

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EQUITY, EDUCATION, AND THE WORKFORCE

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, since its inception in 1974, the Women's Education Act has had a tremendous impact on gender equity issues throughout our nation. While women have progressively made gains in the classroom, they are still not properly represented in most Fortune 500 companies. According to a report by Congressional Research Service, women in today's labor market typically earn between 73 cents and 76 cents for every dollar earned by men. In addition, while the government has attempted to address the wage gap differential through various forms of legislation, it appears that women are still disproportionately hired for lower tier jobs with limited access and proper training for middle and upper management positions. In a nation where women now represent more than 46% of the workforce, (up from 33% in 1960) we must continue to close the wage gap by supporting the reauthorization of WEEA.

As we move into the new millennium, this nation and a number of its multi-national corporations are attempting to recruit workers from outside the United States to fill key Information Technology (IT) positions. This trend could be halted if more elementary and secondary schools would mentor and convince young women to take more math and science classes with a stronger emphasis on critical thinking and logical reasoning skills. Moreover, according to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) 65% of all jobs in the year 2000 and beyond will require technological skills, yet women are still being encouraged to take data entry courses. These kinds of statistics are alarming considering that still only 17% of students who take advanced computer science tests are young women. As Americans, it is our responsibility to ensure that women throughout our nation are given every opportunity to strive for academic excellence. Gender equity in the workforce cannot be achieved if we don't continue to cultivate young minds by supporting female interests in jobs that have traditionally gone to males.

Lastly, the impact WEEA has had in the private and public sector is quite evident. More women than ever are being encouraged to take challenging course work while attempting to shatter corporate America's glass ceiling. However, programs such as WEEA are now under attack from political pundits who believe women have caught up and even surpassed men. Clearly, nothing could be farther from the truth. The truth is that while women have made significant gains in corporate America they still trail men in the areas of science and technology. Although gender equity issues are now at the forefront of American politics, programs such as WEEA provide critical research that continues to identify important need

areas. The WEEA Equity Resource Center, which serves as a depository for issues and programs deemed sensitive to the needs of women, provides companies, universities and athletic programs with information on recent policy briefs and studies which impact how women are treated in the workplace. For this reason, I encourage my colleagues to support the reauthorization of WEEA as we send a clear message across this nation that women are our most indispensable resource.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD PRESCOTT

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise to pay tribute to our good friend, Ron Prescott, the recipient this year of the Distinguished Educator Award from the Charter School of Education at California State University, Los Angeles. It is simply impossible to overstate the contribution that Ron has made to public education during the past 38 years. From his early post as a teacher in three inner-city schools to his current position as deputy superintendent for the Los Angeles Unified School District, Ron has devoted his life to improving our public schools and boosting educational opportunities for the young people of his community, State, and Nation.

Ron launched his career in the 1960's as a teacher at two east Los Angeles schools and a third in south Los Angeles. His classes were filled with minority students to whom Ron committed his time, talents, and resources with enormous dedication. In addition to classroom teaching, Ron served as lead teacher for specially funded programs, master teacher and was the sponsor of a student intergroup program. Even after he left the classroom, Ron spent 3 years working as consultant on intergroup relations.

From the early 1970's, Ron has held a number of key administrative posts with the Los Angeles Unified School District. From 1978-81, Ron served as deputy area administrator, providing support services for 55,000 students from 85 different cultural groups. From 1982-84, Ron was administrator for Student Adjustment Services. In this post, he was responsible for direct expulsion proceedings, foreign-student admissions, and liaison services and attendance accounting. In Ron's current position, deputy superintendent in the Office of Government Relations and Public Affairs, he oversees grants assistance, policy research and development, and Parent Community Services, among other duties and responsibilities.

Ron has also worked with numerous outside organizations in the area of public education. In 1973, he founded the Tuesday Night Group, a Sacramento-based education coalition that

remains active. He is also a current board member of Policy Analysis in California Education, and has served a term as president of EdSource (education policy research council).

This is but a sampling of Ron's distinguished career in education. He has been honored by the California Legislature, Phi Delta Kappa, the Padres y Maestros de Aztlan, and the YMCA for his leadership in education and his service to youth. It is an honor to recognize his accomplishments today and to ask our colleagues to join us in saluting Ron Prescott, who has worked tirelessly throughout his career to make a better world for our children. His selflessness and sense of community are a shining example for us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALLEN I. POLSBY, OUTGOING ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, in one of the many transitions that are taking place at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Allen I. Polsby, a mainstay of the Office of General Counsel as Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, has moved to new duties. Al Polsby grew up in my district, on a farm in Norwichtown, and attended Samuel Huntington Elementary School in the 1940's. Many members of his family, starting in the 1890's, have been prominent in the civic, commercial, educational, medical, and religious affairs of New London County. He has maintained his personal ties to the area through, for example, his membership on the board of directors of the New England Hebrew Farmers Society of Chesterfield, of which his great-grandfather was an original incorporator. But he has made his professional contributions nationally, as a lawyer and Federal civil servant.

For the past 25 years and more, Mr. Polsby has had a hand in the technical, legal aspects of virtually every appropriations measure that has affected HUD and funding for assisted housing and community development nationally. On the basis of his technical mastery, legal erudition, and a singular fair-mindedness that permitted him to generate and keep the trust of every political and technical participant in the appropriations process during his tenure, his views have also often resulted in affecting how the policies of appropriations were made.

The best example of Mr. Polsby's impact on policy is in the now-accepted practices relating to the permitted uses of various classes of unexpended funds carried over from one fiscal year to the next. The legal theories on which these practices have been based, and which have in turn been one of the impetuses for 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.

custom of reprogramming notifications, have to a large extent been created and developed by Mr. Polsby. Historically, based on these legal theories, many billions of dollars, particularly for assisted housing, have been made available that would not otherwise have been used.

On a technical level, one needs only to compare an appropriation law of 25 years ago with a current one to see Mr. Polsby's impact, along with that of many other people, on the modernization of the appropriations laws. Among the features of current appropriations laws, not found 25 years ago, that Mr. Polsby contributed are serially numbered administrative provisions, and cross-citations for appropriations laws, which are in general not codified, to the U.S. Statutes at Large. These and many other basic technical innovations were a result of Mr. Polsby's application of a personal standard to the drafts of appropriations bill texts. The standard is in this question: Can an able lawyer far from a Federal Depository Library, such as in Norwichtown, decipher the text? Any time the answer to this question was "no," another innovation has soon followed.

Mr. Polsby has carried responsibility for many other legislative duties, in addition to appropriations. These have included the drafting of such bills as the Federal Housing Corporation Charter Act, largely in H.R. 2975, 105th Cong., 1st Sess., which is a conceptual and technical landmark despite the fact that it was not enacted. He is also the draftsman of the America's Private Investment Companies Act bill, H.R. 2764 and S. 1565, 106th Cong., 1st Sess., which is part of the Clinton administration's New Markets Initiative. Mr. Polsby has also been one of the participants in the drafting of almost all HUD legislation during the past 20 years, and more recently, as Associate General Counsel, has supervised the legislation and regulations functions within the Office of General Counsel at HUD.

In transition to new duties, Mr. Polsby served briefly, for the second time in his career, as acting General Counsel of HUD. He became HUD's Associate General Counsel for Appeals in September.

After a few years in private practice, Allen I. Polsby started his civil service career in 1963 as a trial lawyer at the Civil Aeronautics Board. While there, he tried several formal cases and argued appeals to the 5-member Board, but his most lasting impact has come from an informal matter before the Board. The matter was whether to approve a senior citizens discount fare tariff. Eighty years of consistent precedent made by Federal transportation regulatory agencies, including the CAB, supported disapproval. Mr. Polsby proposed a reinterpretation of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 that supplied a sound legal basis for approving the discount fares tariff. The CAB approved the fares on that basis, and other regulatory agencies soon followed in approving senior citizen discounts under their jurisdictions.

Mr. Polsby first came to HUD in 1966, and served his apprenticeship as a legislative draftsman under the tutelage of the established master, Hilbert Fefferman. Mr. Polsby also worked in the office of program counsel for the Model Cities Program and the Government National Mortgage Association, and in many other capacities at HUD over the years.

Allen I. Polsby is a graduate of Brown University and the George Washington University

Law School. He is married to Gail K. Polsby, a private psychotherapist and long-time faculty member at the Washington School of Psychiatry. The now live in Bethesda, MD. Their two children are adults—Dan, a lawyer named for his long-deceased grandfather, and Abigail, a professional wilderness guide.

Mr. Speaker, Allen Polsby has had significant opportunities in his career to contribute to the development of public and legal policy. He has made the most of these opportunities to improve housing policy and develop innovative legal doctrine. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

ABILITIES EMPLOYMENT MONTH

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is characteristic of the people of my district to look for and find humor in adversity; to prompt a smile from those who grieve, or to laugh in the midst of misfortune. We have learned, over many generations, through a long history of natural and man-made disasters, that laughter indeed is the best medicine. Now, as the rest of the nation observes the month of October as National Disabilities Month, we in Guam continue to look on the bright side, as is our nature, and have proclaimed this month "Abilities Employment Month," with the theme "Think Abilities . . . Employ Abilities."

The Guam Developmental Disabilities Council, the University of Guam's University Affiliated Programs on Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and the non-profit organizations which provide services to persons with disabilities are working together to sponsor and coordinate an impressive schedule of events and activities to promote awareness, understanding and the need as well as the benefits of employing the abilities of our families, friends and neighbors who are disabled in some way. The Governor of Guam issued a proclamation stating that, "Guam cannot afford, either morally or financially, to lose the contributions of persons with disabilities in the workplace or in our community at large." The proclamation further states, "October is set aside to help our community recognize the tremendous value and potential that people with disabilities have to commit and dedicate ourselves to their full empowerment, integration employment. . . ."

To this end, numerous activities are planned. These include Pre-employment Workshops, which focus on pre-employment skills, personal hygiene, resume preparation, application and interview skills and interpersonal relationships in the workplace; Consumer Employment Workshops, to promote consumer knowledge of employment opportunities, accessing employment services and entrepreneurship; Employer Power Workshops to increase job opportunities and expand employer placement skills with emphasis on sensitivity, provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), successful job accommodations and performing job analyses. Additionally, Guam System for Assistive Technology will hold an open house; there will be

a legislative forum with policymakers on employment issues; a job fair at Guam's One-Stop Employment Center; and "A Day in the Life" sensitivity activity in which able people experience what it is like to have a disability.

An island-wide call for nominations of persons and organizations who exemplified superior performance in the workplace was conducted. The winners were recognized at an Awards Ceremony with Guam's Lieutenant Governor presenting the awards. It gives me great pleasure at this time to recognize, congratulate and commend the winners as well. For superior performance in the workplace as a Public Sector Employee, Ms. Catherine P. Leon Guerrero of the Department of Revenue and Taxation; for superior performance in the workplace as a Private Sector Employee, Mr. Joel E. Oyardo of Atkins Kroll, Inc.; and for superior performance in the workplace as an Employee of a Non-Profit Organization, Mr. Elipido Agaran of Goodwill Industries. The Department of Revenue & Taxation took the Outstanding Public Sector Employer Award; Citizens Security Bank won the Outstanding Private Sector Employer Award and the Outstanding Non-profit Organization Employer Award was given to Goodwill Industries of Guam. Also to be commended are the planners of this year's "Think Abilities . . . Employ-Abilities" Month: the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council, the University of Guam's University Affiliated Programs on Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities, Goodwill Guam and Guma' Mami. Maulek che'cho' miyu para todo I maninutet na taotao Guam, Si Yu'os ma'ase hamyo todos.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor today to recognize all Americans, and especially those at Carrollton Elementary School, participating in "Make A Difference Day," October 23rd.

Make A Difference Day is America's most encompassing national day of helping others; a celebration of neighbor helping neighbor; friend helping friend; young helping old; old helping young; teacher helping student; employer helping employee; stranger helping stranger. With the generous support of many private sponsors, nearly two million people now set aside the fourth Saturday in October for assisting others in their communities.

At Carrollton Elementary School, in the 7th district of Georgia, Principal Kathy Howell and Associate Principal Anita Buice have spearheaded an excellent, day-long campaign enabling parents and students to improve their school; including projects such as constructing educational materials and planting flowers in the schoolyard.

I would like to commend Principal Howell, Associate Principal Buice, and the students and parents of Carrollton Elementary School for their outstanding efforts; and I know they will work for a better community, not just on Make A Difference Day, but every day of their lives. Grassroots volunteer efforts such as

this, will continue to strength America's communities, and thereby keep America strong well into the 21st Century.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 522, I was late arriving on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CAMERA AND BASKETBALL HOOPS HELP BRIDGE CULTURAL GAP BETWEEN WEST VIRGINIANS AND PALESTINIANS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to submit for the RECORD an article which appeared in the Beckley, WV, Register-Herald, on October 17, 1999.

As you will note from reading this article, 10 men from Beckley and 2 from Huntington, WV, representing the Memorial Baptist Church and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes recently visited Gaza and the West Bank in the Middle East, where they used some very common skills to build friendships with Palestinians.

The Reverend Paul Blizzard, who lead the group on the mission to Gaza and the West Bank, said that his visit was to show their love for the Palestinian people and to extend a helping hand in any way they could. And they did so in a most astonishing but effective manner—with a camera and basketball hoops. Aided by Bernard Bostick, coach at the Beckley-Stratton Junior High School, and Mike White, area director of the fellowship of Christian athletes, the West Virginians worked with basketball camps to help the youths develop their sports emphasis.

While the language barrier was present—West Virginians don't speak Arabic as a rule, and few Palestinians speak English—they found hand signals often worked just as well as words—and learned all over again that kids are kids and people are people no matter where they are when it comes to sports.

The camera was wielded by Rod Carney who owns the Grace Book Store in Beckley, and John Brown, a computer specialist with the Mine Safety and Health Administration in Mount Hope, WV, who took pictures of the basketball games and of families. Mr. Carney noted that "family is very important in Palestine, and they don't have any way of getting pictures made of themselves. Many families have been separated and it means a lot to them to have family portraits made or to even have individual pictures of family members." The film will be developed in Huntington and the photos sent to the Baptist workers in the West Bank for distribution among the families.

Reverend Blizzard noted that "there is so much bad press and misleading information about Palestinians. We see all the rock-throwing and terrorism and are led to believe those acts characterize the people there. It just is

not true. The Palestinian people are the most hospitable, loving people you would ever want to meet."

One of the highlights of the trip was the personal meeting with President Yasir Arafat during the visit. There was a prayer, and an exchange of gifts, with President Arafat giving the group a Nativity set with the inscription Bethlehem 2000 as a gift from Gaza, and the West Virginia group gave the President a gift of the world-famous West Virginia Glass, a Bible and a West Virginia Lapel Pin from Governor Cecil Underwood. President Arafat told the group they would be welcome again anytime they desire to visit Palestine.

It was my pleasure to personally convey Rev. Blizzard's request to me to help arrange for a personal meeting with President Arafat. I was able to hand the request to President Arafat in person during his recent visit to Washington.

It is Christian efforts such as those carried out by Rev. Blizzard and his group from the Beckley and Huntington Baptist Church and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes that can help us put an end to the mindless stereotyping of Palestinians and others of Arab-descent as bomb-throwing terrorists. I know Rev. Blizzard will continue his missionary work in Palestine in the years to come.

As the Representative of Rev. Blizzard and the other 11 members of his group who made the trip, I am very proud to insert the newspaper article describing his experience in Palestine in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

TEN MEN FROM BECKLEY, TWO FROM HUNTINGTON, USED SKILLS TO BUILD FRIENDSHIPS WITH PALESTINIANS

(By Bev Davis)

A Beckley group used a basketball, a camera to build friendships in another part of the world.

The Rev. Paul Blizzard, pastor of Memorial Baptist Church in Beckley, used contacts from previous trips to the Middle East to arrange a 12-day visit to Gaza and the West Bank, where 10 men from Beckley and two from Huntington used some special skills to build friendships with Palestinians there.

"There is so much bad press and misleading information about Palestinians. We see all of the rock-throwing and terrorism and are led to believe those acts characterize the people there. It just is not true. The Palestinians we met are the most hospitable, loving people you would ever want to meet," Blizzard said.

The American team took gifts of food, shoes, sports equipment and T-shirts.

"We gave over 100 pairs of shoes to a doctor who will distribute them in a Bedouin camp in Gaza. The people are very poor there. The shoes will enable the doctor to get people to come to the clinic for vaccinations and other medical services," Blizzard said.

The group also organized a three-fold plan to provide several services to their Palestinian hosts.

Bernard Bostick, a coach at Beckley-Stratton Junior High School, and Mike White, area director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, prepared themselves to work in basketball camps, teaching new skills and helping the Palestinians develop their sports emphasis.

"We met with a group of kids who didn't speak much English, and we didn't know Arabic, but when the balls started to bounce, there was one language," White said. "We used hand signals to explain techniques, and the expressions on the faces of the players told us immediately they were pleased with

new moves they learned from Bernie. Kids are kids, and people are people, no matter where they are. We had a wonderful opportunity to get to know these groups, and it was hard to leave."

A Baptist group arranged for Rod Carney, owner of Grace Book Store in Beckley and John Brown, a computer specialist with the Mine Safety and Health Administration in Mount Hope, to take pictures of people living in the West Bank.

"Family is very important there, and they don't have any way of getting pictures made. A lot of families have been separated, and it means a lot to them to have family portraits made or to even have individual pictures of family members," Carney said.

He shot 16 rolls of film and sent them to Huntington, where a photo shop will develop the photographs at no charge and send them back for Baptist workers in the West Bank to distribute to the families there.

"We were in homes of people who had very little, and yet they always welcomed us warmly and offered us food and beverages. We knew sometimes they were offering us all they had. We were all deeply touched by their hospitality," Carney said.

"When people asked us why we came, we told them we believe God wanted us to go there to show our love for the Palestinian people and to extend a hand to help them in any way we could," Brown said.

Huntington Audiologist Tom Waybright accompanied the group and did volunteer work in a school for the hearing-impaired.

"This was a unique opportunity to learn more about the people and to provide a service for them," Blizzard said. "Everywhere we went, people were so appreciative and they just treated us like family."

One unexpected highlight was the opportunity to meet with Palestinian National Authority President Yasser Arafat and exchange greetings and gifts with him, Blizzard added.

"Through the efforts of Abu Tariq, the president's personal representative, our whole group was invited into the national headquarters to meet him. We talked with him and prayed with him. We gave him gifts from Gov. Cecil Underwood's office—lapel pins in the shape of the state of West Virginia and a piece of glass from our state. The president gave us a Nativity set with the inscription 'Bethlehem 2000'. One of our men gave him a Bible. It was quite an experience for all of us," Blizzard said.

"It was reported the next day that Arafat enjoyed our visit very much and he sent word that we are welcome again," Blizzard said.

Several of the men said they would like to go back.

"We have made wonderful friends in the Middle East and are eager to see them again. We have come to love the Palestinian people, and we look forward to our return there," Blizzard said.

TRIBUTE TO ARTURO RODRIGUEZ

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my close friend, Arturo Rodriguez, who has been the president of the United Farm Workers since 1993. Arturo assumed the presidency of the UFW following the death of the organization's founder, Cesar Chavez. Although no one could ever replace Cesar

Chavez, just as no one could ever replace Martin Luther King, those of us who care deeply about the UFW and the plight of farmworkers have been tremendously impressed by Arturo's leadership and accomplishments these past 6 years.

Under Arturo's direction, the UFW won 16 straight secret-ballot elections—most by big margins—and signed 21 new contracts with growers. He also organized some highly publicized, well-attended marches on behalf of the UFW. The marchers always include many teenagers too young to have personal memories of Cesar Chavez, but eager to continue the work of the UFW.

When he was a teenager living in San Antonio, TX, in the mid 1960's, Arturo first heard from his parish priest about Cesar Chavez and the burgeoning UFW. Inspired by the struggle, Arturo became an active supporter of the farmworkers. At the University of Michigan in 1971, for example, Arturo organized support for UFW boycotts.

In 1973, Arturo met Cesar Chavez, which changed his life in two ways. For one, he joined the UFW, working for two decades to plot and implement strategy. The second was a bonus: Arturo met and fell in love with Linda Chavez, Cesar's daughter. The couple were married in 1974 at La Paz, the UFW's headquarters near Bakersfield, CA. Today Arturo and Linda live at La Paz with their three children.

Prior to becoming its president, Arturo worked on many key issues for the UFW. In 1975, Arturo helped organize union representation elections in the Salinas Valley, including the UFW campaign at Moler Packing Co.—the artichoke ranch where the first election under the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act took place. Two years later, he organized union elections in Imperial Valley vegetable fields and Ventura County citrus orchards.

From May through September 1992, Arturo coordinated UFW help for grape workers walking off their jobs in the largest Coachella and San Joaquin Valley vineyard demonstrations in 20 years. He became president in May 1993, a few weeks after the death of Cesar Chavez.

Arturo has renewed UFW's presence both in the fields and in the halls of government. In Sacramento and in Washington, he joins our struggle to prevent the restoration of the discredited and disgraced bracero program.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Arturo Rodriguez, whose lifelong commitment to civil rights and economic justice inspires us all. I am proud to be his friend and to fight by his side against further exploitation of America's farmworkers.

UNVEILING OF STAMPS HONORING THE UNITED STATES SUBMARINE FORCE ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate members of the United States Submarine Force as the U.S. Postal Service unveils a series of stamps which pay tribute to

the Force for "A Century of Service to America." Earlier today, I was privileged to join the Postal Service, the U.S. Navy and veterans from across eastern Connecticut in introducing these stamps, which commemorate the Centennial of the Submarine Force. In this series, we can witness the stunning progress we have made from the Navy's first submarine—the U.S.S. *Holland*—to the *Ohio* and *Los Angeles* Class submarines of the late Twentieth century. However, these stamps honor much more than technological prowess. They remind us of the selfless service of tens of thousands of veterans who patrolled the depths of the world's oceans guaranteeing victory over tyranny and security for all Americans.

"A Century of Service to America" is a fitting theme for the Submarine Force. "A Century" recognizes the magnitude of the anniversary. Nearly a century ago, the Navy took ownership of its first submarine, the U.S.S. *Holland*. Since then, 648 submarines have entered the force—nearly half of which have been built in Groton, Connecticut, also known as the "Submarine Capital of the World." Our submarines have become technological marvels, the crown jewels of our nation's fleet. Consider how far we've come: the mighty *Ohio* class submarines are nearly as wide as the *Holland* was long! Today, our best and brightest are working to get the next generations of submarines, the *Seawolf* and *Virginia* Class subs, into the fleet. These will be the quietest and the most advanced submarines ever launched giving their crews an almost limitless range of new capabilities.

"Service" is a tribute to our submariners who risked their lives, everyone who supported their efforts, and the men and women who designed and built five generations of submarines. Over the past one hundred years, 400,000 men and women have either served aboard submarines or provided mission support. Over 3,500 veterans of the Submarine Force have made the supreme sacrifice for their country. Veterans of the Submarine Force during World War II paid the highest price in lives lost. Admiral Chester A. Nimitz, a submariner himself before he led the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during the Second World War, said: "It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of great peril."

In southeastern Connecticut, we also know that the men and women of Electric Boat serve their country. They design and build some of the most sophisticated machines the world has ever known. Members of the Submarine Force have been so successful in safeguarding our nation in part because of the craftsmanship and hard work of generations of EB employees.

Finally, we focus on what the Submarine Force means to America. It turned the tide in the Pacific during the Second World War accounting for fifty five percent of all enemy shipping destroyed while comprising only two percent of all Naval forces. During the Cold War, the "Forty-One for Freedom" *Polaris/Poseidon* and succeeding *Trident* submarines ensured that our nation would never be the target of nuclear aggression. Daring intelligence missions provided a clear picture of the capabilities and the goals of the Soviets and other nations which threatened our national interests. As Secretary of Defense Cohen said in urging the Postal Service to honor this anniversary, "the peaceful end to

45 years of confrontation is the modern legacy of the Submarine Force."

Mr. Speaker, America owes a great debt to the members of the Submarine Force—past and present. A series of stamps is a small gesture of a thankful nation to honor their service, their sacrifice, and their role in guaranteeing that successive generations of Americans have been able to enjoy the freedoms that make this country the greatest nation on earth.

EXCEL PROGRAM FOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM EMPLOYEES

HON. ROBERT A UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the governor of Guam, Carl T.C. Gutierrez, acknowledges the hard work of government of Guam employees. The governor's employee recognition program, better known as the Excel Program, is the highest and most competitive employee awards bestowed by the governor. This program showcases the outstanding employees and programs within the government of Guam.

Over 60 governmental agencies and departments participate in this program. Awardees are chosen within each department's nominees for 55 occupational groups. These groups range from clerical to labor and trades to professional and technical positions. The various awards reflect individual and group performance, valor, sports, community service, cost savings, and integrity.

My sincerest congratulations go to this year's awardees. I urge them to keep up the good work. I am pleased to submit for the RECORD the names of this year's outstanding employees.

INSPIRATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD

Small Dept./Agency: Lucina Leon Guerrero, Vocational Rehabilitation Worker, DISID

Medium Dept./Agency: Lt. Kenneth R. Paulino, Customs and Quarantine Officer Supervisor, Customs and Quarantine Agency

Large Dept./Agency: Eulalia Harui-Walsh, Social Worker II, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

SILENT ONES

Small Dept./Agency: Mary J. Sebastian, Administrative Services Officer, Military Affairs

Medium Dept./Agency: Gerard V. Aflague, Customs and Quarantine Officer III, Customs and Quarantine Agency

Large Dept./Agency: Susie B. Reyes-Wells, Administrative Assistant, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

Community Service—Annie P. Roberto, Program Coordinator III, DPHSS

Female Athlete of the Year—Arleen M. Sahagon, Electric Meter Reader Supervisor, Guam Power Authority

Male Athlete of the Year—Kenneth Rios, Control Operator, Guam Power Authority

Sports Team of the Year—Guam Customs Golf Team, Customs and Quarantine Agency

Livesaving—Lillian S.N. Opena, Employment Program Administrator, Department of Labor

Integrity—Diogenes L. Tamondong, International Auditor, Guam Power Authority

MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Small Dept./Agency: Bernard Punzalan, Administrator and Operations Manager, Guam Economic Development Authority

Medium Dept./Agency: Lillian S.N. Opena, Employment Program Administrator, Department of Labor

Large Dept. Agency: Daniel P. Astroga, Personnel Services Administrator, Department of Administration

COST SAVINGS/INNOVATIVE IDEA OF THE YEAR

Small Dept./Agency: Vera L.F. Dela Crus, Word Processing Secretary II, Military Affairs

Medium Dept./Agency: Mary A. Kolski, Chemical Dependency Treatment Specialist III, Department of Corrections

Large Dept./Agency: Bradley A. Hokanson, Program Coordinator IV, Guam Police Department

PROJECT/PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

Small Dept./Agency: Guam Big Summer Festival Street Party, Guam Visitors Bureau

Medium Dept./Agency: Youth & Family Outreach Program, GHURA

Large Dept./Agency: Liheng Famagu'on, Department of Education

UNIT OF THE YEAR

Small Dept./Agency: Division of Support Services, DISID

Medium Dept./Agency: Guam-Hawaii Medical Referral Office, Governor's Office

Large Dept./Agency: Building Construction & Facility Maintenance, DPW

DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR

Small Dept./Agency: Guam Economic Development Agency

Medium Dept./Agency: Department of Youth Affairs

Large Dept./Agency: Department of Public Works

Recognition of Former Outstanding Employee—Ana Artero, Library Technician II, Department of Education

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

General Clerical: Cheryl B. Peralta, Clerk III, DPHSS

Typing & Secretarial: Jessica Q. Chong, Word Processing Secretary II, Customs & Quarantine Agency

Keypunch & Computer Operations: Johns A. P. Borja, Teleprocessing Network Coordinator, GTA

Office Management & Miscellaneous Administrative: Mercy Santiago, Administrative Assistant, Guam Economic Development Authority

Real Estate Registration and Taxation: Francisco T. Cepeda, Land Agent II, DPW

Purchasing, Surplus Property, Supply & Related: Velma L. Camacho, Buyer I, UOG

General Administration & Management Systems Analysis: Deborah Chu, Research Officer, Guam Economic Development Authority

Program Administration: Bernard Lastimoza, Program Coordinator I, GHURA

Accounting & Fiscal: Mary A. Mantanona, Accounting Technician II, AHRD

Personnel Administration, Equal Employment & Public Information: Grace O. Garces, Public Information Officer, Guam EPA

Computer Programming & Analysis: Patricia C. Dulla, Programmer/Analyst I, GPA

Community & Social Services: Rosemarie D. Nanpie, Social Worker III, Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Counseling Psychology & Related: Mary Korski, Chemical Dependency Treatment Specialist III, DOC

Employment & Service Related: June R. San Nicolas, Employment Development Worker II, AHRD

Library Science & Related: Roque Iriarte, Library Technician II, UOG

Public Safety: Joseph R. Meno, Police Officer II, GPD

Security & Correction: Tommy King Corrections Officer I, DOC

Technical & Professional Engineering: Roselle Guarin, Engineer I, Guam EPA

Planning: Edwin G. Aranza, Planner II, Guam EPA

Wildlife, Biology, Agricultural Science & Related: Victor P. Camacho, Biologist I, Department of Commerce

Laboratory Services: Victoria Cinco, Hospital Laboratory Technician III, Guam Memorial Authority

Crime Scene & Related Technical: Monica P. Ada, Criminalist I, GPD

Nursing & Dental Hygiene: Jennifer Rosario, Staff Nurse II, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

Custodial: Andres S. Bautista, Maintenance Custodian, DPW

Equipment Operation & Related: Francis G. Salas, Equipment Operator Leader, GPA

Mechanical and Metal Trades: John S. Angoco, Auto Mechanic II, DPW

Building Trades: Joe Antonio, Maintenance, DYA

Power System Electrical: Jose S.N. Cruz, Substation Electrician II, GPA

Plant Operations: Gregorio T. Quitano, Plant Maintenance Mechanic II, GPA

Electronics and Related Technical: Shane Hernandez, Electronic Technician II, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority.

SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

Keypunch & Computer Operations: Christian Quitugua, Computer Operations Supervisor, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

Office Management & Miscellaneous Administrative: R. Gregory Sablan, Loan Officer, Guam Economic Development Authority

Real Estate Registration & Taxation: Sharon C. Rodriguez, Acting Deputy Civil Registrar, Department of Land Management

General Administration & Management Systems Analysis: Cecilia D. Javier, Administrative Officer, Department of Public Works

Program Administration: Robert R. Kelley, Program Coordinator IV, Department of Public Health & Social Services

Accounting & Fiscal: Reynaldo I. Dayson, General Accounting Supervisor, Guam Power Authority

Youth Services & Related: Alber Buendicho, Youth Service Supervisor, Department of Youth Affairs

Public Safety: Bonnie A. C. Suba, Police Sergeant I, Guam Police Department

Security & Correction: June D. P. Aguon, Correction Supervisor II, Department of Corrections

Technical & Professional Engineering: Perlita L. Sugang, Engineer II (Acting Engineer Supervisor), Department of Public Works

Planning: Jordan Kaye, Chief Planner, Guam Environmental Protection Agency

Laboratory Services: Glendalyn Pangelinan, Hospital Laboratory Technician III, Guam Memorial Hospital Authority

Crime Scene & Related Technical: Rose M. A. Fejeran, Criminalist III, Guam Police Department

Nursing & Dental Hygiene: Melinda Treluas, Community Health Nurse Supervisor I, Department of Public Health & Social Services

Labor, Grounds & Maintenance: Eleanor F. Borja, Solid Waste Management Assistant Superintendent, Department of Public Works

Equipment Operation & Related: Benny C. Salas, Cargo Checker Supervisor, Port Authority of Guam

Mechanical and Metal Trades: Vicente C. San Nicolas, Heavy Equipment Supervisor, Department of Public Works

Building Trades: Silvester T. Mendiola, Painter Supervisor, DPW

Power System Electrical: Norman P. Mesa, Line Electrician Supervisor, Guam Power Authority

Plant Operations: Bartolome Abuan, Plant Shift Supervisor, Guam Power Authority

Merit Cup Leader Award: The best of the best among the outstanding Supervisors & Managers of the Year:

Daniel P. Astorgen, Personnel Services Administrator, Department of Administration

Merit Cup Employee Award: The best of the best among the outstanding Employees of the Year:

Joseph R. Meno, Police Officer II, Guam Police Department

**HIGH PERFORMANCE SCHOOLS
ACT OF 1999**

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the High Performance Schools Act of 1999, a bill intended to help school districts build schools that provide better learning environments for children, while also saving on energy costs and protecting the environment.

I am pleased that my colleague GEORGE MILLER is joining me as an original cosponsor of this bill.

Many of you know about my interest in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. These technologies further our national goals of broad-based economic growth, environmental protection, national security, and economic competitiveness.

In recent years, we've seen a wide array of successes in developing these technologies. In particular, much research has focused on improving energy efficiency and increasing the use of renewable energy in building in a "whole building" approach to design and construction. By incorporating advanced energy efficiency technologies, daylighting, and renewable energy, "whole buildings" provide benefits in the way of energy savings, environmental protection, and economic efficiency. As buildings account for roughly a third of our annual energy consumption and a commensurate share of greenhouse gas emissions, this research focus seems well justified.

The bill I am introducing today—the "High Performance Schools Act of 1999"—takes the concept of "whole buildings" and puts it into the context of our schools. My bill would establish a program in the Department of Education to help school districts produce "high performance" school buildings. It would provide block grants to state offices to education and energy, via state Governors, that they would then provide to school districts for building design and technical assistance. These grants would be available to school districts that are faced with rising elementary and secondary school enrollments, that can't afford to make major investments in construction or renovation, and that commit to work with the state agencies to produce school facilities that incorporate a "high performance" building approach.

The time is ripe for improving the way we build our schools. This country is currently experiencing a dramatic increase in student enrollment due to the "baby boom echo." The children of the baby boom generation. During the 20 years from 1989 to 2009, this Nation is

being asked to educate an additional 8.3 million children. At the same time, over 70 percent of our Nation's schools were built before 1960 and are now in need of major repairs.

Visiting schools in the 2nd Congressional District in Colorado, I have seen firsthand the spaces in which our children are learning and growing. Many districts can't afford sorely needed remodeling or construction of new schools, while others are scrambling to address severe overcrowding issues. And we aren't alone: School enrollment in Colorado increased by 70,000 students in the last five years. While new schools open at or above capacity, enrollment is projected to grow in Colorado by 120,000 in the next decade.

Clearly, there's an urgent need for school construction—in Colorado and in every state across the country. Thousands of communities nationwide red even now in the process of building new schools and renovating existing ones. But in drawing up construction plans, schools often focus on short-term construction costs instead of long-term, life-cycle savings. My bill would help ensure that school districts have the tools and assistance they need to make good building decisions.

High performance schools are a win for energy savings and a win for the environment, but best of all, they are also a win for student performance. A growing number of studies link student achievement and behavior to the physical building conditions. A study from Mississippi State University, for example, showed that in schools in North Carolina, Texas and Nevada, variables such as natural light and climate control played a role in improved test scores, higher moral and fewer discipline problems.

We wouldn't dream of just putting typewriters in these new schools—we would install today's computer technology. Nor should we build yesterday's "energy inefficient," non-sustainable, and less effective schools. Our kids are our country's future, and they should have the best school facilities, especially if they will cost less and benefit us all in other ways.

In short, we have an enormous opportunity to build a new generation of sustainable schools, schools that incorporate the best of today's designs and technologies and as a result provide better learning environments for our children, cost less to operate, and help protect our local and global environment. The High Performance Schools Act would start us on the road to achieving these goals. I look forward to working with Mr. MILLER and other Members of the House to move forward with this important initiative.

RED RIBBON WEEK

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor today to recognize youth throughout the nation, and especially in the seventh district of Georgia, who will be celebrating "Red Ribbon Week," from October 23rd to 31st.

In 1985, the first Red Ribbon Week was held shortly after the tragic murder of Drug Enforcement Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. Now, small towns and large cities across

America take part in Red Ribbon Week, a seven-day observance promoting drug-free communities. The message during this week is simple, "just say no to drugs." The vibrant red ribbons tied around flagpoles, street signs and school yard fences remind us together we can do something about drugs and drug abuse in our communities.

Sponsored by the National Family Partnership and observed by numerous other public service organizations, Red Ribbon Week has grown from its humble beginnings in memory of Camarena's tragic death, into a national movement against drugs and drug abuse. In communities everywhere the week is observed through rallies, lectures, essay contests and other awareness activities.

In a period such as this, where pro-drug referenda are being voted on and some public officials are calling out in favor of drug legalization, it is truly outstanding that our young people are uniting to show they still know what is right: staying away from drugs. I commend all of the young people participating in Red Ribbon Week, as well as other anti-drug activities, for taking an interest in improving their lives and their communities, now and for the future. If we are to ever win the War on Drugs, grassroots efforts such as this are surely where we must start . . . and stay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 523, I was late arriving on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

OPPOSITION TO THE NORWOOD-DINGELL INSURANCE REGULATION LEGISLATION

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise in reluctant opposition to the Norwood-Dingell health insurance regulation legislation. I have listened to my colleagues and constituents to learn all I could before casting my vote. Although I am convinced that something needs to be done to redress a health insurance system that is out of balance, I have several concerns that could not be allayed.

Norwood-Dingell properly expands the ability of patients to recover damages from health care plans in court. The current bar to recovery of any damages against a health plan is inappropriate. Those plans that act negligently or are found guilty of medical malpractice should be held accountable as any medical professional would be. Norwood-Dingell, however, would open the gates to these types of suits too broadly.

Had the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Representative HOUGHTON, the gentleman from New York, been adopted by the House, I would have voted for Norwood-Dingell on final passage. That common sense amendment would have ensured that

employers and directors would not have to worry about liability except in very rare cases. Under the vague language of Norwood-Dingell, however, there is uncertainty. Uncertainty is always a breeding ground for lawsuits, and the result would be their employers willing to provide health care to working families. Had Mr. HOUGHTON's substitute passed, the bill would have had all the protection and access provisions of the Norwood-Dingell bill, but lawsuits would have been limited in a reasonable way.

I also support the same common sense limits on suits against doctors and other professionals that have forced malpractice insurance to skyrocket, doctors to practice "defensive medicine" and raise everyone's costs, forcing even insurance companies to raise prices and reduce quality of care. Doctors should not have any greater liability than insurance companies and they also need help redressing the balance of power that is now tilted too heavily towards insurance companies, which is why I am a cosponsor of legislation such as H.R. 1304, a bill that would allow doctors to come together when dealing with health insurers.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, we need to do more to protect patients and give doctors the freedom to treat their patients using their sound medical judgment as the yardstick rather than an insurance company's bottom line. Still, there are now more Americans without health insurance than there were just a few short years ago and we need to make sure that we don't raise health care costs more than necessary. I would note that the Congressional Budget Office has not done a cost estimate of this bill as required by the Unfunded Mandates Act and that none of us really know how much costs will increase and how many of our constituents will lose their health coverage. Before passing a bill that will affect nearly every American, I think we owe it to them to find out.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRANK E. MATTHEWS, JR.

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank E. Matthews for his tremendous work for the River Cities Combined Federal Campaign, his many years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as the leadership and generosity that he has shown toward the City of Huntington and the State of West Virginia as a whole.

At the Huntington District Corps of Engineers, Frank serves as executive officer to the district engineer—a position that he has held for 19 years. He adds much needed continuity and leadership to this constantly changing field.

Despite his many responsibilities to the Army Corps, Frank still makes time for worthy causes such as the River Cities Combined Federal Campaign, where he has served as coordinator since 1966. Frank has been described as the glue that holds the River Cities' CFC campaign together. Always modest, Frank refuses to take credit for the campaign's success—preferring to attribute the success to his coworkers' generosity. However, his internal auditing system is one of the many ideas

that has turned the annual fund-raising drive into such a success. It gives the fundraiser credibility while assuring donors that their money is spent appropriately. The auditing system allows Frank to track funded agencies and ensure that money is spent properly. Anyone at anytime can look at the report to see where the money is going. Initiatives such as the auditing system explain how the River Cities' campaign has grown and blossomed into a highly successful fund-raising drive under Frank's leadership. Just last year, Corps of Engineers employees donated \$32,000 to the River Cities' CFC campaign, or almost 40 percent, to the campaign's overall total of \$82,608.

In addition to his official responsibilities, Frank is very active in his hometown community of Huntington, West Virginia and his list of activities reads like a Who's Who of area organizations. He is a member of the American Legion Post 16, the Elks and Rotary Clubs, the Huntington Museum of Art, the Marshall University Alumni Association, the Southside Neighborhood Association, and is a past commandant of the 340 Marine Corps League. He has also served on the board of directors of the Region II Mental Health Association, the Boy Scouts of America Tri-State Area Council, and the Huntington Jaycees.

I have had the privilege of knowing Frank for many years. I consider him a dear friend and am honored to have worked with him on behalf of West Virginia. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Frank's wife, Jewell, his three married daughters, Maureen, Samantha, and Juliet, as well as his son, Matt, for sharing Frank with all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Frank on all of his hard work for West Virginia and the United States. He is truly a model of generosity and the epitome of a public servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on October 21st, I was unavoidably detained from casting rollcall votes 522, 523, 524, and 525.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 522, "aye" on rollcall vote 523, "no" on rollcall vote 524, and "aye" on rollcall vote 525.

TRIBUTE TO B.T. COLLINS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to B.T. Collins. The date of November 6, 1999 will see the dedication of the B.T. Collins Army Reserve Training Center, currently under construction at the old Sacramento Army Depot. Because of this great honor, I ask all of my

colleagues to join me in acknowledgment of this event.

This twenty million-dollar facility will provide training for 1,200–1,400 soldiers each month. These men and women will receive training in field medical surgical hospital techniques, field mess preparations, high tech communications, and other basic or advanced military occupational specialty training.

The lobby of this new training center will house the B.T. Collins Museum. This will provide a permanent home for many of the historical photographs, letters, uniforms, and other paraphernalia that B.T. Collins had collected throughout his Army and political careers. His sisters and friends will donate much of the collection. They will also work closely with the military and the builders to insure that the museum will reflect B.T. Collins' love of country, family and community service.

On this extraordinary day, perhaps the most notable event will be the dedication of a bust of B.T. Collins to be placed at the entrance of this important facility. The artist, Garr Ugalde has been commissioned to create the bust, and he has presented a preliminary wax model of his work that amazingly captures B.T. Collins in his green beret. This bust will be donated by his family and friends.

B.T. Collins' friends and family made a promise that they would not allow his memory, patriotism, ideals, and contribution to his country to be forgotten. This memorial is one way to make good on that promise. It is their sincere hope that this museum will inspire soldiers to emulate the ideals that B.T. Collins espoused.

Mr. Speaker, as the friends and family of B.T. Collins gather to celebrate this landmark event, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most outstanding citizens. B.T. Collins' contributions to his community, state, and country are commendable. I am sincerely pleased that this museum and monument to this great man will preserve his memory for generations. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing B.T. Collins and his family continued success in all their endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE FIRST ANNUAL NATIONAL RAISE THE ROOF DAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, yesterday President Clinton signed the HUD–VA appropriations bill into law providing housing assistance to many impoverished Americans. Unfortunately, while this bill is an improvement over the initial House passed spending levels, it does not go far enough to address the needs of homeless individuals, tenants living in expiring Section 8 properties or distressed public housing, and impoverished communities. To ensure that our government has the political will to invest adequately in housing assistance, we need to raise public consciousness about the unmet housing and community development needs and educate the public about the existing and proven programmatic and policy solutions that address these needs.

One recent step to educate, organize, and mobilize Americans in this direction took place last Saturday, October 16th, when more than 10,000 volunteers in 150 cities joined together for the first ever National Raise the Roof Day. Under Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Andrew Cuomo's leadership, they spent the day repairing and building homes. But they were also building something much bigger—a national awareness of one of the most pressing problems facing our nation, the need for safe, decent and affordable housing.

I would like to commend everyone who participated in this landmark event. In Washington, D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams, actress Sarah Jessica Parker, home improvement expert Bob Vila, and community volunteers joined Secretary Cuomo to repair homes in the Columbia Heights community. In my home state of California, more than 1,800 volunteers repaired or built new homes for families in fifteen cities and counties. Similar events took place throughout the nation—led by the nation's mayors, national non-profits, local community and faith based organizations, businesses, and impoverished Americans—themselves in need of affordable housing.

Secretary Cuomo convened this Raise the Roof Day for three simple but important reasons. First, while we live at a time of record economic strength, a record number of people are facing an affordable housing or home ownership crisis. There are still a record 5.3 million households with worst case housing needs, and two million units in need of major repairs. Despite a record home ownership rate, home ownership for minorities and in cities still lags behind.

Raise the Roof Day also showed us that there is something that we can do about this crisis. We are not helpless. We are not powerless, either as a nation, or as a community in confronting this challenge. Don't listen to those who say that nothing works. There are many programs that are making a difference. HUD's FHA is expanding home ownership with a record 1.3 million loans insured this year. HOPE VI grants are replacing the worst public housing with livable communities. Americans can take action to organize and mobilize for adequate investments in affordable housing.

And last year, in partnership with Congress, HUD won its best budget in a decade. And this year we've done it again—a significant budget increase for HUD, that includes 60,000 new affordable housing vouchers, more money for the homeless, and increases in funds for Fair Housing and public housing.

Finally, Raise the Roof Day celebrates the spirit of voluntarism—the spirit of community—that we need as a nation to tackle our toughest challenges. Government must provide the funds and the resources, but that's only part of the solution. It's when people come together to help their neighbors that we can really make a difference. That's how this country was built, and that's how we must take on this challenge as well.

Mr. Speaker, Raise the Roof Day was a rousing success. Americans need to become more involved in these events. This is an issue where we can really make a difference—and a cause that truly deserves our time and our energy. I look forward to similar events in the future.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER L. JOHNSON—FRIEND OF BAY AREA WORKING MEN AND WOMEN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary contributions of my dear friend, Walter L. Johnson, the Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Labor Council (AFL-CIO) and one of our nation's most devoted advocates for worker rights and progressive causes. A patriot, a crusader, and a man of genuine compassion and decency, Walter deserves the gratitude and appreciation of all of us who care about economic justice, civil rights, worker safety, and affordable health care.

Walter Johnson's life of community service began seventy-five years ago in the small town of Amenia, North Dakota. While still a teenager, he joined the United States Army and fought in World War II. At the conclusion of his military service, Walter moved to the Bay Area, where he met and married his wonderful wife Jane. They are the parents of three wonderful children. He also contributed his significant energies to his union—Local 1100 of the United Food & Commercial Workers Union (UFCW). Walter's talents as an organizer quickly became apparent to his colleagues in the UFCW, who selected him for a series of important positions in Local 1100—Business Agent in 1957, President in 1958 and Executive Officer in 1965.

Walter later was chosen to lead the San Mateo County Labor Council. It was while he served in this position that I first worked closely with him on issues of concern to working men and women in our area. Throughout these years and the decades that have followed, he developed a reputation as a fighter for the rights of working people and an articulate spokesman on critical issues affecting the Bay Area. On the basis of his outstanding record, Walter Johnson was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Labor Council on May 13, 1985, a position he still holds. There he has continued to fight for the causes to which he has devoted his life.

Mr. Speaker, whenever an injustice has been committed against any one of the Labor Council's 75,000 members, Walter Johnson can be found leading the crusade to right this wrong. When irresponsible corporations breach contracts or hire strikebreakers or operate sweatshops or discriminate against minorities or ignore worker safety laws, it is Walter who rallies San Francisco's working men and women to stand up against these injustices. It makes no difference whether the violated include truck drivers, bike messengers, hotel employees, teachers, or workers in any other profession—Walter is there, leading a picket line or rallying public opinion behind a just cause.

Walter Johnson's commitment to our nation's fundamental values extend well beyond defending the interests of the membership of the San Francisco Labor Council. He has worked, along with other leaders of the California Labor Federation (AFL-CIO), to educate citizens about matters that affect our diverse society in so many different areas: child labor, health care for young people and the under-

privileged, quality child care, human rights and the proliferation of sweatshops abroad, and the civil rights of women, minorities, and immigrants. Walter's principled activism has touched many lives, and I am grateful for it.

Walter's dedication to community service has benefitted the people of San Francisco in just every way imaginable. He has served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of the Bay Area, the Bay Area Economic Forum, the Nature Conservancy, the San Francisco Bay Area Girl Scouts Council, the Council for Civic Unity, the Shelter Network (which provides housing and assistance for the homeless), and a wealth of other civic, cultural, charitable, and educational institutions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying well-deserved tribute to Walter Johnson and in recognizing the exceptional contributions of this outstanding man, who has devoted his life to fighting for the interests and values of San Francisco's working men and women.

TRIBUTE TO THE ARMED GUARD

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of individuals whose dedicated service deserves recognition. It gives me great joy to offer my appreciation to the brave men of the Naval Armed Guard Service who protected the flow of supplies on the high seas during World Wars I and II.

Created as a branch of the United States Navy during World War I to maintain and operate weapons aboard merchant ships targeted by enemy vessels, the men of the Armed Guard served with unflappable courage as they ensured the safe passage of vital supplies to Europe. Over 144,900 men served in the Armed Guard on more than 6,000 ships. Nearly 2,000 of these brave men lost their lives in defense of freedom.

Crossing the ocean was a perilous, often horrific journey during both World Wars. Enemy submarines were not particular when targeting military or merchant vessels. The character and heroism of the men of the Armed Guard helped to make those voyages a little safer. Their job was not an easy one. Their lives on the sea consisted of hours of quiet punctuated by moments of terror that required strong nerves and courage.

It is said that it takes ten individuals to support one infantryman. The enemy knew that the key to an allied victory was the supply routes, and consequently attacked our merchant fleet mercilessly. It is obvious to me that without the valor exhibited by the Armed Guard, victory in both wars would have been indefinitely delayed.

This country owes a debt of gratitude to these brave men.

A TRIBUTE TO LUIS J. BOTIFOLL

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to commend Dr. Luis J.

Botifoll for being honored by The Association of Cuban Journalist's Board of Governors with its National Award for his years of work and dedication to expanding and protecting the rights of a free and open press.

Dr. Luis J. Botifoll, who once served as the Director of the Havana based newspaper "El Mundo," is being honored not only for his years of service to the Cuban people, but also for the leadership he has shown the world's free press in the face of the dictatorial regime of Fidel Castro.

Through the use of his eloquent articles and essays, Dr. Botifoll was able to bring a voice to a people who were denied the right to free press, by the dictatorship of Fidel Castro.

In recognition of his many achievements, I would like to applaud the hard-work and energy of Dr. Luis J. Botifoll. His dedication to the sanctity of free speech deserves all of our recognition and respect.

STATEMENT HONORING MR. BATISTA VIEIRA AND MRS. DOLORES VIEIRA

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate Mr. Batista Vieira and Mrs. Dolores Vieira on the 25th anniversary of their involvement with the Broadcast Radio Industry, a quarter-century tenure that has been marked by tremendous dedication and service to the Portuguese community in California. Because of their work, the Portuguese language, culture, traditions, and values have remained alive for the people of California in ways that would have been otherwise impossible.

For the last twenty-five years, Mr. and Mrs. Batista's "Portuguese Radio" has helped the "Portuguese of the Diaspora" living in my district and surrounding areas in Northern California to remain in close contact with the customs and lives of their friends and families in Portugal. "The Portuguese Radio" has impressed itself upon the daily lives of so many Portuguese immigrants because of the connection it brings to the nation many of these individuals still consider their cultural homeland; the sounds of Portugal broadcast over Portuguese Radio fill the homes and businesses of these people for countless hours of the day with sounds of the land they once knew, tying their old traditions and ways of life to the land that has newly become their adopted home.

Northern California, and particularly Santa Clara County, is a land of tremendous ethnic and cultural diversity, serving as it does as a home to immigrants from all areas of the globe. The cultural richness of this area is truly a result of the efforts of individuals such as Mr. and Mrs. Vieira who have worked through the Broadcast Radio Industry to preserve the beautiful traditions of Portugal in living form. The people of Northern California owe them a profound debt of gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF DALE DAVIS

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dale Davis of Delta, Alabama. Mr. Davis died of leukemia in July of this year, but his life is being celebrated on this date, October 25, 1999, at a meeting of the Clay County Hospital Board on which he served.

Dale Davis lived all of his life in Alabama. As an adult, he worked as a well driller. However, the real measure of a man is the influence he has on others. Dale Davis' "measure" came from his faith in God and his community involvement (most notably his service on the Clay County, Alabama, Hospital Board) as well as his devotion to his wife and two children. He was well thought of by all who knew him as evidenced by this special recognition.

Dale Davis' death at such a young age was tragic, but all who knew him rejoice in his life and offer our prayers and best wishes to his wife, son and daughter.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL PATRICK
COUGHLIN

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to remember a very dear friend and to mark the six month anniversary of his passing, April 23, 1999.

Paul Patrick Coughlin was an outstanding gentleman whose loyalty, warmth, and kindness touched the lives of many, many people in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Paul was a leader, tried and true. But Paul led with compassion. He lived every day of his life committed to improving his community, and to fostering opportunities not only for his own children and grandchildren, but for his neighbors through his tireless public service.

Paul served as a Selectman in his beloved town of Dedham, as a Trustee of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, as Chairman of the Dedham Democratic Town Committee, as a Veteran's Agent in the Town of Dedham, as Assistant Sergeant at Arms in the Massachusetts Legislature, as a Deputy Sheriff in Norfolk County, as an Assistant Clerk of Courts in West Roxbury District Court, and as a loyal union member of the Communication Workers of America.

I miss Paul dearly, as does his family and the many, many friends who have been fortunate to have known him. Although his is no longer with us in person, his kindness, his spirit, and his good works will be remembered forever.

TICKET TO WORK AND WORK INCENTIVES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, unfortunately, to oppose this legislation. I wholeheartedly support the original intent of this bill, and I am a cosponsor of H.R. 1180. Improving the current system to provide real choices for people with disabilities is essential. The Work Incentives Improvement Act would address the barriers to employment by improving job training and rehabilitation services and providing the health insurance which is so critical.

Unfortunately, the bill we are considering today is not H.R. 1180. The bill today includes troubling language from a substitute bill, which could cost Kansas and other states' school districts, million of dollars. Section 407 of this bill would limit Medicaid funding for school districts and their education of disabled children.

Section 407 precludes or significantly restricts the use of bundled rates. The bundling system allows schools to minimize paperwork by billing for a package of medical services, rather than for each individual service provided to each child. In May of this year, HCFA sent a letter to all State Medicaid directors prohibiting bundled rates for school based services for special education health costs. At that time, there were seven states that had HCFA-approved bundled rate systems, including Kansas. Since this announcement, I have heard from nearly every school superintendent in my district. They are extremely concerned about this rule. The administrative burden this will impose on schools will be enormous. The end result of Section 407 of this bill will be to legislate this HCFA rule. Without proper committee hearings and discussion of this issue, it is upsetting that we are forced to vote on it now. If this provision is passed, I believe we could be punishing states that are efficient and accountable. We will once again be turning our backs on our students.

When the Individuals with Disabilities Education was first passed, Congress promised that the federal government would pay 40% of the costs to schools. The federal government has never lived up to this promise and currently only pays out about 10% of the costs. Then Congress and the Administration told schools that they could seek reimbursements by Medicaid for school-based medical services for students with disabilities. HCFA told schools that it would even work with states to come up with a system of reimbursement that would not be so administratively burdensome to schools. So states and schools agree and are enthusiastic about getting more federal funds for special education costs. Yet, now both HCFA and Congress turn around and change their minds.

In order to bill Medicaid for these services, schools will now have to record each service provided. The administrative burden for small schools will keep schools from seeking this reimbursement. The time and cost will be so high that schools in my district will not be able to afford to seek a reimbursement.

So this provision is putting schools between a rock and a hard place. They do not have the

resources to seek reimbursements for Medicaid, yet then their school budgets will be devastated because they cannot access these federal funds. We are bankrupting our small schools and—who pays in the end—our students. The budgets of small schools are already being drained by costs associated with special education services. Funds they should have access to for books, retaining teachers, and school modernization.

This bill will now go to a conference between the House and Senate. I hope that conferees will take this time to listen to the concerns of school superintendents and state Medicaid directors. We need their advice and input as we form this legislation. I ask that we study this issue further before we legislate a rule that could hurt our schools.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID PLATT
RALL

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about some distressing recent developments in the wake of the tragic death on September 28 of environmental medicine pioneer Dr. David Platt Rall.

Dr. Rall tragically died late last month from injuries sustained in a car accident while vacationing in France. His wife, Gloria Monteiro Rall, was badly injured in the accident, but is recovering. I know the thoughts and prayers of many of us go out to her and Dr. Rall's entire family.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Rall was a giant in the world of science. His credentials are long, but the highlights include running the federal National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) simultaneously, Assistant Surgeon General in the U.S. Public Health Services, scientific counselor to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, chair of the World Health Organization's Program on Chemical Safety, foreign secretary of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, board member of the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning and the Environmental Defense Fund. He had conducted breakthrough cancer research early in his career at the National Cancer Institute and he was husband, father and a grandfather.

Kenneth Olden, the current director of both NIEHS and NTP, calls Dr. Rall, "a pioneer, who established the credibility of our two federal environmental health organizations and set the paces. We are standing on his broad shoulders."

This man accomplished far more than many of us will manage to do in our lives. And, all of this work was devoted to advancing the cause of human health—and millions of people are the better for it.

It is a sad sign of our times, Mr. Speaker, when the death of such an individual becomes an invitation for cheap political attack to those who found his brilliance and accomplishments threatening.

One such person is chemical industry lobbyist and Cato Institute Adjunct Scholar Steven Milloy, who turned Dr. Rall's tragic death into what can only be seen as a callous, self-promotional opportunity.

Mr. Milloy runs a web site that features a cartoon of himself in devil costume, complete with horns, and tail. He calls himself the "Junkman," and junk certainly seems to be his main product. His self-appointed job is to denigrate the research of public interest groups and serious, accomplished academics.

But the Junkman reached a new low when on October 2, he posted a mocking "Obituary of the Day," on Dr. Rall's death, saying, and I quote, "Scratch one junk scientist".

The Cato Institute was alerted to this language by an outraged public interest group. President Edward H. Crane responded with—what seemed at the time—class and dignity, saying Milloy had an "inexcusable lapse in judgment and civility" with his "appallingly offensive comments."

In the face of that unequivocal rebuke, what did Mr. Milloy do? He refused to apologize, then posted even more vitriol the following day. His web site on October 12 said, "As far as David Rall is concerned, he was a bad guy when he was alive . . ." and that, "Death did not improve his track record."

Mr. Speaker, if this language isn't outrageous enough, the response of the Cato Institute to this second round of remarks was worse. When 11 heads of public health, consumer and environmental groups wrote Mr. Crane to sever his ties to Mr. Milloy, Mr. Crane chose not to respond. When Dr. Rall's surviving brother and two environmental group heads wanted to meet with Mr. Crane, Mr. Crane flatly refused. His rationale? The offensive web material had come down and he thought the matter was "closed."

The matter, Mr. Speaker, is far from closed. There are still no apologies to the Rall family, and Cato has taken no position on this second round of highly offensive comments. Never mind that the "junkman's" junk is out in the press now, posted on the Internet for friends and loved ones of Dr. Rall to read—along with the rest of the world.

The Cato Institute, with its silence and inaction tells media, the public and this Congress that Cato accepts this behavior and will reward the "Junkman" with a continued institutional home—no matter how badly it denigrates someone else, no matter how great the person who is being denigrated.

I call on the Cato Institute to show the same class and dignity they showed when first alerted to this situation and take additional, stronger action. Doing so would send an important message that while someone is free to say what he or she wants—however offensive—there are consequences for such actions. This is an especially libertarian view that I am sure the Cato Institute can understand.

IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT JULIUS
NYERERE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, as the world mourns the death of President Julius Nyerere, I wish to send the deepest condolences to the people of Tanzania.

For many years, the world has come to know President Julius Nyerere as a pioneer for change. He was committed to his people

and was a leader whose only ambition was to build a strong nation and a solid future for Africa. That is why he was a great statesman and a favored son of millions of Africans.

President Nyerere fought for his nation's independence and was elected to lead Tanganyika in 1961. In 1964, President Nyerere peacefully united Tanganyika with the island of Zanzibar, forming the Republic of Tanzania. He served as the leader of that nation for nearly twenty-five years. A proud father of a post-colonial nation, he worked to translate that pride and success to all of Africa.

All righteous people admired him, for he was a fearless pursuer of justice. He stood tall and spoke up against African strongmen and brutal dictators like Uganda's Idi Amin and the minority rule in South Africa.

President Nyerere voluntarily stepped down in 1985. A world leader, he built a solid foundation for his nation so that it can peacefully grow and flourish. He returned to his modest farm, but remained a powerful voice for peace and a relentless ambassador for the needs of Africans and the African continent.

He died at the age of 77 while trying to meditate an end to the war in Burundi. At the time of his death, President Nyerere was engaged in his favorite activity—finding a way to lead Africa on a journey of lasting prosperity and peace. For all he has given to his nation, his beloved continent and its people, and the world, I am certain that his legend will live on forever. Having had the good fortune to work with the 9th Congressional District African and Caribbean Advisory Committee, I know that his influence has been broadly felt and am hopeful that his spirit will guide us in the future.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT M. BEREN

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert M. Beren, a benefactor whose generosity in Houston was recently recognized by the renaming of The Hebrew Academy at 5435 S. Braeswood. The school is now named Robert M. Beren Academy, in recognition of Mr. Beren's generous philanthropic contributions.

An oil and gas producer from Wichita, Kansas, Mr. Beren's ties to Houston run deep. His Houston grandchildren, Irene Beren Jefferson, Elizabeth Beren Jefferson, and Alexander Beren Jefferson benefit from the education at what will henceforward be known as Robert M. Beren Academy. His eldest daughter, Nancy T. Beren, and her husband, Larry S. Jefferson, M.D., are both extremely active in the Houston community. Following in her father's footsteps, Ms. Beren contributes her time and energy to projects and organizations that benefit children and families. It is especially fitting that Ms. Beren recently served for 2 years as President of Robert M. Beren Academy and that Dr. Jefferson currently serves on its Board of Education.

Robert M. Beren's penchant for giving revolves around two principles: his philosophy of reinforcing a strong Jewish background and his belief in an excellent secular education. By

supporting Houston's only modern orthodox Jewish day school, Mr. Beren promotes both of these ideals.

Mr. Beren's own educational history illustrates his love of academic challenge. After graduating from Marietta High School in Marietta, Ohio, he went on to graduate cum laude from Harvard College with a B.A. in Economics. He then graduated with high distinction from Harvard's Graduate School of Business Administration. In addition to pursuing his personal studies, Robert Beren distinguished himself by serving our country as a soldier in the U.S. Army during World War II. His keen business sense and organizational talents have served him well as President and Chairman of BEREXCO, INC., a successful oil company he oversees in Wichita, Kansas.

Robert Beren is extremely proud of his 13 grandchildren and his four children: Nancy T. Beren, Amy Beren Bressman, Julie Beren Platt, and Adam E. Beren. He has set a shining example, not only for his own family, but also for all of those who strive to give back and benefit others. The endless hours and vast resources that Mr. Beren has bestowed on religious institutions, civic organizations, and institutions of higher learning reveal where his heart lies. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Yeshiva University; a Member of the Board of Overseers Committee for Harvard College; President of the Robert M. Beren Foundation, Inc.; Sole Trustee of the Israel Henry Beren Charitable Trust; and Board member of the Ohr Stone Institutions of Israel, the Hebrew Congregation, and the Mid-Kansas Jewish Appeal. In the past, he has given freely of his time to the Wichita Public School System, the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, and the Anti-Defamation League, always with the ideal in mind of enhancing his community for the common good.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Beren on a lifetime of outstanding contributions to his community. I especially thank him for making the new school building for Houston's Robert M. Beren Academy a reality. With Mr. Beren's help, the school will continue to instill in its students the knowledge and ideals associated with their Jewish heritage while providing an excellent secular education to carry with them throughout their lives.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH "BIZ"
STEINBERG

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elizabeth "Biz" Steinberg, executive director of the Economic Opportunity Commission of San Luis Obispo Inc. in my district in California. Last Friday, October 22, Biz received the Excellence in Leadership Award from the California Association of Nonprofits in Oakland, California. She was chosen from a field of 37 leaders.

I am obviously not alone in being terribly proud of Biz Steinberg. In the congratulatory letter sent to her in honor of this award, the CAN executive director said: "The selection committee was overwhelmed by your consistent display of excellence and commitment

both to your organization and the community. The work you are doing in San Luis Obispo is heroic and truly an inspiration to the nonprofit sector."

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, Biz is a hero to many of us. Her unflagging grace and tireless effort on behalf of the community she serves with daily passion inspires all who know her. For the past 15 years, Biz has headed the EOC in San Luis Obispo County. When Congress founded the EOC in 1965 during the War against Poverty, I am sure that Biz's is the kind of leadership that members of Congress envisioned: one of determination and cooperation and courage.

IN HONOR OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSION ON CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ACTION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the thirtieth anniversary of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland's Commission on Catholic Community Action.

The Commission on Catholic Community Action was established in 1969 with a mission to protect and promote human dignity and advance justice for all. Successful in their mission, the CCCA has played a pivotal role in the rebirth of Cleveland. Focusing on urban redevelopment, the CCCA has organized, promoted, and made a difference in neighborhood issues such as job training, economic empowerment, environmental justice, and peacemaking.

With an outlook to reduce poverty and discrimination, the CCCA has sponsored and co-sponsored numerous seminars, speeches, and awards banquets. Keynote speakers at these events have educated the public on issues such as the Holocaust and prejudice reduction. Generating community awareness throughout Cleveland, the CCCA has provided participants with a new appreciation for celebrating multicultural diversity within the city.

Through hard work and determination, the CCCA has truly improved life opportunities for urban residents of Cleveland. Upholding this tradition of giving and caring, the CCCA has made Cleveland's urban residents culturally and economically stronger. Congratulations to the Commission on Catholic Community Action for thirty years of service and on continuing their mission into the new millennium.

My fellow colleagues, join me in honoring the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland's Commission on Catholic Community Action as they celebrate their thirtieth anniversary.

STUDENT RESULTS ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2) to send more

dollars to the classroom and for certain other purposes:

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of the Mink-Woolsey-Sanchez-Morella amendment to restore current gender equity provisions from Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to H.R. 2., the Student Results Act. We must ensure that girls succeed in school.

Since the passage of Title IX a quarter-century ago, America's schools have been expected to provide the same opportunities for girls as well as boys. While a great deal of progress has been made, a gender gap still exists in America's schools.

Studies show that more than half of all female students take no high school math beyond Algebra 2. In a global economy, where science and technology advances are paramount, this closes doors on future studies, scholarships and careers for these female students.

This amendment will retain gender equity provisions in current law, including the Women's Educational Equity Act (WEEA). The amendment encourages the training of teachers to treat boys and girls fairly in the classroom. It targets dropout prevention programs for at-risk youth, as well as pregnant and parenting teenagers. It also allows the training of teachers to encourage girls to pursue careers and higher education degrees in mathematics, science, engineering and technology.

The amendment is supported by over 70 organizations, including the Girl Scouts of America; the National Education Association; the American Association of University Women; and the National Parent Teacher Association. The National Women's Law Center, which also supports this amendment, writes:

[The] Elimination of the Women's Educational Equity Act signifies the dissolution of the only federal program that specifically targets and tackles the barriers to educational opportunities for women and girls.

They give an example of a 1999 WEEA program that created and implemented an on-line course for teachers called "Engaging Middle School Girls in Math and Science." This program helps to ensure that stereotypes and biases do not eliminate educational opportunities for girls.

However, this is just one of many programs and services provided by WEEA. Generally, WEEA represents the federal commitment ensuring that girls' future choices and success are determined not by their gender, but by their own interests, aspirations, and abilities. It is a comprehensive resource for teachers, administrators, and parents seeking proven methods to ensure equity in their school systems and communities.

Let's do the smart thing. Let's do the right thing. Support the Mink/Woolsey/Sanchez/Morella amendment. We must give all students, girls and boys alike, the chance to learn, excel and achieve.

HONORING THE REDEDICATION OF THE YOUNG ISRAEL SHOMRAI EMUNAH OF GREATER WASHINGTON

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Young Israel Shomrai Emunah of Greater Washington. On October 31st, the members of this congregation will join together to rededicate the facility that has served as their home for the past quarter-century. In addition, the congregation, located in Silver Spring, MD, will celebrate the renovation of its sanctuary and expansion of its building.

Since its creation, the Young Israel has helped to provide its members with a spiritual anchor and a firm foundation upon which to build a Torah observant community. The synagogue truly lives up to its name Shomrai Emunah—"guardian of the faith."

The synagogue, loosely established in 1951, was first located in Riggs Park, in northeast Washington, DC. Its first permanent home was established in 1957. However, a few years later, the community moved to Silver Spring and eventually built two facilities, the first located on University Boulevard. As the community grew, the leadership of the synagogue sought larger quarters, resulting in the construction of a spacious facility on Arcola Avenue. The new facility was completed in 1974.

As we all know, mortar and bricks do not make a community. Rather, the individuals in each community influence its success. Through the foresight of its founding members and the meticulous guidance of the Young Israel's esteemed spiritual leader, Rabbi Gedaliah Anemer, the synagogue boasts a membership of more than 500 families. The synagogue provides a variety of programs to serve its members. The community furnishes classes throughout the year, including an active adult education program. Seniors programs, a nursery school, the youth department, and a vibrant Sisterhood are all supported by the Young Israel.

Mr. Speaker, a synagogue is referred to as a "House of Prayer," a "House of Study," and a "House of Assembly." The Young Israel Shomrai Emunah fulfills all of these definitions. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the entire membership of the Young Israel; Rabbi Gedaliah Anemer; the President of the synagogue, Arnold Sherman; the chairman and co-chairman of the renovation committee, Sheldon Klein and Dr. Howard Schulman; and the board of directors. May they proceed from strength to strength.

TO HONOR DIETRA LEAKE FORD

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the work and exceptional contributions of the late Dietra Leake Ford to the small business community and the entire Federal Government. Ms. Ford passed away on October 21, 1999.

Dietra Ford was a valuable leader in the advocacy of small, minority, and women-owned businesses; she accomplished much in her position as Associate Administrator for Enterprise Development at the General Services Administration. Under her leadership, the Office of enterprise Development won the 1997 North Star Award for excellence and leadership in economic development programs that serve women business owners. This July 1st she had just completed three years at GSA, and in that time contract numbers had tripled with women-owned businesses and doubled with minority businesses.

Ms. Ford was a highly esteemed leader and advocate for small business, not only at the General Services Administration, but also nationwide throughout the federal government and private sector. A powerful crusader for the interests of minority and women entrepreneurs, Ms. Ford served as a liaison with the White House Office of women's Initiatives, the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise, the Small Business Administration, the Office of Management and Budget, other Federal agencies, and Members of Congress.

Prior to going to GSA Dietra Ford had over 15 years of senior executive experience in both the legislative and the executive branches of the Federal Government. She served in the Clinton Administration as Executive Director of the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board from 1993 to 1996. In 1992 she was named as one of the ten cluster coordinators for the Transition Office of the President-Elec. From 1975 to 1993, she was a senior legislative associate for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the District of Columbia.

Ms. Ford was active in many civic organizations. She served as a member of the Board of Directors of Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, DC. She also was a former director for the United Methodist Church General Board of Global Ministries and traveled and represented this board at numerous international forums.

Ms. Ford held a bachelor's degree from Howard University and a master's degree from Boston University, where she was HUD Urban Studies Fellow.

Dietra Ford has left to the small business community, GSA, and the Federal Government at large an impressive legacy of innovative programs and creative initiatives. She is mourned by her many colleagues and will be sorely missed.

RECOGNIZING JULIA MARIE
FLOWERS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birth of Julia Marie Flowers. Julia is the third child of Major Craig Flowers and his lovely wife Beth, the 16th grandchild of Denzil and Barbara Garrison, the 5th grandchild of Lt. Col. Jim and Nancy Flowers and the younger sister to Kathleen and

Annie. Julia arrived in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, on Wednesday, October 20th at 12:30 p.m., weighing in at a healthy 7 pounds 7 ounces and an impressive 20½ inches. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our heartiest congratulations to the Flowers family and share their happiness with the arrival of darling Julia.

RUSSIAN ASSAULT ON CHECHNYA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in the name of combating terrorism, Russia has again launched a war against Chechnya. It is employing indiscriminate use of force against civilians, and another humanitarian tragedy is unfolding.

In August and September of this year, Islamic extremists based in Chechnya— independent of the government of Chechnya— twice staged armed incursions into the neighboring Russian Federation Republic of Dagestan. In response, the Russian Government has sent its army to reoccupy Chechnya, a region that had won de facto independence from the rest of Russia as a result of a bloody war from 1994–96 invaded.

Now the United States Government recognizes, as a standard of international law, the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation, and Moscow has the legal right to bring to justice those responsible for committing crimes in the incursion into Dagestan. One should also sympathize with the victims of the recent unsolved bombings that killed almost 300 persons in Russia. But neither this terrorism nor the incursions into Dagestan, as reprehensible as they were, justify the use of indiscriminate force against the civilian population of Chechnya and causing the carnage that we are seeing now.

Last week, Russian rockets struck the Chechen capital of Grozny, hitting a marketplace and killing scores of civilians. This was preceded by air raids and artillery shelling of non-combatant villages, homes and farms in the northern part of Chechnya. The Russian Federation Migration Service states that more than 170,000 internally displaced persons have fled Chechnya, mostly to the neighboring region of Ingushetia.

Mr. Speaker, I, along with Mr. WOLF and Mr. FORBES, am introducing today a concurrent resolution calling upon the Government of the Russian Federation to cease unprovoked military attacks on the civilian population of Chechnya and to seek a negotiated solution to the conflict, using the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which helped broker an agreement to end the 1994–96 war. The United States Government should take a stronger stand in support of these goals, as the European Union has done.

Not that the government of Chechnya has been entirely blameless. Since achieving de facto independence from Russia in 1996, Chechnya has degenerated into a morass of lawlessness and violence, with a government powerless to establish law and order. The

economy, which was devastated by the war, has been sustained heavily by criminal activity. Moreover, rampant kidnappings of Russians and foreigners for ransom have caused Chechnya to lose much sympathy and support in Russia and the West.

Russia is entirely justified in using appropriate methods to combat terrorism, but not in launching a war against innocent civilians. Russia is a participating State of the OSCE, and has agreed to certain standards regarding the protection of civilians when addressing internal security matters. Yes, Chechnya is recognized by the international community as a part of Russia, but this is not merely an "internal matter." The 1991 Moscow Document of the OSCE clearly states that commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension of the OSCE are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned.

Moreover, Moscow's current policy is likely to lengthen and widen the conflict, perhaps into Russia and beyond, and it may well jeopardize democracy in Russia if Russian leaders attempt to use "emergency" measures as part of its war policy.

Our resolution also calls upon the Chechen government to make every appropriate effort to deny bases or other support to radical elements committed to violent actions in the North Caucasus. Furthermore, the resolution urges our own government to emphasize to all parties the necessity of resolving the conflict peacefully, under OSCE auspices, and to express the willingness to extend appropriate assistance toward such resolution, including humanitarian assistance, as needed.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to emphasize that this resolution is not "anti-Russian" or "pro-Chechen." Many observers who wish to see a prosperous and democratic Russia have been deeply disturbed by the present campaign in Chechnya. The chairperson of the Moscow Helsinki Group, Ludmila Alexeyeva, has stated that: "Under the pretext of fighting terrorism, a real war is being waged against Chechnya, with tragic consequences for the civilian population. In several cities in Russia, under the same pretext, the authorities are conducting a genuine campaign of ethnic cleansing. These events are no less dangerous for European security than the Kosova crisis caused by the Milosevic regime last spring. In and around Chechnya we are witnessing a humanitarian catastrophe which is alarming, insofar as the international community is paying very little attention."

In a recent statement, Deputy Secretary of State Talbott called upon Russia to use restraint, "taking action against real terrorists, but not using indiscriminate force that endangers innocents, or resuming the disastrous 1994–96 war in Chechnya." President Clinton should back these good words with stronger steps. If Russia does not act with restraint and pursue dialogue, then Chechnya should become the main issue at the OSCE Summit in Istanbul on November 18 and 19.

I hope that the Congress would go on record as supporting these calls, and I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this resolution.

SUPPORT FOR THE PAIN RELIEF
PROMOTION ACT**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, my esteemed colleague from Oregon, Mr. BLUMENAUER, recently presented remarks on the floor to defend Oregon's assisted suicide policy and to criticize the proposed Pain Relief Promotion Act, H.R. 2260.

First of all, I think it is important to clarify the fact that H.R. 2260, the Pain Relief Promotion Act, does not limit states' ability to legislate assisted suicide. It simply clarifies that assisted suicide may not take place with federally controlled substances. This allows states to pass their own laws while clarifying the boundaries of federal involvement regarding assisted suicide. This bill also does not establish any new authority to penalize assisted suicide. My colleague has every right to speak in favor of the policy his constituents have chosen. But by the same token, representatives of the other 49 states that have chosen not to follow such a policy have a right to ask: Why should we be voiceless participants in Oregon's experiment with assisted suicide?

Mr. BLUMENAUER has expressed grave concern over the provision in the bill that makes it illegal to intentionally prescribe federally controlled drugs with the intent to cause a patient's death. Under this provision, he says, law enforcement personnel will be judging, for the first time, whether a doctor's "intent" is to cause a patient's death. I would like to take the time right now to respond to this objection.

Currently, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) routinely makes these judgments. They have always had the right to revoke controlled substance permits based on abuse by health care workers. Whenever a prescription is written for a federally controlled substance, a DEA prescription is printed using a federal DEA registration number which is then attached to the actual bottle of pills. In this way, the DEA can keep record of and check whether or not federally controlled drugs are being used for "legitimate medical purposes." There are numerous instances in which physicians have had their DEA registrations suspended or revoked because they used these drugs in ways that led to patients' deaths by drug overdose. Clearly then, the DEA has the authority, right and experience to do what it has always been doing—monitor the use of federally controlled substances. Even more extensive federal involvement, though, has been prompted by Oregon's assisted suicide law. It is my colleague's own state legislature, in fact, that has escalated federal involvement by enacting a law that freely uses federally controlled substances for assisted suicides. In so doing, Oregon has practically demanded, perhaps unintentionally, that the federal government review and clarify its policy regarding what constitutes a "legitimate medical purpose." The federal government obviously has a right to say how federally controlled substances can be used. And so it is the aim of H.R. 2260 to address this question by clarifying the federal government's policy on the use of federally controlled substances in relation to assisted suicides.

Department of Justice policy currently forces the federal government to implicitly endorse

assisted suicide by directing the DEA to allow federally controlled substances to be used in any manner which a state's assisted suicide law may prescribe. Every time a lethal overdose of barbiturates is prescribed to assist an Oregon citizen's suicide, the federal authority of the DEA is invoked to authorize the prescription. Since the Controlled Substances Act requires that such prescriptions be used for a "legitimate medical purpose," the federal government implicitly endorses the use of federally controlled substances in each case of assisted suicide as a "legitimate medical purpose" under current Justice Department Policy. It is only appropriate then, that we clarify how federally controlled substances can be used instead of letting an individual state that is heroically experimenting with democracy dictate how these federally controlled substances will be used. After all, they are federally controlled substances and they require federal control.

H.R. 2260 clarifies that assisted suicide will not be performed with the federal government's blessing. It also ensures that enforcement of the Controlled Substances Act will distinguish between intentional killing and the unintended hastening of death that may rarely occur as a side-effect of aggressive pain control. (This particular distinction, by the way, is found explicitly in almost all state laws against assisted suicide enacted in recent years; it was upheld as a reasonable and workable legal standard by the U.S. Supreme Court in its *Vacco v. Quill* decision two years ago.) Finally, H.R. 2260 provides the funds needed to begin to seriously advance our understanding of pain management.

Beginning with the premise that aggressive pain control is to be encouraged as a legitimate part of modern medical practice, the legislation backs up this declaration through \$5 million per year for the training of health professionals in palliative care, and for the education of law enforcement personnel so that they will be sensitive to the legitimate needs of modern pain management when they perform their necessary task of preventing misuse. Because this legislation sends such a clear and positive message about pain management to physicians and patients, it has been endorsed by organizations that both deal with pain issues on a regular basis and are in a position to judge the merits of the legislation. Among a notable list of supporters are the American Medical Association, the National Hospice Organization, the Hospice Association of America and the American Academy of Pain Management.

In the end, the federal government, in concert with groups that understand and are active practitioners of pain management, must make a policy decision regarding the appropriate use of drugs that fall within its jurisdiction. Will they be used to kill pain or kill patients? I believe H.R. 2260 makes the right choice.

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD LEAD
POISONING PREVENTION WEEK**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 25, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week the Senate passed, by unanimous con-

sent, a resolution which designates this week—October 24, 1999, through October 30, 1999—and a similar week next year as "National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week." I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues about the very serious problem of childhood lead poisoning.

Lead poisoning is a leading environmental health hazard to children in the United States. According to the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 890,000 preschool children in the United States have harmful levels of lead in their blood which can cause serious, long-term harm to children, including reduced intelligence and attention span, behavior problems, learning disabilities, and impaired growth. Children from low-income families are 8 times more likely to be poisoned by lead than those from high income families.

Mr. Speaker, I have worked with the Alliance to End Childhood Lead Poisoning and other concerned groups to help address this problem. I would like to submit the following article from the American Journal of Public Health which further details the lead poisoning problem and strategies to combat it.

[From the American Journal of Public Health, June 1999]

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM LEAD POISONING
AND BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Lead's toxicity to human organs and systems has been extensively documented for over 2 millennia. The 20th century is remarkable for the dispersal of lead throughout the human environment, making lead poisoning a community health problem of global dimensions.¹ Young children are at highest risk because of lead's neurotoxic effects, which reduce intelligence and attention span and cause learning difficulties and behavior problems.^{2,3} Blood lead screening and surveillance are important tools, but primary prevention requires controlling sources of exposure. Although the challenge varies from country to country, the steps needed to eliminate this disease are now apparent.

EVIDENCE THAT ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS
WORK

Over the past quarter century, progress on childhood lead poisoning in the United States has been remarkable: the mean blood lead level of US children fell by 80%, and the number of children with elevated blood leads declined by 90%.^{4,5} These changes did not occur spontaneously or by chance. Strict regulation of many lead uses, enacted after decades of determined industry opposition, has gradually detoxified the air, water, and food supply. The evidence is clear that controlling ongoing sources of lead exposure produces immediate and significant health benefits, which typically far outweigh the costs.⁶ The difficulty of cleaning up once lead contaminates the environment underscores the urgency of controlling it at the source.

THE LEGACY OF LEAD-BASED PAINT

Despite impressive progress, lead poisoning remains a serious environmental health hazard in the United States: 4.4% of all children aged 1 to 5 years have elevated blood lead levels ($\geq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$).⁵ Lead-based paint in nearly two thirds of all U.S. housing poses by far the greatest remaining challenge.⁷ (In particular communities and populations, a variety of other sources and pathways also expose children to lead.) While children can be severely poisoned by eating paint chips, the principal pathway is chronic exposure to settled lead dust, which gets on children's

hands and toys and is ingested through normal hand-to-mouth behavior.⁸ Recent research has confirmed the important role of interior lead dust and the need for more protective standards.⁹

Two distinct scenarios account for most lead poisoning in U.S. children: paint deterioration because of poor maintenance and remodeling projects that inadvertently release lead particles. Remodeling and repainting projects that fail to control and clean up lead dust likely account for 5% to 10% of poisonings,¹⁰ a challenge that conventional health education and limited training can overcome. The dominant scenario of poisoning among U.S. children is unattended deteriorating paint and lead dust hazards in older, low-income housing. Water damage and excessive moisture are the principal causes of paint deterioration as well as of a multitude of other health hazards. For example, moisture encourages the growth of mold, mildew, mites, and microbes, which contributes to asthma and other respiratory problems.¹¹

In the 1980s, many considered the presence of leaded paint a health hazard. Paralyzed by the insuperable difficulties of full removal (the cost alone is estimated at \$500 billion),¹² the public health response was confined almost entirely to belatedly reacting to already poisoned children. Despite its appeal at many levels, literally "getting the lead out" of U.S. housing is not a feasible primary prevention strategy. Research has validated the effectiveness of strategies that safely manage leaded paint in place¹³⁻¹⁵ and has shown that poor paint condition is a stronger predictor of risk than the paint's lead content.⁸ Rather than removing lead paint from a few properties, the more effective path to protecting children at risk is to make housing lead safe, a formidable but surmountable public health challenge.

PROTECTING CHILDREN AT RISK REQUIRES NEW APPROACHES

Continuation of current strategies is unlikely to provide near-term protection to children living in low-income housing in distressed communities, who are at highest risk for lead poisoning. Four shifts in approach are required to eradicate childhood lead poisoning in the United States.

Make Lead Safety an Integral Part of Housing Activities

Recognition that poor housing condition is a root cause of lead hazards demands a shift from the traditional approach whereby experts deal with one environmental hazard at a time. Rather than being viewed as the province of a small corps of experts conducting one-time interventions, lead safety in older housing must be integrated into various activities. While "abatement contractors" are needed for complex projects, techniques for controlling moisture and lead dust must be incorporated into all housing activities, remodeling, and vacancy treatments. Basic training in moisture control and lead safety will arm painters, remodelers, maintenance staff with vital skills and can help build indigenous capacity within communities at high risk for lead poisoning. Housing codes must be updated and enforced to ensure control of moisture and lead dust hazards.

Identify and Control Lead Hazards Before Poisoning Occurs

Preventing poisoning requires demystifying the detection of property-specific lead hazards, the vast majority of which have never been identified, much less controlled. While only a certified lead expert can declare a property "safe" for legal purposes,¹⁶ visual inspections for maintenance deficiencies can trigger corrective preventive

measures. Sending a chip of peeling paint or a single "dust wipe" to an environmental laboratory for analysis (about \$5 per sample) is sufficient to detect a hazard in a high-risk property. Because deteriorated paint and dust lead levels on floors and other surfaces are strong predictors of risk, health departments need to screen high-risk housing as well as test children's blood lead levels. Parents, property owners, contractors, and community residents can be trained in a single day to conduct visual maintenance checks and environmental sampling. Environmental samples provide property-specific information that can transform the federal lead-based paint "right-to-know" law from an empty promise to a catalyst for action.¹⁷

Secure New Resources for Prevention

Both the public and private sectors need to dedicate additional resources to controlling housing-related health hazards. The lead, petroleum, and paint industries need to contribute their share to prevention through either the courts or the Congress. Managed care providers can reduce health care costs for asthma and lead poisoning by making strategic investments to address environmental hazards in housing before children are exposed. In particular, the Medicaid program, which serves children at high risk for lead poisoning,¹⁸ should explore ways to support the early identification and control of health hazards in high-risk housing. Medicaid must also start screening all young children as required¹⁹ and provide the recommended follow-up services.²⁰ Government support for affordable housing should be increased to recognize the importance of decent housing in controlling environmental health hazards and reducing health care and education costs.

Make Healthful Housing a National Environmental Priority

Protecting at-risk children from lead hazards in their homes requires reintegrating housing into public health and environmental health practice. The environmental and public health communities and those who fund their research, advocacy, and policy work must begin to shift attention from the ambient environment to confront the reality that substandard housing in distressed communities is the leading environmental health threat to U.S. children. There is no more chilling example of environmental injustice than concentrations of substandard housing in low-income urban neighborhoods, reflected by the fact that low-income children and Black children are at 8 times and 5 times higher risk for lead poisoning, respectively, than other U.S. children.⁵ Without leadership by the environmental, public health, medical, and philanthropic communities, the accelerating deterioration of housing in distressed communities will increasingly threaten health, spread blight, and devastate low-income families.

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE

The causes of lead poisoning vary country by country and community by community.²¹ Because significant sources of lead exposure remain largely unregulated in most countries, both developed and developing, lead poisoning is typically more widespread and severe in other countries than in the United States.

A common excuse for delaying control at the source is the perceived need to determine the exact extent of the problem and the specific contribution of each source. Environmental and health officials must not allow industry's demands for screening, surveillance, or epidemiological studies to preempt or postpone the control of obvious and serious sources of exposure. Where dispersive uses of lead continue, the self-evidence of

both the problem and the remedy demands action. The ready availability of superior, practicable alternatives makes the continued use of lead inexcusable in any product with the potential for broad exposure (e.g., gasoline, paint, plumbing supplies, food cans, printing ink, fertilizer, and children's toys).

Leaded gasoline, the foremost cause of global lead exposure, is the obvious first candidate for control in the more than 150 countries in which it is still in use.²² All automobile engines can operate on unleaded gasoline,²³ and superior, cost-competitive alternatives are readily available to replace lead or reduce engine octane demand.²⁴ Removing lead from gasoline is the single greatest step to preventing lead poisoning as well as a prerequisite to achieving other air quality improvements through the introduction of catalytic converters and modern engine technology.²⁵ There is no excuse for leaded gasoline use to continue in any country after the end of this century.

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²³Environmental Protection Agency. Costs and Benefits of Reducing Lead in Gasoline: Final Regulatory Impact Analysis. Washington, DC: Environmental Protection Agency, 1985. EPA report 230-05-85-006.

²⁴Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning. Myths and Realities of Phasing Out Leaded Gasoline. Washington, DC: Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning; 1997.

²⁵Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning. International Action Plan for Preventing Lead Poisoning. Washington, DC: Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning; 1995.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 27

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold a business meeting on pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for elementary and secondary education assistance, focusing on Indian educational programs.

SR-285

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nomination of The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, 9172, To be General; the nomination of The following named officer for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 154: Gen. Richard B. Myers, 7092, To be General; the nomination of The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, 0711, To be General; and the nomination of The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, 7375, To be General.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings on terrorism issues, focusing on victims' access to terrorist assets.

SD-226

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the impact of ECNs, focusing on the changing face of capital markets.

SD-538

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the future of U.S.-China relations.

SD-419

1:45 p.m.

Judiciary

Criminal Justice Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the Justice Department's response to international parental kidnapping.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on numerous tax treaties and protocol.

SD-419

OCTOBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Small Business

To hold hearings on the Environmental Protection Agency's recent rulemaking in regards to small businesses.

SR-428A

Armed Services

To hold hearings on United States national security implications of the 1999 NATO Strategic Concept.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings on issues relating to E-commerce.

SR-253

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on the nomination of Joshua Gotbaum, of New York, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget.

SD-628

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the nomination of Joseph W. Prueher, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

SD-419

1:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine media competition and consolidation in the new millennium, focusing on the Viacom/CBS merger.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Manufacturing and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings on challenges confronting the machine tool industry.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the Federal hydroelectric licensing process.

SD-366

OCTOBER 29

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the nomination of Joseph R. Crapa, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development; Willene A. Johnson, of New York, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank; and Alan Phillip Larson, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of State (Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs).

SD-419

NOVEMBER 2

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the recent announcement by President Clinton to review approximately 40 million acres of national forest lands for increased protection.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings on the World Trade Organization, its Seattle Ministerial, and the Millennium Round.

SD-538

NOVEMBER 4

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Resources on S. 1586, to reduce the fractionated ownership of Indian Lands; and S. 1315, to permit the leasing of oil and gas rights on certain lands held in trust for the Navajo Nation or allotted to a member of the Navajo Nation, in any case in which there is consent from a specified percentage interest in the parcel of land under consideration for lease.

Room to be announced

POSTPONEMENTS

OCTOBER 27

2:30 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on S. 1405, to amend the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge Authority Act of 1995 to provide an authorization of contract authority for fiscal years 2004 through 2007.

SD-406