

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1999

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to reauthorize the programs at the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. A section-by-section analysis of the bill follows this statement.

The activities at the CDFI Fund—the CDFI and the Bank Enterprise Act (BEA) programs—have received high praise over the years as well as intense scrutiny. This legislation, basically a product of our Subcommittee's work from last year, with input from the Oversight Subcommittee of the Banking Committee, draws upon both praise and scrutiny to further the program for the future. The Fund has made numerous Administrative improvements already. With the measures included in this proposed legislation, many of those would be solidified so that problems do not occur in the future and so that everyone can focus on the positive impacts the CDFI programs have had in our communities.

As a strong supporter of local efforts of community development financial groups and financial institutions that focus on undeserved communities, I know that the CDFI programs and related programs that promote microenterprise activities and housing activities are critical to rebuilding and strengthening neighborhoods and their residents. The CDFI intermediaries and institutions that received BEA funds can be the foundation and the building blocks of economic opportunity and employment. They can serve as instigators of change and partners in business, housing and community initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this reauthorization legislation with the Gentlewoman from New Jersey, Mrs. ROUKEMA, with whom I worked to draft this bill over the course of last year. I hope that we will be able to move this bill early in this session so that we can ultimately enact these improvements into law this year.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1999 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 2. CHANGE OF STATUS OF THE FUND; MISCELLANEOUS TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

This section changes the purpose section of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (the Act) to add language that clarifies that the purpose of the Act is to promote economic revitalization and community development not only through investment in and assistance to community development financial institutions (CDFIs) but also through enhancing the liquidity of community development financial institutions, and through incentives to insured depository institutions that increase lending and other assistance and in-

vestment in both economically distressed communities and CDFIs.

This section also changes the Act to reflect the intent of appropriations provisions that made the CDFI Fund a wholly-owned government corporation within the Treasury Department. Technical amendments to the Act eliminate the concept of a Presidentially appointed Administrator of the Fund, and, as with other Treasury programs, vest all the duties and responsibilities of the CDFI Fund in the Secretary of the Treasury (subject to existing statutory delegation authority). The Secretary may appoint all officers and employees of the CDFI Fund, including a Director.

This section makes technical changes to clarify that the Inspector General of the Treasury Department is the Inspector General of the CDFI Fund.

This section also gives the Secretary the authority to prescribe the necessary regulations and procedures.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENTS TO PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE FUND AND THE BANK ENTERPRISE ACT OF 1991

This section makes minor changes to the CDFI Awards Program administered by the CDFI Fund. The amendments provide that, for the training and technical assistance programs already authorized by the Act, the Fund may enter into cooperative agreements in addition to the other methods described.

This section amends the Bank Enterprise Act (BEA) Awards Program for insured depository institutions. The subsection provides technical amendments and clarifies that the Fund may provide assessment credits to insured depository institutions for increases in loans and other assistance provided to CDFIs. The provisions clarify the manner in which the Fund may take account of forms of assistance provided by insured depository institutions. In addition, the provisions permit the Fund to use alternative eligibility requirements to determine the definition of a "qualified distressed community." Current criteria are difficult to interpret and may exclude some insured depository institutions, particularly those serving rural areas, from participation in the BEA Program.

SECTION 4. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION

This section authorizes appropriations for fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 for \$95 million, \$100 million, \$105 million and \$110 million, respectively.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENTS TO SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

This section removes statutory barriers that currently block the CDFI Fund from administering the SBCE Program. The SBCE program would encourage states to implement small business "capital access programs" with the participation of certain depository institutions. These "capital access programs" expand access to small business loans by creating a loan loss reserve, funded by the depository institution, the borrower, and the state. This reserve fund allows banks to make more difficult small business loans. The Fund, under the SBCE Program, could reimburse participating states for a portion of funds contributed to these loan loss reserve accounts.

This section allows CDFIs to participate in the SBCE Program. It removes the requirement that the SBCE Program receive a

threshold appropriation before beginning operations. And, this section will allow the CDIF fund (if the SBCE Program is operating) to reimburse participating states according to criteria established by the CDFI Fund in an amount up to 50% of the amount of contributions by the states, until funds made available for this purpose are expended. This permits the Fund to target reimbursements to states that have not yet established these programs or that have insufficient funds for effective programs.

SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS

This section adds the requirement that the Fund use a scoring system as one of the tools to evaluate the merits of applications. It also requires the use of a multi-person review panel consisting of at least three persons, to apply the scoring system in order to reduce discretion and provide a mix of perspectives in the application review process. At least 1/3 of the members of the panel shall not be officers or employees of any government.

This section adds reporting requirements by the Fund to the Congress in their annual report. The CDFI Fund must include in their annual report its use of outside consultants, including the services provided by the consultants and the fees paid for those services. The report must detail the Fund's compliance with the Federal Manager's Financial Integrity Act (FMFIA). The FMFIA requires Federal programs to have controls in place to ensure that assets are safeguarded from waste, fraud, and abuse. The CDFI fund must also report any material internal control weaknesses identified in its most recent external audit along with corrective actions that will be taken to address such weaknesses. This section requires that the Fund report on the implementation of the objective scoring system in its first annual report following enactment of this legislation.

This section requires the GAO to submit to Congress, within 18-months of enactment, a study evaluating the structure, governance and performance of the CDFI Fund.

This section also requires the CDFI Fund to notify Congress in advance of hiring a contractor under the SBA's Section 8(a) contracting program.

BANKRUPTCY AMENDMENTS OF 1999

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to address an injustice that exists within Title 11 of the United States Code regarding single asset bankruptcies.

The injustice within Title 11 stems from an 11th hour decision made during the 103rd Congress, which placed an arbitrary \$4 million ceiling on the single asset provisions of the bankruptcy reform bill. The effect has been to render investors helpless in foreclosures on single assets valued over \$4 million.

To rectify this problem, my bill eliminates the \$4 million ceiling, thereby allowing creditors the ability to recover their losses. Under

• 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.

the current law, Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code becomes a legal shield for the debtor. Upon the investor's filing to foreclose, the debtor preemptively files for Chapter 11 protection which postpones foreclosure indefinitely.

While in Chapter 11, the debtor continues to collect the rents on the commercial asset. However, the commercial property is typically left to deteriorate and the property taxes go unpaid. When the investor finally recovers the property through the delayed foreclosure, they owe an enormous amount in back taxes, they receive a commercial property left in deterioration which has a lower rent value and resale value, and meanwhile, the rent for all the months or years they were trying to retain the property went to an uncollectible debtor.

My bill does not leave the debtor without protection. First, the investor brings a foreclosure against a debtor only as a last resort. This usually comes after all other efforts to reconcile delinquent mortgage payments have failed. Second, the debtor has up to ninety days to reorganize under Chapter 11. It should be noted, however, that single asset reorganizations are typically a false hope since the owner of a single asset does not have other properties from which he can recapitalize his business.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, my bill helps all American families by making their investments more secure and more valuable. The hard-working American families who depend on their life insurance policies and who have paid for years into their pensions will save millions in reduced costs. My bill protects the "little guy" from being plagued with years of litigation while a few unscrupulous commercial property owners continue to collect the rent to line their own pockets.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET
WENTWORTH OWINGS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to memorialize the passing of a friend, a poet, an artist, and a passionate environmentalist. Margaret Wentworth Owings passed away on January 20, 1999 at her cliffside home in Big Sur California high above her beloved Pacific Ocean.

Born in Berkeley, California in 1913, Margaret Wentworth graduated from Mills College and studied art at Harvard University. In 1953, she married architect Nathaniel Owings. By that time, she had pledged herself to the preservation of the natural endowments of Big Sur, a place she called "the most beautiful spot on the globe."

Margaret began her crusade for environmental protection over fifty years ago when she watched with binoculars as a rifleman killed a Stellar sea lion. She learned that hunters could earn a bounty for killing mountain lions and that sea otters were valued only for their pelts. Margaret co-founded the Friends of the Sea Otter in 1969 and the California Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation in 1987. Through determination, resourcefulness, and unstinting effort, Margaret brought us around to the undeniable conclusion that there

is more to gain from saving wildlife than from destroying it. The Big Sur coastline would be a very different place were it not for Margaret's guardianship. She successfully opposed the proposal to straighten the Pacific Coast Highway and widen it to a four freeway. Margaret led efforts to pass Proposition 117 to ban sport hunting of the mountain lions and the setting aside of funds to purchase state parklands.

The appreciation of environmental organizations was expressed by the many awards she received, such as the National Audubon Society Medal and being included in its listing as one of the 100 most influential environmentalists of the century. She was given the Gold Medal Award of the United Nations Environment Program. The United States Department of the Interior conferred the Conservation Service award upon her. And the Sierra Club, in recognition of Margaret's lifelong dedication to the cause of conservation, made her an honorary board member.

Margaret is survived by her daughter, Wendy Millard Benjamin; her stepson Nathaniel Owings; her stepdaughters Natalie Owings Prael, Emily Owings Kapozi, and Jennifer Owings Dewey; her brother, William Wentworth; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Margaret's advocacy was accomplished with grace, poise, style and spirit. Her memoir "A Voice From the Sea: Reflections on Wildlife and Wilderness" evokes, through her articulate and persuasive voice, the spirituality she found in her wild surroundings.

There is no conceivable measure for the contributions Margaret made; she has left a permanent legacy. Margaret Owings was our hero. She led us by her example, she taught us through her wisdom, she graced us with her vision, and we learned to treasure all that she valued so deeply.

PAKA OUTREACH PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, last year supertyphoon Paka struck the island of Guam causing nearly \$400 million in damages and leaving more than 4,000 families homeless. The speed of this particular recovery is unprecedented in the annals of Guam's typhoon-prone history. In situations such as this, however, the emotional needs of disaster victims and stress levels of workers tasked to restore normalcy are often overlooked as other necessities such as restoration of services, reconstruction of homes and businesses, and procurement of basic supplies receive much of the attention.

It is for this reason that the "Paka Outreach Program" was implemented. A Crisis Counseling Program established to bring attention and support for the emotional aspects of disaster recovery, the outreach program was authorized through a Memorandum of Understanding between the Child and Adolescent Services Division of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Guam Cooperative Extension Program of the University of Guam. Deriving funds from a Regular Service Grant

from the Federal Center for Mental Health Services, the program provided counseling as well as resource and service information about improvement of stress coping responses among disaster victims.

Teams of crisis counselors provided outreach services to people and organizations within the Guam Community. This multi-lingual and culturally diverse group visited homes, shelters, schools and Senior Citizen Centers. Since the inception of "Paka outreach," team members have assisted over 2,000 individuals with services such as crisis counseling consultation education and support groups.

One year has passed since Supertyphoon Paka. Debris has been collected, services have been restored, damages have been repaired, and the island of Guam is green and beautiful once again. Conditions have, more or less, returned to normal. As we recognize the countless men and women who have made possible the island's speedy and successful recovery, I would like to take this opportunity to make special note of the contributions of the Paka Outreach Program. On behalf of the people of Guam, I commend the members of this outstanding team and submit their names in special recognition of their outstanding public service.***HD***PAKA OUTREACH

Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.—John W. Leon Guerrero, Director; Aurora Cabanero, Deputy Director; Mariles Benavente, State Coordinator.

University of Guam—Dr. Jeff D.T. Barcinas, Dean/Dir., Coll. of Agriculture & Life Sciences; Victor T. Artero, Associate Dean, Guam Cooperative Extension; J. Peter Roberto, Principal Investigator, Paka Outreach.

Paka Outreach Staff—Sr. Stella Manglona, Project Coordinator; Venancia Colet, Mental Health Consultant; Ronnie Babin, Team Leader; Jeanie Perez, Team Leader; Joseph H. Salas, Team Leader; Jose Caluag, Eloisa A. Chan, Filomena Doone, Jenette Muhat, Karmelin Pachkoski, Marie Pereda, Felisa Quitugua, Marchelle Sablan, Misko Shuru, Dirk Taitano, Remedios Taitague, Simona Cushing Vilorio.

A RESONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S
PRESENTATION OF THE DE-
FENSE BUDGET TO CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of the men and women who protect our freedom around the world. The military budget proposed by President Clinton is woefully inadequate and we must work together to ensure that Congress corrects its failures and shortcomings.

The increasing instability around the world threatens America's allies as well as American interests. Even as I speak, our sons and daughters who serve are targeted by Iraqi missiles and scores of terrorist forces abroad. Today, the Administration is contemplating further troop deployments in Kosovo.

America's military is now spread further around the world than at any time in our history. Yet the President still fails to provide our

soldiers with the resources they need to protect freedom and even to protect themselves. The President's military budget proposal is long on rhetoric and short on correcting the many gaps in readiness that have developed over years of neglect under his administration. While the President's budget hands out billions to government bureaucracies and bloated federal agencies, it falls well short of any serious attempt to provide for the safety of our troops.

The truth is, we aren't keeping our promises to those who serve. You can look no further than our military personnel retention rates to see what years of grossly under-funded budgets have done to morale throughout the service. Highly trained men and women are leaving the military in record numbers. The Navy's loss of aviators, many of whom are stationed near my district in San Diego, has reached a critical level. In some cases, we no longer even have the necessary personnel to staff our carriers.

Mr. Speaker, our military personnel are the finest in the world. The readiness and safety of those who protect freedom should not be sacrificed for the personal legacy of a self-absorbed President. It's time we provide them with the best equipment and training available. Anything less is unacceptable.

RECOGNIZING 1ST SERGEANT MICHAEL HAYES FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to come before the House today to honor the long and distinguished record of service of Marine First Sergeant Michael Hayes. Whether serving his nation in the Marine Corps or providing for the needy during the holidays here at home, Sergeant Hayes has set a record of achievement that we can all be proud of.

Even while serving the Marine Corps faithfully here in New Haven, Sergeant Hayes went above and beyond the call of duty and worked diligently to involve his staff and Marine cadets with the community. Of all his accomplishments, the most impressive and the most touching has been his work on behalf of numerous "Toys for Tots" campaigns. His commitment has brought more than thirty thousand toys to needy children in the Greater New Haven area, putting a smile on the faces of so many of New Haven's kids on many Christmas mornings.

At the end of this year, Sergeant Hayes will leave the Marine Corps, retiring with the United States Armed Forces Meritorious Service Medal, a honor he most certainly deserves. His generosity and dedication to the needs of New Haven residents will not be forgotten.

ROCSAT-1 LAUNCH FROM SPACEPORT FLORIDA A GREAT SUCCESS

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege of bringing to the Members' attention the fact that Spaceport Florida has successfully launched its second satellite. On Tuesday, January 26, 1999, I was pleased to personally observe as an Athena rocket left Florida's Spaceport to deploy the ROCSAT-1, the first satellite launched by the Republic of China, Taiwan. I am proud of the success of the government of Taiwan, Spaceport Florida, and involved commercial companies in this endeavor.

The launch of ROCSAT-1 was accomplished with the cooperation of Taiwan's National Space Program Office, Lockheed Martin and the Spaceport Florida Authority. This is only the latest example of the Spaceport Authority's ability to successfully launch payloads into space and at a competitive price. I am hopeful that this successful endeavor between the Republic of China and Florida will lead to more exciting and profitable ventures that will benefit both parties. This is a proud moment for Taiwan and Florida.

After personally viewing the historic launch, I can also say that I firmly believe that Florida's first rate launching capabilities are advancing and will strengthen our competitiveness. I am also pleased that Taiwan chose Florida as the place for launching their satellite. Florida has a proven track record of dependable launches and we added to that number on January 26. I hope this will be the first launch of many.

A BILL TO EXCLUDE FROM GROSS INCOME REWARDS RECEIVED BY REASON OF PROVIDING INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CONVICTION OF A CRIME TO THE EXTENT THAT THE REWARD IS USED TO COMPENSATE VICTIMS OF CRIME

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from New York, Mr. McNULTY, as well as a number of other colleagues, in introducing a new bill to effectively exempt from taxation the proceeds of the Federal government's reward of \$1 million paid to Mr. David Kaczynski for information leading to the conviction of the Unabomber.

We introduced a similar bill late last session, which was passed by the Senate but, due to procedural and content changes, was not considered in the House before adjournment. We believe we have addressed the content concerns of the proposal and are reintroducing a more general bill to be considered through the regular legislative process.

As you may remember, in the fall of 1995 Mr. David Kaczynski provided invaluable assistance to the FBI. As a result of Mr.

Kaczynski placing the health and safety of American citizens ahead of family loyalty, Federal authorities were able to apprehend his brother Theodore, the infamous Unabomber.

The Federal Government had offered a \$1 million reward for information leading to the conviction of the Unabomber. Not wanting to profit personally from the tragedy caused by a deeply troubled member of their family, David Kaczynski and his wife pledged to distribute the net proceeds, after taxes and attorneys' fees, to his brother Theodore's victims and their families. However, because this income was considered taxable they were only able to direct \$534,150 to a community based foundation to be used to benefit the victims of violent crime. If this reward had been tax-exempt, David and his wife would have had approximately \$200,000 more to distribute.

Accordingly, we are reintroducing the bill today, which would permit the full reward to be tax-exempt and allow the amount, otherwise used to pay taxes, to ultimately benefit the victims and their families. We invite our colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and assist us in closing this chapter of the Unabomber saga and bring some sense of justice to the Unabomber's victims and their families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. KASICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, February 3, 1999, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 9. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 9.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1999, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 10. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 10.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1999, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 11. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 11.

INTRODUCTION OF THE KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER PROGRAM ABOLISHMENT ACT

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, on December 7, 1998, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Office of Thrift Supervision, Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation published regulations which cut against the very foundations of individual liberties. Under the title of "Know Your Customer" regulations, the proposed rule intends to prevent money laundering. However, it instead intrudes on the privacy of law-abiding citizens.

Under the proposed rule, all banks and thrifts in our country would be required to (1) identify their customers, (2) determine the

source of income of its customers, (3) determine the "normal and expected" transactions of each customer, (4) monitor each customer's account activity to insure it is compatible with historical patterns, and (5) report any "suspicious" transactions.

Thus, if your financial institution, in which you have placed both your finances and trust, feels that you have withdrawn or deposited an amount that could be interpreted as suspicious or outside the "normal and expected" transactions that you make, you could have your name sent to law enforcement authorities. All of us at one time or another have had to deposit or withdraw money that falls outside our "normal" transactional history. Whether putting a downpayment on a house, a car or even a wedding ring, it is not the FDIC, the FBI or our local bank's business on when and why we would want to make such a transaction or even from where we receive our income.

One would think that if the federal government were to order financial institutions to comb over their customer's finances, they would at least take part of the burden off the financial institution. However, this regulation instead puts an onerous mandate on member banks and thrifts. These institutions must compile all the paperwork, put in all the man hours, and ultimately take all the heat for spying on their customers.

I am all in favor of preventing money laundering; however, this regulation violates the basic privacy rights of American citizens. There are surely other ways to catch the drug dealers and other illegal money launderers that do not infringe on the personal liberties of so many innocent and law-biding citizens.

Luckily the federal government's attack on personal freedom has not gone unnoticed. Already the FDIC has received more than 15,000 comments on these new regulations. All but 12 of these comments are negative.

I am hopeful that by filing this bill today will further discourage the FDIC and other federal agencies from following through with this ill-conceived and shoddily designed rule.

CELEBRATING THE 86TH
BIRTHDAY OF ROSA PARKS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 86th birthday of Rosa Parks, a pivotal force in the struggle for civil rights in America. Ms. Parks touched millions of lives when she refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama city bus. Rosa's courageous action served as a catalyst for the legendary bus boycott in Alabama and was one of the critical turning points in the Africa-American civil rights movement. With the support of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights activists, Rosa Parks' action and the subsequent boycott demonstrated the power of individuals and communities to tear down injustice and bring about social change. Her spark ignited a fire that helped to eradicate legal segregation in the South, raise the consciousness of people around the country, and challenge our democracy to guarantee and secure liberty and justice for all.

Rosa Park's 86th birthday and her legacy are especially important today as we celebrate

the fourth day of Black History Month, a history which Rosa Parks helped to create. Because of her labor of love and her continued work in the civil rights movement, our children have opportunities which, for many of our parents, were merely dreams and fantasies.

On this day, the anniversary of her birth, I am pleased to join Congresswoman JULIA CARSON and others in a bipartisan effort to honor Rosa Parks by introducing legislation to present her with a long-overdue Congressional Gold Medal. I hope that Members of Congress and people across our nation will join me in supporting this important legislation.

The American people and I wish you a joyous 86th birthday, and we thank you, Rosa Parks, for your life's work and for your invaluable legacy.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW E. AUSONIO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of Andrew E. Ausonio, who died October 17, 1998, a devoted husband and father an innovative businessman, a leader in his community and a humanitarian both at home and abroad.

Andy was a native of the Salinas Valley, graduating from Salinas High School, and attending Hartnell Junior College. His service in the Armed Forces drew him away for a time, but upon his return Andy applied his attention to developing his business and personal resources. His business capacities took him from Control Operator at the Moss Landing PG&E Electric Generation Plant; to become a founder of numerous property-related firms including Ausonio Construction Company, Inc.; to a position as Director and then Chairman of the Board of the Bank of Salinas; and Director of Artichoke Industries.

Andy committed considerable energy to improve this community as a member of the Elks Lodge; President of Native Sons of the Golden West; President of the Castroville Rotary; Festival Chairman for the Castroville Artichoke Festival; President of the Notre Dame High School Board; Commissioner for the Castroville Fire District; President of the Salinas Valley Builders Exchange; Chapter President of the Associated General Contractors; Finance Commission for the Monterey Finance Commission; Director for the Monterey County Private Industry Council; Director for the Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital Foundation; and as a member of the Advisory Committee for California Assemblyman Peter Frusetta.

Andy had a musical side and was a member of the Watsonville community, brass and German bands. He was the major fundraiser in getting the North Monterey County High School band to play at President Bill Clinton's Inaugural Celebration in Washington, D.C.

As a Rotarian, Andy organized a trip to the village of San Antonio Such, Guatemala, to work on a sewage water treatment system that was a threat to the health of the population due to the untreated sewage in the local streams. He returned to determine how the Rotary could best help the local people, and subsequently organized a literacy project. The project used Spanish books from California

schools that were distributed in Guatemala. During his tenure, Andy also made improvements to the infrastructures in other areas of South America and Italy.

Andy enriched his own community and communities around the world, with his ability to implement his practical talents through the medium of his larger vision of the world and its values. His work will be lasting, as will the lessons he taught every individual, whom he has inspired. Our deepest sympathies go to his family and those closest to Andy Ausonio.

PLUMBING STANDARDS
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to day to introduce the Plumbing Standards Improvement Act of 1999. This bill would begin to restore common sense to our government by repealing the ridiculous federal mandates on toilet size and showerhead flow, 1.6 gallons per flush and 2.5 gallons per minute, respectively.

In 1992, Congress considered and eventually passed the Energy Policy Act (EPA). At that time, a unique coalition of environmental activist and plumbing manufacturers joined forces to expand the size of our already bloated government and push for a national policy on, of all things, plumbing products. With the help of the U.S. Department of Energy, this coalition claimed it was essential to ban certain types of toilets and showerheads. Instead of allowing individuals to make their own choices, this group claimed the federal government should choose the types of plumbing fixtures Americans can use in their private and public bathrooms.

Since passage of the 1992 EPA, the voices in opposition to this policy have become loud and clear. I first became aware of the problems our national plumbing laws have created when I began to receive complaints from a variety of frustrated individuals. These discontented consumers, plumbers, remodelers, landlords, home builders, and others were upset their new, expensive toilets were repeatedly clogging and consistently required multiple flushes. Obviously, these new products were not saving water and therefore proved counterproductive to the original intent of the legislation.

To date, I have received thousands of calls, letters, and faxes from individuals all across the country, and the political spectrum, who support restoring common sense to our government and reducing the enormous burden placed on them by inefficient and needless government mandates. The message is clear, and often written on toilet paper: "Get the government out my bathroom!"

While support for ending these mandates has steadily grown, the importance of this issue has grown even further. Currently, the Department of Energy is considering a ban on top-loading washing machines as well as certain types of water heaters, fluorescent lamps, central air conditioners, and other common products used by American every day. In addition to providing relief for those suffering under plumbing fixture laws, we must pass this bill to

ensure the voice reason is heard before additional mandates are enacted.

The American marketplace works well, but only if consumers are allowed to buy the products they desire. If some consumers want tiny toilets or trickling showerheads, the economy will provide these products without the burden of federal decrees. In addition, if state and local governments wish to establish their own plumbing policies, they are free to do so. Unfortunately, our failed policy on plumbing fixtures has strangled the market, created innumerable headaches, and put us at risk of suffering under further one-size-fits-all mandates. Now is the time to heed the call of suffering Americans, pass the Plumbing Standards Improvement Act of 1999 and restore wisdom to our federal government.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK BALAJADIA
MANIBUSAN

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 8, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam lost a distinguished veteran on Sunday, January 24, 1999. Frank Balajadia Manibusan, one of the first Chamorros ever to enlist in the United States Navy, passed away at the age of 81 in Union City, California after a long illness.

Born in Santa Cruz, Hagåtña on February 10, 1917, Frank's military career gave him the chance to witness several significant events in our nation's history. The eldest son child of Juan and Soledad Manibusan, Frank joined

the Navy in 1939. This enlistment placed him at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese air attack on the Naval Base was launched on December 7, 1941, prompting the involvement of the United States in World War II. As a member of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's personal staff, he later witnessed the official end of the war as Japanese representatives signed an unconditional surrender aboard the U.S.S. *Missouri* in 1945. He retired with the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer (E8) in 1960.

The late Frank Balajadia Manibusan left a legacy of service held with pride by the island of Guam and its people. On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my condolences and join his widow, Brigida, and their children, Darlene, Frances, Leilani, Frank and Jesse in mourning the loss and celebrating the life of a distinguished son of Guam.

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 Tuesday, February 9, 1999, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's *RECORD*.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 10

9:30 a.m.
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

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on the nomination of Montie R. Deer, of Kansas, to be chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission. SR-485

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings on United States Trade Agreements compliance focusing on international dispute settlement and domestic enforcement measures. SD-215

Judiciary
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-226

11 a.m.
Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider committee's rules of procedure for the 106th Congress, and their subcommittee assignments. S-116, Capitol

FEBRUARY 11

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

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

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

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 22

1 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine the impact of certain individual accounts contained in Social Security reform proposals on women's current Social Security benefits. SD-628

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

2 p.m.
Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense and for the future years defense program, focusing on recruiting and retention policies within DOD and the Military Services. SR-222

FEBRUARY 25

9 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. SD-366

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

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. SD-366

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

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of the Interior. SD-366

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

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

SEPTEMBER 28

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

CANCELLATIONS

FEBRUARY 11

POSTPONEMENTS

FEBRUARY 10

Time to be announced
Energy and Natural Resources
Foreign Relations

FEBRUARY 10

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

To hold joint hearings to examine United
States policy toward Iraq, focusing on
proposals to expand oil for food.

8:30 a.m.
Judiciary
Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competi-
tion Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review competition
and antitrust issues relating to the
Telecom Act.

SD-366

8:30 a.m.
Year 2000 Technology Problem
To hold hearings to examine information
technology as it applies to the food sec-
tor in the Year 2000.

SD-419

SD-226

SD-192