

King Jr. Memorial Trust Fund. This outstanding local scholarship service has helped many minority young people from the region go on to colleges and successful careers in a variety of fields.

So it was especially fitting that the state NAACP honored Mrs. Waller with a lifetime achievement award at a prayer breakfast Sunday in New Haven. The Acronym NAACP stands for National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, but it really stands for equality and progress in race relations in this country.

In the past and still today, Eunice Waller monitors the results of that effort. Because of people like her, race relations continue to improve in this nation and many people live happier, more productive lives.

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP
BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, since its creation, the Medicare program has protected millions of beneficiaries from poverty by helping to pay for medical services. It has improved access to care for the elderly and many disabled Americans and is certainly among the key policy successes of this century.

Still, as the health care market evolves in this country, and as beneficiaries grow older and their health care needs change, Medicare must also evolve. In enacting the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA), the Congress took important steps to begin this evolution and to help extend the program's financial viability.

Unfortunately, many of the reforms Congress prescribed in the BBA have been implemented poorly, and sometimes counter to Congressional intent. While I continue to support the budget priorities established in the BBA, I believe Congress must act to correct the mistakes and misjudgments that now threaten the viability of many health care providers. For this reason, I support H.R. 3075, the Medicare Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999.

In particular I am pleased the Committee has included specific provisions that will benefit Medicare providers and patients in Southern Arizona.

This bill: Strengthens rural hospitals, provides additional funds for physical therapy and speech therapy, expands the number of critical access hospitals, increases funding for teaching hospitals, extends Medicare's coverage of immunosuppressive drugs, improves the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), and continues the Medicare Community Nursing Organization demonstration project, otherwise known as the Healthy Seniors program in Tucson.

In total, this bill provides an additional \$11.8 billion for Medicare providers and patients. I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the bill.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT J. FLAVIN

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a long time friend and Rochester Telephone employee, Robert J. Flavin, who passed away on Friday in Rochester, New York. Bob served as the President of Local 1170 of the Communications Workers of America for 36 years.

I was honored to attend his memorial service yesterday as this great labor leader and champion of the working people was remembered. As a sign of the high regard the Rochester community had for Bob, on Sunday he was given the Rochester Labor Council, AFL-CIO and United Way Community Service Award posthumously in recognition of his life's work. To further honor Bob, the organizations also announced that the award would be renamed in his memory.

Bob Flavin spent his career fighting for the rights of communications employees, helped Rochester Telephone evolve into the national telecommunications firm known as Frontier Corporation, and was instrumental in negotiating a recent labor agreement between Rochester Telephone and Local 1170. His long legacy includes ending the labor dispute between CWA and the former Rochester Telephone Corp. in 1996 and 1997 over the withdrawal of the pension plan. Recently, Bob Flavin had been particularly active in building support from the rank and file within his CWA labor organization for the now-completed merger of Frontier with the international telecommunications firm, Global Crossing Ltd.

Bob was proud of his association with and admiration of Frontier's CEO, Joseph Clayton. Mr. Clayton rode with his employees yearly in the Labor Day Parade and he and his family attended the union's events. His concern and affection for Bob during his final illness should be a model for management/labor to follow. Our pain at losing Bob is eased by knowing Bob's final years as a labor leader were his best years because of Joe Clayton.

Beyond his many professional contributions to the Rochester community, I remember in particular Bob's love of his family and his great faith. Anyone who knew Bob, knew of his love for his wife of 50 years, Carolyn, and their three sons: Michael, Pat and Timothy, who all still live in Rochester. Among the over 1,000 people who attended his funeral, both his CWA members and Global Crossing management expressed sadness at Bob's passing, and so did many community leaders with whom Bob worked. He will be deeply missed by all of us in the Rochester community.

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. LESLIE
DeMERSSEMAN

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in admiration of the service Leslie DeMersseman has given as the 1999 president of the California School Board Association.

Prior to serving at the state level, Leslie DeMersseman exhibited her leadership and community concern as a board member of the Palm Springs school board for 12 years, presiding over the board for five of those years. In addition to her work in Palm Springs, DeMersseman has served as a director of the Riverside County School Boards Association since 1987.

The California School Board Association is the primary statewide organization with the board point of view to set the agenda for California's school-children. Under Leslie DeMersseman's leadership this organization has been able to work toward improving some of the many problems California's public schools are experiencing.

Leslie DeMersseman has risen to the challenge of actively working to better education in the state of California, and as a parent I deeply thank her for her efforts. As we seek to find ways to solve the problems in our public education system, we need more people like Leslie DeMersseman working for our children. It is people like her, working at the state and local level, who inspire us and validate our efforts to give more control to the states and local education authorities.

It is with great appreciation and respect that I ask my colleagues to join me to recognize Leslie DeMersseman for the continuous efforts on behalf of children and education throughout Palm Springs, Riverside County and the state of California.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF THE
PRIVATE BILL FOR THE BENEFIT OF ADELA BAILOR AND
DARRYL BAILOR

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation that would provide for private relief for the benefit of Adela Bailor and Darryl Bailor. As you know, private relief is available in only rare instances. I believe that the circumstances surrounding the Bailors' case qualifies under the rules for private legislation.

The facts surrounding this case are clear and undisputed. Adela Bailor, while working for Prison Fellowship Ministries in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, was raped on May 9, 1991, by a federal prisoner who had escaped from the Salvation Army Freedom Center, a halfway house in Chicago, Illinois.

What makes the Bailors' case special is that they were caught in a legal catch-22. The Bailors' filed suit against the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Salvation Army, which ran the halfway house to which Mr. Holly was assigned.

One of the requirements for all inmates at a halfway house is that they remain drug free and take a periodic drug test. Mr. Holly had a history of violence and drug abuse including convictions for possession of heroin. On May 6, 1991, Mr. Holly was called into the Salvation Army office and was told that his drug test was positive for cocaine use. The Salvation Army had the option of informing Mr. Holly of the failed drug test with a U.S. Marshal present, but chose not to. When advised of his