

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A BILL TO HALT CHARITABLE SPLIT-DOLLAR LIFE INSURANCE

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman RANGEL and I are introducing H.R. 630, legislation designed to stop the spread of an abusive scheme referred to as charitable split-dollar life insurance. Under this scheme, taxpayers transfer money to a charity, which the charity then uses to pay premiums for life insurance on the transferor or another person. The beneficiaries under the life insurance contract typically include members of the transferor's family (either directly or through a family trust or family partnership). Having passed the money through a charity, the transferor claims a charitable contribution deduction for money that is actually being used to benefit the transferor and his or her family. If the transferor or the transferor's family paid the premium directly, the payment would not be deductible. Although the charity eventually may get some of the benefit under the life insurance contract, it does not have unfettered use of the transferred funds.

We are concerned that this type of transaction represents an abuse of the charitable contribution deduction. We are also concerned that the charity often gets relatively little benefit from this type of scheme, and serves merely as a conduit or accommodation party, which we do not view as appropriate for an organization with tax-exempt status. While there is no basis under present law for allowing a charitable contribution deduction in these circumstances, we intend that the introduction of this bill stop the marketing of these transactions immediately.

Therefore, our bill clarifies present law by specifically denying a charitable contribution deduction for a transfer to a charity if the charity directly or indirectly pays or paid any premium on a life insurance, annuity or endowment contract in connection with the transfer, and any direct or indirect beneficiary under the contract is the transferor, any member of the transferor's family, or any other noncharitable person chosen by the transferor. In addition, the bill clarifies present law by specifically denying the deduction for a charitable contribution if, in connection with a transfer to the charity, there is an understanding or exception that any person will directly or indirectly pay any premium on any such contract. Further, the bill imposes an excise tax on the charity, equal to the amount of the premiums paid by the charity. Finally, the bill requires a charity to report annually to the Internal Revenue Service the amount of premiums subject to this excise tax and information about the beneficiaries under the contract.

TECHNICAL EXPLANATION DEDUCTION DENIAL

Specifically, the bill provides that no charitable contribution deduction is allowed for

purposes of Federal tax, for a transfer to or for the use of an organization described in section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, if in connection with the transfer (1) the organization directly or indirectly pays, or has previously paid, any premium on any "personal benefit contract" with respect to the transferor, or (2) there is an understanding or expectation that any person will directly or indirectly pay any premium on any "personal benefit contract" with respect to the transferor. It is intended that an organization be considered as indirectly paying premiums if, for example, another person pays premiums on its behalf.

A personal benefit contract with respect to the transferor is any life insurance, annuity, or endowment contract, if any direct or indirect beneficiary under the contract is the transferor, any member of the transferor's family, or any other person (other than a section 170(c) organization) designated by the transferor. For example, such a beneficiary would include a trust having a direct or indirect beneficiary who is the transferor or any member of the transferor's family, and would include an entity that is controlled by the transferor or any member of the transferor's family. It is intended that a beneficiary under the contract include any beneficiary under any side agreement relating to the contract. If a transferor contributes a life insurance contract to a section 170(c) organization and designates one or more section 170(c) organizations as the sole beneficiaries under the contract, generally, it is not intended that the deduction denial rule under the bill apply. If, however, there is an outstanding loan under the contract upon the transfer of the contract, then the transferor is considered as a beneficiary. The fact that a contract also has other direct or indirect beneficiaries (persons who are not the transferor or a family member, or designated by the transferor) does not prevent it from being a personal benefit contract. The bill is not intended to affect situations in which an organization pays premiums under a legitimate fringe benefit plan for employees.

It is intended that a person be considered as an indirect beneficiary under a contract if, for example, the person receives or will receive any economic benefit as a result of amounts paid under or with respect to the contract. For this purpose, an indirect beneficiary is not intended to include a person that benefits exclusively under a bona fide charitable gift annuity (within the meaning of sec. 501(m) (or a bona fide reinsurance arrangement with respect to such a charitable gift annuity)). Because we understand that a charitable gift annuity ordinarily does not involve a contract issued by an insurance company, the bill does not provide for special treatment of charitable gift annuities.

EXCISE TAX

The bill imposes on any organization described in section 170(c) of the Code an excise tax, in the amount of the premiums paid by the organization on any life insurance, annuity, or endowment contract, if the payment of premiums on the contract is in connection with a transfer for which a deduction is not allowable under the deduction denial rule of the provision. The excise tax does not apply if all of the direct and indirect beneficiaries under the contract (including any related side agreement) are organizations described

in section 170(c). Under the bill, payments are treated as made by the organization, if they are made by any other person pursuant to an understanding or expectation of payment.

REPORTING

The bill requires that the organization annually report the amount of premiums that is paid during the year and that is subject to the excise tax imposed under the provision, and the name and taxpayer identification number of each beneficiary under the contract to which the premiums relate, as well as other information required by the Secretary of the Treasury. For this purpose, it is intended that a beneficiary include the beneficiary under any side agreement to which the section 170(c) organization is a party (or of which it is otherwise aware). Penalties applicable to returns required under Code section 6033 apply to returns under this reporting requirement. Returns required under this provision are to be furnished at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall by forms or regulations require.

REGULATIONS

The bill provides for the promulgation of regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of the provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE

The deduction denial provision of the bill applies to transfers after February 8, 1999. The excise tax provision of the bill applies to premiums paid after the date of enactment. The reporting provision applies to premiums (that would be subject to the excise tax were it then effective) paid after February 8, 1999.

No inference is intended that a charitable contribution deduction is allowed under present law in the circumstances to which this bill applies. The bill does not change the rules with respect to fraud or criminal or civil penalties under present law; thus, actions constituting fraud or that are subject to penalties under present law would still constitute fraud or be subject to the penalties after enactment of the bill.

CONGRATULATING DERAN KOLIGIAN AND JUDITH CASE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Deran Koligian and Judith Case on their election to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Koligian and Supervisor Case were sworn in on January 11, 1999.

Supervisor Deran Koligian represents the First Supervisorial District on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. He represents a portion of the urban area of Fresno and a large agricultural region in western Fresno County. Deran Koligian was elected to serve as the 1996 Chairman of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Koligian has been an outspoken advocate for agriculture as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Fresno County—the

• 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.

nation's number one producer of agricultural products. In connection with his duties as Supervisor of District One, Koligian has served the community on numerous committees.

Supervisor Judith Case is the Vice-Chairman on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors and represents District Four. Supervisor Case has been mayor of Sanger for the past two years and was recently elected to the Board.

Judy Case has spent the majority of her life serving the community in the health field. She was the Administrative Director and Director for St. Agnes Medical Center, Assistant Vice President of Valley Childrens Hospital, Director of the Selma District Hospital, Senior Health Planner for Central California Health Systems Agency in Visalia, Control Management Intern for Texas Instruments in Dallas, and a Registered Nurse at Fresno Community Hospital and Medical Center.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Deran Koligian and Judy Case for their accomplishments and service to the community. They exemplify public service and dedication to their community and jobs. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Deran Koligian and Judy Case many more years of continued success.

CRISIS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, if permitted to escalate, the mounting crisis in the Horn of Africa will have dire ramifications on the strategic posture of the United States. Presently, there is no end in sight, other than war, in this Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict. The mediation of Assistant Secretary of State Susan Rice and former National Security Advisor Anthony Lake have so far failed to reverse the slide toward war. Vital interests of the United States, Israel and the West are jeopardized, particularly if the Islamist-supported further break-up of Ethiopia is permitted to occur.

A unified Ethiopia is vital to the regional security and economic structure. If Ethiopia were to become fragmented, as Sudanese leaders seek, then Israel's economic and military security, as well as its access to the Red Sea would be jeopardized. Instability in Ethiopia would destabilize Egypt and Saudi Arabia and the vital Red Sea-Suez trade link.

The key to the reversal of the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict and the ensuing fragmentation of Ethiopia lies in the rejuvenation of Ethiopia's national identity. Toward this end, the US needs to help Ethiopia find the unifying symbols to strengthen the country and ensure its commitment to moderation. Until 1974, Ethiopia, the region and the US benefitted greatly from the statesmanship and friendship of Emperor Haile Selassie. Ethiopia has since declined into ethnic enclaves and divisiveness, and lays open to Eritrean, Sudanese and irridentist attacks.

The Ethiopian Crown today is a Constitutional Monarchy, ready to return home to provide the inspirational symbolism under which elected day-to-day government can emerge and flourish. Moreover, the stature of the Crown throughout the Horn of Africa makes

the Crown uniquely capable of mediating an indigenous solution to the building crisis and slide toward a regional and fratricidal war. The President of the Ethiopian Crown Council and grandson of Emperor Haile Selassie is Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie, who has repeatedly exemplified the capable, unifying symbolism which Ethiopia desperately needs. By encouraging Prince Ermias's use of the prestige of the Crown and Ethiopia's traditional elders and institutions to resolve conflict, we can help heal the rifts which are a legacy of decades of civil strife.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore urge Ethiopia's civil government to allow the Crown's return to help unify and stabilize the State, and thereby help preserve Ethiopian, regional and Western security and economic interests.

TRIBUTE TO MERRILL P. RICHARDSON, JR.

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service and dedication Mr. Merrill P. Richardson, Jr. has made to his family, community and country. Merrill has recently retired and I would like to take a moment to commend all his hard work and achievements.

A native of Brewer, Maine, Merrill committed himself to serving our country early on by joining the National Guard at the age of sixteen. One year later, Merrill enlisted in the U.S. Army and began a career that took him all over the U.S. and the world, including South Korea, West Germany, Turkey, Vietnam and England. It was here that Merrill met and married his wife of 40 years, Elizabeth. Merrill served our country faithfully and honorably and upon retirement had earned, among several honors and decorations, the Good Conduct Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the RNV Civil Action Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Bronze Star.

After being honorably discharged from the service, Merrill began a second career at Kansas State University where he worked for 20 years before retiring. Currently, Merrill is living in St. George, Kansas with Elizabeth and enjoying life with his five children Linda, Merrill III, Jeffrey, Christina and Steven, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

In a time where the concepts of family and dedication are becoming more and more trivialized, people like Merrill offer hope and assurance to us all. Merrill has shown that the ideals of hard work and patriotism are not old-fashioned, but qualities of strength and character. I would like to join with many others in honoring Merrill for all his remarkable achievements and wishing him great happiness and success in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE 1998 RICHMOND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CLASS AAAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding group of student-athletes from North Carolina's Eighth Congressional District. This past fall, the Richmond Senior High School Football Team completed a truly memorable season by winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Class AAAA Football Championship.

The 1998 Richmond Senior High School Raider Football Team demonstrated that, with a great deal of hard work, dedication to the task at hand and to each other, and a strong sense of commitment, you can realize your dreams and make them come true.

The Richmond Raider Football Team successfully defended their 1997 class 4-A title with an impressive 16-0 undefeated season. The Raider football team capped off this perfect season with a win over Garner High School this past December at the championship game held at Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Led by four Associated Press All-State Players, the Raiders realized their dream through a great deal of hard-fought success. Their willingness to dig deep within themselves to find the extra energy needed to produce a championship is a true testament to the unwavering loyalty that each player has for the team. The unselfish attitude of the Richmond Raiders is certainly a good example of what can be accomplished when people work together for a common goal.

Senior and All-State team member Michael Waddell, deserves special congratulations for his state and national records last season by returning seven punts or kickoffs for touchdowns. Waddell is joint on the All-State team by Brian Nelson, Jeremy Barnes and Marcus Ellerbe. The senior members of this team have the distinction of never having lost a high school football game.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate head coach Daryl Barnes, his assistant coaches and the 1998 North Carolina State 4-A Champions, the Richmond Senior High School Raiders. I would urge all of my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to an outstanding team.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY B. DAWSON

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Henry B. Dawson, a proud native of Battle Creek, Michigan.

Henry will be retiring from the Defense Information Systems Agency after sixteen years of government service, the last four of which he spent away from his home and family. Henry

moved to the Washington metro area as a result of workforce reductions at the Defense Logistics Agency in Battle Creek and plans to return to Michigan as soon as possible.

Henry has been described by his colleagues as, "an outstanding employee with the highest moral and ethical standards who represents his agency with a focus always riveted on what is best for the taxpayer." He will be missed.

Henry Dawson, "Hank" to his friends, graduated in June of 1960 from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Business Administration. He then began work on his Masters. Henry is a past President of the Battle Creek Big Brothers and Big Sisters and has held officer positions in both the Battle Creek Goodwill industries and the Exchange Club. His civic involvement includes working in an advisory capacity for Collage Community College and the Calhoun Area Vocational Center. I understand he plans on continuing his civic involvement upon returning to Michigan.

I personally admire Henry Dawson for his years of dedicated federal service and his involvement in many civic activities. I am grateful he plans on returning to Battle Creek. This dedication to his hometown is an element of strength and character to be appreciated.

PRICE STABILITY AND INFLATION TARGETING REFORM

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Price Stability Act of 1999 and to outline the reasons it is needed. More detailed information on inflation targeting is available in several studies I released on this topic as JEC Chairman in the 105th Congress.

This legislation would institutionalize the successful informal inflation targeting policy used by the Federal Reserve in the last several years. This bill establishes that the primary and overriding goal of monetary policy is price stability. Price stability means that Federal Reserve policy is geared to preclude significant inflation or deflation.

In the last several years the Federal Reserve has squeezed inflation out of the economic system, reducing inflation, interest rates, and unemployment together. By fostering and sustaining the economic expansion, this policy has led to a strong economy that has flooded the Treasury with tax revenue, erasing the deficit and creating large and growing budget surpluses.

This policy has been an outstanding success, but its basis has not yet been fully explained. Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan confirmed to me in a JEC hearing last year that the Federal Reserve has carried out an informal inflation targeting approach to price stability. Chairman Greenspan also endorsed the idea of institutionalizing this inflation targeting approach in law. However, although inflation targeting is the norm in many countries, its significance in recent Federal Reserve policy often is not completely appreciated. The discussion of this legislation may serve to improve understanding of monetary policy and lock in the hard-won economic gains of the last several years.

This legislation mandates that the Federal Reserve establish an explicit numerical definition of price stability using a broad measure or index of general inflation in the form of inflation targets that is available and accessible to the public. It also mandates that the Federal Reserve disclose any adjustment to inflation targets and specify the time frame for achieving price stability. The Federal Reserve would be required to specify in advance what actions it will take if its goals are not met within the specified time frame.

Chairman Alan Greenspan's monetary policy has successfully reduced inflation and unemployment together, a feat that many economists regarded as unattainable. These successes of inflation targeting should be locked in so that they are not dependent on the presence of one particular individual as Chairman of the Federal Reserve. This enactment of inflation targeting legislation would be a fitting tribute to Chairman Greenspan and his successful conduct of monetary policy.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN NEWMAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to place into the record a eulogy for my friend John Newman, who's life will be celebrated today in my home town of Mariposa, California.

I cannot be there today to celebrate the life, nor mourn the passing, of my friend John Newman. John was a husband and father, a grape grower, a hard worker, a citizen of the community, and a friend. He was a leader with the Boy Scouts—Troop 94—and in his veterans organizations.

I will never forget the time several years ago when John showed me how to build a Christmas Bon-fire—to stack the wood just so, to build a pyramid, to make it loose enough in the center so that it would burn, but with enough fuel; and how to light it so it burnt evenly. Even more important than the wonderful fire he built was the family spirit as he gathered his family together to lead us in Christmas song.

John was a good man from this community, and those lucky enough to have known him are better off for it. That, Mr. Speaker, is the highest praise one can give.

THE OMAHA WORLD-HERALD ON THE INVESTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY FUNDS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent editorial questioning the President's proposal to invest Social Security funds in the stock market which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald, on January 29, 1999.

I'll go further than the World-Herald. Even without detailed study of the issue, it should be clear to most thoughtful Americans that this

proposal by President Clinton should be considered "dead on arrival." Chairman Alan Greenspan's opposition is highly appropriate.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Jan. 29, 1999]

THE GOVERNMENT AS AN INVESTOR: QUESTIONS NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

President Clinton's proposal to invest billions of dollars in Social Security funds in the stock market is the target of a barrage of criticism. Clinton and others who support the idea may have a fight ahead if they are to prove its worth.

The president would allocate 62 percent of the government's budget surpluses over the next 15 years to Social Security to ensure that it can pay promised benefits until 2055. That amounts to about \$2.7 trillion.

He has suggested investing more than \$40 billion of those Social Security funds a year—nearly \$700 billion over 15 years—in the stock market. Another \$500 billion would be used to set up individual universal savings accounts for many Americans to bolster the retirement nest-eggs of lower-income people.

The surplus not put into the stock market or individual retirement accounts would be invested just as money collected for Social Security has always been: It would be used to buy Treasury bonds, which are interest-paying federal IOUs.

In the past, Congress and the president have taken the money from Social Security, replaced it with bonds and used the cash like other borrowed income, spending it on programs and services. Clinton, to his credit, has proposed that lawmakers be barred from using future proceeds from those bonds for any purpose other than reducing the national debt.

Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, has said he highly approves of the national debt provision. Congressional Republicans, on the other hand, criticized the president for failing to earmark any of the surplus for tax cuts.

In addition, many people have specific concerns that will need to be addressed in detail if the plan is to warrant serious bipartisan consideration. Greenspan, in particular, has raised thoughtful questions, most recently on Thursday in front of the Senate Budget Committee.

"I do not believe it is politically feasible to insulate such huge funds," he said. With so much money on the table, he said, Congress or the president might be tempted to influence the selection of companies and industries to benefit from government investments.

There is reason for his concern. Congress routinely passes bills that benefit businesses. Members try to direct spending to their districts. Often they try to take care of specific individuals or companies. How much more could they do if the government became a much larger investor in private securities?

Another issue is the matter of political correctness and the pressure that would materialize to use the money for a social statement. Should the government own stock in companies that make cigarettes? That distribute liquor? That offer abortions? That have operations in repressive nations? That have a bad environmental record? Some members of Congress might try to influence investments on the basis of social conscience instead of market savvy.

Clinton supporters have argued that the problem is solvable, perhaps with an independent board of long-term appointees, similar to the Federal Reserve Board. The board would direct investments, perhaps from a limited list of broad, mutual-fund type stocks.

Other opponents have wondered at the propriety of government ownership of shares in

private sector companies. Stockholders have a say in company management, voting for board members and approving mergers and acquisitions. The government could have an effect on the company either way, if it voted the shares it owned and if it didn't.

There are precedents, however. States, cities and some independent federal agencies such as the Federal Reserve System have pension plans invested in stocks. Managers of those funds say they have not created any of the problems that critics are bringing up. On the other hand, those funds are not as large as the potential Social Security investment.

Removing the stock-market investment portion of Clinton's plan would not kill it. Experts suggests that it would mean the proposal would extend the solvency of Social Security only 50 years rather than 55 years.

The plan is a radical departure from current practices. It has some intriguing aspects, but comes with troubling questions such as those raised by Greenspan. The questions need to be answered before the plan can be assessed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on an issue that is of great concern to many Americans, abortion. Every year, approximately 1.5 million innocent babies are intentionally killed because of abortion. This represents 4,000 times a day that an unborn child is taken from its mother's womb and denied the opportunity to live. In some instances, these babies are killed moments before taking their first breath. Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment to our Constitution clearly states that no State shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." I wholeheartedly believe that these constitutional rights should include our nation's unborn children.

Mr. Speaker, in the landmark case of *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court refused to determine when human life begins and therefore found nothing to indicate that the unborn are persons protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. In the decision, however, the Court did concede that, "If the suggestion of personhood is established, the appellants' case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would be guaranteed specifically by the Amendment." Considering Congress has the constitutional authority to uphold the Fourteenth Amendment, coupled by the fact that the Court admitted that if personhood were to be established, the unborn would be protected, it can be concluded that we have the authority to determine when life begins.

It is for this reason that today I am introducing the Right to Life Act. This legislation does what the Supreme Court refused to do in *Roe v. Wade* and recognizes the personhood of the unborn for the purpose of enforcing four important provisions in the Constitution: (1) Sec. 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment prohibiting states from depriving any person of life; (2) Sec. 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment providing Congress the power to enforce, by appro-

appropriate legislation, the provisions of this amendment; (3) the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment, which concurrently prohibits the federal government from depriving any person of life; and (4) Article I, Section 8, giving Congress the power to make laws necessary and proper to enforce all powers in the Constitution.

The Right to Life Act will protect millions of future children by prohibiting any state or federal law that denies the personhood of the unborn, thereby effectively overturning *Roe v. Wade*. I urge my colleagues to join me in this very important endeavor.

TRIBUTE TO SHEILA BROCKMAN AND THE STUDENTS OF ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Sheila Brockman and her junior high school science class of St. Anthony's School in Streator, Illinois for their remarkable and successful efforts to save Pluto from demotion as a planet.

Earlier this year, the Minor Planet Center, a division of the International Astronomical Union, responsible for monitoring the comets, asteroids and other bodies orbiting the sun, proposed that Pluto be given a number and considered only a minor planet.

Pluto was discovered on February 16, 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh, a native of Streator, Illinois while working at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona. Mr. Tombaugh was the only American and one of just five people in history to discover a planet orbiting the sun.

Expressing their pride in Mr. Tombaugh's significant achievement, the St. Anthony students, led by Ms. Brockman, quickly began a letter writing campaign to the International Astronomical Union. The protest movement launched by the St. Anthony students drew support from schools around the State of Illinois and national media attention.

As a result of the growing public outrage raised by the leadership of Ms. Brockman and the St. Anthony students, the International Astronomical Union announced from its headquarters in Paris, France that it would be making no proposal to change the status of Pluto as the ninth planet in the solar system.

I wholeheartedly commend Ms. Brockman and the St. Anthony students both for their pride in the City of Streator and its history and also for their realization that in America a small group of citizens taking a strong stand for something in which they believe can make a difference.

TRIBUTE TO ANNE SPEAKE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Anne Speake for her service as president of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Anne Speake's leadership and

community involvement has had a profound impact on the advancement and quality of life on commerce in the Central San Joaquin Valley.

Anne Speake is the owner and operator of the International English Institute. Anne started this business over 15 years ago, and is a successful business woman not only in the Valley but globally through the International English Institute. Most recently, she was selected to receive the Central California Women in Business Award by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Anne Speake is a role model for all women owning businesses. Mrs. Speake is deeply committed to our community and actively serves on several state and local organizations. She currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Fresno Business Council, as Vice Chair of the Fresno Revitalization Corporation, and as a member in the Economic Development Corporation.

As Fresno Chamber of Commerce President, Anne Speake is viewed as a consensus builder and a leader. During her term as Chamber President, she sought to improve service to its 2,300 members and increase the internal efficiency within the Chamber. Under her leadership the Fresno Chamber of Commerce has played a central role in the revitalization of downtown Fresno and initiated several community and cultural improvement projects. In addition, she was an advocate of greater community involvement through Leadership Fresno, which graduated 31 students, and the Employment Competency Committee certified 500 students who worked with business people throughout the year.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Anne Speake for her service as President of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Speake is a faithful public servant, who has shown care for small business and dedication to her community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Anne Speake many more years of success.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS S. DIMATTEO AND LILLIAN M. ELMORE

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for just under a quarter century, Dennis S. DiMatteo has worked for the General Division of the Court of Common Pleas, where he now serves as a Supervisor in the Probation Department. Nominated by Administrative and Presiding Judge Richard McMonagle, Dennis oversees other probation officers and is involved specifically in such programs as those involving electronic home detention work release, mentally retarded offenders and intensive special probation.

He was a pioneer probation officer in community service and work release programs and has, with others, created rules and policies for the court in many of these areas.

Married to Patricia and the father of Michael and Carla, Dennis Lives in Lyndhurst. Following his graduation from Ohio State University, he served as an officer in the United States Army prior to entering service with the Court.

An avid Ohio State alumnus and, especially, a fan of its football program, Dennis also enjoys reading science fiction and watching Cleveland Indians baseball.

LILLIAN M. ELMORE

As Deputy Administrator of the Eighth Appellate District of the Court of Appeals of Ohio, Lillian M. Elmore has many duties. She greets the public and answers their questions about the Court's processes, administers the motion docket, supplements files, updates the Court's data base and even acts as a Bailiff in some oral arguments.

Nominated by Chief Judge Patricia Ann Blackmon, Lillian has risen from being a clerk-typist to secretary to administrator in the more than two decades she has worked at the Court of Appeals.

Mother of Ricardo, she volunteers at Bedford High School, where Rico is a student, is a member of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church and is also active in fund raising for many charities, including the United Negro College Fund.

Lil, as her friends know her, prides herself on being willing to go "the extra mile" to help others, and, for herself enjoys walking, aerobics and dancing, among other activities.

POPE RIGHT ON IRAQ—CLINTON
POLICY HOLDS LITTLE HOPE
FOR PEACE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, His Holiness Pope John Paul II was right to use the occasion of his St. Louis visit to chastise Bill Clinton's handling of Iraq. A full month having passed since Operation Desert Fox, it remains unclear who stands the victor.

The coincident timing of impeachment-eve air strikes sparked rampant speculation about President Bill Clinton's motives and drew indignant insistence by the White House that U.S. national security was the singular interest. Today the pope finds himself among an ever-growing crowd of Americans unconvinced last month's missile attack was an absolute necessity and with the settling dust comes clarification of the uneasy truth: Saddam Hussein remains in power.

This fact controverts a December 17, 1998 call by Congress to finish the job. On a near unanimous vote, 221 Republicans, 195 Democrats, and one Independent adopted a resolution in support of our troops engaged in Desert Fox.

Congress also included in the measure a bold policy statement, "to remove the regime headed by Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq and to promote the emergence of a democratic government to replace that regime." In earnest, federal lawmakers had authorized \$110 million for the political liberation of Iraq. The Clinton administration has so far used only \$58,000 to host a conference on the topic.

Clinton's own signature on a separate Iraq Liberation Act earlier in 1998 also called for Saddam's removal giving every indication the administration concurred with Congressional intent to finally address the underlying cause of Iraq's belligerence—Saddam's ruthless regime.

However, one day into Operation Desert Fox, Defense Secretary Cohen confessed before a closed assembly of the U.S. House our plans did not include undermining Saddam's dictatorship. "The objective of the attack," he admitted, "is to go after those chemical, biological or weapons of mass destruction sites to the extent that we can." A Congressman followed up, "Why not go after his regime if that's what the problem is?"

Cohen replied, "We have set forth our specific targets, and that's what we intend to carry out." Across the Atlantic, British Defense Minister Robertson delivered the consonant line to Members of Parliament, "It's not our objective to remove Saddam Hussein from power."

Coupled with the historic record of Clinton's Iraq policy, his eagerness to launch missiles while neglecting chief U.S. objectives adds plausibility to the pontiff's skepticism. The president's stubborn devotion to the failing policy of "containment" has yielded little more than prolonged hardship for Iraq's 22 million civilians and unneeded strain on precarious international relationships.

The broad international coalition forged and maintained by President Bush during Desert Storm is now badly eroded. The indecision of the United Nations has effectively become the basis for U.S. policy by default.

Last week's proposal by France and Russia, for example, to completely lift sanctions was immediately answered by a counterproposal from the U.S. allowing Baghdad to sell unlimited amounts of oil. This exchange is another strong indication the economic embargo is rapidly disintegrating. Moreover, Iraq's weapons program is continuing to expand in the face of sporadic U.S. military reaction, the timing of which seems controlled as much by Clinton as by Saddam himself.

Periodic air and missile strikes have at best achieved only temporary obstacles for Saddam, but have proven ineffective in dampening the dictator's zeal to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The pope's statement in St. Louis "military measures don't resolve problems in themselves; rather they aggravate them" hits the mark in Clinton's case.

The president's indecisiveness to maintain a competent inspection regimen, and his abandonment of Iraqi opposition forces have effectively confined U.S. options to cat-and-mouse air strikes as far as the eye can see. For all of his stern lectern-pounding pronouncements about the importance of unimpeded weapons inspections, Clinton's support for the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) mission turned out to be nothing more than rhetorical.

A recently released report by the House Republican Policy Committee details the inexplicable record of the Clinton administration. The report shows beginning in November of 1997, the White House secretly intervened to stop UNSCOM inspectors, directing UNSCOM to rescind orders for surprise searches of Iraqi weapons sites and attempting to fire Scott Ritter, a senior UNSCOM inspector, for carrying out inspectors Saddam found inconvenient. The administration intervened again in December of 1997 and in January of 1998 culminating in the removal of Ritter from Iraq in the middle of a new round of surprise inspections.

In March of 1998, U.S. and Britain withheld essential intelligence support for UNSCOM. In July, the two countries intervened again to call off a new schedule of inspections. Finally in

August, Secretary Albright personally intervened once more to cancel one of the most critical and promising rounds of surprise inspections. These actions ultimately resulted in Ritter's resignation citing the Clinton administration's refusal to let UNSCOM do its job.

Clearly the president's precipitous policy in Iraq must be replaced by a serious one designed to legitimately achieve genuine U.S. objectives. We must adopt a proactive strategy to end Saddam's dangerous rule.

Mr. Speaker, America must reach out to a unified Iraqi opposition, expand its leadership among Iraqi citizens, strangle Saddam's economic lifeline, and systematically cripple his tyrannical rule. Absent a tactical plan to remove Saddam, he will succeed in breaking out of the Gulf War peace agreement, acquiring weapons of mass destruction, and assembling the means to deliver them.

Only when Saddam's regime is replaced with one respectful of its neighbors and of its own people will liberty have a chance in the Middle East. Until then, peace doesn't have a prayer, no matter how many times John Paul II comes to America.

SOCIAL SECURITY GUARANTEE INITIATIVE

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Social Security Guarantee Initiative. This legislation would express Congress' commitment to protecting all Social Security benefits to current and soon-to-be retirees.

Last week, Congress received the President's budget request for next year. A major priority for this Congress and for this President is the need to save Social Security for present and future generations. Several proposals have been brought forward and will be debated extensively this session of Congress. The President has proposed investing some of the payroll tax revenues in the stock market. The problem is, the President wants a Washington-based government board to decide which stocks to buy and in which companies the government might take a share.

A better idea would be to allow individuals and families to make those decisions. A government board will inevitably be influenced by politics. Mixing politics with Americans' retirement could have disastrous consequences.

In all of this discussion, however, to reform Social Security, many seniors in Wisconsin and throughout the country have expressed their concerns that any reforms would ultimately end up costing them something. While we must improve the system for working Americans, the benefits today's senior have come to count on cannot and will not be changed in any way. As we move forward to reform Social Security, I believe we must send a bipartisan message to our nation's seniors that, while we must fix Social Security for future generations, current and imminent retirees will be held harmless.

The Social Security Guarantee Initiative would protect all guaranteed benefits for current retirees and those nearing retirement. We have a historic opportunity to preserve the nation's Social Security program. I look forward

to working with the senior community in my District and my colleagues in Congress on this important issue.

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS EDUCATION ACT OF 1999

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, all Children deserve to be educated to their fullest potential. It is for this reason I am reintroducing my measure today from last Congress, the Gifted and Talented Students Education Act, along with my colleagues, Representatives BALDACCI, BARRETT (NE), ETHERIDGE, DAVIS (FL), ACKERMAN, SHOWS, and MORELLA.

Currently, the educational needs of our most talented students are not being met. Secretary of Education Richard Riley has even referred to this situation as a "quiet crisis." As a result, these students are not reaching their full potential and not performing at world-class levels. This was clearly demonstrated by the disappointing results of Third International Math and Science Study (TIMSS) where our brightest students scored poorly and were not able to compete with their international counterparts. Our nation must foster excellence in these students who will become leaders in areas such as business, the arts, the sciences, and the legal and medical professions.

The Gifted and Talented Students Education Act would provide incentives, through block grants, to states to identify gifted and talented students from all economic, ethnic and racial backgrounds—including students of limited English proficiency and students with disabilities—and to provide the necessary programs and services to ensure these students receive the challenging education they need. Funding would be based on each state's student population, with each state receiving a minimum of \$1 million per year.

I know you are as committed as I am to ensuring our nation's youth have all the tools they need for their future. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in pursuing this legislation which will ensure our nation's gifted and talented students reach their fullest potential and to ensure we have a new generation of Americans ready to meet the demands of the 21st Century.

HONG KONG TRANSITION—REPORT OF THE SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises today to submit the Fifth Quarterly Report of the Speaker's Task Force on the Hong Kong Transition. It has been more than eighteen months since Hong Kong reverted to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997. Prior to that historic event, and at the request of former Speaker Newt Gingrich, this Member formed the House Task Force on Hong Kong's Transition. In addition to myself as Chairman, the

Task Force was bipartisanly balanced in its membership during the 105th Congress, including Representative HOWARD BERMAN (D-CA), Representative SHERRON BROWN (D-OH), Representative ENI FALEOMAVAEGA (D-AS), Representative ALCEE HASTINGS (D-FL), Representative Jay Kim (R-CA), Representative DONALD MANZULLO (R-IL), and Representative MATT SALMON (R-AZ).

The Task Force now has completed its Fifth Quarterly Report which assesses how the reversion has affected Hong Kong. The Fifth Report, which I submit today, covers the period of July through September 1998, during which there was no actual visit to Hong Kong by the Task Force. In the next several weeks the Sixth Quarterly Report will be completed and presented to Speaker DENNIS HASTERT and the House.

Mr. Speaker, this Member submits the Task Force Fifth Quarterly Report and asks that it be printed in full in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE ON THE HONG KONG TRANSITION, FIFTH REPORT, FEBRUARY 2, 1999

(Presented by the Honorable Doug Bereuter, Chairman)

The following is the fifth quarterly report of the Task Force on the Hong Kong Transition. It follows the first report dated October 1, 1997, the second report dated February 25, 1998, the third report dated May 22, 1998, and the fourth report dated July 23, 1998. This report focuses on events and development relevant to United States interests in Hong Kong between July 1, 1998, and September 30, 1998—the fifth quarter following Hong Kong's reversion to China.

The fifth quarter following Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997, has been dominated by increasing concern about Hong Kong's economic situation. The good news is that Hong Kong has continued to enjoy substantial political economic autonomy following its reversion to Chinese sovereignty. Hong Kong continues to voice its own views in international economic fora, including the World Trade Organization (WTO) and APEC. On the bad news side, however, Hong Kong's economy has been dragged down by external factors and its strong currency. The driving forces of the slowdown are largely beyond the Hong Kong government's control and are not related to Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese sovereignty.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Hong Kong continued to suffer the negative effects of the Asian Financial Crisis, posting its third consecutive quarter of negative growth, as its first recession in thirteen years showed no sign of coming to a quick end. An early turnaround continues to appear unlikely. Hong Kong's GDP is now projected to shrink by four percent in 1998. (Official figures for the second quarter of 1998 show a GDP drop of 5.2 percent, following the first quarter's decline of 2.8 percent.) This would be the first annual economic contraction on record. Some Hong Kong companies have cut wages by 10 percent. Compared to the same period in 1997, total retail sales from January 1998 to July 1998 decreased by 15 percent in value, reflecting shrinking local consumer demand, reduced tourism, and the fall in asset markets. Hong Kong's stock market has dropped by roughly 50 percent since its peak in August 1997, property prices have fallen by as much as 60 percent, and unemployment has soared to a fifteen year high of five percent.

The budget deficit for fiscal 1998-99 may substantially exceed the current estimate of HK \$20 billion (US \$2.56 billion), which the

government announced in June. (The original government forecast for the fiscal year projected 3.5 percent growth and a budget surplus of about HK \$10 billion.) The budget deficit can be expected to retard growth in government expenditures over the next few years. Although the government had been promising a revised medium-range economic forecast since mid-August, it failed to produce one by the end of the quarter, indicating to some an unwillingness on the part of the government to face up to the full consequences of the recession on public spending. The government continues to insist that the currency peg to the U.S. dollar is here to stay, despite serious attacks by speculators. Defending the peg has required the government to keep interest rates high, further depressing economic growth, and was a major motivation for the government's decision to intervene in the stock market in August (see below).

The stock market's Hang Seng Index at one point fell to 6660, 44 percent below its highwater mark for 1998 on March 25. The market remained concerned about Japan's economy, China's commitment to maintaining the value of the *renminbi*, and regional economic woes. On August 14, the government intervened massively in the stock market, spending an estimated US \$15 billion (representing over 15 percent of Hong Kong's US \$96 billion reserves) to buy stocks, futures, and currency in an effort to keep share prices at levels that would punish speculators betting on a decline. The government later imposed more stringent trading regulations to make illegal trading and speculation more difficult. Even with the government's massive intervention, the market ended September at 7,883 points, down 48 percent since September 1997. Trading volume also plummeted, with the average daily turnover for the first nine months of 1998 standing at just 40 percent of the corresponding figure for 1997. In terms of value, average daily turnover fell 56 percent.

In defending their decision to intervene, senior Hong Kong officials cited fears that unnamed "foreign traders" were improperly manipulating Hong Kong's markets. They maintained it was not their intention to interfere with market forces, only to improve Hong Kong's ability to manage its monetary affairs. The government said the measures were necessary to counter harmful speculative activities and to stabilize interest rates. Some observers have expressed concern that the intervention could mark the beginning of a turn away from the global market. While this seems unlikely given Hong Kong's overwhelming dependence on foreign trade, the August market intervention does pose some worrisome questions. The Hong Kong government's unprecedented ownership of significant amounts of equity, both in Hong Kong-based companies and in PRC-related "Red Chips," has the potential to begin to affect official decision making in ways contrary to Hong Kong's traditions of free markets and transparency.

There is some positive economic news. Inflation is low and falling, with the year-on-year rate of increase in the composite consumer price index standing at 2.7 percent in August, down appreciably from 3.2 percent in July. The August figure was also the lowest monthly figure recorded since Hong Kong began tracking the year-on-year inflation rate in 1981. For the first time in a year, the unemployment rate did not increase in September, holding at the same five percent it reached in August. The tourism market recovered slightly in September, with tourist arrivals and hotel occupancy rates showing small increases over August figures. Hong Kong also still possesses substantial foreign currency reserves, even after the costly market intervention in August. The slump has

exposed inherent flaws in Hong Kong's economic fabric, however, particularly its heavy dependence on entrepot trade and the relative lack of growth in sectors with high value-added, such as the high-tech industry. With hope of a swift recovery fading, further pay cuts and layoffs appear certain. Land sales remain suspended until next March—a step intended to reduce downward pressure on the real estate market. Hong Kong's recovery would appear to hinge on a combination of external and internal factors, including improved international financial conditions, a steady of interest rates, restored stability in the property market and a return of public confidence.

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS—ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AFFECT GOVERNMENT'S POPULARITY

One casualty of Hong Kong's continued economic malaise has been Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa's popularity with significant portions of the public. As Beijing's choice to preside over the Hong Kong government, Tung lacks the popular mandate that can help government leaders push through unpopular measures in difficult economic times. As Hong Kong's economic problems have deepened, Tung has been criticized for timidity and failure to enunciate major initiatives to address the crisis.

The newly elected Legislative Council (LegCo) took its seat on July 2, replacing the provisional legislature that had been appointed upon reversion. Under the executive-led system of governance prescribed by the Basic Law, however, the new LegCo has relatively narrow powers and does not form a government. Rather, like past legislatures, the new LegCo is essentially a monitoring body that can block or amend government legislation and can call on the administration to defend government policy. Legislators have the power to introduce private member bills, but not ones that involve public expenditure, the political structure, or government operations. Troubled relations between the Government and the LegCo is widely seen as a serious problem.

Pro-democracy candidates elected in the May LegCo elections have been pushing for a faster transition to full democracy. On July 15, Democratic Party (DP) legislator Andrew Cheng Kar-foo introduced a motion for the LegCo to endorse direct elections of all members in the year 2000 and direct elections for the office of chief executive in the year 2002. (Note: Although the Basic Law does not guarantee a date when the entire LegCo or the Chief Executive will be directly elected, it sets forth an "ultimate aim" of electing a legislature and a Chief Executive after a transition period of about ten years.) Tung opposed this proposal, however, arguing that the addressing the economic crisis requires stability, and until now has declined to advance the timetable for subjecting the Chief Executive post and the full legislature to direct election. The measure was defeated in both divisions of the LegCo, by a vote of 15-14 among geographical constituency and election committee representatives, and by a 20-5 margin among functional constituency representatives. Voting was split along strict party lines, with members of the DP, the Frontier Party, and the Citizens Party supporting it and legislators from the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong (DAB), the Hong Kong Progressive Alliance (HKPA) and the Liberal Party opposed.

A government-led effort to reassess the current local government structure is now underway. Scrapping the elected Urban and Regional Councils—the option the government is believed to favor—comes in for strong opposition from many LegCo members. While these councils have been criti-

cized for their incompetence in handling public hygiene and other matters under their purview, abolishing them outright could send a disturbing message about the government's attitude toward democracy and also deprive Hong Kong of a vital training ground for future LegCo members. The ultimate impact of scrapping the councils will depend on the degree to which responsibility and funding for managing issues now handled by those bodies devolve to the elected district boards.

RULE OF LAW—FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

As we have noted in earlier reports, international confidence in Hong Kong is based on the commitment of Hong Kong's authorities to the rule of law inherited from the British. An integral part of this is the "check" on abuse of authority provided by the free expression of opinion. During this quarter, we find again that the people of Hong Kong largely continue to express themselves without restraint. The Hong Kong government has not denied any application for a demonstration permit since reversion. Beijing authorities continue to bend over backward to avoid the appearance of interference in Hong Kong affairs.

Hong Kong's media also continue to practice their traditional vibrant style of journalism without overt interference from authorities in Hong Kong or Beijing. Nonetheless, concerns regarding self-censorship continue. Chief Executive Tung has stated publicly on a number of occasions that he believes Hong Kong people should not be freely expressing their support for independence for places like Taiwan, Tibet, and Xinjiang. The question of freedom of expression and how it applies to expressions about certain sovereignty issues in China is especially important because under the Basic Law, Hong Kong is required to enact laws on treason, secession, sedition, and subversion. Through the end of the quarter, however, the Hong Kong government had not introduced bills addressing these matters, and the Secretary for Justice stated that there was no rush to pass sedition laws. When they finally are introduced, such bills will be a crucial test of Hong Kong's adherence to freedom of expression, depending on whether they seek to criminalize mere expressions of support for independence for those areas or other expressions of opinion concerning the Chinese government.

A fair and independent judiciary is another critical element of international confidence in Hong Kong. In general, the Hong Kong judiciary continues to operate independently and without taint of political influence. During the past quarter, we noted no instances that would call into question the judiciary's independence or its vulnerability to Chinese influence.

TRADE ISSUES

While the Asian Financial Crisis has seriously jolted and hurt Hong Kong's economy, it has also highlighted Hong Kong's serious and unhealthy dependent on entrepot trade between China and other nations, particularly the U.S. During the quarter, entrepot trade figures turned negative for the first time since the onset of the crisis, with July 1998 re-exports decreasing by 11 percent over the same month in 1997. With exports from domestic manufacturing in Hong Kong dropping by eight percent in the same period, overall exports showed a decrease of 10 percent in July from one year ago.

As noted in our previous quarterly report, Hong Kong's reliance on entrepot trade leaves it vulnerable in the event that continued large trade deficits between the U.S. and China prove politically or economically unsustainable. If the China trade deficit issue is not addressed by increased market

access for U.S. firms to China, then Hong Kong could get hit with collateral damage from a frustrated America and U.S. Government—even if it does everything right.

While the Hong Kong Government has taken significant steps to improve its intellectual property rights regime and enhance enforcement efforts, the production and retail sale of pirated movie, audio and software compact discs continues to be the most serious bilateral trade issue between the United States and Hong Kong. Representatives of the recording, film, and software industries generally agree that Hong Kong has made some progress in curbing intellectual property rights violations at the retail level since the Customs service began a campaign of sustained raids in April. Using enforcement tools from the June 1997 Prevention of Copyright Piracy ordinance, Customs officers have been able to substantially increase seizures of pirated goods. In August and September, authorities raided several illicit factories and distribution centers, seizing more than 1.8 million pirated discs. The intensified enforcement generally pushed retail shops selling pirated goods further out of the city core and away from areas frequented by tourists. Despite these improvements, more remains to be done, and an estimated 100 to 150 shops are still selling pirated U.S. products.

On the production side, 60 factories with some 200 production lines have applied or registration under a provision of the Prevention of Copyright Piracy ordinance. On-site inspections by Customs officials determined that another 19 known factories that failed to register and close during the registration period. A twentieth was closed following a raid on September 3. Trade and Customs officials have said they will inspect the registered factories regularly, including after normal working hours. In early August, the Hong Kong Government also successfully prosecuted the first illicit factory case to go to court. Although the penalties imposed by the court were relatively minor, the failure of the defendant's "no knowledge" plea set an important precedent. While there is some evidence that illicit compact disc production has been dropping, it is still too early to judge the ultimate effectiveness of the new copyright ordinance. To date, the drop in illicit production appears attributable to copyright pirates' decision to "wait and see" how strictly the ordinance will be enforced and to stepped up anti-smuggling efforts in the People's Republic of China. All sources agree that the mainland has been the primary market for Hong Kong's producers of illicit discs.

One area in which enforcement has yet to increase is in the illegal use of business software. Responding to requests from the Business Software Alliance, Trade and Industry Bureau officials say they have asked Customs to pursue cases of corporate end-users of unlicensed software and unauthorized hard-disc loading by dealers. To date, however, Customs has failed to act.

Money laundering also remains a very serious concern in U.S. bilateral relations with Hong Kong. As noted in earlier reports, the same favorable factors that make Hong Kong one of Asia's most important financial centers also make it attractive to criminals wishing to conceal the source of their funds through money laundering. It is important that Hong Kong continue to work with the international community to improve its laws and enforcement in this vital area. Hong Kong and the United States continue to make progress toward negotiation of a bilateral investment agreement based on the model text approved by China through the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group.

Another event with implications for trade was the opening of Hong Kong's new airport

at Chek Lap Kok in early July. Unfortunately, the government found its self subjected to widespread criticism over the chaotic way in which the opening was handled. Cargo operations, in particular, were seriously disrupted. The problem was so severe that it could shave up to a full point off of GDP in 1998. Chief Executive Tung appointed a commission of inquiry to look into what went wrong. The commission is expected to finish its work in early 1999. The LegCo also has launched its own inquiry into the matter.

SECURITY AND RELATED ISSUES

Regarding the three primary security related issues with Hong Kong—ship visits, People's Liberation Army (PLA) activities, and export controls—the U.S. Navy continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with Hong Kong in terms of ships visit. The relationship with Hong Kong Port authorities since the reversion has been outstanding.

The second security concern is related to the influence of the PLA and the Chinese defense industries in Hong Kong business and the possible surreptitious acquisition by the PLA of militarily sensitive technologies. The PLA garrison includes an estimated 4,700 personnel physically stationed in Hong Kong, and has a total strength of 8,000 (The remainder are based at a headquarters element on PRC territory.) The PLA has continued to keep a low profile during the quarter, raising no concerns about activities with respect to the Hong Kong population. We continue to have no evidence of direct involvement by the estimated 200 PLA-related companies in Hong Kong in acquisition of sensitive technology. Should PLA entities operating in Hong Kong be found to be engaged in arms trading or acquisition of Western technology, however, Hong Kong's relations with the U.S. would be put at risk. Such activity, or the lack thereof, will be an important determinant of congressional attitudes in the future.

Export controls are a third area of security-related concern. Once again, we are pleased to note no new incidents of export control violations to report this quarter. Hong Kong continues to exercise autonomy as a separate customs territory within China and to demonstrate vigorous enforcement of its strict export control regime. United States officials continue to conduct prelicense and post-shipment inspections. In a sign of their continued close cooperation, in July U.S. and Hong Kong customs officials held the second in a series of consultations on licensing, enforcement, and the exchange of information.

MACAO

The Portuguese colony of Macao will revert to Chinese rule on December 20, 1999, after 442 years. Like Hong Kong, this territory of 414,000 people, 95 percent of whom are ethnic Chinese, will become a Special Administrative Region with a "one country, two systems" formula for the next 50 years. As we noted in our previous quarterly report, however, a number of transition issues for Macao are very different from those faced by Hong Kong. Unlike Hong Kong, for instance, the legislature elected under colonial rule will remain in place.

While U.S. interests in Macao are not nearly as large as those in Hong Kong, they nonetheless require our continued attention. These continue to be credible reports of transshipment of textiles through Macao. Primary among our economic concerns, however, is Macao's role as a manufacturing center for pirated goods, particularly pirated compact discs. To date, Macao has yet to develop adequate legislation and enforcement mechanisms and has not dedicated sufficient manpower to tackle this problem. Macao

also lacks legislation on money laundering. It is in U.S. interests to press Macao's authorities to move forward expeditiously to correct these shortcomings.

In September, China announced that it would station troops in Macao following its reversion. Macao's Portuguese administrators still have not made adequate arrangements to replace themselves with local Macanese officials and remain well behind where the British were 15 months before the reversion of Hong Kong. They have also been deficient in maintaining law and order. Incidents of gangland killings and attacks on public officials remain all too frequent, negatively affecting Macao's tourism. China and Portugal have at times engaged in mutual recrimination about responsibility for the upsurge in criminal activity. It will be difficult for the territory to complete a smooth transition unless it brings this situation under control.

CONCLUSION

The Hong Kong Transition Task Force has ended our previous four quarterly reports with the assessment "so far, so good." Our fundamental assessment remains the same, although we have a few new concerns, particularly with respect to the economy. While we recognize that the economic crisis now affecting Hong Kong is largely beyond its ability to control, the government's response to that crisis has the potential to alter the current situation, both for good and for ill. In particular, the Hong Kong government's decision to intervene in the stock market in August, while arguably a defensible response in the face of these external economic pressures, poses some worrisome questions about how Hong Kong's economic policy may evolve in the future. We remain encouraged by the demonstration of support for democratic institutions shown in the May election, as described in our previous quarterly report. Looking ahead, we hope to see continued progress toward universal suffrage and the expansion of the number of officials chosen by direct election. Finally, we continue to be satisfied with the restraint shown by the Chinese government in its handling of Hong Kong, at least to the extent visible to outside observers. Undoubtedly, the coming months will pose additional challenges for Hong Kong and the region. It is important that the international community and Congress continue their practice of closely monitoring developments.

A TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN ANN MARIE GEORGE, COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE COURT DIVISION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Kathryn Ann Marie George has spent almost 27 years as a probation officer for the Juvenile Court, most recently as a senior probation officer at the Court's Near West Field Office. She has worked with juvenile offenders and their families while they are on probation and helps the offenders comply with specific court orders in the hope that these troubled children become productive adults.

She remembers fondly the calls she has received from some families offering their thanks for her help in dealing with the child's problems. And she also numbers her co-workers among her closest friends and believes that

they, like she, are "caring, good-hearted, dedicated people".

She stresses the benefit she has had of a warm and loving family, including her parents, Sam and Ann, her brothers, Sam and Mike, and her nephews, Michael and Steven, all of whom have stood by her in both good and bad times, and she hopes that her efforts can help those assigned to her in her profession with the same support she received from her family and friends.

In her spare time, she enjoys time with her family and friends, traveling to Magic Conventions and to Las Vegas, attending craft shows, making crafts, and watching movies, especially old movies, and plays. She also volunteers at her church, has been a volunteer camp counselor during her vacations and has helped other organizations at the May Dugan Center, where her field office is located.

END OUR VULNERABILITY TO LONG-RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE ATTACK

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, long-range ballistic missiles are the only weapons against which the U.S. government has decided, as a matter of policy, not to field a defense. Few Americans are aware the U.S. military—the most powerful, most technologically-advanced, and most lethal military force ever assembled—could not stop even a single ballistic missile from impacting American soil today.

Just last year, the bipartisan Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the United States, led by former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, asserted the United States may have little or no warning before the emergence of specific new ballistic missile threats to our nation. This, coupled with the fact some 20 Third World countries already have or may be developing both weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, and ballistic missile delivery systems, is cause for serious alarm.

Yet President Clinton and many in Congress have chosen to adopt a posture of purposeful vulnerability to these weapons. Mr. Speaker, the topic of America's national security is regularly and thoughtfully debated before Congress. However, whether our country chooses to field a national ballistic missile defense could very well determine the survival of the United States of America.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD, the full text of the letter I recently sent to U.S. Defense Secretary Bill Cohen, urging him to join me and other Members of Congress in ending our vulnerability to long range ballistic missiles.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 25, 1999

Hon. BILL COHEN,
Secretary of Defense,
The Pentagon, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR COHEN: Our lack of ballistic missile defense is a serious and growing vulnerability extending an unwelcome invitation to ballistic missile attack from rogue nations such as North Korea. We must build a defense against long range ballistic missiles.

A majority of Americans want a ballistic missile defense, and would want to quickly build a strong defense if they understood our vulnerability. General Charles A. Horner, Air Commander in the 1991 Persian Gulf War and former commander of the U.S. Space Command, noted a majority of Americans, even after finishing a tour of NORAD's warning complex in Colorado Springs, do not know we have no defense against long range ballistic missiles, believing instead we already have such defenses. I have found that to be the case with my constituents.

Our vulnerability to long range ballistic missiles is widely misunderstood even in Washington. A week after General Shelton claimed the Intelligence Community could provide the necessary warning of a rogue nation ICBM threat to the United States, North Korea surprised the Intelligence Community by launching on August 31, 1998 a three-stage ballistic missile with the potential of striking the western United States.

I believe we should end our vulnerability to long range ballistic missiles by vigorously building an effective ballistic missile defense employing space-based defense and accelerating Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide). Furthermore, the just purpose of saving lives requires us to end our reliance on a treaty against our defense—the ABM Treaty.

The administration's proposal to spend \$7 billion for ballistic missile defense over six years period should instead spend \$2-3 billion over three years in an accelerated Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide) program, and \$4-5 billion over three years in an accelerated program for space-based defenses, including Space Based Interceptors like *Brilliant Pebbles*.

Other proposals can build other elements of an effective, multiple layer defense. We should pursue the Space Based Laser Readiness Demonstrator, recognizing the Space Based Laser program has successfully completed ground testing of its major components. We are ready to proceed and test the Space Based Laser in space.

Clearly, our best defense against long range ballistic missiles will be in deploying space-based defenses and accelerating Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide). I urge you to build those defenses. An extensive reliance on ground-based interceptors will neither be effective nor provide the best solution for our defense.

Ground-based interceptors inherently lack the boost phase defense capability we will need to counter bomblets or submunitions carried by long range ballistic missiles. In contrast, space-based defenses offer the potential for a boost phase defense, and will complement theater missile defense programs.

It is well known China is engaged in an aggressive military modernization program including the development of the road-mobile DF-31 and DF-41 long range ballistic missiles. The United States is the likely target of these missiles. Moreover, Russia still has approximately 756 ICBM and 424 SLBMs it can launch against us.

Will you join me and the other members of Congress in the noble endeavor to end our vulnerability to long range ballistic missiles by quickly building an effective defense against long range ballistic missiles? We must defend our freedom.

Very truly yours,

BOB SCHAFFER,
Member of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, there are several other points I ask our colleagues to consider. Congress must be knowledgeable regarding the history of Space-Based Ballistic Missile Defenses.

Beginning with Project Defender in the late 1950s and including the Strategic Defense Ini-

tiative (SDI) begun by President Reagan and continued by President Bush as GPALS (Global Protection Against Limited Strikes), defense planners have long understood the advantages of deploying ballistic missile defenses in space, using interceptors or directed energy weapons such as high energy lasers.

The advantages from deploying ballistic missile defenses in space accrue from inherent characteristics of orbital platforms in space. These advantages include:

Global Coverage. Constellations of orbital platforms can cover all parts of the earth, providing a defense against ballistic missiles launched by any country.

Continuous Operation. Constellations of orbital platforms provide constant coverage, every day, without the need for additional or special deployments.

Boost Phase Defense Capability. By being higher than a boosting missile rising through the atmosphere, orbital platforms have the opportunity for a boost phase defense.

A boost phase defense capability is critical for an effective ballistic missile defense. The boost phase is the most vulnerable moment of a ballistic missile. A boost phase defense can intercept a missile before it releases any warheads, decoys, or submunitions.

Space-based defenses also offer the opportunity for post boost phase defense and midcourse phase defense. Ground-based interceptors, in contrast, tend to be for terminal defense, or late midcourse phase defense. Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide) offers an early midcourse phase defense with flexible basing.

Advances in computers and sensors since the 1960s have brought us to the point of deploying space-based ballistic missile defenses. Instead of nuclear weapons, we can rely on precision guided interceptors, and rapidly re-targetable high energy lasers. In addition, we can protect space-based ballistic missile defenses against electromagnetic disturbances from nuclear explosions through hardening, the use of infrared sensors, and battle management plans able to function without centralized nodes.

GPALS is the most comprehensive ballistic missile defense architecture recently developed. It featured global protection. GPALS based its capability for global protection on the deployment of Space Based Interceptors (SBIs), and Space Based Lasers (SBLs). A program for deploying an effective ballistic missile defense must include space-based defenses as a critical component.

Long range ballistic missiles are a global problem requiring a global solution.

Mr. Speaker, if we are serious about defending our country we must insist upon Streamlined Acquisition Procedures.

Critical national defense programs have long used streamlined acquisition procedures. The Manhattan Project, combining the scientific talent and person of J. Robert Oppenheimer with the drive of General Leslie Groves, produced the atomic bomb in a few years. Air Force General Bernard Schriever successfully developed the Thor, Atlas, Titan, and Minuteman missile systems in under eight years.

Streamlined acquisition procedures are useful for both programs developing new technology, and for accelerating programs where we already have the technology in hand, but need to apply, test, and produce it. Stream-

lined acquisition will be important for deploying a ballistic missile defense quickly.

In using streamlined acquisition procedures for ballistic missile defense, we need to remember that we already have the basic technology for deploying effective defenses against long range ballistic missiles. We do not need to be paralyzed by the goal of developing the best technology possible—we already have the technology we need.

We have already tested interceptors, kinetic energy weapons, and high energy lasers. While there is the need for practical field engineering, testing, and production of ballistic missile defense technologies, we have no need to continue basic research before reaching a decision to acquire a ballistic missile defense.

This is not to say, however, that we should not continue basic research. Rather, we can and should continue basic research without delaying other programs to acquire a ballistic missile defense based on research already done.

Accelerated funding and streamlined acquisition procedures are in order for Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide), and Space Based Interceptors such as Brilliant Pebbles (The Pentagon approved Brilliant Pebbles for acquisition in 1992). These are programs for which funding, not technology, is the primary constraint.

In addition, while the acquisition of Space Based Lasers for ballistic missiles defense will require substantial engineering and design work, we have already developed and tested the primary components for the Space Based Laser. We are ready to proceed with its development and acquisition.

We may expect accelerated funding and streamlined acquisition procedures to shorten timeframes for developing and deploying a ballistic missile defense. Timeframes for initial deployment may be as short as three to five years.

Accelerated funding for programs such as Navy Upper Tier, Space Based Interceptors like Brilliant Pebbles, and Space Based Lasers can bring us closer to quickly deploying a ballistic missile defense.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we must consider Proposals for an "ABM Treaty Compliant" Ballistic Missile Defense.

Proposals for an "ABM Treaty Compliant" Ballistic Missile Defense constrain themselves to a defense using ground-based radar, and ground-based interceptors deployed at a single site with a maximum of 100 interceptors.

It is time we view proposals for deploying an "ABM Treaty Compliant" Ballistic Missile Defense from the context of providing the best defense possible for the American people.

Thus, we need to compare an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense with the effectiveness and availability of other ballistic missile defense programs such as Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide) and Space Based Interceptors.

While an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense may seem attractive from the viewpoint of being able to recycle Minuteman missiles by equipping them with a Kinetic Kill Vehicle rather than nuclear warheads, such proposals must be kept in their proper context.

First, the most effective defense possible against long range ballistic missiles will be a boost phase defense. A boost phase defense, whether using interceptors or high energy lasers, will intercept a ballistic missile when it

presents itself as a large, visible target, and is susceptible to destruction.

In addition, a boost phase defense, will prevent a missile from releasing its warheads, decoys, or submunitions. Yet, an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense will never be able to offer us a boost phase defense capability, in contrast to programs such as Navy Upper Tier (Navy Theater Wide), Space Based Interceptors, or Space Based Lasers.

Furthermore, an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense, limited to a single site, will be unable to protect the entire United States. It will put at risk Alaska, Hawaii, and many of our Pacific Island Territories such as Guam.

Moreover, an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense, by relying solely on ground-based interceptors, leaves itself open to its defeat through the use of decoys, multiple warheads or submunitions.

Our best defenses will be found in putting themselves as close to the point of attack—as close or at the boost phase—rather than waiting for the last moment. Intuitively, this gives the defense the most room for maneuver, and restricts the offense.

Our best defenses against long range ballistic missiles will thus be found in programs such as Navy Upper Tier, Space Based Interceptors, and Space Based Lasers, not in an "ABM Treaty Compliant" defense.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NED
MALONE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Ned Malone who has dedicated his life to improving our community and who has had a distinguished career in public service as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and as Baltimore County Sheriff.

Those who know Ned well, know one thing about him: that he is a fireman at heart. That is why I am so pleased that on Feb. 13 he will be honored for his 45 years of dedicated service to the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. During that time, Ned has served as the Fire Department's president, captain, and a member of the Board of Directors.

Ned also has had a distinguished career in Annapolis. From 1967–1978, he was a member of the House of Delegates, serving as Chairman of the Baltimore County delegation and as Vice Chairman of the powerful Economic Matters Committee.

In 1984, Ned was appointed Sheriff of Baltimore County by Gov. Harry Hughes. Serving as Sheriff from 1984–1990, Ned worked hard to ensure the safety and well-being of all Baltimore County residents. Ned is currently with the state's Mass Transit Administration.

Ned was born in Elkridge, MD, in 1927 and has spent much of his life in Arbutus, MD. He was Manager of Personnel Services for the Western Maryland Railway Co., and served with distinction in the U.S. Army from 1950–1952. Ned has been married to the lovely Margaret June Malone for 43 years and together they raised four wonderful children.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ned Malone on his 45 years as a dedi-

cated member of the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department, and on his distinguished career in public service. Ned's passion for helping others and his dedication to improving our community is hard to match. I am honored to call him a friend.

THE MEDICARE SOCIAL WORK
EQUITY ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join with Representative LEACH (R-Iowa) and 22 of our colleagues to introduce the Medicare Social Work Equity Act of 1999 to ensure that clinical social workers can continue to receive reimbursement under Part B of Medicare.

Due to changes in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, clinical social workers can no longer bill Medicare under Part B for counseling and other professional mental health services. Under current law, clinical social workers must now seek reimbursement under the consolidated payment system. Unfortunately, the prospective payment system was not designed to cover ancillary services such as psychotherapy.

If Congress does not amend the laws to allow separate billing for psychotherapy service, clinical social workers will not be able to provide much-needed mental health services to long-term care facility residents. Doing so will needlessly harm seniors because clinical social workers have the professional training and expertise to work with seniors as do psychologists and psychiatrists.

If we fail to fix this problem, Medicare will pay more. The services of psychologists and psychiatrists cost more than the services of a clinical social worker. Currently, clinical social workers receive from Medicare only 75% of what would be paid to a psychologist or psychiatrist. In addition, many skilled nursing facilities operate in communities where psychologists and psychiatrists are not available to treat seniors in skilled nursing facilities.

Our legislation excludes clinical social workers from the prospective payment system. This small fix corrects what we believe to be a serious error created by the Balanced Budget Act. It is time to act quickly and decisively to preserve access to needed counseling services for residents in thousands of our nation's long-term care facilities.

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medicare Social Work Equity Act of 1999".

SEC. 2 EXCLUDING CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER SERVICES FROM COVERAGE UNDER THE MEDICARE SKILLED NURSING FACILITY PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND CONSOLIDATED PAYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1888(e)(2)(A)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395yy(e)(2)(A)(ii)) is amended by inserting "clinical social worker services," after "qualified psychologist services."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1861(hh)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(hh)(2)) is amended by striking "and other than serv-

ices furnished to an inpatient of a skilled nursing facility which the facility is required to provide as a requirement for participation".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section apply as if included in the enactment of section 4432(a) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

THE RETIREMENT OF MARGE
HOSKIN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
QUINEBAUG-SHETUCKET HERITAGE
CORRIDOR, INC.

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Marge Hoskin of Plainfield, Connecticut upon her retirement as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc. Marge is an extraordinary American who has worked for more than two decades to preserve and promote the historic, natural and cultural resources of eastern Connecticut.

I first began working with Marge in the late 1980s. She was one of the leaders of a grassroots group in eastern Connecticut exploring how communities could preserve and promote the history of the region. Marge and the other members of this group had vision of the future. A vision built on the region's rich heritage as a world-wide center for textile production and incredible network of rivers anchored by the Quinebaug in the east and the Shetucket in the west. By the time Marge and her colleagues began developing this vision, the mills which line the rivers from Thompson through Willimantic to Norwich, some of them the largest and most productive in the world in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries, were silent, ghostly shells deteriorating with each passing day. Many feared these magnificent structures—monuments to the industrial prowess of the United States and the ingenuity and hard work of generations of people from eastern Connecticut—would be lost forever, relegated to the history books and old snapshots.

Marge, and others in this small, but committed group, believed that the mills could be preserved, could be redeveloped and could be transformed into engines of economic growth once again. They envisioned linking communities and citizens across the region using a natural resource which had always brought them together—the rivers. They developed this vision with the knowledge that economic development, historic preservation and environmental protection can go hand-in-hand.

Between 1989 and 1994, Marge Hoskin devoted countless hours to making this vision, embodied in the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor, a reality. She traveled from one corner of eastern Connecticut to the other explaining the concept and the goals it was designed to achieve. She came to Washington to testify in support of legislation I introduced to establish the Corridor. Marge also originated an event which has become synonymous with the Quinebaug and Shetucket Heritage Corridor—the Walking Weekend. Walking Weekend, held every year since 1990 during Columbus Day weekend,

has educated tens of thousands of people from across eastern Connecticut and New England about the region through a series of walks highlighting our history, natural resources and culture. Marge celebrated with countless other residents of my district when President Clinton signed legislation formally establishing the Corridor in November 1994.

Following enactment of this law, Marge played an active role in creating a non-profit entity—Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc.—designed to coordinate efforts to achieve the goals of the act. Marge has served as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Director of the corporation. In these leadership positions, she has continuously demonstrated an ability to forge consensus from very diverse views. She has led by quiet example constantly striving to do what is best for the region. She has given of herself in so many ways and is unquestionably one of the reasons the Quinebaug and Shetucket National Heritage Corridor is a success today.

Marge has been widely recognized for her service to the community. She was named "Woman of the Year" in 1997 by the Northeastern Connecticut Professional and Business Women's Association. She received the "Civic Achievement Award" in January 1999 from the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. In addition, she has been honored with several awards from the Association of Northeast Connecticut Historical Societies. These awards are a testament to Marge's dedicated service, commitment to the region and penchant for delivering results.

Mr. Speaker, all of us involved with Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor look forward to working with Marge for many years to come. We remain secure in the knowledge that she will continue to play an important role in an endeavor she has done so much to make successful. I know I speak for many people across eastern Connecticut when I say—thank you Marge.

IN HONOR OF MARY ANN KOSTER
CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Mary Ann Koster is the Director of Scheduling at Cleveland Municipal Court, whose Administrative Judge Larry Jones nominated her in recognition of 25 years' service. Under her supervision, the office schedules all civil and criminal cases on the personal dockets of the Court's judges and collates and reports case statistics for use by the Court internally and for reports by the Court to the Ohio Supreme Court.

Mary Ann takes pride in the title "Public Servant" and strives to do her best for the Court and its personnel, and, especially, for the public served by the Court.

Married to Don Koster for almost 20 years, Mary Ann lives in Columbia Station. She has raised and exhibited roses at all levels of competition. She looks forward to bring the national fall convention of the American Rose Society to Cleveland in the year 2001 and will, in 1999, stand for examination for Consulting Rosarian and Judge.

IN MEMORY OF VICTOR M. GRAY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Victor M. Gray of California, Missouri.

Victor Gray was born July 15, 1912, in Hendrick, IL, a son of Homer F. and Anna Burrus Gray. He was a graduate of the University of Missouri, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture in 1937.

Gray's career in public service and agriculture began immediately after his graduation from the University of Missouri. From 1937 to 1948 he worked for the Agricultural Extension Service. After his initial service to the state of Missouri, Gray worked in the private sector, owning and operating a farm machinery company for two years. Victor Gray was a livestock marketing specialist with the Producer's Livestock Marketing Association-National Stockyard, Illinois, and manager of the Farm Bureau Service Co. from 1953 to 1957. He served as director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Feed and Seed Division in 1957 and, in 1959, became the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture's Feed and Seed Division in 1957 and, in 1959, became the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture until 1963. He was the director of legislative programs for Missouri Farm Bureau from November 1963 until he retired in August 1977.

Victor Gray served as the executive secretary of the Missouri Association of Fairs and was a member of the Board of Governors of the American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City, Mo. He was the past President of American Lung Association-Western Division; past chairman of the County Soil and Water Conservation Districts; former vice president of the County Farm Bureau; and former chairman of the Missouri Hazardous Waste Committee. He served as district representative of the Missouri Farm Bureau Rural Health and Safety Committee.

Victor Gray was an active member in the community. A member of the Gamma Sigma Delta agricultural fraternity, he received the Award of Merit from the society's Missouri chapter and the State Star Farmer Award from the Missouri FFA. He was a 50-year member of the California Lodge 183, A.F. & A.M., and the Royal Arch Masons Chapter in California. He was a member of the United Methodist Church of California.

Gray was preceded in death by his wife, Anna in 1991. He is survived by his niece, Sandra Gray Dietzel; three great-nieces, two great-great nieces and three great-great nephews. I know that this body joins me in expressing sympathy to the family of this great Missourian.

TEACHER INVESTMENT AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, providing a high quality education to our children is my

highest priority. The key to achieving this goal is having high quality teachers. It is for this reason I am reintroducing my measure today from last Congress, the Teacher Investment and Enhancement (TIE) Act, along with my colleagues, Representatives HORN, POMEROY and PAUL.

While it is important to know how to teach, it is equally if not more important to know what you are teaching. However, many teachers are teaching "out-of-field" and, therefore, are not sufficiently knowledgeable in their subject area. The TIE Act addresses this problem by providing secondary teachers the incentives to return to college to take courses in the classes they teach. This will be accomplished by doubling the current Lifetime Learning Tax Credit for tuition expenses for the continuing education of secondary teachers in their fields of teaching. This increase would allow such teachers to receive up to a \$4,000 tax break for college tuition costs.

It is pivotal to ensure teachers are well-educated. Offering more education opportunities for our teachers is an investment in our children and one we cannot afford not to take. I strongly encourage my colleagues to cosponsor this important piece of legislation and work for its passage.

WHY I INTRODUCED THE
BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, when I ran for the United States Congress, I campaigned on virtually one single issue—balancing the budget.

Whenever I speak on the matter, I think of my friend Delmar Burhenn. His family works hard to make ends meet on their Baca County farm located in the extreme southeast corner of Colorado.

I savor every chance I get to speak with Delmar. He has opinions about everything—retirement, the reliability of farm equipment, saving for a vacation, and so on.

During my first term in Congress, we balanced the budget, reduced taxes and improved education. During the 106th Congress, we want to build on these achievements by preserving Social Security, giving families like Delmar's more tax relief, and permanently balancing the budget.

Of these, the most pressing issue is balancing the federal budget permanently. That's why I introduced HJR 1, the Balanced Budget Amendment Reduction of 1998, on the first day of session. Even while the Republican-led Congress exercises fiscal discipline in Washington, I believe the only way to protect families like Delmar's is by making it a requirement federal books remain balanced forever.

Some are unaware Congress balanced the federal budget last year. We did. In fact, we delivered the first balanced budget since 1969, a big step in the right direction. But that was simply a temporary victory that can be lost with the political winds. The Balanced Budget Amendment I propose guarantees the federal budget will be balanced each year to come.

Under my proposal, the only time the budget could be broken is by affirmative vote of a

three-fifths super majority in both the House and the Senate. This super majority would be too high a hurdle for frivolous, spur-of-the-moment impulse spending. Congress would only be able to spend more than income warrants during times of real need like national emergencies and war.

The Balanced Budget Amendment would also help us accomplish one of my top priorities for the 106th Congress, preserving and protecting Social Security for future generations. Right now the federal government "borrows" from the Social Security surplus in order to pay for other numerous federal programs such as education, Medicare, and transportation. Even by conservative estimates, without an end to this "borrowing," we can count on Social Security running deficits by 2012, and headed toward bankruptcy in the early 2020's.

With a permanently balanced budget, the federal government will be forced to prioritize money for these programs and others important to Coloradans. By reducing the amount we borrow to meet today's federal debt obligation, we pay less interest on the national debt each year.

Even with all of these incentives to pass the Balanced Budget Amendment, it won't be easy. There are still too many big spenders in Washington who are adept at creating new expensive programs for every problem. Under the Balanced Budget Amendment, liberals won't be able to continue their free spending ways without considering the long-term consequences to Colorado families like Delmar's.

It's time to stop runaway government spending. Coloradans balanced their checkbooks every day, knowing they can't spend money they don't have. I don't think there's any reason to expect less of the federal government.

By passing the Balanced Budget Amendment, Delmar will be assured bureaucrats in Washington will have to worry about making ends meet just like he does.

THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, three years ago, the President signed into law the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I was not a member of Congress then. But I had been, I would have supported the goals of the act to create an environment where new technologies, consumer choices and jobs would flourish.

Today, I am frankly disappointed that those goals have largely not been met. There is local phone competition because local phone companies have opened their markets. However, due to the manner in which the FCC has implemented the act, new local competitors are "cream skimming" and are providing service to predominantly businesses, not residential customers. Due to the FCC's implementation of the act, local phone companies are still tangled in a thicket of FCC regulations and are unable to provide consumers with more choices in long distance service. And advanced telecommunications services, which provide American households benefits includ-

ing fast internet access, are not reaching millions of consumers. In fact, in one region of the country (which has sadly become known as the "No High Speed Internet Access Zone"), not a single citizen has high-speed internet access.

Mr. Speaker, the act is not the problem, the FCC's implementation is. The Federal Communications Commission has disregarded the intent of Congress, and in my view, consumers are suffering. It's time to designate, and let the marketplace do its job.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDIGAP ACCESS PROTECTION FOR SENIORS ACT OF 1999

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will restore to thousands of our nation's seniors access to an essential element of comprehensive medical care—prescription drugs.

Prescription drugs are the single largest out-of-pocket medical expense for the elderly, and for many the greatest cause for worry. To secure prescription drug coverage, as well as other benefits not part of the basic Medicare package, many seniors have chosen to join HMOs during the past few years.

But October 2, 1998 signaled a turning point for them. You may recall that was the deadline for HMOs to notify the Health Care Financing Administration whether they would continue to participate in Medicare+Choice in 1999. Well, more than 100 plans nationwide decided to either end their participation with Medicare entirely, or to cut back their service areas. As a result, 440,000 Medicare HMO enrollees in 22 states were abandoned by their Medicare HMO.

More than 300,000 Medicare beneficiaries had a prescription drug benefit and lost it on December 31st. More than 70,000 beneficiaries were left with no Medicare HMO option whatsoever. Not only has the number of plans offering the drug benefit shrunk considerably from last year, it is expected to be even lower when HMOs submit their proposals to HCFA for next year.

Although Congress' stated goal in the Balanced Budget Act was to provide more choices to seniors, it seems that the reverse has happened. BBA did provide some security for seniors whose Medicare HMOs abandon them—they are guaranteed the ability to enroll in four of the ten standardized Medigap plans: A, B, C, or F. But none of those plans offers any prescription drug coverage. They can apply for one of the plans that offers it: H, I, or J, but insurance companies can refuse to enroll them, place pre-existing conditions on those policies, or discriminate in pricing because of the patient's health status, effectively denying them access.

In the closing days of the 105th Congress, I introduced the Medigap Access Protection for Seniors Act. This bill helps beneficiaries maintain their outpatient drug coverage when they are dropped from a Medicare HMO that provided that benefit, by guaranteeing them enrollment in plans supplemental plan H, I, or J.

Today, I am reintroducing this legislation. Seniors across the nation placed their trust in Congress when they selected a Medicare HMO. They did so because of the promise of additional benefits, little or no additional premium costs, and with the belief that these plans would remain accessible to them. In doing so, many gave up their supplemental policies. Now, they can only return to the most limited of Medigap plans, ones with no coverage for prescription drugs.

Mr. Speaker, I am calling upon my colleagues to join me in taking this important step to restore prescription drug benefits for thousands of beneficiaries and I am calling upon this Congress to pass this bill early in the first session and renew seniors' faith in the promise of Medicare.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA GRIFFITH

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary journalist, Patricia Griffith, Washington Bureau Chief for the Toledo Blade and the Pittsburgh Post Gazette for the past 10 years. On Friday, February 12, 1999, Pat will retire after more than 35 years of covering national politics. A native of San Francisco, Pat first came to Washington to serve as press secretary to Mrs. Hubert Humphrey in the Johnson-Humphrey presidential campaign of 1964.

In addition to the Toledo Blade and the Post Gazette, Pat has also worked for the Herald of Monterey, CA, Washington Post and the San Francisco Examiner. Her reporting has given millions of readers insight into the policy and politics that affect their daily lives. Indeed, Pittsburgh has been honored to have a journalist as reliable and distinguished as Pat. I have always admired her as a reporter and respected her as a person for her commitment to impartial news writing and her pleasant demeanor sometimes in the face of seemingly impossible deadlines.

On behalf of the readership of the Toledo Blade and the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, I thank you for your service. You are a journalist of the highest caliber and integrity. Your reporting has always been fair, unbiased and informative and I join your friends and colleagues in wishing you continued success. I wish you good health and best of luck in your retirement and extend to you my heartfelt thanks and congratulations. And so it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this most dedicated individual.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUPREME COURT DECISION, ROE V. WADE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Friday January 22nd 1999 marked the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in Roe v.

Wade, which ensured the right of all women to make decision concerning their reproductive health. For millions of women, *Roe v. Wade* has secured the constitutional right to seek access to safe and legal family planning and abortion services. Its impact on the health and safety of the lives of women cannot be overstated.

It is an outrage that despite the Supreme Court's ruling, women still face barriers to seeking abortion without danger. States continue to find ways to restrict access by law, and even more troubling is the recent trend of clinic violence and the harassment of doctors and workers by anti-choice activists. I would like to highlight some cases from this past year of violence and threatening behavior in my home state of California:

In February, a bombing attempt was made on a family planning clinic in Vallejo. The briefcase that contained the alleged bomb was later discovered to be empty.

In April a firebomb was thrown at a Planned Parenthood family planning clinic in San Diego, causing \$5,000 in damages.

A door was broken in El Monte when a rock was thrown at the Family Planning Medical Center.

In July, a San Mateo family planning clinic worker was accused of physical assault by three anti-choice protesters. The protestor's injuries were not found by the police to warrant charges.

In San Diego, a clinic was vandalized, the buildings covered with the words "baby killer."

In September the new Planned Parenthood headquarters in Orange County face over thirty chanting anti-choice protesters.

In Fairfield, a physician was harassed by anti-choice protesters as he arrived for work one morning.

These events are mirrored by others across the country, and show that the fight for reproductive choice did not end with the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Twenty-six years ago the Supreme Court held up the right to reproductive choice for women, yet it is still debated on the floor of the House of Representatives on a near daily basis. We must keep up the fight for a women's right to choose. I remain committed to do all I can to preserve that choice.

MEMORIAL TO OFFICER JAMES
WILLIAMS, JR.

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the passing of Officer James Williams, Jr. Officer Williams, a member of the Oakland Police Department and resident of Pinole, California, died in the line of duty on Sunday, January 10, 1999. Like all of his colleagues throughout law enforcement, Officer Williams put himself at risk for the sake of us all, and for his sacrifice we are forever indebted. He has earned our sincerest respect and gratitude, I know that I speak for every Member of this Chamber when I express our deepest sympathy and appreciation to his wife, Sabrina, and children, Alexander, Aaron and Arriana.

IN HONOR OF NANCY EMSHOFF
MEANY COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS, DOMESTIC RELATIONS
DIVISION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for the past 22 years, Nancy Emshoff Meany has been an Investigator for the Domestic Relations Division. Nominated by Administrative Judge Timothy M. Flanagan, Nancy takes pride in having the same job for that period and still enjoying it. She visits the homes of parties in custody disputes to see that the parents provide a decent home, contacts neighbors, references and other agencies having knowledge of the family and does other background research prior to writing a report of her findings for use by the Court's judges and magistrates.

She recalls a number of humorous incidents, but relates that many of them may not be appropriate for a family audience. However, at the beginning of her employment, she recalls one man's getting so upset that his toupee flew off his head; Nancy maintained her composure and did not laugh.

After graduating from American University in Washington, D.C., in three years, she returned to Cleveland prior to beginning employment with the Court. She credits her parents with helping her and her five brothers and sisters to learn to help others, a skill she feels led her to her current position.

She lives in Solon, with her husband Thomas and her 3½ year old son Michael, with whom she spends time walking in the Metro Parks (when she's not chasing Michael). She golfs, swims, reads and enjoys travel.

AGRICULTURE KEY TO OPEN
SPACE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, given Colorado's population boom, it is no surprise ours is among America's most sprawling regions. Ten acres are developed each hour in Colorado. During the next twenty years, the state's population could easily grow by another 1.5 million.

Often, irrigated farmland is consumed to fuel the demands associated with growth. While farmers and ranchers make up only three percent of the state's population, they hold most of the rights to Colorado's most valuable resource—water. This vital link between water, farmland and the nation's food supply cannot be overlooked in our search for solutions to regional growth problems.

Lawsuits and petitions filed by various extremist environmental groups over such rodents as the Preble's meadow jumping mouse and black-tailed prairie dog threaten farmers and ranchers with federal intervention and excessive regulation. However, Washington bureaucrats have proven themselves ill-suited to balance the many competing factors relative to growth in Colorado.

When I asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about the decision to list the Preble's mouse under the Endangered Species Act, I was told farmers and ranchers could continue to work their land so long as they do it while the mouse hibernates. Farmers and ranchers need not fear the Endangered Species Act, say the agency, if they put up their crops between October and April!

When a member of my staff called the Fish and Wildlife Service for information on the black-tailed prairie dog, he was asked, "is that some kind of hunting dog or something?" These fundamental misunderstandings permeate Washington-based initiatives designed to control the growth and destiny of the West.

Sound policy to offset the effects of Colorado's population boom should focus instead on Colorado's best stewards of the land—its farmers and ranchers. Besides supplying safe and inexpensive food for our tables, farmers and ranchers provide valuable open space and wildlife habitat.

In fact, most of this nation's wildlife survives and thrives on private lands. To preserve these valuable assets we need to protect water and property rights and make it easier for farmers and ranchers to pass their land on to succeeding generations.

We must continue to fight ill-conceived Washington-based programs that threaten Colorado water, like Executive Order 13061 recently initiated by the White House. My fight against this invasive order was victorious for Colorado. Consequently, no Colorado waterways will be subject to subsequent federal control this year, but we must keep a wary eye on the future. Federal reserve water rights and bypass flows continue to threaten Colorado farmers and ranchers. As a state, Colorado must continue to stand committed to protecting our water from further federal usurpations.

Colorado's farmers and ranchers are growing older. Factor in inflated property values, rising costs and low commodity prices and its clear Colorado's farmers and ranchers are fighting for their very survival. That is why I introduced legislation designed to keep family farms and ranches in the family.

The Family Farm Preservation Act blocks the death tax from family farms when they are passed along to the next generation. While the death tax has devastating effects on families (up to 55 percent of the farm's value may have to be paid to the I.R.S.), the amount raised by the tax accounts for less than one percent of federal tax revenues, two-thirds of which are wasted on administration and overhead.

Furthermore, Congress needs to further reduce capital gains taxes so retiring farmers can pass farming operations and equipment on to younger agricultural producers.

While certain anti-property rights groups fight for more regulation and government intervention, Colorado must become an aggressive advocate for agriculture. Preserving farms and ranches is one effective way to mitigate Colorado's booming urbanization.

Let us not look to more litigation or to Washington bureaucrats for the solution to Colorado's problems. Instead, let us pursue sound pro-agriculture and pro-environmental policies that help our neighbors and help ourselves.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TRACK
COACH DELBERT BEST

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Delbert Best, track coach for the last 24 years at Wellington-Napoleon High School, and athletic director for the past 18 years, was inducted into the Missouri Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

During his career at Wellington-Napoleon High School, Best's track teams won nine boys and one girls 1-70 Conference championships and six boys District championships. His boys teams placed first at the Missouri state finals in 1985, 1987, and 1991; second at state in 1986 and 1983 and third at state in 1992, and 1996. The girls team were second at the state championships in 1993 and third 1992.

Best was selected 1A boys Coach of the Year once by his coaching peers. In 1994 he was selected as Region 5 National Coach of the Year.

I wish to extend my congratulations to Coach Best for his most deserved induction into the Missouri Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
ELECTRIC BOAT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to Electric Boat of Groton, Connecticut, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. On February 7, 1899, the Electric Boat Company was incorporated, heralding the beginning of an enterprise that has performed an invaluable service to our nation. As Electric Boat celebrates its centennial, I would like to pay tribute to this national treasure and thank the men and women who have done so much to ensure our national security.

Beginning with the development of the Holland (S-1), the world's first practical submarine, Electric Boat has led the way in submarine innovation. The working men and women of Electric Boat have created an impressive historical record. They delivered the USS Cuttlefish—the first all-welded submarine—to the Navy in 1933. They produced submarines at an incredible pace paving the way to America's victory in the Pacific in World War II. The company's craftsmen and designers ushered in a new era of Naval technology in the mid-1950s with the USS Nautilus (SSN571)—the world's first nuclear-powered submarine. The list of accomplishments goes on and on: development of the first fleet ballistic missile submarine in 1959; design and modular construction of the Trident ballistic missile submarines that provide the undetectable leg of America's strategic nuclear triad; delivery of Seawolf class of submarines, the most capable attack submarine ever built; and continuing innovation with the New Attack

Submarine. Simply put, Electric Boat has played the defining role in every innovation in submarine design and construction over the past century.

More impressive than the company's list of accomplishments, however, are the people who work there. I have an incredible sense of pride in these patriots. I wish more of my colleagues had the opportunity to visit them, to talk to them, and to get to know what great Americans they are. That's truly why I rise today. To make sure that the entire House, the collective representatives of his nation, know about the unique contributions of the men and women of Electric Boat. Our submarine force is often referred to as the "Silent Service." Nevertheless, if ever there was a time to set silence and modesty aside, it's to pay tribute to this great group of people on the occasion of the centennial of the company they have built.

Happy 100th Anniversary, Electric Boat!

IN HONOR OF CHARLENE STARR
(CUYAHOGA COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE)

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Charlene Starr has, for over 30 years, been an employee of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office where she now supervises 12 staff personnel in the Tax Foreclosure Department who process between 3,000 and 4,000 tax foreclosure cases each year to ensure either that the appropriate taxes are paid or that the properties proceed to foreclosure sale, an often complex process.

From an early age, Charlene listened to her parents' teachings to develop a good work ethic and to appreciate her good fortune in what she had and to care for those who were less fortunate. She has sought to combine those in performing her job, while retaining a compassionate attitude towards others.

Charlene is also proud of her role in her office's receiving grants from the Ford Foundation and the John F. Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University and in a national award as one of 4 models for "Re-inventing Government".

A Brooklyn resident, Charlene was active for many years with members of the Cleveland Police Department in the "Cops, Kids & Christmas" program providing toys for unfortunate children in orphanages, hospitals and other locations and in gathering toys and contributions throughout the year at public events. She enjoys camping and fishing, cooking, reading and computers, among other activities and is an active member of St. Colman's Church.

RE: AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE,
MARCH 11, 1997

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill to require notice to automobile

insurance policy holders before a paid up policy can be either canceled or renewal refused.

Many of my constituents without warning or for insignificant reasons are being cut off of automobile insurance coverage and with little time allowed to find another company.

My bill will require at least 180 days notice before a cancellation or decision not to renew can take effect provided the premiums are fully paid up and there is no court order cancelling the holder's driver's license.

In many places in my district the only means of transportation is one's automobile. To have to drive without insurance coverage is a public hazard. People need to be told well in advance if a company is refusing to renew or plans to discontinue coverage.

This is not interference with the company's right to decide who to cover or not cover. It is only a requirement of due notice. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SALES OF AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICIES.

No State shall authorize the sale of automobile insurance policies unless such policies are subject to cancellation in accordance with section 2.

SEC. 2. CANCELLATION OF AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICIES.

A paid-up policy of automobile insurance may be canceled only if—

(1) a written notice of cancellation is mailed or delivered to the last known mailing address of the named insured as shown in the records of the insurer at least 180 days before the effective date of the cancellation;

(2) the insurer shows that the named insured had the insured's driver's license suspended or revoked; or

(3) the insurer shows that the name insured has been convicted of, or forfeited bail for, any action arising out of or in connection with the operation of a motor vehicle that is grounds for suspension or revocation of a driver's license.

SEC. 3. RENEWAL OF AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICIES.

An insurer shall mail or deliver to an insured a written notice of non-renewal of an automobile insurance policy at the last known mailing address of the named insured as shown in the records of the insurer at least 180 days before the expiration of the policy.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) INSURER.—An insurer which violates section 1, 2, or 3 shall with respect to the insured involved in such violation—

(1) accept an application or written request for automobile insurance coverage at a rate and on the same terms and conditions as are available to its insureds under the insurer's automobile insurance coverage;

(2) reinstate the automobile insurance coverage for such insured to the end of the applicable policy period.

(b) OTHERS.—Any person who violates section 1, 2, or 3 shall be subject to—

(1) a cease and desist order issued in accordance with section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45); or

(2) a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000.

RECOGNIZING THE NORWIN AREA
CELEBRATION 2000**HON. RON KLINK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, as the turn of the century approaches, Americans will become more and more excited about the time in which we are living. A new millennium is an event which we are indeed honored to witness, and such an event is worthy of celebration.

To this end, an organization in my Congressional District, the Fourth District of Pennsylvania, has been hard at work to ensure that the closing years of this century and the first year of the next century are welcomed with enthusiasm. The Norwin Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with local schools and businesses, has arranged an impressive calendar of events for Celebration 2000, including parades, a business EXPO, and, of course, a First Night 2000.

These events will certainly unite the people, businesses, governments, churches, and other organizations of not only the Norwin Area, but all of Westmoreland County, by providing the community with three years of high visibility events and activities.

Clearly, the time and effort it takes to organize such a gala event is worthy of our recognition here today. I ask that the Members of the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing these efforts. Through their hard work and dedication, Celebration 2000 will be a project worthy of taking place once in a 1,000 years.

RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL
RESPONDS TO HURRICANE MITCH**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues the tremendous energy and compassion displayed by a group of students from Richmond High School in Richmond, California. Seeing the devastation of Hurricane Mitch on the nightly news, these students took action and responded. As reported in the following article, their efforts brought together the entire Richmond High community in the spirit of giving, and the people of both Central America and Richmond, California, are better for it.

[From the WC Times, Jan. 13, 1999]

RICHMOND HIGH GIVES LOADS AFTER STORM
(By Mary Reiley)

They collected boxes and boxes of food, clothing and over-the-counter medicines for adults and children who survived Hurricane Mitch, which devastated Honduras and Nicaragua in October.

Students in Richmond High's Alma Latina Club and leadership class collected so many boxes that their large truck could not carry all the donated items to the American Red Cross.

And it wasn't just the club and class members who contributed items and money.

Students attending dances, sports and the annual Harvest Festival got in by bringing canned foods.

Parents brought items on report card night, and staff members loaned their faces so students could pay to throw pies at them.

Students and staff from Helms Middle School and West Contra Costa Adult Education also gave.

"It speaks well of the community that we can come together when there's a need," said Isidora Martinez-McAfee.

She sponsors the Alma Latina Club and is the bilingual U.S. history and government teacher.

Most of the students in her classes and the club are from Mexico or Central America, Martinez-McAfee said, so they felt a connection to the hurricane victims.

When the club decided to send items from its annual canned food drive to Hurricane Mitch survivors, the leadership class rallied the student body to participate, said senior Maria Miranda, 18.

She is a member of the leadership class and the student body's school board representative.

Everyone enrolled in social science classes at the school, grades nine through 12, is required to complete at least 15 hours of community service.

Membership in the leadership class and Alma Latina is not required.

Kia Yancy, 17, and a senior said she would still have become involved if there were no service rule.

"Richmond High did a good deed," Kia said.

"We were looking out for the people in Central America."

The leadership class member said it and the club worked together, collecting, bagging and boxing the goods and loading them on the truck at 7:30 a.m. Friday.

They gathered enough to fill more than half a classroom with items, she said. Everything was delivered to the Red Cross for eventual shipment to Central America.

Martinez-McAfee said the students are happy with the donations, but some are disappointed about reported delays in delivery.

"We hope it gets to where it's supposed to be going," Maria said. "We wanted to help."

The effort was worthwhile for students because it unified and helped show what is outside of school, Maria said.

"It gave them a sense of what's going on in the world, and it's healthy for the mind, too," she said.

Nancy Ivey teaches the leadership class, plus social science and wood shop.

She sees the students' efforts as a demonstration of one more way they set goals and achieve them.

"The students feel the school has a negative and false reputation," Ivey said.

Farm Saephan, 16, junior class treasurer and member of the leadership class said, "We're doing whatever we can to help people in need. It made us feel good about ourselves. The people (in Central America) and in need more than we are here."

IN HONOR AND FAITH: RECOGNIZING
THE HEROISM OF THE IMMORTAL
FOUR CHAPLAINS**HON. BRUCE F. VENTO**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the Immortal Four Chaplains' heroism and legacy that serve as an ex-

ample to the lives of individuals who have stood up courageously in the face of hatred and prejudice to protect others.

On February 3, 1943, the U.S.A.T. Dorchester was struck by a torpedo from a German U-boat off the shores of Greenland. Nearly 700 people perished in the icy waters of the North Atlantic. Four Army Chaplains showed extraordinary faith and personal sacrifice by calming fears, handing out life jackets, and guiding men to safety. Many of the 230 men who survived owed their lives to these Four Chaplains.

This historic event and circumstances has received recognition in the past with Congressional Resolutions and a postage stamp issuance commemorating the heralded event. At this point, however, memories have understandably faded. This heroic act and example could serve as a focal point today drawing together Americans of varied faiths and ethnic backgrounds positively reflecting upon challenging America's cultural pluralism and diversity. The lesson of mutual respect, tolerance, and sacrifice need to be learned anew by each generation of Americans. The Four Chaplains stand out as an extraordinary human experience, relevant yesterday and today.

Set against the example of the Immortal Four Chaplains, the Immortal Four Chaplains Foundation was formed to provide a platform to tell the stories of those who have risked their lives to save others of a different race or faith. The Minnesota based foundation was founded in 1997 by the nephew and daughter of two of the Chaplains and has drawn the support and participation of former Vice President Walter Mondale, former Senator Bob Dole, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and many other prominent leaders, including survivors of the German U-boat 223 which sank the Dorchester.

On Sunday, February 7th, 1999, in Minnesota, I had the honor of jointly awarding Archbishop Desmond Tutu with the first Immortal Chaplains prize for Humanity. On his first trip to Minnesota, the Archbishop, whose rise to worldwide leadership in defending the rights of the oppressed, first drew attention from his driving voice against Apartheid while Nelson Mandela was imprisoned in South Africa. As the Anglican Archbishop of that country, Tutu received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his courageous stand against great odds. On his retirement as Archbishop of Cape Town, he was appointed by President Nelson Mandela to chair the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This commission has performed an historic role and precedent in revealing the truth about atrocities committed in the past and providing the means of peaceful resolutions for the pain and humiliation suffered by that nation. Today, he continues to champion the plight of social justice.

I would like to acknowledge other recipients of the Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity that were awarded posthumously, U.S. Coast Guard Steward'smate Charles W. David, an African-American who lost his life as a result of rescuing survivors of the Dorchester on which the Chaplains and some 700 individuals perished and Amy Biehl, an outstanding young American Fulbright Scholar who was stoned to death in South Africa in 1993, where she had gone to help struggle against Apartheid. A crew member and buddy of Steward'smate David accepted the award on his behalf and

Linda and Peter Biehl accepted this humanitarian award in her spirit and name. Amy's parents have made a point of returning to South Africa to participate in the "Peace and Reconciliation Process" and are incredibly forgiving of their daughter's assailants.

I would like to share with all Members an article in the *Pioneer Press* on Sunday, February 7, 1999 of relevant importance.

AWARD RECALLS CHAPLAINS' HEROISM AT SEA—ARCHBISHOP TUTU WILL BESTOW TWO HONORS IN SUNDAY CEREMONY

(By Maja Beckstrom)

David Fox knows only the barest details of his uncle's martyrdom at sea.

In the middle of the night on Feb. 3, 1943, a German torpedo blasted a hole in the side of the U.S. Army troopship *Dorchester* just off Greenland. As the ship sank, the Rev. George Fox stood on the oil-slick deck passing out life jackets to panicked men. After giving away his own preserver, the Methodist minister clasped the arms of the ship's other three chaplains—a rabbi, Catholic priest and Dutch Reformed minister. Survivors saw them standing in prayer as the *Dorchester* rolled to starboard and slipped under the waves.

They were among the 672 men who died that night in what was one of the United States' greatest maritime losses during World War II.

Now a half century later, their sacrifice on the icy North Atlantic is bringing a modern day hero to Minnesota. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a leader of South Africa's anti-apartheid movement, will present the first annual award given in the four chaplains' memory at a ceremony Sunday in Minnetonka.

The Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity honors someone who has risked his or her life to protect others of a different race or faith. It was created by David Fox of Hopkins, the Rev. George Fox's nephew.

After the war, the chaplains became legends. Their faces graced a 1948 stamp. Memorials were built around the country, including at the Fort Snelling Chapel and the chapel at the V.A. Medical Center in Minneapolis.

"I had grown up with the story and perhaps taken it for granted," said Fox. "Suddenly it occurred to me that it was fast disappearing. Most people I met had never heard of it."

In an effort to save the chaplains' example as an inspiration to future generations, Fox interviewed the ship's survivors, established the Immortal Chaplains Foundation and created curriculum for school children. He even enlisted the support of crew members from the German U-boat that sunk his uncle's ship.

"It's too important a story to let go, because of what it says about the potential for human compassion to cross all boundaries," he said. "Being a hero is about protecting fellow humans, putting your life on the line if necessary to protect them."

THE TRAGEDY

Everyone on board the *Dorchester* knew they were heading into dangerous waters. U-boats constantly prowled the sea lanes of the North Atlantic, and several ships had already been sunk. The ship sailed from Staten Island on Jan. 22, 1943. After stopping in Newfoundland, it continued with an escort of three U.S. Coast Guard cutters. On board were 902 men, mostly soldiers on their way to work on U.S. Army bases in Greenland.

On Feb. 2, one of the cutters relayed a warning. Sonar had picked up five U-boats.

"The captain said if we made it through the night, we'd have air protection the next morning from Greenland," recalled survivor

Ben Epstein of Del Ray Beach, Fla. "He said sleep with everything you have—your clothes, your gloves, your life preserver."

They didn't make it. At 1 a.m., a torpedo ripped a hole in the *Dorchester's* starboard side, from the deck to below the water line. Survivor James Eardley of Westerlo, N.Y., said the thud sounded "like someone hit their fist against a wall." Men near the explosion died instantly. Panicked survivors scrambled for the upper decks in pitch blackness. The torpedo had taken out power. Eardley pushed his way from the hold up the only unblocked exit, holding a handkerchief over his mouth to avoid ammonia fumes from a refrigeration explosion.

Epstein, who was staying in a stateroom on an upper deck, felt his way along a railing until he came to a hanging rope that marked a lifeboat. He shouted to his best friend Vincent Frucelli to follow him down.

"He said he would," Epstein said. "But that was the last time I saw him. I don't know how he died. In blackness, jumping toward the water, it was a terrible thing."

Epstein was thrown into the sea when his lifeboat capsized. He swam until he was pulled onto another lifeboat. Only two of 14 lifeboats successfully pulled away from the ship. Men bobbed in the icy water, dying or dead from exposure. The red light attached to each life preserver made the ship look like it was "lit up like a Christmas tree," said Epstein.

Eardley also was pulled into a boat, after he climbed down the side of the ship on a cargo net. Both men were rescued hours later by a Coast Guard cutter. Near death, they were stripped and laid out on tables in the galley where men massaged their frozen limbs back to life. The ship sank in 20 minutes, and only 230 men survived.

To this day, Eardley remembers his last glimpse of the *Dorchester*.

"The keel was up," Eardley said. "And I could see the four chaplains standing on top of the boat, arm in arm."

According to survivors' testimony, the chaplains spent their last minutes calming disoriented and terrified men and urging them to jump into the sea. Each chaplain gave his life preserver away. They were Lt. George Fox, Methodist, Lt. Alexander Goode, Jewish; Lt. John Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark Poling, Dutch Reformed.

"To take off your life preserver, it meant you gave up your life," said Epstein, who plans to attend the ceremony. "You would have no chance of surviving. They knew they were finished. But they gave it away. Consider that. Over the years I've asked myself this question a thousand times. Could I do it? No I don't think I could do it. Just consider what an act of heroism they performed."

THE QUEST FOR SURVIVORS

David Fox had always taken his uncle's heroism for granted. Then in the mid-1990s, while he was working to raise money for a veterans hospice, he suddenly realized that when the *Dorchester's* survivors died, the story would be lost for good. He decided to track down as many as he could and record their memories. His quest soon gained urgency.

"I heard about a survivor in Iowa, by the time I called, he had been dead for six months," Fox said. "I heard about a friend of Rabbi Goode here, in Mendota Heights. I called up and he had died a month ago. I thought, this is crazy. These people are dying, and no one has recorded their stories." Armed with \$1,100 in grants from several veterans organizations, Fox rented a video camera and hit the road in 1996 with his young son.

They interviewed 20 of the 28 known *Dorchester* survivors, traveling to upstate New

York, Florida, Massachusetts, California and Illinois. He also contacted the chaplains' family members, including his cousin Wyatt, the son of George Fox, and the widow and daughter of Rabbi Goode. Rosalie Goode Fried, who was three when her father died, enthusiastically supported Fox's idea of starting a foundation that would perpetuate her father's memory.

"If kids could realize that here were four men of different religions who could get along and minister to each other. It sends a message, why can't we just get along?" said Fried, who is flying from New Jersey for the ceremony.

Fox also decided the story would be incomplete without the German perspective. With the help of German relatives, he traced the chief munitions engineer, the chief of operations and a ship's officer from U-boat 223. None had any idea what they had hit that dark night in 1943.

"Imagine having somebody knock on your door 55 years later and say, 'Hi, you killed my uncle.' Well I didn't say it exactly like that. But they couldn't escape it," said Fox. "They had to face what happened and they had really no idea."

The new submarine had been sent out from Kiel, Germany, on Jan. 12, 1943, to hunt Allied vessels in the North Sea. In the wee hours of Feb. 3, the captain spotted the dark hulk of the *Dorchester* from the tower and ordered a fan of three torpedoes. To avoid detection after the hit, the sub submerged 130 feet, where it stayed for the next six hours. The crew was later captured near Sicily and sent as prisoners to Mississippi.

"When I interviewed the Germans they said, 'You must understand, we were doing our duty,'" said Fox. "They were 18 years old. I almost cried when I saw their photos. They were just kids in hats."

The Germans were touched by the story of the chaplains and quickly offered to support the fledgling Immortal Chaplains Foundation. The effort to establish the foundation hasn't been without some controversy. The Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Philadelphia, which is raising money to build a permanent memorial to the chaplains, has sued Fox's group to block its use of the clerics' image from the stamp and the phrase, the Four Chaplains.

Fox also enlisted the support of Walter Mondale, who serves as the foundation's honorary co-chair. Fox also contacted Archbishop Desmond Tutu in South Africa, who agreed to become the foundation's patron.

"He was immediately taken with it," said Fox.

Tutu will bestow the foundation's first awards on Sunday at Adath Jeshurun Congregation, in what Fox hopes will become an annual event, similar to the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize. The ceremony itself will be interfaith. The U.S. Army's Muslim chaplain will say a prayer. American Indians from Minnesota will offer Tutu a welcome, and the ceremony will close with prayers from Tibetan Buddhist monks.

One award will be bestowed posthumously on an African-American Coast Guardsman named Charles W. David, who died as a result of rescuing men from the *Dorchester*. The other award will be accepted by Linda and Peter Biehl of southern California on behalf of their daughter Amy, who was stabbed to death in South Africa. Biehl was a Stanford University student and Fulbright scholar helping to set up a legal education center.

"I want this to become something like the Nobel Peace Prize, except for ordinary people," said Fox. "Every year, I want to reach

down and find someone who is making a difference. Maybe it's a Bosnian Serb who saves a Muslim, or vice versa. Or a Palestinian who reaches out to an Israeli. We need to honor these people who have risked everything to help someone different from themselves."

A TRIBUTE TO JULIANNE M.
DIULUS, BEREA MUNICIPAL COURT

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for 21 years, Julianne M. Diulus has worked at the Berea Municipal court, whose Judge, William C. Todia nominated her for this reward. She works as Judge Todia's secretary and also assists the Court's Probation Officer, Josette Lebron. Her duties include typing correspondence, journal entries and court documents, compiling files for each probationer prior to sentencing and all other secretarial duties for these officers.

Coming from a family of caretakers, Julie believes that it is essential to help others and to do the best at whatever she attempts. She has tried to instill these same values in her children and is proud to have watched her three children, Nicole, Mary and Lewis, grow into adults and achieve their goals.

A resident of Brook Park, Julie is active at St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, attends Cuyahoga Community College and loves to read and collect books, fiction, non-fiction and biographies.

She has no human enemies at the Court, but Julie fights constantly with the copier and other machines. As part of her care-taking, she tries to maintain order in the office, but she notes that once, when Ms. Lebron was on vacation, she cleaned and straightened the Probation Officer's desk, only to be told that the effort was appreciated, but that Ms. Lebron could not find anything for days.

TRIBUTE TO CITIZEN REGENTS ON
THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as Congressional members appointed to the Smithsonian Board of Regents, Chairman RALPH REGULA and I are pleased to submit Dr. Hanna H. Gray, Mr. Wesley S. Williams, and the Honorable Barber B. Conable to successive terms as citizen regents on the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Their personal commitment and dedication to the Smithsonian Institution has been an invaluable asset in our drive to keep the Smithsonian a national treasure for all to enjoy. We thank them for all their hard work and look forward to working with them during the 106th Congress.

HANNA HOLBORN GRAY

THE HARRY PRATT JUDSON DISTINGUISHED SERVICE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Hanna H. Gray was President of the University of Chicago from July 1, 1978 through June 30, 1993, and is now President Emeritus.

Mrs. Gray is a historian with special interests in the history of humanism, political and historical thought, and politics in the Renaissance and the Reformation. She taught history at the University of Chicago from 1961 to 1972 and is now the Harry Pratt Judson Distinguished Service Professor of History in the University of Chicago's Department of History.

She was born on October 25, 1930, in Heidelberg, Germany. She received her B.A. degree from Bryn Mawr in 1950 and her Ph.D. in history from Harvard University in 1957. From 1950 to 1951, she was a Fulbright Scholar at Oxford University.

She was an instructor at Bryn Mawr College in 1953-54 and taught at Harvard from 1955 to 1960, returning as a Visiting Lecturer in 1963-64. In 1961, she became a member of the University of Chicago's faculty as Assistant Professor of History, becoming Associate Professor in 1964.

Mrs. Gray was appointed Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Professor of History at Northwestern University in 1972. In 1974, she was elected Provost of Yale University with an appointment as Professor of History. From 1977 to 1978, she also served as Acting President of Yale.

She has been a Fellow of the Newberry Library, a Fellow of the Center of Behavioral Sciences, a Visiting Scholar at that center, a Visiting Professor at the University of California at Berkeley, and a Visiting Scholar for Phi Beta Kappa. She is also an Honorary Fellow of St. Anne's College, Oxford.

Mrs. Gray is a member of the Renaissance Society of America. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the American Philosophical Society, the National Academy of Education, and the Council on Foreign Relations of New York. She holds honorary degrees from a number of colleges and universities, including Oxford, Yale, Brown, Columbia, Princeton, Duke, Harvard, and the Universities of Michigan and Toronto, and The University of Chicago.

She is chairman of the boards of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, serves on the boards of Harvard University and the Marlboro School of Music, and is a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution.

In addition, Mrs. Gray is a member of the boards of directors of J.P. Morgan & Company, the Cummins Engine Company, and Ameritech.

Mrs. Gray was one of twelve distinguished foreign-born Americans to receive a Medal of Liberty award from President Reagan at ceremonies marking the rekindling of the Statue of Liberty's lamp in 1986. In 1991, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, from President Bush. She received the Charles Frankel Prize from the National Endowment of the Humanities and the Jefferson Medal from the American Philosophical Society in 1993. In 1996, Mrs. Gray received the University of Chicago's Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. In 1997, she received the M. Carey Thomas Award from Bryn Mawr College.

Her husband, Charles M. Gray, is Professor Emeritus in the Department of History at the University of Chicago.

BIOGRAPHY

Born: October 25, 1930, Heidelberg, Germany.

Married: Charles M. Gray, 1954, A.B. Harvard University 1949, Ph.D. Harvard University 1956.

Education

B.A. Bryn Mawr College 1950

Fulbright Scholar, Oxford University 1950-51
Ph.D. (History) Harvard University 1957

1953-54—Instructor, Bryn Mawr College
1955-57—Teaching Fellow, Harvard University

1957-59—Instructor, Harvard University
1959-60—Assistant Professor, Harvard University; Head Tutor, Committee on Degrees in History and Literature

1961-64—Assistant Professor, University of Chicago

1963-64—Visiting Lecturer, Harvard University

1964-72—Associate Professor, University of Chicago

1970-71—Visiting Professor, University of California at Berkeley

1972-74—Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Professor, Northwestern University

1974-78—Provost, Yale University; Professor of History

1977-78—Acting President, Yale University

1978-93—President of the University of Chicago; Professor of History

1993—Harry Pratt Judson Distinguished Service Professor of History, Department of History, University of Chicago

Fellowships, etc.

1960-61—Fellow, Newberry Library

1966-67—Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences

1970-71—Visiting Scholar, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences

1971-72—Visiting Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa

1978—Honorary Fellow, St. Anne's College, Oxford University

Corporate Board Directorships

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Cummins Engine Company
J.P. Morgan and Company/Morgan Guaranty Trust Co.

Current Trusteeships/Not-for-Profit Boards

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Chair, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Chair, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Marlboro School of Music
Board of Regents, The Smithsonian Institution

Government

Secretary's Energy Advisory Board, U.S. Department of Energy

Former Boards (Selected)

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Bryn Mawr College
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
The University of Chicago
Council on Foreign Relations
Harvard University Board of Overseers
Mayo Foundation
National Council on the Humanities
Pulitzer Prize Board
Yale University Corporation

Selected Honors, Awards, etc.

Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Member, American Philosophical Society
Member, National Academy of Education
Phi Beta Kappa
Radcliffe Graduate Medal (1976)
Yale Medal (1978)
Medal of Liberty (1986)
Laureate, Lincoln Academy of Illinois (1989)
Grosse Verdienstkreuz, Republic of Germany (1990)
Sara Lee Frontrunner Award (1991)
Presidential Medal of Freedom (1991)
Jefferson Medal, American Philosophical Society (1993)

Charles Frankel Prize, National Endowment for the Humanities (1993)
 Centennial Medal, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (1994)
 Distinguished Service Award in Education, Inst. of International Education (1994)
 Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, The University of Chicago (1996)
 M.Carey Thomas Award, Bryn Mawr College (1997)

Selected Honorary Degrees

L.L.D., Dartmouth College, 1978
 L.L.D., Yale University, 1978
 L.L.D., Brown University, 1979
 D.Litt. Hum., Oxford University, 1979
 L.H.D., Rikkyo University, 1979
 L.L.D., University of Notre Dame, 1980
 L.L.D., University of Southern California, 1980
 L.L.D., University of Michigan, 1981
 L.H.D., Duke University, 1982
 L.L.D., Princeton University, 1982
 L.H.D., Brandeis University, 1983
 L.L.D., Georgetown University, 1983
 D.Litt., Washington University, 1985
 L.H.D., City University of New York, 1985
 L.H.D., American College of Greece, 1986
 L.L.D., Columbia University, 1987
 L.H.D., New York University, 1988
 L.L.D., University of Toronto, 1991
 L.H.D., McGill University, 1993
 L.H.D., Indiana University, 1994
 L.L.D., Harvard University, 1995
 L.H.D., The University of Chicago, 1996

Selected Publications

"Renaissance Humanism: The Pursuit of Rhetoric," *Journal of the History of Ideas*, Vol. XXIV (1963), pp. 497-514.
 "Valla's *Encomium of St. Thomas Aquinas* and the Humanist Conception of Christian Antiquity," in *Essays in History and Literature*, ed. H. Bluhm, Chicago, 1965, pp. 37-52.
 "Machiavelli: The Art of Politics and the Paradox of Power," in *The Responsibility of Power*, ed. L. Krieger and F. Stern, New York, 1967, pp. 34-53.
 "Some Reflections on the Commonwealth of Learning," in *AAAS Science and Technology Yearbook 1992*, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D.C., 1993.
 "The Research University: Public Roles and Public Perceptions," in *Legacies of Woodrow Wilson*, ed. J. M. Morris, Washington, D.C., 1995, pp. 23-44.
 "The Leaning Tower of Academe," *Bulletin of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, Vol. XLIX (1996), pp. 34-54.
 "Aims of Education," in *The Aims of Education*, ed. J. W. Boyer, Chicago, 1997.
 "Prospect for the Humanities," in *The American University: National Treasure or Endangered Species?*, ed. R. G. Ehrenberg, Ithaca & London, 1997, pp. 115-127.
 "On the History of Giants," in *Universities and their Leadership*, ed. W. G. Bowen and H. T. Shapiro, Princeton, 1998, pp. 101-115.

WESLEY S. WILLIAMS, JR.

Wesley S. Williams, Jr., of Washington, D.C., has been associated with the law firm of Covington & Burling since 1970 and a partner since 1975. He was previously legal counsel to the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, a teaching fellow at Columbia University Law School, and Special Counsel to the District of Columbia Council. He is currently active on many corporate and nonprofit boards and has participated in the Smithsonian Luncheon Group. He was appointed to the Board of Regents in April 1993, chairs its Investment Policy Committee, and serves on the Regents' Executive Committee,

Nominating Committee, Committee on Policy, Programs, and Planning, and ad hoc Committee on Business. He is also served on the Regents' Search Committee for a New Secretary, and he is a member of the Commission of the National Museum of American Art.

BARBER B. CONABLE, JR.

Barber Conable retired on August 31, 1991, from a five-year term as President of The World Bank Group, headquartered in Washington, D.C. The World Bank promotes economic growth and an equitable distribution of the benefits of that growth to improve the quality of life for people in developing countries.

Mr. Conable was a member of the House of Representatives from 1965-1985. In Congress, he served 18 years on the House Ways and Means Committee, the last eight years as its Ranking Minority Member. He served in various capacities for 14 years in the House Republican Leadership, including Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee and the Republican Research Committee. During his congressional service, he also was a member of the Joint Economic Committee and The House Budget and Ethics Committees.

Following Mr. Conable's retirement from Congress, he served on the Boards of four multinational corporations and the Board of the New York Stock Exchange. He also was active in foundation, museum, and nonprofit work, and was a Distinguished Professor at the University of Rochester.

Currently Mr. Conable serves on the Board of Directors of Corning, Inc., Pfizer, Inc., the American International Group, Inc., and the First Empire State Corporation. In addition, he is a Trustee of Cornell University and of the National Museum of the American Indian of the Smithsonian Institution. He has chaired the Museum's development committee since October, 1990 and is a member of its International Founders Council, the volunteer committee for the National Campaign to raise funds for construction of the Museum on the Mall.

Mr. Conable is a native of Warsaw, New York and graduated from Cornell University and Cornell Law School. He was a Marine in World War II and the Korean War.

Mr. and Mrs. Conable are parents of three daughters and a son. They reside in Alexandria, New York.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO RESTRICT FLIGHTS OVER CERTAIN AREAS OF HAWAII'S NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I recently introduced legislation limiting adverse impacts of commercial air tour operations on National Park units in the State of Hawaii. I believe certain parks must be declared flight-free, spared from the intrusive noise, and maintained as calm refuges for the enjoyment of all Americans. My legislation does just that.

Special consideration must be given to the detrimental impacts on parks by commercial air tours, several of which have in the past demonstrated a lack of concern for the needs of park occupants and visitors, even to go so far as to jeopardize the safety of their passengers. These minimum altitudes and stand-

off distances are equally important to preserve natural habitat for endangered and threatened birds and other species that make their homes in the parks.

Even with the progress recently made between the air tour operators, the environmentalists and the federal government, I continue to receive complaints from hikers and visitors to Hawaii's parks, as well as residents living next to the parks. My bill is necessary to enforce noise controls on these operations.

Main provisions of my bill include prohibitions of flights over Kaloko Honokohau, Pu'u honua o Honaunau, Pu'u kohola Heiaia, and Kalaupapa National Historic Parks, as well as sections of Haleakala and Hawaii Volcanoes National Parks. A minimum 1,500 foot altitude restriction is enforced for all other parts of Haleakala and Hawaii Volcanoes National Parks.

Our National Parks are our environmental legacy to our children. Not only must they be allowed to enjoy the beauty of the National Parks, they must also be able to enjoy the serenity and peacefulness that accompanies these important sites. By establishing these flight-free zones, we can ensure that the whole experience of visiting a National Park is maintained.

I strongly urge my colleagues' support of my legislation.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY AND THE TRIO PROGRAM

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind the House that Saturday, February 27, 1999 is National TRIO Day. That day has been set aside to focus the nation's attention on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives through education. We recognize as a nation the importance of supporting our talented but needy citizens today if we are to benefit from their contributions tomorrow. I am sure the House shares my commitment to providing this support.

Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 generated a series of programs to help low-income, first generation, disabled Americans enter college and graduate. Initially, there were just three programs—hence the TRIO title. Today there are five. These include the Educational Opportunity Centers Program, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, the Student Support Program, the Talent Search Program, and the Upward Bound Program.

TRIO Programs help students overcome class, social, academic, and cultural barriers to higher education and provide a variety of services critical to academic success, such as advising, career exploration, mentoring, and tutoring.

TRIO Programs make a difference. For instance, students in the Upward Bound Program are four times more likely to earn an undergraduate degree than students from similar backgrounds who did not participate in TRIO. Participants in the TRIO Students Support Program are more than twice as likely to remain in college as students from similar backgrounds who did not participate in the program.

Mr. Speaker, an excellent model of a TRIO Program can be found at an institution in my home district. At Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, participants in the Student Support Program have a remarkable track record of success. Their achievements include the following:

95% of all students who receive program services for two consecutive semesters return to school for a third semester.

More than 75% of undergraduates in the Student Support Program had grade point averages at or above 2.5 during the 1997–98 school year.

More than 98% of Student Support Program students who apply for graduation during their junior year graduate.

Statistics are a useful measure of the Student Support Program's success at Western Michigan University. However, stories of students' personal accomplishments in the face of adversity also testify to the program's impact on individuals lives. Consider, for example one shy and uncertain young woman who entered the Student Support Program three years ago as a freshman.

Unfamiliar with the academic world and undecided about her direction, she gradually gained confidence in her own potential and ability. Eventually she was inspired to help other students adjust to the demands of college life by becoming a Peer Mentor in the program. She is now knowledgeable and secure enough to offer others the support she once needed herself. Next year she will graduate with a bachelor's degree in Social Work.

Another bright and promising student in the program struggled with a learning disability that affected the way he processed information. In spite of this, he was determined to earn a degree in business. As he battled on through math and accounting, often repeating courses, his Peer Mentor provided unwavering support and encouragement. This young man overcame countless challenges and, in December 1998, realized his dream when he was awarded a bachelor's degree in business.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to the Student Support Program at Western Michigan University, these two students are examples of the thousands of students in a position to make their best contributions to our society.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES
NAVAL RESERVE ON ITS 84TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United States Naval Reserve on their 84 years of dedicated service. Comprised of 94,000 men and women, the Naval Reserve is an integral part of the United States military force.

Authorized on March 3, 1915 by the Naval Appropriations Act, the U.S. Naval Reserve is one of the world's largest and most well trained forces. Originally intended to be comprised of former active duty sailors, the Naval Reserve now consists of former officers, former enlisted men and women and volunteers. This gives them their reputation of being the military force that brings the best "Bang for the Buck."

Mr. Speaker, our Naval Reserve brings tremendous contributions to our Armed Services and our Nation. As a former Naval Reserve Officer, it is with great pride that I extend my most heartfelt thanks for their 84 years of dedication and service.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH
ACCESSIBILITY ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, today, Congressman DAVID PRICE and I are introducing the Congressional Research Accessibility Act to make Congressional Research Service (CRS) products available to the public on the Internet. Senators MCCAIN, LEAHY, LOTT, ABRAHAM, ENZI and ROBB are introducing similar legislation in the Senate.

Under this bill, CRS will post Issue Briefs, Reports, and Authorization and Appropriation products to a centralized web site no earlier than 30 days and no later than 40 days after the information is made available to Members of Congress through the CRS web site. Through a link on their own web pages, Members of Congress and Committees may provide the public with access to the information stored on this centralized site. The 30-day delay will ensure that CRS has carried out its primary statutory duty of informing Congress before making the information available for public release. Also, it will allow CRS to verify that its products are accurate and ready for public release.

The bill requires the Director of CRS to make the information available in a practical and reasonable manner that does not permit the submission of comments to CRS from the public. The Director of CRS is responsible for maintaining and updating the information made available on the centralized site and shall have sole discretion to edit that information for the purposes of removing references to employees of CRS, removing information which may cause copyright infringement and ensuring the information is accurate and current. Members of Congress will still be able to make confidential requests which will not be released to the public.

Congress has worked to make itself more open and accessible to the public. The Congressional Research Accessibility Act will enable us to further engage the public in the legislative process and fulfill one of our missions as legislators to better educate our constituents.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BYDASH,
CUYAHOGA COUNTY CLERK OF
COURTS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Dennis Bydash is proud to note that he has risen from the very bottom of the office of Gerald E. Fuerst, Clerk of Courts, who nominated him for this award, to the very top. Starting in 1972

as a filing clerk, hired for a 90 day period, he has, in almost 27 years, been given 6 promotions and now serves in a key leadership position as the Office Manager of the Civil Division, where he supervises over 100 employees and acts as the liaison between the Clerk's office and the 57 judges who depend on the Clerk's office and the offices of the County Prosecutor, the County Sheriff and the County Auditor.

To Dennis, the most rewarding aspects of his service in the Clerk's office is to see a smile on the face of an individual or to receive a thank you directly or through a letter to Mr. Fuerst. He recognizes that the Justice Center can be cold and intimidating to the average citizen and works hard to see that the Clerk's office helps that average citizen when it can or that it directs the individual to the appropriate office in the justice system.

Dennis is also active in his local community. He has participated in insuring that the Broadway neighborhood received a new fire station. He has served as President of his Ward's Democratic club for 16 of the last 18 years. He has volunteered in many political campaigns from the Congressional to the local level.

Beyond that, Dennis is an avid photographer and student of railroading, with a large collection of memorabilia, including thousands of his own pictures of railroads, some of which have been published. He is happy also to grow vegetables in his garden and can them.

Dennis recalls fondly a 1977 inquiry on the filing of a divorce from a young lawyer during the midst of accusations by some lawyers that the Clerk's office's employees, in helping the public, was practicing law without a license. Despite his fear that the question might be part of that effort, he helped the lawyer, in his own words "in a somewhat hard way." Just over two years later, he and that lawyer, Michael Tyner married, and they recently celebrated their 18th anniversary.

COMMEMORATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF MARCIA YUGEND

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today. Marcia Yugend, a well respected leader in the Twin Cities Jewish community, lost her life February 3, 1999. A native of Little Falls, Minnesota, Yugend was a remarkable community leader who will be missed dearly by many in the Twin Cities' religious communities with whom she worked tirelessly to promote interfaith harmony across the globe.

Yugend founded Feminists in Faith, a group of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Muslim women who worked together to promote women's religious issues and interfaith understanding. In 1985, Yugend created the Jewish Women-Palestinian Women Dialogue and later created the Black-Jewish Women's Dialogue. A lifelong student and scholar, Yugend recently received a master's degree in liberal studies from St. Paul's Hamline University. She earned her bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State University.

Yugend was also the first female president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of

Minnesota and the Dakotas. It was during her tenure at the Jewish Community Relations Council that I had the good fortune to work with Marcia. At that time, the Soviet government was actively oppressing people of Jewish faith. Marcia and I worked together to secure the emigration of Soviet Jews and the reunification of families in the Twin Cities. Her spirit and dedication to the cause was truly remarkable.

Shortly after Yugend's passing, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu made his first trip to the Twin Cities to inaugurate the first Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity. The Humanity prize is given as a living memorial to the Immortal Four Chaplains—a Jewish Rabbi, a Catholic Priest and two Protestant Ministers—who courageously rescued an estimated 230 men from drowning in the sinking of the U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester* during World War II. The Archbishop's historic visit to Twin Cities in celebration of those who have fought to protect others of a different race or religion underlined exactly the type of service and dedication Yugend put forth and could be a fitting tribute to her life and her tireless commitment to promoting interfaith understanding. Although her boundless energy cannot be replaced, her spirit will live on through those she inspired.

Yugend is survived by her husband, Jerome Yugend, daughters Dana Yugend-Pepper of Minneapolis and Julie Yugend-Green of Oak Park, Illinois and five grandchildren.

CELEBRATING THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 81st anniversary of the declaration of Lithuanian independence.

For nearly 55 years, Lithuania was occupied by Soviet military forces. But in the past six years, the people of Lithuania have been able to finally enjoy and celebrate the freedoms and privileges of an independent nation.

The United States and Lithuania have now formed a significant partnership between our leaders, our governments, and our people. We have close trade relations with Lithuania. We are mutually committed to the security of the Baltic region.

I believe we can say with great confidence that Lithuania has become a full partner in the effort to build democracy and promote freedom around the world. I am proud to say that Lithuania has "graduated" from the U.S. program to build democracy in Eastern Europe.

I commend the Lithuanian-American community for their perseverance and hope through the many challenging decades. The 81st anniversary of Lithuanian independence was celebrated by the Lithuanian-American community in Southeast Michigan on Sunday, February 7th, at the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Southfield.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Lithuania's independence.

TRIBUTE TO GABRIELLA QUIRINO

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Florida's 17th Congressional District, Gabriella Quirino, who has helped hundreds of breast cancer victims in Dade County.

Gabriella Quirino was born in Tunisia, North Africa, in 1941. Miami, Florida, became her home during the mid-1950's. In 1960, she graduated from North Miami High School and furthered her education at Miami Dade Community College.

In 1981, Gabriella was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent successful surgery. A year later, she became a "reach to recover" volunteer for the American Cancer Society. From that time on, she has devoted her life to helping women cope with the trauma of mastectomies or other breast cancer surgeries. She is a true humanitarian.

Through hard work and dedication, Gabriella Quirino became the coordinator of the county service group, "Volunteers". In this position she helped women in the Miami-North Dade area deal with their mastectomies and other breast surgeries. She has also been the coordinator of another community service group called "Getting Mothers To Volunteer," which is based at St. Rose Lima School, and now serves as president of the parent's council at Archbishop Curley High School.

Gabriella has demonstrated a strong character and has devoted countless hours to the American Cancer Society. She has provided comfort to countless women faced with one of the most traumatic experiences of their lives—breast cancer.

I ask that my colleagues please join with me in acknowledging this outstanding individual.

IN HONOR OF BRENDA SESSIONS COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, PROBATE COURT DIVISION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for over 28 years, couples seeking a license to marry in Cuyahoga County have likely encountered Brenda Sessions, Judge John Donnelly's nominee. Starting as a deputy clerk, Brenda now supervises this important office which, in addition, to issuing marriage licenses, corrects birth records and assists genealogists seeking family documents.

A Cleveland Heights resident and the mother of Myah, she prides herself in following her mother's advice to work hard, be self-sufficient and to help others. She only regrets that her mother failed to teach her how to cook.

Brenda is a life-long member of Morning Star Baptist Church and has been active in many of that church's programs. During her daughter's attendance at Christ the King School, she served on the Parent Executive Board. She enjoys her collection of porcelain elephants (a symbol of good luck), reads, lis-

tens to gospel and jazz music, attends movies and theatrical events, plays racquetball and rides.

Among the many, many marriage license applications Brenda has prepared, with both bride and groom present, she remembers, with amusement, two particular instances. In one, a woman admitted to four prior marriages and denied the Court's apparent record of an additional three marriages. Her groom left, and that couple was never seen again. In another, a rather aged groom, accompanied by a young intended bride, denied the existence of a much earlier marriage which the Court's records revealed, but mysteriously knew the last name of the bride in the earlier marriage, when Brenda had only mentioned the first name.

TO PERMANENTLY EXTEND THE EXCEPTION FROM SUBPART F FOR ACTIVE FINANCING INCOME

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the remarks of my colleague, Mr. MCCRERY. Today, Mr. MCCRERY and I are introducing legislation to permanently extend the exception from subpart F for active financing income earned from overseas business. The growing interdependence of world financial markets has highlighted the need to rationalize U.S. tax rules that undermine the ability of our financial services industry—such as banks, insurance companies, insurance brokers, and securities firms—to compete in the international arena.

The provision permits financial services to act like other U.S. industries doing business abroad and defer tax on the earnings from the active operation of their foreign subsidiaries until such earnings are returned to the United States. The permanent extension of this provision takes an important step towards making the U.S. financial services industry more competitive in international markets.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to address this issue prior to the expiration of the temporary provision.

TRIBUTE TO LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE ROBERT ROBERSON, JR.

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Robert Roberson, Jr. On January 3, 1999, Judge Roberson officially retired from the bench capping an illustrious career spanning more than forty years. On Saturday, February 27, 1999, Robby's family, many friends and colleagues will gather to honor this distinguished Los Angelean at a Retirement Reception and Dinner at the Regal Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. As a long-time friend of Judge Roberson's, it is a particular pleasure to have this opportunity to publicly acknowledge his exemplary contributions to Los Angeles and the judiciary.

A Cum Laude graduate of Pepperdine University, Judge Roberson received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Southern California (USC) Law School in June 1958.

Prior to his February 1979 appointment to the Los Angeles Superior Court, Judge Roberson was a founding member of the law firm of Scarlett & Roberson. During his 20 year tenure on the bench, he served in many different assignments, including appointment to the Court of Appeal and to the Appellate Department of the Los Angeles Superior Court. He sat in both the Criminal and Civil Trial Courts. Judge Roberson authored numerous opinions, five of which were published, including the frequently cited opinion of Younan v. Equifax, Inc.

From 1991 to 1996 Judge Roberson served as Presiding Judge of the Appellate Department of the Los Angeles Superior Court. In recognition of his exemplary contributions to jurisprudence, in 1997 Judge Roberson received the "Justice Bernard S. Jefferson Jurist of the Year Award" presented by the Langston Bar Association, which earlier in his career had honored him with the organization's award for "Outstanding Legal Ability." He is also the recipient of the "Outstanding Alumni Award," presented by the University of Southern California Eubonics Support Group.

During his remarkable career, Judge Roberson also devoted considerable time as President of the John M. Langston Bar Association, Trustee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, President of the Los Angeles Criminal Courts Bar Association, and as President of USC's Law School Alumni Association. An individual of tremendous character and integrity, and an erudite and seasoned legal scholar, Judge Roberson has lectured on civil procedure at California State University, Los Angeles, and appeared before numerous Bar Associations as a professional panelist and moderator.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to pay tribute to Judge Roberson today. I commend him for his outstanding service to the citizens of Los Angeles, and wish him a long, healthy, and prosperous retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO INCREASE VETERANS' BURIAL BENEFITS

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce legislation to increase the burial benefits for certain veterans from the current allowance of \$300 to \$600. This will represent the first increase in the burial benefit in 20 years.

Current law allows a funeral benefit of \$300 for veterans who were receiving disability pay or pensions, or those who were eligible for pensions but who weren't receiving them. This was intended to help defray the costs of funerals for the surviving families. However, Congress has not seen fit to increase this allowance since 1978, and it is past time to do so.

Just before the end of World War I, Congress created a funeral allowance of up to \$100 for some war veterans. After World War II, the maximum allowance was increased to

\$150, and, in 1978, it was increased to \$300—where it is today.

When the House was deliberating an increase in 1958, several members rose to point out that it had been 12 years since the last increase in this modest benefit, and that the benefit level was no longer realistic. They said increasing the benefit for the families of those veterans who were eligible for it was "long overdue," and showed that Congress was aware of the economic realities faced by those families. I think, if those Members were here today, they would be saying the same things.

Everyone understands that because of inflation a proper memorial, either a funeral or a cremation, if far expensive in 1998 that it was in 1958, or 1978. A funeral, today, can run thousands of dollars, creating a burden on a bereaved family at a difficult time. I don't think it is asking too much to increase this small benefit for these veterans, which is why I will introduce legislation to double it, to \$600.

When members of Congress created this allowance after World War I, they did so because they believed that every veteran receiving disability pay or a pension had a right to be buried with dignity, and without undue financial hardships for the family. That principle was true then, and it remains true today.

FLEETWOOD HOMES OF TENNESSEE WINS THE 1998 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS OF CUSTOMER SATISFACTION AWARD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fleetwood Homes of Tennessee, an organization that has achieved distinction for its outstanding work to ensure comfortable living.

I want to offer my personal congratulations on a great job in customer satisfaction again this year. The 1998 National Champions of Customer Satisfaction Award is a distinguished achievement in itself, but this is the fifth year that this organization has been recognized. The continual satisfaction they have provided their customers makes this an even more remarkable accomplishment.

This award is based on customer satisfaction with the quality of their home after a period of six months. Fleetwood has received a 95.3% positive response after this period of time, making this organization the highest rated out of 46 manufacturers across the United States. This is quite an incredible number of people in Tennessee and across the nation that are satisfied with their service from Fleetwood Homes.

I particularly want to recognized the office in Westmoreland, Tennessee that has received the award for their outstanding service in the Sixth District. They have not only achieved this particular award five out of the ten years it has been presented but also have gained recognition by receiving the Division Champion Award. I am very proud to have a company of such high standards in service and quality in my district.

I want to congratulate Fleetwood once again on this accomplishment and thank them for satisfying so many Tennesseans with their ef-

forts. I hope to see this organization continue with its success in the future and encourage them to keep up the great work.

HONORING THE 1999 FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 1999 Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Valor Award Winners. On Thursday, February 11, 1999, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce will present the Annual Valor Awards at the McLean Hilton.

The Valor Awards honor public service officials who have demonstrated extreme self-sacrifice, personal bravery, and ingenuity in the performance of their duty. There are five categories: The Gold Medal of Valor, The Silver Medal of Valor, The Bronze Medal of Valor, The Certificate of Valor, and The Life Saving Award.

The Valor Award is a project of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. This is the twenty-first year that these awards have been presented.

The Silver Medal of Valor is awarded in recognition of acts involving great personal risk.

The Silver Medal of Valor Award Winner for 1999 is: Lieutenant Sandra K. Caplo.

The Bronze Medal of Valor is awarded in recognition of acts involving unusual risk beyond that which should be expected while performing the usual responsibilities of the member.

The Bronze Medal of Valor Award Winners for 1999 are: Police Officer First Class Timothy C. Benedict, Police Officer First Class Troy W. Fulk, Police Officer First Class Michael E. Ukele, Second Lieutenant Tony C. Young and Lieutenant Michael I. Runnels.

The Certificate of Valor is awarded for acts that involve personal risk and/or demonstration of judgment, zeal, or ingenuity not normally involved in the performance of duties.

The Certificate of Valor Award Winners for 1999 are: Sergeant John A. Absalon, Police Officer First Class Scott D. Argiro, Police Officer First Class James J. Banachoski, Jr., Police Officer First Class Scott C. Bates, Police Officer First Class Westley Bevan, Assistant Shift Supervisor Sally A. Fitzpatrick, Police Officer First Class Thomas M. Holland, Police Officer First Class Stephen Keeney, Master Police Officer (retired) James M. Kenna, Police Officer First Class Stephen M. Shelby, Police Officer First Class James H. Urie, Jr., Deputy Sheriff Samuel S. Gonsalves, Firefighter Charles J. Epps, Firefighter Ronald S. Hollister, Technician William S. Keller, Technician Michael D. Macario, Technician David W. Walker, Master Technician Claire O. Ducker, Jr. and Deputy Chief John J. Brown, Jr.

The Lifesaving Award is awarded for acts taken in life-threatening situations where an individual's life is in jeopardy, either medically or physically.

The Lifesaving Award winners for 1999 are: Police Officer First Class Timothy C. Benedict, Public Safety Communicator II Dana E.

Branten, Public Safety Communicator II Roland F. Bolton, Public Safety Communicator II L. Jean Cahill, Police Officer First Class Robert A. Dalstrom, Auxiliary Police Officer Gary Gaal, Police Officer First Class John M. Harris, Public Safety Communicator III John L. Krivjansky, Sergeant Gunma S. Lee, Public Safety Communicator II Christopher S. Lehn (2 Lifesaving awards), Police Officer First Class Charles K. Owens, Sergeant Walter F. Smallwood III, Police Officer Deborah J. Stout, Deputy Sheriff Kenneth M. Cox, Deputy Sheriff Corporal Brian M. Johnston, Deputy Sheriff Private First Class Kathleen A. Miller, Deputy Sheriff Ronald E. Phillips, Master Deputy Sheriff James K. Pope, Master Deputy Sheriff Swight E. Shobe, Deputy Sheriff Eric S. Yi, Firefighter Walter A. Deihl and Lieutenant Wayne P. Wentzel.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to send my sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to these distinguished public servants who are truly deserving of the title "hero."

TRIBUTE TO ROY WILKINS IN
CELEBRATION OF BLACK HIS-
TORY MONTH

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to take part in the celebration of Black History Month this year by recognizing a distinguished civil rights leader from the state of Minnesota—Mr. Roy Wilkins, who led the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) from 1955 to 1977.

Roy Wilkins was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1901, but he grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota—raised by an aunt after his mother died when Wilkins was only four years old. He attended Whittier Grade School and graduated from the Mechanic Arts High School. Wilkins attended the University of Minnesota, and graduated from the University in 1923.

After serving as editor of the University of Minnesota's newspaper, the *Minnesota Daily*, Wilkins started his professional career in Kansas City, where he served as managing editor of the *Kansas City Call*, an African-American newspaper. He used his role on the newspaper staff to encourage fellow blacks to vote and take advantage of the opportunity to make their political concerns known.

Upon joining the NAACP in 1931, Wilkins set to work identifying and correcting examples of racial injustice. He investigated working conditions for blacks on Mississippi levees, targeting those cases in which blacks were unfairly treated like slaves.

As the years passed, the fruits of Wilkins' labors as a civil rights advocate grew more obvious, and now he is widely recognized as the "Father of Civil Rights." Perhaps his greatest victory in the NAACP included the United States Supreme Court's 1954 decision in *Brown vs. the Board of Education*, which overturned the "separate-but-equal" doctrine in the South's educational system. Furthermore, Wilkins is extensively credited for his role in helping to pass the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, and 1964, as well as the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

To recognize Wilkins' pivotal achievements, President Lyndon Johnson presented him with

the country's highest civilian honor, the Medal of Freedom, in 1967.

Roy Wilkins served the NAACP for a total of 46 years. Although Wilkins passed away in 1981, his legacy lives on in an extraordinary piece of public artwork in St. Paul, Minnesota—the Roy Wilkins Memorial.

The Roy Wilkins Memorial was unveiled in 1995 on the Capitol Mall of the Minnesota State Capitol. The Memorial, with its intriguing symbolic features, serves as a fine reminder of the life and work of this revered man. The walls of the monument signify the obstacles and barriers created by racial segregation, while the spiral shape of the sculpture represents the cycle of Wilkins' achievements in the form of advancements for minority rights. This spiral extends above and through the walls of the monument to illustrate how racial equality can be met by means of effective legislative actions. Finally, the Memorial's obelisk, decorated with African relics, is a moving tribute to the ancestors of modern-day African Americans.

Mr. Speaker, today I challenge my colleagues—and all Americans—to become active participants in Black History Month and all that it represents. I encourage them to learn more about Roy Wilkins, and, if possible, to visit the Roy Wilkins Memorial in Minnesota and see this fine monument for themselves. This is just one example of the many ways we all can recognize, explore and honor the civil rights leaders who guided our nation toward racial equality and understanding.

1999—A CRITICAL YEAR FOR
BELARUS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last month, a Congress of Democratic Forces was held in Minsk, the capital of Belarus. The Congress demonstrated the resolve of the growing democratic opposition to authoritarian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka and the determination by the opposition to have free, democratic elections consistent with the legitimate 1994 constitution. Earlier last month, on January 10, members of the legitimate Belarusian parliament, disbanded by Lukashenka after the illegal 1996 constitutional referendum which extended his term of office by two years to 2001, set a date for the next presidential elections for May 16. According to the 1994 constitution, Lukashenka's term expires in July. Not surprisingly, Lukashenka rejects calls for a presidential election.

Local elections are currently being planned for April, although many of the opposition plan not to participate, arguing that elections should be held only under free, fair and transparent conditions, which do not exist at the present time. Indeed, the law on local elections leaves much to be desired and does not provide for a genuinely free and fair electoral process. The local elections and opposition efforts to hold presidential elections must be viewed against the backdrop of a deteriorating economic situation. One of the resolutions adopted by the Congress of Democratic Forces accuses Lukashenka of driving the country to "social tensions, international isolation and

poverty." As an example of the heightening tensions, just last weekend, Andrei Sannikov, the former deputy minister of Belarus and a leader of the Charter '97 human rights group, was brutally assaulted by members of a Russian-based ultranationalist organization. Additionally, Lukashenka's moves to unite with Russia pose a threat to Belarus' very sovereignty. Thus, Mr. Speaker, this year promises to be a critical year for Belarus.

Recently, a staff delegation of the (Helsinki) Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which I chair, traveled to Belarus, raising human rights concerns with high-ranking officials, and meeting with leading members of the opposition, independent media and nongovernmental organizations.

The staff report concludes that the Belarusian Government continues to violate its commitments under the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) relating to human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and that at the root of these violations lies the excessive power usurped by President Lukashenka since his election in 1994, especially following the illegitimate 1996 referendum. Although one can point to some limited areas of improvement, such as allowing some opposition demonstrations to occur relatively unhindered, overall OSCE compliance has not improved since the deployment of the OSCE's Advisory and Monitoring Group (AMG) almost one year ago. Freedoms of expression, association and assembly remain curtailed. The government hampers freedom of the media by tightly controlling the use of national TV and radio. Administrative and economic measures are used to cripple the independent media and NGOs. The political opposition has been targeted for repression, including imprisonment, detention, fines and harassment. The independence of the judiciary has been further eroded, and the President alone controls judicial appointments. Legislative power is decidedly concentrated in the executive branch of government.

The Commission staff report makes a number of recommendations, which I would like to share with my colleagues. The United States and OSCE community should continue to call upon the Belarusian Government to live up to its OSCE commitments and, in an effort to reduce the climate of fear which has developed in Belarus, should specifically encourage the Belarusian Government, *inter alia*, to: (1) immediately release Alyaksandr Shydlouski (sentenced in 1997 to 18 months imprisonment for allegedly spray painting anti-Lukashenka graffiti) and review the cases of those detained and imprisoned on politically motivated charges, particularly Andrei Klymov and Vladimir Koudinov; (2) cease and desist the harassment of opposition activists, NGOs and the independent media and permit them to function; (3) allow the opposition access to the electronic media and restore the constitutional right of the Belarusian people to free and impartial information; (4) create the conditions for free and fair elections in 1999, including a provision in the election regulations allowing party representation on the central and local election committees; and (5) strengthen the rule of law, beginning with the allowance for an independent judiciary and bar.

With Lukashenka's term in office under the legitimate 1994 Constitution expiring in July 1999, the international community should make clear that the legitimacy of

Lukashenka's presidency will be undermined unless free and fair elections are held by July 21. The United States and the international community, specifically the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, should continue to recognize only the legitimate parliament—the 13th Supreme Soviet—abolished by Lukashenka in 1996, and not the post-referendum, Lukashenka-installed, National Assembly. At the time, the United States—and our European allies and partners—denounced the 1996 referendum as illegitimate and extra-constitutional. The West needs to stand firm on this point, as the 13th Supreme Soviet and the 1994 Constitution are the only legal authorities.

The democratically oriented opposition and NGOs deserve continued and enhanced moral and material assistance from the West. The United States must make support for those committed to genuine democracy a high priority in our civic development and NGO assistance. I applaud and want to encourage such entities as USIS, the Eurasia Foundation, National Endowment for Democracy, International

Republican Institute, ABA/CEELI and others in their efforts to encourage the development of a democratic political system, free market economy and the rule of law in Belarus.

The United States and the international community should strongly encourage President Lukashenka and the 13th Supreme Soviet to begin a dialogue which could lead to a resolution of the current constitutional crisis and the holding of democratic elections. The OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group (AMG) could be a vehicle for facilitating such dialogue.

The Belarusian Government should be encouraged in the strongest possible terms to cooperate with the OSCE AMG. There is a growing perception both within and outside Belarus that the Belarusian Government is disingenuous in its interaction with the AMG. The AMG has been working to promote these important objectives: an active dialogue between the government, the opposition and NGOs; free and fair elections, including a new election law that would provide for political party representation on electoral committees and

domestic observers; unhindered opposition access to the state electronic media; a better functioning, independent court system and sound training of judges; and the examination and resolution of cases of politically motivated repression.

Mr. Speaker, there is a growing divide between the government and opposition in Belarus—thanks to President Lukashenka's authoritarian practices, a divide that could produce unanticipated consequences. An already tense political situation is becoming increasingly more so. Furthermore, Lukashenka's efforts at political and economic integration with Russia could have serious potential consequences for neighboring states, especially Ukraine. Therefore, it is vital for the United States and the OSCE to continue to speak out in defense of human rights in Belarus, to promote free and democratic elections this year, and to encourage meaningful dialogue between the government and opposition.