

Documenting the horrors of the Genocide cannot stop those who would deny it, any more than the extensive documentation of the Holocaust have stopped individuals from denying that abominable period. However, we cannot begin the fight against ignorance if we do not preserve the record of these crimes. The Armenian Genocide marked the beginning of a barbaric practice in the Twentieth Century. By remembering it we can help prevent future actions and punish the guilty in the future.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM IS LONG OVERDUE—THE SAN MATEO COUNTY TIMES URGES ACTION TO STRENGTHEN OUR DEMOCRACY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, no issue affects the future of our democratic political system to a greater extent than does campaign finance reform. The infusion of unregulated dollars to political parties and officeholders has reached record levels in the past few years, making elections more and more the province of wealthy candidates and special interests. This development can only serve to increase cynicism and limit political participation among our nation's individual citizens. I strongly believe that we have a civic duty to take action to reverse this dangerous trend.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of H.R. 417, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 1999. I have also signed the discharge petition now pending before the House, in order to bring this important legislation up for consideration despite the opposition of some of the leaders of this body. This legislation, known popularly as the Shays-Meehan campaign finance reform bill, unites a broad coalition of Democrats and Republicans who share the conviction that we must act firmly and swiftly to prevent elections from becoming out-of-control auctions.

H.R. 417 would ban unregulated "soft money" contributions to national and state political parties, abolishing once and for all this unfortunate loophole. It would also impose restrictions on the broadcast of so-called "independent expenditure" issue ads by third-parties, add requirements for the full disclosure of campaign contributions, limit political party assistance to wealthy candidates who spend millions of dollars of their own personal fortunes on political campaigns, and institute several other vital improvements to our method of electing congressional officeholders.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation and in signing the discharge petition that is necessary to bring it before the House of Representatives.

On April 16, 1999, the highly-respected San Mateo County Times newspaper in San Mateo, California, published a thoughtful editorial on this important issue entitled "Campaign Finance Reform Is Long Overdue." Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read this excellent editorial and consider the consequences of failing to defend the integrity of our system of campaigns and elections. I ask that this editorial be placed in the RECORD.

[From the San Mateo County Times, Apr. 16, 1999]

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM IS LONG OVERDUE

The majority of Americans favors campaign finance reform, which remains a crucial issue even if its breathing often labored. Paradoxically, few legislators appear to like reform well enough to see it through to passage. And some large corporations, which endorse the need for reform, still play by the old rules.

Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., promised to work in a bipartisan manner on issue of concern to the average American, but he has told the press that campaign finance reform is not a legislative priority. The House will concentrate instead on what he calls the "really important issues," including Social Security, health care, tax policy and education. These are undoubtedly key issues on the legislative agenda, but the back-burner approach to the bipartisan Shays-Meehan campaign finance reform bill is irritating the American public.

"The Washington influence money game will continue and will distort the legislative policy on these very issues," reports Common Cause, which lobbies for tighter campaign finance rules. "The Speaker's failure to understand the need for reform as a prerequisite to congressional action on these important issues is to deny how Washington really works."

The passage of Shays-Meehan would mean the end of the corrupt soft-money system that permits wealthy individuals, labor unions and corporations to give millions of dollars in unregulated campaign contributions to the political parties to buy influence and access in Congress and the White House. The bill would also require special-interest groups to pay for campaign advertisements masquerading as impartial "issue discussions" with money raised according to federal campaign finance laws.

A federal economic panel—composed of businessmen—recently released a report recommending that soft money should be outlawed. "The public cannot help but believe that these donors enjoy special influence and receive special favors," the report said. "The suspicion of corruption deepens public cynicism and diminishes public confidence in government. "More important, these activities raise the likelihood of actual corruption."

The panel co-chairman, who is also the chairman and chief executive of his firm, concluded at a news conference. "Bad government is bad business." He later told a reporter: "Until I understood the depth of the problem, I was like a lot of Americans: I don't think I cared too much." This executive's accounting and consulting firm, as reported in The New York Times, was quick to repudiate its own leader by issuing a statement saying the chairman's opinions were "his personal views and do not necessarily represent the views" of his company.

A review of Election Commission records shows that three large American corporations, which announced they would swear off soft money donations in 1997, have fallen off the wagon. Only the Monsanto Company, which donated \$75,000 in 1995 and '96, has given no soft money since then.

Speaker Hastert has failed to schedule Shays-Meehan for floor action this spring despite the passage of an earlier bill in the House. A later filibuster in the Senate killed it. We urge prompt attention and passage of Shays-Meehan as we have urged in the past. A campaign finance reform law is needed right now.

Why must the public always assume the obligation to wake up its own elected officials?

APRIL IS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, we've all heard it said that "when you've got your health, you've got everything," we also know how hard it is to stay healthy as we get older. One profession that helps people deal with the problems of aging is occupational therapy. Because April is Occupational Therapy Month, I would like to recognize the many fine practitioners of this field of health care who live and work in my district and across the nation.

Occupational therapy helps people recover their "skills for the job of living" so they can have independent, fulfilling lives. It's the occupational therapist who shows those afflicted with arthritis new techniques of how to shop and care for their homes and gardens in order to continue the life to which they are accustomed.

It is the occupational therapist who shows those afflicted by a stroke how to dress and bathe and hold a cup again, even though limited in strength, in order to care for their own needs, instead of having to rely on others for the basic necessities of daily life.

The proven efficacy of occupational therapy as a health treatment for older persons has recently been documented in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Millions more Americans will personally be made aware of the invaluable role that occupational therapists play in their own lives when the huge baby boom generation begins to retire in the next 10 years. It is estimated that there will be more Americans over age 85 than under 5!

I salute the many dedicated occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants for the fine jobs they do each and every day in helping older Americans live more productive and rewarding lives.

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE MILITARY AIRFIELD SAFETY

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I introduced legislation to authorize the U.S. military to test and evaluate Mobile Expeditionary Accurate Night Vision Compatible Portable Airfield Lighting Systems (MEANPALS). This legislation will allow all branches of the U.S. military to benefit from enhanced vision technologies, which have a proven track record of dramatically improving airfield visibility under any weather conditions.

MEANPALS is a mobile airfield lighting system that provides all the necessary elements to establish a 10,000 foot runway on improved or unimproved airfield landing sites. It utilizes enhanced vision technologies, including laser guidance systems. It provides accurate runway centerline lineup cues along with glide-path lineup information during landing approach to the airfield. My bill authorizes \$1.3 million for the U.S. Army to research, develop, test, and evaluate two MEANPALS at one location that serves both fixed wing and rotor

aircraft; \$650,000 for the U.S. Marine Corps to evaluate one MEANPALS for use by Marine aircraft, as well as amphibious landing craft and the direction of ground vehicles; and \$1.95 million for the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard to evaluate MEANPALS at three different locations for use as assault runways and for large commercial airport use.

Enhanced vision technologies such as laser guidance systems have been fully tested and deployed by some branches of the U.S. military, including the U.S. Navy. The technology has proven itself under a myriad of conditions. Enhanced vision technologies represent a dramatic breakthrough in improving flight crew situational awareness during airplane landings—especially in low visibility situations. Laser guidance systems provide pilots with a visual navigation flight path from as far as 20 miles from the runway, with the precision of an advanced instrument landing system. Best of all, the installation of laser guidance and cold cathode technologies to replace or enhance conventional landing light systems will require no additional aircraft equipment. The combination of enhanced vision technologies with the latest ground proximity warning systems will dramatically reduce the number of controlled flight into terrain accidents.

As noted above, the U.S. Navy has deployed enhanced vision technologies on its aircraft carriers. Here's what some Navy pilots had to say about laser guidance systems:

There's no guessing involved. It's light years ahead of what we have.

Response to simple color change puts you on line as far out as 20 miles.

I think the laser line-up is the greatest technical improvement for landing at night ever. It is invaluable for safety, comfort, and efficiency when landing.

I really like the system. It will prove especially valuable on days when weather conditions are a factor in approaches.

Here's what the head of the U.S. Park Police had to say about tests the Park Police helicopter units conducted last year:

The Cold Cathode heliport lights . . . have received very favorable comments by our pilots . . . They have reported that their ability to see and recognize these lights was greatly enhanced compared to the existing incandescent lights . . . In some cases my pilots reported that they could be seen twice as far away compared to the incandescent lighting. During the evaluation period we had to replace all of the incandescent lighting several times while only one of the Cold Cathode lights burned out.

These technologies, especially laser guidance systems and cold cathode lights, have been extensively tested. They are also cheaper to maintain than conventional lighting. For example, cold cathode lights have a lifetime cost of only 20 percent of that of incandescent lights.

My legislation will allow all branches of the U.S. military to benefit from this exciting technology. Mr. Speaker, the deployment of MEANPALS by the Army, Marines and Air Force will save lives and save money. I urge all Members to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO FBI NATIONAL
ACADEMY GRADUATES

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a young man dedicated to a career of service and protection. On March 26, 1999, Captain Kenneth Duane Donahue of the Greeley Police Department, Greeley, CO., graduated from the 196th session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Each year the FBI National Academy selects several of our nation's top law enforcement officers to participate in an extensive 11-week training program. Throughout this training, particular emphasis is placed on leadership development. Courses in the program relate to Police management, Behavioral Science, Criminal Law, Law enforcement Communication Arts, Forensic Science, and Health/Fitness. After Graduation, they expect that these officers will be prepared to assume even greater responsibilities and pass on to others the benefits of their advanced training.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Captain Donahue and all of the FBI National Academy graduates. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. KASICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, April 20, 1999, I was unable to record a vote by electronic device on rollcall No. 92, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the nation. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 92.

Mrs. Parks is not only a pioneer in the struggle for racial equality, she is an example of the courage and determination we all need to overcome adversity. Mrs. Parks is an inspiring symbol to all Americans and is much deserving of the Congressional Gold Medal. I am proud to be a cosponsor of Congresswoman Carson's bill, H.R. 573, and look forward to Rosa Parks receiving this long-overdue honor.

HONORING JESUS SAUCEDO

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues an extraordinary man and friend who retired as the Director of the Guadalupe Community Center on December 31, 1998.

After a decade of traveling between Mexico and various states under the Bracero program Señor Jesus Saucedo first came to Guadalupe, California in 1961. He was joined five years later by his wife Refugia and their children. Once settled in the community, it didn't

take long for Señor Saucedo to become a leader in the fight for justice and equality.

In 1969 he became a member and organizer of the United Farm Workers. He began working with businesses to establish training programs for local farm workers and other residents to diversify their skills and expand their opportunities. To this end, he developed his own job training programs and citizenship workshops and made these resources open to whoever needed them.

Mr. Speaker, I am inspired by Señor Saucedo's leadership and commitment to his community. Perhaps his most important accomplishment is his work with the Guadalupe Community Health Clinic. The Clinic has become the centerpiece for the community providing means to the needy, transportation options for the public, educational and recreational resources, and referrals of all kinds for those in need of advice. The impact of his service and vision will never be forgotten by the community of Guadalupe.

Mr. Speaker, I was honored to join the City of Guadalupe this past weekend in celebrating the accomplishments of Señor Jesus Saucedo. He is a man who has devoted his life to community service and I thank him for all he has done through the years.

HONORING DENIS AND CAROLYN
RIBORDY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend two of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Denis and Carolyn Ribordy of Ogden Dunes, Indiana. Denis and Carolyn were honored for their exemplary and dedicated service to our community on April 7, 1999. Their praiseworthy efforts were recognized at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts as they received the 1999 Distinguished Citizen's Award, sponsored by the Calumet Council of Boy Scouts of America. The Distinguished Citizen's Award is given to worthy recipients who demonstrate their dedication and outstanding service to the community.

Denis and Carolyn Ribordy, longtime residents of Northwest Indiana, hale from East Chicago and Indianapolis, respectively. After both graduated from Butler University College of Pharmacy, they returned to Northwest Indiana, and have made our area their permanent home. In 1955, the Ribordy's opened their own pharmacy, Ribordy Drugs, Incorporated. Denis Ribordy served as the founder and President of the 26-store retail drug chain in Northwest Indiana until Ribordy Drugs was sold to Walgreens in 1985.

While the Ribordys have dedicated considerable time and energy to their work, they have always made an extra effort to give to the community. Denis is very involved in several organizations including: Chicago Motor Club, Hunter Corporation, Lake County Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Incorporated, Mercantile National Bank, Northern Indiana Public Service Company, Northwest Indiana Forum, and Trade Winds Rehabilitation Center, Incorporated. Additionally, he serves as a trustee for Butler University and