honoring the memory of Paul A. DeFrancisco.

CONTINUE THE U.S. ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to focus the attention of the House of Representatives on a short-sighted decision by Congress last year to terminate the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, an oversight board of the U.S. Information Agency. The advisory commission expires at the end of this fiscal year as a result of a miscellaneous provision hidden inside the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1999, which was enacted hastily by the 105th Congress before adjournment. Today, I am introducing legislation with the gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON) to continue the advisory commission.

The U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy is a highly distinguished Presidentially-appointed panel created by Congress to look broadly into the public interest of U.S. government activities intended to inform, understand and influence public groups in foreign countries. The advisory commission is responsible for assessing the public diplomacy policies and related programs of the United States Information Agency, other U.S. foreign affairs organizations, and U.S. missions located overseas. It has an excellent track record for helping the State Department and USIA achieve its foreign policy goals and giving the American people a meaningful return for their tax dollars.

The advisory commission was created by Congress in 1948 and has remained an independent and bipartisan oversight board for more than half a century. The seven commissioners are appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. They are all private citizens who represent different professional backgrounds and who volunteer their own time as commissioners with the conviction that public diplomacy is indispensable to the national interest and to U.S. foreign policy. The advisory commission reports its findings and recommendations to the President, the Congress, the Secretary of State, the Director of USIA, and the American people. It meets on a monthly basis and has a full-time staff of four with an average annual budget of less than \$450,000. Over the last three years, the advisory commission has returned an average of \$75,000.

Since its creation, the advisory commission has provided oversight of our international ex-

change programs, international broadcasting, and publicly-funded activities of foreign non-governmental organizations. Over the years, it has been chaired by many distinguished members and published several highly acclaimed reports. Recently, the advisory commission has arrived at serious conclusions regarding the training, promotion and spending policies of the State Department and USIA. Accordingly, it has also recommended insightful and intelligent new approaches to guide U.S. diplomats away from current methods that can render them ill-equipped to relate to foreign citizens, foreign news media and the non-governmental organizations, which are increasingly influential in shaping international policy- and opinion-making. These recommendations are intended to help our diplomats communicate more effectively with people other than just their official counterparts and help them recognize and understand foreign attitudes and thinking.

In 1996, for example, the advisory commission issued a series of recommendations under the publication "A New Diplomacy for the Information Age," which called for the combination of the State Department's expertise in dealing with foreign states and USIA's expertise in dealing with foreign publics to maximize the "edge" we enjoy in information and communications technology. Subsequently, the advisory commission made additional recommendations in the report entitled "Publics and Diplomats in the Global Communications Age," which called for more public diplomacy training for all diplomats and establishing a permanent interagency coordinating body to develop and implement diplomatic communication strategies.

The advisory commission's reports illustrate how the increase in global communications and technology makes foreign publics far more important than ever and why we should use our advanced skills in these areas to inform, understand and influence those foreign publics. Last year's report, for instance, explains how Saddam Hussein used public diplomacy to his advantage when he shifted the focus of the world media from his arsenal of weapons of mass destruction to the tragic suffering of Iraqi children, a campaign that did nothing to help the United States build the same coalition in 1998 as assembled against Saddam's sinister regime in 1991. The advisory commission's report, which can be accessed via USIA's web page, also includes intelligent and thoughtful recommendations on how to deal with such problems in the future. I believe this represents one of the most important advisory functions of the commission, and I encourage my colleagues to read the report.

While the State Department reorganization section of the omnibus appropriations legislation retained the advisory commission to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, it eliminated the advisory commission to USIA—a much larger agency. It is important to indicate that there was no provision for the elimination of the advisory commission in the bill as originally passed by the conference committee deliberating the State Department reorganization bill. However, since the omnibus appropriations legislation was not opened for amendments, it was not in order to vote on the advisory commission's continuance. That was not a fair consideration of its future, and

it certainly does not represent good public policy concerning our diplomatic and foreign policy goals.

Mr. Speaker, the State Department consolidation is an overdue reinvention of the U.S. foreign policy establishment for the information age. This reorganization can help us take advantage of our edge in information and technology by using public diplomacy. During the transition period involving USIA's merger into the State Department, the advisory commission's role would be significant as the two cultures learn to work with one another. The advisory commission has a proven track record in making recommendations to Congress and the Administration in support of this strategy and making it work. It is simply not enough to train our diplomats about the language and culture of a foreign country. Nor should they be trained as narrowly focused and secretive specialists who fail to grasp the extent to which the world has changed around them. Rather, we must help them take advantage of the ever-increasing breadth of information and technology in order to effectively reach out and express our message and principles concerning democracy, human rights, free markets and American traditional values. The advisory commission should be continued, and for these reasons I urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan legislation.

THE DUMPING OF CHEAP, ILLEGAL STEEL IN U.S. MARKETS BY JAPAN, BRAZIL, AND RUSSIA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of legislation to be introduced by Representative VISCLOSKY, imposing steel import quotas on countries that are dumping steel in our markets, and by Representative TRAFICANT, to impose a short-term ban on steel imports in the foreseeable future. I also support Representative REGULA's bill calling for immediate changes in the Section 201 procedures used to indicate or prove that foreign imports are causing grave injury to industries and workers in the United States.

The jobs of steel workers are at risk: 10,000 have already lost their jobs, and 24 more will be pushed out of the workplace every day the steel dumping continues.

In 1998 alone, 18 million tons of foreign steel poured into the United States—12.4 million in the third quarter alone. This represents 56 percent more than the third quarter in 1997.

By contrast, America exported a mere 5.5 tons of domestic steel in 1998—the same period in which Russia, Brazil, and Japan unloaded the exact same 5.5 tons of hot-rolled steel imports here.

The United States Steel industry adds \$70 billion a year to the gross domestic product—and you can put a face on that \$70 billion if you think about the thousands of steel workers—their spouses and children—who will suffer even more if we continue to allow illegal steel dumping from foreign markets into ours—for there will be no jobs, no house mortgage or car payment, and no hope for their continued quality of life.

It is time, Mr. Speaker, for the Administration to take care of Americans—and American jobs.

I do not intend to demean the Banana industry—those workers have to be able to earn a living too—but if the President will do for steel what he has done on behalf of bananas, then all will be well.

There have been times in our history when a resource vital to the United States was threatened by foreign producers, and it could happen again. Steel is a vital resource to our national security—our military complex. If we are forced to rely on foreign producers to provide our steel, the entire industry will fold and we could find ourselves held hostage once again.

Mr. Speaker, somebody needs to tell the Administration that it is steel on which our military depends for its weapons and equipment in times of crisis, not bananas, and he must act to stop steel dumping now.

21ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA ANTI-SMOKING WRITING CONTEST

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address an issue of great importance to my constituents in Kern and Tular counties, and indeed, all Americans: teen smoking. Each year, millions of young people begin smoking and become addicted. The question we have to ask ourselves as lawmakers is "why?" Many schools have anti-smoking programs; the health risks are clearly printed on every pack of cigarettes; it is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to purchase tobacco products. Why, then, if students are told in school not to smoke, if we all understand that smoking is dangerous and addictive, and if it is against the law for young people to smoke, do more than one million of our children choose to begin smoking each year?

I wanted to get an accurate assessment of which anti-smoking programs are working and which are not, so I invited fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students in my district to submit their ideas in an essay contest. I asked them to tell me, in their very best writing, the reasons they might choose not to start smoking, ways in which they, their parents, and their schools could discourage other young people from smoking, and finally, I asked them what, if anything, Congress can do on this issue. I read many good ideas from hundreds of students throughout my district on all three points.

Many students proudly took personal responsibility for this decision, saying that the decision not to begin smoking is ultimately left to individuals. Some suggested the creation of new anti-smoking programs in schools, such as one proposed by Eddie Mota, a fifth grader from Panama Elementary School in Bakersfield. Eddie suggested that schools create a program called "Smoking Detour," so that kids won't make the wrong turn." Another idea came from Ashley Cullins, a sixth grader at James Monroe Middle School in Ridgecrest, California, who thinks that communities should create and support anti-smoking clubs.

A lot of students pointed to their parents as the strongest influences in making the decision not to smoke. Britney Lout, a sixth grader at California City Middle School said that it is parents', and not a school's responsibility to tell children the dangers of smoking. Similarly, George Montoya, a seventh grader at Sequoia Middle School in Bakersfield, said that parents should begin teaching their children not to smoke at an early age.

Students presented several interesting, creative ideas as to what Congress could do to eliminate teen smoking. Christopher Duck, an eighth grader at Visalia Christian Academy, proposed stronger penalties for merchants caught selling cigarettes to minors, and creating a limit on the amount of nicotine in cigarettes. And James Margrave, a sixth grade student at Quailwood Elementary School in Bakersfield, wants smoking in movies and television shows to be banned. These are a small sample of the outstanding ideas I heard from students in my district. This is an issue that young people care about very deeply, and I hope that any action we take will consider such options.

I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the full text of the essays submitted by the six students mentioned above.

Smoking causes harm to your body. The tobacco in cigarettes can turn your lungs black. Tobacco can cause you to get cancer and heart disease. Tobacco can make you think unclearly and unable to sleep. Smoking can make you sick and make you die. Kids should be taught about the harmful effects of smoking.

Schools should have a class or programs for students on the bad things smoking can do. The classes should show the students examples of a healthy lung and a black lung. Parents should also teach their kids about smoking at an early age, like eleven years. If one of my friends asked me to smoke, I would say no because I am not a stupid person. I would tell an adult that my friend has cigarettes.

I learned about the awful things smoking can do to your body. I've decided I'd rather live a smoke free life and not die young from lung cancer. I think that Congress should raise the price of cigarettes so that kids could not afford them. Then people would not die from smoking.—George Montoya, seventh grade student, Sequoia Middle School, Bakersfield, California.

Smoking is an option and only one person can make the decision to smoke, and that's you. I personally decided not to begin smoking because I plan on going places with my life and if I start smoking, I won't be able to fulfill my plans. Smoking can become a very bad habit and I don't want to make it a personal habit of mine. My grandmother influenced me not to smoke because I saw how addicted she got and I don't want to be like that.

"Home is where the heart is," and that's where parents should be telling their children how bad smoking can be. No matter the age, from the beginning, children should never want to smoke. Parents can be very skeptical about who their children hang around, but they can't control what their children do when they aren't around so they should be sure to let their children know all they should know. Schools can't search every child every day because it's useless, but every child should have to take health classes to show just how unhealthy smoking is. Friends shouldn't smoke around friends, so that they can't influence others. The only thing Congress can do to stop the use of cigarettes is to stop making cigarettes altogether. People shouldn't be smoking, no

matter who they are.—Britney Lout, seventh grade student, California City Middle School, California City, California.

I believe there are many factors which influence a child to smoke. I have decided not to use any tobacco products due, in part to the government, the D.A.R.E. program, teachers, school counselors, parents, and my church. The government's programs supported my decision not to smoke. The D.A.R.E. program taught me about drugs and ways to say "no" to them. Posters and ads showing pictures of a smoker's lung and a healthy lung helped me to realize how harmful tobacco and drugs are. Advertisements on television also showed me some harmful effects of cigarettes and drugs. They showed that tar in cigarettes is the same as on the roads. My school counselors and teachers played a big role in keeping me from smoking. They taught me why tobacco and other drugs are harmful. My parents set a good example by not using tobacco products. I feel I might disappoint them if I started to smoke. My parents and church set good examples for me to follow. They taught by example to resist drugs. We have had family discussions and talked about why I should not smoke.

I have two suggestions the government can adopt to help kids decide not to smoke. First, create mentor programs that pair "at risk" kids with older, smoke-free kids to encourage the younger kids not to smoke. Second, celebrities can talk to children about not smoking. These people are often more listened to than teachers, counselors, and even parents.—Chris Burnett, seventh grade student, Earl Warren Junior High School, Bakersfield, California

I have decided to never begin smoking and I was influenced most by the assemblies at our school during Red Ribbon Week for the last seven years at Quailwood, my school. I want to become a Major League Baseball player and try to catch Mark McGwire and his home run record and I have figured from all of those assemblies that if I want to do that, I can't start smoking, doing drugs, or drinking. I don't know if it was watching the K9 unit come every year to talk to us, but since that first assembly in kindergarten, I've decided to never start smoking.

Even though I've decided not to smoke, some of my friends have not. I don't want them to ruin their lives so there are a couple of things that schools, parents, and I could do to keep my friends from beginning to smoke. There are many things that schools could do to help kids try not to start smoking. When I was in kindergarten, first grade, and second grade, a lady used to come in and show us a pig's lung that had been around a lot of smoke, almost like a person who smoked. It was horrible looking. She said that if we smoked, our lungs would look like that, and no one wants to have their lungs look like that. I think that all schools should do that, and not only in the first three years of school, but throughout elementary school.

Parents could also help their children not start smoking. Parents could talk to their kids more about saying no to smoking. Tell them how bad it is for your body and what it does to your brain. If kids knew those things it might lessen their chance of smoking. All parents should be good role models. My mom and dad don't smoke and I have no desire to smoke either. They probably had an influence on me not to smoke. Kids might think it's O.K. to smoke if their parents do. There are also many things I could do to help my friends not start smoking. I could tell my friends that if they ever started to smoke, they wouldn't be my friends anymore. I also could tell my friends that if they ever thought about smoking to talk to me be-

cause I'd always do to open to listen to them. I'd do practically anything to stop my friends from starting to smoke.

Those are all things that schools, parents, and I could do to stop kids from starting to smoke, but there are things Congress could do to stop, or at least to reduce the use of tobacco. They could make laws to stop advertising smoking on billboards and in magazines. The tobacco industry tries to make smoking look cool when it's not. Congress could make a law that there shouldn't be smoking on television and in movies. The other day, I saw my favorite actor with a cigarette in his mouth. If I didn't know smoking killed you, I'd probably want to smoke too, because then I could be just like him. The only thing this is doing to kids is influencing us to smoke when we get older. Another law Congress could make to reduce tobacco use is to ban candy cigarettes and gum that look like chewing tobacco. When kids like me see that stuff, it's great; it tastes good, and when we get older, we may want the real thing.—James Margrave, sixth grade student, Quailwood Elementary School, Bakersfield, California

When I was young, I was watching the news with my mother. It was about smoking. The program was about the problems smoking causes. I was watching it closely and I was scared that I was going to have those problems. Although I was scared, I never realized how hard it was going to be to make this decision later on. Here in the sixth grade, I know I will never have to do this.

To help other people make the same decision, small groups from communities need to form clubs for kids aged 11-19 years to have fun and to be safe. In this club there should be no smoking. This group should do things involving kids. It could get money from donations and fundraisers.

I don't think Congress can do too much to reduce smoking. It basically is up to the community and to each person. Some people might disagree and even fight over this matter. Personally I made this decision already, but some kids think it's cool to smoke and they won't stop. Instead of arguing over this, we need to do more educating to show kids that smoking isn't cool.—Ashley Cullins, sixth grade student, James Monroe Middle School, Ridgecrest, California

Tobacco has been a health hazard to America for years, yet, even when they know its dangers, kids still choose to smoke for the chance to be "cool." Somehow, all the programs, clubs, and classes are not getting the message through. Hopefully, the essays being received will give Congress new ideas that will help America become a better place.

There are many influences that have affected my decision not to start smoking. One such influence is the warnings of smoking's dangers. The fact that smoking can cause numerous cancers and can cause a person to stop breathing is a frightening thought. Being brought up in a drug-free environment and then visiting places with a high content of smoke has given me a good picture of the two different worlds has given me a good picture of two different worlds—a good enough picture to make me realize which one is the best for me and the people around me.

I believe that there are a few ways that schools and Congress can make a difference. I think the schools would help if they provided a mandatory class to discuss the dangers and consequences of smoking and tobacco. Then there are a couple of ways I feel Congress can help prevent tobacco use. First, Congress should pass a law that reduces the amount of nicotine put into tobacco products. Second, Congress should raise and enforce penalties on minors who smoke, and on those who sell tobacco to minors. Raising

the taxes on tobacco products would only lead to more thievery and, therefore should not take place.

I hope that these essays have given Congress a better view of the tobacco problem, and I hope that they will put into effect some of the ideas these essays offer. May the Lord have His hand on this situation as we all look and pray for a better America.—Christopher Duck, eighth grade student, Visalia Christian Academy, Visalia, California

I see many store advertisements that encourage people to smoke. Thanks to our Congress, there are no gun advertisements, and Congress should be just as tough on cigarette ads. I would say that guns and tobacco are deadly weapons; one kills fast and the other kills slow. I think that Congress can do many things to keep kids from smoking. Congress and schools should make a program called "smoking detour," to keep kids from making the wrong turn. This program would take kids on a hospital tour to visit patients that are dying from cancer caused by tobacco. How sad it would be to see people with tubes stuck in their noses and pictures of rotten lungs. That sure would discourage me from smoking.

My mom and dad are the best advertisements against smoking. They don't smoke. They tell me, "if you smoke, it will kill you and it will hurt those who love you." Even though I live in a free country, where I have the freedom to smoke, I don't have the right to hurt the freedom of life. I love my family, friends, and my life too much to smoke.—Eddie Mota, fifth grade student, Panama Elementary School, Bakersfield, California

FAIRNESS FOR OUR NATION'S DAIRY FARMERS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced H.R. 444, the "Dairy Promotion Fairness Act," a bill that would create a little more fairness for our Nation's dairy farmers.

We have all enjoyed the recent "Got Milk?" promotions sponsored by the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board. Those commercials remind the public that milk is both good for you, and, frankly, good to have around when you're eating chocolate chip cookies.

All American dairy farmers pay into the Dairy Promotion Program. But there are a group of people who gain from the program, but don't pay for it. Importers of Foreign dairy products. Whether it's cheese from France, or non-fat powdered milk from New Zealand, importers received free advertisements of their products, paid for by our dairy producers. That just isn't fair to our farmers.

Importers of dairy products are the only commodity importers that don't pay into a promotion program. Importers of pork, beef, and cotton are all required to support their respective promotion programs. The Dairy Promotion program should not be treated differently, and our domestic dairy products should not have to subsidize the promotion of foreign dairy products. I urge all members who believe our farmers deserve fairness to support this bill.

IN MEMORY OF ADMIRAL HAROLD
E. SHEAR

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sorrow following the passing of Admiral Harold E. Shear of Groton, Connecticut on February 1, 1999. Admiral Shear served his country in the United States Navy for more than four decades and helped to create the modern ballistic missile submarine force which serves as an indispensable element of our national defense.

At age 10, Harold Shear began his long career at sea by working on his step-father's fishing boat. He entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1938. His class of midshipmen graduated five months early due to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. After a brief tour aboard a surface ship, Harold Shear joined the submarine service. Over the course of the next twenty five years, he was promoted through the chain of command in the submarine force. He served as commanding officer of the diesel-powered submarine U.S.S. *Becuna* (SS 319) and the nuclear ballistic missile sub U.S.S. *Patrick Henry* (SSBN 599). During the Cuban missile crisis Harold Shear served as ballistic missile submarine officer on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he ensured that our force was mobilized quickly in order to demonstrate to the Russians that the United States was prepared to take all steps necessary to remove offensive nuclear weapons from the island.

In 1967, Harold Shear was promoted to Rear Admiral. Throughout the early 1970s he served in a series of high-level Naval positions, including commander-in-chief of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe. In 1975, Admiral Shear was appointed Vice Chief of Naval Operations—the second highest ranking Navy officer in the nation. In his final assignment, Admiral Shear served as commander-in-chief of Allied Forces in southern Europe. He retired from the Navy in 1980.

Admiral Harold Shear served his country with honor and distinction in the Navy for more than forty years. However, he continued to serve his community well after retirement. He played a crucial role in an effort joined by many across southeastern Connecticut to revitalize the port of New London. Admiral Shear worked closely with me and others to convince the Navy to transfer State Pier to Connecticut. Then, he pushed the State to rebuild it and convert it into an international commercial center. Thanks to Admiral Shear's dedication, the Pier today is busy with activity as goods from across Connecticut and New England are loaded onto ships bound for destinations across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, Admiral Harold Shear was an American hero. He defended this nation during some of the darkest hours of our history. He was one of the architects and chief strategists of the modern ballistic missile submarine force. He was an advocate for maritime trade. Having been awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry in action and Navy Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star along with many other honors, it is entirely fitting that Admiral Shear will be buried with other great Americans in Arlington National Cemetery.

The nation says goodbye to a great leader while southeastern Connecticut bids farewell to friend and neighbor.

THE WAGE GAP

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I call upon this Congress to address a major concern of single mothers, working women and working families. The wage gap in America between men and women has been overlooked for far too long.

While women in America have made great strides in the workplace, on average, they earn only 75 cents to a man's dollar.

This issue goes beyond simply ensuring what is equal and right, and has long-lasting economic impacts on our society. While more and more women have become the primary source of family income, the total amount of wages women lost last year due to pay inequity was over \$130 billion.

Single mothers and working families realize the entire family would be better off if women were being paid what they are worth and have rightly earned.

This Congress can continue the commitment to equality by removing the economic barriers which hinder too many women and their families.

That is why I have decided to co-sponsor the "Paycheck Fairness Act", sponsored by Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro. I urge all members of the Congress, and all my fellow Americans to recognize and address this very serious issue.

HONESTY IN BUDGETING ACT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Honesty in Budgeting Act." This is an important bill that I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting.

Right now, the public and elected officials alike are confused about our federal budget. Both President Clinton and the Republican Congressional leadership said we had a budget surplus last year, but the national debt still increased. The public asked, how could we have a surplus but still increase the debt? That is a good question.

The answer is that we didn't really have a surplus last year. We had a \$29 billion deficit in the budget, and a \$99 billion Social Security trust fund surplus. Politicians who wanted to make the numbers seem better than they were ignored those numbers and focused on the "unified" budget surplus of \$70 billion, misleading the American people into thinking that we had extra money in our budget.

The Honesty in Budgeting Act does several things to help remedy that problem. First of all, it simply expresses the sense of the House that all of us in Congress and those in the White House should stop misleading the public and instead talk about the real budget num-

bers—the on-budget numbers. Second, it reinforces Social Security's off-budget status. Finally, it directs the official budgeting agencies of the government, the Congressional Budget Office and the Office of Management and Budget, to stop including Social Security trust funds in its report to Congress and the American public. This is important because while we have previously taken Social Security off-budget, too many elected officials still talk and act like nothing's changed. Eliminating the trust funds figures from the official reports of the CBO and OMB will force Congress to focus on the real budget numbers and stop masking budget deficits with the Social Security trust fund.

I believe that the Honesty in Budgeting Act is particularly important as we now enter an era of surpluses. Latest economic projections indicate substantial budget surpluses as early as this year. These surpluses are non-Social Security surpluses, which is great news. But as we start talking about how to use those surpluses, whether it is to cut taxes, increase investment in education or defense or to pay down the national debt, we must start the debate with honesty. We must set aside all of the Social Security trust fund surpluses for what it is obligated—Social Security—and then have a national discussion about what we should do with any additional surpluses.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, due to a family commitment I missed rollcall votes Nos. 7 and 8. Please let the RECORD show that on House Vote 7, H.R. 68, the Small Business Investment Company Technical Corrections Act, I would have voted "aye." On House Vote 8, H.R. 432, the Dante B. Fascell North-South Center, I would have voted "aye."

INTRODUCTION OF THE AMERICAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS' PRIVACY ACT OF 1999

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the American Financial Institutions' Privacy Act of 1999.

This legislation delays the "Know Your Customer" regulations proposed by the federal banking agencies until authorized by Congress, thereby protecting the privacy rights of American citizens which would otherwise be infringed by these regulations.

In addition, this bill requires agencies to complete a comprehensive study on various economic and privacy issues, which would be submitted to the United States Congress for its review and consent. Only by congressional authorization, will additional "Know Your Customer" regulations be permitted to go into effect.

America's strength has always derived from economic freedom; yet modern America is replete with proposed laws and regulations designed to make this country anything but free.

One such plan proposed by the federal banking agencies would seek to expand provisions included in the Bank Secrecy Act of 1970, called "Know Your Customer." Under current law, all cash transactions over \$10,000, or over \$5,000 if "suspicious" activity is suspected, must be reported to the appropriate banking regulator. In addition, the banks must maintain a record of basic information about each customer (Social Security Number, birth date, occupation, and home and work telephone numbers) in which to identify and track each customer's banking activity. These regulations are designed to attack money laundering.

But, alas, this is not enough. The regulators want your bank to have in its database even more intimate and personal information about every banking customer. They want your bank to become "private detective agencies"—creating a profile on each and every customer. In your "new" profile will be information on where you obtained your funds, what the bank considers to be normal and expected transactions for you, and a mechanism by which the banks monitor activity for transactions that differ from this "profile". Any activity that falls outside the parameters of a customer's "profile" would trigger an alert to law enforcement.

The bank regulators want to sell this program to the American people as an initiative to battle the evils of terrorism, drug trafficking, and other criminal activity. But, Mr. Speaker, these proposed "Know Your Customer" regulations are a blatant infringement on American citizen's civil liberties. These proposed regulations are nothing but intrusive, forceful, and unnecessary.

This is another example of the federal government invoking "Big Brother" to reduce American citizen's private and personal lives. Under authority of present law, the government has complied over 177 million currency transaction reports (CTRs) filed in less than ten years. These laws have met with very little success.

It is not the role of these agencies to seize the individual rights of citizens. That is why I have introduced the American Financial Institutions' Privacy Act of 1999, to allow the regulators the opportunity to re-think the ramifications these "Know Your Customer" regulations will have on the economy and the privacy of the American people. This legislation is narrowly crafted, precisely focused, and does not repeal existing tools for identifying true money launderers.

Mr. Speaker, Majority Whip TOM DELAY, Chairman RICHARD BAKER, of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises, Congressmen SAXBY CHAMBLISS, and TOM CAMPBELL have all decided to be original cosponsors. I urge my colleagues to join me in stopping yet another abuse of power by the Federal Government and simultaneously helping to better understand the loopholes in our current law that allow money launderers to continue their deceptive practices.

I call on my colleagues to support the American Financial Institutions' Privacy Act of 1999.

THE LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR ON
THE PRESIDENT'S SHELL GAME

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent editorial which appeared in the Lincoln (Nebraska) Journal Star, on February 1, 1999.

[From the Lincoln Journal Star, Feb. 1, 1999]
SHELL GAME DOESN'T BELONG IN WASHINGTON

On the carnival midway, it's called the shell game. A fast-talking barker with quick hands flicks the nutshells around while the rubes try to guess which one hides the money.

Inside the Beltway, they play the shell game with taxpayers' money.

One of the best writers at following the game is Allan Sloan, who writes for Newsweek. In the Feb. 1 issue of the magazine Sloan takes a look at "Washington's Math Problem."

In the article Sloan explains how President Clinton could promise in his State of the Union address to save Social Security, help Medicare AND reduce the national debt.

Sloan's answer is that the president's commitments add up to 151 percent of the federal budget surpluses he's projecting for the next 15 years.

Clinton would spend the surplus between the amount taken in for Social Security and the amount paid out. First Clinton would take the \$2.3 trillion already committed to the Social Security Trust Fund and spend it for other purposes. Then Clinton would take \$2.8 trillion he allegedly is committing to "save Social Security and Medicare" and spend that for other things.

Sloan carefully notes that the Clinton administration says his characterization of the numbers game is unfair. Clinton economics advisor Gene Sperling says "The president is responsibly advocating 100 percent of the surplus under the rules of the unified budget."

Well, that's the way they talk inside the Beltway.

Out here in the Flyover Zone we call it bogus.

It helps us to think of America's huge national budget the same way we do a family budget.

In our comparison, Uncle Bill just got a new sales job. He's really hauling in the loot. Now he's boasting about how he's paying off credit card debts, AND squirreling away money in the kid's college accounts.

Part of what that rascally Bill is doing is actually good. He really is paying off debts. But he's just stuffing worthless IOUs in the kid's college accounts.

Uncle Bill's credit card debts are like the \$5.5 trillion national debt. President Clinton's plan would pay down \$3 trillion of that debt. Uncle Bill's college savings are like Social Security. His IOUs are like the worthless treasury notes that President Clinton would put in the Social Security Trust Fund.

Those treasury notes actually do exist. They are pieces of paper held in a Beltway vault. They even must be repaid with interest. But they are not investments; they are debts. They must be paid with taxes.

The most positive aspect of Clinton's plan is that it would be easier to borrow money for Social Security when Baby Boomers

begin retiring in 2010 if the national debt is smaller.

It would be a hilarious charade if so many intelligent and perceptive people didn't believe it. Clinton didn't invent it. It's been played that way for years.

It's time for a change. Taxpayers should insist that the nation's budget figures be presented accurately and straightforwardly.

Anyone who runs their household budget like Uncle Bill is going to have a day of reckoning. So will Uncle Sam, especially if the nation adopts the scheme proposed by President Clinton.

SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the legislation the Small Business Committee has brought to the floor today. Through bipartisan efforts, we were able to unanimously pass this bill in the Committee, which will help small business entrepreneurs, particularly in urban communities, obtain the necessary capital to succeed.

As a member of the Committee and an original co-sponsor of H.R. 68, I would like to briefly explain why this bill is so important to small business owners in the 37th district of California and throughout the country. This bill will help give small businesses increased access to capital by streamlining the operation of the Small Business Investment Company program. Access to capital is one of the biggest challenges facing small businesses today. It is particularly difficult for women business owners who have just 2% of all venture capital.

This measure will allow SBICs, which are a critical public-private partnership helping thousands of small businesses, more flexibility in offering loans, a higher amount of available funding, and lower interest rates. SBICs have invested nearly \$15 billion in long-term debt and equity capital to over 90,000 small businesses. As a result, companies such as Intel, FedEx, AOL and Staples were able to succeed, causing millions of jobs to be created and billions of dollars contributed to our economy. Most important to me and my district, are the ways in which SBICs have helped small businesses in urban areas access the capital they need to grow.

In 1997, we witnessed several innovative creations as a result of the SBIC program—two women owned SBICs and the first Hispanic owned SBIC. This growth and expansion will be accelerated with the passage of H.R. 68. I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this bill and being a part of our ongoing efforts to provide more opportunities to serve small, minority and women owned businesses and entrepreneurs.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 5

8:30 a.m.
YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM
To hold hearings to examine information technology as it applies to the food sector in the Year 2000.

SD-192

9 a.m.
Small Business

Business meeting to consider pending committee business; S. 314, to provide for a loan guarantee program to address the Year 2000 computer problems of small business concerns; the proposed Small Business Investment Company Technical Corrections Act of 1999; and the nomination of Phyllis K. Fong, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

FEBRUARY 9

9:30 a.m.
Budget
To resume hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000.

SD-608

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for elementary and secondary education programs.

SD-430

Armed Services
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, and the future years defense program.

SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on the nomination of Wayne O. Burkes, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation; to be followed by a hearing on S. 96, to regulate commerce between and among the several States by providing for the orderly resolution of disputes arising out of computer-based problems related to processing data

that includes a 2-digit expression of that year's date.

SR-253

FEBRUARY 10

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on Department of Labor budget initiatives.

SD-430

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business Meeting to markup S. 82, to authorize appropriations for Federal Aviation Administration.

SR-253

FEBRUARY 11

8:30 a.m.
YEAR 2000 TECHNOLOGY PROBLEM
To hold hearings to examine information technology as it applies to the food sector in the Year 2000.

SD-192

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Business Meeting to markup S. 313, to repeal the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, and to enact the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1999, and the proposed Financial Regulatory Relief and Economic Efficiency Act of 1999.

SD-538

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on the proposed budget request for the Department of Education.

SD-430

Armed Services
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, and the future years defense program.

SH-216

1 p.m.
Budget
To resume hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000.

SD-608

FEBRUARY 12

9:30 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings on national defense budget issues.

SD-608

FEBRUARY 23

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on Department of Education reform issues.

SD-430

FEBRUARY 24

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Readiness Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the National Security ramifications of the Year 2000 computer problem.

SH-216

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings on antimicrobial resistance.

SD-430

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Public Health and Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings on.

SD-430

FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Fleet Reserve, the Retired Enlisted Association, the Gold Star Wives of America, and the Air Force Sergeants Association.

345, Cannon Building

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on protecting medical records privacy issues.

SD-430

2 p.m.
Judiciary
Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review competition and antitrust issues relating to the Telecommunications Act.

SD-226

MARCH 2

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Veterans of World War I of the USA, Non-Commissioned Officers Association, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, and the Blinded Veterans Association.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 10

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Readiness Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the condition of the service's infrastructure and real property maintenance programs for fiscal year 2000.

SR-236

MARCH 17

10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 24

SEPTEMBER 28

POSTPONEMENTS

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Retired Officers Association.

345, Cannon Building

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345, Cannon Building

8:30 a.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee

To hold hearings to review competition and antitrust issues relating to the Telecom Act.

FEBRUARY 10

SD-226