

was aptly named the "Robert I. Bickford Natatorium."

But Dr. Bickford's greatest honors lie in the legacy he leaves at Prince George's Community College. During his tenure, the college's budget increased from \$7.7 million to \$50 million. Annual enrollment increased from approximately 10,000 students to over 35,000 students. He doubled the number of academic programs and greatly increased minority student attendance at the college.

Dr. Bickford has left an indelible mark of excellence on Prince George's Community College, leading it to its greatest level of achievement and success. He has made a profound impact on his students, his colleagues and his community in his many years of service to education in Maryland.

Today, on behalf of the citizens of the Fifth District of Maryland, I offer our thanks and our deepest gratitude for Dr. Bickford's lifelong work to provide a quality education for so many of our residents and I congratulate him on his retirement.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 1999

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address the problems that occur when the federal government is the owner of a high percentage of the property in a given area. This week, my distinguished colleague from Virginia, Mr. DAVIS, has done his part to address these problems as they affect the District of Columbia. Mr. DAVIS' bill, The District of Columbia College Access Act (H.R. 974), is a recognition of the fact that the federal government's ownership of land in D.C. has so badly affected the income and infrastructure of the city that it has been unable to create a public university system that offers students a quality education at a reasonable cost. H.R. 974 would create a fund to allow students to attend public universities in other states at the in-state tuition rate, giving students from Washington, D.C. a better chance to succeed.

I salute my friend from Virginia for his effort to help students from one area where local tax rolls are hurt by having a large federal presence. I think he and others from the D.C. area would be surprised, however, to discover just how much they have in common with residents of the counties in the Second District of Oregon. In fact, while the federal government owns approximately 26% of the land in D.C., it owns nearly three times that percentage of Lake County (76%) in eastern Oregon and Deschutes County (77.5%) in central Oregon. In fact, in 10 of the 20 counties of the Second District, the Federal Government owns over 50% of the land, and thirteen of the 20 contain a greater percentage of federally owned land than does D.C.

Similar to the situation in D.C., this high percentage of federal land means that these counties have very limited taxable property, seriously hurting their ability to fund schools,

roads, and other necessities. Exacerbating the problems for these Oregon counties is the fact that, unlike in D.C. where the federal government uses its land to employ people and contribute to the local economy, the Forest Service and BLM lands that dominate the Second District are increasingly off-limits to economic productivity. While in the past, rural Oregon counties could depend upon federal timber receipts, grazing fees, and other economic activity on federal lands to partially make up for low taxable property, in the 1990's the Clinton administration has sacrificed the economic well-being of Oregon's counties and turned its back on responsible management of federal lands. As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the prevalence of federal land that is closed to economic activity has created a serious problem for many counties in Oregon and elsewhere in the West.

I would like to once again thank my colleague, Mr. DAVIS, for addressing the problems created by federal land ownership in the District of Columbia. I hope that he and others from the East Coast will join me and my fellow Westerners in addressing the desperate needs of rural counties in Oregon and elsewhere in the West. Unfortunately, in some counties in Oregon, the question is not whether students can afford to go to college, but whether public schools can fix leaky roofs and counties can afford to maintain crumbling roads. These problems get to the most basic services provided by local government, and the federal government must be held accountable for the damage its land management policies have caused rural counties. I look forward to continuing to work with other Members of Congress to help counties in Oregon and other Western states provide decent schools, roads and other essential services to their students.

IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF JUDGE MARTHA GLAZE

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Martha Glaze and her distinguished career. Judge Glaze's twenty-two year career on the bench comes to an end in June, but her contributions to juvenile justice in Clayton County will long be remembered.

At a time when juvenile justice is at the forefront of national discussion, Clayton County and Georgia can be proud of Judge Glaze's accomplishments in adopting innovative new approaches to serve children and their families. Judge Glaze's leadership has been instrumental in bringing together professionals throughout Clayton County who work with children. This unity eliminated much of the conflict that often plagues juvenile justice programs across America.

On a personal level, Judge Glaze has always been a friend and responsive to the concerns of Third District residents. I thank her for her leadership and her devotion to our children. Her presence on the Clayton County Juvenile Court will be missed, but her impact will live on in the families of Clayton County.

IMPORTANCE OF THE AMERICAN CRUISE INDUSTRY

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to make our members aware of the American cruise industry's importance to the nation and its maritime industry.

Recently, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) completed an economic study that provides considerable detail regarding the enormous positive economic contribution which the cruise industry provides throughout the United States. This study concluded the cruise industry is responsible for creating jobs in every state in the country. It is important to our national economy that billions of dollars in U.S. products are purchased by the cruise industry each year. As this industry continues to grow and prosper, more U.S. companies will benefit from expanded business.

In my district in Alabama, millions of dollars are spent every year on maintenance and repair of cruise ships at Atlantic Marine and Bender shipyards in Mobile. Hundreds of people are employed in this work and it is an important contributor to our local economy.

The PwC study showed that the total economic impact of the cruise industry in 1997 was \$11.6 billion. Of this, \$6.6 billion was direct spending of the cruise lines and their passengers on U.S. goods and services. An additional \$5 billion was expended by cruise industry U.S.-based goods and services providers. Therefore, in 1997 the total impact of the U.S. cruise industry was \$11.6 billion, and these purchases occur in every state in the country. This PwC study also revealed that the cruise industry, through its direct employment and the jobs attributable to its U.S. supplier base, totaled 176,433 jobs for Americans in 1997. The cruise industry has been growing by 6-10% every year. For Americans, that can mean thousands of new jobs each year.

The PwC study also revealed that the cruise industry in 1997 paid over \$1 billion in various federal taxes and user fees and local state fees and taxes.

Many have considered the cruise industry to benefit a select few in highly localized areas, but this study reveals the industry touches virtually every segment of the American economy. It is an essential component of the American maritime infrastructure. Those industries most heavily impacted are summarized below:

Airline transportation—\$1.8 billion; Transportation services—\$1.2 billion; Business services—\$1.0 billion Energy—\$998 million; Financial services—\$698 million; Food & beverage—\$607 million.

Mr. Speaker, the cruise industry is a growth industry that is not only purchasing goods and services from around the country but is helping to grow the U.S. national economy and its maritime infrastructure.

TRIBUTE TO GILBERT COLLIER

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Arkansan, a man who served our country in the Korean War, and is a Medal of Honor recipient, Mr. Gilbert Collier.

Mr. Collier served as a Sergeant in U.S. Army's Company F, 223d Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry Division near Tutayon, Korea in 1953. Sergeant Collier was pointman and assistant leader of a combat patrol. While serving his country in Korea, he was injured after he and his commanding officer slipped and fell from a steep, 60-foot cliff and were injured. Although he suffered a badly sprained ankle and painful back injury, Sergeant Collier stayed with his leader and ordered the patrol to return to the safety of friendly lines. Before daylight, Sergeant Collier and his commanding officer managed to crawl back up and over the mountainous terrain to the opposite valley where they concealed themselves in the brush until nightfall, then edged toward their company positions. Shortly after they were ambushed, Sergeant Collier received painful wounds after killing two hostile soldiers. He was also separated from his leader. Sergeant Collier ran out of ammunition and was forced to attack four hostile infantrymen with his bayonet. He was mortally wounded but made a valiant attempt to reach and assist his leader in a desperate effort to save his comrade's life without regard for his own personal safety.

This Memorial Day, all Americans will honor the men and women who fought for our country. I would like to pay a special tribute today to Sergeant Collier, who's life has been committed to the principles of duty, honor, and country. He is a courageous and outstanding Arkansan, who exemplifies the meaning of bravery and is truly a great American hero.

ARIZONA NATIONAL FOREST
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999**HON. BOB STUMP**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, the United States Forest Service is planning on exchanging or selling six unmanageable and/or excess parcels of land in the Prescott, Tonto, Kaibab, and Coconino National Forests. The Forest Service has also agreed to sell land to the city of Sedona for use as an effluent disposal system. If the Forest Service sells the parcels, they want to use the proceeds from five of these sales to either fund new construction or upgrade current administrative facilities at these national forests. The funds generated from the sale of the other parcels could be used to fund acquisition of sites, or construction of administrative facilities at any national forest in Arizona. Transfers of land completed under the Arizona National Forest Improvement Act will be completed in accordance with all other applicable laws, including environmental laws.

Mr. Speaker, in essence, this bill will improve customer and administrative services by allowing the Forest Service to consolidate and update facilities and/or relocate facilities to more convenient locations. This bill will not only enhance services for national forest users in Arizona, but it will also facilitate the disposal of unmanageable, undesirable and/or excess parcels of national forest lands. This bill will also facilitate the construction of a much needed wastewater treatment plant for the city of Sedona.

MISSING, EXPLOITED, AND RUN-
AWAY CHILDREN PROTECTION
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus and a member of the National Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, I rise to strongly support the Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children Protection Act.

In 1990, the Department of Justice reported that annually there are approximately: 114,600 attempted abductions of children by non-family members; 4,600 abductions by non-family members reported to police; 300 abductions by non-family members where the children are gone for long periods of time or were murdered; 354,000 children abducted by family members; 450,700 children who ran away; and 127,100 children who were thrown away. These are children who are either told to leave their households, or abandoned or deserted.

We must do something to protect these children. The average age of a homeless runaway was 15 years old. Of all runaways, 66% of the males and 33% of the females have been assaulted since being on the streets. At the same time, 47% of the females have been sexually assaulted while they were without shelter. To make matters worse, female runaways between 13 and 16 years old, have a 50% likelihood of being raped in the first 90 days on the street.

And these children come from all sorts of neighborhoods. They are the children next door. Fifty-two percent of the youth come from families with at least some post high school education.

Based upon a study by Project Youth between 1989 and 1994, most homeless youth come from backgrounds marked by instability, dysfunction, and most homeless adolescents have a diagnosable psychiatric disorder. Forty-three percent of the youth had attempted suicide at least once. Homeless adolescents, when they receive appropriate treatment, significantly improve, lead healthier and happier lives, and are likelier to get off the streets.

This bill reauthorizes the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act and the Missing Children's Assistance Act through FY 2003, authorizing such sums as necessary for activities under those acts each year, and it amends the Missing Children's Assistance Act to authorize \$10 million a year through FY 2003 for grants

to support activities of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Programs under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act have received a total appropriation of \$59 million in FY 1999, while existing activities under the Missing Children's Assistance Act received a total of \$17 million. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has received federal grants for the past 14 years, with the FY 1999 Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations Act earmarking \$8 million for the center.

The measure authorizes \$10 million a year for grants to the National Center, with the funds to be used to operate the national resource center and its 24-hour toll-free telephone line; provide assistance to families and law enforcement agencies in locating and recovering missing and exploited children; coordinate public and private missing children programs; and provide technical assistance and training to law enforcement agencies and others in preventing, investigating, prosecuting and treating cases of missing and exploited children.

The measure allows the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a single consolidated application review process for funding requests under the law, but requires that funds be separately identified in all grants and contracts. As under current law, 90% of program funds would have to be used to establish and operate basic runaway centers and transitional living programs, with transitional living programs to receive between 20% and 30% of annual appropriations. Furthermore, this bill allows basic center grants to be used for drug education programs—which are crucial to making sure that children stay off the streets.

The bill also recodifies much of the act to remove duplicative provisions and more clearly defines the types of services that may be provided under the programs. It also allows HHS, in awarding grants, to take into consideration the geographical distribution of proposed services and areas of a state that have the greatest needs, and then requires HHS to conduct on-site evaluations of grant recipients that have been awarded funds for three consecutive years—a good oversight provision. Furthermore, this bill requires HHS to report to Congress every two years on the status and activities of grant recipients, along with HHS evaluations of those grantees.

S. 249 also authorizes such sums as necessary through FY 2003 for the Sexual Abuse Prevention Program, under which HHS is authorized to make grants to private nonprofit agencies for street-based outreach and education activities to runaway, homeless and street youth who are at risk of sexual abuse. Along those lines, the bill requires HHS to conduct a study on the relationship between sexual abuse and running away from home.

Mr. Speaker, our purpose in passing this bill is to build awareness around the issue of missing children, find those who are currently missing and to prevent future abductions. By passing this legislation we will continue our efforts in identifying ways to work effectively in our districts to address this very important issue and stem future suffering amongst our families.