

I do not wish to brag, and I'm not even sure this can be proven, but an acquaintance of long ago, who was a professor at Colorado College in the sixties and still a citizen of a South American country (I do not recall his name nor what land he came from), told me about five or six years ago when we re-met that he'd sent my editorial to one of the ministers in his country and it was barely possible this "model" fed into their social security system. He claimed it was a very solid program and had helped make his country financially strong.

You have tons of reading material and I hope this three page treatise isn't so long it will get just a cursory glance. Maybe you can read it on the plane?

Your friend and supporter,

BILL.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL M. AUSTER

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the culmination of a very successful career for Paul M. Auster who for the past twenty-three years has served as Tax Counsel for the House Committee on Ways and Means.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Paul secured his law degree from the College of William and Mary in Virginia. Afterwards, he received his Masters in Taxation from New York University and began public service in the Chief Counsel's Office at the Internal Revenue Service. In 1976, Paul joined the Republican Staff of the Ways and Means Committee and became responsible for all areas of the Tax Code relating to employee benefits, international taxation and insurance. Anyone who is familiar with these issues knows that Paul was the principal attorney dealing with some of the most complicated provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Throughout his years with the Ways and Means Committee, Paul assisted Members and staff with a myriad of legislative initiatives and helped draft legislative language for at least a dozen major tax bills starting with the 1976 Tax Reform Act and finishing with the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. As the pension and foreign tax rules grew increasingly more complex, Paul's expertise and depth of knowledge became crucial to sound tax policy.

I know Paul's friends and coworkers join me in wishing him the very best. Paul has earned a fulfilling retirement marked with the satisfaction of a job well done. He will be truly missed by those fortunate to have worked at this side. Good Luck, Paul, and thank you.

EDUCATION FLEXIBILITY
PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 800) to provide for education flexibility partnerships:

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 800, the Education Flexibility

Partnership Act of 1999 and I commend the distinguished gentlemen from the education committee, Mr. GOODLING and Mr. CASTLE for bringing this important legislation to the floor today.

This legislation will provide states and our local education officials with greater flexibility in using federal education funds to support locally-designed, comprehensive school improvement efforts. Currently only 12 states have this ability, but this bill would extend this flexibility to all 50 states. Supported by many groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National School Boards Association, and the New York State United Teachers, the expansion of the ed-flex program will give states and local school districts, much needed regulatory relief to pursue education reforms, while maintaining a level of accountability.

To ensure that this program will not be abused, the Secretary of Education must determine that a state has an approved title I plan or has made substantial progress in developing and implementing state content standards and assessments under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, in order to be eligible for ed-flex waivers. Moreover, states are required to develop detailed improvement plans, specific to the waiver authority requested, and must continue to comply with basic federal requirements concerning civil rights and educational equity.

Ed-flex will reduce the federal demands on local school districts and will allow local officials the freedom to choose between what works and what doesn't work for their specific school system. This will in turn, help the federal government to see what federal regulations are not being used by local districts and allocate those funds to other programs that the state and local officials deem necessary and useful.

This program helps everyone. Local districts will have the flexibility to customize their schools to bring about maximum performances from their teachers and students, and the federal government will learn from the local and state officials which programs work and which programs need to be changed.

Once again I applaud the efforts of the Education Committee and I urge my fellow colleagues to support the ed flex bill.

H.R. 1074 THE REGULATORY RIGHT-
TO-KNOW ACT OF 1999

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 1074, the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999. The Regulatory Right-to-Know Act is an important tool to understand the magnitude and impact of Federal regulatory programs. The Act will provide all Americans, including state and local officials, with new tools to help them participate more fully and improve our government. Better information and public input will help regulators ensure better, more accountable decisions and promote greater confidence in the quality of federal policy and regulatory decisions. Better decisions and updated programs will help Americans enhance innovation, improve the quality of our environment, make our families

safer, improve our economic security, and improve the quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, we know the right steps. Over the past four years, this Congress has changed the direction of Federal Government from the endless burden of more taxes and spending to the new fiscal discipline of balance and accountability. For the past decade the genius of freedom and innovation has driven American businesses through a quality and productivity revolution. The result of this drive toward efficiency and accountability is an American economy which is the unparalleled envy of the world. The freedom and innovation of millions of Americans in private businesses have brought incredible improvements to our quality of life, health care, education, and prosperity. Through the new emphasis on flexibility and innovation, State and local officials have led the way to safer, cleaner and more prosperous places to live. We in Congress must be the allies of state and local government, American business and families through responsible management of the Nation's regulatory programs to ensure quality in necessary regulation and even greater freedom from unwise regulation.

To do our jobs we must first understand the impact of Federal regulatory programs on our economy and innovation. In addition to taxes, the Federal Government imposes tremendous costs and restrictions on innovation on the private sector, State and local governments and, ultimately, the public through ever increasing Federal regulations. Here too we must drive toward quality, efficiency and accountability.

Some estimates place the compliance costs from Federal regulatory programs at more than \$680 billion annually and project substantial growth even without new legislation. These costs are often hidden in increased prices for goods and services, loss of competitiveness in the global economy, lack of investment in job growth, and pressure on the ability of State and local governments to fund essential services, such as crime prevention and education. More recently we have heard mayors decry the effect that unwise Federal regulations have on the problems of brownfields redevelopment and preventing reinvestment in our urban areas. As a former mayor of Richmond I am familiar with and very sympathetic to these problems.

Unlike the private sector, where freedom of contract and free market competition drive price and quality, Federal programs are only accountable through the political process. Over the past few decades both Congress and the Executive Branch have driven growth in Federal regulatory programs, creating layer upon layer of bureaucracy at great cost and often with diminishing returns for the American people. Congress and the Executive Branch must take concrete steps to manage and reform these programs. The Regulatory Right-to-Know Act is a fundamental building block for a smarter partnership in federal regulatory programs. The leadership we show or fail to show will affect the quality of life for ourselves and our children.

Bipartisan organizations representing the Nation's governors, mayors, professional city managers, county officials and others are unanimous in their support for the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act. Citizens for a Sound Economy, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and

many others agree that the American taxpayers and consumers have the right-to-know the costs and benefits of federal regulations, and have endorsed the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999.

I would like to thank Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. STENHOLM and others for their leadership on this bill in the 104th, 105th, and 106th Congresses. As evidenced by the original co-sponsorship list, the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act of 1999 has broad bipartisan support. Senator THOMPSON and Senator BREAUX have provided leadership in the Senate and have, once again, introduced the analogue to the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act.

The legislation changes no regulatory standard. It will, however, provide vital information to Congress and the Executive branch so they may fulfill their obligation to ensure wise expenditure of limited national economic resources and improve our regulatory system. Let's not forget that a tax or consumer dollar spent on a wasteful program is a dollar that cannot be spent on teachers, police officers or health care. If we are serious about openness, the public's right to know, accountability, and fulfilling our responsibility as managers, we will enact this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. OZUNA

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a tribute to Robert L. Ozuna, who was Chief Executive Officer of New Bedford Panoramex Corporation in Upland, California. Mr. Ozuna died Saturday, March 6, 1999 at Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina, California. He was 69.

Robert Ozuna was the oldest of four children born in Miami, Arizona to Mexican-American parents. In 1940, after his father's early death, his family moved to East Los Angeles where he grew up with his mother, brother and two sisters. Robert was required to seek steady work at an early age to assist the family financially.

Robert Ozuna emerged as one of the leading Mexican-American entrepreneurs in Southern California as Founder and President of New Bedford Panoramex Corporation (NBP). He gained his business experience on the job and he gained his engineering education by attending night school in the California community and junior college system.

In 1966, Mr. Ozuna began to build his company with a second mortgage on his residence, a few electrician's hand tools, hard work, and entrepreneurial instincts into the thriving electronics manufacturing business it is today in Upland, California. NBP engages in the design, development, and manufacturing of electronic communication systems and remote monitoring systems for its primary client, the United States Government.

Mr. Ozuna's hard work and dedication were recognized through such honors as the U.S. Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise Award for 1987 and again for 1991. He received the Air Traffic Control Association Chairman's Citation of Merit Award in 1994. He was an active member of the California Chamber of Commerce for various cities

and a founder of Casa De Rosa Annual Golf Tournament, which he instituted to raise funds for the Rancho de Los Ninos Orphanage in BajaMar, Mexico.

As industrious as Mr. Ozuna was in business, he was equally involved sharing his prosperity with many philanthropic activities in his community. He was the sponsor of many events in the Hispanic neighborhood where he grew up, and he was a founding director in the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Youth Athletic Association, which promotes educational, athletic and drug awareness programs for more than 60,000 youths in the Los Angeles Metropolitan area.

Robert Ozuna is remembered by his employees at New Bedford Panoramex Corporation as a handsome man who had a passion for life. His concern for his employees and their families along with his abundant generosity to them was always present.

Robert Ozuna was married for 35 years to Rosemary, who passed away in November of 1998. He is survived by his mother, Amelia Ozuna; his sons, Steven Ozuna and Jeff Dominelli; his daughters, Nancy DeSilva and Lisa Jarrett; his sisters, Lillian Gomez and Vera Venegas; and his brother Tony Ozuna. He also leaves 8 grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, March 12th at 12:00 noon, at St. Gregory's Church, 13935 E. Telegraph Rd., Whittier, CA. The burial will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Ozuna's life epitomized much that is the American dream. He rose from economically humble roots to found and head a well-respected electronics manufacturing firm, and he gave back to his community and to those around him, helping to create a better future for others through his life. America is a better place because of Robert Ozuna, and he will be sorely missed.

LEGISLATION TO MEMORIALIZE VETERANS WHO DONATE THEIR ORGANS

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, several months ago, I was contacted by one of my constituents, Mrs. Linnae Hedgebeth of Salem, Virginia. She requested that my office intervene on a matter of great importance to her family, and others across the country.

Mrs. Hedgebeth is the widow of Roger Hedgebeth, Sr., a decorated World War II veteran and a career civil servant. When Mr. Hedgebeth passed away in 1997, he requested that his body be donated to assist in medical research, and that his ashes be memorialized at Arlington National Cemetery. Following his wishes, his family donated his body to science, but unfortunately were not able to give this military hero the final recognition that he deserved at Arlington National Cemetery.

As it stands now, due to various legal concerns, no ashes of individuals who donate their bodies to science are returned. And unfortunately, current regulations at Arlington National Cemetery prohibit memorializing veterans in the Columbarium unless their remains are actually inurned there. While I understand

that space is limited at Arlington, and it is necessary to follow strict guidelines regarding burial and memorialization, I cannot accept that an entitled veteran can be denied appropriate recognition simply because he has donated his remains to further medical research.

While our nation is blessed with many treasures, none is more cherished than the peace we enjoy in our prosperous country. Arlington National Cemetery has long been a sanctuary for remembrance to veterans who provided and safeguarded that peace. We should not deny any eligible veteran that recognition simply because they may choose to help others by donating their remains to medical study.

With that said, Mr. Speaker, I submit this bill which seeks to modify current regulations to allow otherwise eligible veterans, who have donated their bodies to science, to be memorialized at the Columbarium in Arlington National Cemetery, notwithstanding the absence of their physical remains. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

FATHER DRINAN'S VOICE FOR SANITY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 1999

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, my predecessor in Congress, Father Robert Drinan, was during his very impressive tenure here an important spokesman for a sensible reordering of our national spending priorities. Since leaving Congress, Father Drinan, has continued to be a leader on issues of human rights and social justice, and his most recent article on national policy makes in a compelling way the case against the proposed military budget increases President Clinton has unfortunately requested. Father Drinan sets this in the appropriate context and I believe his reasoning is persuasive and his facts compelling. As Father Drinan notes in this article in the National Catholic Report for January 22, "the world scene has changed, but neither the White House nor the Pentagon seems to have heard the good news." I ask that this important statement be printed here.

THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX JUST MARCHES ON

(By Robert F. Drinan)

When I read in early January that President Clinton had agreed to support the Pentagon's request for an increase of some \$125 billion over the next six years, I became certain that the United States had failed to produce a new foreign policy for the world after the Cold War.

All my anxieties and misgivings about U.S. foreign policy in the six years of the Clinton administration coalesced into the conviction that the United States had lost an unprecedented opportunity to fashion for the entire world a policy that would relieve hunger, promote democracy and bring stability to troubled regions.

Since the Warsaw Pact and world communism dissolved in 1990, the entire human family has been looking to the United States for moral leadership that could usher in a new era of peace.

The military has not rethought its goals since 1990. The one review the Pentagon conducted resulted in the questionable finding that the United States must be prepared to