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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 15, 2000.

I hereby appoint the Honorable THOMAS G. TANCREDO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 112. Concurrent resolution to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 434.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106–173, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission—

the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN); and

Dr. Jean T.D. Bandler of Connecticut.

The message also announced that pursuant to sections 276d–276g of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the Second Session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress, to be held in Mississippi and Louisiana, May 19–22, 2000—

the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY);

the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE);

the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS);

the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS);

the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH);

the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY);

the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX); and

the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA).

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 19, 1999, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) for 5 minutes.

LOW POWER FM RADIO

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to today's front page story in The Washington Post entitled, ''Political static may block low power FM.'' The article paints a picture of what the new low power FM radio service may offer, but, Mr. Speaker, it does not properly convey why this Chamber, this House of Representatives, was compelled to overwhelmingly pass a bill introduced by my good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY). We did not pass a bill, as the article says, because of the influence of lobbyists or as a matter of politics. Quite simply, we passed a bill as a matter of good policy. That is why I am here this afternoon to point this out.

When the FCC commission began its journey by adopting a notice of proposed rule-making designed to establish low power FM service, many of us voiced concerns about the potential interference larger commercial and public stations would face from this service. Surely, the FCC would not undertake and implement a service on such an important point as this without testing to be sure that interference was not involved.

Well, our subcommittee of the Committee on Commerce earlier heard testimony that the FCC did just that, that they had not determined that no interference would occur between stations when they issued these low power FM licenses.

So we think the FCC has rushed to judgment without resolving this critical part, which is the interference issue without fully consulting with us. Even the FCC witness testifying before our committee could not explain why the commission, the FCC commission, did not measure interference using signal-to-noise ratios. Simply put, the five technical studies analyzing the interference issue caused by low power FM stations have produced conflicting conclusions regarding interference on the third adjacent channel. The FCC, nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, is pressing forward with its own agenda, all the while steamrolling over the legitimate concerns of existing broadcasters.

Instead, broadcasters who have invested millions and millions of dollars into stations with the assumption that the FCC would ensure the integrity of their spectrum now have to worry about interference from a project that the FCC has no idea whether it will work or not.

Examples of interference are already clear. Let us say all of us drive along the Beltway here in Washington near the intersection of I–66 and Route 50. We all know where that is. You can hear for yourself what third-adjacent

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.
Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

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channel interference sounds like. For there, two local FM radio stations, three channels apart, cross paths, and the interference is clear and apparent. That is the reality that we do not want to replicate in any sort of low power FM proceeding at the FCC. By dropping third channel interference rules, the FCC is creating an environment whereby it is clear that interference will increase. How much? The broadcast industry says a lot. The FCC, very little. So the question is who is right?

Well, now we are going to find out. The independent third party testing provisions of the legislation we passed in this House allow for a 9-month, nine-market analysis of low power FM. Not only will that analysis look at existing FM stations, but it will also analyze the impact on reading services for the blind, FM translators and the advent of digital radio. These are the issues that the FCC decided were not important, so it never tested any of them.

It is a shame that the FCC was not more aggressive in doing testing itself. After all, this agency is supposed to be the guardians of the spectrum. But by measuring distortion rather than using the internationally recognized standard for interference, the FCC cooked its own results in a way that allowed for it to move forward. That decision came even as Congress was out of town in January, as if our views on this subject did not matter. The fact is that low power FM is a symptom of this agency that does not recognize its responsibilities to Congress. This low power FM action is simply the latest in a series of FCC actions that call into question the whole notion of accountability at the FCC.

I am not opposed to low power FM. I do oppose the way in which the FCC decided to move forward, and I will be watching the results of the third party testing that this bill mandates to see if low power FM can, indeed, coexist with full power stations. The FCC appears to be bent on providing the service whether or not it causes interference or other problems for FM listeners. Our responsibility here in Congress is to those listeners, our constituents. I congratulate my colleagues in the House for passing legislation. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to do the same.

PROMOTING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, all across America, people woke up this morning to front page stories in their communities about the Million Mom March against gun violence. There are pictures of the hundreds of thousands of people who gathered here on the Mall in Washington and other stories featuring the crowds in their hometowns in dozens and dozens of communities across America. I joined thousands of people for a march to Pioneer Square in Portland, Oregon yesterday. I do not know if there were a million moms or not.

Based on the reports that I have reviewed, it is likely that the hundreds of thousands here in Washington, D.C. and the tens of thousands in communities across the country could easily have reached or surpassed that number. The issue for me is not so much whether there were a million moms who marched, but the million moms who grieve.

In the last third of a century, over a million victims have been claimed by gun violence in the United States, more than the entire number of Americans lost in all the wars from the Civil War right through today. Yesterday's gathering was in memory of the million victims, though the testimony was not just of a million victims, but a million mothers, a million fathers, millions of brothers and sisters and grandparents whose lives were touched forever by gun violence.

The Americans who participated were not, in the main, advocates or activists. They were largely people who know that America can do better. They know that despite the opposition of the National Rifle Association to the Brady Bill, that America is safer because people with criminal records or a history of mental illness have been prevented by that Brady Bill from getting a half million guns.

They know that if these prohibitions were extended to people with a history of committing violent misdemeanors, that America would be safer still because these people are 15 times more likely to commit violence with weapons. They know that if we care enough as a Nation to make it harder for a 2-year-old to open a bottle of aspirin, then we can make it harder for that 2-year-old to shoot her sister. They know that the gun show loophole should in fact be closed, especially when they learn that the delay of a few hours for a certain category of people who are not cleared instantly, that these people are 20 times more likely to have the record of mental health problems or criminal records that are precisely the people we want to keep weapons away from.

The American public knows that we can succeed. In the 1960s, Congress and the auto industry, prodded by the public, began a war on traffic deaths that resulted in safer cars and tougher laws. In the 1980s, a mother who lost her child to a drunk driver decided to add her voice to that of many others, and MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, was born, and the government was encouraged, some would say forced, to crack down on drunk driving.

As a result of all of these options, in the last third of a century, we have cut the death rate on our highways in half. The mothers march is a signal to people all over America that it is time for a similar effort to reduce gun violence in our communities.

Everybody knows that there is no single solution, but that there are many small steps that will save lives. If we in Congress are serious about listening to our constituents and making our communities more livable and safer, we have to start today. Why does the Speaker not direct the conference committee on juvenile crime, which has not met since last August, to meet now and address the simple, commonsense provisions to reduce gun violence that have already passed the Senate?

Action by this House would be an important sign that we can send to our constituents that we understand their concerns and we share their passion for saving families from unnecessary violence, making our communities more livable, our families safer, healthier and more economically secure.

TECHNOLOGY, THE NEW ECONOMY AND DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much this opportunity today to talk about technology, the new economy and digital opportunity for all Americans, but let me begin by just sharing some statistics.

Over 100 million U.S. adults today are using the Internet, and seven new people are on the Internet every second. 78 percent of Internet users almost always vote in national, State and local elections, compared to 64 percent of nonInternet users. It took just 5 years for the Internet to reach 50 million users, much faster than traditional electronic media. In fact, it took 13 years for television to reach 50 million and radio, 38 years.

The Internet economy generated, just in the past couple of years, over $300 billion in revenue in 1998. It was responsible for creating 1.2 million jobs. Preliminary employment data now shows that the U.S. high technology industry employed 4.8 million workers in 1998, making it one of our Nation's largest industries, in fact, larger than steel, auto and petroleum combined. In 1997, the high tech average wage was 77 percent higher than the average U.S. private sector wage.

I am proud to say I represent the great State of Illinois, what some call the land of Lincoln. People often do not think of Illinois as a technology center, but it is. In fact, Illinois ranks third today in technology exports and fourth in technology employment. But clearly, Illinois is one of the top 10 cyber States, as some would say, a major State that is producing new technology and new ideas.

I have talked with many over the years, over the last few years, in particular, about what it takes and why

this economy is growing so well in Illinois. And, that is, they say that government has actually stayed out of the way of the new economy. The new economy has been tax free, it has been regulation free, it is trade barrier free. That is why it has been so successful, creating opportunity for so many. That is why I am pleased that House Republicans continue to lead the way in technology. Our e-contract continues to work for a tax-free, regulation-free, trade-barrier-free new economy. And, of course, one of the areas we want to focus on is the area of providing digital opportunity for all Americans.

□ 1245

You know, it is unfortunate that it seems the higher the income, the more likely you are on-line. Families that have incomes of $75,000 or more are nine times more likely to have a home computer, and more than 20 times more likely to have Internet access than a low or moderate income family.

When asked why lower income families and more moderate income families do not have Internet access or a home computer, those families, those working families, cite that cost, the cost of the computer, the cost of subscribing to the Internet access, is a chief barrier.

That is why I am so pleased that this week House Republicans once again are going to lead the way on technology. We are going to be moving legislation passed out of the Committee on Ways and Means, which I serve on, legislation to repeal a 3 percent excise tax on telephone calls, a tax that has been in place since the Spanish American War, over a century. It was a temporary tax at that time. Well, that 3 percent tax is a tax today on Internet access, because 96 percent of those who access the Internet use their telephone to go on-line. Let us pass that legislation. I hope it has strong bipartisan support.

I also want to call attention to my colleagues in the House to two important initiatives, legislation designed to increase digital opportunities so that every American family has the opportunity to be part of today's new economy.

I am so proud that private employers have stepped forward to help solve the so-called digital divide. I have many educators that tell me that they find that children who have a computer at home compared to those who do not tend to do better in school. They notice the difference. They believe it is in the best interests of families when it comes to doing homework as well as research where you can access the Library of Congress via the Internet for children to have a computer at home.

I am pleased that Ford Motor Company, Intel, American Airlines and Delta Airlines have stepped forward on their own initiative to provide home computers as well as Internet access as an employee benefit. Thanks to those four companies, 600,000 American working families will now have access to computers and Internet access. That means everybody from the janitor to the laborer to the guy working on the shop floor, up through middle management, up to the CEO, will all have access, universal access to the Internet, meaning their children will have a computer at home to do school work and research for school papers and school projects. That is good news.

Unfortunately, many other companies that would like to do this, like to provide computers and Internet access to their employees, have been advised by their tax lawyers, wait a second; if you do, you are going to cause a tax increase for your employees because the IRS and Treasury Department will call this a taxable benefit.

That is why the Data Act is so important. Let us treat that computer and Internet access as tax free, the same as an employer-provided contribution to your pension, the same as an employer contribution to your health care.

Mr. Speaker, that type of initiative deserves bipartisan support.

TURKISH REGION RECALLS MASSACRE OF ARMENIANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 10, the New York Times published an extremely important article on a subject that receives far too little attention, in my opinion, and that is the Armenian genocide. What was particularly interesting about this article was that it addressed the issue of the Armenian genocide from the Turkish perspective, from the point of view of ordinary people living in what were the killing fields.

Many in the Armenian community and their friends and supporters frequently discuss the painful memories of the genocide from the perspective of the victims. The article in last week's New York Times presents the history of the genocide from the descendents of the perpetrators, the people who live on land in what is now the eastern part of the Republic of Turkey but which once was the center of Armenian life.

I include this article for the RECORD from the New York Times, Wednesday May 10. It is entitled ''Turkish Region Recalls Massacre of Armenians,'' by Steven Kinzer.

Every year in late April Members of this House come to this floor to commemorate the Armenian genocide. April 24th of this year marked the 85th anniversary of the unleashing of the Armenian genocide. Over the years, from 1915 to 1923, millions of men, women and children were deported, forced into slave labor and tortured by the government of the ''Young Turk Committee.'' 1.5 million of them were killed.

To this day, the Republic of Turkey refuses to acknowledge the fact that this massive crime against humanity took place on soil under its control and in the name of Turkish nationalism. That is why this newspaper article was so interesting and important.

Let me quote from one woman, Yasemin Orhan, a recent university graduate and a native of the town of Elazig, Turkey. She says, ''They don't teach it in school, but if you are interested, there are plenty of ways you can find out. Many Armenians were killed. That is for sure.'' Ms. Orhan told the New York Times reporter that she had learned about the killings from her grandmother.

Another woman, Tahire Cakirbay, 66 years old, standing at the site of a long-gone Armenian Orthodox church, pointed to a nearby hill and said, ''They took the Armenians up there and killed them. They dug a hole for the bodies. My parents told me.''

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to erase from memory such a monumental crime as the Armenian genocide, but the Turkish government is trying. The Times article notes that in the rest of Turkey little is known of and remembered of the Armenian genocide or of the former thriving Armenian community in what is now eastern Turkey. As Ms. Orhan says, ''They don't teach it in school.'' In fact, what they do teach Turkish young people in schools is a skewed version of their own history.

Not content with merely propagating this false version of history for internal consumption, Turkey is using its resources to endow Turkish Studies Chairs at prestigious American universities, staffed by scholars sympathetic to the Turkish official version of history. They are also using their lobbying resources, including former Members of this House, to lobby against bipartisan legislation in this Congress affirming U.S. recognition of the Armenian genocide.

Mr. Speaker, the United States must go on record acknowledging the genocide, and rather than appease Turkey on this issue, we should use our significant influence with that country to get them to do the right thing, to admit what happened in the past, and to work for improved relations with their neighbor, the Republic of Armenia.

The Republic of Armenia is working to build a strong democracy, despite the hostility from Turkey and their ally Azerbaijan, both of whom still maintain blockades preventing vitally needed goods from reaching the Armenian people.

Last week, seven leading Members of the Armenian Parliament came up to Capitol Hill to meet with a bipartisan group of Members of Congress. This week, officials from Armenia and the Republic of Nagorno Karabagh, as well as from Azerbaijan, will be in Washington for a conference on how to resolve the Nagorno Karabagh conflict.

The Armenian people look forward to a bright future of freedom, independence, prosperity and cooperation with their neighbors, but they cannot forget

the bitter history of the early 20th century, and they cannot accept Turkey's efforts to deny that it happened.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote from another of the Turkish citizens quoted in the New York Times article, a factory worker named Selhattin Cinar: ''This used to be an Armenian area, but now they are gone. Dead, killed, chased away. Our government doesn't want to admit it. Why would you want to say, 'my yogurt is sour'?''

[From the New York Times, May 10, 2000]

TURKISH REGION RECALLS MASSACRE OF ARMENIANS—BUT MANY DENY VIOLENCE OF 1915

(By Stephen Kinzer)

ELAZIG, Turkey, May 7—Groves of mulberry trees at lakeside resorts are about all that remains from the days when this region was a center of Armenian life.

One of the gnarled trees used to stand beside a long-gone Armenian Orthodox church. Now it shades Tahire Cakirbay, 66, as she looks out over her fields and shimmering Lake Hazar below.

''They took the Armenians up there and killed them,'' Ms. Cakirbay said, pointing to a hill above her. ''They dug a hole for the bodies. My parents told me.''

More than one million Armenians lived in what is now eastern Turkey until their community was shattered in an orgy of ethnic violence that exploded 85 years ago this spring. Many aspects of what happened then are still hotly debated, but here where the killings took place, few people doubt that they occurred.

''They don't teach it in school, but if you're interested there are plenty of ways you can find out,'' said Yasemin Orhan, a native of Elazig who graduated from the local university last year. ''Many Armenians were killed. It's for sure.''

Ms. Orhan said she had learned about the killings from her grandmother. Here in eastern Turkey, the passage of several generations has not been enough to wipe the killings from memory.

In the rest of the country, however, most people know little about the killings of 1915. Turkish textbooks refer to them only indirectly. They stress that Armenian militants were rebelling against the crumbling Ottoman Empire, and discount or ignore the killing of hundreds of thousands of civilians after the abortive revolt.

Conflicts over how to deal with the episode have provoked a worldwide propaganda war between Armenia and Turkey.

Armenian lobbyists want foreign governments to declare that what happened in 1915 was genocide. Some Armenian nationalists say that if Turkey can be forced to concede that, their next step might be to claim reparations or demand the return of land once owned by Armenians.

Turkish diplomats resolutely resist those efforts. They assert that Muslims as well as Christians were killed here in 1915, and that it is unfair to blame only one side.

To most Turks the events of 1915 seem distant, but in the Armenian consciousness they are a vivid and constant presence. Awareness of what is simply called ''the genocide'' is acute in Armenian communities around the world.

Often it is accompanied by fierce anger at Turkey's recalcitrance.

That anger boiled over into violence during the 1970's and 80's, when a group calling itself Commandos of the Armenian Genocide mounted a campaign against representatives of the Turkish government. It killed Turkish diplomats in the United States and elsewhere, and bombed targets including the Turkish Airlines counter at Orly Airport in Paris.

Since then the battle has shifted back to the diplomatic arena. Each spring, foreign leaders issue carefully worded commemorations of the killings. Last month, President Clinton issued a proclamation recalling ''a great tragedy of the twentieth century: the deportations and massacres of roughly one and a half million Armenians in the final years of the Ottoman Empire.'' He did not use the word ''genocide.''

In the last year, Turkey has greatly improved its relations with Greece, but there has been little progress with Armenia. The two countries feud over a variety of political issues, but the wound that 1915 has cut into the Armenian psyche also plays an emotional role in keeping them apart.

In recent months, some of the first efforts toward reconciliation between Turks and Armenians have begun. One was a conference of Turkish, Armenian and American scholars who met at the University of Chicago to begin a joint inquiry into the events of 1915.

''This was the most difficult paper I have ever written in my life,'' said Selim Deringil, a historian at Bosporus University in Istanbul, as he presented his analysis of Turkish-Armenian relations. ''Venturing into the Armenian crisis is like wandering into a minefield.''

The scholars who gathered in Chicago plan to meet again. Another group plans to open a series of conferences later this spring in Austria.

In a different kind of gesture, seven Turkish and Armenian women, all in their 20's, have joined in a campaign aimed at improving relations between their peoples. The group's first project will be raising money to restore an Armenian church near Van, a city in eastern Turkey that was one an Armenian capital. ''This kind of thing has never been tried before,'' said one of the organizers, Safak Pavey, a Turkish journalist. ''We want to give an example of unity between two peoples who lived together for a long time but became alienated from each other. It's about restoring a church as a way of restoring souls.''

Elazig is just one place where Armenians were killed by Ottoman soldiers and Kurdish tribesmen in the spring and summer of 1915. But because several foreigners were living in the area and recorded what they saw, the killings here were unusually well documented.

One of the foreigners was an American consul, Leslie Davis, who took a trip around Lake Hazar, then known as Lake Golcuk, after the massacres. ''Thousands and thousands of Armenians, mostly helpless women and children, were butchered on its shores and barbarously mutilated,'' he later wrote.

Armenian houses, churches and schools in this area have long since been destroyed or allowed to collapse. New villages have sprung up along the lake. Residents picnic under the mulberry tress that Armenians planted around their summer homes a century ago.

It is still possible to find artifacts of Armenian life here. At one antique shop near Elazig, $250 will buy a heavy copper serving tray inscribed with the name of its former owner in distinctive Armenian script.

Just last month, a couple of men were discovered digging at what they believed to be a former Armenian cemetery. They were apparently looking for gold that, according to local lore, was often interred with wealthy Armenians.

Nevzat Gonultas, manager of a telephone substation on the lakeshore, is considered a local historian because his father spent many hours telling him stories from the past. Like most people around here—although unlike their brethren in other parts of Turkey—he knows what happened in 1915.

''Other people don't know because they don't live here,'' Mr. Gonultas said as he sipped tea on a recent evening. ''My father told me that Turkey was weak at that time and the Armenians decided to stage an uprising. Then the order came to kill them. Almost all were killed. It wasn't a war; it was a massacre.

The Turkish authorities do not accept that version, and many Turks never hear it. A historical atlas issued by a leading Turkish newspaper does not show that much of this region was under Armenian rule for centuries.

At historical sites in this region, signs and brochures often discount or omit facts about the earlier Armenian presence. According to one new travel book, ''guards are under instruction to eavesdrop on tourist guides who might be tempted to tell another story.''

Anyone who seeks to learn about the events in 1915, however, need only come here.

''This used to be an Armenian area, but now they're gone,'' said a factory worker named Selhattin Cinar. ''Dead, killed, chased away. Our government doesn't want to admit it. Why would you want to say, 'My yogurt is sour'?''

THE BIRTH OF A MOVEMENT TO STOP VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentlewoman from The District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, there have been lots of marches in Washington, but some marches do not fade away. Indeed, they do not go away at all.

A movement was born yesterday, Mr. Speaker. In this city there occurred the largest anti-violence march in the Nation's history. It is estimated that there were 750,000 people. There might be some controversy, there always is, about numbers, half a million, 750,000. What we do know is they covered the Mall, and they had thousands upon thousands in five dozen cities as well. So, if you consider all those who marched throughout the United States and those who marched here, the moms easily made their million.

What this House ought to consider is whether or not 750,000 people could morph into 7 million voters geared to vote to do something about guns and their kids in the next election.

More impressive than their numbers, Mr. Speaker, was who they were. These were not pros. These were amateurs organized essentially from the suburbs of America. These were the proverbial soccer moms. These folks were from the voter-rich suburbs, and their call spread like spontaneous combustion.

But, I come to the floor this afternoon to say that if we thought yesterday's demonstration took this city by storm, watch out for the afterquake. Some of these moms are here today; some of them will be here every day. Mr. Speaker, the NRA has met its

match in hundreds of thousands more people than they ever realized would be organized to keep guns away from their kids.

We should not ask why did they come to Washington; I want to ask what took them so long? The parents of America got a terrible, not wake-up call, but alarm bell from the Columbine High School massacre and all that has followed since.

It became clear that no matter where you live, this is one country, there is freedom of travel, and the guns have the same freedom of travel. Of course, there were people from my own district, countless people from my own district: Laura Wallace, Renae Marsh Williams, the mothers of the high school sweethearts from Wilson high school who were killed by guns; Gillian Bates, who also marched with us, whose son is still in Children's Hospital with a bullet in his brain following the zoo shooting on Easter Monday.

But, Mr. Speaker, these mothers and fathers and families are way ahead of us. They want registration and licensing. We are still stuck on ''stupid.'' We are still stuck on mandatory locks and closing the gun show loopholes. They are way ahead of the game, and we are going to have to meet them one day on registration and licensing.

Over and over again, they talked about not minding the inconvenience of registering their cars, and they could not understand why people would be against the registering of their guns, which can do harm to their children.

If in fact there is any respect for the families of America, at the very least we will free this legislation that has been held in bondage in conference, that is, by any measure, modest, too modest, to do the whole job, but a start and the kind of start that these families deserve.

If we have any respect for the people who came here on Sunday, for the people who marched in five dozen cities, surely we will free up that legislation that has been locked down for so long, disgracefully, considering what happened at Columbine and what has happened since.

We should never underestimate the determination of mothers. If I have any criticism to be made for them, it is that they should have been here when children were going down one by one. It should not have taken 15 in Colorado. Well, it did, and they now get it.

They wonder if we get it, and, if we do not get it, Mr. Speaker, they are going to get us, because they are not going away. They are going to turn their march into votes. These are very diverse people, poor people, black and white and Hispanic people, but they include many well-educated people who know how to do their homework and know how to get the job done.

I come to the floor this afternoon with a warning on their behalf: Get the minimum bill we have before us out of conference and passed before we go home for Memorial Day.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Ancient Scriptures tell us: ''Beloved, do not be surprised that a trial of fire occurs or when something strange happens to you.''

You, O Lord, are the God of all consolation. We pray to You for all those who are startled by sudden events and are shaken by what happens to those they hold dear.

How fragile and how unpredictable is life here on earth. How violent the times. Strengthen us in steadfast faith. Renew us in foundational relationships. For even in the most surprising moments, You call us, ''Your Beloved.''

Freed of fear and confusion, create in us a new spirit which will unify Your people in hope. May the brokenhearted hold fast to the constancy of Your love.

For You live now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 434, AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 112) to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill, H.R. 434, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 112

(1) In section 112(b)(1), insert ''(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and are wholly formed and cut in the United States)'' after ''yarns wholly formed in the United States,''.

(2) In section 112(b)(2), insert ''(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and are wholly formed in the United States)'' after ''yarns wholly formed in the United States''.

(3) In section 112(b)(3), strike ''countries, subject'' and insert ''countries (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and are wholly formed and cut in 1 or more beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries), subject''.

(4) In section 112(b)(5)(A), insert ''apparel articles of'' after ''to the extent that''.

(5) In section 213(b)(2)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill—

(A) in clause (i), strike ''in a CBTPA beneficiary country'' and insert ''in 1 or more CBTPA beneficiary countries''; and

(B) in clause (ii)—

(i) strike ''cut in a CBTPA beneficiary country'' and insert ''cut in 1 or more CBTPA beneficiary countries''; and

(ii) strike ''assembled in such country'' and insert ''assembled in 1 or more such countries''.

(6) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, insert ''(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are wholly formed and cut in the United States)'' after ''yarns wholly formed in the United States,''.

(7) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, insert ''(including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are wholly formed in the United States)'' after ''yarns wholly formed in the United States''.

(8) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(iii)(I) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, strike ''United States, in an amount'' and insert ''United States (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of the HTS and are formed in 1 or more CBTPA beneficiary countries), in an amount''.

(9) In clause (v) of section 213(b)(2)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill—

(A) strike ''fibers, fabric, or yarn'' each place it appears in the heading and the text and insert ''fabrics or yarn'';

(B) strike ''fibers, fabric, and yarn'' and insert ''fabrics and yarn''; and

(C) insert ''apparel articles of'' after ''to the extent that''.

(10) In section 213(b)(2)(A)(vii)(IV) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained in section 211(a) of the bill, strike ''entered'' and insert ''classifiable''.

(11) In section 213(b)(2)(A) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, as contained

in section 211(a) of the bill, strike ''(vii) TEXTILE LUGGAGE.—'' and insert ''(viii) TEXTILE LUGGAGE.—''.

(12) Strike section 412(a)(2) and insert the following:

''(2) in the flush paragraph at the end, by striking ''and (G)'' and inserting ''(G), and (H) (to the extent described in section 507(6)(D))''.''.

(13) In the article description for subheading 9902.51.13 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, as added by section 502(a) of the bill, strike ''of 64's and linen worsted wool count wool yarn''.

(14) In section 505(d), insert ''to the United States Customs Service'' after ''appropriate claim''.

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TO CHINA

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, later this month, Members of this House will be casting their votes on one of the most important issues that Congress has faced in recent years. Of course, this is a vote to extend Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China.

As a result of decades of negotiations, China will soon become a member of the World Trade Organization. Congress now has the responsibility to extend PNTR to China in order for American workers and businesses to take advantage of this historic opportunity.

For those Members, like myself, who have concerns about national security with China, human rights, Taiwan and other issues, we cannot afford to miss this opportunity. PNTR represents the greatest opportunity that America has had to break down the walls of isolation in China and provide the Chinese people with the tools they need to pursue freedom and democracy.

By increasing the exchange of goods, services, and ideas between the United States and China, we will be taking strides to support reform for those who need our support the most.

INTERNATIONAL ABDUCTION

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the story of Machael Heidi Al-Omary, who was abducted from Jonesboro, Arkansas to Saudi Arabia by her noncustodial father. There is a bench warrant issued against the abductor as well as Federal warrants for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution and violations of the International Kidnapping Act of 1993. The father had visitation rights, and the parents had reached an agreement in which Machael would stay 1 week at a time at each residence.

Machael's mother, Margaret McClain, corresponded with her ex-husband via e-mail for a short period of time while negotiations were attempted. Margaret is very determined to find and recover her daughter. She has initiated contact with many agencies and is the Director of Legislative Affairs of an organization called P.A.R.E.N.T. in Arkansas. She represents a coalition of over 20 missing children groups around the world.

Mr. Speaker, we should all be working as hard as Margaret McClain to bring our children home. Parents and children like Margaret and Machael should be together. It is a tragedy that countries are violating the Hague Convention and keeping them apart.

I urge my colleagues to help reunite these parents and bring H. Con. Res. 293 to the floor.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, I convened Medicare town hall meetings with senior citizens in my district that I represent in the towns of South Holland and Joliet, Illinois, to listen to the seniors, the folks back home, about what they feel is needed in a Medicare prescription drug benefit, the proposal we now have before us in Congress.

What I heard, Mr. Speaker, were some horror stories about the cost of drugs today for our seniors. In fact, I met with one gentleman from South Holland who spends $8,000 a year just for four injections. I heard from a retired steelworker in Joliet who wanted choices in drug plans, including the option to keep his current plan provided by his former employer if it is better.

A widow from Calumet City told me about the times that she will go without breakfast or lunch just to save $15 or $20 so she can afford her arthritis medication.

These are heart wrenching stories, Mr. Speaker. But one thing I heard over and over again is that this Congress should work together to solve the challenge for modernizing Medicare to include a prescription drug benefit.

We have seen what has happened in the last few years whenever we try to work to modernize Medicare. We have seen those who wanted to politicize it for partisan purposes using Medi-Scare and poison-pill politics.

Mr. Speaker, let us work together. Let us find a bipartisan way to provide prescription drug coverage for our seniors.

TIME FOR OVERSIGHT OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, scientist Carl Gilliotti, a contract expert for the FBI who was deemed extremely competent by the FBI said, ''The FBI lied under oath about Waco when the FBI testified that they did not fire automatic weapons into the burning building.'' Unbelievable.

Check this out. Shortly after Gilliotti's statement, Gilliotti came up missing. Gilliotti's 42-year-old body was found 2 weeks later in his own laboratory dead and badly decomposed. I say, Mr. Speaker, Gilliotti did not choke on a chicken bone.

A full investigation is warranted by Congress. Otherwise, the Justice Department will investigate the FBI, and the FBI will investigate the death of Carl Gilliotti. Beam me up. It is time for some oversight on the Justice Department by passing H.R. 4105.

BASEBALL, NOT TAX INCREASES, SHOULD BE THE AMERICAN PASTIME

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, Will Rogers once said that ''Baseball is a skilled game. It's America's game, it and high taxes.''

Well, it seems like he was right. The Clinton-Gore fiscal year 2001 budget includes 106, that is 106, Mr. Speaker, separate tax increases. Taken together, these tax increases total over $180 billion.

Mr. Speaker, the American pastime should be baseball. Unfortunately, the Clinton-Gore administration has a new pastime, increasing the crushing tax burden placed upon American taxpayers.

It seems that the administration wants to keep taking more and more money from hard-working Americans to pay for their growing, yet inefficient, bureaucracy.

I encourage my colleagues to reject the Clinton-Gore tax and spend plans and to let Americans keep more of their hard-earned money.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the Democrats' anti-American tax increases, which only serve to demoralize the American working families spirit.

MILLION MOM MARCH

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to all of the mothers yesterday that commemorated and celebrated Mother's Day, I hope for them that it was a very special day.

But I hope the Nation took note of more than 750,000 mothers who gathered in Washington, D.C., along with probably another thousands and thousands of mothers who gathered throughout 67 cities across this Nation

to take a stand against gun violence and for gun safety legislation.

It is interesting that America seems not to move until the American people stand up and be counted. The Vietnam War ended when mothers said no more of their sons would die. In Houston, Texas, there are over 1,300 strong men and women who marched against gun violence, the inertia, and the lack of activity of this House.

We must act, and the mothers of America have spoken. The question is will the Republican Congress listen?

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 12, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on May 12, 2000 at 4:10 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a legislative proposal entitled ''Consumer Product Safety Commission Enhanced Enforcement Act of 2000.''

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2000—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 106–235)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Commerce and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit today for immediate consideration and prompt enactment the ''Consumer Product Safety Commission Enhanced Enforcement Act of 2000.'' This legislative proposal would increase the penalties that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) could impose upon manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products who do not inform the CPSC when the company has reason to believe it has sold a product that does not meet Federal safety standards or could otherwise create a substantial product hazard. The proposal would also improve product recalls by enabling the CPSC to choose an alternative remedy in a recall if the CPSC finds that the remedy selected by the manufacturer is not in the public interest.

Under current consumer product safety laws, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products are required to inform the CPSC whenever they have information that one of their products: (1) fails to comply with a CPSC product safety standard; (2) contains a defect that could create a substantial product hazard; or (3) creates an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death. After a company reports this information to the CPSC, the CPSC staff initiates an investigation in cooperation with the company. If the CPSC concludes that the product presents a substantial products hazard and that a recall is in the public interest, the CPSC staff will work with the company to conduct a product safety recall. The sooner the CPSC hears about a dangerous product, the sooner the CPSC can act to remove the product from store shelves and inform consumers about how to eliminate the hazard. That is why it is critical that companies inform the CPSC as soon as they are aware that one of their products may present a serious hazard to the public.

Unfortunately, in about half the cases involving the most significant hazards—where the product can cause death or serious injury—companies do not report to the CPSC. In those cases, the CPSC must get safety information from other sources, including its own investigators, consumers, or tragically, from hospital emergency room reports or death certificates. Sometimes years can pass before the CPSC learns of the product hazard, although the company may have been aware of it all along. During that time, deaths and injuries continue. Once the CPSC becomes aware of the hazard, many companies continue to be recalcitrant, and the CPSC staff must conduct its own independent investigation. This often includes finding and investigating product incidents and conducting extensive laboratory testing. This process can take a long time, which means that the most dangerous products remain on store shelves and in consumers' homes longer, placing children and families at continuing risk.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission can currently assess civil penalties against companies who fail to report a dangerous product. Criminal penalties are also available in particularly serious cases. In fact, in 1999, the CPSC assessed 10 times the amount of civil penalties assessed 10 years ago. But, even with this more vigorous enforcement, too many companies still do not report, especially in cases involving serious harm.

This legislative proposal would enhance the CPSC's civil and criminal enforcement authority. It would provide an added incentive for companies to comply with the law so that we can get dangerous products out of stores and consumers' homes more quickly.

My legislative proposal would also help to make some product recalls more effective by allowing the CPSC to choose an alternative remedy if the CPSC finds that the manufacturer's chosen remedy is not in the public interest. Under current law, a company with a defective product that is being recalled has the right to select the remedy to be offered to the public. My proposal would continue to permit the company to select the remedy in a product recall. My proposal would also, however, allow the CPSC to determine—after an opportunity for a hearing—that the remedy selected by the company is not in the public interest. The CPSC may then order the company to carry out an alternative program that is in the public interest.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission helps to keep America's children and families safe. This legislative proposal would help the CPSC be even more effective in protecting the public from dangerous products. I urge the Congress to give this legislation prompt and favorable consideration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.
THE WHITE HOUSE, *May 12, 2000.*

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceeding today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote, or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2370) to designate the Federal building located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, as the ''Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse''.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2370

Be it enacted by the Senate and House and Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

The Federal building located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

□ 1415

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I am certainly pleased to move this legislation directly to the floor for consideration to honor my good friend Senator MOYNIHAN. This legislation designates the United States Courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street in New York as the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse.

PAT MOYNIHAN grew up in New York City, and he experienced the trials of Hell's Kitchen. By the age of 16, he was employed as a stevedore, and I am sure he made everybody know it, especially those whose privilege afforded the social and economic advantage that he never had.

He earned a Bachelor's Degree from Tufts with honors, studied at the London School of Economics as a Fulbright Scholar, and received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Michael Barone best described Senator MOYNIHAN as ''the Nation's best thinker among politicians since Lincoln, and its best politician among thinkers since Jefferson.''

Senator MOYNIHAN played key roles in passing both ISTEA and TEA–21. I had the great privilege of working closely with him in conference on many very significant transportation and water resource pieces of legislation.

Before entering the Senate, Senator MOYNIHAN was a member of the cabinet or subcabinet of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford. No one else has ever served four successive administrations in such capacity.

His work on welfare earned him the scorn of many, who misunderstood his thinking about inner city poverty, which is now widely acclaimed as brilliant foresight.

He is a former U.S. Ambassador to India and a U.S. Representative to the United Nations. In 1976, he represented the United States as President of the United Nations Security Council. He made this country proud by his adherence to democratic principles over the dismay of Western European diplomats and the anger of Third World diplomats.

In addition to his professional duties at Harvard, MIT, Syracuse, Wesleyan and Cornell, Senator MOYNIHAN is a recipient of 62 honorary degrees. George Will remarked that MOYNIHAN has written more books than most Senators have read. Now, I certainly would not agree with that assertion, but it is an interesting comment.

Mr. Speaker, I support this measure. Everybody who knows PAT MOYNIHAN knows he is brilliant. But I would suggest that he is more than brilliant. I would suggest that he not only has an extraordinarily high IQ, but he has a CSQ to match his IQ. Intelligence quotient, yes, but common sense quotient to go right with it. Indeed, if one were to open the dictionary and look up the definition of wise man, it would be very appropriate to see the name DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN.

It is a great privilege for me, Mr. Speaker, to offer this legislation today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of this legislation, which designates the United States Courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City in honor of the public career of one of America's most renowned and prolific political figures, Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, the senior Senator from New York.

Senator MOYNIHAN can take enormous and justifiable pride in the understatement of the words ''a job well done.'' Although he has served as an elected official for over 25 years, his other job descriptions include Ambassador to India, cabinet level officer for four successive administrations, a Smithsonian Regent, educator and author, and in all these positions he served with brilliance and dedication and devotion to the very highest standards of excellence.

Senator MOYNIHAN has written or edited 18 books and he has received 62 honorary degrees. His educational experiences include Professor of Government at Harvard University, Assistant Professor of Government at Syracuse University, Fulbright Fellow at the London School of Economics and Fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies at Wesleyan University.

Senator MOYNIHAN has long held a passion for social issues and reform. During his distinguished career he has received the International League of Human Rights Award, the John LaFarge Award for Interracial Justice, and was the first recipient of the American Political Science Association's Hubert Humphrey Award for notable public service by a political scientist.

He has been honored with national awards from Notre Dame University, the American Institute of Architects, the American Philosophical Society, the National Institute of Social Sciences and Columbia University, to name but a few.

Senator MOYNIHAN has been, and I am sure will continue to be, a distinctive voice in American politics, policy and society. His brilliant intellect fuels his convictions, and his beliefs are grounded in thoroughly independent thinking. His voice of reason and compassion will be sorely missed by both the House and the Senate.

I strongly support S. 2370 and join my colleagues in honoring one of our greatest legislators.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I am pleased to take this opportunity to speak in support of S. 2370, legislation designating the Federal building located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City in honor of our good friend and colleague, the senior Senator from New York, DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN.

Born on March 16, 1927, Senator MOYNIHAN is a long-time New Yorker. He attended public and parochial schools in New York City, graduated from the Ben Franklin High School in East Harlem and earned his Bachelor's degree from Tufts University. He went on the study at the London School of Economics, was a Fulbright Scholar and received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Senator MOYNIHAN attended the City College of New York for 1 year before leaving to serve his Nation by enlisting in the United States Navy. From 1944 through 1947, Senator MOYNIHAN served as a gunnery officer on the U.S.S. *Quirinus,* and in 1966 he completed 20 years of service in the Naval Reserve.

I have had the opportunity to work with Senator MOYNIHAN on a number of important issues facing the State of New York, and on a number of occasions we have discussed the state of the State of New York. I have welcomed all of his diligent work and the richness of his dedication and respect for the people of our State. Accordingly, I urge all of our colleagues to support this worthy resolution.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time, and I thank our chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), for his diligent effort, and it was diligent and all-encompassing to bring this bill forward today. I know that he does so with great sincerity and with great respect for Senator MOYNIHAN and for the times that we spent together in 1991 drafting ISTEA, in which the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) played a dominant and significant role.

This bill honors one of America's truly great legislators, a person who is a distinguished public servant, an educator, and an author. A Senator from New York for almost 25 years, Senator MOYNIHAN first won election to the Senate in 1976, but his career in the Senate was just one chapter of a life filled with dedication to excellence and devotion to the highest principles of public service.

Though he was not born in New York, like so many New Yorkers who migrated to that city, he was actually born in Oklahoma, but he certainly is a son of New York. He attended public and parochial schools there, graduated

from Benjamin Franklin High School in East Harlem, and briefly attended City College of New York.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served on active duty from 1944 through 1947. His last tour of duty was as a gunnery officer aboard the U.S.S. *Quirinus*.

He earned his Bachelor's Degree from Tufts University, an M.A. and Ph.D. from Tufts' Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. From 1950 to 1951, Senator MOYNIHAN was a Fulbright Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

He holds the distinction of being the first person to serve in four successive administrations, in the cabinet or subcabinet of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford.

He has been Ambassador to India, U.S. Representative to the United Nations, President of the U.N. Security Council, assistant to the legendary Governor Harriman, assistant to Secretary of Labor Art Goldberg, later a Supreme Court Justice, Director of Urban Studies at Harvard and MIT, Vice Chair of the Board of the Woodrow Wilson Center, Regent of the Smithsonian Institution.

He is the author of 18 books on race, ethnicity and social policy. Since 1977, every year Senator MOYNIHAN has published an annual account of the flow of tax dollars from New York State to the Federal Government, underscoring the reality that New York is consistently, in many arenas, a donor State.

An independent-minded Member of the Senate, known for his individuality, he is witty, has an extraordinary memory, a great gift with words, and always brilliant.

Just a couple of vignettes, Mr. Speaker.

I recall in 1981, when we were in conference with the Senate on the Budget Reconciliation Act in our Committee on Public Works and Transportation on the economic development program, which the Reagan administration had proposed to abolish. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) may recall, although I think it was Mr. Hammersmith who was on the conference with me, and together we made an appeal to the Senate to preserve EDA and Appalachia. At the end of my presentation, Senator MOYNIHAN turned to the chair of the Senate conferees and said, ''Doesn't the eloquence of the gentleman from Minnesota move our colleague?'' And the chair on the Senate side said, ''Yes, I am deeply moved, but I can vote with him.''

And so, Senator MOYNIHAN, rather than getting peevish about it, smiled and said, ''In time, we will prevail.'' And, of course, in time, we did. It took the chairmanship of the gentleman from Pennsylvania to prevail, but we have, indeed.

Then again in 1991, when we were crafting the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, in which Senator MOYNIHAN was on the Senate side and author of what came to be known as the enhancements provisions, he insisted time and again that we needed a broader view of transportation, and that some of our trust fund dollars should be used for purposes that will strengthen transportation, ease pressure on roads, give citizens other opportunities in our urban environment. As always an urban philosopher.

And I think it will be to his everlasting credit that he prevailed in the councils of the Senate and persisted in our House-Senate conference on the enhancements, which have been so widely accepted and such a strong point of support for what later became TEA–21.

□ 1430

He certainly is the model of the philosopher politician that our Founding Fathers hoped would lead the Congress that they were crafting.

It is indeed appropriate to name this particular building, this very distinguished structure, for a distinguished member of the United States Senate, DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am not going to let my friend, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) get away with telling stories on PAT MOYNIHAN without my sharing my two bits' worth. He is such an extraordinary individual, Senator MOYNIHAN, that one might even think he is perfect. But I can tell my colleagues, he is not. He is not perfect.

When the good Lord passed out intelligence, he lingered so long and gave Senator MOYNIHAN such great intelligence that he felt he had had to somehow make up for that overabundance of wisdom; and so, he shortchanged him in a different category. I would suggest that different category was in the category of patience.

Some years ago when we were doing two important bills, the highway bill and the water bill at the same time, and Senator MOYNIHAN was in both conferences and I was in both conferences running back and forth, even though I had an extremely important water provision in the water bill for Altoona, Pennsylvania, and we were going to grandfather in the Federal share at 75 percent; otherwise, it was being cut to 50 percent, I had to leave. I could not be there to defend my position. I had to run upstairs to the highway conference. And so, I asked the Senator if my chief of staff could stay and help in my behalf, and he said, certainly.

My chief of staff explained to the Senator what it was and how we had to have on a $43 million water project 75 percent instead of 50 percent. Senator MOYNIHAN turned over and said, well, you calculate it. Calculate it right away. She became so flustered that she could not calculate 75 percent of 43 in time enough to suit the Senator. So he simply said, oh, just put in such sums as may be required at 75 percent.

So she did. And the project, which was a $43 million project by the time it was billed, grew to about an $80 million project. But because of the Senator's lack of patience, we had a tremendously nice increase in the fund for that project.

So I am deeply indebted to the Senator for his lack of patience. Even when he sometimes seems to come up short in a particular talent, it works to people's advantages.

The last story I would tell about him has to do with a press conference that we held after a long, hard negotiation on a highway bill. We went out together and somebody said to the Senator, Senator MOYNIHAN, which State will you say made out the best in these negotiations? And in his puckish way, Senator MOYNIHAN said, State, State, State, State, the State of Altoona.

So for that, too, I wish to thank the Senator.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that, given his own wit, the Senator will appreciate the comments of the chairman and the ranking member.

Mr. Speaker, if I might, I would like to offer some personal comments about the Senator, because, though I am a native Washingtonian, I spent some of the best years of my career as Human Rights Commissioner of New York City and executive assistant to Mayor John Lindsay, where I first came to know the Senator. I got to know him before I ever thought of joining him in the Congress of the United States. Indeed, the District did not even have home rule at the time.

As one who maintains her tenure by continuing to teach at Georgetown Law Center, I have a very special appreciation for Senator MOYNIHAN's dual and unequalled feat as an eminently practical politician and reigning intellectual of the Congress of the United States, a legislator so effective, his work product would be hard to match, all the while producing very deep works on social policy.

What the Senator has managed to do is to bring the deep thinking from his natural bent as an intellectual to the legislative process. This is, perhaps, why he has chosen to concentrate so often on tough legislative issues, on Social Security, on welfare, yes, and on the black family. And as an African American woman, I think I ought to say right here this afternoon that the Senator was prescient in his work on the black family. As controversial as it was, all that he has said and more has come true. And he was prescient, as well, on the white family, or the American family, since a third of all children in our country are born to female headed households, with all of the disadvantages that implies.

Perhaps because the Moynihan report came just as Civil Rights legislation was kicking in, many African Americans did not want to face the notion that many of the problems of the black

family were internal and had to be concentrated on by African Americans themselves. But whatever was the reason, it took a man of the most accomplished intellect, the deepest understanding of social policy to understand so early in the process what problems would attend the growth of the female-headed household.

The Senator appears to have chosen as his only monuments, words. That is why he has written so many. He, of course, has left other monuments; and I want to say a word about those other monuments. But first, let me say that, in choosing words, he is in the tradition of the great intellectuals of the century in choosing to leave on paper what he really thinks so that it can be evaluated now and in the future. He has been true to his first profession as professor all the while he has been a senator.

What has been so important to that work, however, is that it has risen up off the pages. The Senator has continued to be at the cutting edge of social policy, and his deep thinking has obviously guided what he has brought to the legislative table.

I am told he has a hideaway that when the rest of us are running around the halls, he goes to and writes and thinks.

What is truly amazing is that MOYNIHAN is known to have one of the most pragmatic and problem-solving minds in the House and the Senate in his time. He is, basically, a new deal, economics, jobs-first Democrat.

When he came here, he rose to be the chair of the Committee on Finance. He always served on the Committee on Environment and Public Works. Always. He never got off that committee.

Mr. Speaker, this city and surely the Nation will remember Senator MOYNIHAN for a monument he never sought but is his. He is the architect of the new Pennsylvania Avenue. Almost single-handedly, Senator MOYNIHAN remade Pennsylvania Avenue. On November 21, 1963, he spoke of his plan to take what had become a slum, our major avenue leading between the Capitol and the White House, and redo it.

President Kennedy, and he was then in the administration and not in the Congress, said he would meet with Mr. MOYNIHAN when he got back from Dallas. President Kennedy never got back from Dallas. But Senator MOYNIHAN, in fact, got President Johnson to agree to the Moynihan plan for the rededication of Pennsylvania Avenue as an avenue worthy of the Nation. It has become one of the most beautiful avenues in the world.

What it signifies is the ability of Senator MOYNIHAN to simply stick to an issue until it gets done. Very few legislators who, after all, are forced to jump from issue to issue have that determination and stick-to-it-iveness. He followed Pennsylvania Avenue from the administration, where he served into the Senate and stuck with it and kept with it until it is what we see today.

This redesign, remaking of the major thoroughfare of the Nation's capital, of course, benefitted people of the District of Columbia. But, Mr. Speaker, it benefited far more, the Nation. Imagine what our constituents would think of us if they found Pennsylvania Avenue today the way Senator MOYNIHAN found it. Unwillingly perhaps, Pennsylvania Avenue is one of the monuments to his career.

Mr. Speaker, most courthouses this body names are named simply for the honor of the person. The person never had anything to do with the courthouse, but we honor him by putting his name on the courthouse. Well, that is not true of the Foley Square Courthouse. How could any important building like this be built in New York without Senator MOYNIHAN's hand on the throttle throughout? This is a courthouse that he fought very hard for. It replaces one of the great historic courthouses perhaps next to the Supreme Court, the most historic courthouse that was tumbling down; and Senator MOYNIHAN was determined that there would be a new Foley Square Courthouse.

How appropriate it is, therefore, Mr. Speaker, that the new Foley Square Courthouse would bear the name of a man who sought no monuments, only tried to replace those that had deteriorated, to bear the name of DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN. It does this House a great honor to honor this great Senator. We honor his career, and we are pleased that this courthouse will be one of the monuments to that multifacetted career.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am in strong support of S. 2370 designating the Federal Courthouse at 500 Pearl Street in Manhattan after a dear friend and true statesman, Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN. This bill is a fitting tribute to a distinguished scholar, an outstanding Senator, and a great American. The building that will bear his name was built to last more than 200 years and will be a lasting monument to the long and distinguished public service career of Senator MOYNIHAN.

Senator MOYNIHAN has served our country for forty-seven years. He is the only person in our country's history to serve as a member of the Cabinet or sub-Cabinet for four successive administrations. He was Ambassador to India, as well as the President of the United Nations Security Council. And since 1977, he has served the great people of New York in the United States Senate.

Senator MOYNIHAN is also one of our great scholars. He has received more than 60 honorary degrees, has written or edited 18 books, holds a Ph.D. from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and has taught at such distinguished institutions as MIT, Harvard, Syracuse, and Cornell. I know few people who can match his resume and none can surpass his commitment to this Nation.

New York will be losing a strong voice and dear friend in the Senate when Senator MOYNIHAN retires at the end of this year.

I have had the privilege of working with Senator MOYNIHAN on several bills on behalf of our constituents over the years. Even as a freshman Member of the House, Senator MOYNIHAN was generous with his time and became a valued advisor to me. I have enjoyed working with him and will sorely miss his presence when he retires. He is a distinguished Senator and one we will deeply miss in both Chambers.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 2370.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2370.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NAMING ROOM IN CAPITOL IN HONOR OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE G.V. ''SONNY'' MONTGOMERY

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 491) naming a room in the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol in honor of former Representative G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 491

Whereas former Representative G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery of Mississippi, from the time of his election to the House of Representatives in 1967 and his beyond his retirement in 1996 through the present day, has faithfully and continuously facilitated the ''House of Representatives Prayer Breakfast'' at 8 a.m. every Thursday morning in Room H–130 in the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol with a dedication that is indelibly etched in the memories of the many Members who have attended that weekly event: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the room numbered H–130 in the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol is named in honor of former Representative G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to be able to bring this resolution to the floor to honor our good friend and former colleague, Sonny Montgomery, and certainly to recognize that the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PEASE) is the driving force by which this has been brought to the floor today to name room H–130 in the Capitol as the G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery Room.

As many Members know, Sonny served in this body for 30 years. He was

born in Meridian, Mississippi, attended Mississippi State, and served in both World War II and the Korean War. He served in the Mississippi National Guard for 35 years and retired at the rank of major general.

Sonny was a tireless advocate for veterans' programs and chaired that committee for 14 years. He is a former President of the Congressional Prayer Breakfast and was the first Member of Congress to be asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance when it became a permanent part of our daily operations in the House on September 13, 1988.

He made numerous trips abroad on behalf of veterans, led the American Delegation to the 40th and 50th anniversary of the Normandy Invasion.

□ 1445

He is the recipient of the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Award, Mississippi Magnolia Cross Award and numerous other awards. In addition to his being a personal friend of mine, we share a common crisis, an honor which I guess both of us could just as well have done without. He had a very serious operation on his back performed by the chief of neurosurgery at Bethesda Naval Hospital and when I had a broken neck in an automobile accident, I turned to Sonny to see where I should go and what we should do. His recommendation was such a good one because the chief of neurosurgery out at Bethesda put me back together as well. So Sonny and I have both been put back together by the same neurosurgeon.

As I say, I very much appreciated his wonderful and very important advice, but I think it is an honor we both could have done without. He is a dear friend. I am thrilled that we have this before us today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I rise in strong support of this resolution in honor of Sonny Montgomery. I am very pleased to note that the gentleman is present in the House today. It seems like old times, and it is where so many of us believe he belongs.

Chairman Montgomery, elected to the House in 1966 to represent the Third District of Mississippi, ably served the people of his district for 30 years. He is best known as the most formidable champion of veterans and veterans' rights and benefits. During budget negotiations at the beginning of the 104th Congress, he was able to resist major budget cuts which would have negatively affected veterans and their families. He could always be relied upon to be on the case for those who had been on the case for the Nation in fighting its wars.

Montgomery was known as a caring but stern, an artful watchdog for the men and women of the armed forces, unwilling to compromise on issues that he believed would weaken programs and benefits for veterans. Those veterans remain grateful for his service and so does this House.

In light of that service, we believe it is fitting to name H–130 in honor of Sonny Montgomery.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to be able to rise in support of H. Res. 491, naming a room in the Capitol in honor of G.V. Sonny Montgomery, a former colleague, a retired general and a great friend to all of us, but particularly to the veterans.

I had the pleasure of not only serving with Sonny but having an office next door to him for many years, allowing me the opportunity to often bring in veterans from my own district to meet with the chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and he was always so gracious.

Sonny Montgomery was elected to the House in 1966 from Mississippi, in which post he served for some 30 years, as chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs for 14 years, and served for 25 years on the Committee on National Security. I had the opportunity to work with Sonny on both of those issues affecting our Nation's veterans as well as our Nation's national security and can say without any reservation, it was always an honor, a privilege and a pleasure to work with Sonny Montgomery. He was a great friend to all veterans and to members of our armed forces and will always be remembered for his tireless efforts in providing and securing passage of the GI Montgomery bill, something that helped to educate thousands upon thousands of discharged veterans.

Moreover, this measure is even appropriate, since it was Sonny Montgomery who arranged the House prayer breakfast every Thursday morning in H–130, the room which we all join in honoring him by naming it as the G.V. Sonny Montgomery Room. Sonny facilitated the House prayer breakfast in that room ever since he was first elected from Mississippi 30 years ago and until his retirement in 1996.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to support this resolution on behalf of all veterans, on behalf of all his former friends in the Congress. I once again thank him for all of his efforts on behalf of all of us.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time. I want to compliment the chairman of our committee again on bringing forth this very well deserved and truly earned recognition for a beloved colleague. I want to thank the gentleman in the chair, our Speaker pro tem, for his cosponsorship of the legislation as well.

General Montgomery, and that is how most of us referred to him, is one of those rare people who have served in this body who was not only respected by diligence, by hard work, by command of the subject matter, as a master of the issues over which he held jurisdiction, but at the same time truly beloved of Members on both sides of the aisle, as was evident by the remarks of our distinguished chairman the gentleman from Pennsylvania; a vigorous and formidable champion of veterans rights, of veterans benefits, because he had served our country nobly and understood the sacrifices that the men and women made who went forth to defend freedom and advance the cause of righteousness for our country.

Never was his command of the subject matter and his respect more tested than at the beginning of the 104th Congress when there were major budget cuts across the board, submitted by the administration, coming from the House Committee on the Budget that would have significantly reduced benefits for veterans and their families. Singlehandedly, Chairman, former Chairman, no longer Chairman Montgomery was the voice of reason, of responsibility, the architect of veterans legislation for so many years. Singlehandedly by that stature, he was able to protect those benefits, preserve veterans from unjustified cuts, to remind us all of why we have a veterans program, and that we have and will continue to have an obligation to serve the veteran, his widow and orphan.

Seven-term chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, author of the veterans education bill that now bears his name, a watchdog for veterans, a compassionate voice but as the gentleman from Pennsylvania said, a prayerful voice. And as the gentleman from New York also mentioned, founder of the House prayer breakfast, to bring Members together for at least one day a week on one subject on which all could agree, and that is respect for our maker and the author of life.

We do not name rooms in this august building lightly or frequently. When we do, it must be with great consideration of the role, the contribution that the person we are so honoring has offered to our Congress and to our country. The name must be as distinguished and as hallowed as this building. I think those terms of respect reflect properly the service and the career of G.V. Sonny Montgomery, the gentleman from Mississippi, for whom we designate H–130 in the U.S. Capitol to be named in his honor.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding me this time. I rise in enthusiastic, even joyful support of this legislation, because it will designate H–130 in the United States Capitol as the G.V. Sonny Montgomery Room.

For 30 years, Sonny Montgomery served my State of Mississippi and the Nation with honor and distinction. His legislative accomplishments on behalf of our veterans and in the area of national defense serve as a testament to his effectiveness as a Member of the House of Representatives. Just last week, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs he once chaired held hearings to raise benefits on the Montgomery GI Bill, an education measure which is credited with saving the all-volunteer force. He is still known as ''Mr. Veteran'' on Capitol Hill, and Sonny is beloved in our home State of Mississippi for his tireless work on behalf of our men and women in uniform.

But we are not here to talk today simply about legislative accomplishments. We honor Sonny Montgomery today for another role which he takes just as seriously today as he did during his three decades in this Chamber, and I refer to his leadership in the House prayer breakfast group.

Each Thursday when the House is in session, Members of Congress meet in H–130 of the Capitol at 8 a.m. to pray, to sing hymns, enjoy food and fellowship and to share their faith. Sonny is the unofficial leader of this weekly gathering. He served as President of this informal group, and for so many years thereafter, he was responsible for reporting on Members, their families, staff and others who were ill or otherwise in need of prayer. He is also known, Mr. Speaker, as a zealous guardian of this one hour per week. Over the years, committee chairmen, House leaders on both sides of the aisle and even Presidents of the United States have heard from Sonny when they would schedule important meetings that conflicted with the House prayer breakfast. He would politely but firmly suggest that perhaps another meeting time would be more appropriate.

Sonny has always said that Thursday was the best day of the week for him, because it starts with the House prayer breakfast, and I agree. He was one of the first people to greet me when I joined that group in 1995, and to this day he is still one of the first people to greet me on Thursday mornings when I walk into H–130 for our prayer breakfast.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to our former colleague and friend. I urge unanimous support for this legislation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. PICKERING), Sonny Montgomery's Congressman.

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in proud support of H.Res. 491. It is a difficult challenge to follow someone like Sonny Montgomery in Congress. But I have the great privilege of today representing Congressman G.V. Sonny Montgomery. And I have the opportunity to see his mark, his legacy throughout my district. If my colleagues go through or travel through the Third District of Mississippi, they will see the G.V. Sonny Montgomery VA Hospital. If they go to the small town of Forest, Mississippi, they will see the G.V. Sonny Montgomery International Airport, or the G.V. Sonny Montgomery Industrial Park, or the National Guard complexes across the district. His name and his imprint is all over the Third District of Mississippi.

The gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) mentioned his role as Mr. Veteran and National Guard and what he has done for the men and women in our Armed Services. His legacy is rich and it is full, and it is well-deserved. But his legacy and his story would not be complete if we did not also talk about his role, his leadership, his contribution in the congressional prayer breakfast. Every Thursday morning, it is time for Members of Congress, Republican and Democrat, from all over the country, all regions, to come together, put our differences aside, and try to unite as we call upon our Creator and as we pray for our President, our Nation, and for the men and women who serve in this body and their families.

□ 1500

His responsibility each Thursday is to give the report on the sick and the wounded.

When I was first taking office, I was going to my swearing-in ceremony, and Congressman Montgomery blessed me with his presence and his advice and counsel at that event where my family, my friends and people important to Mississippi came. He stood and he said, ''You know, I have got some bad news for you, Chip, today. I know it is a great day for you, but I have also got some bad news. After serving this district and my country for 30 years, there is not a building left on which you can put your name.''

Never did I know that we would start naming rooms in this building for him as well. I give him a hard time, that the only chance I have to name anything after me is my children. I have five boys, and that is the only hope, the only chance, that I have, because his name is throughout Mississippi and his legacy and his presence is continuously there.

But I have great privilege today of being part of this event as a cosponsor of this resolution, to have a fitting tribute for his role in keeping this House together throughout his 30 years of service. Many times in great conflict and controversy it was the voice of ''Sonny'' Montgomery and the Prayer Breakfast that brought everyone together. It was his gentle but strong voice that could do so.

If the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) were here, he would tell the story of how, as a freshman coming to Congress, and this is a Member from Pennsylvania who serves on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs today, how he was able to land a slot on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, but he wanted a particular subcommittee, and he went to then Chairman ''Sonny'' Montgomery and asked for a position on a subcommittee, a position that ''Sonny'' currently held on that subcommittee, and the only way that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) would get a slot was if someone would give their position away.

It was ''Sonny'' Montgomery who sacrificed his own seat on that subcommittee so that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DOYLE) could serve, and he asked one thing, one thing in return: Please come to the Prayer Breakfast every Thursday morning, and as anyone knows, every new Member and every old Member here has heard from ''Sonny'' Montgomery inviting them, inviting them again and again to come join us Thursday morning at the Prayer Breakfast.

His legacy is rich, it is one that is embodied in the symbols of this chamber. If you look directly over the flag it says ''In God We Trust.'' Directly in front of me in the chamber the historical figures, the central is Moses, and above me the eagle, the symbol of our Nation, and under it, E Pluribus Unum, in many there is one. When we are united, when we have our faith and we are committed to be one, then our Nation can soar as the eagle and it can do great things for our people.

''Sonny'' Montgomery's legacy is one of doing things that not only have significance today, but have value for eternity. I am proud to say that I follow his example, and that he is the Member that I can look to, and he is the Member who well deserves this honor that we are giving him today.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I add but a word: In my years in Congress here, I have had the opportunity to serve with many outstanding Representatives. One of the finest during my era and during all time is that of G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery, not only an outstanding Member of Congress

who represented his district well, kept our country strong as a senior member of the Committee on Armed Services, as chairman and then later ranking member of the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Further than that, he is a wonderful friend, not just to me but to so many. So this is a very, very fitting and proper tribute to a wonderful man.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PEASE), the author of this resolution.

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, very few of our constituents, very few in the world, see anything of the Congress other than its public side, exemplified in the letters we write, the speeches we make, the appearances that seem to define us. That, of course, is a part, a very important part, of what and who we are. But it is not the whole picture, and it is the other part of that picture that determines in large measure whether we are successful in the public part of our lives.

The private lives of Members, their relationships with colleagues, with family, with their Creator, form, more than anything else, the real ''who'' that we are, the real persons that succeed or fail, day in and day out, with the duties we are assigned or which we assume on our own in this place we know as the House of Representatives.

In days of increasing intervention into privacy, both for the public at large, and especially for those in public life, something may perhaps be gained, but much is lost as well. For those in public office, one of the results of the diminution of privacy has been a tendency to withdraw further and further from private relationships, a lessening of personal interactions with others, an unwillingness to admit, let alone share, feelings and concerns that are inevitably a part of the human condition.

Without that part of our lives, we are, in fact, less human, and as such, less capable of doing the job that those who sent us here expect, to reflect in every way the condition of those we represent, and through that representation, to interact with others in the common pursuit of solutions to human problems.

One of the unfortunate results of this trend has been a reduction in the civility of representative government. As colleagues know each other less well, it becomes increasingly easier to reduce intellectual differences to personal attacks, to lose sight of the fact that behind each idea or policy proposal is a human being entitled to respect, simply because of his or her humanity.

We may differ in our ideology, but we must never allow that to intrude on our commonality, as children of God, each created in His own image.

Former Congressman ''Sonny'' Montgomery is a man who never lost that understanding and who lives it as an example for all of us every day. The many Members who share in the weekly Prayer Breakfast are the beneficiaries of this example, perhaps more than most. His gentle touch, his genuine inquiries about our families, our health, our spiritual life, remind us of the human side of this place, so often lost in the hustle of daily scheduling and the demands of the office and the institution.

Every Thursday morning at 8:00, for more than 30 years as a Member and even now after his retirement, ''Sonny'' provides us a reminder of the best of the traditions of this place, where Members can share the things in private that they never dare to mention in public; where our humanness is refreshed and reinforced; and where we come to understand that each of us, different as we are, remain joint heirs with the redeemer and common travelers on a road toward the realization of principles to which we are all committed.

Thursday mornings with ''Sonny'' and our other colleagues provide an oasis for the spirit, an understanding that each of us is a very small part on a continuum of the history of a great Nation, an awareness of how fortunate we are to be here and to share this experience with our colleagues, also entrusted by their constituents with the future of this remarkable institution and the Nation it seeks to serve.

The human touch that ''Sonny'' brings helps keep in balance the many and sometimes competing demands placed on each of us. His quiet commitment to that understanding and to each of us as Members simply as people has made him truly a Member's Member. In honoring him, we honor a tradition of the House that he has so faithfully lived and which has made this place and each of us better.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP), the current president of the Congressional Prayer Breakfast.

(Mr. WAMP asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, it is a bittersweet day as our vice president of our current Prayer Breakfast experiences the loss of his son, and we, all this week, will mourn and grieve and pray and just yearn for that family and the loss that they have experienced.

But it is a great day that we can recognize ''Sonny'' Montgomery, and I know ''Sonny'' would also want us all to pause and reflect and share with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) and his family as they have lost B.J., their 17-year-old son over this weekend.

But I knew of General ''Sonny'' Montgomery long before I got here, and I am now in my sixth year, and I was blessed recently with the House Members asking me to serve as their president. But I knew of ''Sonny'' and the great tradition that he brought from Mississippi because I went to the same prep school, which was a military school, the great McCallie School, in Chattanooga, where political leaders like Governor Carroll Campbell and Senator Bill Brock and Senator Howard Baker and General ''Sonny'' Montgomery went to school, and business people, the likes of Ted Turner, a great tradition. ''Sonny'' went there. He was raised up right.

But he comes every week. Thursday morning, folks, for an hour is a sacrosanct set aside time. He would want me to recognize that that is a special hour for Members to come in a non-denominational, interfaith way, and just share our faith in God and understand the goodness in each of us, and peel back our heart and share with each other in a human way so that in the middle of what people see as a war here sometimes on Capitol Hill, there is peace and tranquility and we all share in our humanness together.

We sing and we pray and we talk and we fellowship, and it is a great hour, and every week ''Sonny'' is there, year in, year out, decade in, decade out, he is the rock, he is the anchor. And H–130 where we meet in that sacrosanct fellowship every week should be named after him and in his honor.

So I thank the gentleman from Indiana for this initiative. I thank the gentlemen from Mississippi that have honored ''Sonny'' today, and all the Members, because in a bipartisan way, there is no more love in this institution than the love for ''Sonny'' Montgomery, and I thank the gentleman for allowing me to honor ''Sonny'' Montgomery today.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would suggest that, particularly for those of us who had the privilege of serving in the United States Army, there is one badge of courage which perhaps shines above all others, and that is the combat infantryman's badge, and with all the honors, with all the medals that General ''Sonny'' Montgomery has, he wears but one in his lapel, and that is the combat infantryman's badge. Of course, what that badge means is that someone privileged to wear it has literally put his life on the line for his country.

So I know we all join together today to salute this great American, General ''Sonny'' Montgomery.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I support H. Res. 491—Naming a Room in the House of Representatives Wing of the Capitol in Honor of G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery. This is a fitting honor for a man who served his constituents and our Nation as a Member of Congress from Mississippi from 1967 until the time he retired in 1996.

When I first came to Congress in 1993, Representative Montgomery served as a mentor and a friend. He was one of my first friends

when I came to Congress. There was never a time that I went to him with a problem that he did not listen and provide help and good advice. Today, he continues to serve the House faithfully by facilitating the weekly ''House of Representatives Prayer Breakfast'' at 8 a.m. every Thursday morning in room H–130 in the Capitol.

Representative Montgomery is one of those people who transcended partisan politics and judged people on who they are as opposed to their party affiliation. He enjoyed and continues to enjoy a wide circle of friends here on Capitol Hill.

As Chairman of the Veteran's Affairs Committee for 14 years, the impact the Representative Montgomery's service to the Veterans of this country has been enormous. Among veterans, he is widely known and respected. Representative Montgomery served his country in World War II and later in the Mississippi National Guard. The House suffered a major loss when he retired in 1996. The veterans' programs that he put together still help people across this country and serve as the foundation and model for successful and meaningful veterans' programs.

Representative Montgomery, thank you for your service.I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 491.

The question was taken.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

JOHN J. BUCHANAN POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 1377) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''John J. Buchanan Post Office Building.''

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The facility of the United States Postal Service, located at 9308 South Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60617, is designated as the ''John J. Buchanan Post Office Building''.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be considered to be a reference to the ''John J. Buchanan Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate amendments to H.R. 1377.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) introduced H.R. 1377 on April 13, 1999. The bill designated the facility of the U.S. Postal Service at 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the ''John J. Buchanan Post Office Building.''

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Pursuant to the policy of the Committee on Government Reform, all Members of the Illinois Delegation supported the legislation.

On May 24, 1999, the House considered the measure under suspension of the rules and agreed to pass the bill by a voice vote.

On November 3, 1999, the Senate committee with jurisdiction ordered the bill to be reported favorably with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following day reported the bill to the Senate with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title.

On November 19, 1999, the Senate passed H.R. 1377 with an amendment and an amendment to the title by unanimous consent. The amendment changed the address from 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, to 9308 South Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

We concur in the Senate amendment in the nature of a substitute and to the title of H.R. 1377.

John Buchanan, after whom the postal facility will be named, served our Nation as a member of the U.S. Navy. He also served his community as an alderman of Chicago's 10th Ward from 1963 to 1971 and again from 1991 to April 1999 when he retired.

He still continues to volunteer for his community and his community wants to honor him by designating a postal facility be named after him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER), the sponsor of this resolution.

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), for the time that he has given me in this legislation before us today.

It is not often that we have the opportunity to salute outstanding public servants from the City of Chicago. I am proud today to rise to honor the work and dedication of Alderman John J. Buchanan and urge this body to vote in favor of designating the post office at 9308 South Chicago Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the John J. Buchanan Post Office Building.

I have enjoyed working with John Buchanan over the last 6 years that I have had the privilege of representing residents of the 10th Ward of the City of Chicago. I consider him a friend, an advisor, someone who I have grown to respect so much for the contribution he has made to his community and for all of us.

This past year, Alderman Buchanan retired after serving as alderman for the 10th Ward in the City of Chicago for over 20 years. He is a life-long resident, public servant of the 10th Ward. The only time Alderman Buchanan left his community was during the time that he served in the United States Navy.

After he served our country, Alderman Buchanan returned to the 10th Ward and married his high school sweetheart, Lorraine Halbe. Alderman Buchanan and his wife have two children and five grandchildren.

Alderman Buchanan's knowledge of business and industry comes from his richly diverse work background. His work experience includes positions at the Aluminum Company of America, the United States Post Office and the Chicago Board of Education.

Alderman Buchanan is also a licensed stationary engineer and has both a real estate broker's license as well as an insurance broker's license. His experience as an insurance salesman is what opened doors to his deeper understanding of the needs of his community.

Alderman Buchanan was first selected to office as alderman for the 10th Ward of Chicago in 1963 and served the community until 1971.

From 1972 until 1977, he served as coordinator of economic development for the mayor of Chicago. While in this development, he successfully instituted programs for the retention and attraction of new business and industry to the City of Chicago.

In 1991, Alderman Buchanan was once again elected to serve as alderman of the 10th Ward for the City of Chicago.

His city councilman memberships included Aviation, Budget and Government Relations, Rules and Ethics, Economics and Capital Development, Finance, Human Relations and Police and Fire Committee. He dedicated his entire life to his neighbors, the people of the City of Chicago and has worked in the administration of every mayor of Chicago, including the legendary Richard J. Daley.

Alderman John Buchanan is a tireless public servant devoted to the 10th Ward of Chicago. In honor of Alderman Buchanan's distinguished career, I urge this body to vote in favor of this legislation designating the post office at 9308 South Chicago Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the John J. Buchanan Post Office Building.

This is an appropriate recognition of his service to Chicago and the people of Illinois and, frankly, Mr. Speaker, it is a very appropriate thank you for a lifetime of public service to the people of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to vote for this legislation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I join the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) in the consideration of H.R. 1377, legislation naming a post office located at 9308 South Chicago Avenue as the John J. Buchanan Post Office Building.

This measure, introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) on April 13, 1999, passed the House by a voice vote on May 24, 1999.

On November 3, 1999 the Senate Government Affairs Committee ordered H.R. 1377 to be reported favorably with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

On November 4, 1999, the bill was reported to the Senate with an amendment to H.R. 1377; subsequently passed the Senate unanimously with an amendment on November 19, 1999.

It is my understanding that the amendment involved the selection of a post office nearer to Mr. Buchanan's home.

H.R. 1377, as originally passed by the Committee on Government Reform and the House, designated the John J. Buchanan Post Office at 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois. As amended in the Senate, the John J. Buchanan Post Office will now be located at 9308 South Chicago Avenue in Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Buchanan, a City of Chicago alderman, recently retired as a life-long resident and public servant of Chicago's 10th Ward. He has lived and served Chicago his entire life. He serves on the board of directors of several community organizations, including the Hedgewisch Chamber of Commerce, South Chicago YMCA and Trinity Hospital Governing Council.

I am pleased to join my colleague in the passage of H.R. 1377, as amended in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 1377.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 396

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed from the list of cosponsors of House Resolution 396.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY IN NORTHERN EUROPE ACT OF 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4249) to foster cross-border cooperation and environmental cleanup in Northern Europe, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4249

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Cross-Border Cooperation and Environmental Safety in Northern Europe Act of 2000''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) Northern Europe is an increasingly vital part of Europe and one that offers great opportunities for United States investment.

(2) Northern Europe offers an excellent opportunity to make progress toward the United States vision of a secure, prosperous, and stable Europe, in part because of—

(A) historical tradition of regional cooperation;

(B) the opportunity to engage Russia in positive, cooperative activities with its neighbors to the west;

(C) commitment by the Baltic states to regional cooperation and integration into western institutions; and

(D) longstanding, strong ties with the United States.

(3) The United States Northern Europe Initiative (NEI) provides the conceptual and operational framework for United States policy in the region, focused on developing a regional network of cooperation in the important areas of business and trade promotion, law enforcement, the environment, energy, civil society, and public health.

(4) A central objective of the United States Northern Europe Initiative is to promote cross-border cooperation among the countries in the region.

(5) A wide variety of regional and cross-border projects have been initiated under the United States Northern Europe Initiative since the Initiative was established in 1997, including the following:

(A) A United States-Lithuanian training program for entrepreneurs from Belarus and Kaliningrad.

(B) The Great Lakes-Baltic Sea Partnership program that is being implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency.

(C) A Center of Excellence for Treatment of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis in Riga, Latvia.

(D) A regional HIV/AIDS strategy being developed under United States and Finnish leadership.

(E) Multiple efforts to combat organized crime, including regional seminars for police officers and prosecutors.

(F) Programs to encourage reform of the Baltic electricity market and encourage United States investment in such market.

(G) Language and job training programs for Russian-speaking minorities in Latvia and Estonia to promote social integration in those countries.

(H) A mentoring partnership program for woman entrepreneurs in the northwest region of Russia and the Baltic states, as part of broader efforts to promote women's participation in political and economic life.

(6) Norway, Sweden, and Finland have made considerable efforts to provide assistance to the newly independent Baltic states and to the Northwest region of Russia. In particular, the United States notes the request placed before the European Union by Finland in 1999 for the creation and extensive funding by the European Union of a ''Northern Dimension'' Initiative to substantially address the problems that now exist in Northern Europe with regard to economic development, protection of the environment, the safety and containment of nuclear materials, and other issues.

(7) The United States commends the endorsement of the ''Northern Dimension'' Initiative by the European Council at its meeting in Helsinki, Finland in December 1999 and calls on the European Union to act on that endorsement through the provision of substantial funding for the Initiative.

(8) While the European Union, its member states, and other European countries should clearly take the lead in addressing the challenges posed in Northern Europe, in particular through appropriate yet substantial assistance provided by the European Union, the United States-Northern Europe Initiative, and this Act are intended to supplement such efforts and build on the considerable assistance that the United States has already provided to the Baltic states and the Russian Federation. Partnership with other countries in the region means modest United States investment can have significant impact.

(9) The United States Northern Europe Initiative's focus on regional environmental challenges is particularly important. Northern Europe is home to significant environmental problems, particularly the threat posed by nuclear waste from Russian submarines, icebreakers, and nuclear reactors.

(10) In particular, 21,000 spent fuel assemblies from Russian submarines are lying exposed near Andreeyeva Bay, nearly 60 dangerously decrepit nuclear submarines, many in danger of sinking, are languishing in the Murmansk area of Northwest Russia, whole reactors and radioactive liquid waste are stored on unsafe floating barges, and there are significant risks of marine and atmospheric contamination from accidents arising from loss of electricity or fire on deteriorating, poorly monitored nuclear submarines.

(11) This waste poses a threat to the safety and stability of Northern Europe and to countries of the Eurasian continent.

(12)(A) In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency has facilitated the expansion and upgrading of a facility for the treatment of low-level liquid radioactive waste from the decommissioning of nuclear submarines docked at naval facilities in the Arctic region of Russia.

(B) The Environmental Protection Agency has also initiated a project to construct an 80-ton prototype cask for the storage and transport of civilian-controlled spent nuclear fuel, much of it damaged and currently stored onboard an aging vessel anchored in Murmansk Harbor. Currently in the design phase, this project is scheduled for completion in 2000.

(13) Working with the countries in the region to address these environmental problems remains vital to the long-term national interest of the United States.

(14) The United States and other countries are currently negotiating a number of agreements with Russia which will provide internationally accepted legal protections for the United States and other countries that provide nuclear waste management assistance to Russia. Regrettably, it has not yet been possible to resolve remaining differences over liability, taxation of assistance, privileges and immunities for foreign contractors, and audit rights.

(15) Concluding these agreements is vital to the continued provision of such assistance and to the possible development of new programs.

(16) With the election of Russian President Vladamir Putin, the opportunity presents itself to surmount these problems, to conclude these outstanding agreements, and to allow assistance programs to move forward to alleviate this problem.

(17) The United States Government is currently studying whether dismantlement of multi-purpose submarines is in the national interest.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to demonstrate concrete support for continued cross-border cooperation in Northern Europe and immediate efforts to assist in the clean up of nuclear waste in that region.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States-Northern Europe Initiative is a sound framework for future United States involvement in Northern Europe;

(2) the European Union should move expeditiously to authorize and fund the proposed ''Northern Dimension'' Initiative at appropriate yet substantial levels of assistance;

(3) the United States should continue to support a wide-ranging strengthening of democratic and civic institutions on a regional basis to provide a foundation for political stability and investment opportunities, including cross-border exchanges, in Northern Europe;

(4) the United States should demonstrate continued commitment to address environmental security challenges in Northwest Russia, in cooperation with partners in the region;

(5) recently-elected Russian President Vladamir Putin should rapidly conclude pending nuclear waste management agreements to enable assistance programs to go forward; and

(6) assistance to Russia on nuclear waste management should only be provided after issues related to liability, taxation of assistance, privileges and immunities for foreign contractors, and audit rights have been resolved.

SEC. 4. SUPPORT FOR UNITED STATES NORTHERN EUROPE INITIATIVE PROJECTS.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS FROM EAST EUROPEAN AND THE BALTIC STATES ASSISTANCE.—Of the amounts available for fiscal year 2001 to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 for assistance and for related programs for Eastern Europe and the Baltic States, not less than $2,000,000 shall be used for projects described in subsection (c).

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS FROM INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION ASSISTANCE.—Of the amounts available for fiscal year 2001 to carry out the provisions of chapter 11 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support Act of 1992 for assistance for the independent states of the former Soviet Union and related programs, not less than $2,000,000 shall be used for the projects described in subsection (c).

(c) PROJECTS DESCRIBED.—The projects described in this subsection are United States Northern Europe Initiative projects relating to environmental cleanup, law enforcement, public health, energy, business and trade promotion, and civil society.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY.

Not later that 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal departments and agencies, shall prepare and submit to the Congress a report on—

(1) the threat to the environmental security of the countries of Northern Europe and other countries of Europe and Asia presented by Russian marine nuclear reactors, waste, and contamination; and

(2) identifying the possibilities for new and expanded United States and multilateral assistance programs for environmental cleanup in Northwest Russia, including technical exchanges and private-public partnerships.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) NORTHERN EUROPE.—The term ''Northern Europe'' means the northwest region of the Russian Federation (including Kaliningrad), the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Republic of Finland, the Republic of Iceland, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Poland, and the Kingdom of Sweden.

(2) UNITED STATES NORTHERN EUROPE INITIATIVE.—The term ''United States Northern Europe Initiative'' means the framework agreement established in 1997 between the United States and the countries of Northern Europe to promote stability in the Baltic Sea region and to strengthen key institutions and security structures of the United States and the countries of Northern Europe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4249, the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4249, introduced by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), seeks to focus on the policies of our Nation and the European Union with regard to Northern Europe, an area that includes the Baltic region and the northwestern region of Russia. I have been concerned that the European Union, while acknowledging the extensive problems that exist today in its own backyard in Northern Europe, has yet to take action to provide the kind of substantial aid that will be needed if those problems are going to be properly addressed.

My distinguished colleague from Connecticut has graciously incorporated into his bill provisions I suggested that make it clear that the European Union must take the lead in addressing those problems and must, in particular, provide the substantial aid that is going to be needed to deal with that.

In my view, any assistance provided at this point by our Nation should be clearly understood by the European Union to be a supplement to its aid, not a substitute for the substantial EU assistance that is going to be required.

I have no objection to our Nation lending a hand on those problems. In fact, the gentleman's bill points out the U.S.-Northern Europe Initiative already exists and has already been funded under our foreign aid program for 3 years at the present time, since the President already has the authority to conduct the activities envisioned in this bill under the SEED Act of 1989 and the Freedom Support Act of 1992, and the authority to provide funding for those activities, and the President has used that authority.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the gentleman's intent with the introduction of this bill is, however, to highlight his concern about the problems faced by the countries of Northern Europe, and I share his concern. I hasten to take this opportunity to point out that the United States has provided considerable aid to support reforms and to address problems in the region, and that the United States has also endowed several foundations in those countries of the region where its aid program has been phased out.

Mr. Speaker, such U.S.-endowed foundations include the Baltic American Enterprise Fund, the Baltic American Partnership Fund and the Polish American Freedom Foundation. In addition, while our Freedom Support Act aid program, our Nunn-Lugar demilitarization program, our large food aid program, our enriched uranium purchase program and other forms of aid all continue today in Russia, we have also set up an enterprise fund in that nation that I am certain will last for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, we should not overlook all that the United States has done in Eastern Europe since 1989 and all that the United States is still doing in that region today. It is, therefore, my hope that this bill, if adopted by this Congress, will serve to signal our concern over remaining problems in the region of Northern Europe but will also serve as a clear call on the European Union to take the lead in addressing those problems.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill. First, let me just thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) for all of his work and his bipartisan efforts in allowing this bill to come to the floor.

An environmental threat looms over our allies in Europe and the emerging democracies in the Baltic region. Twenty-one thousand spent fuel assemblies from Russian submarines are lying exposed. Nearly 60 dangerously decrepit nuclear submarines, many in danger of sinking, are languishing in northwest Russia. Whole reactors and radioactive liquid waste are stored on unsafe floating barges and there are significant risks of marine and atmospheric contamination from accidents arising from loss of electricity or fire on deteriorating, poorly monitored nuclear submarines.

This waste poses a threat to the safety and the stability of Northern Europe and to countries of the Eurasian continent. A fire or explosion on one of these subs could spread contamination over a wide area. Theft of plutonium from a submarine could become a proliferation issue.

This important bill, introduced by our foresighted ranking member of the Committee on International Relations, ensures that at least $4 million will be spent on environmental cleanup and cross-border cooperation in this region.

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It also mandates a study on this potential environmental crisis that threatens regional environmental stability and therefore the United States' national interests in the region.

By mandating a report to address the severity of this situation and by urging President Putin to make progress on concluding liability issues to move forward on nuclear waste management issues, this bill makes a very important contribution to proactively preventing a security crisis in Northern Europe before it erupts.

Just as our foreign policy must address regions in crisis in Europe and around the world, likewise, we cannot afford to neglect areas that appear to be stable but may have problems that lie beneath the surface.

Northern Europe has made progress over the last few years, particularly among the Balkan states, but the division itselves of the Cold War and the legacy of the Soviet Union damaged trust and a sense of community which flourished in this region in the past.

This bill reaffirms support for Northern Europe's initiative, and it also seeks to continue the progress towards rebuilding confidence and security in the region. So for those of us who are very much opposed to nuclear proliferation and who support the environment, we urge our colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the distinguished chairman of our Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the committee for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation. H.R. 4249 authorizes $4 million from a variety of sources: The Eastern European Democracy Act, or SEED, of 1989; the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; and the Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support Act of 1992.

It does this to support worthwhile projects under the U.S.-Northern European initiative in the areas of environmental clean-up, law enforcement, public health, energy, business and trade promotion, and civil society.

Most significantly, I think, H.R. 4249 highlights the enormously dangerous problem of Russian nuclear waste in the area of Murmansk and northwest Russia. In particular, hundreds of rusting and rotting decommissioned nuclear submarines and ships pose a threat, not just to Northern Europe, but to the entire world. Indeed, this waste may pose the most imminent environmental danger in the world today. There is an urgent need to address this critical problem because it literally could explode in our face.

Unfortunately, the bill also points out that it has not yet been possible to resolve remaining differences with Russia over liability, taxation of assistance, privileges and immunities for foreign contractors, and audit rights in regard to this waste, and concludes that these agreements are vital to continue provision of assistance.

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), distinguished ranking member of the Committee on International Relations, amended this bill in committee to make it clear that no assistance should be provided until these problems are adequately resolved.

In addition to the environmental problems, this bill will also provide funds to support the United States' Northern European initiative and projects under that initiative in areas such as civil society, law enforcement, business, energy, and public health.

While the bill remains very limited in providing seed funds, it will serve as an important indicator to the European Union of our interest and support for this initiative.

I would close by commending the gentleman from Connecticut for offering this important legislation, and urge our colleagues to support H.R. 4249.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4249, a bill I introduced to foster cooperation and environmental cleanup in Northern Europe. I thank Chairman GILMAN for his assistance with this legislation. I also thank all of the bipartisan co-sponsors of this bill, particularly my friend from Nebraska, Mr. BEREUTER, who spoke eloquently and forcefully in Committee on the threats that this bill addresses.

Many people thought that the problem of decaying Soviet-era nuclear submarines would just disappear with the end of the Cold War, but the threat is real and it persists. My legislation seeks to address this problem and other regional challenges through the important framework of the Northern Europe Initiative (NEI). The NEI is a U.S. launched initiative to promote stability in the Baltic Sea region and to strengthen key institutions and security structures of the United States and the countries of Northern Europe.

The remarkable work of the Combined Threat Reduction Program, better known as Nunn-Lugar, has facilitated the dismantlement of 12 strategic missile submarines and 46 submarine launched ballistic missiles—those parts of the old Soviet fleet deemed most of a threat to U.S. National Security. But over 150 decaying nuclear submarines remain floating in Russian ports, vulnerable to theft and tampering.

Recent events show how dangerous this situation is for the region and therefore for U.S. National Security. Less than five months ago in January at a base near Vilyuchinsk, Russia, two sailors bribed a guard and boarded a decommissioned attack submarine, then broke into the reactor compartment and began removing cables and metal. According to press reports, while stealing these parts, the sailors could easily have caused a meltdown in the still-operating reactor of the submarine, if its control rods had not been bolted down by an engineer two days earlier so the thieves were unable to raise them.

Equally frightening was an event from September 1998 when a young Russian sailor commandeered an active duty Akula-class SSN that was docked at the Northern Fleet's Gadzhiyevo Naval Base, killing eight of his colleagues in the process. He barricaded himself in the boat's torpedo room, where he was preparing to set fire to the vessel and detonate its torpedoes. When Murmansk Security troops stormed the torpedo compartment, they found the assailant dead, apparently killed by an explosion triggered by his attempt to set fire to the torpedoes.

Needless to say, had the torpedoes all detonated, a serious nuclear accident could have occurred.

My legislation calls on Russian President Putin to rapidly conclude pending nuclear waste management agreements to enable assistance programs from European sources to go forward. The bill also mandates a study from the Secretary of State to assess the environmental threat of decaying submarines to American allies in Europe and proliferation threats to the national security of the United States.

The bill also directs the U.S. Government to spend $4 million of already budgeted money in Northern Europe on environmental cleanup and civil society projects under the framework of the Northern European Initiative. Included in this initiative are targeted but valuable programs such as:

A United States-Lithuanian training program for entrepreneurs from Belarus and Kaliningrad.

The Great Lakes-Baltic Sea partnership program that is being implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency.

A Center of Excellence for Treatment of Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis in Riga, Latvia.

A regional HIV/AIDS strategy being developed under United States and Finnish leadership.

Northern Europe is an area that once pulsed with activity, long before the Cold War divided this region. It is a place where my parents came from—from modern day Lithuania and Belarus. These cross-border projects can take a small step to build back the trust and cooperation that flourished before dictators and armies split people apart.

This legislation has been endorsed by proliferation and environmental watchdog groups with expertise in this area including Monterey Institute of International Studies, the Bellona Institute, the Sierra Club and the Union of Concerned Scientists.

One of the leading U.S. experts on the Russian Submarine issue, Dr. James Clay Moltz, Director of the NIS Nonproliferation Project at the Monterey Institute, said in support of this legislation:

The presence of large numbers of decommissioned but not defueled attack submarines in the Russian Northern Fleet poses serious environmental, proliferation-related, and security threats. These vessels are vulnerable to nuclear accidents from the ongoing theft of materials and control systems by impoverished sailors, the sinking of corroded vessels, and periodic electrical outages at Russian naval facilities. Given that many of these submarines were designed to carry nuclear-tipped cruise missiles and torpedoes, it is in U.S. interests to dismantle them as soon as possible.

My legislation states clearly that it is Europeans who must continue to take the lead. It is not necessary for the United States to spend large sums of money on these projects, but it is in our national interest to provide leadership and expertise on submarine dismantlement efforts. This is a case where our unparalleled experience in this field makes us the indispensable nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4249, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA FOR CONDUCT OF ITS PARLIAMENTARY AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 251) commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 251

Whereas the fourth Croatian parliamentary elections, held on January 3, 2000, marked Croatia's progress toward meeting its commitments as a participating state of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and as a member of the Council of Europe;

Whereas Croatia's third presidential elections were conducted smoothly and professionally and concluded on February 7, 2000, with the landslide election of Stipe Mesic as the new President of the Republic of Croatia;

Whereas the free and fair elections in Croatia, and the following peaceful and orderly transfer of power from the old government to the new, is an example of democracy to the people of other nations in the region and a major contribution to the democratic development of southeastern Europe; and

Whereas the people of Croatia have made clear that they want Croatia to take its rightful place in the family of European democracies and to develop a closer and more constructive relationship with the Euro-Atlantic community of democratic nations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the people of the Republic of Croatia are to be congratulated on the successful elections and the outgoing Government of Croatia is to be commended for the democratic standards with which it managed the elections;

(2) the United States should support the efforts of the new Government of Croatia to increase its work on refugee return, privatization reform, accession to the World Trade Organization, media reform, and further cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to set an example to other countries in the region;

(3) the Congress strongly supports Croatia's commitment to western democratic standards and will give its full support to the new Government of Croatia to fully implement democratic reforms;

(4) the United States continues to promote Croatian-American economic, political, and military relations and welcomes Croatia as a partner in the cause of stability and democratization in south central Europe;

(5) the United States and the Republic of Croatia should work to establish a strategic partnership to include Croatia's entry into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Partnership for Peace; and

(6) the countries of the European Union should develop closer relations with Croatia and, in particular, should help to expedite Croatia's accession into global and regional trade organizations, including the World Trade Organization.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. Gilman).

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 251, was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH). It is timely and appropriate. The people of Croatia have suffered through too many years of warfare, destruction, ethnic strife, and economic stagnation.

As this resolution points out, the elections held recently from the Croatian parliament and the Croatian presidency were indeed conducted in a fair, free, and Democratic manner, by all accounts that we have received. Just as important, however, is the fact that those elections brought to power a government that appears intent on moving Croatia forward in all respects.

I therefore believe and agree with the sponsor of the resolution that it would be worthwhile for the Congress to show its support at this time for the new government in the form of this resolution. The new Croatian government will face challenges in opening up its economy and in finding ways to make certain that its support for ethnic Croats in neighboring Bosnia does not lead Croatia to undermine the sovereignty of that state.

It is going to face serious challenges in other areas as well. This resolution will make it clear that the success in meeting those challenges should be met by American and European support for Croatia's full entry into the Pan American and trans-Atlantic community of nations.

I am pleased to note that Croatia has been invited just last week, Mr. Speaker, to join NATO's Partnership for Peace program. In that manner, the new Croatian government's good intentions are receiving important recognition.

This resolution will serve as another important signal of our support as Croatia's new government moves to fulfill its intentions, and will serve to highlight our hopes for Croatia's future success. I am optimistic that Croatia's days of warfare and destruction are over. We are hopeful that Croatia will now enter a stage of stability and prosperity.

Now is the time for Croatia to build its new democratic future. This resolution points to that fact and congratulates the Croatian people for so clearly choosing the path of democracy in their recent elections.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the adoption of this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of this resolution, Mr. Speaker. Just as the committee takes the time to criticize the outcome of election results that produce controversial governments, it also produces resolutions which commend the results of positive elections, such as the recent elections in Croatia in February.

The results of recent elections in Croatia have been described as some of the best news to emerge from the Balkans since the Dayton accords were signed 4 years ago.

The first elections to follow the death of Croatia's longtime leader saw Croatians turn out in large numbers to elect reformers promising to steer Croatia towards a more moderate internationalist path.

United States policymakers are optimistic that positive ripples from the wake of this election will bode well for American interests throughout the region. A new reform-minded, Western-leaning coalition scored a comprehensive victory on the January 3 parliamentary elections, securing 71 seats while the HDZ won just 40.

On the heels of the parliamentary election, the February 7 race for president saw a battle of two reformers. During the campaign, the newly-elected president promised that he would be the opposite of his predecessor in everything. He said, ''Where he was autocratic, I will be democratic; where he was nationalistic, I will be pro-European.''

It is important to note that the United States' pro-democracy assistance to Croatia helped lay the foundation for this historic election. USAID's 5-year commitment to strengthening a broad spectrum of political parties and advocacy groups culminated in a 148–NGO coalition of trade unions and small business groups teamed for a wide-scale ''get out the vote'' campaign of media and face-to-face citizen outreach.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH), the sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me and allowing me to speak on this important resolution before the House today.

On June 15 of this year, I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 251, commending the Republic of Croatia for the successful conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections.

The free and fair elections in Croatia and the beautiful and orderly transfer of power from the old to the new government is an example of democracy to the people of other nations in the region, and a major contribution to the democratic development of Southeastern Europe.

President Mesic has pledged to bring his country into the European Union in 5 years. Even if this is an ambitious goal, he is to be commended. President Mesic has promised and has in fact undertaken concrete steps to end interference in Bosnia, to welcome returning Serb refugees, and to cooperate with the international court in pursuing alleged Croatian war criminals. He has also promised further privatization and media reform.

Although president Mesic and his new government face many many difficulties, I am very optimistic that Croatia is on a new path. I am hopeful we will do our utmost to encourage them on this path.

My resolution also calls for U.S. support and facilitation of Croatia's goals for membership in NATO's Partnership for Peace program and its accession to the World Trade Organization. I firmly believe that by supporting Croatia's membership in PfP and its accession to the WTO, we will not only be making a sound investment in the future security of Southeast Europe, but we will also be sending a clear message to other countries in the region of the benefits that come from choosing a democratic path.

Croatia was a tremendous ally to us last year during the Kosovo conflict, and as far as I am concerned, they have more than demonstrated their loyalty to the United States.

In my opinion, their membership in the Partnership for Peace program has already been earned and is long overdue. There is no question that we need a trustworthy ally in Southeast Europe, where we have spent an exorbitant amount of time and money. Croatia is that trustworthy ally, and I want to honor this country, its leaders, and its people here today.

I believe this is a very important resolution, and I urge my colleagues to vote favorably.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), the distinguished chairman of our Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I will begin by thanking the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN) for yielding time to me. I am pleased that he expedited the consideration of this important resolution which I rise to support.

This resolution, offered by our distinguished colleague from California (Mr. RADANOVICH), certainly deserves our full support, for it recognizes what the Republic of Croatia has done in the conduct of its recent parliamentary and presidential elections.

Since the fall of communism in 1991, Croatia has now completed its fourth parliamentary election and its third presidential election. I would also give note of what the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN) has mentioned, that on May 9 the North Atlantic Council extended an invitation to Croatia to become the 26th member of NATO's Partnership for Peace.

The Partnership for Peace, or PfP, serves as an important program for fostering security and stability in Europe through military cooperation.

I also serve as the chairman of the House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, and I would mention that the NATO Parliamentary Assembly has noted the progress in Croatia in its turn towards democracy. It is my expectation that Croatia will soon be offered associate membership status because of that action.

This Member believes that Croatia rightfully earned the invitation to PfP as that country has served as an important ally to NATO, as demonstrated during the recent conflict in Kosovo.

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Croatia provided crucial airspace and port access during the NATO operations. Croatia's commitment to stability in southeastern Europe is further demonstrated by the active cooperation it has provided in enforcing the Dayton Accord and in implementing the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia.

Perhaps Croatia's most important contribution, however, has been contribution to stability in this volatile neighborhood by the example that it set in its successful transfer of political power through democratic means, such as the recent elections.

Mr. Speaker, as this Member concludes, I would say, again, I want to commend the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. RADANOVICH) for his initiative in offering this timely resolution which recognizes the very significant and welcome progress in Croatia, which should serve to encourage Croatia on this path.

I urge strong support for H. Con. Res. 251.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—the Helsinki Commission—I fully support this resolution.

Ten years ago, a waive of political pluralism swept East-Central Europe, including Croatia and the other republics of the former Yugoslavia. Multi-party elections and open expression of political views allowed those unhappy with the existing Yugoslav federation to work for change in their government. Unfortunately but not unexpectedly, nationalism was a strong part of this effort, in part to enhance the power of certain leaders and the ruling circles around them. That is exactly what Franjo Tudjman and his Croatian Democratic Community, or HDZ, did in Croatia.

The people of Croatia wanted change, including independence, and they had to endure hardships for it. First, the 1991 conflict left thousands dead and hundreds of thousands displaced as Serb militants occupied major portions of the country. The retaking of this territory in 1995 led to further displacements. Subsequently, until 1999 those in power in Croatia fanned the flames of nationalism, evident not only in the unwillingness to allow Serbs from Croatia to return, but in the efforts, sometimes violent, to form a Croatian enclave in neighboring Bosnia-Herzegovina. For Those who disagree with this nationalist approach, the authorities marginalized them with controls on society, especially in the media.

As Croatian citizens grew confident in their country's independence and stability, however,

they opted not for nationalism, isolation and corruption, but for democracy, tolerance and economic progress. They had enough of the past; they wanted to move forward. This was reflected in the strong turnout for the parliamentary and presidential elections held earlier this year, and in the results of those elections.

Croatia has now been accepted as a member of NATO's Partnership for Peace. It is moving forward in its quest to be integrated fully into European affairs. The prospects for the return of displaced Serbs originally from Croatia has increased, along with cooperation with the International Tribunal prosecuting war crimes and the international community's regional efforts as a whole.

As I have been critical of developments in Croatia in the past, now I must join those who welcome the progress that has fully been made. We should, of course, monitor the situation closely, to make sure the promises made by the new Croatian leadership are kept. At the same time, we should also encourage Croatia by acknowledging positive movement when we see it.

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 251, a resolution commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its Parliamentary and Presidential elections, introduced by my colleague on the International Relations Committee, Mr. RADANOVICH of California. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important resolution.

This resolution commends the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its recent parliamentary and presidential elections and calls for the United States to support Croatian efforts on compliance with the Dayton Peace Accords. It also supports membership for Croatia in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Partnership for Peace (PFP) program and its accession into the World Trade Organization.

Recent developments regarding Croatia's membership in PFP underscore the good timing of this resolution. Last Wednesday, NATO approved Croatia's bid to join the PFP program, a move strongly supported by the United States. NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson explained ''Croatia has now become an example for its neighbors and an inspiration for moderate forces throughout the region. By promoting peace and stability in the Balkans, Croatia has won its place in the Euro-Atlantic family.''

The results of recent elections in Croatia have been described as some of the best news to emerge from the Balkans since the Dayton Accords were signed four years ago. The first elections to follow the death of longtime leader Franco Tudjman saw Croatians turn out in large numbers to elect reformers promising to steer Croatia towards a more moderate, internationalist path. U.S. policymakers are optimistic that positive ripples from the wake of this election will bode well for American interests throughout the region.

Many observers saw the elections as a measuring stick as to how weary Croatians had grown with economic stagnation, authoritarian leadership, and perceived corruption within the hardline ruling party, the HDZ. Nonetheless, the sweeping change of the political landscape surprised even many of those who has expressed optimism in advance of elections. A new reform-minded, western-leaning coalition headed by Ivica Racan scored a comprehensive victory in the January 3rd parliamentary elections—securing 71 seats while the HDZ won just 40. On the heels of the parliamentary election, the February 7th race for President saw Stipe Mesic prevail in a battle of two reformers. During the campaign, Mesic had promised that he would ''be the opposite of Tudjman in everything. Where he was autocratic I shall be democratic. Where he was nationalist, I'll be pro European.''

It is now apparent that many Croats who had supported Tudjman's unyielding leadership after the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia and the fierce battle between Croatia and Serbia that ensued, now voted to signal the end of that era. Fueling this need for change was a growing resentment among the Croatian people towards a corrupt HDZ party perceived to be more interested in patronage and insider deals than managing an economy where export had stagnated and a $9 billion external debt had accumulated.

In addition to an improving bilateral climate with Zagreb, we hope that the change of government in Croatia may create a dynamic for change in the region. On the issue of Bosnia Herzegovina, both major candidates for President campaigned for reducing political and economic support for ethnic Croats in Bosnia. Recalcitrant Bosnian Croats, sustained by HDZ hardliners in Zagreb, both reflected and reinforced hostility in the Serb and Bosnian communities. This change in outlook from Zagreb, coupled with a more independent Republika Srpsksa drifting from a financially strapped Belgrade and growing international pressure on the Bosnian Muslim government to reform may combine to create a dynamic in Bosnia where the definition of progress is not simply the absence of war but active trust and cooperation between ethnic groups.

This resolution has support from a broad bipartisan coalition, from the Administration, and from leading Croatian-American groups such as the National Federation of Croatian Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 251, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF NUCLEAR TRANSFERS TO NORTH KOREA ACT OF 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4251) to amend the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 to enhance congressional oversight of nuclear transfers to North Korea, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4251

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Congressional Oversight of Nuclear Transfers to North Korea Act of 2000''.

SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF NUCLEAR TRANSFERS TO NORTH KOREA.

(a) ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENT FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION BY JOINT RESOLUTION.—The North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 (subtitle B of title VIII of division A of H.R. 3427, as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(7) of Public Law 106–113, and as contained in appendix G to such Public Law) is amended in section 822(a)—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (7) as subparagraphs (A) through (G), respectively, and by indenting each such subparagraph 2 ems to the right;

(2) by striking ''until the President'' and inserting ''until—

''(1) the President''; and

(3) at the end of subparagraph (G) (as redesignated in paragraph (1)) by striking the period and inserting ''; and

''(2) a joint resolution described in section 823 is enacted into law pursuant to the provisions of such section.''.

(b) DESCRIPTION AND PROCEDURES FOR JOINT RESOLUTION.—The North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 823 as section 824; and

(2) by inserting after section 822 the following new section:

''SEC. 823. JOINT RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 822(a)(2).

''(a) TERMS OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—For purposes of section 822(a)(2), the term 'joint resolution' means only a joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress—

''(1) the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: 'That the Congress hereby concurs in the determination and report of the President relating to compliance by North Korea with certain international obligations transmitted pursuant to section 822(a)(1) of the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999.';

''(2) which does not have a preamble; and

''(3) the title of which is as follows: 'Joint Resolution relating to compliance by North Korea with certain international obligations pursuant to the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999.'.

''(b) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PROCEDURES.—

''(1) RULEMAKING.—The provisions of this section are enacted by the Congress—

''(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, and, as such, shall be considered as part of the rules of either House and shall supersede other rules only to the extent they are inconsistent therewith; and

''(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules so far as they relate to the procedures of that House at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

''(2) INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL.—

''(A) INTRODUCTION.—A joint resolution described in subsection (a)—

''(i) shall be introduced in the House of Representatives by the majority leader or minority leader or by a Member of the House of Representatives designated by the majority leader or minority leader; and

''(ii) shall be introduced in the Senate by the majority leader or minority leader or a Member of the Senate designated by the majority leader or minority leader.

''(B) REFERRAL.—The joint resolution shall be referred to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

''(3) DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEES.—If a committee to which a joint resolution described in subsection (a) is referred has not reported such joint resolution by the end of 30 days beginning on the date of its introduction, such committee shall be discharged from further consideration of such joint resolution, and such joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate calendar of the House involved.

''(4) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—On or after the third calendar day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, except when the House of Representatives is in session on such a day) after the date on which the committee to which a joint resolution described in subsection (a) is referred has reported, or has been discharged from further consideration of, such a joint resolution, it shall be in order for any Member of the House to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution. A Member of the House may make the motion only on the day after the calendar day on which the Member announces to the House the Member's intention to do so. Such motion is privileged and is not debatable. The motion is not subject to amendment or to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution is agreed to, the House shall immediately proceed to consideration of the joint resolution which shall remain the unfinished business until disposed of.

''(B) DEBATE.—Debate on a joint resolution described in subsection (a), and on all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than two hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and those opposing the joint resolution. An amendment to the joint resolution is not in order. A motion further to limit debate is in order and is not debatable. A motion to table, a motion to postpone, or a motion to recommit the joint resolution is not in order. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the joint resolution is agreed to or disagreed to is not in order.

''(C) APPEALS.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair to the procedure relating to a joint resolution described in subsection (a) shall be decided without debate.

''(5) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—Any joint resolution described in subsection (a) shall be considered in the Senate in accordance with the provisions of section 601(b)(4) of the International Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Act of 1976.

''(6) CONSIDERATION BY THE OTHER HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution of that House described in subsection (a), that House receives from the other House a joint resolution described in subsection (a), then the following procedures shall apply:

''(A) The joint resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee and may not be considered in the House receiving it except in the case of final passage as provided in subparagraph (B)(ii).

''(B) With respect to a joint resolution described in subsection (a) of the House receiving the joint resolution—

''(i) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House; but

''(ii) the vote on final passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

''(C) Upon disposition of the joint resolution received from the other House, it shall no longer be in order to consider the joint resolution that originated in the receiving House.

''(7) COMPUTATION OF DAYS.—In the computation of the period of 30 days referred to in paragraph (3), there shall be excluded the days on which either House of Congress is not in session because of an adjournment of more than three days to a day certain or because of an adjournment of the Congress sine die.''.

SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF RESTRICTIONS ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH NORTH KOREA.

Section 822(a) of the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 is amended by striking ''such agreement,'' both places it appears and inserting in both places ''such agreement (or that are controlled under the Export Trigger List of the Nuclear Suppliers Group),''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 4251.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as may I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) has joined with me to offer bipartisan legislation regarding U.S. nuclear cooperation with North Korea pursuant to the 1994 Agreed Framework between our Nation and North Korea. Our bill is designed to make certain that no transfers of U.S. nuclear equipment or technology to North Korea takes place pursuant to that agreement without careful review by the Congress and without the full support of the Congress.

Along with other distinguished cosponsors, including the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), chairman of our Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, and the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), chairman of our Republican Policy Committee, as well as the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH), our former colleague on the Committee on International Relations, we introduced H.R. 4251, entitled the Congressional Oversight of Nuclear Transfers to North Korea Act of 2000. We introduced that on April 12.

But this proposal is not a new one. For all practical purposes, this bill already has passed the House of Representatives. On July 21 of last year, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and I offered an amendment to the Foreign Relations Authorization Act requiring the President to certify to the Congress that North Korea has fulfilled all of its obligations under the Agreed Framework before a nuclear cooperation agreement between our Nation and North Korea can enter into effect.

Without such a nuclear cooperation agreement, key nuclear components could not be transferred to North Korea from the United States as contemplated by the Agreed Framework. The Gilman-Markey amendment further required that Congress enact a joint resolution concurring in the President's certification before such a nuclear cooperation can enter into effect. Our amendment was approved by a wide margin with strong support on both sides of the aisle.

We later negotiated with the administration over our amendment in the conference committee on the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, and we reached an agreement with the administration over the language of the certification. Our certification requirement was enacted into law late last year as the North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 2000.

We were less successful, however, with regard to our proposed requirement that the Congress enact a joint resolution concurring in the President's certification. The administration resisted our idea that Congress should have a role with the President in evaluating North Korea's compliance with the Agreed Framework. They noted in particular that the language of our amendment last year did not include expedited procedures that would ensure that such a joint resolution would actually be considered on the floor of both Houses of the Congress. Without such expedited procedures, they argued such a resolution could be filibustered in the Senate or bottled up in the committee in the House.

It has never been our intention, Mr. Speaker, to allow procedural maneuvers in either House to block implementation of the Agreed Framework. What we want is to make certain that the issue of North Korea's compliance with its obligations will be fully considered in both Houses, and that both Chambers will be able to express themselves on the subject by majority vote.

Because expedited procedures can help ensure that the majority of each chamber will be heard, we have always favored including them in our legislation.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4251 amends the North Korea Threat Reduction Act to require that Congress concur in any certification submitted by the President pursuant to that Act before a nuclear cooperation agreement between our Nation and North Korea can enter into effect. To meet the concerns expressed last year, our bill includes expedited procedures for consideration in both the House and Senate of a joint resolution concurring in the President's certification.

We worked with the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), our distinguished Ranking Democratic Member on the Committee on International Relations, to refine the expedited procedures while this bill was before our committee. After it was approved by our committee, we received the very able assistance from the Committee on Rules in further perfecting the expedited procedures. The amendment that we have before us today reflects that very helpful contribution.

I want to thank not only the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), but also the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), chairman of the Committee on Rules, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), Ranking Democratic Member for their support in developing this very fine product that we have before us today.

The text before us, Mr. Speaker, has been developed with bipartisan input from two very important committees. The only possible reason that any Member could have for objecting to it is the belief that Congress is incapable of fairly evaluating whether North Korea has complied with its international obligations. I would be surprised if any Member of this body had such a concern.

Most presidents, of course, would prefer for Congress to abdicate to them all responsibilities relating to foreign affairs. But, Mr. Speaker, we were elected by our constituents to represent them, and we cannot do that by ceding our constitutional responsibilities to the Executive Branch.

This legislation is designed to help us, in this body, to exercise responsibilities we were elected to carry out. We hope and expect that it will once again receive strong bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of this bill.

In 1994, the United States and North Korea signed the Agreed Framework under which North Korea was obligated to freeze its activities at several nuclear related sites subject to international on-site inspection.

These sites included an operating nuclear reactor that the North Koreans had built themselves, a nuclear reprocessing plant suitable for producing plutonium for nuclear weapons from this reactor's fuel, and two larger nuclear reactors under construction.

In exchange for North Korea's freeze, the United States was obligated to provide low-grade heating oil and create an international consortium to construct two civil power reactors to replace the two reactors that North Korea had been building.

International inspectors continue to verify that activity at these North Korean nuclear cites remain frozen. The Agreed Framework has successfully ensured that they cannot contribute to a North Korean nuclear weapon program so long as the Agreed Framework is in force.

However, I am concerned that the United States and its allies cannot be assured at this point that North Korea is not surreptitiously seeking to develop nuclear weapons.

We must be vigilant that North Korea fully and completely meets all of its nonproliferation obligations under the Agreed Framework, the Treaty on Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and its obligations to allow inspections of its activities by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

This bill will require congressional review and approval of any nuclear cooperation with North Korea. Such cooperation will be necessary to complete the two civil nuclear power reactors now being built in fulfillment of the Agreed Framework agreement between the United States and North Korea.

This bill is a significant improvement over last year's version. Under the previous Gilman-Markey amendment, one committee chair or Chamber leader could have prevented consideration of the joint resolution approving the President's certification that North Korea is living up to its nonproliferation obligations. The version before the House today contains expedited procedures ensuring that there will be a vote on the joint resolution in both Houses.

Mr. Speaker, the Agreed Framework is clearly in our national security interest of the United States and our allies in the region. A nuclear-armed North Korea would be a serious threat to all of us. So long as North Korea is meeting its obligations under the Agreed Framework, and those nuclear facilities are shut down, it is strongly in the United States' national interest to live up to our side of the bargain and support the construction of these two reactors.

This bill today places a serious responsibility on the shoulders of a future Congress. When the time comes for a decision on whether to move forward with the provision of two nuclear reactors to North Korea, Members of Congress must deliberate coolly, objectively, and without partisan rancor. If the Agreed Framework ultimately comes apart with all the potential devastating consequences for peace and stability in the region, then it must happen because the North Koreans did not live up to their obligations, not because the United States walked away from the agreement.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), chairman of our Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN) for yielding me this time.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 4251, which was offered by the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN). Essentially and importantly, H.R. 4251 addresses concerns raised when the North Korean nuclear issue was debated during last year's consideration of the Embassy Security Act of 1999. At that time, language was overwhelmingly approved that required Presidential certification and a positive vote on this body and by the other body before a nuclear cooperation agreement with North Korea could go into effect. Without such a Presidential certification and positive congressional vote, key nuclear technology could not be sold or transferred to North Korea.

When this measure was debated in July of last year, it was approved by a vote of 305 to 120. At that time, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ACKERMAN) raised a concern that either legislative body might stall the process by refusing to schedule a vote.

H.R. 4251, as the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) has mentioned, seeks to, and I think does adequately, address this concern by establishing an expedited procedure for consideration of a joint resolution concurring in the President's certification. This is an attempt to alleviate the legitimate concerns raised when this matter was last debated.

Mr. Speaker, former Secretary of Defense William Perry was tasked by the President with devising a strategy for responding to the North Korean threat. Few individuals have garnered greater respect than Secretary Perry as he served as the Secretary of Defense. He is an outstanding public servant and has made a major contribution to U.S. national security in so many ways, including what he has done with respect to the North Korean threat.

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Dr. Perry proposed a blueprint for two alternative paths of U.S.-North Korea relations. If North Korea chooses the path of peace, the United States would be willing to provide improved political and economic relations, including, presumably, the technology for two light-water reactors. But, if North Korea chooses the path of confrontation under the Perry initiative, the United States and our allies must be prepared to meet force with force and deny Pyongyang any political or military advantage.

It certainly is not yet clear which path North Korea has taken. The DPRK's missile development program, its history of a covert program for nuclear weapons development, and its extraordinarily blatant terrorist activities are among the many reasons for suspicion, caution, and maximum verification. If North Korea does

choose the path of confrontation, this body should be prepared to abandon the nuclear cooperation agreement, and the Congress needs to reduce any ambiguity about that point.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, H.R. 4251 ensures that this body will have a voice in that determination. It is a responsible measure, and I urge support for the resolution offered by the distinguished chairman.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), whose work has been very sustained and consistent on this issue.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for generously yielding me this time, and I stand here proudly as the lead Democratic cosponsor with the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

I, of course, would also like to thank the ranking Democrat on the committee, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), for his sustained interest in and support for this legislation.

The reason that we are here today is that North Korea's record on nuclear and ballistic missile proliferation is nothing short of abysmal. This secretive, Stalinist, rogue regime has, over the last decade, refused to carry out its obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and other accords it has signed. In fact, in 1993, North Korea threatened to withdraw from the NPT and stopped international inspections of its nuclear weapons programs. It has constructed nuclear reactors and a plutonium reprocessing plant at a site called Yongbyon. As a result of these activities, U.S. and foreign intelligence assessments have reportedly concluded that North Korea probably has acquired enough weapons-grade plutonium to manufacture from one to three nuclear bombs. At the same time, North Korea has been testing and developing ballistic missiles that may soon be capable of reaching as far away as the western United States. In addition, North Korea is believed to be a major exporter of ballistic missile technology and components to countries like Iran and Pakistan, increasing the security risk in those regions of the world.

In an effort to halt North Korea's progress towards a full-blown nuclear weapons and ballistic missile capacity, the Clinton administration negotiated an agreed framework with North Korea in 1994, which provided a package of benefits in return for a freeze on North Korea's nuclear program and acceptance of nonproliferation requirement. One key component of this benefits package was a United States promise to facilitate the delivery of two light-water nuclear reactors to North Korea, which were intended to replace two nuclear weapons production reactors then under construction in North Korea.

H.R. 4251 would require an affirmative vote of approval before any nuclear cooperation agreement between the United States and North Korea that allows the sale of these reactors to go forward.

This amendment builds on an effort begun last year by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and myself. Last July 21, the House voted 305 to 120 to pass the Gilman-Markey amendment to the State Department authorization bill, which required the President to make certain nonproliferation certifications regarding North Korea's compliance with various international agreements regarding nuclear nonproliferation; that is, the NPT and the 1994 Agreed Framework; and the Congress to pass a joint resolution approving an agreement for cooperation with North Korea before U.S. nuclear facilities technologies or materials can be exported to North Korea.

The specific certifications required under the Gilman-Markey amendment were drawn from the terms of the 1994 Agreed Framework. All our amendment required is for the President to certify that the North Koreans have actually complied with the specific nuclear nonproliferation commitments they made under the Agreed Framework and other international agreements they have signed to terminate their efforts to enrich uranium, reprocess spent fuel, or otherwise acquire, test or deploy nuclear weapons.

Now, there was one part of the Gilman-Markey amendment as it passed the House that the Senate was not willing to accept. That was the requirement for an affirmative vote of approval by the Congress before a nuclear cooperation agreement could become effective for North Korea. Under current law, nuclear cooperation agreements take effect within 90 days of their formal submission by the President unless Congress has, within that time period, passed a joint resolution of disapproval. While this process theoretically provides an opportunity to review and block a nuclear cooperation agreement, in practice the Congress has never, in its history, passed a joint resolution disapproving a nuclear cooperation agreement. That is never, my colleagues. Never. Indeed, most of the time, Congress never even votes on these agreements, as the State Department, the U.S. nuclear industry and their supporters can usually run out the clock and thereby allow an agreement to take effect without any congressional vote, even though there are nonproliferation considerations that should have been debated on the floor of Congress.

H.R. 4251 assures that Congress will have a strong voice in ensuring that any future U.S.-North Korea nuclear cooperation agreement is fully consistent with our national security and nuclear nonproliferation interests. It does so by requiring a joint resolution of approval to be adopted by the Congress before any such agreement goes into effect.

I am pleased that the bill also included expedited procedures to assure timely Congressional action on any approval resolution brought forth in the future with respect to North Korea. The gentlewoman from Connecticut had raised the issue of possible delaying tactics, particularly in the Senate, during last year's debate over this provision. By providing expedited procedures for consideration of an approval resolution, we should help assure that a vote actually occurs on any North Korea nuclear cooperation agreement.

I think this is a good bill. I think the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) has provided enormously important national leadership on this question. Without question it has now arisen to the top of our national security concerns of our Nation, and I hope this resolution receives unanimous support here today.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank the chairman, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON), and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) for working in a bipartisan fashion in bringing this resolution to the floor.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 4251. This bill sounds good on its face, and it might make us feel like we're striking a blow against North Korea, but I believe its passage today is a mistake.

First, if this bill becomes law, it will make it virtually impossible for the United States to keep the commitments we made in the 1994 Agreed Framework. That was the deal designed to end North Korea's nuclear program. Slowly but surely, and despite its critics' dire warnings, it is succeeding.

This bill would block delivery of key components to the light-water reactors now under construction by a South Korean firm. Those components are not the core reactors, whose installation will come only when the United States, South Korea and Japan are confident that North Korea no longer poses a nuclear threat. Instead, the affected items are more basic components that would be denied much sooner, and at a critical moment in this process of eliminating North Korea's nuclear capabilities.

My second objection is that our timing is terrible. For the first time since the Korean nation was split in two, a summit has been scheduled between the leaders of the North and South. Hopes are high that President Kim Dae Jung and General Kim Jong Il will make progress toward peace, or at least a more permanent end to the tense stand-off that has blighted Korea's history for 50 years.

In less than a month, South Korea's elected president—a national hero known for his courage in pressing for human rights—will meet with North Korea's new leader—a man who has broken his predecessors' tradition of isolation and hostility by reaching out to the United States and other nations.

The North-South summit is an historic initiative that tour country should support. Instead, by this vote we risk signaling to Koreans in both nations that they cannot trust the United States to keep our solemn commitments. With 37,000 Americans stationed along one of the world's most dangerous borders, ending the

Korean War—or even lessening the hostile situation—should be our country's highest priority. This bill will take us further from that goal.

Mr. Speaker, our allies in South Korea have grave concerns about this bill. Few of us expect it to win Senate passage or, if it does, the President's approval. Passage of this bill today puts a successful strategy in jeopardy, and does so at what may well be a turning point in history. I urge my colleagues to vote no on the bill.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I too want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) for his supportive remarks and his diligent work on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4251, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

IMPACT AID REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3616) to reauthorize the impact aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3616

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000''.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

Section 8001 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7701) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting after ''educational services to federally connected children'' the following: ''in a manner that promotes control by local educational agencies with little or no Federal or State involvement''; and

(B) by inserting after ''certain activities of the Federal Government'' the following: '', such as activities to fulfill the responsibilities of the Federal Government with respect to Indian tribes and activities under section 514 of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 (50 U.S.C. App. 574),'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by adding ''or'' at the end;

(3) by striking paragraph (5);

(4) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5); and

(5) in paragraph (5) (as redesignated), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''and because of the difficulty of raising local revenue through bond referendums for capital projects due to the inability to tax Federal property''.

SEC. 3. PAYMENTS RELATING TO FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.

(a) FISCAL YEAR REQUIREMENT.—Section 8002(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(a)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking ''1999'' and inserting ''2005''.

(b) AMOUNT.—

(1) INSUFFICIENT FUNDS.—Section 8002(b)(1)(B) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(b)(1)(B)) is amended by striking ''shall ratably reduce the payment to each eligible local educational agency'' and inserting ''shall calculate the payment for each eligible local educational agency in accordance with subsection (h)''.

(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—Section 8002(b)(1)(C) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(b)(1)(C)) is amended by adding at the end before the period the following: '', or the maximum amount that such agency is eligible to receive for such fiscal year under this section, whichever is greater''.

(c) PAYMENTS WITH RESPECT TO FISCAL YEARS IN WHICH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE APPROPRIATED.—Section 8002(h) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) PAYMENTS WITH RESPECT TO FISCAL YEARS IN WHICH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE APPROPRIATED.—For any fiscal year for which the amount appropriated under section 8014(a) is insufficient to pay to each local educational agency the full amount determined under subsection (b), the Secretary shall make payments to each local educational agency under this section as follows:

''(1) FOUNDATION PAYMENTS FOR PRE-1995 RECIPIENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall first make a foundation payment to each local educational agency that is eligible to receive a payment under this section for the fiscal year involved and was eligible to receive a payment under section 2 of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) (as such section was in effect on the day preceding the date of the enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994) for any of the fiscal years 1989 through 1994.

''(B) AMOUNT.—The amount of a payment under subparagraph (A) for a local educational agency shall be equal to 37 percent of the payment amount the local educational agency was eligible to receive under section 2 of the Act of September 30, 1950, for fiscal year 1994 (or if the local educational agency was not eligible to receive a payment under such section 2 for fiscal year 1994, the payment that local educational agency was eligible to receive under such section 2 for the most recent fiscal year preceding 1994).

''(C) INSUFFICIENT APPROPRIATIONS.—If the amount appropriated under section 8014(a) is insufficient to pay the full amount determined under this paragraph for all eligible local educational agencies for the fiscal year, then the Secretary shall ratably reduce the payment to each local educational agency under this paragraph.

''(2) PAYMENTS FOR 1995 RECIPIENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—From any amounts remaining after making payments under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year involved, the Secretary shall make a payment to each eligible local educational agency that received a payment under this section for fiscal year 1995.

''(B) AMOUNT.—The amount of a payment under subparagraph (A) for a local educational agency shall be determined as follows:

''(i) Calculate the difference between the amount appropriated to carry out this section for fiscal year 1995 and the total amount of foundation payments made under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year.

''(ii) Determine the percentage share for each local educational agency that received a payment under this section for fiscal year 1995 by dividing the assessed value of the Federal property of the local educational agency for fiscal year 1995 determined in accordance with subsection (b)(3), by the total national assessed value of the Federal property of all such local educational agencies for fiscal year 1995, as so determined.

''(iii) Multiply the percentage share described in clause (ii) for the local educational agency by the amount determined under clause (i).

''(3) SUBSECTION (i) RECIPIENTS.—From any funds remaining after making payments under paragraphs (1) and (2) for the fiscal year involved, the Secretary shall make payments in accordance with subsection (i).

''(4) REMAINING FUNDS.—From any funds remaining after making payments under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) for the fiscal year involved—

''(A) the Secretary shall make a payment to each local educational agency that received a foundation payment under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year involved in an amount that bears the same relation to 25 percent of the remainder as the amount the local educational agency received under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year involved bears to the amount all local educational agencies received under paragraph (1) for the fiscal year involved; and

''(B) the Secretary shall make a payment to each local educational agency that is eligible to receive a payment under this section for the fiscal year involved in an amount that bears the same relation to 75 percent of the remainder as a percentage share determined for the local educational agency (in the same manner as percentage shares are determined for local educational agencies under paragraph (2)(B)(ii)) bears to the percentage share determined (in the same manner) for all local educational agencies eligible to receive a payment under this section for the fiscal year involved, except that for the purpose of calculating a local educational agency's assessed value of the Federal property, data from the most current fiscal year shall be used.''.

(d) SPECIAL PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8002(i)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(i)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For any fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2000 for which the amount appropriated to carry out this section exceeds the amount so appropriated for fiscal year 1996 and for which subsection (b)(1)(B) applies, the Secretary shall use the remainder described in subsection (h)(3) for the fiscal year involved (not to exceed the amount equal to the difference between (A) the amount appropriated to carry out this section for fiscal year 1997 and (B) the amount appropriated to carry out this section for fiscal year 1996) to increase the payment that would otherwise be made under this section to not more than 50 percent of the maximum amount determined under subsection (b) for any local educational agency described in paragraph (2).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 8002(i) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(i)) is amended by striking ''PRIORITY'' and inserting SPECIAL''.

(e) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES IMPACTED BY FEDERAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION.—Section 8002(j)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(j)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(A) A local educational agency'' and inserting ''A local educational agency'';

(2) by redesignating clauses (i) through (v) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively; and

(3) in subparagraph (C) (as redesignated), by adding at the end before the semicolon the following: ''and such agency does not currently have a military installation located within its geographic boundaries''.

(f) DATA; PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PAYMENTS.—Section 8002 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(l) DATA; PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) not later than 30 days following the application deadline under section 8005(c) for a fiscal year, require any local educational agency that applied for a payment under subsection (b) for the fiscal year to submit such data as may be necessary in order to compute the payment;

''(B) as soon as possible after the beginning of any fiscal year, but no later than 60 days after the enactment of an Act making appropriations to carry out this title for the fiscal year, provide a preliminary payment under subsection (b) for any local educational agency that applied for a payment under subsection (b) for the fiscal year and was eligible for such a payment for the preceding fiscal year, in the amount of 60 percent of the payment for the previous year; and

''(C) provide a final payment under subsection (b) for any eligible local educational agency not later than 12 months after the application deadline established under section 8005(c), except that any local educational agency failing to submit all of the data required under subparagraph (A) shall be denied such payment for the fiscal year for which the application is made unless funds from a source other than the Act described in subparagraph (B) are made available to provide such payment.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY FOR PAYMENTS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—The denial of a payment under subsection (b) to a local educational agency for a fiscal year pursuant to this subsection shall not affect the eligibility of the local educational agency for a final payment under subsection (b) for a subsequent fiscal year.''.

SEC. 4. PAYMENTS FOR ELIGIBLE FEDERALLY CONNECTED CHILDREN.

(a) MILITARY INSTALLATION HOUSING UNDERGOING RENOVATION OR REBUILDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8003(a)(4) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(a)) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''UNDERGOING RENOVATION'' and inserting ''UNDERGOING RENOVATION OR REBUILDING'';

(B) by striking ''For purposes'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes'';

(C) in subparagraph (A) (as designated by subparagraph (B)), by inserting ''or rebuilding'' after ''undergoing renovation''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) LIMITATIONS.—(i)(I) Except as provided in subclause (II), children described in paragraph (1)(D)(i) may be deemed to be children described in paragraph (1)(B) with respect to housing on Federal property undergoing renovation or rebuilding in accordance with subparagraph (A) for a period not to exceed 2 fiscal years.

''(II) If the Secretary determines, on the basis of a certification provided to the Secretary by a designated representative of the Secretary of Defense, that the expected completion date of the renovation or rebuilding of the housing has been delayed by not less than 1 year, then—

''(aa) in the case of a determination made by the Secretary in the 1st fiscal year described in subclause (I), the time period described such subclause shall be extended by the Secretary for an additional 2 years; and

''(bb) in the case of a determination made by the Secretary in the 2nd fiscal year described in subclause (I), the time period described such subclause shall be extended by the Secretary for an additional 1 year.

''(ii) The number of children described in paragraph (1)(D)(i) who are deemed to be children described in paragraph (1)(B) with respect to housing on Federal property undergoing renovation or rebuilding in accordance with subparagraph (A) for any fiscal year may not exceed the maximum number of children who are expected to occupy that housing upon completion of the renovation or rebuilding.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to payments to a local educational agency for fiscal years beginning before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) MILITARY ''BUILD TO LEASE'' PROGRAM HOUSING.—Section 8003(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) MILITARY 'BUILD TO LEASE' PROGRAM HOUSING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of computing the amount of payment for a local educational agency for children identified under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider children residing in housing initially acquired or constructed under the former section 2828(g) of title 10, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Build to Lease' program), as added by section 801 of the Military Construction Authorization Act, 1984, to be children described under paragraph (1)(B) if the property described is within the fenced security perimeter of the military facility upon which such housing is situated.

''(B) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—If the property described in subparagraph (A) is not owned by the Federal Government, is subject to taxation by a State or political subdivision of a State, and thereby generates revenues for a local educational agency that is applying to receive a payment under this section, then the Secretary—

''(i) shall require the local educational agency to provide certification from an appropriate official of the Department of Defense that the property is being used to provide military housing; and

''(ii) shall reduce the amount of the payment under this section by an amount equal to the amount of revenue from such taxation received in the second preceding fiscal year by such local educational agency, unless the amount of such revenue was taken into account by the State for such second preceding fiscal year and already resulted in a reduction in the amount of State aid paid to such local educational agency.''.

SEC. 5. MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF BASIC SUPPORT PAYMENTS.

Section 8003(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) INCREASE IN LOCAL CONTRIBUTION RATE DUE TO UNUSUAL GEOGRAPHIC FACTORS.—If the current expenditures in those local educational agencies which the Secretary has determined to be generally comparable to the local educational agency for which a computation is made under subparagraph (C) are not reasonably comparable because of unusual geographical factors which affect the current expenditures necessary to maintain, in such agency, a level of education equivalent to that maintained in such other agencies, then the Secretary shall increase the local contribution rate for such agency under subparagraph (C)(iii) by such an amount which the Secretary determines will compensate such agency for the increase in current expenditures necessitated by such unusual geographical factors. The amount of any such supplementary payment may not exceed the per-pupil share (computed with regard to all children in average daily attendance), as determined by the Secretary, of the increased current expenditures necessitated by such unusual geographic factors.''.

SEC. 6. BASIC SUPPORT PAYMENTS FOR HEAVILY IMPACTED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8003(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) BASIC SUPPORT PAYMENTS FOR HEAVILY IMPACTED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—(i) From the amount appropriated under section 8014(b) for a fiscal year, the Secretary is authorized to make basic support payments to eligible heavily impacted local educational agencies with children described in subsection (a).

''(ii) A local educational agency that receives a basic support payment under this paragraph for a fiscal year shall not be eligible to receive a basic support payment under paragraph (1) for that fiscal year.

''(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTINUING HEAVILY IMPACTED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—

''(i) FISCAL YEAR 2001.—A heavily impacted local educational agency is eligible to receive a basic support payment under subparagraph (A) for fiscal year 2001 with respect to a number of children determined under subsection (a)(1) only if the agency received an additional assistance payment under subsection (f) (as such subsection was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000) for fiscal year 2000.

''(ii) FISCAL YEAR 2002 AND SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.—A heavily impacted local educational agency described in clause (i) is eligible to receive a basic support payment under subparagraph (A) for fiscal year 2002 and any subsequent fiscal year with respect to a number of children determined under subsection (a)(1) only if the agency—

''(I) received a basic support payment under subparagraph (A) for fiscal year 2001; and

''(II)(aa) is a local educational agency whose boundaries are the same as a Federal military installation;

''(bb) has an enrollment of federally connected children described in subsection (a)(1) which constitutes a percentage of the total student enrollment of such agency which is not less than 35 percent, has a per-pupil expenditure that is less than the average per-pupil expenditure of the State in which the agency is located or the average per-pupil expenditure of all States (whichever average per-pupil expenditure is greater), except that a local educational agency with a total student enrollment of less than 350 students shall be deemed to have satisfied such per-pupil expenditure requirement, and has a tax rate for general fund purposes which is at least 95 percent of the average tax rate for general fund purposes of comparable local educational agencies in the State; or

''(cc) has a total student enrollment of not less than 25,000 students, of which not less than 50 percent are federally connected children described in subsection (a)(1) and not less than 6,000 of such federally connected children are children described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(1).

''(iii) RESUMPTION OF ELIGIBILITY.—A heavily impacted local educational agency described in clause (i) or (ii) that becomes ineligible under either such clause for 1 or more fiscal years may resume eligibility for a basic support payment under this paragraph for a subsequent fiscal year only if the agency meets the requirements of item (aa), (bb), or (cc) of clause (ii)(II) for that subsequent fiscal year.

''(C) ELIGIBILITY FOR NEW HEAVILY IMPACTED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A heavily impacted local educational agency that did not receive an additional assistance payment under subsection (f) (as such subsection was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000) for fiscal year 2000 is eligible to receive a basic support payment under subparagraph (A) for fiscal year 2002 and any subsequent fiscal year with respect to a number of children determined under subsection (a)(1) only if the agency—

''(I) has an enrollment of federally connected children described in subsection (a)(1) which constitutes a percentage of the total student enrollment of such agency which (aa) is not less than 50 percent if such agency receives a payment on behalf of children described in subparagraphs (F) and (G) of such subsection or (bb) is not less than 40 percent if such agency does not receive a payment on behalf of such children;

''(II)(aa) is a local educational agency whose boundaries are the same as a Federal military installation; or

''(bb) is a local educational agency that has a tax rate for general fund purposes which is at least 95 percent of the average tax rate for general fund purposes of comparable local educational agencies in the State; and

''(III)(aa) for a local educational agency that has a total student enrollment of 350 or more students, the agency has a per-pupil expenditure that is less than the average per-pupil expenditure of the State in which the agency is located; or

''(bb) for a local educational agency that has a total student enrollment of less than 350 students, the agency has a per-pupil expenditure that is less than the average per-pupil expenditure of a comparable agency in the State in which the agency is located.

''(ii) RESUMPTION OF ELIGIBILITY.—A heavily impacted local educational agency described in clause (i) that becomes ineligible under such clause for 1 or more fiscal years may resume eligibility for a basic support payment under this paragraph for a subsequent fiscal year only if the agency meets the requirements of subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (i) for that subsequent fiscal year.

''(iii) APPLICATION.—With respect to the first fiscal year for which a heavily impacted local educational agency described in clause (i) applies for a basic support payment under subparagraph (A), or with respect to the first fiscal year for which a heavily impacted local educational agency applies for a basic support payment under subparagraph (A) after becoming ineligible under clause (i) for 1 or more preceding fiscal years, the agency shall apply for such payment at least 1 year prior to the start of that first fiscal year.

''(D) MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR REGULAR HEAVILY IMPACTED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (E), the maximum amount that a heavily impacted local educational agency is eligible to receive under this paragraph for any fiscal year is the sum of the total weighted student units, as computed under subsection (a)(2) (subject to clause (ii)), multiplied by the greater of—

''(I) four-fifths of the average per-pupil expenditure of the State in which the local educational agency is located for the third fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made; or

''(II) four-fifths of the average per-pupil expenditure of all of the States for the third fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made.

''(ii)(I) For a local educational agency with respect to which 35 percent or more of the total student enrollment of the schools of the agency are children described in subparagraph (D) or (E) (or a combination thereof) of subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall calculate the weighted student units of such children for purposes of subsection (a)(2) by multiplying the number of such children by a factor of 0.55.

''(II) For a local educational agency that has an enrollment of 100 or fewer federally connected children described in subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall calculate the total number of weighted student units for purposes of subsection (a)(2) by multiplying the number of such children by a factor of 1.75.

''(III) For a local educational agency that has an enrollment of more than 100 but not more than 750 children described in subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall calculate the total number of weighted student units for purposes of subsection (a)(2) by multiplying the number of such children by a factor of 1.25.

''(E) MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR LARGE HEAVILY IMPACTED LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—(i)(I) Subject to clause (ii), the maximum amount that a heavily impacted local educational agency described in subclause (II) is eligible to receive under this paragraph for any fiscal year shall be determined in accordance with the formula described in paragraph (1)(C).

''(II) A heavily impacted local educational agency described in this subclause is a local educational agency that has a total student enrollment of not less than 25,000 students, of which not less than 50 percent are federally connected children described in subsection (a)(1) and not less than 6,000 of such federally connected children are children described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(1).

''(ii) For purposes of calculating the maximum amount described in clause (i), the factor used in determining the weighted student units under subsection (a)(2) with respect to children described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(1) shall be 1.35.

''(F) DATA.—For purposes of providing assistance under this paragraph, the Secretary shall use student, revenue, expenditure, and tax data from the third fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the local educational agency is applying for assistance under this paragraph.''.

(b) PAYMENTS WITH RESPECT TO FISCAL YEARS IN WHICH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE APPROPRIATED.—Paragraph (3) of section 8003(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(b)), as redesignated, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (1) and (2)'';

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the heading, by inserting after ''PAYMENTS'' the following: ''IN LIEU OF PAYMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)'';

(B) in the matter preceding subclause (I) of clause (i), by inserting after '''threshold payment')'' the following: ''in lieu of basic support payments under paragraph (1)'';

(C) in clause (ii), by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''clause (i)''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(iv) In the case of a local educational agency that has a total student enrollment of fewer than 1,000 students and that has a per-pupil expenditure that is less than the average per-pupil expenditure of the State in which the agency is located, the total percentage used to calculate threshold payments under clause (i) shall not be less than 40 percent.'';

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D);

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) LEARNING OPPORTUNITY THRESHOLD PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF PAYMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (2).—For fiscal years described in subparagraph (A), the learning opportunity threshold payment in lieu of basic support payments under paragraph (2) shall be equal to the amount obtained under subparagraph (D) or (E) of paragraph (2), as the case may be.''; and

(5) in subparagraph (D) (as redesignated), by striking ''computation made under subparagraph (B)'' and inserting ''computations made under subparagraphs (B) and (C)''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 8002(b)(1)(C) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7702(b)(1)(C)) is amended by striking ''section 8003(b)(1)(C)'' and inserting ''paragraph (1)(C) of section 8003(b) or subparagraph (D) or (E) of paragraph (2) of such section, as the case may be''.

(2) Section 8003 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''subsection (b), (d), or (f)'' and inserting ''subsection (b) or (d)'';

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(C), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''this subsection'' and inserting ''this paragraph''; and

(ii) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''paragraphs (1)(B), (1)(C), and (2) of this subsection'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (1) or subparagraphs (B) through (D) of paragraph (2), as the case may be, paragraph (3) of this subsection''; and

(II) in subparagraph (B)—

(aa) by inserting after ''paragraph (1)(C)'' the following: ''or subparagraph (D) or (E) of paragraph (2), as the case may be,''; and

(bb) by striking ''paragraph (2)(B)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (3)'';

(C) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ''paragraph (2) and subsection (f)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2) and paragraph (2)'';

(D) by striking subsection (f); and

(E) in subsection (i), by striking ''sections 8002 and 8003(b)'' and inserting ''section 8002 and subsection (b) of this section''.

SEC. 7. BASIC SUPPORT PAYMENTS FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES AFFECTED BY REMOVAL OF FEDERAL PROPERTY.

Section 8003(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(b)), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES AFFECTED BY REMOVAL OF FEDERAL PROPERTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In computing the amount of a basic support payment under this subsection for a fiscal year for a local educational agency described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall meet the additional requirements described in subparagraph (C).

''(B) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY DESCRIBED.—A local educational agency described in this subparagraph is a local educational agency with respect to which Federal property (i) located within the boundaries of the agency, and (ii) on which 1 or more children reside who are receiving a free public education at a school of the agency, is transferred by the Federal Government to another entity in any fiscal year beginning on or after the date of the enactment of the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000 so that the property is subject to taxation by the State or a political subdivision of the State.

''(C) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The additional requirements described in this subparagraph are the following:

''(i) For each fiscal year beginning after the date on which the Federal property is transferred, a child described in subparagraph (B) who continues to reside on such property and who continues to receive a free public education at a school of the agency shall be deemed to be a child who resides on Federal property for purposes of computing under the applicable subparagraph of subsection (a)(1) the amount that the agency is eligible to receive under this subsection.

''(ii)(I) For the third fiscal year beginning after the date on which the Federal property is transferred, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary shall, after computing the amount that the agency is otherwise eligible to receive under this subsection for the fiscal year involved, deduct from such amount an amount equal to the revenue received by the agency for the immediately preceding fiscal year as a result of the taxable status of the former Federal property.

''(II) For purposes of determining the amount of revenue to be deducted in accordance with subclause (I), the local educational agency—

''(aa) shall provide for a review and certification of such amount by an appropriate local tax authority; and

''(bb) shall submit to the Secretary a report containing the amount certified under item (aa).''.

SEC. 8. ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES WITH HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF CHILDREN WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES.

(a) REPEAL.—Subsection (g) of section 8003 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703(g)) is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) Section 8003 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7703) is amended by redesignating subsections (h) and (i) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively.

(2) Section 426 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1228) is amended by striking ''subsections (d) and (g) of section 8003 of such Act'' and inserting ''section 8003(d) of such Act''.

SEC. 9. APPLICATION FOR PAYMENTS UNDER SECTIONS 8002 AND 8003.

Section 8005(d) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7705(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting after ''not more than 60 days after a deadline established under subsection (c)'' the following: '', or not more than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary sends written notice to the local educational agency pursuant to paragraph (3)(A), as the case may be,''; and

(2) in paragraph (3) to read as follows:

''(3) LATE APPLICATIONS.—

''(A) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall, as soon as practicable after the deadline established under subsection (c), provide to each local educational agency that applied for a payment under section 8002 or 8003 for the prior fiscal year, and with respect to which the Secretary has not received an application for a payment under either such section (as the case may be) for the fiscal year in question, written notice of the failure to comply with the deadline and instruction to ensure that the application is filed not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary sends the notice.

''(B) ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF LATE APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall not accept or approve any application of a local educational agency that is filed more than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary sends written notice to the local educational agency pursuant to subparagraph (A).''.

SEC. 10. PAYMENTS FOR SUDDEN AND SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN ATTENDANCE OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS.

Section 8006 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7706) is repealed.

SEC. 11. CONSTRUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8007 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7707) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 8007. CONSTRUCTION.

''(a) CONSTRUCTION PAYMENTS AUTHORIZED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—From 70 percent of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year under section 8014(e), the Secretary shall make payments in accordance with this subsection to each local educational agency that receives a basic support payment under section 8003(b) for that fiscal year.

''(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—A local educational agency that receives a basic support payment under section 8003(b)(1) shall also meet at least 1 of the following requirements:

''(A) The number of children determined under section 8003(a)(1)(C) for the agency for the preceding school year constituted at least 50 percent of the total student enrollment in the schools of the agency during the preceding school year.

''(B) The number of children determined under subparagraphs (B) and (D)(i) of section 8003(a)(1) for the agency for the preceding school year constituted at least 50 percent of the total student enrollment in the schools of the agency during the preceding school year.

''(3) AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—

''(A) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES IMPACTED BY MILITARY DEPENDENT CHILDREN.—The amount of a payment to each local educational agency described in this subsection that is impacted by military dependent children for a fiscal year shall be equal to—

''(i)(II) 35 percent of the amount appropriated under section 8014(e) for such fiscal year; divided by

''(II) the total number of weighted student units of children described in subparagraphs (B) and (D)(i) of section 8003(a)(1) for all local educational agencies described in this subsection (as calculated under section 8003(a)(2)), including the number of weighted student units of such children attending a school facility described in section 8008(a) if the Secretary does not provide assistance for the school facility under that section for the prior fiscal year; multiplied by

''(ii) the total number of such weighted student units for the agency.

''(B) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES IMPACTED BY CHILDREN WHO RESIDE ON INDIAN LANDS.—The amount of a payment to each local educational agency described in this subsection that is impacted by children who reside on Indian lands for a fiscal year shall be equal to—

''(i)(I) 35 percent of the amount appropriated under section 8014(e) for such fiscal year; divided by

''(II) the total number of weighted student units of children described in section 8003(a)(1)(C) for all local educational agencies described in this subsection (as calculated under section 8003(a)(2)); multiplied by

''(ii) the total number of such weighted student units for the agency.

''(4) USE OF FUNDS.—Any local educational agency that receives funds under this subsection shall use such funds for construction, as defined in section 8013(3).

''(b) SCHOOL FACILITY MODERNIZATION GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—From 30 percent of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year under section 8014(e), the Secretary shall award grants in accordance with this subsection to eligible local educational agencies to enable the local educational agencies to carry out modernization of school facilities.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—A local educational agency is eligible to receive funds under this subsection only if—

''(A) such agency (or in the case of a local educational agency that does not have the authority to tax or issue bonds, such agency's fiscal agent) has no capacity to issue bonds or is at such agency's limit in bonded indebtedness for the purposes of generating funds for capital expenditures; and

''(B)(i) such agency received assistance under section 8002(a) for the fiscal year and has an assessed value of taxable property per student in the school district that is less than the average of the assessed value of taxable property per student in the State in which the local educational agency is located; or

''(ii) such agency received assistance under subsection (a) for the fiscal year and has a school facility emergency, as determined by the Secretary, that poses a health or safety hazard to the students and school personnel assigned to the school facility.

''(3) AWARD CRITERIA.—In awarding grants under this subsection the Secretary shall consider 1 or more of the following factors:

''(A) The extent to which the local educational agency lacks the fiscal capacity to undertake the modernization project without Federal assistance.

''(B) The extent to which property in the local educational agency is nontaxable due to the presence of the Federal Government.

''(C) The extent to which the local educational agency serves high numbers or percentages of children described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) of section 8003(a)(1).

''(D) The need for modernization to meet—

''(i) the threat that the condition of the school facility poses to the safety and well-being of students;

''(ii) overcrowding conditions as evidenced by the use of trailers and portable buildings and the potential for future overcrowding because of increased enrollment; and

''(iii) facility needs resulting from actions of the Federal Government.

''(E) The age of the school facility to be modernized.

''(4) OTHER AWARD PROVISIONS.—

''(A) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal funds provided under this subsection to a local educational agency described in subparagraph (C) shall not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project to be assisted under this subsection. A local educational agency may use in-kind contributions to meet the matching requirement of the preceding sentence.

''(B) MAXIMUM GRANT.—A local educational agency described in subparagraph (C) may not receive a grant under this subsection in an amount that exceeds $3,000,000 during any 5-year period.

''(C) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY DESCRIBED.—A local educational agency described in this subparagraph is a local educational agency that has the authority to issue bonds but is at such agency's limit in bonded indebtedness for the purposes of generating funds for capital expenditures.

''(5) APPLICATIONS.—A local educational agency that desires to receive a grant under this subsection shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require. Each application shall contain—

''(A) documentation certifying such agency's lack of bonding capacity;

''(B) a listing of the school facilities to be modernized, including the number and percentage of children determined under section 8003(a)(1) in average daily attendance in each school facility;

''(C) a description of the ownership of the property on which the current school facility is located or on which the planned school facility will be located;

''(D) a description of any school facility deficiency that poses a health or safety hazard to the occupants of the school facility and a description of how that deficiency will be repaired;

''(E) a description of the modernization to be supported with funds provided under this subsection;

''(F) a cost estimate of the proposed modernization; and

''(G) such other information and assurances as the Secretary may reasonably require.

''(6) EMERGENCY GRANTS.—

''(A) APPLICATIONS.—Each local educational agency described in paragraph (2)(B)(ii) that desires a grant under this subsection shall include in the application submitted under paragraph (5) a signed statement from an appropriate local official certifying that a health or safety deficiency exists.

''(B) PRIORITY.—If the Secretary receives more than 1 application from local educational agencies described in paragraph (2)(B)(ii) for grants under this subsection for any fiscal year, the Secretary shall give priority to local educational agencies based on the severity of the emergency, as determined by the Secretary, and when the application was received.

''(C) CONSIDERATION FOR FOLLOWING YEAR.—A local educational agency described in paragraph (2)(B)(ii) that applies for a grant under this subsection for any fiscal year and does not receive the grant shall have the application for the grant considered for the following fiscal year, subject to the priority described in subparagraph (B).''.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 8013 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7713) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(13) MODERNIZATION.—The term 'modernization' means repair, renovation, alteration, or construction, including—

''(A) the concurrent installation of equipment; and

''(B) the complete or partial replacement of an existing school facility, but only if such replacement is less expensive and more cost-effective than repair, renovation, or alteration of the school facility.''.

SEC. 12. FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Section 8010(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7710(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively; and

(3) in paragraph (2)(D) (as redesignated), by striking ''section 5(d)(2) of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 874, 81st Congress) (as such section was in effect on the day preceding the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994) or''.

SEC. 13. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8011(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7711) is amended by adding at the end before the period the following: ''if the local educational agency or State, as the case may be, submits to the Secretary a request for the hearing not later than 60 days after the date of the action of the Secretary under this title''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to an action of the Secretary under title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) initiated on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF SECRETARIAL ACTION.—Section 8011(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7711(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''60 days'' and inserting ''30 working days (as determined by the local educational agency or State)''.

SEC. 14. DEFINITIONS.

Section 8013(5)(A)(iii) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7713(5)(A)(iii)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (I), by striking ''or'' at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(III) affordable housing assisted under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996; or''.

SEC. 15. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) PAYMENTS FOR FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—Section 8014(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714(a)) is amended by striking ''$16,750,000 for fiscal year 1995'' and inserting ''$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2000''.

(b) BASIC PAYMENTS.—Section 8014(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''subsections (b) and (f) of section 8003'' and inserting ''section 8003(b)'';

(2) by striking ''$775,000,000 for fiscal year 1995'' and inserting ''$809,400,000 for fiscal year 2000''; and

(3) by striking '', of which 6 percent'' and all that follows and inserting a period.

(c) PAYMENTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 8014(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714(c)) is amended by striking ''$45,000,000 for fiscal year 1995'' and inserting ''$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2000''.

(d) PAYMENTS FOR INCREASES IN MILITARY CHILDREN.—Subsection (d) of section 8014 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714) is repealed.

(e) CONSTRUCTION.—Section 8014(e) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714(e)) is amended by striking ''$25,000,000 for fiscal year 1995'' and inserting ''$10,052,000 for fiscal year 2000''.

(f) FACILITIES MAINTENANCE.—Section 8014(f) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714(f)) is amended by striking ''$2,000,000 for fiscal year 1995'' and inserting ''$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000''.

(g) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES IMPACTED BY FEDERAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION.—Section 8014(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7714(g)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''FEDERAL PROPERTY LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES'' and inserting ''LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES IMPACTED BY FEDERAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION''; and

(2) by striking ''such sums as are necessary beginning in fiscal year 1998 and for each succeeding fiscal year'' and inserting ''$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2000 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the four succeeding fiscal years''.

SEC. 16. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on October 1, 2000, or the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs later.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Goodling).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3616, the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank Miss Impact Aid. Miss Impact Aid, Ms. Selmser, is sitting beside me here. She came with me 19 years ago, and she is still here and still doing Impact Aid.

I rise in support of H.R. 3616, the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000. This legislation, introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES), updates and improves the Impact Aid program to address issues brought to our attention by school leaders and educators around the country.

Up front let me thank the gentleman from North Carolina for his tireless effort on behalf of the Impact Aid program. His constituents should be very proud of his good work on behalf of America's students.

H.R. 3616 was reported by the Committee on Education and the Workforce by a voice vote. It represents a strong bipartisan agreement and is supported by 10 cochairs of the bipartisan House Impact Aid Coalition, the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, the National Military Impacted Schools Association and the Indian Impacted Schools Association.

Mr. Speaker, the Impact Aid is unlike any other Elementary and Secondary Education program. Impact Aid is truly a Federal responsibility. It provides funds to schools that have lost taxable property due to Federal ownership, such as the presence of military installations, tribal lands, low-rent housing or national parks. Because of this Federal presence, the amount of money available to schools is reduced to the extent that it could negatively impact on the quality of education provided to students.

There was a time when I believed the program was not well focused. Money

was being spent on districts where there was not a clear need due to a Federal presence. This changed with the reforms to Impact Aid during the last reauthorization in 1994. At that time the program was revised to focus available funds on those school districts with the greatest need for assistance. Since those changes were implemented, I believe the program has worked quite well, and the bill before us, H.R. 3616, continues these reforms, while including additional improvements to the Impact Aid program.

H.R. 3616 would modify the formula used to determine payments for Federal property to ensure a more equitable distribution of funds. It also reforms the method used to make payments to the most heavily impacted school districts to reduce paperwork and speed up the receipt of needed funds. This change has been tested in a pilot program included in the last two appropriation bills and has proven to work.

This legislation will revise the current construction provisions of Impact Aid. This section, modeled on a bill authored by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), would allow federally-impacted school districts with no bonding capacity, or schools with health or safety hazards to apply for Impact Aid construction funds. A portion of these funds would be reserved for that purpose.

The bill provides a funding floor for small school districts with fewer than a thousand children who have a per-pupil expenditure lower than their State average. This change will help these districts raise their per-pupil spending to a level that will provide them the necessary resources to better meet the educational needs of the student.

Finally, as many of my colleagues know, every year we are faced with amendments to the Impact Aid program to assist schools that have missed filing deadlines. In the past, some districts have sent their applications to the wrong address or have had personnel changes that caused the deadline to be overlooked. H.R. 3616 contains a provision to require the Department of Education to notify schools that they have missed the filing deadline. The Department will also provide schools with 60 days from the date of notice to file their application.

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In my view, this ensures that school districts will no longer have any excuse for missing their deadlines. They are not little children, so they should make sure they do not miss their deadlines if they want the money.

These are but a few of the changes included in the legislation we are considering today. I would like to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), the ranking minority member; the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE); the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE); and, most importantly, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) for working with me to create a strong bipartisan reauthorization bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today's legislation before the House, H.R. 3616, authorizes a very valuable and important Federal education program known as Impact Aid.

Impact Aid is a Federal formula grant designed to assist school districts that have lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt Federal property or have increased expenditures due to the enrollment of federally-connected children.

Children covered under the Impact Aid law include those residing on Indian lands, military installations, low-rent housing properties and other Federal properties, and whose parents are in the uniformed services or employed on eligible Federal properties.

Impact Aid is the only Federal education program where funds are sent directly to the school districts.

In a State like Hawaii, which has a very large number of military installations and over 150,000 military personnel at any given time, we have a very large dependence on the impact program. So I want to take this opportunity to thank the chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), for advancing this very important bill with the modifications that he described.

I know that it is the product of several months of bipartisan negotiations, and I believe that the changes that have been made to the legislation will add many of the improvements that have been sought by our school districts, including the business about late filing.

The bill allows a new provision for districts that have no bonding authority and have very serious construction and housing problems with reference to their school facilities, which present serious health and safety problems for the children. I hope that this new authority will address many of the emergency needs that have come to attention of this committee.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this important legislation, H.R. 3616. It comes to the floor with very strong bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BARRETT) from the committee.

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I thank my chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support of the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000. Mr. Speaker, this bill provides much needed support for federally-impacted school districts without the local tax base to support education. This primarily includes those schools on or near military bases and on Indian reservations.

I have always supported Impact Aid, and this bill goes a long way toward meeting some of the critical needs of Impact Aid schools. I especially like the expanded construction fund provisions to help schools without bonding authority. This will help Indian schools in my State like Winnebago, Walthill, Omaha Nation, and Santee.

I often think it is too easy for people in Washington to forget that schools receiving Impact Aid are often the poorest and face some of the biggest obstacles. A few months ago, the Omaha World-Herald ran an excellent series describing some of the challenges facing Indian education in Nebraska and across the country. Dysfunctional tribal governments, poor home environments, alcohol, tobacco, drug addiction, the highest truancy and dropout rates of any minority group, and a host of other problems face Native American children in schools across this country.

When the U.S. Government signed treaties with these tribes years ago, we promised to educate their children. So far, our efforts have fallen short and have left generations of Native American children without the chance of a good education.

Now, at a very bare minimum, Mr. Speaker, for Native American children, as well as children from our military personnel, like those serving at the Omaha Offutt Air Force Base, we can authorize funds to support basic education through Impact Aid. This is a good bill. It is a well-balanced bill. I strongly urge the passage of the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) a distinguished member of our Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us today is a true bipartisan effort. I would like to thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Chairman GOODLING), the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE), the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) for their work in crafting reauthorization which will ensure that federally-impacted school districts will continue to be compensated for the loss in property tax revenue due to the military or Federal presence in their district.

I want to specifically thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Chairman GOODLING) on behalf of the Virginia Tidewater Delegation, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BATEMAN), the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SISISKY), the

gentleman from Virginia (Mr. PICKETT) and myself for his assistance in resolving a unique situation in the district of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. PICKETT) at the Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach.

As a result of the efforts of the chairman, the Virginia Beach school district can continue to receive Impact Aid without future penalties and other school districts who find themselves in a similar situation as it relates to rehabilitated military housing will have the appropriate guidance.

Mr. Speaker, Impact Aid continues to be an important funding stream for school districts that enroll a high number of children whose parents serve in the military or whose parents are Federal employees.

There is one part of the bill, however, Mr. Speaker, that needs improvement. I encourage the conference committee to work towards adjusting the funding formula to better reflect the impact of military and civilian dependent students whose parents work on Federal and military installations but actually reside in the local community.

The school districts, obviously, will not benefit from the taxes paid by the employer of Federal employees. And employer taxes represent a substantial portion of the tax base which pays for public schools. And so, an increase in aid for those children will help compensate what the loss is to the school districts by the loss of employer taxes. That means a lot to school districts in Norfolk, Newport News or Hampton in my district. But the same scenario holds true for the other school districts in the Hampton area of Virginia such as York County, Virginia Beach, and Chesapeake.

I want to congratulate my colleagues on this reauthorization, and I look forward to working with them towards full compensation of school districts for the loss in taxes that they receive and the Impact Aid as an extremely crucial part of helping that funding gap.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY).

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3616.

I testify today in my capacity as co-chairman of the Impact Aid Coalition and as the representative of Offut Air Force Base in my home district.

Offutt Air Force Base has as its tenants US/STRATCOM and the 55th Wing and a variety of other missions. This district is a heavily-impacted district. The land mass of Offutt Air Force Base is huge; and our school districts that educate the military children rely on their primary funding, property taxes, which, of course, because of the Federal base, this district does not collect.

Each year Congress rides to the rescue for these type of school districts. Bellevue is a wonderful example of a school district dependent on the deadbeat dad of the Federal Government for its survival. Each year it survives attempts to cut the budget for these military families. Such as, in Bellevue, 45 percent of its school population is composed of military families.

These families should not have to settle for less of an education than their counterparts surrounding Bellevue and Nebraska. Our military families should not be treated as second-class citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I am especially pleased with how this legislation deals with section 8003(f). The Clinton/Gore administration, in their budget, recommended the elimination of this section, which would take $6 million annually from this school district. H.R. 3616 deals a blow to this proposal by taking section (f) from a pilot program and making it a basic part of the payment structure. It would also encourage the method under which the supplemental payments are calculated and paid, therefore expediting the receipts of payment by heavily-impacted school districts. Until now, these heavily-impacted school districts had to wait a significant amount of time in order to receive their Federal payments.

Those in our armed forces need to know that the Federal Government is doing right by the school systems that teach their children. Education programs outside of Impact Aid are receiving increases, while we survive repeated attempts to cut Impact Aid.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this legislation. The $4.8 billion, 5-year reauthorization will ensure that those schools that are heavily impacted will maintain its funding.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS), who chairs the Congressional Impact Aid Caucus.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, oftentimes the best products of this House pass with very little national attention for the very reason they have been put together on a bipartisan basis, and there has not been a great deal of conflict. This is a perfect example of that.

This is an important bill, helping deserving families and children. The Impact Aid program annually helps over 17 million children, Native American, military children, and helps them receive a better education. It is an important program for many reasons.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Chairman GOODLING) for his leadership, along with the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), in seeing that this important legislation that is affecting millions of children is here on the floor without rancor, without partisanship. This is a great compliment to the chairman and to the ranking member.

I also want to take this time, I was not here on the floor, to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER), who is chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, and who has played a fundamental roll over the last several years in ensuring increased funding for these Native American children and military children. We will miss his leadership.

But most importantly, millions of children will have a better life for many decades to come because of the leadership of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. PORTER), the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and all of those on the committee who have worked on this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, as the representative of Ft. Hood, Texas, I have the privilege of representing the largest Army installation in the world. And from that perspective, I would like to take just a few moments to focus my remarks on the sacrifices made by military children, those children we are helping in this bill.

On Veterans Day and Memorial Day, our Nation, and rightfully so, honors men and women in uniform who have given so much, perhaps their all, for all of us in this country.

What is all too often forgotten is the sacrifices made by our military families and children. Think just for a minute, if you would, about the life of a military child, knowing how proud they are of their mom or dad who are serving in the military. But think for a moment what it is like to move five or six or eight or ten times between their first grade classes and graduating from high school. What is it like to just get elected as cheerleader in their high school or captain of their soccer team or football team only to find out that their mother or father has been asked by his or her country to move to another State?

What is it like to have mom or dad deployed for 6 or 12 months at a time, missing baseball and soccer and other events at their school? And what is it like to have mother or father not be there for high school commencement because mom or dad is serving their country?

Worse yet, what is it like for millions of young military children who have to face the possible reality of not having their mother or father at their high school commencement because they might have been killed in training or in combat?

Just over a year ago, Mr. Speaker, I saw a high school junior in my district in Coleen, a young lady who saw her mother for the first time in 2 months because her mother was in Bosnia serving in uniform, saw her mother over teleconferencing from Ft. Hood. How do we put a value on the sacrifice of that young lady who had not even seen her mom in 2 months and would not see her in person for several more months?

□ 1630

Just Easter weekend of this year with Senator HUTCHINSON and others, I met a young private who missed the birth recently of his first child. Who

among us as fathers in this House would not be devastated to be away from our wife upon such an important moment as that? We all know military children rightfully are proud of their parents.

While we cannot fully understand all of their sacrifices unless we were in their shoes, what we can do and what we morally must do is say and to ensure that military children deserve no less than a first-class education. That is what impact aid is all about. It is a first-class, quality education for deserving children. It is telling our soldiers and sailors and airmen and Marines, if you are thousands of miles away in uniform putting your life on the line for your Nation, then you have a right to know your children are back home getting a good education. Impact aid is about readiness, because we cannot attract and keep the best and brightest in our military unless we ensure that their families can be confident their children will get a quality education. Impact aid. It is not the only way but it is an important way we in this House today on a bipartisan basis can say thank you to the servicemen and women of America.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2¾ minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. KELLY), who knows what impact aid is all about.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3616, the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000. This bill, which has moved through the committee process with strong bipartisan support is a clear example of this Congress' dedication to our Nation's children and a fulfillment of the Federal commitment to local educational agencies impacted by the presence of the Federal Government.

In fact, section 8002 of the Impact Aid Program which serves land impacted districts was funded in fiscal year 2000 at almost twice the amount it was funded at for fiscal year 1995. However, this section and the entire program is still not yet fully funded. Due to the program's limited resources, we face a situation where we must factor need into the funding formula to ensure that resources are getting to the schools who rely on the assistance the most.

Like many of my colleagues, I represent one of the most highly impacted schools in the Nation. This school relies on the impact aid program. Adjacent to West Point, the Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery school district is a textbook example of the importance of this program. As one of 243 land impacted school districts, it is nearly impossible for this district to raise the revenues necessary to provide their children with the quality of education which they deserve. Because this school is sandwiched between Federal land, a State park and the Hudson River, it leaves the school district with 93 percent nontaxable land. Only 7 percent of land is available from which to fund the school. Several years ago when faced with decreased funding, the school district was faced with a real possibility that it would have to close its doors. They were forced to eliminate several teachers, some of the support staff and some administrators. In fact, it even got so bad that the students walked out to protest the deteriorating conditions of their schools. Today, thanks to the renewed support of section 8002 and of the Impact Aid Program, this school district has been able to begin capital improvements, they have hired new teachers, they have tutors and they have reinstated the college advanced placement courses. None of this would have been possible without the assistance that they received through Impact Aid.

Mr. Speaker, reauthorization of this and the other programs associated with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act is critical to the future success of our children and our Nation. I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this legislation.

In addition, I would like to thank the sponsor of this legislation the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) and the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) for his tireless efforts on behalf of the children of this Nation, both during his 26 years in the House and as a school superintendent. His efforts are appreciated and they will be very much missed in the future. We thank him for all he has done for all of the schoolchildren of this Nation.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, as a longtime cosponsor of impact aid legislation, I rise today in strong support of this bill. I would note that the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000 is an important step forward. I want to thank the sponsor of the legislation for his hard work, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) for their longtime advocacy of impact aid.

This measure, Mr. Speaker, will assist those school districts with their loss of tax revenues resulting from a heavy presence of federally owned lands. Such is the case for the Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery School District located in Orange County, New York, which includes some 16,000 acres of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Mr. Speaker, this measure establishes a pilot program for heavily impacted school districts and addresses the growing problem of how to compensate school districts for the loss of impact aid revenues due to the continued practice of privatizing military housing, all of which is of particular concern to those in the Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery District due to the presence of the West Point Military Academy.

I am pleased that the House today is considering this important measure to once again ensure the economic viability of those school districts throughout our communities providing the important service of educating our children, including those from the armed forces.

Accordingly, I urge all of our colleagues to support this important Impact Aid measure.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, if I had known what the gentlewoman from New York was going to say at the end, I would have given her a couple of minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES), who worked tirelessly to promote this legislation.

(Mr. HAYES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take up where the gentlewoman from New York left off. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has worked with enthusiasm, with determination and with tireless effort to move this bill forward. I would like to also thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE), the ranking member of the subcommittee, again for his tireless effort and identify myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) and call to the attention of the body that this has been a bill supported strongly by Members on both sides of the aisle. This has been an example of Congress working together for our young people to give them opportunities and working at its best.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues, as have others, to support strongly this important piece of education legislation. In my Congressional district, impact aid is a crucial element of the basic financial support for schools in Cumberland, Robeson, Hoke, Richmond and Scotland Counties. Just as local taxes support other school districts, impact aid bridges the gap in counties where the Federal Government is a major landowner. In some cases, impact aid supplies a significant portion of school districts' operating budgets. For example, in Cumberland County, home of Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, over one-third of the school district's budget comes from impact aid and other Federal education programs. In fact, the Cumberland County School System receives the most impact aid of any system in North Carolina. Dr. Bill Harrison, superintendent of Cumberland County Schools, recently testified before Congress on the importance of impact aid. He did a great job of describing the real world ways by which our children are helped through impact aid.

The Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000 builds on key improvements to

the Impact Aid Program. The program was written so it would focus impact aid dollars on those school districts most heavily impacted by a Federal presence. These changes have proven extremely successful in getting funds to schools in greatest need of assistance, thus enabling them to improve the quality of education provided to students. This legislation will further improve the program and should lead to even stronger support among my colleagues for funding key needs in federally impacted school districts. As in my Congressional district, many of the children affected by this law are the children of members of the Armed Services. We need to make sure that the men and women who serve and put themselves in harm's way have peace of mind knowing that their children will receive a quality education.

As one of the over 150 members of the Impact Aid Coalition, one of the largest bipartisan coalitions in Congress, we have worked together to support our local school systems that provide support for military men and women and those citizens who are affected by Federal properties. This bill has the support of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, the association that represents over 1,600 school districts nationwide that will benefit from this legislation, and also the National Military Impacted Schools Association. I would like to submit their letters of support for the RECORD.

AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION,
Temple Hills, MD, February 28, 2000.

Hon. ROBIN HAYES,
Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HAYES: On behalf of the 150,000 members of the Air Force Sergeants Association, I applaud you for introducing H.R. 3616, the ''Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000.'' Congratulations on the unanimous vote to bring H.R. 3616 out of the House Education & Workforce Committee to the floor of the House of Representatives. This unanimous vote is a great sign of your leadership and the commitment that committee members have to the children of our military men and women. Your leadership in developing this legislation to reauthorize Impact Aid will benefit thousands of children and school districts.

Thank you again for sponsoring the ''Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000.'' As always we are ready to support you on this and other matters of mutual concerns.

Sincerely,

JAMES D. STATON,
Executive Director.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERALLY IMPACTED SCHOOLS,
Washington, DC, February 23, 2000.

Hon. ROBIN HAYES,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HAYES: On behalf of the 1,600 local educational agencies that are impacted by a federal presence, I want to thank you for your leadership and support in shepherding H.R. 3616 through the House Education and the WorkForce Committee last week. Your introduction of the bill will reauthorize the Impact Aid Program for the next five years is in itself a reason for the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) to say thank you. But your work to see to it that the bill was favorably reported out of the Education and Workforce Committee exemplifies your unqualified support for the Impact Aid Program.

As you know the bill was unanimously reported out of committee, but we were very concerned about the amendment to eliminate the civilian ''b'' student from the program offered by Representative Tancredo. The passage of his amendment would have made it very difficult for NAFIS as an association representing the interests of all the categories of federal students, to support the bill on the House floor. I hesitate to even think of what our options might have been in terms of trying to overturn the Tancredo amendment. Because the program is not found in every congressional district, our job on the House floor would have been difficult. I know for a fact that your conversations with your Republican colleagues on the committee prior to the mark-up, helped insure that Mr. Tancredo's amendment would fail. I can't find the words to express the association's thanks for your ''active'' support for the bill. Without question, your role as the original sponsor of this legislation, made it possible for the bill to be reported out of committee without amendment.

Our job now is to move the bill through the full House next week. I am hopeful that bringing it up on the suspension calendar will avoid any potential problems that might be lingering. If you feel a need for any assistance from our office as the committee prepares to bring the bill to the floor, please let me know. We will continue to work with Chairman Goodling's staff as they prepare for next week, but again please know that NAFIS recognizes your unselfish role in moving this bill through the House. Again thank you!!!

Sincerely,

JOHN B. FORKENBROCK,
Executive Director.

FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION,
Alexandria, VA, February 22, 2000.

Hon. WILLIAM GOODLING,
Chairman, Education and the Workforce Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On behalf of the 152,000 members of the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA), I wish to express strong support for H.R. 3616, a proposal introduced by Rep. Robin Hayes that re-authorizes and improves the Impact Aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

Impact Aid is an essential support program for schools near military installations enrolling children of uniformed services members. If enacted, H.R. 3616 will help ensure a more balanced distribution of funds, revise construction regulations and authorize other positive changes in the administration of the program. Of special importance to military personnel and their families is an amendment that provides more equitable payments for children living in privatized military housing communities on land formerly owned by the Federal Government.

Quality of life concerns significantly impact military recruiting and retention and are directly related to readiness. Anxiety about the quality of elementary and secondary educational opportunities for their children at each duty station ranks as one of the major concerns along with pay, health care, etc., of our Nation's service members. As the Armed Services work to execute demanding operational commitments around the world, uniformed personnel need not have these additional concerns complicating their military duties.

NATIONAL MILITARY IMPACTED SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION,
Bellevue, NE, February 17, 2000.

Congressman BILL GOODLING,
House Education & Workforce Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN GOODLING: The Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) is extremely proud of the leadership you and your staff have demonstrated in developing the legislative proposal to reauthorize the Impact Aid Program. Congratulations on the unanimous vote to bring H.R. 3616 out of the House Education & Workforce Committee to the floor of the House of Representatives.

There has been a real sensitivity to the needs of military children and your support is greatly appreciated.

The discussion on the proper weight for a military (b) child is also appreciated and we hope this can be continued.

On behalf of the public schools serving the educational needs of over 550,000 military children, we wholeheartedly endorse and support your Impact Aid reauthorization proposal.

Warmest regards,

JOHN F. DEEGAN, Ed.D.,
Chief Executive Officer.

NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.
Alexandria, VA, February 22, 2000.

Hon. WILLIAM GOODLING,
Chairman, Education and the Workforce Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The National Military Family Association (NMFA) congratulates you, the members of your Committee, and your staff for the unanimous vote to bring H.R. 3616 to the House floor. This proposal, introduced by Rep. Robin Hayes, provides important improvements to the reauthorization of the Impact Aid Program.

As the only national association whose sole focus is the military family, NMFA knows that military members rank quality education for their children as a top priority. The approximately 75 percent of military children who attend school in civilian systems rather than DoD schools depend on the Impact Aid Program to help ensure adequate funding for the schools serving the military installations where their parents are assigned. This program is essential to the quality of education received by over 500,000 military children as well as several million of their civilian classmates.

We were especially pleased to see the provisions in HR 3616 dealing with equitable payments for children living in privatized military housing or being moved when military family housing is undergoing renovation. Protecting the funding stream for children already in the system is very important. NMFA also appreciates the proposal's attention to the construction needs of districts serving large numbers of military children.

On behalf of the military families we represent, NMFA appreciates your support of the Impact Aid program and endorses HR 3616.

Sincerely yours,

MARGARET HALLGREN,
Director, Government Relations,
National Military Family Association.

NATIONAL INDIAN IMPACTED SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: Over the past several months the National Indian Impacted Schools Association (NIISA) has worked closely with the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) to make

recommendations to the United States House of Representatives Committee on Education and Workforce on the reauthorization of the Impact Aid Program. H.R. 3616 is the result of those collaborative efforts. I am pleased to say that that bill includes only minor changes which will ''fine tune'' the existing law or revise it to address specific concerns brought forward by both military and Indian lands school districts.

NIISA would like to commend the committee for recognizing the facility needs of school systems that are highly impacted with Indian land and federal trust property. The committee bill recognizes that many of these school systems lack the capacity to issue capital construction bonds and in addition, many of these same school systems are currently educating children in facilities that pose a serious health threat to the students and faculty working within them. The reasonable and responsible approach taken by the committee to address this very serious issue is celebrated by the impact aid community and NIISA urges the Congress to support the committee's recognition of the federal obligation to address this serious building issue.

In summary, the NIISA community strongly supports H.R. 3616 which the United States House of Representatives is about to consider. We urge all members of the House to support this bill when it comes up for vote.

Sincerely,

BRENT D. GISH,
President.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, we have a responsibility to assist those school districts impacted by a Federal presence. The Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000 will help ensure school districts receive the support they need to provide children with the best possible education. These are thoughtful improvements to a very important law. I again thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his many years of service, his effort on this bill, and I strongly urge my colleagues to wholeheartedly support this legislation.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank Alex Nock and Marshall Grigsby on the minority side. It may be the last time that we can address Alex as Alex Nock because I understand he is getting married and must take his wife's name from that point on.

Again I want to thank George Conant on our side, and I particularly want to thank Ms. Impact Aid, Lynn Selmser.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of H.R. 3616, the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act. As a co-chair of the bipartisan House Impact Aid Caucus, now over 120 members strong, and as an early cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation, I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 3616 today.

Let me take a moment to describe for my colleagues what education Impact Aid is, and why this legislation is important.

Impact Aid represents the fulfillment of federal responsibility to local public education. Local public schools are chiefly funded by a combination of state and local income, sales and property taxes. Some 93 percent of local public education funding is just that—local, not federal. However, the presence of federal facilities such as national security installations and Indian reservations has a negative impact on local property tax collections. Such federal property is not locally taxed. This impact reduces the locally-generated revenues to our local public schools—the very same local public schools attended by the children of military personnel or Native Americans. Simply put, Uncle Sam does not pay local property tax for local public education. So until the federal government pays local property tax, the federal government has a responsibility to provide education Impact Aid.

Most of the funding for Impact Aid is paid as general revenue to local education agencies to compensate for federal impaction, which each local school district calculates by formula. Other Impact Aid programs pay to local school districts involved in special circumstances, such as a high presence of children requiring special education, sizable tracts of federal property ineligible for private development and taxation, a large percentage of student population that is federally connected, the presence of Native American children, and other factors. Each one of these is important.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, Impact Aid has been under unprecedented and continuous attack from the Clinton-Gore Administration.

Year after year, Clinton-Gore budgets cut and gut Impact Aid, some years by hundreds of millions of dollars. This year's budget submission for Fiscal Year 2001 is no different; the Administration has for FY 2001 proposed a risky scheme to slash Impact Aid by $136.5 million. This astonishes me for several reasons.

First, military families are under more stress than ever, with parents being sent on longer and more frequent deployments thanks to this Administration's foreign policy and its failure to budget adequately for our basic national security needs. Military recruitment is a challenge, and retaining quality soldiers, sailors and Marines is more difficult every passing year. Yet, President Clinton and Vice President GORE are once again cutting and gutting direct funding to the schools attended by these families' children, which is clearly a federal responsibility.

Secondly, the economic and social challenges on American Indian reservations continue to be most grave, with unemployment and other measures of social stress far above the national average. Their school buildings are falling apart. They have no ability to raise more local property tax revenues for education. The federal government has a specific responsibility to these communities. Yet, President Clinton and Vice President GORE have annually cut the funding for their schools, by cutting funding for Impact Aid.

Thirdly, the Clinton-Gore Administration's callousness toward this responsibility has extended to the Department of Education's historic misadministration of this important program. Through FY 1999, schools and observers of the Impact Aid program could count on schools' payments being made later and later, requiring local schools to take out loans and pay interest just to meet regular budget obligations. As late as mid-1999, the Department was as much as five years late in making certain Impact Aid payments. I am pleased to note that after several years of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education bringing this to the Administration's attention, the Department has finally, after seven years of Clinton-Gore, been making Impact Aid payments on a more timely basis. There was never any valid excuse for them to be made so late in the first place.

Given all this, it is not surprising that the Administration's own proposal to reauthorize Impact Aid would have eliminated Impact Aid payments to hundreds of schools that have legitimate federal impact within their borders.

I am pleased to inform Members, however, that the House Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Impact Aid program has rejected the mean, extreme Clinton-Gore cut of Impact Aid, and recommended an increase.

Why is this legislation important?

First, H.R. 3616 renews and improves the administration of the Impact Aid program. Without making drastic changes in the legislation since the 1994 authorization, or to the 1996 Impact Aid Technical Amendments which I authored, H.R. 3616 nevertheless addresses challenges that have arisen in the Impact Aid program, and makes needed improvements. Among these are several important incremental improvements to Impact Aid that in recent years have been carried by the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education as legislative language. These improvements have successfully simplified schools' application process, and accelerated payments to eligible schools.

Second, and most important, it demonstrates the commitment of the people's bipartisan representatives in this House to Impact Aid as a federal responsibility to America's public schools, to their teachers, administration and students, and to the families who serve our country in the military and to Native Americans.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I want to thank several people who have helped to develop this important legislation.

The bill's sponsor, Representative ROBIN HAYES, Republican from North Carolina, has done a tremendous job with this bill. Congressman HAYES is a friend of education and a friend to America.

I also want to recognize House Education and Workforce Committee Chairman BILL GOODLING, House Education Appropriations Chairman JOHN PORTER, and all of the members of the bipartisan House Impact Aid Coalition, for the contributions they have made to this legislation.

Good work does not happen in a vacuum. Thus, I also want to single out for special thanks the following people: Ms. Lynn Selmser of the Education Committee Staff; John Forkenbrock, the executive director of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools and his staff and membership; and my constituent Rick Knott, comptroller of the San Diego City Schools and chairman of the California Association of Federally Impacted Schools. Their specific efforts for Impact Aid help children, and have made this a better bill.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to vote for schools, for children, and for our military and Native American families, by voting for this bill, H.R. 3616.

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 3616, the Impact Aid Reauthorization Act. In addition to its other important components, this legislation includes a critical provision that would help federally impacted schools in North Dakota and across the country meet their urgent repair needs.

Since 1950, through the Impact Aid program, the federal government has recognized

its responsibility to assist school districts and communities that are impacted by a federal presence such as a military base or Indian reservation. Today over 1½ million children in over 1,600 school districts across the country depend on the Impact Aid program for a quality education.

Until 1994, Congress provided substantial assistance to help federally impacted districts build and repair their schools. This assistance is particularly important to districts whose property tax circumstances make it almost impossible to pass school construction bonds. Since 1994, however, federal funding for the Impact Aid school construction account has fallen off and no longer meets the needs of the over two hundred qualifying schools. As a result, many of these school buildings have become run down, overcrowded, and in some cases, a danger to the health and safety of their students.

I became ware of the real impact of inadequate construction funding when I visited a federally impacted school in my district, Cannonball Elementary. Cannonball Elementary is located on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota, and serves as a perfect example of the many challenges Impact Aid schools face in trying to provide a safe and healthy learning environment with serverly limited resources.

The Standing Rock Reservation currently suffers from staggering unemployment rates and overall economic depression. A quality education is critical in ensuring that the children on this reservation escape a life of poverty. As in all federally impacted schools, a quality education for children at Cannonball depends upon the willingness of the federal government to fulfill the responsibility to it acknowledged in 1950.

For the past several years, however, the federal government's commitment to Impact Aid has fallen short of meeting the most basic needs of these students. As a result of inadequate construction funding, Cannonball has fallen into despair. Storage rooms have been converted to makeshift classrooms and entire portions of the building have been condemned. Students and teachers are often forced to move from classroom to classroom to dodge the stench of sewer back-up that permeates through the building. I have walked the halls of Cannonball Elementary and have found the conditions these children face on a day-to-day basis to be simply deplorable.

Cannonball Elementary and federally impacted schools like it across the country find themselves in a kind of ''Catch 22'' when trying to keep up with their construction needs. Although these schools depend upon the federal government to fund their construction needs, current funding is barely sufficient to cover the daily operating expenses of Impact Aid schools, and repair needs have become increasingly desperate. Last year, a mere $10 million was allocated to section 8007, the Impact Act school construction account. Moreover, $3 million of the $10 million appropriated for section 8007 was earmarked for special projects. The remaining Impact Act schools were left with the balance—only $7 million to address all construction and renovation needs for over 1,600 schools.

The Cannonball School relies on federal Impact Air funds to meet its repair needs, and when that funding is not adequate, the school literally has no other source of funds. The ''Catch-22'' for schools like Cannonball is that when Impact Aid funding is insufficient, they are left out in the cold because they lack a property tax base and the capacity to pass school construction bonds to support urgent repairs. Several other districts in North Dakota, including Minot and Grand Forks Air Force Base school districts, also face the same problem.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the legislation we will vote on today offer great hope that the Cannonball school and others can finally address their urgent needs. Specifically, H.R. 3616 would create a new section 8007(b) within the Impact Air program to fund urgent school modernization projects. Under this legislation, an individual school district could receive a grant of up to $3 million any time during the five-year authorization period. In order to make the federal funds go farther, the bill also required districts to provide matching funds, but allows for in-kind contributions to count towards the match.

This provision of H.R. 3616 is based on the Federally Impacted School Improvement Act legislation Representative HAYWORTH (R–AZ) and I introduced last year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Representative HAYWORTH and other members of the House Impact Aid Coalition for their role in the inclusion of section 8007 (b) in this legislation. I would also like to recognize John Forkenbrock in Brady King of the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools Association (NAFIS) for their tireless advocacy on behalf of Impact Aid school districts across the country.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative KILDEE, (D–MI), the Ranking Member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. Our success today is due in no small part to Mr. KILDEE's vocal support of the inclusion of a school modernization provision in H.R. 3616. On behalf of the students of Cannonball Elementary and thousands like them across the country, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. KILDEE for his dedication to improving the educational opportunities of our children.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important legislation, which would help federally impacted schools across the country provide a quality education in a safe, healthy, learning environment.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I am in strong support of the Impact Aid program. Impact Aid is one of the oldest federal education programs, dating back to 1950. Impact Aid compensates local educational agencies, LEAs, for the substantial and continuing financial burden resulting from federal activities. These activities include federal ownership of certain lands, thus taking the land off the tax roles, as well as the enrollment in LEAs of children of parents who work and/or live on federal land. The federal government provides compensation because these activities deprive LEAs of the ability to collect property or sales taxes from these individuals, for example members of the Armed Forces living on military bases, even though the LEAs are obligated to provide free public education to their children. Thus, Impact Aid is a federal payment to a school district intended to make up for a loss of local tax revenue due to the presence of non-taxable federal property.

Impact Aid is one of the only federal education programs where the funds are sent directly to the school district, and thus there is almost no bureaucracy. In addition, these funds go into the general fund, and may be used as the local school district decides. As a result, the funds are used for the education of all students, and there is no rake-off by states or the federal government to fund bureaucrats.

Nationwide, there are approximately 1,500 federally impacted school districts that are educating 1.3 million federal children. In Oklahoma, there are 287 Oklahoma school districts with federal property. A total of 258,914 students are enrolled in Oklahoma's Federally Impacted Schools. The fourth district of Oklahoma is home to three military bases. Therefore, Oklahoma is comprised of students who are military children, children living in Indian lands, children residing in federal Low Rent Housing projects, children whose civilian parents work on federal property, but do not live on federal property, and children who are special education students. Considering the staggering number of federally impacted children, it is abundantly clear that the federal government has an obligation to federally impacted schools.

By increasing its support, the federal government can assist these schools in providing a quality education to thousands of children across the country. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in reauthorizing the Impact Aid Program. Millions of students depend on the Impact Aid program for a quality education. Let's not disappoint them.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3616, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IN-SCHOOL PERSONAL SAFETY PROGRAMS

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 309) expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 309

Whereas there were more than 84,000 confirmed cases of sexual abuse in the United States in 1997 and 90 percent of the victims under 12 years old knew their offender;

Whereas 867,129 individuals were reported missing in 1999 and 85 to 90 percent of these missing persons were children;

Whereas according to Department of Justice research, there are approximately 114,000 nonfamily abductions in any one-year period;

Whereas a central element of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's (NCMEC) congressionally mandated mission is to prevent the victimization of children;

Whereas NCMEC examined the state of child safety education in the United States, focusing on what works and what does not;

Whereas nearly every primary and secondary school in the Nation conducts some sort of child safety education program, but NCMEC concluded that most such child safety programs were inadequate to promote personal safety for children;

Whereas guidelines, such as those developed by NCMEC, will help ensure that educators and child-serving organizations have the best possible tools and information to make decisions regarding child safety curriculum selection and development; and

Whereas child safety guidelines should be developed in collaboration with leading educational, public policy, and child-serving organizations and the NCMEC's guidelines have been endorsed and are supported by many such organizations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That—

(1) it is the sense of the Congress that States should encourage their primary and secondary schools to implement quality child safety curricula so that each child receives instruction that is positive, comprehensive, and effective; and

(2) the Congress recognizes the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's ''Guidelines for Programs to Reduce Child Victimization'' as one of the tools to guide the selection of quality child safety programs when local schools develop such programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this resolution, H. Con. Res. 309.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 309, expressing the sense of Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children.

I introduced this resolution along with the founder and chairman of the House missing and exploited children's caucus, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON), to help focus our attention on the important issue of child safety. I am sure we have all seen the posters, the fliers and the special news reports on children who have been abducted from their families or who have been otherwise harmed by the adults in their lives.

In fact, in 1997, there were more than 84,000 confirmed cases of sexual abuse in the United States, and 90 percent of the children who were under 12 years knew their offender. And, according to the Department of Justice, there were nearly 114,000 nonfamily abductions just last year. I believe that these statistics point to the desperate need for comprehensive, age-appropriate safety programs to reduce the rate of victimization among our children. And because children can learn a great deal in the classroom about basics of personal safety, schools have increasingly become the center of our prevention efforts. Yet according to a recent survey, while nearly every primary and secondary school in the Nation conducts some sort of child safety education program, most programs are inadequate to actually prevent victimization and promote personal safety.

For this reason, H. Con. Res. 309 does two things. First, it expresses the sense of Congress that States should encourage their primary and secondary schools to implement child safety curricula so that each child receives instruction that is positive, comprehensive and effective.

Second, the resolution recognizes the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's guidelines for programs to reduce child victimization as one of the tools to guide the selection of quality child safety programs. I hold up a copy of this. This is as good and as substantive a document as I have read. I would encourage every office to get hold of a copy of that.

□ 1645

As the Nation's preeminent resource for programs and materials to prevent child victimization, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is often asked to endorse specific programs and provide guidance to schools, community groups and individuals who are trying to choose among different child safety programs. Although the National Center does not endorse specific products or programs, they recently completed a comprehensive assessment of available education materials, and they have developed guidelines, as I have already shown, to help parents and educators identify and implement quality child safety programs. Their criteria was developed in collaboration with experts from the fields of education and law enforcement, and they are now supported by a number of organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National Association of Attorneys General, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and many others.

I believe their products, the guidelines to reduce child victimization, is one way to help ensure that the child safety programs are locally designed, but that they are also effective in increasing our children's ability to recognize and avoid potentially dangerous situations.

In closing, I hope all Members will join with me to support the National Center throughout the month of May and help us picture our lost children home. For these children, school-based safety programs may be too late, but we can take a few moments to view the pictures of missing children on the National Center's web site and return these children to their families' loving embrace. In the meantime, we can pass this resolution and encourage our schools and our educators to obtain the necessary tools to help our children avoid a similar fate.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) again for his efforts and involvement with child safety issues, and I would encourage the adoption of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 309, bipartisan legislation introduced by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) in support of guidelines issued by the National Center on Missing and Exploited Children on child safety and abuse programs.

One of the most important concerns for parents today is the safety of their children. Whether they are walking to school, riding bicycles around town, or even going to the mall, children need to be aware of their surroundings and cautious about contact with adults they do not know. Since 357,000 child abductions happen every year, these issues are critical to our families and our communities.

The resolution that the House is considering today recognizes the National Center's guidelines as one of several tools that should guide the selection of child safety programs, particularly in our schools. Specifically, the guidelines provide background information as a general framework to assist schools, communities and individuals in choosing, implementing and evaluating programs to prevent and reduce child abuse and to generally promote child safety. It does not endorse or recommend specific programs or methods, but does describe practices and techniques which appear to be most effective in attaining the goals of these programs.

Clearly, this guide can be an essential tool for school districts seeking to improve child safety programs and to reduce child abuse. We need to establish programs that provide useful information to children, encourage self-confidence and teach assertiveness skills so that they can recognize danger and avoid abduction.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to congratulate again both the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) for their conscientious efforts and for collaborating together on a bipartisan basis and bringing this resolution for consideration by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I also rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 309, expressing the sense of Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children. You have heard the horrible statistics as the subcommittee chair recited them. I would add one more to those. As I drive behind school buses and notice every time they stop and see children jump off and run across in front of that bus without looking either way, assuming that the cars are going to stop as they are supposed to, but each year we read about the number of cars that do not stop, unfortunately.

H. Con. Res. 309 will help draw attention to these devastating statistics that are so drastically impacting our Nation's young people and make information available regarding personal safety education programs to schools across the country.

The resolution is simple and straightforward. First, it states the sense of Congress that States should encourage their primary and secondary schools to implement quality child safety curricula so that each child receives instruction that is positive, comprehensive and effective. Let me be clear about this point: H. Con. Res. 309 does not promote a specific child safety curriculum. It simply says that States should encourage their schools to implement locally appropriate child safety education programs.

Second, this resolution recognizes the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and their guidelines for programs to reduce child victimization as one of the tools to guide the selection of quality child safety programs when local schools develop such programs.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is a nonprofit organization that serves as a focal point in providing assistance to parents, children, law enforcement, schools and the community in recovering missing children and raising public awareness about ways to help prevent child abduction, molestation and sexual exploitation. Their mission is twofold: The Center works to find missing children, and they try to prevent future victimization of children. To prevent the victimization of children, the Center argues that every child should receive instructions on personal safety that are positive, comprehensive and effective.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children examined the state of child safety education in the United States. On a positive note, they found that nearly every primary and secondary school in the Nation conducts some sort of child safety education program. Unfortunately, the Center concluded that most of these child safety programs were inadequate to promote successful personal safety for children.

The Center does not endorse specific products or programs. However, because of their examination of child safety programs, they have developed guidelines for educational programs in the hope that educators and parents will use these criteria to review proposed programs. These guidelines are not legal standards and they are not community-specific. They are simply intended to provide a framework for communities when selecting safety programs and making curriculum decisions.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children guidelines came about as a result of exhaustive research and significant experience in the field of child safety. These guidelines argue that training and educational materials proposed for use by schools and organizations that serve children should, first, be based on accepted educational theories, be appropriate for the age and educational and developmental levels of the child, offer concepts that will help children build self-confidence in order to better handle and protect themselves in all types of situations, have multiple program components that are repeated several years in a row, and utilize qualified presenters who use role-playing behavioral rehearsal feedback and active participation.

Mr. Speaker, I reiterate that H. Con. Res. 309 does not endorse a child safety curriculum from Washington. Rather, it urges schools to consider child safety guidelines when selecting or creating a localized curriculum. We are not trying to assert local control of education; we are merely trying to help ensure that educators and child-serving organizations have access to and consider available information in making decisions regarding the development of child safety education programs.

I want to thank the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE), the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families, for introducing this legislation, and I also want to commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) for his yeoman work in helping to ensure a safer world for our Nation's youth. I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 309.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON), who has demonstrated tremendous leadership on this whole issue of missing and unaccounted for children. The gentleman has been on the floor and has done so much to awaken the consciousness of the Members of this Chamber, and, through us, the rest of the country.

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii for yielding me time, and for both you and the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) for all the hard work that you and many others have done on this particular issue.

It was about April of 1997 that I became involved with what became the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, and that happened after a 12-year-old constituent of mine was abducted and murdered within my district. To date, this bipartisan caucus is one of the largest in the House of Representatives, with about 145 Members. That is significant.

The goals of the caucus are threefold: First, to build awareness around the issue of missing and exploited children for the purpose of finding children who are currently missing and to prevent future abductions; second, to create a voice within Congress on the issue of missing and exploited children and to introduce legislation that would strengthen law enforcement, community organizing and school-based efforts to address child abduction; third, to identify ways to work effectively in our districts to address child abduction. By developing cooperative efforts that involve police departments, educators and community groups, we can heighten the level of awareness of this issue and pool resources for the purpose of solving outstanding cases and preventing future abductions.

Today's vote of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Taskforce guidelines meet the objectives that I just stated. I am so pleased to be the lead Democrat on this resolution, with my friend, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE). The gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) has been involved with this issue for many years, sponsoring legislation to authorize funding for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which in turn enables the Center to establish task forces such as its Education Standards Task Force in 1999 to assess leading research and create meaningful guidelines and criteria.

This resolution urges nationwide implementation of standards-based, high-quality child safety curricula. Hopefully schools across the Nation will follow these guidelines and develop programs implementing these guidelines, while addressing local needs and concerns.

Personal safety is something many young people do not think about. But in this rapidly changing and unpredictable world, we, as parents, teachers, neighbors and coaches, must teach our children that they cannot take anything for granted. I would like to emphasize that it takes each and every one of us, the entire community, to keep our kids safe, happy and healthy. We cannot bury our heads in the sand and ignore these risks. We must act and we must educate to save another family from the heart-breaking tragedy of a child abduction or exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, I can honestly say this issue means more to me than any other. Keeping our children safe has become my mission while serving as your Congressman.

Let me conclude by stating that the caucus would not be nearly as effective in producing innovative legislation and helpful district safety workshops without the advice and programs offered by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The Center's outreach programs range from helping

chiefs of police and sheriffs to develop fast response plans to reports of missing children, to educational public service campaigns designed to help children escape potentially dangerous situations, to developing guidelines like those we are talking about today. These guidelines need to be in every school across America. With the passage of H. Con. Res. 309, they will be.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say in final closing, I cannot thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) enough for his continuing work on this issue, not just this legislation, but he truly has been the stalwart in the task force dealing with an issue which, as he said, is as important to him as anything we are doing in Congress, and I think it is to everybody.

Again, I would point out that this is a wonderful pamphlet, it is not a pamphlet, it is a little more than that, for anybody who has read it. It does not advertise any particular program, but it is a guideline for programs to reduce child victimization, a resource for communities when choosing a program to teach personal safety to children. I would encourage everybody to get a copy of this. You can contact any of the offices, I am sure, to get a copy of it. I think it is tremendously helpful to give to your schools back home.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I support H. Con. Res. 309 that expresses the sense of the Congress with regard to in school personal safety education programs for children.

I applaud Congressman CASTLE and Congressman LAMPSON's leadership on bringing this issue to the forefront.

As this resolution states, we as parents and leaders in our communities must encourage primary and secondary schools to implement quality child guidelines on how to protect themselves from abuse.

Unfortunately, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has concluded that most child safety programs are inadequate to promote personal safety for children.

It is estimated that instances of child abuse and neglect are over three times greater than what is reported to authorities. Already more than 3 million American children annually are reported as suspected victims of child abuse and neglect and children every day are abused. This amounts to a child abused every 10 seconds in this country.

In 1999, there were 867,129 confirmed missing individuals with around 90 percent of these being children.

Further, it is reported that in 1997 there were 84,000 confirmed cases of sexual abuse in the United States whereas 90 percent of these victims, who were under 12, knew of their offender.

In my district alone, there were 6,064 cases of child abuse or neglect in the Harris County area. That amounts to almost 30 percent of the children in my district being abused or neglected. In the State of Texas we have 44,532 children who have been abused or neglected.

In a Children's Task Force meeting I attended sponsored by my colleague Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. Ernie Allen, president of the National Center further explained that the current school programs are dysfunctional because most abductions and abuse of children are the result of a known relative or family friend. Thus, the ''Don't Talk to Stranger'' campaign supported by most programs, fails to educate children about potential dangers in the home as well.

That is why I already support national organizations like Childhelp USA, and local organizations like Initiatives for Children in Houston which are helped educate both parents and children about child abuse and are instrumental in preventing future social problems related to child abuse.

I support this Resolution recognizing the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Since, The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has already recently released research-based guidelines to assist schools as they select curricula aimed at reducing crimes against youth and I urge this Congress to pass this resolution in support of these guidelines.

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 309, the sense of Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children. I want to thank my colleagues from Texas, Congressman NICK LAMPSON and my colleague from Delaware, Congressman MIKE CASTLE for their leadership on this important issue. The safety of our children should be a bipartisan effort, and I am pleased my colleagues have worked in cooperation to advance this important cause.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to share with my colleagues the mourning that is taking place in and around Wake Forest, NC in my Congressional District. Four months ago, 9-year-old C.J. Wilkerson was reported missing from his home community. Month after month, friends, family members and even perfect strangers have prayed for the safe return of this little boy with the infectious smile who captured the heart of Wake County. Tragically, C.J.'s body was found last week in a wooded area in Raleigh.

As C.J.'s family lays to rest a young boy taken from this world far too soon, our thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends and the broader community. As the former superintendent of North Carolina's schools, I want to call attention to the special needs of C.J.'s fellow students at Rolesville Elementary School. These children need individual attention from caring adults in order to come to grips with the trauma of a classmate plucked from within their midst. I know that the counselors, teachers and leaders of Rolesville Elementary have come together in mutual support to help our children through this tragedy. Schools can play a unique role to help children deal with acts of hate that make no sense. And schools can and do provide children with instruction and resources to keep them safe. Mr. Speaker, I know all of my colleagues join me in wishing our most sincere condolences for the family of C.J. Wilkerson. I want to thank my colleagues on the Missing and Exploited Children Caucus for their leadership on this issue to protect other communities from knowing the grief being experienced by those who today mourn C.J. Wilkerson.

Mrs. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 309.

The question was taken.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1700

SENSE OF HOUSE ACKNOWLEDGING AND HIGHLIGHTING EFFORTS OF ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL OF LITTLETON, CO

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 456) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives to acknowledge and highlight the efforts of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol of Littleton, CO.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 456

Whereas in 1957 the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol, a non-profit organization that assists law enforcement agencies, fire departments and search and rescue missions, was established;

Whereas Stan Bush founded this program in 1957 to gather volunteers for community service to meet in the basement of Fire Station 12 in Littleton, Colorado;

Whereas this group has participated in 43 years of public service to the Denver metro area including: conducting search and rescue efforts, assisting in emergencies, and aiding in automobile accidents and fires;

Whereas over a thousand students have participated in the program and been involved in 2,226 rescue missions and contributed countless thousands of hours of community service; and

Whereas the commitment of these youths must be recognized to promote positive after school activities for today's young people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress recognizes the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol of Littleton, Colorado for its 43 years of service to the local community, strong commitment from young adults, and selfless acts of community service to encourage positive outlets for young adults, teaching them a sense of commitment, responsibility, and belonging, all qualities essential to provide youth with the tools they need to succeed in the future.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) and the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 456.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. TANCREDO asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 456 to express the sense of the House to acknowledge and highlight the efforts of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol. Since 1957, the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol has been helping shape the lives of young adults in and around the community of Littleton, Colorado.

Over the past 43 years, this organization has assisted in over 2,000 rescue missions throughout the State and participants have volunteered over 50,000 hours of work.

Young adults from around the community volunteer their time to aid and make a positive difference in their communities. They assist in every aspect of emergency response from fires to automobile accidents to searching for missing people.

I want to give special recognitions to Stan Bush, who in 1957 started this program in an effort to organize a group to assist in rescue missions. The problem was that no one was interested, anyway no adult. Stan had originally sought adults to assist in this program but when there was a complete lack of interest, he turned to the community's youth and the youth responded.

In fact, over 1,000 adolescents have responded over the last 43 years. Young people can start in the spring of their eighth grade year. They must provide their own equipment and that usually amounts to a cost of about $500. They begin their training with a 3-day excursion into the Rocky Mountains and 3 days at a search and rescue school and then another 3 days living in the mountains, and then there is a 6-month probation period.

Only after they successfully complete this rigorous routine, they are made members.

The students must also maintain a C average in school to be part of the organization. After completing this program, many students have gone on to become leaders in their own communities, from sheriff to fire chief to military academy graduates.

The Rescue Patrol has proven itself to be a positive influence in the lives of these students. This program represents what is so good about American young leaders and young people. We have so many good kids who make up this Nation, Mr. Speaker, I often worry why we do not take time to recognize them more often.

Just over a year ago, my community was rocked by the events of Columbine and we have all spent the last year asking why, and also asking what could be done to prevent crimes like this from happening again.

One factor that we have found to be of interest here is the preventive, and something that can prevent destructive behavior is after-school programs, or extracurricular activities.

The committees on which I have sat, Mr. Speaker, time after time after time have come back with a variety of different suggestions to the House and to community members as to what we can do to avoid these kinds of situations, and the one common thing that ran through every single response was that there is a time period from about 3:00 to 6:00 every single day that is not filled with positive stuff; that so many kids come home to empty houses; and this is a time when so many young people get into trouble.

This is a program that can help fill that particular void.

Long before the tragic events at Columbine, Stan Bush instituted the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol and the program has been paying dividends ever since. We may never know how programs such as this impact upon the actions of youth. We know it is positive in the long run. We do know that those who participate in the program admire, not disdain, the communities in which they live.

These kids are provided with a sense of belonging and also provide a direct connection to the communities in which they live. We spend countless hours examining and reexamining the actions of those who do harm to our communities but we forget about the vast majority of our youth that want to participate positively. It is time to acknowledge what is good about young people.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation to do just that. I want to recognize all of those who have participated in the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol over the 43 years and say thanks to all of them, and at this point I insert into the RECORD the names of those who have served.

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL EARNS CONGRESSIONAL PRAISE

U.S. Representative Tom Tancredo (R–CO) presented the organizers of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol of Littleton with a copy of a Congressional Resolution on April 19 in Englewood, praising their efforts within the community.

''I wish every child in Colorado could participate in this program,'' Tancredo said. ''When many young adults are crying out for role models, the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol has filled that important void for over a thousand Colorado children.''

Stan Bush, director of the Emergency Planning Department for the city of Littleton, founded for the Patrol in 1957 as a nonprofit organization that assists law enforcement agencies, fire departments and search and rescue missions. The volunteers gather in the basement of Fire Station 12 in Littleton, headquarters of the Patrol

Most important, over one thousand students have participated in the program and been involved in more than, 2,200 reduce missions. Each student works approximately 10 hours a week assisting with emergencies, from fires and automobile accidents to searches for missing people.

Tancredo introduced House Resolution 456 on April 3 ''to acknowledge and highlight the efforts of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol.'' The resolution states:

''Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Congress recognizes the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol of Littleton, Colorado for its 43 years of service to the local community, strong commitment from young adults, and selfless acts of community service to encourage positive outlets for young adults, teaching them a sense of commitment, responsibility, and belonging, all qualities essential to provide youth with the tools they need to succeed in the future.''

''The children who have participated in the program are lucky, they have been associated with what I hope will be a model for every city in Colorado,'' Tancredo said. ''I want to say thank you to the Patrol on behalf of all the citizens in the Sixth Congressional District and Colorado. I consider all of you heroes.

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999

[Key: S—Senior Officer; C—Charter Member; MA—Member + Associate or Advisor; W—Warrant (1999+); D—Director; DM—Director/Former Member; NA—Not Member/Associate; *—Deceased. Tally: Member—Any young person who applied for membership and was accepted—first by the Captains, and later by the Board of Officers, 975; Adult—Men and women who have been directly involved over the years—in many capacities, but were not formally accepted as members, 42. Totals: 1,017.]

Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Abbey, David	04–29–64	05–78		
Abbey, William, Jr	00–00–00	06–79	NA.	
Abbink, Darrin	06–25–70	05–85		
Abbott, David	10–08–54	05–69		
Abbott, Jack	12–03–63	05–79		
Abbott, Steve	05–21–51	06–67		
Abbott, Virgil	00–00–00	05–76	NA	Fire Captain.
Acuna, Brandon	06–22–84	05–99		
Adams, D. Bruce	01–29–57	05–72	DM	Secretary.
Adams, Jeff	06–19–68	05–83		
Adkins, Steve	08–19–57	05–72		
Ahlgrim, Robert	01–12–65	05–80		
Akins, K. Mike	01–12–54	05–71		
Aksamit, Lance	07–18–69	05–84		
Alden, Richard	07–04–64	05–81		
Alder, Christian	06–03–76	05–90		
Allen, Rowan	09–13–72	05–88		
Alter, Paul	12–12–56	05–72		
Amidon, Doug	10–31–56	05–72	S–*.	

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

[Key: S—Senior Officer; C—Charter Member; MA—Member + Associate or Advisor; W—Warrant (1999+); D—Director; DM—Director/Former Member; NA—Not Member/Associate; *—Deceased. Tally: Member—Any young person who applied for membership and was accepted—first by the Captains, and later by the Board of Officers, 975; Adult—Men and women who have been directly involved over the years—in many capacities, but were not formally accepted as members, 42. Totals: 1,017.]

Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Amsberry, Larry	00–00–00	09–57	C.	
Ancell, Kevin	07–29–70	05–86		
Anderson, Gary	07–31–53	05–68		
Anderson, Kevin J	10–19–72	05–87		
Anderson, Kevin	08–26–58	05–74		
Anderson, Ron	03–10–63	05–77		
Anderson, Thomas	09–14–54	05–70		
Andrews, Danny	09–05–73	05–88	S–MA.	
Andrews, James	01–09–58	05–72		
Angle, Jon	11–29–77	05–94		
Anselmi, David	09–21–66	05–83	S.	
Anselmi, Richard	09–28–72	05–87	S.	
Arbuckle, Joe	02–28–46	09–61		
Arment, Marcus	09–19–55	05–71		
Arnold, Dale	11–15–61	05–76		
Arrington, Austin III	05–20–50	10–64		
Arruda, Darrell	04–04–65	05–80		
Aurand, Chris	08–17–70	05–88		
Austin, Curt	02–09–75	05–92		
Autry, Britt	03–26–79	05–93		
Auyoung, Tiffany	04–19–80	05–97		
Axt, Christa	12–15–79	05–94		
Babylon, James	03–11–64	05–79	MA	Chief–98 + XM.
Bader, Alan	10–25–50	10–65		
Bader, Wayne	10–17–48	10–63		
Bailey, David	00–00–42	09–57	C–S	1st DFO.
Bailey, Shawn	06–17–63	05–77		
Baker, Brian	12–05–75	05–91		
Baker, Jenna	06–24–83	05–97		
Baker, Monte	10–17–53	05–67		
Baker, Todd	04–08–62	05–76		
Ball, John	03–23–51	10–66		
Ballonoff, Ari	04–29–75	05–92		
Barkema, Aaron	04–21–77	05–92		
Barksdale, Rod	10–25–48	09–62		
Barnes, Mike	00–00–45	05–59		
Barry, Dan	08–08–72	05–86		
Barry, John	10–14–70	05–85		
Barry, Pat	02–05–70	05–85		NBC Today Show.
Barry, Robert	00–00–44	03–60		
Barthel, James	05–11–81	05–96		
Bartholomew, Brad	04–15–59	05–74		
Bartholomew, Daryl	12–14–69	05–84		
Bauman, Loren II	09–20–73	05–90		
Bayci, Mark	06–26–49	10–64		
Becker, Ryan	03–10–82	05–99		
Beery, James	08–09–61	05–77		EX Merit.
Beiter, Scott	05–04–67	05–81		
Bennett, Charles	03–04–52	10–66	DM–S	1st Capt—70.
Bennison, David	05–11–49	10–64		
Bergander, Don	00–00–46	10–60		
Berger, Eric	06–12–79	05–94		
Bienemann, Blake	07–25–83	05–98		
Bigby, Edwin	06–26–45	09–61		
Binnicker, Robert	07–11–62	05–76		
Bishop, Crystal	01–13–79	05–95		
Bivens, Paul	00–00–00	11–88	NA	
Bloom, Eric	05–16–57	05–71		
Blumer, Dustin	03–11–82	05–97		
Boardman, David	06–18–62	05–77		
Boardman, Michael	02–08–60	05–76		
Boley, John	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Boll, Roger	03–17–67	05–80		
Bone, Justin	09–14–76	05–91		
Boor, John	12–12–69	05–86		
Bosco-Lauth, Dominic	01–02–82	05–96		
Bowen, Mike	04–16–59	05–74		
Bowen, Mike Robert	08–25–69	05–86		
Bowman, Jason	04–21–71	05–85		
Boyd, Justin	05–17–82	05–97		
Boyle, Mark	04–27–79	10–93		
Bracken, Scott	12–05–70	05–85		
Bradley, Craig	03–08–59	05–74		
Brady, Jay	02–25–54	05–71		
Brady, Patrick	02–22–60	05–75		
Brady, Van	07–16–55	05–69		
Bramley, Dan	12–19–72	05–87		
Brammeier, Charlie	03–16–84	05–98		
Brandt, Brian	02–03–74	05–91		
Brandt, Scott	02–22–66	05–81	S	Scott Suitts.
Brann, Doug	06–06–64	05–79		
Brassfield, Mike	01–17–62	05–76		
Breen, Patrick	04–11–60	05–75		
Brewer, Chad	07–16–72	05–87		
Briggs, Jeff	09–23–81	05–97		
Brighton, Michelle	02–25–77	05–94		
Brighton, Randy	03–05–79	05–95		
Briscoe, Mike	07–29–70	05–84		
Brookshire, Dan	04–01–60	05–75		
Brown, David	05–24–77	05–92		
Brown, Ian	08–31–67	05–84		
Browning, Jeff	10–25–57	05–72		
Bruns, C.J.	04–15–76	11–90		
Brutout, David	03–18–66	05–81		
Bryant, Gary	03–16–59	05–73		
Bryant, Gregory	07–24–57	05–71		
Buckley, John	08–24–72	05–89		
Bullock, Benjamin	12–13–82	05–97		
Bullock, Mike	00–00–00	01–95	NA	Undersheriff.
Bulllock, Steve	11–01–78	10–93		
Bullock, Verne	02–22–47	05–63		
Bunn, Paul	05–04–64	05–79		
Burgeson, Mark	12–25–54	05–70		
Burke, Jamie	03–03–62	05–76		
Burnett, Ryan	11–01–79	05–96		
Burnette, Scott	04–25–65	05–79		
Burquest, Ben	06–22–85	05–99		
Burris, Eric	06–18–77	05–94		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

[Key: S—Senior Officer; C—Charter Member; MA—Member + Associate or Advisor; W—Warrant (1999+); D—Director; DM—Director/Former Member; NA—Not Member/Associate; *—Deceased. Tally: Member—Any young person who applied for membership and was accepted—first by the Captains, and later by the Board of Officers, 975; Adult—Men and women who have been directly involved over the years—in many capacities, but were not formally accepted as members, 42. Totals: 1,017.]

Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Burris, Ryan	10–23–64	05–99		
Burton, Alan	06–27–55	05–72		
Burton, Earl	12–19–56	05–71		
Busch, Brian	09–24–83	05–99		
Bush, Stanley	11–04–28	09–57	C–D–P	Chief—57–92 & 98.
Bush, William	09–23–54	05–69		
Byrd, Parker	01–08–59	05–75		
Cahill, Patrick	04–29–67	05–82		
Cain, Sean	08–29–80	05–94		
Calhoun, John	02–03–77	05–92		
Calhoun, Rick	12–31–46	05–63		
Calonge, Devon	05–08–85	05–99		
Camp, Craig	00–00–00	06–66	D	LPD Chief.
Camp, Matt	03–22–61	05–76		
Carlson, Randy	05–28–76	05–91		
Carmody, Vince	10–02–74	05–92		
Carnell, Paul	02–11–66	05–81		
Carr, Dean	12–31–61	05–78		
Cary, Carl	00–00–44	05–59		
Case, Brad	10–10–75	05–93		
Case, Scott	10–22–73	05–90	MA	Ass't Chief.
Casteel, Kyle	08–18–83	05–98		
Center, Donald	09–03–45	09–61		
Cernich, Bob	06–14–69	05–83		
Chapman, Stuart	01–25–55	05–70		
Charney, Kenneth	03–10–49	10–65		
Chatham, James	01–27–66	05–80		
Cherry Bryan	04–09–58	05–73		
Cheuvront, Mike	02–08–77	05–91		
Childers, James	07–12–60	06–77		
Christ, Kathy	00–00–00	08–94	NA	
Christensen, Cory	04–09–62	05–76		
Cissell, Keven	04–27–65	05–79		
Clark, Andrew	11–07–77	05–93		
Clark, David	08–27–74	11–90		
Clark, Dustin	06–05–80	05–95		
Clark, Terry	10–30–50	10–65		
Cleavelin, Lawrence	00–00–47	03–60		
Coddington, David	10–24–56	05–73		
Coffern, Earl, Jr.	00–00–00	09–67	D	Treasurer.
Colbenson, Anders	02–14–75	05–89	S	
Colbenson, Kristofer	10–12–78	05–93	S	
Cole, Jerry	01–08–43	10–63		
Coll, Brian	12–03–74	05–92		
Collinge, Bradley	06–06–72	05–87		
Comer, Kevin	01–22–82	05–97		
Cook, Mark	00–00–44	05–59	S	
Cook, Mel	07–22–79	05–94		
Cook, Paul	00–00–00	10–60	D	
Cooley, Stephen	09–03–55	05–71		
Cooney, Caleb	05–02–84	05–99		
Cooper, Michael	08–10–73	05–88		
Cope, Mark	05–25–50	10–64		
Coppedge, Stuart	12–03–59	05–75		
Cornish, Gregg	04–05–62	05–78		
Costillo, David	10–04–65	05–80		
Costello, Patrick	01–20–75	05–92		
Costello, Thomas	09–12–63	05–78		
Cousins, Clay	09–02–82	05–97		
Couzens, Brian	05–11–64	05–80		Award of Merit.
Couzens, George	07–26–82	05–96		
Cowdin, Patton	09–10–47	10–63		
Crandell, Chris	10–02–52	06–67		
Crawford, James	00–00–73	05–88		
Crogan, Daniel	08–06–55	05–69		
Cummer, Thomas	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Cunningham, Jeff	06–03–72	05–88		
Daly, Justin	12–15–80			
Davick, Troy	07–15–71	05–85		
Davidson, Troy	10–01–64	05–78		
Davies, Stephen	10–11–69	05–84		
Davis, Andrew	10–10–55	05–73		
Davis, Emily	11–24–82	05–98		
Davis, John	02–02–64	05–79		
Davis, Jon	04–08–63	05–78		
Davis, Robert	02–05–62	05–79		
Dawson, Chris	10–19–82	05–98		
Dean, Justin	05–20–78	10–93		
Deeter, Scott	09–11–63	05–78		
DeKruif,Ryan	02–12–80	05–94		
Delaney, Cory	12–16–80	05–95		
Dengerink, Benjamin	12–04–79	05–95		
Denison, Scott	03–10–84	05–99		
Denman, Cathi	06–16–94	05–94		& 05–96.
Denman, Kristen	11–11–81	05–96		
DeRocher, David	10–06–54	05–69		
Dickens, David	02–04–49	10–64		
Dickins, Phil	04–23–50	10–64		
Dickens, Rodney	10–23–51	06–67		
Dillman, Andrew	07–03–69	05–87		
Dillon, David	07–22–60	05–76		
Dinges, Chad	09–26–70	05–86		
Dinges, Cory	06–03–77	05–92	S	
Dionne, Steven	07–31–71	05–87		
Divan, Derek	04–21–71	05–87		
Doe, Nicholas	09–11–82	05–98		
Dores, Michael	10–10–80	05–96		
Dowell, James	04–12–55	05–69		
Dowell, Robert	10–29–65	05–80		
Downing, Ben	08–18–74	11–90		
Downing, Charles	05–19–63	05–77		
Downing, Elliott	11–29–69	05–84		
Doyle, Brian	10–08–80	05–95		
Dreiling, Robert	09–07–60	05–77		
Drew, Paul	02–14–56	05–72		
Druckenmiller, Kent	05–13–82	05–98		
Druckenmiller, Shane	05–21–79	05–95		
DuCharm, Proctor II (Guy)	08–28–60	05–76		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

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Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Duffendack, Jeff	10–10–77	10–93		
Dunbar, Thomas	08–06–46	09–61		
Dunston, Ronald	04–22–70	05–87		
Dutton, Glenn	00–00–00	06–66	D	
Echols, Daniel	03–01–69	05–83		
Eckhardt, David	10–07–61	05–77		
Eckroth, Joe	09–15–80	05–95		
Eckroth, Josh	04–09–79	10–93		
Eckstine, Kirk	01–21–61	05–77		
Edgington, David	04–10–57	05–71		
Edson, Mark	11–28–72	05–92	MA	
Edwards, Landis	06–26–78	05–92		
Eich, Robert	04–17–80	05–96		
Eikermann, Gary	00–00–42	05–59		
Elder, Donald	11–28–45	09–62		
Ellinwood, Ryan	06–02–82	05–99		
Elliott, David	06–25–67	05–81		
Ems, David	09–08–60	05–74		
Ems, Michael	06–23–59	05–73		
Engel, Dean	03–08–66	05–80		
English, William	05–20–52	05–69		
Eppich, Dan	05–16–67	05–83		
Erb, Lee	00–00–44	09–57	C–S	
Erb, Lester	00–00–00	10–60	D	
Erbacher, Joe	01–01–69	05–84		
Euhus, Steven	05–03–61	05–76		
Evans, Allson	04–26–83	05–97		
Evans, Gary	07–13–55	05–71		
Evans, Mark	07–09–56	05–71	(*)	
Evans, Patrick	11–29–73	05–90	(*)	
Falconetti, Joe, Jr	11–22–47	10–63		
Falconetti, Joe, Sr	00–00–00	02–65	D	
Fanelli, Dominic III	01–17–80	05–96		
Faulkner, Thomas	07–27–60	05–75		
Federer, Fred	02–10–79	05–94		
Fenton, Ryan	09–10–74	11–90		
Ferrill, Hulsey, Jr	08–17–56	10–63		
Fesing, Thomas	09–18–71	05–87		
Ficek, Raymond	10–11–62	05–77		
Fickes, Matt	10–17–75	05–90	MA	
Fickes, Morriah	11–30–83	05–98		
Fidacaro, Kevin	10–21–73	04–92		
Finnie, M. William	00–00–00	09–62	D	
Fischer, Seth	04–02–78	10–93		
Flickinger, Robert	07–10–51	06–67		
Forber, Patrick	07–18–78	05–93		
Fosdick, Bruce	08–23–51	10–66	S–DM	Chief—92–98.
Fosdick, Cheryl	00–00–00	08–94	NA	
Fosdick, Richard	07–26–73	05–87	S–MA	
Foster, Malcolm (Mac)	00–00–00	01–64	D	
Foster, Robert	05–21–48	09–62		
Fowle, Scott	07–29–68	05–92		
Framsted, Chris	06–20–73	05–88		
Frank, Brad	04–11–47	05–63		
Frascone, Anthony	06–20–73	05–88		
Frasz, Scott	06–29–57	05–72		
Fria, Richard	05–22–49	06–66		
Fria, Robert	00–00–41	09–57	C	
Friebus, Mike	08–18–78	05–93		
Fuller, Tim	10–29–79	05–97		
Fullerton, James	10–05–58	05–73		
Fullerton, Jeff	09–28–56	05–72		
Furch, J. Paul	00–00–41	09–58		
Fuson, Phil	01–17–79	05–94		
Gaiser, Drew	01–15–81	05–95		
Gallagher, Clement	00–00–43	05–59		
Gallagher, Mike	00–00–45	09–61		
Gammill, David	09–11–72	05–88		
Gant, Garrett	12–23–81	05–97		
Garcia, Jessica	05–27–82	05–99		
Gardner, James	00–00–45	10–60		
Garvin, Josh	05–23–79	05–94		
Gates, Monte	11–22–68	05–85		
Gergen, Jared	02–02–74	05–90		
Ghering, Steve	08–29–50	10–65		
Gerrish, Cheryl	10–12–78	05–95		
Gibson, Gary	01–18–65	05–80		
Giellssen, Brad	06–17–63	05–78		
Gilbert, Jason	10–04–81	05–98		
Go-Hollo, Akira	09–10–81	05–97		
Goller, Thomas	10–14–67	05–82		
Gollob, Kenneth	08–10–64	05–81		
Gonzales, Derek	08–07–75	05–89		
Goodwin, Kenneth	06–25–57	05–73		
Gormley, Pete	01–03–72	05–88		
Graaff, Chris	02–26–64	05–81		
Graber, Karl	12–14–60	05–77		
Graham, Michael	04–10–69	05–84		
Graham, Ryan	06–07–74	11–90		
Graves, Bill	00–00–43	05–59		
Graves, James	00–00–45	10–59	S	
Graves, Tony	04–26–75	11–90		
Gray, Bill	00–00–00	09–63	*D	LPD Dispatcher.
Gray, Grant	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Gray, Miles	08–18–65	05–82		
Greenhalgh, Scott	09–09–62	05–79		
Greenlee, Craig	03–03–67	05–83		
Gregory, Nathan	08–20–76	05–94		
Griffith, Mike	06–22–59	05–75		
Grundmeler, Todd	11–23–68	05–86		
Grusin, Don	00–00–41	09–58		Brother of Dave.
Gulizia, Elizabeth	02–19–81	05–95		Ex Merit.
Gulizia, John	07–30–60	05–74	DM	DC, Chief, Merit.
Gulizia, Kim	00–00–00	08–94	D	
Gulizia, Stephanie	11–18–79	05–94	S	
Gunesch, Michael	00–00–44	05–59		
Gurian, Stephen	06–01–81	05–96		
Gutherie, Clint, Jr	00–00–44	03–60		

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Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Gutrich, Mark	01–28–69	05–86		
Gypson, Jeffrey	05–08–51	10–65		
Habetler, Daniel	02–19–74	05–89		
Hackett, Dan	04–06–78	05–93		
Hackett, Phil	01–22–76	05–92		
Hafertepen, Stephen	08–23–82	05–97	S	
Hakkarinen, David	10–19–78	05–95	W	
Hakkarinen, Doug	08–30–81	05–97		Ski Crash.
Hallacy, Mike	07–15–73	05–90		
Hamburg, Steven	08–22–59	05–76		
Hamilton, James	00–00–43	10–59		
Hamilton, Paul	11–01–44	09–61		
Hammell, Eric	01–17–77	05–93		
Hammermeister, Dan	07–24–83	05–97		
Hammond, Susie	08–20–76	05–94		
Hamrick, Brian	05–21–76	05–92		
Hancock, Randy	02–02–68	05–83		
Handly, J. P	04–24–72	05–87		
Hannafious, T. R	03–03–72	05–89		
Hannaman, Jeffrey	09–24–66	05–81		
Hannaman, John	04–16–70	05–84		
Harding, James	04–26–83	05–97		
Hardy, Christopher	10–07–65	05–82		
Hare, David	05–06–69	05–86		
Hare, Steven	01–21–68	05–85		
Harris, Chris	08–05–53	05–69		
Harris, Jared	12–03–68	05–85		
Harrison, Jessica	10–11–78	05–95		
Hartje, Nathan	05–29–81	50–96		
Hassan, Art III	00–00–41	09–57	C	
Hastings, Kent	04–08–75	05–89		
Hatfield, D. Brooke	08–03–58	05–75		
Haugland, Chris	09–25–56	05–72	D–MA	
Hauschild, Andrew	06–26–81	05–96		
Havens, Chad	11–10–82	05–97		
Hawkins, Brianne	09–24–82	05–98		
Haynes, John Russ	01–30–58	05–73		
Haynes, Stephen	01–09–59	05–73		
Head, James	07–09–55	05–70	S	
Heaston, Ben	12–31–79	05–95		
Hebb, Kenneth	09–25–79	05–95		
Heber, J.J.	09–15–75	05–92		
Heckart, Jeff	01–24–72	05–88		
Heckendorf, Robert	00–00–45	09–58		
Hedeen, Verner	12–06–58	05–73		
Heimel, J. Todd	01–27–70	05–87		
Heitzman, Lauren	02–19–47	09–62		
Helfrich, Randall	00–00–41	10–59		
Henderson, Donald	00–00–41	09–58		
Henderson, Michael	03–15–67	05–84		
Henn, Deniel	02–04–80	05–94	S	
Herald, Mando	01–07–75	05–98		
Hess, Chad	03–07–57	05–72		
Heyden, Bradlee	09–14–65	05–81		
Heyliger, David	01–13–60	05–74		
Heyliger, Paul	09–05–58	05–72		
Hickman, Adam	05–19–76	05–91		
Hickman, Eric	07–08–72	05–87		
Hill, Kenneth	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Hindry, Burke (''Spike'')	00–00–45	05–59		
Hines, Chris	11–30–59	05–75		
Hix, Jerry	01–24–59	05–74		
Hix, Steven	08–07–57	05–71		
Hixenbaugh, Paul Noel	08–03–49	10–64		
Hjerleid, David	08–05–63	05–80		
Hoisington, Kenneth	03–28–64	05–80		
Holden, Bill	01–07–50	10–64		
Holloway, J. Hunter	00–00–00	02–76	*D	CSRB Award.
Holloway, James, Jr	06–30–60	05–75		
Hon, Kirk	09–02–52	06–67		
Hone, Jason	01–24–76	05–92		
Hope, Mark	05–25–62	05–78		
Hopf, Andrew	02–11–78	05–94		
Hopkins, Eric	03–19–78	05–93		
Hopkins, Kevin	03–31–76	05–90		
Hopwood, Ron	09–13–79	05–96		
Hopwood, Travis	02–16–72	05–87		
Horacek, Stephen	10–01–56	05–71		
Horen, Robert	00–00–44	03–60		
Hostetler, Dan	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Houlton, John	05–12–55	05–70		
Houlton, William Gray	09–25–53	06–67		
Houseweart, Tim	00–00–00	09–79	NA	Fire Captain.
Houy, Charles	02–04–45	09–61	S	
Howard, Harry	00–00–00	10–60	NA	
Hower, Tim	00–00–45	10–60		
Hubbs, John	00–00–41	09–57	C	
Huber, David	10–01–74	05–89		
Huft, Larry	00–00–43	09–57	C	
Hulse, David	12–15–56	05–73		
Hulse, John	04–27–59	05–74		
Hunzinger, Brian	03–03–67	05–82		
Hupp, Douglas	03–13–73	05–87		
Hurtt, Erikk	08–06–73	05–87		
Hynds, Mike	11–18–65	05–80		
Hytjan, Andy	01–13–83	05–99		
Ihlenfeldt, Richard	03–30–70	05–86		
Ilk, Todd	08–01–73	05–88		
Ingram, Joshua	09–22–79	05–96		
Ingrum, Dick	00–00–00	05–87		
Intagliata, Nick	04–06–79	05–94		
Irvine, Andrew	03–29–79	05–95		
Irving, David	06–06–45	09–61		
Jacobson, Darryl	06–10–63	05–77		
Jaouen, Richard	05–02–47	09–61		
Jaouen, Steve	00–00–43	10–59		
Jardine, George	05–13–53	05–68		
Jenkins, Robert	10–07–62	05–77		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

[Key: S—Senior Officer; C—Charter Member; MA—Member + Associate or Advisor; W—Warrant (1999+); D—Director; DM—Director/Former Member; NA—Not Member/Associate; *—Deceased. Tally: Member—Any young person who applied for membership and was accepted—first by the Captains, and later by the Board of Officers, 975; Adult—Men and women who have been directly involved over the years—in many capacities, but were not formally accepted as members, 42. Totals: 1,017.]

Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Jennison, Josh	05–27–77	05–91		
Jenson, Jess	01–10–78	10–93		
Jessop, Tad	10–17–73	05–90		
Jewell, Jeffrey	10–03–54	05–69		
Johannes, Dale	03–23–47	05–63		
Johnson, Edward	00–00–43	09–58		
Johnson, Kelli	02–11–77	05–94		
Johnson, Kenneth	04–07–58	05–73		
Johnson, Scott	08–18–56	05–72		
Johnson, Steven P.	06–20–61	05–76		
Johnson, Steven R.	05–05–54	05–69		
Kaminski, Kevin	04–12–73	05–87		
Kanaber, Justin	12–09–80	05–96	S	
Kauffman, James	00–00–00	06–73	D	
Kauffman, Robert	09–26–54	05–69		
Kaylor, Dean	06–13–55	05–69	(*)	
Kelley, Erin	07–12–74	05–88		
Kelley, Sam	06–14–59	05–74	(*)	Ded. Class of '83.
Kelley, Verne	06–17–62	05–80		
Keltz, Arthur Robert	04–16–46	09–62		
Kelton, Steve	11–27–60	05–75	S	Only Major.
Kempf, Gregory	05–10–55	05–70		
Kenley, Lance	10–12–72	05–88		
Kennedy, John	08–17–55	05–69		
Kenton, Scott	00–00–00	09–57	C–D	Scout Exec.
Kessler, Jeff	12–14–61	05–76		
Kilburn, Bradley	01–04–64	05–78		
Kimmett, Marc	10–25–76	05–92		
King, Russell	02–18–76	11–90		
Kingsley, Brett	03–06–77	10–93		
Kirk, Doug	07–12–62	05–78		
Kisling, Jesse	06–01–83	05–98		
Klancic, Scott	10–05–65	05–80		
Klebak, George	00–00–45	10–60		
Klein, Shane	01–11–78	05–95		
Kluge, David	07–14–52	10–66	(*)	XXX.
Kluge, James	00–00–00	06–72	D	
Knight, Thomas	08–19–68	05–84		
Knoll, Dennis	00–00–42	09–58	(*)	Choper Crash.
Koch, Douglas	04–23–78	05–94		
Koch, Robert	02–05–67	05–82	S	
Koenck, Leon	06–01–55	05–69		
Kozlowski, Gregory	02–01–82	05–96		
Kraft, David	01–11–66	05–83		
Krebs, Robert	07–06–65	05–80		
Krebs, Steven	12–21–68	05–82	S	
Kreye, George	02–10–65	05–80		
Kreymborg, Louis (Fritz)	07–11–44	09–61	* MA	XXX.
Kuehn, Ben	04–01–78	05–92		
Kuhl, Spencer	09–27–61	05–78		
Kulaga, Theodore	04–15–46	09–62		
Kunkel, Mickey	01–23–45	02–61		
Kupilik, Kenneth	11–18–57	05–72		
Lacy, Gary	09–09–55	05–70		
Lacy, Tom	07–16–57	05–72		
Laffoon, David	08–27–77	10–93		
Laird, Chuck	01–19–72	05–89		
Laird, Jerry	00–00–44	10–60		
Lamb, Danny	07–21–51	06–67		
Lamb, David	03–19–51	10–65		
Lamb, Mike	01–09–55	05–70		
Lamb, Richard	05–01–52	10–66		
Lamb, Shawn	04–15–68	05–83		
Landers, Chris	09–11–83	05–98		
Lane, Jeff	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Lanier, Robert	00–00–44	10–59		
Larson, Brian	11–22–79	05–95		
Larson, Kevin	07–31–81	05–95		
Latiolais, John	09–10–78	10–93		
Law, Ricky	07–13–50	10–65		
Lebedoff, Jim	05–07–57	05–72		
Lechman, Jason	07–07–74	05–88		
Lederhos, Max	11–11–79	05–94		
Ledyard, Harry	00–00–00	09–83		
Lee, Jerod	12–18–72	07–89		
Lee, Meghan	02–16–82	05–97		
Leitao, Anthony	12–13–60	05–76		
Lenda, Brian	11–02–70	05–86		
Leonard, Aldan	07–12–80	05–96		
Leonard, Ian	07–18–83	05–99		
Lepore, Matt	01–07–59	05–73		
Levermann, Casey	04–30–74	07–90		
Lewis, Bob	08–05–52	06–67		
Lewis, Edward	03–08–51	06–67		
Lichtenwalter, Guy	01–12–48	05–63		
Lilly, James	12–16–65	05–79		
Lingle, Brad	06–21–80	05–96		
Lippitt, Paul	06–07–81	05–97		
Lipson, Tal	07–02–51	10–65		
Livesay, Robert	04–30–55	05–70		
Livingston, Mike	08–20–75	10–93		
Lowecke, Jeffrey	11–03–70	05–87		
Lombardi, Donald	02–07–63	05–77		
Lomme, Greg	09–21–61	05–76		
London, Brian	09–09–75	11–90		
Long, Randy	03–27–59	05–74		
Longnecker, Erica	08–23–80	05–97		
Loop, Robert	10–20–70	05–85	S	
Lopez, Roger	12–02–62	05–77		
Lorenzen, Richard	04–24–48	09–62	S	
Lorenzen, Robert	01–22–52	10–66		
Lougee, Lance	01–26–58	05–72		
Lowe, Eric	12–25–71	05–89		
Lowen, Chuck	01–13–75	05–92		
Luethy, Dana	12–25–62	05–77	S	
Luethy, Phil	00–00–00	10–80	NA	
Lytle, John	00–00–44	10–59		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

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Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Maartense, John	03–05–70	05–84		
Maartense, Michael	08–08–71	05–85		
Mabini, Alex	04–20–92	05–92		
MacDonald, William	00–00–43	10–60		
Mack, Barry	10–19–64	05–79		
Mack, John	10–10–63	05–78		
Macrum, Richard, Jr.	00–00–44	10–59		
Mahoney, James	09–12–67	05–82		
Malloy, Robert	08–09–62	05–77		
Malone, Tod	01–11–63	05–77		
Mann, Jon	06–16–60	05–75		
Manning, Kenneth	06–21–48	10–63		
Manning, Robert	01–13–47	09–62		
Maraggos, Tony	10–29–49	10–63		
Marold, Tony	09–05–58	05–76		
Marotte, Jeremy	06–10–76	05–93		
Martens, Darwin	00–00–00	05–76	NA	Major—CSP.
Marthaler, Greg	05–27–79	10–93		
Martin, Corey	09–27–76	10–93		
Martin, John	11–03–54	05–70		
Martin, Ryan	09–20–77	10–93		
Martinez, James	07–26–71	05–86		
Marturano, Donald	12–21–46	09–61		
Maser, Boyd	12–09–53	05–71		
Mash, Edward	11–15–59	05–73		
Mason, Brian	11–30–59	05–74		
Mason, Thomas	05–26–56	05–71		
Massa, Michael	01–23–50	06–67		
Massee, Mike	04–23–69	05–86		
Mastin, Earl	00–00–43	09–57	C	
Mathers, Dean	04–28–61	05–78		
Matthews, Gene	00–00–00	09–57	C–D	Ex Sec—YMCA.
Mayo, Roddy	00–00–41	09–57	C	
Mays, David	10–11–58	05–73		
McAfoos, Jay	09–24–77	08–93		
McCann, Craig	05–09–60	05–77		
McCaslin, David	04–28–66	05–80	MA	
McClure, Robert	05–12–69	05–86		
McConnell, Jeremy	06–15–77	05–92		
McCoy, David	06–29–61	05–76		
McCulloch, Kevin	01–27–82	05–96		
McCurdy, Mike	03–06–73	05–89		
McElroy, Ronald III	12–08–56	05–71		
McEowen, Clyde	10–09–46	10–63		
McEowen, Michael	02–10–48	05–63		
McGuire, Brendan	03–01–75	05–91		
McGuire, Scott	12–24–72	05–86		
McHugh, Zack	01–09–84	05–99		
McKay, Michael	02–04–47	09–62		
McKean, Jason	03–03–76	05–91		
McKenna, Thomas	07–04–76	05–92		
McKinley, Mike	04–18–50	10–64		
McKinzie, Eric	03–23–70	05–85		
McKinzie, Mark	09–12–68	05–84		
Medlicott, Shea	01–01–72	05–88		
Meehan, Mike	04–06–61	05–78		
Meinen, Mike	09–12–49	10–65		
Meinen, Tim	09–17–51	10–66		
Meissner, Mark	03–25–57	05–71		
Melancon, Steve	12–11–59	05–74		
Melnikoff, Mark	06–03–78	05–94		
Merrill, Brad	08–10–72	05–88		
Messenger, Anthony	11–04–66	05–82		
Middel, Jason	06–03–81	05–98		
Miller, Anthony	09–21–64	05–80		
Miller, D. Cory	02–21–55	05–70		
Miller, A. James	12–14–48	10–63		
Miller, Jeffrey	03–18–75	05–92		
Milne, Robert	07–13–56	05–70	S	
Milner, Dale	00–00–00	10–60	NA	
Milo, James	09–19–52	05–68		
Miranda, Edmund	11–02–71	05–87		
Moffitt, Michael	05–26–66	05–80		
Moore, Brian	03–15–78	10–93		
Moore, Justin	11–19–75	05–90	S	
Moore, Kenneth	05–18–57	05–73		
Moran, Michael	11–30–45	09–61		
Moran, Sean	11–17–80	05–95		
Moreno, Anthony	03–29–79	05–93		
Morgan, Donald	02–29–60	05–76		
Morken, Brandon	04–16–84	05–98		
Morken, Shannon	02–12–82	05–98		
Morrison, Jason	04–12–76	10–93		
Morrison, Rees	03–12–60	05–75		
Moses, Brian	05–10–76	05–93		
Mount, Charles	11–07–56	05–70		
Moyer, James	00–00–00	09–57	C–NA	
Mullin, John	00–00–00	05–83	NA	Fire Captain.
Mullinnix, Matthew	03–26–75	05–93		
Mumma, George, Sr.	00–00–00	09–72	D	
Mumma, George, Jr.	10–21–56	05–71		
Mumma, William	09–20–58	05–73		
Murphy, Daniel	02–04–81	05–98		
Murphy, David	07–25–63	05–80		
Murphy, Thomas	12–30–75	05–93		
Murray, Gary	11–07–51	05–68		
Murrish, Jon	07–15–62	05–78		
Murry, Mark	05–11–54	05–69		
Myers, William	03–01–62	05–77		
Nance, Josh	08–24–73	05–90		
Neary, Doug	12–12–50	10–65		
Neary, Gregory	12–02–53	05–69		Ex. Merit.
Neary, Patrick	00–00–49	10–63		
Nelson, Jay	07–15–60	05–75		
Nelson, Sonja	10–19–80	05–97		
Nesbitt, Doug	00–00–43	09–58		
Ness, Dean	03–21–56	05–71		
Neuman, James	07–20–63	05–78		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

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Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Newcomer, David	05–06–63	05–78		
Newell, Jared	09–26–79	05–93		
Newhagen, John	00–00–46	09–62		
Nickoley, Scott	08–04–76	05–92		
Nielson, Jake	00–00–00	05–77	NA	Fire Chief.
Nikstaitis, Art	10–24–77	10–93		
Noble, Larry	11–25–54	05–70		
Nocerino, Eric	04–12–78	05–92		
Noll, Richard	11–02–57	05–72		
Norman, Michael	00–00–47	05–63		
Norman, Randy	00–00–46	09–62		
Novotny, Josh	06–15–77	05–91		
Nowicki, Patrick	04–09–66	05–81		
O'Brien, Kenneth	00–00–44	10–60		
O'Callaghan, Mike	11–26–73	05–89		
Oerter, Erik	10–29–75	11–90		
O'Grady, Gerald	00–00–55	05–69		
Oliver, Jesse	10–08–78	05–94		
O'Malley, Brian	00–00–00	02–78	NA	Mt. Everest.
O'Neill, Mike	00–00–47	09–62		
Ornellas, John	05–31–73	05–87		
Orr, Brian	12–31–81	05–96		
Orth, Robert	02–22–83	05–97		
Osborn, John, Jr.	01–17–67	05–81		
Overmyer, Richard	12–15–66	05–82		
Overstake, Ryan	02–14–71	05–85		
Owen, Russell	11–07–81	05–99		
Palmer, Chris	07–04–58	05–74		
Palmer, Gregory	05–13–64	05–79	S–MA	
Palmer, James	09–16–61	05–77	S	
Parker, Dale	00–00–45	05–59		
Parker, John	03–15–63	05–78		
Parmentier, Roger	02–22–47	05–63	(*)	
Parnell, Henry	01–15–58	05–72		
Parsely, Randy	12–27–52	06–67		
Patin, Andre	09–15–74	11–90		
Paton, Craig	02–12–57	05–71		
Paxton, Geoffrey	10–16–63	05–80		
Payne, Cecil	12–23–48	10–63		
Peats, Robert	02–13–62	05–76		
Peden, Kevin	11–01–53	05–69		
Peden, Larry	02–05–48	10–64		
Peek, Larry	09–06–59	05–75		
Pekari, Mark	08–12–66	05–83		
Peraro, John	06–02–52	06–67		
Peregoy, Charles, Jr.	00–00–00	05–76	NA	
Perkins, Daniel	12–08–73	05–88		
Perrigo, Stephen	11–06–53	05–68		
Perman, Gary	00–00–45	05–59		
Peterson, Eugene	03–10–53	05–68		
Pfeil, John	05–07–61	05–76		
Phillips, Chester Leroy	00–00–43	09–58		
Phillips, Danny	00–00–45	10–60		
Phillips, Scott	05–19–78	05–94		
Phillips, William, Jr.	03–30–49	09–62		
Pike, Tadd	02–13–74	05–90		
Plaine, John	03–21–69	05–84		
Pollock, Carl	11–10–54	05–71		
Polsley, Charles	06–11–46	09–61		
Pool, Mike	12–27–50	10–65		
Pooley, Brenda	09–09–79	05–96		
Pooley, Renae	03–09–81	05–96		
Pope, Kevin	06–22–70	05–87		
Pottinger, Chris	10–07–76	05–91		
Powell, John	10–28–47	09–62		
Radke, Andreas	12–10–78	05–95		
Rago, Brian	04–19–66	05–82		
Ragona, James	05–18–68	05–84		
Ramm, Bryan	09–15–75	11–90		
Rath, Jeramy	09–28–78	10–93		
Rathbun, Douglas	02–18–70	05–84		
Raynolds, Will	07–16–82	05–97		
Reece, Matthew	06–11–81	05–96		
Reeves, John	06–26–76	05–92		
Reilly, Greg	01–26–63	05–78	(*)	
Reininger, Mike	01–02–80	05–95		
Reister, Chris	06–23–78	05–94		
Rethmeier, Gary	00–00–42	09–58		
Reynolds, Phil	02–07–53	06–67		
Rheinhelmer, James	00–00–42	09–57	C	
Rice, Arthur	08–05–59	05–74		
Rich, Robert	06–07–66	05–80		
Richards, David	11–09–52	05–68		
Richards, James	10–25–48	10–63		
Richards, Lawrence "Lars"	06–23–63	05–77		
Richardson, Albert	05–28–50	10–64		
Richardson, John	12–15–63	05–79		
Ridgley, Trevor	04–29–76	05–91		
Riebling, James	06–19–64	05–79		
Rightmire, Douglas	10–03–52	06–67		
Rimbert, Ron	08–30–82	05–99		
Robbins, Eric	08–20–80	05–96		
Roberts, Charles	07–27–55	05–70		
Roberts, David	03–12–67	05–81		
Roberts, Neal	12–12–46	09–61	S	First DFO.
Robinson, Eric	01–21–79	10–93		
Robinson, Grayson	00–00–00	08–80	NA	Undersheriff.
Robertson, Warren	11–21–80	05–95		
Rock, M. Sean	04–08–67	05–84		
Rodgers, Don	09–14–49	10–65		
Roe, Shawn	08–26–69	05–84	(*)	
Roebuck, Greg	05–31–75	11–90		
Rolling, Charles	03–15–62	05–76		
Romero, Phillipe	11–28–72	05–87		
Romriell, Lucas	02–15–78	05–94		
Rosenfield, Brent	03–01–74	05–90		
Ross, David	10–24–65	05–83		
Roth, Jeremy	11–13–69	05–84		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

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Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Roth, Wade	06–16–68	05–83		
Rothlisberger, Jay	08–15–76	10–93		
Rothschild, Joel	11–11–58	05–76		
Rozycki, James	12–11–59	05–74		
Rozycki, Richard	07–13–58	05–74		
Rudd, Michael	07–28–60	05–75		
Ruetz, Jeff	01–22–52	10–66		
Rupp, Danny	00–00–46	10–60		
Rutherford, James	09–12–47	05–63		
Ryan, Daniel	08–10–51	05–68		
Sakdol, Corby	05–18–61	05–76		
Salzberg, Llan	06–18–76	05–92		
Salzberg, Yaniv	04–26–78	05–93		
Samms, David	01–09–66	05–83		
Sample, Raymond	05–28–62	05–79		
Sandoval, Sonny	01–26–78	10–93		
Saulnier, Patricia	03–05–82	05–98		
Saylor, Sean	03–18–68	05–83		
Schmitt, Bill	02–20–58	05–72		
Schneebeck, Dean	00–00–00	05–76	D	
Schneebeck, Byron	08–09–61	05–75	S	
Schroer, Greg	06–15–57	05–72		
Schroer, Kenneth	03–13–51	10–66		
Schroth, Brandon	06–06–73	05–90		
Schuckman, Dylan	02–28–74	05–92		
Schueller, Brad	07–23–74	05–92		
Schuster, Jake	10–19–79	05–94		
Schwab, Kenneth	01–06–47	05–63		
Schwartz, Stephen	00–00–49	05–63		
Scott, Bill	00–00–46	05–59		
Scott, Robert	00–00–45	09–58		
Scott, Steve	04–15–83	05–99		
Seedroff, Zak	02–28–78	05–95		
Sekhar, Pavan	07–21–82	05–97		
Self, Darcy	05–12–57	05–72		
Serkes, Keith	10–01–50	06–67		
Settle, Sean	08–15–82	05–97		
Sharp, Kent	11–12–64	05–80		
Shelton, Jayson	01–31–62	05–76		
Sherrill, John	12–02–70	05–86	MA	
Shorey, Larry	10–11–45	09–61	S	
Sidebottom, Phillip	05–19–69	05–84		
Simmons, Chris	07–06–78	05–94		
Simonton, John	12–23–73	05–89		
Simpson, Tygh	06–22–73	05–89		
Sinclair, Edward	10–08–56	05–71		
Skalet, Andrew	08–25–79	05–94		
Slaten, Joel	04–15–68	05–82		
Slaten, Lane	01–27–66	05–81		
Slaughter, Keith	06–16–52	05–68		
Slechta, Ryan	01–07–77	10–93		
Smischny, Jeff	06–10–84	05–99		
Smischny, Matthey	04–26–64	05–79		
Smischny, Richard	07–07–53	05–73		
Smischny, Ron	07–29–57	05–73		
Smischny, Tim	12–08–61	05–77		Award of Merit.
Smith, Cody	02–01–80	05–97		
Smith, Edward	05–14–72	05–87		
Smith, Rick	08–24–58	05–72		
Smith, Steve	02–09–56	05–70		
Smith, Tedwood	00–00–45	10–60		
Snyder, Lorin	09–30–77	05–92		
Solome, Marc	10–29–80	05–95		
Sommerville, Les	03–27–57	05–72		
Sorensen, Carmen	11–17–80	05–97		
Sorensen, Christopher	04–08–68	05–85		
Sorenson, Jason	06–02–80	05–95		
Sosebee, Kyle	01–25–77	05–93		
Spratien, David	02–29–80	05–97		
Staab, Thomas	12–13–70	05–85		
Stahl, Jed	07–30–79	05–94		
Staves, G. Scott	10–29–74	05–92		
Steyaert, James	09–06–57	05–74		
Stinson, Robert	08–12–67	05–84		
Stockwell, Jesse	08–07–65	05–79		
Stoen, Jonathan	00–00–42	09–58	*	Son X Jonestown
Stone, Adam	02–17–81	05–98		
Stoner, Charles	00–00–44	10–60		
Straub, Randy	12–21–76	05–91	S	
Streelman, Bryan	00–00–47	09–62		
Strickland, Steve	10–11–47	09–62		
Strong, Ryan	09–23–74	05–92		
Strong, Tedwood	00–00–44	03–60		
Stuart, Gary	00–00–00	08–80	NA	Fire Captain.
Stucky, Ben	03–04–76	11–90		
Stuebe, Brian	02–14–74	05–88	S	Ass't Chief.
Sullivan, Mike	01–16–58	05–72		
Sullivan, Pat, Jr.	02–01–43	03–60	DM	Sheriff-VP.
Sullivan, Robert	06–09–81	05–98		
Swain, Tim	11–08–77	05–95		
Swanson, James	07–25–61	05–76		
Swanson, Parker	07–13–66	05–80		
Swartz, Thomas	00–00–43	09–57	C	
Swerdzewski, Pete	10–27–78	10–93		
Taggart, Andrew	09–29–82	05–97		
Taigman, Mike	07–04–59	05–74	MA	
Tarde, Robert	10–22–64	05–79		
Tardy, Edmond	11–01–46	09–62		
Tardy, Eugene	01–28–51	10–65		
Tardy, James	03–06–54	05–68		
Tardy, Timothy	10–23–50	10–64		
Tatum, Travis	09–14–71	05–85		
Tatum, Trent	05–24–68	05–84		
Taylor, Kyle	07–02–81	05–98		
Taylor, Thomas	04–01–64	05–78		
Tedesco, Wayne	11–11–75	11–90		
Teegarden, Thomas	10–06–52	05–69		
Terry, Doug	05–04–60	05–75	DM–MA.	

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

[Key: S—Senior Officer; C—Charter Member; MA—Member + Associate or Advisor; W—Warrant (1999+); D—Director; DM—Director/Former Member; NA—Not Member/Associate; *—Deceased. Tally: Member—Any young person who applied for membership and was accepted—first by the Captains, and later by the Board of Officers, 975; Adult—Men and women who have been directly involved over the years—in many capacities, but were not formally accepted as members, 42. Totals: 1,017.]

Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Thayer, Richie	05–13–83	05–97		
Therrien, Mike	05–20–53	05–69		
Thirsk, James	09–25–54	05–70		
Thomas, Dan	10–03–52	06–67		
Thomas, David	03–03–50	10–65		
Thomas, John	06–08–48	10–63		
Thomas, Paul	00–00–47	09–62		
Thomas, Tom	01–21–47	09–62		
Thompson, Clint	08–11–70	05–85		
Thompson, Donald	07–27–52	10–66		
Thompson, Steve	11–22–76	05–92		
Thornton, Buddy	00–00–45	10–60		
Tipton, Chris	06–23–77	10–93	MA.	
Toeppen, Greg	06–02–57	05–73		
Tolle, David	06–20–55	05–70		
Touchstone, Jason	09–07–83	05–97		
Tracy, Eddie	04–16–76	05–91		
Tringl, Steve	12–18–63	05–78		
Troup, Douglas	07–11–70	05–84		
Troup, Mike	11–24–66	05–81		
Trujillo, Ryan	12–03–77	05–92		
Tucker, Charles Wes	07–19–54	05–68		
Tucker, Jeff	03–02–67	05–84		
Tucker, T. Brooks	11–03–70	05–87		
Tugman, Thomas	01–04–58	05–73		
Turnwall, O. Kelly	00–00–44	09–58	S.	
Turpen, James	04–27–45	02–61	S.	
Tyndall, William	07–22–58	05–73		
Ullery, Rod	06–10–47	09–62		
Underwood, James	02–02–66	05–81	MA.	
Vandenberg, David	02–24–52	06–67		
Vandenberg, Edward	05–27–58	05–73	S.	
Vandermee, Tom	01–15–51	10–66		
Van Hook, Joe	04–12–77	05–92	MA–W.	
Van Houten, Russell	06–07–49	10–65		
Van Note, Keith	11–13–73	05–88		
Van Patten, Denis	05–29–47	10–63		
Van Puffelen, John	00–00–45	10–60		
Vasil, Geoff	08–05–78	10–93		
Vaughn, Jennifer	03–09–83	05–98		
Vazquez, John	11–24–79	05–94	W.	
VerSteeg, Philip	03–28–63	05–77		
Vlieger, Ron	03–10–58	05–73		
Vinci, Ben	06–20–69	05–86		
Vodehnal, Mike	04–13–73	05–90		
Vosburgh, Craig	12–27–66	05–80		
Vrooman, Ryan	05–16–84	05–98		
Wade, Adam	05–23–78	05–92		
Walden, Tony	01–08–55	05–69		
Waller, Christopher	10–30–81	05–96		
Waller, Richie	07–31–83	05–97		
Wiley, Daniel	08–24–82	05–97		
Walmsley, Chappie	08–01–54	05–69		
Weaver, Earl	02–06–50	10–64		
Weaver, John	00–00–00	02–65	D.	
Weaver, Mark	10–05–54	05–68		
Wehrie, Joe	00–00–43	10–60		
Weidlein, Charles R.	12–18–48	10–63	S.	
Weidlein, Charles W.	00–00–00	04–67	NA.	
Weiss, Steven	11–01–61	05–78		
Wellman, Andrew	02–17–81	05–98		
Wellman, David	12–30–63	05–78		
Wellman, Edward	06–19–61	05–77		
Wells, Chris	05–01–75	05–92		
Werking, Robert	11–24–65	05–80		
Werner, Russell	03–26–61	05–76		
West, Larry	00–00–43	09–58		
Wetzbarger, Jacob	04–19–84	05–99		
Wheeler, Seth	11–16–75	05–92		
White, Adam	11–26–80	05–95		
White, Andrew	06–12–73	05–90		
White, James	00–00–46	02–61		
White, Rod	09–06–50	10–65		
Whittemore, Jared	09–17–54	05–70		
Widdows, Jason	07–02–77	05–94		
Wignal, Dennis	00–00–44	03–60		
Wildman, Richard, Jr.	02–27–44	02–61		
Wildman, William	04–05–45	02–61		
Wiley, Charles	01–25–48	10–64		
Wiley, Robert	12–01–49	10–64		
Wilkens, Robert	09–08–56	05–72		
Wilkinson, Paul	00–00–00	09–57	C–NA.	
Williams, Brad	07–18–78	05–93		
Williams, Brett	09–31–78	05–96		
Williams, Gary	01–18–63	05–77		
Williams, Laurence	11–02–62	05–77		
Willis, Larry	10–15–48	09–62		
Wilson, Chris	04–07–59	05–74		
Wilson, Garrett	06–15–80	05–95		
Wilson, Garth	11–21–78	05–95		
Wilson, James	00–00–00	05–76	D–NA.	
Winckler, Derrick	11–11–78	05–96		
Winegarden, Collier	02–07–81	05–95		
Winkel, Joe	04–03–71	05–86		
Wischhusen, Ted	00–00–42	10–59		
Witt, Mike	07–30–73	05–90		
Wixson, Brett	07–16–62	05–77		
Wolfe, David	00–00–45	10–59		
Wolfe, Julia	06–12–82	05–98		
Wolff, Jakob	07–29–80	05–95		
Wood, Jenn	07–28–82	05–97		
Wood, J. Steven	00–00–45	10–60		
Wood, Lance	03–05–75	05–91		
Woods, Carl	03–12–50	10–65		
Woodlee, David	07–02–52	05–69		
Woodruff, Kent	06–08–55	05–72		
Woodward, A. Tim	10–28–53	05–68		
Wooley, Bill	02–05–50	10–64		

ARAPAHOE RESCUE PATROL, INC., LITTLETON BASED, MEMBERSHIP ROSTER, AS OF 13 NOVEMBER 1999—Continued

[Key: S—Senior Officer; C—Charter Member; MA—Member + Associate or Advisor; W—Warrant (1999+); D—Director; DM—Director/Former Member; NA—Not Member/Associate; *—Deceased. Tally: Member—Any young person who applied for membership and was accepted—first by the Captains, and later by the Board of Officers, 975; Adult—Men and women who have been directly involved over the years—in many capacities, but were not formally accepted as members, 42. Totals: 1,017.]

Name	DOB	Joined	Status	Comment
Wooley, Gary	04–14–47	09–61		
Woolum, Malcolm	03–27–78	05–93		
Workman, Ted	09–04–61	05–76		
Worth, R. Randolph	06–29–60	05–76		
Wright, Jason	06–14–75	11–90		
Wright, Larry	00–00–00	08–80	NA.	
Wright, Marty	02–21–74	11–90		
Wright, Paul	08–21–77	10–93		
Wright, Steven	05–30–52	06–67		
Wright, Wayne	03–08–66	05–80		
Wulfmeyer, Todd	01–16–68	05–84		
Wynkoop, Mark	06–09–79	05–95		
Yant, Robert, Jr.	05–16–53	05–69		
Yost, Steve	04–26–76	05–92		
Young, Mark	04–11–60	05–75		
Young, Rick	09–17–56	05–72		
Young, Thomas	06–27–60	05–77		
Youngblood, David	07–16–71	05–86		
York, Chris	04–22–82	05–97		
Zambruk, Brett	09–09–65	05–82		
Zayle, Bryan	05–11–74	05–91		
Zeiger, Aaron	10–01–82	05–98		
Zeiger, Jonathan	06–15–81	05–98		
Zettel, Benton	12–16–75	11–90		
Zimmerman, Keegan	08–19–80	05–97		
Zimmermann, Peter	09–19–68	05–82		
Zuschlag, Chris	05–07–64	05–78		

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 456. The Arapahoe Rescue Patrol is a professional search and rescue team headquartered in Littleton, Colorado, in the district of the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO).

It was founded in 1957 and has provided service to the community for the past 43 years. The Arapahoe Rescue Patrol is unique in that its membership is restricted to young adults currently in high school. The patrol, which has approximately 75 active members, is primarily a search and rescue organization but it also supports local fire departments and law enforcement organizations.

In 1998, the Patrol participated in 82 search-related activities and spent 52 days searching for missing persons.

While the service of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol is clearly valuable to constituents represented by our colleague from Colorado, I believe that we can all learn a lesson from their activities. What is unique about this patrol in particular is that it is all high school age membership. Littleton's young people, who successfully complete the training for membership in the Patrol, are unselfishly contributing to their community.

This after-school program is certainly exemplary and offers a positive image of our youth. This sense of community worth and value is something that should exist in all areas of our country.

In that sense, I am very pleased to support this resolution, H.R. 456, and urge my colleagues to vote for it.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am in support of this resolution. I am glad that the House is considering it today.

For more than four decades, volunteers of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol have assisted Colorado law enforcement agencies, fire departments and search and rescue missions. Founded in 1957 by Stan Bush, Director of the Emergency Planning Department for the city of Littleton, the Patrol is as a non-profit organization that with its headquarters in the Fire Station 12 in the city of Littleton.

More than one thousand students have participated in the Rescue Patrol's program and been involved in more than 2,200 rescue missions. Each student works approximately ten hours a week assisting with emergencies, from fires and automobile accidents to searches for missing people.

The Patrol's program benefits everyone—our communities, our law-enforcement agencies, and the young people who receive its training.

I join my colleague, Representative TANCREDO in urging the House to approve this resolution to acknowledge and highlight the efforts of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 456.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WORLD BANK AIDS MARSHALL PLAN TRUST FUND ACT

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3519) to provide for negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the International Development Association to combat the AIDS epidemic, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3519

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) According to the Surgeon General of the United States, the epidemic of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) will soon become the worst epidemic of infectious disease in recorded history, eclipsing both the bubonic plague of the 1300's and the influenza epidemic of 1918–1919 which killed more than 20,000,000 people worldwide.

(2) According to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), 33,600,000 people in the world today are living with HIV/AIDS, of which approximately 95 percent live in the developing world.

(3) UNAIDS data shows that among children age 14 and under worldwide, 3,600,000 have died from AIDS, 1,200,000 are living with the disease; and in one year alone—1999—an estimated 570,000 became infected, of which over 90 percent were babies born to HIV-positive women.

(4) Although sub-Saharan Africa has only 10 percent of the world's population, it is home to 23,300,000—roughly 70 percent—of the world's HIV/AIDS cases.

(5) Worldwide, there have already been an estimated 16,300,000 deaths because of HIV/AIDS, of which 13,700,000—over 80 percent—occurred in Sub-Saharan Africa.

(6) According to testimony by the Office of National AIDS Policy, an entire generation of children in Africa is in jeopardy, with one-fifth to one-third of all children in some countries already orphaned and the figure estimated to rise to 40,000,000 by 2010.

(7) The 1999 annual report by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) states ''[t]he number of orphans, particularly in Africa, constitutes nothing less than an emergency, requiring an emergency response'' and that ''finding the resources needed to help stabilize the crisis and protect children is a priority that requires urgent action from the international community.''

(8) A 1999 Bureau of the Census report states that the average life expectancy in the Republic of Botswana, the Republic of Zimbabwe, the Kingdom of Swaziland, the Republic of Malawi,

and the Republic of Zambia has decreased from approximately age 65 to approximately age 40—the lowest life expectancy in the world—due to high mortality rates from HIV/AIDS.

(9) A January 2000 unclassified United States National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) report on the global infectious disease threat concluded that the economic costs of infectious diseases—especially HIV/AIDS—are already significant and could reduce GDP by as much as 20 percent or more by 2010 in some sub-Saharan African nations.

(10) According to the same NIE report, HIV prevalence among militias in Angola and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are estimated at 40 to 60 percent, and at 15 to 30 percent in Tanzania.

(11) The HIV/AIDS epidemic is of increasing concern in other regions of the world with UNAIDS reporting, for example, that there are 6 million cases in South and South-east Asia, that the rate of HIV infection in the Caribbean is second only to sub-Saharan Africa, and that HIV infections have doubled in just two years in the former Soviet Union.

(12) Despite the grim statistics on the spread of HIV/AIDS, some developing nations—such as Uganda, Senegal, and Thailand—have implemented prevention programs that have substantially curbed the rate of HIV infection.

(13) AIDS, like all diseases, knows no boundaries, and there is no certitude that the scale of the problem in one continent can be contained within that region.

(14) According to a 1999 study prepared by UNAIDS and the Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health, HIV/AIDS is spreading three times faster than funding available to control the disease.

(15) The United Nations Secretary General has stated ''[n]o company and no government can take on the challenge of AIDS alone,'' and that what is needed is a new approach to public health—combining all available resources, public and private, local and global.''

(16) The World Bank, declaring AIDS not just a public health problem but ''the foremost and fastest-growing threat to development'' in Africa, has launched a new strategy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, declaring it a top priority for the Bank on that continent.

(17) The World Bank estimates that for Africa alone $1,000,000,000 to $2,300,000,000 annually is needed for prevention in contrast to the approximately $300,000,000 a year in official assistance currently available for HIV/AIDS in Africa.

(18) Accordingly, United States financial support for medical research, education, and disease containment as a global strategy has beneficial ramifications for millions of Americans and their families who are affected by this disease, and the entire population which is potentially susceptible.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and promote its eradication, prevent human suffering, and to mitigate the devastating impact of the disease on economic and human development, social stability, and security in the developing world, through the creation of a trust fund which is designed to—

(1) work with governments, civil society, nongovernmental organizations, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the International Partnership Against AIDS in Africa, other international organizations, donor agencies, and the private sector to intensify action against the HIV/AIDS epidemic and to support essential field work in the most affected countries to assist in the development of AIDS vaccines; and

(2) seek to leverage financial commitments by the United States in order to mobilize additional resources from other donors, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, and recipient countries to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS.

TITLE I—NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF A WORLD BANK AIDS TRUST FUND

SEC. 101. TRUST FUND TO ASSIST IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, CARE AND TREATMENT, AND ERADICATION.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall seek to enter into negotiations with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the International Development Association, and with the member nations of such institutions and with other interested parties for the creation of a trust fund which would be authorized to solicit and accept contributions from governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental entities of all kinds and use the contributions to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in countries eligible to borrow from such institutions, as follows:

(1) PROGRAM OBJECTIVES.—The trust fund would provide only grants, including grants for technical assistance, to support measures to build local capacity in national and local government, civil society, and the private sector to lead and implement effective and affordable HIV/AIDS prevention, education, treatment and care services, and research and development activities, including affordable drugs. Among the activities the trust fund would provide grants for would be programs to promote best practices in prevention, including health education messages that emphasize risk avoidance; measures to ensure a safe blood supply; voluntary HIV/AIDS testing and counseling; measures to stop mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, including through diagnosis of pregnant women, access to cost-effective treatment and counseling and access to infant formula or other alternatives for infant feeding; and deterrence of gender-based violence and provision of post-exposure prophylaxis to victims of rape and sexual assault. In carrying out these objectives, the trust fund would coordinate its activities with governments, civil society, nongovernmental organizations, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the International Partnership Against AIDS in Africa, other international organizations, the private sector, and donor agencies working to combat the HIV/AIDS crisis.

(2) PRIORITY.—In providing such grants, the trust fund would give priority to countries that have the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rate or are at risk of having a high HIV/AIDS prevalence rate, and that have or agree to carry out a national HIV/AIDS program which—

(A) has a government commitment at the highest level and multiple partnerships with civil society and the private sector;

(B) invests early in effective prevention efforts;

(C) requires cooperation and collaboration among many different groups and sectors, including those who are most affected by the epidemic, religious and community leaders, nongovernmental organizations, researchers and health professionals, and the private sector;

(D) is decentralized and uses participatory approaches to bring prevention care programs to national scale; and

(E) is characterized by community participation in government policymaking as well as design and implementation of the program, including implementation of such programs by people living with HIV/AIDS, nongovernmental organizations, civil society, and the private sector.

(3) GOVERNANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The trust fund would be administered as a trust fund of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Subject to general policy guidance from the President of the United States and representatives of the other donors to the trust fund, the Trustee would be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the trust fund.

(B) SELECTION OF PROJECTS AND RECIPIENTS.—In consultation with the President and other donors to the trust fund, the Trustee would establish criteria, that have been agreed on by the donors, for the selection of projects to receive support from the trust fund, standards and criteria regarding qualifications of recipients of such support, as well as such rules and procedures as would be necessary for cost-effective management of the trust fund. The trust fund would not make grants for the purpose of project development associated with bilateral or multilateral development bank loans.

(C) TRANSPARENCY OF OPERATIONS.—The Trustee shall ensure full and prompt public disclosure of the proposed objectives, financial organization, and operations of the trust fund.

(D) ADVISORY BOARD.—

(i) APPOINTMENT.—The President of the United States and representatives of other participating donors to the trust fund would establish an Advisory Board, and appoint to the Advisory Board renowned and distinguished international leaders who have demonstrated integrity and knowledge of issues relating to development, health care (especially HIV/AIDS), and Africa.

(ii) DUTIES.—The Advisory Board would, in consultation with other international experts in related fields (including scientists, researchers, and doctors), advise and provide guidance for the trust fund on the development and implementation of the projects receiving support from the trust fund. Once the Advisory Board is established, the Secretary of the Treasury shall ensure that the Trustee provides the Advisory Board complete access to all information and documents of the trust fund necessary to the effective functioning of the Advisory Board.

TITLE II—UNITED STATES FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

SEC. 201. LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

In addition to any other funds authorized to be appropriated for multilateral or bilateral programs related to AIDS or economic development, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Treasury $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005 for payment to the trust fund established as a result of negotiations entered into pursuant to section 101.

TITLE III—REPORTS

SEC. 301. REPORTS TO THE CONGRESS.

(a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the duration of the trust fund established pursuant to section 101, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a written report on the trust fund, the goals of the trust fund, the programs, projects, and activities, including any vaccination approaches, supported by the trust fund, and the effectiveness of such programs, projects, and activities in reducing the worldwide spread of AIDS.

(b) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In subsection (a), the term ''appropriate committees'' means the Committees on Appropriations, on International Relations, and on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations, on Foreign Relations, and on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

TITLE IV—HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE

SEC. 401. STRENGTHENING LOCAL CAPACITY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA TO IMPLEMENT HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE PROGRAMS.

Title XVI of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262p—262p–7) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 1625. STRENGTHENING LOCAL CAPACITY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA TO IMPLEMENT HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE PROGRAMS.

''The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director at the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to use the voice and vote of the

United States to encourage the Bank to work with Sub-saharan African countries to modify projects financed by the Bank and develop new projects to build local capacity to manage and implement programs for the prevention of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and the care of persons with HIV/AIDS, including through health care delivery mechanisms which facilitate the distribution of affordable drugs for persons infected with HIV.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH).

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. LEACH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of one of the most important healthcare initiatives in modern times, the creation of a World Bank AIDS Trust Fund.

There are few issues more difficult to discuss in public life than the AIDS issue, but any sense of historical perspective requires that Congress recognize that it is quite likely that no issue in the world is more consequential.

In parts of Africa where the epicenter currently resides, as well as South Asia and the Caribbean where the disease is fast moving, AIDS and the precipitating HIV virus have jumped well beyond the population groups considered most at-risk in America.

Millions of women now have the HIV virus and it is being transferred in the womb to the unborn. Out of a sense of self-preservation for mankind itself, if not simply humanitarian concern for those affected, this disease must be eradicated whatever the cost.

The purposes of H.R. 3519 are straightforward: To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and promote its eradication, prevent human suffering and mitigate its effects on economic development and security through a World Bank-administered trust fund that would work with governmental and nongovernmental organizations and leverage United States contributions to mobilize additional resources from other donors, including the private sector.

The bill before us, which has captured the attention of medical and development professionals working to combat the HIV/AIDS crisis around the world, was passed by the Committee on Banking and Financial Services on March 15 by a strong bipartisan 27-to-4 vote.

The committee has been in regular contact with the administration regarding the development of this legislation, as well as our floor amendment, and I am pleased to inform Members that we received today a statement announcing that the administration strongly supports the passage of H.R. 3519.

At the dawn of the 21st century, the world confronts one of the most serious and urgent public health challenges in the history of mankind. According to the United States Surgeon General, AIDS will soon become the worst epidemic of infectious disease in recorded history, eclipsing both the bubonic plague of the 1300s and the influenza epidemic of 1918 to 1919, which killed more than 20 million people worldwide.

Already 16.3 million have died from AIDS and more than 33 million are living with this deadly disease. Indeed, the global AIDS epidemic might fairly be described as a disease of biblical proportions.

The statistics in the global AIDS crisis, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, are stunning. Although it only has 10 percent of the world's population, sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 80 percent of global AIDS deaths and nearly 70 percent of the world's current HIV/AIDS cases. The African continent is also confronted with an unprecedented number of orphaned children from AIDS.

At the committee's March hearing, Mary Fisher, the founder of the Family AIDS Network, who eloquently addressed the Republican Convention in 1992, testified about her recent trip to Africa. She told the committee that what dominates the African landscape is orphans, acres of orphans; orphans raising orphans because there is no one else left to do it. Tough children take to the streets. Weak children die of starvation. Many just sit, docile and sick, a vast human ocean of orphans, mostly infected and doomed.

While Africa is the current epicenter of the disease, it is moving towards Asia and nothing would be a greater mistake than to think that oceans are boundaries capable of containing the spread of diseases of this nature. At this time, for instance, there is an alarming increase in the HIV/AIDS infection rate in the Caribbean and in parts of South and Southeast Asia, as well as the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

As bleak as the global picture is, it nevertheless must be understood that there are prevention and education strategies that are effective against the spread of HIV/AIDS. Statistics from Uganda and Senegal in Africa and from Thailand and Asia demonstrate the positive impact of strong prevention programs. Encouragingly, those strategies can be applied in other countries as well.

The innovative approach outlined in the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act holds out the promise of catalyzing a much stronger global response to the AIDS epidemic. Implicit in approaches involving Bretton Woods institutions is the possibility of attracting additional contributions from other donors, including, as uniquely authorized in this bill, the private sector.

For a modest $100 million per year contribution in the table from the United States, we have the prospect of leveraging multibillion dollar contributions from other public and private donors over the next 5 years.

It is my hope that some of the resources made available in this initiative could be applied to ultimately achieving a desperately-needed medical breakthrough in developing an AIDS vaccine, but until the day that such a vaccine is available, the only vaccine we have is what Dr. Peter Piot of UNAIDS calls a social vaccine, that is education and prevention efforts.

H.R. 3519 is directly targeted at maximizing this social vaccine through education and prevention initiatives.

In conclusion, let me stress that America has a particular obligation to do everything within its power to prevent and ultimately eradicate HIV/AIDS, particularly among those most vulnerable, our children both here and abroad.

□ 1715

Mortality may be a part of the human condition, but all of us have an obligation to put an end to those conditions that precipitate premature death, particularly at very young ages.

For the country that leads the world in wealth and research capacity to abdicate its responsibility to confront forth rightly this biblically proportioned humanitarian crisis would be morally derelict.

I am honored to join my colleagues, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), and the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and so many others in pressing for congressional action in this crisis, and urge my colleagues to give it their support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader.

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the World Bank AIDS trust fund legislation we are considering today. I commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), the authors of this legislation, for their leadership and hard work in not only calling attention to the magnitude of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, but in developing an important initiative that will help address this horrible problem.

I believe that the global HIV/AIDS crisis is the preeminent moral issue of our time. Yet, most Americans do not know very much about the crisis and the devastation that this disease has caused in Sub-Saharan Africa and other nations and continents around the world. In fact, the future of Africa may well be at risk, and the consequences of the failure to act may condemn future generations to a deadly cycle of poverty and chronic illness.

It is simply impossible to imagine lasting political or social progress in Africa without forcefully addressing the increasing toll that this disease is exacting on her people. Most of us who live in nations with high standards of living cannot become complacent about our success and good fortune, and ignore the millions of fellow human beings whose struggle to achieve political, economic, and social progress is in such jeopardy. We have to significantly increase the efforts we have made to date if we are to succeed in helping other peoples curb the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

So we must increase international funding for vaccine research, for efforts to stop the spread of the HIV virus, and for the care of those already infected. We must also address the crushing debt problem with which too many of the poorest nations in the world are saddled.

I commend the administration for its efforts in these areas, and fully support its budget request, which calls for much needed increases in next year's funding.

Because our response must be multifaceted, the World Bank trust fund that would be established by the Leach-Lee legislation will play a very important part, as well, by bringing together multinational, private sector, and nongovernmental resources to fight HIV/AIDS.

I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important initiative. Again, I commend the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for a job well done.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. LAFALCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3519 is a bill which can mean life instead of death for millions of people. H.R. 3519 primes a pump of worldwide resources to fight one of mankind's deadliest enemies, AIDS.

The Acquired Immune Defense Syndrome is sweeping our planet. It is striking us without discrimination as to age, gender, income, race, religion, or nationality. Our Surgeon General has estimated that this will soon be the worst plague to strike mankind in all recorded history, worse than the bubonic plague of the 1300s, worse than the worldwide influenza epidemic of the early 1900s; worse than any other illness in the history of the world.

So a broad, a global, a coordinated defense against this scourge must come. It has been unmercifully slow in coming. However, it is coming, and this bill is a very major part of it.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3519 is aimed at inclusiveness in the HIV/AIDS battle. Our Treasury Secretary is directed to initiate negotiations within the World Bank, its members, and other interested parties to create a trust fund to receive resources from any entity to combat HIV and AIDS through grants.

The bill as amended today authorizes a U.S. contribution of $100 million to the AIDS-targeted trust for each fiscal year from 2001 to 2005. We know our contribution will be leveraged many fold by additional contributions from such an open community of donors. A figure of at least $1 billion per annum is possible.

Secondly, our bill, entitled the ''World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act,'' is very flexible. Trust fund resources can be deployed globally. This is not merely a reaction to a crisis in Africa or the growing threat in Eastern Europe. The transborder character of AIDS is fully recognized.

Further, no single line of attack is elevated over another. There will be no priority given a prevention over a cure or a cure over a prevention.

The findings of our Committee on Banking and Financial Services fully demonstrate that we cannot delay. Thousands, tens of thousands, are infected daily. Until AIDS can be brought to heel globally, no matter what the success of steps to stem it domestically might be, the virus will threaten us. Even now it is believed incidence of strains largely found outside the United States, and having different characteristics from our predominant strain B are rising domestically. This bill is a highly productive path for a global counterattack. I urge its unanimous passage.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in strong support of H.R. 3519, which addresses the urgent need for global resources by leveraging the U.S. contribution to a World Bank AIDS trust fund of $100 million annually over the next 5 years to mobilize potentially more than $1 billion a year from other governmental and private sector donors for grants to operations working to combat, to eradicate, and to mitigate the impact of the AIDS virus throughout the world.

I want to commend the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), the distinguished chairman of our Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. LEE), for sponsoring this important measure.

Mr. Speaker, the AIDS pandemic may soon become the most deadly infectious disease in modern times, eclipsing the influenza epidemic earlier this century that caused some 20 million deaths worldwide.

Recent estimates place the AIDS death toll at over 16 million people and rising. Over 33 million people are living with this disease, and most of these infected live in the developing world. Therefore, until this terrible disease is eradicated, our efforts to promote economic development and democratic practices are going to be impeded as the meager resources of these infected developing societies are drained by this terrible scourge.

Sub-Saharan Africa has been particularly hard hit. This bill encourages prompt action in that region of the world. However, no area of the world has been spared the ravages of this deadly disease. It is rapidly spreading today in Asia and throughout the Pacific Rim at an alarming pace.

As this disease continues to spread, the international health economic and security implications are very serious and require the unique leadership of our Nation. The Committee on International Relations will be holding hearings soon to identify ways in addition to this measure in which our Nation can effectively combat AIDS and other infectious diseases that are not only a human tragedy of immeasurable proportions, but also pose a threat to the health and well-being of the American people.

In our own State of New York, the spread of the West Nile virus epidemic last year is a testament to the need to remain vigilant about the global threads of AIDS and all other infectious diseases.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join in strong support of H.R. 3519 so that our Nation can lead the world community in seeking more private and public contributions to combat the deadly AIDS virus. Not only is it in our national interest to do so, but it is the right thing to do so.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), the principal coauthor of this bill.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express strong support for the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, H.R. 3519.

First, I would like to thank the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) for his wisdom and commitment to ensure that Congress is on the right side of history and that we address this pandemic in a bipartisan fashion.

Also, I would like to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader, the ranking member, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN), and the Congressional Black Caucus, especially the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), for demonstrating leadership in moving this issue forward in the spirit of bipartisanship and cooperation.

Finally, I also would like to acknowledge the contributions of my predecessor and dear friend, Mr. Ron Dellums, for remaining committed to the fight as a public citizen, and raising

consciousness throughout the world regarding this pandemic.

The World Health Organization has proclaimed that HIV/AIDS is the world's deadliest disease. It has ravaged Sub-Saharan Africa, claiming 13.7 million lives. Today, 23.3 million adults and children are living with HIV and AIDS. AIDS is decimating the continent and leaving behind millions of orphans in its wake. By the year 2010, the number of orphans in Africa will equal the number of children in America's public schools.

An estimated 6,000 people die in Africa every day due to AIDS. Since I introduced my original bill last August, H.R. 2765, of which most provisions are retained in this bill, 1.8 million people have perished. The survival of a continent is at stake.

This is not only a humanitarian crisis, it is an emerging economic catastrophe. Teachers are disappearing from classrooms. Skilled workers are vanishing from production plants.

Over the past year, our Nation's moral compass has pointed us in the direction that guides us now to address the AIDS crisis globally and most profoundly in Africa. However, I remind Members again that the AIDS crisis in Africa is only the epicenter. The Caribbean, Asia, India, Latin America, and the Balkans are only ticking time bombs. In our own country, people of color are being disproportionately hit by HIV and AIDS.

The Clinton administration has rightfully recognized AIDS as a national security threat and has issued an executive order to provide access to HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and medical technologies. This is a step in the right direction. The President has also issued a statement of administration policy in support of the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the Statement of Administration Policy issued by the Executive Office of the President.

The document referred to is as follows:

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 3519—WORLD BANK AIDS MARSHALL PLAN TRUST FUND ACT

The Administration strongly supports the passage of H.R. 3519, which would increase international efforts to combat the global spread of HIV/AIDS, and agrees with its sponsors that there is a critical need for new sources of funding in order to combat this growing pandemic effectively. The President's FY 2001 Budget requests a $100 million increase for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and related activities, bringing the total HIV/AIDS funding (exclusive of research) in FY 2001 to $342 million. The current U.S. efforts to combat global HIV/AIDS are by far the largest among bilateral and multilateral donors. In addition, the Administration has proposed a $50 million contribution to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) and new tax credits to help spur the development and distribution of vaccines for HIV/AIDS and other diseases that result in millions of deaths every year in the developing world.

The Administration believes that H.R. 3519 takes an important step towards our common objective of increasing the international effort to combat this pandemic. We believe that additional flexibility in negotiating the exact structure of the multilateral funding mechanism will ensure that this mechanism will best meet the objectives of other donors and the requirements of recipient countries and organizations, and therefore will maximize our ability to increase other donor participation. The Administration looks forward to working with the Congress to address this goal. We also note that H.R. 3519 raises constitutional concerns regarding the President's exclusive authority in foreign affairs to represent, and negotiate on behalf of, the United States.

The Administration remains fully committed to other high priority international initiatives and to the funding levels proposed in the President's Budget for HIV/AIDS programs and other critical components of our existing international affairs budget request. A new multilateral funding mechanism will take time to become operational and effective, and therefore the passage of the President's FY 2001 Budget for HIV/AIDS programs is imperative and will result in immediate assistance in the fight against global HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, AIDS, like all diseases, knows no boundaries. There is no guarantee that the scale of the problem on one continent can be contained in that region. In fact, it is just the opposite.

□ 1730

So I want to leave on one thought. An old Swaziland proverb says, ''There is a poisonous snake in our house. If we do not get it out, it will kill us all.''

Left unaddressed, AIDS will wipe out Africa. Today, as the world watches, Congress must step up to the plate and hit a home run. Vote yes for final passage of H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA), a great friend.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Iowa for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to salute and commend the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for introducing this very important legislation, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, and to the leadership for scheduling it for consideration today. This legislation would provide $500 million over 5 years for HIV and AIDS treatment, prevention, and research, beginning in Africa.

Over the past several months, an incredible amount of attention has been directed to the devastating plight Africans are facing due to the AIDS crisis. More than 11 million Africans have died from AIDS. This represents more than 70 percent of AIDS deaths worldwide.

The spread of AIDS in Africa has increased economic instability, is causing serious food and agricultural destabilization and will result in a severe drop in life expectancy rates.

Thirteen million children have lost one or both of their parents to AIDS, and life expectancy is expected to plummet from 59 years to 45 years between 2005 and 2010.

This bill directs the U.S. Government to seek the establishment of a new AIDS Prevention Trust Fund at the World Bank. The bill authorizes U.S. contributions of $100 million a year for 5 years in the hopes of leveraging that contribution to obtain contributions from other governments as well as private sector companies to reach $1 billion a year. The proceeds of the trust fund would support AIDS education, prevention, treatment, and vaccine development efforts in the world's poorest countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

The United States is uniquely positioned to lead the world in the prevention and eradication of HIV and AIDS. H.R. 3519 responds to this crisis.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for introducing this legislation. I certainly urge support by this House of this legislation.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), ranking member of the Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, the subcommittee with jurisdiction over the World Bank, and one of the chief promoters of this legislation.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) for the time that he has allocated to me today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, and I would like to commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for her leadership on this critical issue.

H.R. 3519 was passed by the Committee on Banking and Financial Services on March 15 by a bipartisan majority. This regulation would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to enter into negotiations with the World Bank for the creation of a World Bank AIDS Trust Fund to provide grants to support HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa and other less developed countries. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill.

However, I must say I am deeply dismayed that the funding authorized by this bill is only half of what had been approved by the Committee on Banking and Financial Services. During the Committee on Banking and Financial Services's consideration of H.R. 3519, I offered an amendment to the bill that increased the amount of funds authorized to be appropriated for payment to the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund from $100 million to $200 million per year.

Although my amendment was passed by the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, the leadership, the Republican leadership, reduced the funding back to only $100 million before bringing the bill to the floor today without any discussion with those of us

who worked so hard to double that amount. This undemocratic reduction was done without a unanimous-consent request, without a rule from the Committee on Rules, without any opportunity for the Members of the House to debate it.

Given the magnitude of HIV/AIDS epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa, this reduction of funding is dangerously unwise. In sub-Saharan Africa, there are over 5,000 AIDS-related funerals every day. Since the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, over 80 percent of all AIDS deaths have occurred in sub-Saharan Africa. By the end of 1999, there were an estimated 23.3 million people in sub-Saharan Africa living with HIV/AIDS. This is 70 percent of the total number of HIV-infected people worldwide.

The National Intelligence Council of the Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA, released a report in January of this year on the threat of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases to our national security.

According to this report, ''Some of the hardest hit countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and possibly later in South and Southeast Asia, will face a demographic upheaval as HIV/AIDS and associated diseases reduce human life expectancy by as much as 30 years and kill as many as a quarter of their populations over a decade or less, producing a huge orphan cohort. Nearly 42 million children in 27 countries will lose one or both parents to AIDS by 2010; 19 of the hardest hit countries will be in sub-Saharan Africa.''

Despite the urgency of this epidemic, Congress has not demonstrated a willingness to commit the resources necessary to stop the spread of this devastating disease.

I am thankful for this $100 million. It should be more. I know that the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) worked very hard on this. To tell my colleagues the truth, because he is so fair all the time, I was a little bit disappointed that this had happened without any discussion, without my knowing and others knowing, who had worked so hard to increase it, that it would come to the floor in this manner.

All we have is $100 million. We do not have the $200 million. Certainly we are not going to turn it down. I support it. I hope we can do better in the future.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) who has quite constructively added some language on best practices techniques from his medical background for this bill. I am very appreciative.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Iowa for yielding me this time. I thank the committee for the manner in which they worked with us.

For $4 a baby, we can prevent HIV infection in Africa, $4. That is all it takes, one dose of nevirapine, and the pregnant woman who has HIV for her child not to become infected. That is the minimal that we can do.

This bill brings forward the first of many challenges that the world is going to face in terms of HIV. About 3 months ago, I met with directors, AIDS directors of 21 African countries and visited with them about what they were doing. My hope is, as we pass this bill and we assess the success that I know that is going to take place in Africa, because we have already seen major changes in two countries, Uganda and Senegal, my hope is that, as we vote for this, that we will apply the same common sense to the AIDS epidemic in America.

See, the same women, African-American women are being unduly hit by this disease. The same children, African-American children in America are five times more likely to contract this disease than a white child. An Hispanic child is three times more likely to contract this disease.

So as we vote to help Africa in this dreaded disease, and this will be great help, it will make a tremendous difference, we will have not ever spent $100 million more effectively than the money that is going to be authorized in this program, please look at how we handle HIV in this country, and let us not let another baby get infected in this country, the wealthiest country in the world. Let us not allow people to continue to be ignorant about HIV and this infection.

I thank the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), chairman, and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), ranking member, for this bill. It has my wholehearted endorsement.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act. I want to commend the bill's prime sponsors, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH), chairman of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for their efforts in bringing this important and vitally needed bill to the floor today.

I want to particularly recognize and thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for her leadership in fighting HIV and AIDS in people of color globally and on all fronts.

Mr. Speaker, the enormity of the deadly impact of AIDS on the people and countries of Africa has been at crisis proportions for a long time and has long called us to act.

Since the onset of the epidemic, more than 11 million Africans have died from AIDS, representing more than 70 percent of AIDS death world wide. Although we have made small steps in the recent past today, we begin to respond more appropriately.

In addition to this measure, I applaud President Clinton for his recognition of AIDS as a national security threat and a doubling of his budget request to prevent the spread of HIV around the world.

The bill before us today will bolster this effort, and that of private pharmaceutical companies such as Glaxo-Welcome, Bristol Myers-Squibb, Boeringher Ingelheim, Hoffman-LaRoche, and Merck & Co., and others who have also pledged to join this effort by helping to ensure that the Federal Government commits to addressing this issue over the next several years.

Out of compassion for our fellow human beings, and in recognition of our compelling economic and humanitarian interests in combatting infectious disease in developing countries around the world, although it falls short of what we had hoped for, I urge my colleagues to support passage of this bill.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I very much thank the gentleman from New York for yielding me this time and for his work on this bill. I especially appreciate the work of the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) who worked so productively, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for whom this has been a priority issue for a long time.

H.R. 3519 has important breakthrough potential to level substantial funding from those who have it to those who do not. The spectrum of urgent needs in Africa from prevention to treatment and research is exhausting to even contemplate. This is why the President has indicated that AIDS worldwide is a national security issue. History, I think, will reveal him to be prescient in his understanding of the implications of the developed Nations in failing to move more rapidly. The Vice President has said the same thing when he made a historic appearance before the UN Security Council.

In this country, we have our own AIDS epidemic of major and tragic proportions in the minority communities. But this epidemic pales beside the plague in Africa that sees 11 million men women and children exposed and become HIV positive every single day. It is decimating an entire generation right at the time when Africa is in the throes of Nation building with democracy finally taking hold in many countries when one needs young educated people most. This funding hastens the time when urgently needed fundings can go directly to where they are most needed.

I congratulate the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for moving us ahead on this urgent issue.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES), a member of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, who has worked very hard on this, too.

(Mrs. JONES of Ohio asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, AIDS is a very important and security issue in our country and across the world. I thank the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), my ranking member, for proceeding on the issue of a Marshall Plan for Africa.

The epidemic and devastating effects of AIDS have impacted our country greater than the deaths attributed to war. The United Nations reported that while war and conflict took about 200,000 people in 1998, AIDS and HIV took about 2.2 million.

I recall, in fact, having had an opportunity to go to an Africa Today conference in Seattle. At that Seattle conference, an epidemiologist testified that there were grandparents in Africa taking care of as many as 25 to 30 of their grandchildren because their children have been devastated by the disease of AIDS.

□ 1745

The United Nations took up the security issue on the issue of AIDS this year when seven of the great leaders from the continent of Africa were there to talk to the United Nations.

I am pleased that my colleagues have supported and presented this issue, and I rise in support of H.R. 3519 and thank my ranking member for the opportunity to be heard.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE) has 2½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) has 6¼ minutes remaining.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, may I ask if the gentleman from Iowa would be willing to share some of his time.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to reserve 3 minutes for myself, but I would be happy to recognize someone on the other side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will be pleased to recognize whomever the gentleman yields to, and for how much time?

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD).

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), the ranking member, for his leadership on this issue, and really thank my dear friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), for her tenacity and her leadership in pushing until this bill came to this floor.

It is so incredibly important that we support this piece of legislation. We have recognized by the statistics that have been presented to us all today how devastating it is in areas of Africa; in fact, all over Africa. It is really seen as a pandemic, and I urge my colleagues, everyone in this House, to support this.

As the cochair of the International HIV/AIDS, I have also seen this devastation now rising in places of India, Central America, Eastern Europe and other places, and we recognize that this disease is seamless. It has no borders. It has no respect for age, ethnicity or anything else. So I urge all my colleagues to look at this bill, vote the bill out, and make sure that we are addressing the most egregious disease that has ever hit the face of this country and the world.

In a bill that I had, Mr. Speaker, I had certain components as prevention, education, and making sure that research as to vaccine was a part of this bill. I am happy that that was inserted into the bill and I urge support.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot speak enough on a bill of this magnitude, on an issue of this magnitude. I am happy that the administration is supporting it, and I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, AIDS is potentially the greatest health catastrophe to humankind. It knows no borders and strikes individuals regardless of age, race, gender, national origin, or social class. More than 16,000,000 men, women and children have died of AIDS. More than 33,600,000 people are living with HIV, and nearly all of them will die of AIDS-related complications within the next two decades. UN–AIDS estimated that there were 5,600,000 newly-infected people with HIV in 1999, including an estimated 2,300,000 women and approximately 570,000 children.

Ninety-five percent of people worldwide living with HIV live in the world's poorest countries. With poor health systems, weak economies, poverty, and limited access to resources, the epidemic will grow even more over the next quarter century without immediate intervention.

There also are potential security implications in poor countries where the increase in HIV-infected military personnel is gradually weakening the capacity of militaries to defend their nations, maintain civil order, and deploy peacekeepers. Child soldiers and girl 'wives', some also HIV-infected, are a byproduct of a dwindling pool of adult recruits. Sustained education, prevention, and treatment programs for military personnel.

Alongside H.R. 3519, I authored this session H.R. 4140, ''The International HIV/AIDS Partnership Prevention Act of 2000'' that addresses the global HIV/AIDS challenge in all world regions. From Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, Eastern and Central Europe and Russia, we must pull together world resources including our own to combat this disease.

Let me close by underscoring the human rights elements to this crisis. In our expedience to overtake this disease and bring education, prevention, and treatment to those infected with HIV/AIDS, we must not overlook their basic human rights.

I hope when this bill comes to Conference Committee that we will assure women, children and men around the world that we care for their human rights as well as their physical well being. I am reminded of the early days of the epidemic here in America when we had to grapple with broad social policy issues like privacy and discrimination.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that when this House passes HIV/AIDS legislation, we will require that any government or organization can receive funds only if the government or organization, as the case may be, certifies that its laws, policies, and practices, as appropriate, do not punish or deny services to victims based on age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, and political status.

If we add this clause to our legislation, we not only will bring physical care and treatment to persons with HIV/AIDS but will also guarantee respect for their human and civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that this bill reflects so many of the issues I raised in H.R. 4140. I hope that this Congress will pass a global HIV/AIDS bill and we will move one step forward toward conquering this disease.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services for yielding me this time, and for his leadership on this very, very important issue. I am very pleased to join him and the distinguished ranking member, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), and thank them for bringing this to the floor.

I want to join them and others in commending my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), for her tremendous and relentless leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, we all know the statistics, and they are staggering. George Bernard Shaw once said, ''The sign of a truly intelligent person is that he or she is swayed by statistics.'' And these statistics, as I say, are not only swaying, they are staggering.

I think it would be interesting for our colleagues to know why this bill is so important and the wisdom of it. And I particularly want to commend the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) for his work on the World Bank Trust Fund aspect of this. So our colleagues know, $100 million a year over 5 years, largely focused on prevention, counseling, testing, treatment and care. They all must be increased dramatically. But the need for education, counseling, and testing is severe. Because of all the numbers we have heard about AIDS in Africa, my understanding is that 95 percent of those who are HIV infected, without the full-blown cases of AIDS, 95 percent of those people do not know that they are HIV infected.

So prevention, prevention, prevention is what we must do. We must prevent people from getting this and prevent them, therefore, from spreading it when they do not even know in 95 percent of the cases that they have it.

The funding provided by the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund will help the nations of sub-Saharan Africa move forward on all of these fronts while strengthening their capacity to provide HIV/AIDS treatments and other health care services that are vital for survival of the millions of Africans who are living with HIV/AIDS.

I support this legislation and commend the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), the three L's, for their hard work on this effort. It is a matter of life and death. Their leadership is to be respected by all of us and their legislation to be supported.

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, when we hear the two words ''bubonic plague,'' we think, very often, of the worst plague that man has known. But that is wrong. That was in the 1300s, but it is not the worst.

When we think of the major plagues of this century and of all time, we think too of the world-wide influenza epidemic that in 2 years killed over 20 million people. That is far more than were killed in World War I and World War II. And yet AIDS is worse than either of those two.

AIDS is a disease of biblical proportions. It requires an immediate response. It requires at the very least the passage of this bill.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this is principally a humanitarian issue. Secondarily, but accurately, as the President has suggested, it is a national security threat. Tertiarily, it is an economic challenge. According to the Global AIDS Policy Coalition at Harvard, AIDS has already cost the world GDP in excess of $500 billion.

I raise this cost issue because frequently, in legislative bodies, we have to consider cost-benefit analysis. It is clear that the cost to eradicate and cure this disease is less than the cost of the disease itself in GDP terms. More importantly, it is far more costly in terms of lost minds and lost souls.

Mr. Speaker, this is the first significant new step emanating from Congress to deal with this disease. The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) has valid concerns about how much we are dedicating to it. Hopefully, this step can be built upon in the future.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and her dedication to this cause. I would also like to thank her predecessor, Ron Dellums, who, as a private citizen, is devoting his life to this challenge. I would be remiss if I also did not thank our staff, Cindy Fogleman, Jamie McCormick, Gary Parker, Jeanne Roslanowick, and Dick Peterson.

Finally, I would suggest that the Congressional leadership is to be congratulated. The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader, has made this a seminal part of his concerns in this Congress. My own leadership, the Speaker, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), and the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), have allowed this bill to come to the floor despite what many consider to have very controversial implications.

I believe, though, despite the controversy, this body is obligated to act, and act in a humanitarian way, and so I urge as strong a vote as possible on this initiative.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my continuing support for H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, is sponsored by the chairman of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services and the gentlewoman from California. I am very proud to be a cosponsor of that bill.

If enacted, H.R. 3519 would create a worldwide trust fund that is admiminstered by the World Bank and funded by governments, the private sector, and international organizations. Nations would be able to receive grants from the trust fund to address the HIV/AIDS crisis. The bill would direct the United States to contribute $100 million a year to the fund for 5 years, the hope being that U.S. contributions would help leverage contributions from others in the private sector and the international community. I must say that, while I am happy this bill seems to have the support necessary for passage, I am extremely disappointed that the amount of annual U.S. contributions to the fund under this bill will be $100 million instead of $200 million, the amount approved by the House Banking Committee.

Although the passage of this bill would be a significant victory in the battle against HIV/AIDS, it is a small drop in a very big bucket. It is estimated that about $10 billion would be needed over the next 5 years, just to fight AIDS in Africa. We must do much more if we want to seriously address the HIV/AIDS epidemic that is killing millions of people worldwide, and the United States has to lead the way. It is in our own best interests to do so, because HIV/AIDS knows no borders and, because it threatens the stability of the world, even more than conventional warfare.

AIDS is claiming more lives than all the armed conflicts in the last century combined. Twelve million men, women, and children in Africa have already died of AIDS. Today in Africa, 5,500 people are buried daily because of AIDS, and that number is expected to more than double. AIDS is the leading cause of death in Africa, but also, and this is very important, among young adult African-American men in the United States as well. It is our problem.

There is no doubt this bill is a necessary move in the right direction. Again, I commend my colleagues for their tireless efforts on this issue, and I urge all members to vote in support of H.R. 3519.

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this legislation, of which I am a co-sponsor. I also want to recognize and honor the original sponsor of this legislation, Chairman JIM LEACH of the House Banking Committee for his leadership in bringing this important issue to the floor today and for that of our colleague Representative BARBARA LEE, who has been the main champion of this critical issue. Working with the Chairman on the House Banking Committee, we were able to approve this bi-partisan legislation out of the full committee in March by a vote of 27 to 4.

Under this bill, the U.S. Treasury Department will negotiate with the World Bank and its members to establish a trust fund to solicit contributions from governments, the private sector and other non-governmental organizations to provide grants to address the global HIV/AIDS epidemic. The grants provided by the trust fund would support measures to implement and establish effective HIV/AIDS prevention measures as well as fund new research and development activities in the countries hardest hit by the epidemic. Participating countries with the highest rates of HIV/AIDS infection rates would receive priority under this legislation, and must agree to implement national strategies to combat HIV/AIDS. For payment to the World Bank HIV/AIDS trust fund, the bill authorizes $100 million in each year from Fiscal Year 2001 through 2005 for a total of $500 million over five years.

Almost 34 million people live with HIV/AIDS, of which about 95 percent live in the developing world. Approximately 16.3 million people have died of HIV/AIDS, with over 80 percent of those deaths occurring in sub-Saharan Africa, which accounts for only 10 percent of the world population. Worldwide, about 5.6 million new infections will occur this year, with an estimated 3.8 million in sub-Saharan Africa—3.8 million people will contract HIV. Every day, 11,000 additional people are infected—1 every 8 seconds. All told, over 34 million people in Africa—double the population of the State of Texas—have been infected with HIV since the epidemic began, and an estimated 13.7 million Africans have lost their lives to AIDS, including 2.2 million who died in 1998.

Each day, AIDS kills 5,500 men, women, and children. By 2005, if policies do not change, the daily death toll will not be 5,500, it will be 13,000—double what it is now—with nearly 5 million AIDS deaths that year alone, according to the White House Office of AIDS Policy. AIDS has surpassed malaria as the leading cause of death in Africa, and it kills many times more people on that continent than war. The overall rate of infection among adults is about 8 percent, compared with a 1.1-percent infection rate worldwide. In some countries of southern Africa, 20 to 30 percent of the adults are infected. AIDS has cut life expectancy by 4 years in Nigeria, 18 years in Kenya, and 26 years in Zimbabwe. AIDS is swelling infant and child mortality rates, reversing the declines that had been occurring in many countries during the 1970s and 1980s. Over 30 percent of all children born to HIV-infected mothers in sub-Saharan Africa will themselves become HIV infected.

There are many explanations for why this epidemic is sweeping across sub-Saharan Africa. Certainly the region's poverty, which has deprived much of Africa from effective systems of health information, health education and health care, bears much of the blame. Sub-Saharan Africa becoming the only region in the world in which women are infected with HIV at a higher rate than men, may also play a role. HIV/AIDS is becoming a major woman's issue. AIDS has largely impacted the heterosexual community in Africa, and it has established itself in such a way that it sweeps across and wipes out entire villages. Because of the region's poverty, all too often treatment of AIDS sufferers with medicines that can result in long-term survival has not been widely used in Africa.

Despite these sobering statistics, there is a bit of good news. Uganda is making significant headway with regard to prevention. Since

1992, the Ugandan government's very frank and high-profile public education efforts have helped to reduce the incidence of HIV infection by more than 15 percent. Thanks to recent medical research, there are now effective drugs that combat HIV/AIDS. For example, some recent pilot projects have had success in reducing mother-to-child transmission by administering the anti-HIV drug AZT, or a less expensive medicine, Nevirapine, during birth and early childhood.

New studies indicate that Nevirapine can reduce the risk of mother-to-child transmission by as much as 80 percent. NVP is given just once to the mother during labor, once to the child within 3 days of birth. Taking three or four pills can mean that a child is prevented from being born with HIV. In fact, for $4 a tablet this drug regime has created an unprecedented opportunity for international cooperation in the fight against AIDS. Currently, however, less than 1 percent of HIV-infected pregnant women have access to interventions to reduce mother-to-child transmission. Administered in a treatment regimen known as HAART—highly active antiretroviral therapy—antiretroviral drugs can allow people living with AIDS to live a largely normal life and use of the drugs can lead to long-term survival rather than early death. Such treatment is proven highly effective in developed countries, including our very own.

But despite these positive signs, there are many fronts on which there has been very little progress. Virtually no one has access to drugs to treat the disease. Prevention is unquestionably the most important element of the equation, but treatment cannot be ignored. Poverty should not be a death sentence—not when the infectious disease that is destroying African society can be treated.

Even beyond the human tragedy, there are vast economic costs to this epidemic. AIDS affects the most productive segment of society. It is turning the future leaders of the region into a generation of orphans. The United States and the other industrialized nations of the world have the power to make these life-savings drugs more affordable and accessible to Africans. If the U.S. and other G–7 nations fail to engage and address this crisis now, I fear we will be forced to address it in more costly terms, both economic and militarily in the future. we turn our backs on Africa, truly, at our own long-term risk.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting this critical legislation to address the global HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 3519 and commend my colleagues, Mr. LEACH of Iowa and Ms. LEE of California, for their initiative in crafting this piece of legislation.

Some 50 million people in developing nations are infected with the HIV virus. Sub-Sahara Africa, a region which I have had the privilege to visit more than once, has been far more affected by AIDS than any other part of the world. According to one report, 23 million adults and children are infected with HIV in that part of the world. They have about 10 percent of the world's population, and 70 percent of the world's HIV-infected people. In the African continent, 13.7 million people have already lost their lives to AIDS, and we shall surely see those numbers increase dramatically unless we step up our efforts to combat this worldwide epidemic.

An epidemic of such Biblical proportions is too overwhelming for just a handful of countries to attack. The AIDS epidemic requires the active involvement of our multilateral institutions, and that is precisely the objective of H.R. 3519. This bill establishes a World Bank Trust Fund to provide international grants to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. The grants would provide significant levels of funding for HIV/AIDS treatment, prevention and research in developing countries.

Recently, the House and Senate sent to the President the African Trade and Opportunity Act. This bill will open new economic opportunities for the continent, provide African countries with greater access to U.S. markets and consequently attract greater foreign investment. Africa needs these investments and market access opportunities to lift up its economy. However, it will never reach the road of economic prosperity as long as the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to subjugate the African people. Until a cure is found, all other issues are of secondary importance.

President Clinton and his administration want to increase resources to fight AIDS abroad in fiscal year 2001. The World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act will help to ensure that the federal government will continue to address this issue over the next several years. The resources supplied by these efforts will go toward distributing medications which can prolong the life of HIV-infected people and improve their quality of life. This is significant when one considers that many African countries have national annual medical budgets of as little as $6 per person. This bill will help these countries set up treatment, prevention and education programs. In return the benefiting countries must agree to implement a national HIV/AIDS program and undertake a commitment to work with multiple partners including those affected by the disease, religious and community leaders, health professionals and other entities.

The bill authorizes $100 million in each of the following five fiscal years through fiscal year 2005. These funds would be authorized in addition to any other funds authorized for multilateral or bilateral programs related to HIV/AIDS or economic development. As a Member of the Appropriations Committee, I want to assure the sponsors of this legislation that I will work with them to obtain a fair share of funding in this year's appropriations cycle.

I join those who urge my colleagues to support this bill. This is timely legislation, and it deserves the approval of this chamber.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I am in support of the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act, H.R. 3519. I have seen first hand the devastation that AIDS has had on Africa, and I firmly believe that the United States and the rest of the developed world must act now to end the suffering and hardship caused by this terrible disease.

I cannot overstate my strong belief that H.R. 3519 is desperately needed legislation, and I am proud to be a cosponsor. Quite simply, passing this bill is the right thing to do. When I recently visited Zimbabwe, Nigeria, and South Africa, I was overwhelmed by the impact that AIDS was having, not only on those inflicted with the disease, but also on the thousands of orphans that the disease creates. In some countries, one-fifth to one-third of the children have already been orphaned by the disease.

The AIDS epidemic presents us with an unprecedented humanitarian challenge. The numbers for Africa are numbing—more than 23 million adults and children currently infected with the virus and, to date, almost 14 million AIDS-related deaths. Infection rates in some countries are in the 20 to 26 percent range.

In light of these statistics, the U.S. Surgeon General warns that AIDS will soon surpass the bubonic plague as the worst epidemic of infectious disease in recorded history. Of the 33.6 million AIDS cases worldwide, 70 percent are in Africa. While I can cite these statistics, it is impossible to find any words to describe the magnitude of the human suffering and what amounts to be the potential destruction of an entire continent, not to mention the harm to those countries beyond Africa's borders.

H.R. 3519's call for an international response to the AIDS crisis in Africa is a reasonable step towards making sure that the people who need our help get it. While the United States alone cannot solve the AIDS crisis, it can provide leadership. Only the coordinated response of the developed world provides hope. In this regard, I was especially pleased to see last week that five of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies have agreed to drastically reduce the price that they charge in the world's poor countries.

However, it is important to understand that the United States and the developed world will never be able to effectively deal with the pandemic without the cooperation of the governments in the countries affected. Of all of the provisions in H.R. 3519, one of its most important provisions is the one that establishes the priority for making trust fund grants. In directing funds to programs in countries at the most risk, the law will factor in a government's level of commitment to combating the AIDS epidemic in determining whether a program should receive trust fund money.

As we have seen in countries such as Uganda and Senegal, active political support at the highest levels of government is essential to making sure the limited funds are not wasted. On this point, I emphasize with what I can only describe at total bewilderment the failure of some African leaders to face the AIDS epidemic. While we can provide financial support, the leadership and will to fight the epidemic must come from within Africa.

Funds are too scarce and the magnitude of what we are facing too great to invest in programs that are destined to fail because they lack the necessary internal support.

In closing, I want to thank Chairman LEACH and Congressman LAFALCE for their leadership on this bill. It is desperately needed, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important bipartisan legislation, which would address one of the greatest crises facing the world today, the tremendous spread of AIDS in Africa.

The AIDS epidemic has ravaged the nations of Africa, with over 23 million people estimated to be living with AIDS today in sub-Saharan Africa alone. Most heartbreaking is the effect this disease has had on the children of that continent. Roughly 8 million children in Africa are orphaned due to AIDS today and this number is expected to reach nearly 40 million in ten years.

The World Bank Trust Fund would harness the power of the world's public and private sectors to combat this devastating situation. This public-private partnership is a great example of the role the United States can play as an international leader in public health. This bill demonstrates that we have the resources and the bill to help those who are suffering with this terrible disease.

Along with the recent steps taken by the Clinton Administration and several major pharmaceutical companies to ensure that affordable treatments are available in Africa, this bill would go a long way toward finally eradicating the spread of AIDS in Africa and bring some relief to a much beleaguered part of the world.

I applaud the efforts of all of those who have worked hard on this bill and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3519, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3519, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 434) ''An Act to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Sahara Africa.''.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE NATION'S LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 501) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Nation's law enforcement officers.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 501

Whereas the Nation's law enforcement officers preserve and protect the safety and well-being of all the citizens of this country;

Whereas approximately 740,000 men and women risk their personal safety every day to fight crime and to safeguard our citizens;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in the Nation's schools and on the Nation's streets, preserving children's right to learn in schools that are free of violence and citizens' right to safe communities;

Whereas 134 peace officers lost their lives in the performance of their duty in 1999 and a total of more than 15,000 have now made that supreme sacrifice;

Whereas on average one officer dies every 54 hours and thousands of officers are assaulted and injured every year; and

Whereas National Police Week 2000—May 14 to 20, 2000—provides an opportunity to honor and recognize the officers who have died in the line of duty and to affirm the Nation's thanks to the officers who put their lives on the line on a daily basis to protect our citizens: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) all peace officers slain in the line of duty and all peace officers who risk their own personal safety and well-being to protect this Nation's citizens should be honored and recognized; and

(2) the President should issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to honor and recognize slain peace officers with appropriate ceremonies and respect and to honor and recognize the sacrifices and risks taken daily by all peace officers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration, House Resolution 501.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Unfortunately, it is often easy to overlook the courageous service of a group of men and women who protect us very close to home here in the United States. Over 700,000 law enforcement officers, serving at every level of government and in communities of every size, stand guard over our lives and our property every single day. These officers patrol our streets, they pursue those who threaten our security, they are just a phone call away.

Today, with the consideration of this resolution, we honor the dedication and devotion of America's law enforcement community. And, in particular, we honor the sacrifice of a specific heroic group of law enforcement officers. We honor those who have given their lives in service to the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, mere words cannot fully express the significance of this sacrifice. How do we adequately express our appreciation for those who are willing to die to protect us and our families? Police officers enjoy life just as much as the rest of us. They long to see their children grow up and be successful and to someday hold their grandchildren, just like all of us do. And yet they are willing to risk all of this, all of their hopes and all of their dreams, for us, to ensure the safety and well-being of our communities.

It is far too easy for us to take for granted their devotion to duty. It is for this reason that we bring H. Res. 501 to the floor today. It is to honor the 134 peace officers who lost their lives in the performance of their duties just last year.

It is also to commemorate the more than 15,000 officers who have made the supreme sacrifice over the course of our Nation's history. The names of these heroes are now enshrined on the Law Enforcement Memorial Wall only a few blocks from this very House Chamber. That wall and this simple resolution are among the many ways that we can encourage all Americans to remember, to never forget the extraordinary service of these extraordinary public servants.

This week, Mr. Speaker, we celebrate Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Week. Earlier today, a ceremony was held on the West Lawn of the Capitol in memory of peace officers killed in the line of duty in 1999. This resolution calls on the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to honor and recognize slain peace officers.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) for introducing this resolution and taking the lead in ensuring that this House expresses its profound appreciation for the commitment and sacrifice of America's law enforcement officers.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased also to rise in support of this resolution, which expresses the sense of the House that law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty should be honored, their dedication and sacrifice recognized, and their service to the Nation remembered.

I want to commend the prime sponsors, my colleagues, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD).

Mr. Speaker, Federal, State and local police officers perform a great service for our communities. All too often they literally are the last thread between us and the forces of violence and chaos. We ask a great deal of the officers who protect us. We ask them to defend our homes and families, to patrol our roads and highways and to bring justice to criminals and murderers who would otherwise wreak havoc in our society. We ask a great deal from these brave officers and they seldom fail us. For this we owe the Nation's police officers our deepest gratitude and our strong support.

President John F. Kennedy once remarked, ''A man does what he must, in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures. And that is the basis of all human morality.'' This quote is truly fitting of our Nation's slain officers, who truly uphold this lofty standard. As responsible defenders of our country, they bravely protect our citizens from mortal danger, and, in some cases, it has cost these noble officers their very lives.

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There are very few communities that have not been touched by the senseless death of a police officer.

Fittingly, I would like to acknowledge the courage and the dedication that these slain officers exemplified throughout their careers. This resolution before us seeks to honor the memories of these brave men who served their country with the utmost dignity.

I strongly believe that whenever an officer is killed in the line of duty, the pall of sorrow falls upon our great Nation.

Today we pause to remember our heroes whose lives were prematurely ended. In 1999, some 151 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty. For instance, Officer Tiffany Hickey, who tragically passed away while attempting to pull over a civilian for speeding and running a red light. All of 20 years old, Officer Hickey was only with the police force for a brief month before she left us. Nevertheless, her passing symbolizes the risk of all of our officers and the risks that they encounter in the service that they provide to our communities.

These stories are repeated here in the Nation's capital and in cities around this Nation. In my own district, although we have been fortunate not to have lost officers in the line of duty in the past year, I pause to recognize Randy Stevens and Steven Hodge, who were killed in recent years and for whom wreaths were laid in the Virgin Islands today.

On behalf of all my colleagues, I commend these and all brave officers for paying the ultimate sacrifice and for their efforts at protecting our communities.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, it is also fitting that as we pause to remember our Nation's fallen officers that we also remember the two Capitol Hill Police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty just last year. Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson protected the very core of our American society and our belief in the preservation of life. We will always remember these brave officers.

In closing, I would like to offer my utmost sympathy and that of my colleagues to the families and friends of our fallen heroes who have gathered today in Washington, D.C., and to the family and friends who were unable to commute as we honor the memories of their loved ones.

Again, I urge my colleagues to continue ensuring the memory of these courageous officers by supporting this House Resolution. God bless them all, and God bless America.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD), and I want to thank him for his leadership in this very important area.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for yielding me the time and for his leadership as subcommittee chairman on this important House resolution.

Madam Speaker, I rise as the proud sponsor, along with my good friend, our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), of this important resolution, H. Res. 501, to honor those brave police officers who have given their lives to keep our communities safe.

Unfortunately, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) is not able to be here today, as a personal tragedy has struck his family. I know the thoughts and prayers of every Member in the House of Representatives are certainly with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) and Laurie and their family.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) was the impetus for this legislation, and he has done absolutely stellar work on behalf of our Nation's law enforcement officers during his time in Congress.

As co-chair, along with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I applaud the courage and dedication to duty of all police and peace officers serving our communities. These officers put their lives on the line for us and our families every single day they put on the badge.

Their courage and sacrifice was demonstrated in a very dramatic way, as the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) just described, during the summer of 1998 when shots rang out not far from this chamber and two brave and loyal U.S. Capitol Police officers lost their lives.

It is fitting that we consider this resolution during National Police Week. Earlier today, thousands of officers gathered on the west front of the Capitol for the 19th Annual Peace Officers' Memorial Service. The names of 134 police and peace officers killed in the line of duty this past year alone have been added to the Law Enforcement Memorial wall, just steps from the Capitol at Judiciary Square.

That is right, Madam Speaker, 134 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 1999; and over 15,000 officers killed since our Nation started keeping records of their deaths.

My home State of Minnesota has lost over 200 police and peace officers over the years. On average, a law enforcement officer in the United States is killed every other day in America. Each year one in nine officers is assaulted and one in 25 is injured while on duty.

These sacrifices are made every day to fight crime and protect our citizens. These law enforcement heroes and their families deserve our deepest gratitude and respect during National Police Week and every other day of the year. We must never forget their sacrifices, including the ultimate sacrifice paid by too many law enforcement officers in the United States. We must work for a day when no more names will be added to the Law Enforcement Memorial and a resolution like this will never be necessary.

Madam Speaker, I urge heartfelt support for this resolution honoring our Nation's fallen law enforcement officers, America's true heroes.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for his leadership.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 501, recognizing our Nation's fallen men and women in blue during Police Memorial Week, a time when our Nation joins families, friends, and colleagues of our Nation's slain peace officers in honoring and remembering their sacrifices.

I commend the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) for introducing this measure.

Madam Speaker, permit me to take this moment to invite our colleagues to join in expressing our condolences to our good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), a long-time supporter of our Nation's police, and to his family and friends for the loss of their son, B.J., this past weekend.

Madam Speaker, since 1789, when Congress first created the first Federal law enforcement officer, the United States Marshal, over 14,000 officers have died in the line of duty, including over 1,000 from the State of New York.

These dedicated heroes must never be forgotten. Their sacrifice must serve as a reminder that the price of a safer Nation has been paid for with the lives of our police officers.

Police Memorial Week is a time for all of us to be reminded that when a police officer is killed, it is not just a community that loses an officer, it is our entire Nation.

Madam Speaker, earlier today it was a privilege for me to be able to join the friends and families of our Nation's slain police officers at the 19th Annual National Police Officers Memorial service outside the Capitol. Moreover, I

had the honor this past Sunday of attending a local police memorial service in Montgomery, New York, in my own district. And I will be joining my constituents in the law enforcement community in New City, New York, later on this week. These ceremonies are symbolic of programs and memorials being conducted throughout our Nation this week.

Accordingly, I would like to take this opportunity to recite the names of those fallen heroes from the State of New York who, in the name of duty, gave their lives over the past year: Sergeant James C. Low, Officer Matthew, Anthony Dziergowski, and Officer Sharyn D. Dover.

I would also like to remember an officer from my Congressional district, Vincent Guidice of Stony Point, who died in the line of duty in the past few years. To our fallen officers, we express our Nation's gratitude. To our fallen men and women in blue, in their spirit, we pledge to continue to fight for those laws that provide our Nation's peace officers with the tools and resources needed to fulfill their mandate in making our communities a safer place in which to live.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for yielding me the time here to speak on this issue.

Madam Speaker, I rise in proud support today of this important bill, a bill introduced by my friend and colleague the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD), along with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK), a bill which will honor and recognize those peace officers slain in the line of duty, as well as all peace officers who risk their own personal safety every day to protect the citizens of the United States.

There are approximately 740,000 sworn law enforcement officers currently serving in the United States. Every day these officers courageously serve and protect the safety and welfare of all Americans. They are motivated by their own personal sense of good will and responsibility and not by a desire for praise, recognition, or glory.

As citizens, we must rely on their dedication, their commitment, and their bravery. Yet, oftentimes we are unaware of the enormous risks that they take every day. Since the first recorded police death in 1794, there have been more than 15,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in the United States.

In the past 10 years alone, over 1,500 law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty. Madam Speaker, that is an average of one death every other day.

The State of Nevada has lost 54 officers over the years. These fallen officers leave behind wives, children, other family members, and friends as a result of their dedication to law enforcement and to the public they serve.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this important bill, which recognizes the risks and sacrifices that our police officers make every day to protect our families and our property and welfare. It is my hope that we honor these men and women not just today, but every day.

Finally, let us never forget these officers who made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives in service to the people of this great Nation.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Madam Speaker, as we rise to recognize and thank the officers who have given their lives in service to this community, I also want to join my colleagues in offering my sincerest condolences to our colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) on the personal tragedy that he and his family have experienced this weekend.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I support this resolution. This resolution expresses the sense of the House that law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty should be honored, their dedication and sacrifice recognized and their service to the nation remembered.

Federal, state, and local police officers perform a great service for our communities. All too often they literally are the last thread between us and the forces of violence and chaos. We ask a great deal of the officers who protect us. We ask them to defend our homes and families; to patrol our roads and highways; and to bring justice to criminals and murderers who would otherwise wreck havoc on our society. We ask a great deal from these brave officers, and they seldom fail us. For this, we owe the nation's police officers our deepest gratitude and our strong support.

President John F. Kennedy once remarked, ''A man does what he must—in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures—and that is the basis of all human morality.'' This quote is truly fitting of our nation's slain officers, who truly uphold this lofty standard. As responsible defenders of our country, they bravely protect our citizens from mortal danger, and in some cases, it has cost these noble officers their very lives. There are very few communities in the United States that have not been touched by the senseless death of a police officer.

Fittingly, I would like to acknowledge the courage and dedication that these slain officers exemplified throughout their careers. This resolution before us seeks to honor the memories of these brave men who served their country with the utmost dignity. I strongly believe that whenever an officer is killed in the line of duty, the pall of sorrow falls upon our great Nation.

Today, we pause to remember our heroes whose lives were prematurely ended. In 1999, some 151 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty. In 1999, this figure included 12 from the state of Texas. These officers (Troy Blando, Tiffany Hickey, Larry Jacobs, Clyde Kincaid, Larry Kolb, Terry Miller, Thomas Monse, Jr., Daniel Nagle, Carl Fisher, Luis Tudyk, Mark Stephenson and Leonard Turner) did not pass in vain, but in service to their community and their nation.

For instance, Officer Tiffany Hickey, who tragically died while attempting to pull over a civilian for speeding and running a red light. All of 20 years old, Officer Hickey was only with the Police Force for a brief month before she left us. Nevertheless, her passing symbolizes the risk all of our officers encounter and the service that they provide our communities. In addition, Officer Troy Blando, an undercover police for the Houston Police Department tragically was killed last year. A 19 year veteran of the force, Officer Blando was checking out a suspected car thief when he was gunned downed while seated in his vehicle. Sadly, his family and friends will mark May 19, 2000 as the anniversary of his passing. On behalf of the 18th Congressional District, the city of Houston and our nation, I commend these brave officers for paying the ultimate sacrifice and for their efforts at protecting our communities.

In addition, Madam Speaker, it is also fitting that as we pause to remember our nation's fallen officers, that we also remember the two Capitol Hill Police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty just last year. Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson protected the very core of our American society, and our belief in the preservation of life. I will forever remember these brave officers.

In closing, I wish to offer my utmost sympathy to the families and friends of our fallen heroes who have gathered today in Washington, D.C., and to the family and friends who were unable to commute as we honor the memories of their loved ones. Again, I urge my colleagues to continue ensuring the memory of these courageous officers by supporting this House resolution. God bless you all and God Bless America.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution honoring our nation's local, state and federal law enforcement officers during Police Week 2000. This weekend, I had the honor of speaking before the Justices of the Peace and Constables Association of South Texas quarterly meeting in Floresville, Texas. We cannot thank our constables enough for the sacrifices they make and the work they do each day to make our communities and homes as safe as can be. These are everyday family men, who get up each morning or leave their homes each night to serve and protect. Each shift, they face an unknown and potentially dangerous situation, whether they are patrolling, serving notice, or responding to call for help. I salute our constables and J.P.'s who maintain a continual and visible presence in our communities, particularly in rural areas, where city and state police coverage is less apparent.

Of course, this tribute for Police Week 2000, which this year began on May 14 and will continue until May 20, applies to all levels of law enforcement, and I extend my comments to include all police officers, sheriffs and deputies, troopers and federal law enforcement officers. Peace officers from differing jurisdictions and levels of government have proven time and again that they can work well effectively and get the job done. I applaud officers of all stripes for the hard work and sacrifices they make throughout the country.

At this time, I would also like to draw attention to the two tragedies involving law enforcement officers which have befallen South Texas

in the past year. On October 12, 1999, in the town of Pleasanton in Atascosa County, Texas, three brave officers of the law fell in the line of duty. Atascosa Sheriff's deputies, Thomas Monse and Mark Stephenson, along with Texas state trooper Terry Miller were all gunned down in an ambush by a lone gunman.

Officer Miller, the first Texas trooper who had been killed since 1994 and the 74th trooper killed in the line of duty, left behind a wife and two children, ages 13 and 22 months. Officer Monse, a former Bexar County deputy, left behind a wife and four children. Officer Stephenson, who also served our nation in the military for seven years, left behind a wife and three children.

In addition to those who paid with their lives, Atascosa County deputy Carl Fisher and Pleasanton police officer Luis Tudyk, were wounded while carrying out their duty.

The other tragedy, in San Antonio, was much more recent. Oscar Perez, a young San Antonio Police Officer was killed on Friday, March 24, 2000 as he served a warrant on a drug fugitive. Aged 31 at his death, he left behind a pregnant wife and two young children, ages 5 and sixteen months. As his 6½ year career as a San Antonio police officer came to a tragic and abrupt end, we honor him and the 41 others in the history of the San Antonio Police Departments, serves as a reminder of the unique and fatal risks they all too often must bear.

Our hearts go out to the families of these brave men and all the others who have in earlier years shed their blood so we can live safely and securely. We honor our slain law enforcement officers so that their own children and loved ones will know that we cannot and will not forget, and keep the memory of their service and sacrifice as an on-going inspiration to those who follow.

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I offer my support for this bill, and thank the House of Representatives for hearing this important resolution today.

My colleagues and I join Americans across the country today in honoring those officers who have died in the line of duty, keeping our streets safe. I also want to offer my appreciation to those men and women in our community who walk that thin blue line every day.

As a former law enforcement officer, I have a unique understanding of the everyday dangers and sense of accomplishment that accompanies each officer every day. What people do not understand very often, is that it is the inherent risk of what we might have to do that makes law enforcement so dangerous. We see the best and worst of our fellow human beings. It is not our job to judge them. That task is reserved for 12 people and someone wearing a robe. Our job is merely to treat everyone alike.

Enforcing the law is a hard job. There are detractors everywhere. When people do something wrong, their first instinct is to find fault with the person who catches them. So being the guardian of our laws is never a happy endeavor. But in the end, it is the enormous satisfaction of protecting our neighborhoods and families that makes walking that blue line worth all the danger and criticism. It is the laughter of safe children, or the gratitude of someone whose life or property we protect, that makes doing this job an enormously satisfying endeavor.

There are several South Texans who will be honored this week. Officers who made the supreme sacrifice include: Los Fresnos Police Officer Enrique L. Carrizalez; Department of Public Safety Trooper David Rucker; Border Patrol Agents Susan Lynn Rodriguez and Richardo Guillermo Salinas; and Corpus Christi Police Department Officers Joseph Moon, Juan Prieto, Dan Bock, Roy Smith, John Sartain and Ruben Almanza. A National Police Hall of Fame award will go to Officer Hector Gonzalez, who was shot twice at the scene of a family disturbance; Gonzalez still works for the Los Fresnos Police Department.

Today, let us not forget the sacrifice made on our behalf right here in this building; our own Capitol Police Officers Chestnut and Gibson died defending Members of Congress and the public who populate this building. The House of Representatives joins families and communities across the nation remember those members of the force who are no longer with us, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. For that sacrifice, they and their family have the eternal gratitude of a grateful community and a grateful nation.

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I strongly support this bill. As someone who spent twenty-six and a half years in law enforcement, it is important that we recognize our men and women who stand in the line of fire and protect our cities and communities from crime. These individuals are on the front lines every day maintaining the peace and providing public safety for all Americans.

From our borders to our inner cities, in rural areas and along our coasts, these men and women defend and protect our children, friends, neighbors and family. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

As of late, we have watched with horror as violent and dangerous incidents have taken place around the country and caused concern for all Americans. With multiple shooting at our schools, community centers, in the workplace, and in every part of the country, we have tragically seen innocent victims injured and killed from gunfire.

It is our men and women of law enforcement who step into these dangerous situations and restore the peace, deal with victims and do their best to apprehend those responsible.

Each year, however, we know that some of our local, state, and federal officers are wounded and some make the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit. We can never take their sacrifices for granted, and should never forget their service to our country.

I therefore am proud to support this resolution which designates today as National Peace Officers Memorial Day honoring those peace officers killed in the line of duty.

I therefore support this bill, and ask my colleagues to vote for its passage.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, we have no further requests for time on this side of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Biggert). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Chabot) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 501.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOINT APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 301 of Public Law 104–1, the Chair announces on behalf of the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives and the majority and minority leaders of the United States Senate their joint appointment of Ms. Susan S. Robfogel, New York, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance, to fill the existing vacancy thereon.

There was no objection.

□ 1815

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 491, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4251, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 309, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

NAMING ROOM IN CAPITOL IN HONOR OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE G.V. ''SONNY'' MONTGOMERY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, House Resolution 491.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 491, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 380, nays 0, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 180]

YEAS—380

Aderholt	Baker	Barton
Allen	Baldacci	Bass
Andrews	Baldwin	Bentsen
Archer	Ballenger	Bereuter
Armey	Barcia	Berman
Baca	Barr	Berry
Bachus	Barrett (NE)	Biggert
Baird	Bartlett	Bilbray

Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Fattah
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E.B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lucas (KY)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schakowsky
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Talent
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Weygand
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—54

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Barrett (WI)
Bateman
Becerra
Berkley
Blagojevich
Boucher
Brown (FL)
Buyer
Callahan
Campbell
Capuano
Chenoweth-Hage
Cook
Cooksey
Danner
DeLay
Engel
English
Farr
Forbes
Franks (NJ)
Ganske
Gutierrez
Hansen
Hefley
Hoekstra
Kaptur
Kilpatrick
Kingston
Lowey
Lucas (OK)
McCollum
McIntosh
McNulty
Moakley
Owens
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Rahall
Reynolds
Rothman
Rush
Ryun (KS)
Schaffer
Smith (MI)
Stupak
Thomas
Udall (NM)
Vento
Waxman
Wexler
Wilson

□ 1838

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF NUCLEAR TRANSFERS TO NORTH KOREA ACT OF 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4251, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4251, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 374, nays 6, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 181]

YEAS—374

Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Fattah
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Fowler
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lucas (KY)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schakowsky
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano

Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Talent
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Weygand
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—6

Frank (MA)
Hall (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
LaFalce
Nadler
Obey

NOT VOTING—54

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Barrett (WI)
Bateman
Becerra
Berkley
Blagojevich
Boucher
Brown (FL)
Buyer
Callahan
Campbell
Capuano
Chenoweth-Hage
Cook
Cooksey
Danner
DeLay
Engel
English
Farr
Forbes
Franks (NJ)
Gutierrez
Hansen
Hefley
Hoekstra
Kaptur
Kilpatrick
Kingston
Lowey
Lucas (OK)
McCollum
McIntosh
McNulty
Moakley
Owens
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Rahall
Reynolds
Rothman
Rush
Ryun (KS)
Schaffer
Smith (MI)
Stupak
Thomas
Tiahrt
Udall (NM)
Vento
Waxman
Wexler
Wilson

□ 1847

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 181 I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE STUPAK FAMILY

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ARMEY. Madam Speaker, all of us are so hurt and heartbroken over the loss that BART and Laurie STUPAK had in their family.

I wanted to advise the Members that we will be working with those Members wanting to travel on Wednesday, with the floor schedule, to be sure we accommodate them. I wanted to recommend, Madam Speaker, that the House have a moment of silence on behalf of BART and Laurie and family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The Members will rise for a moment of silence.

(Members observed a moment of silence.)

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IN-SCHOOL PERSONAL SAFETY PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 309.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion of the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 309, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 383, nays 0, not voting 51, as follows:

[Roll No. 182]

YEAS—383

Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Fattah
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E.B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lucas (KY)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schakowsky
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Talent
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Toomey
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Weygand
Whitfield
Wicker
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—51

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Barrett (WI)
Bateman
Becerra
Berkley
Blagojevich
Boucher
Brown (FL)
Buyer
Callahan
Campbell
Capuano
Chenoweth-Hage
Cook
Cooksey
Danner
DeLay
Engel
Farr
Forbes
Franks (NJ)
Gutierrez
Hansen
Hefley
Hoekstra
Kilpatrick
Kingston
Lowey
Lucas (OK)
McCollum
McIntosh
McNulty
Moakley
Owens
Payne
Peterson (PA)
Rahall
Reynolds
Rothman
Rush
Ryun (KS)
Schaffer
Smith (MI)
Stupak
Thomas
Udall (NM)
Vento
Waxman
Wexler
Wilson

□ 1858

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, due to a personal family commitment I was unavoidable detained in Massachusetts today May 15, 2000 and was therefore unable to cast a vote

on rollcall Votes 180, 181 and 182. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall 180, ''nay'' on rollcall 181, and ''yea'' on rollcall 182.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, due to official business in my District, I was unable to record my vote on H.R. 491 (rollcall no. 180), Naming a Room in the House Wing of the Capitol in Honor of G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery, H.R. 4251 (rollcall no. 181), Congressional Oversight of Nuclear Transfers to North Korea, and H. Res. 309 (rollcall no. 182), Sense of Congress With Regard to In-school Personal Safety Education Programs for Children. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on all three bills.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, as I requested a leave of absence for today, May 15, 2000, had I been present on the following rollcall votes I would have voted: H. Res. 491, Naming a Room to the House of Representatives Wing of the Capitol in Honor of G.V. ''Sonny'' Montgomery, ''yea''; H.R. 4251, Congressional Oversight of Nuclear Transfers to North Korea Act, ''yea''; H. Con. Res. 309, In-School Personal Safety Education, ''yea''.

□ 1900

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR H.R. 4392, INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2001

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Madam Speaker, tonight a Dear Colleague letter will be sent to all Members informing them that the Committee on Rules may meet later this week to grant a rule for the consideration of H.R. 4392, the Intelligence Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2001.

The Committee on Rules may grant a rule which would require that amendments be preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. In this case, amendments must be preprinted prior to their consideration on the floor. Amendments should be drafted to the version of the bill reported by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

The language of the committee amendment is now available for Members on request to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The committee report will be filed tomorrow, Tuesday, May 16. Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted, and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE GREATER WASHINGTON SOAP BOX DERBY

Mr. LATOURETTE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 277) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby, with a Senate amendment, and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Senate amendment: Page 3, line 10, after ''sales,'' insert ''advertisements,''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

TURKEY'S REFORM-MINDED GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow in Ankara, Turkey, Judge Ahmet Necdet Sezer will take the oath of office to become president of that vitally important Nation and its 65 million people.

This is truly an historic moment. Judge Sezer is the first president of modern Turkey whose career has been spent neither in the military nor partisan politics. He is a distinguished career jurist who has served on Turkey's constitutional court for the past 12 years. Since 1998 he has been the President of the court, which is the equivalent of our Chief Justice.

Judge Sezer, now President Sezer, has been an outspoken advocate for modernizing Turkey's legal system, for liberalizing the country's constitution, for reforming their laws regarding freedom of expression and dissent, and for providing equal protection for the rights of all Turkish citizens, including the Kurdish minority.

The election of a reformist president in Turkey comes at an extraordinarily opportune moment. It was just 1 year ago that a parliamentary election was held which brought to power a coalition government that pledged itself to enacting major political and economic reforms.

Mr. Speaker, it must be noted emphatically that the government of Turkey has compiled a remarkable record over this past year. It is a record that defies the skepticism of critics and exceeds the hopes of friends.

The Turkish parliament, known as the Grand National Assembly, has passed 69 major initiatives, including constitutional amendments, that hold great promise for the future development of Turkey.

Among the more important legislative changes that have been enacted are reforms to the social security system which will plug holes that had been wasting as much as 3 percent of Turkey's gross national product, strict limits on agricultural subsidies, a restructuring of the banking system, and a modernization of the entire budget process so as to control public spending and reduce deficits.

In a series of overwhelming votes that the Wall Street Journal in August of 1999 has characterized as ''crossing an ideological watershed and a revolutionary change,'' Turkey's parliament enacted three constitutional amendments to open up the country to foreign investment, including international arbitration will be allowed on disputes between Turkey and foreign investors, administrative review of government contracts with foreign investors will be streamlined, and the state will formally recognize the privatization of public assets.

On the political front, the Grand National Assembly has adopted legislation to provide political parties with protection against prosecution, toughen the sentences for convictions of such crimes as obstruction of justice and violations of human rights, extend the constitutional amnesty to Kurdish insurgents who have been trying to establish a separate country, and prohibit military judges from serving in cases that come before the state security court.

All of these moves and many others that I have not even mentioned were rewarded last December when the European Union accepted Turkey as a candidate for membership and the International Monetary Fund approved a 3-year $4 billion loan program to help the Turkish government fight inflation.

With an ambitious privatization program now being implemented and with the government exerting fiscal discipline, Turkey is already ahead of the IMF schedule for both revenue growth and reduction of inflation.

All of this is not to say, Mr. Speaker, that Turkey is without challenges, but it is to say that Turkey has turned a decisive page in its history. Mr. Speaker, I believe the government of Turkey will continue along the path of reform that it has staked out.

There will be critics, of course, but the salient question is simply this: Looking at the explosive region in which Turkey finds itself, how many other countries in that part of the world would America rather rely upon?

Turkey has been a faithful friend and trusted ally of the United States for nearly 50 years, and has been essential to the support of America's strategic regional interests. They have been a great and vital ally in NATO. In a region where most countries are racing to produce nuclear weapons and other

tools of mass destruction, Turkey has repeatedly and publicly foresworn the nuclear option. Turkey is not looking to dominate its neighbors, it is interested only in being a good partner and a force for stability in a region that has known too much instability.

It is my strong belief that America should give Turkey our unswerving support in the future.

SUPPORT OF THE WORLD BANK AIDS MARSHALL PLAN TRUST FUND ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, earlier today we voted on H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act. I am pleased to have supported this important legislation.

I want to commend its authors, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for their vision and commitment to ending the horrors of HIV/AIDS globally.

I also want to take this moment to thank former representative Ron Dellums, Sandra Thurman, Mel Foote, Jesse Jackson, Senior, and others who have provided leadership efforts to try to combat the problem of AIDS in Africa.

The legislation that we have passed today will provide significant funding over 5 years for HIV/AIDS treatment, prevention, and research in developing nations. The bill establishes a trust fund at the World Bank that has the potential to leverage $1 billion a year from donor nations and the private sector.

We currently face a crisis as it relates to HIV/AIDS globally. Perhaps nowhere is this crisis more evident than on the continent of Africa. More than 16 million people have died from AIDS since the 1980s, 60 percent of them in Sub-Saharan Africa. Not since the Bubonic plague ravaged Europe in the Middle Ages has there been a more devastating disease.

Currently, 23 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa are affected with either HIV or with AIDS, with new infections coming at the rate of 5,000 a day, according to the World Health Organization. In South Africa alone, it is estimated that there are more than 1,500 new HIV infections each day.

Unfortunately, due to our accelerated travel and trade, the pandemic is spreading to Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and India rapidly.

I applaud President Clinton for his courage and vision to declare HIV/AIDS as a national security threat. He realizes that the global spread of HIV/AIDS has the potential to destabilize governments and disrupt trade in free market democracies abroad.

The Congressional Black Caucus 2 years ago urged Secretary Donna Shalala to declare a state of emergency relative to HIV/AIDS in communities of color in America because we realized that this disease destroys our most precious resource, and that is, our people.

Mr. Speaker, as the most developed nation in the world, we have an ongoing obligation and responsibility to share our technology and medical expertise with developing nations. Former President Franklin Roosevelt once said that the test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

Today this Congress took a step to lift the lots of those who have too little. The World Bank AIDS Marshall Trust Fund Plan will help to ensure that the Federal government, our Federal government, commits to addressing this issue over the next several years.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have joined with other Members of this House who took a bold and gigantic step in not only dealing with an issue at the domestic level, but going abroad, understanding that we are a world community. I salute Congress for the action that it took this day.

THE BIASED MEDIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, newspapers, magazines, and nightly news shape the opinions of its readers and viewers. In fact, it has been said that whomever controls multimedia controls our culture.

Unfortunately, more often than not, the media's message is biased, but in few cases has it been as slanted as it has been with the saga of Elian Gonzalez.

April 22nd was the first time in American history that the U.S. Government decided that a custody case should be settled with automatic weapons. Yet, to those who know the biased media, it was no surprise that, according to the Media Research Center, major news outlets such as the New York Times, USA Today, and Newsweek magazine, did not run the photo of a Federal agent seizing Elian with an automatic weapon in hand.

The Media Research Center, which is a media watchdog group which seeks to expose bias and favoritism among multimedia, has compiled an impressive record showing how the national media built the public relations rationale for Elian's eventual return to Cuba, and then justified the government's raid on a private residence to ensure a political victory for the Clinton administration and the Communist regime of Cuba.

In all of the coverage and controversy over the rescue of 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez, the media have taken the stark contrast between American liberty and Cuban tyranny and muddled it to the point that much of the American public could now think that Cuba is no different than the United States, or even that Cuba is better than America.

We would like to think that the Cold War is over, but for the people of Communist Cuba, the Cold War remains. Is it any wonder that after being barraged with liberal arguments, the public told network pollsters that they approved of the violent seizure of Elian?

Analysts from the Media Research Center identified four patterns of distinct liberal media bias:

One, the news media have deliberately undermined the moral legitimacy of Elian's Miami relatives specifically and anti-Communist Cuban Americans in general; two, the news media have consistently praised the actions and achievements of Fidel Castro's Cuba, claimed that it was better for children than America, and played up the paradise that Elian could dwell in among the Communist party elite.

□ 1915

Three, the news media have justified Attorney General Janet Reno's actions and arguments and lamented any resistance and delay in sending Elian back to Cuba.

Four, the news media have dismissed congressional criticism of the INS raid and have branded calls for investigation as unpopular and totally unnecessary.

Analysts concluded that, if the media were interested in a balanced presentation of the Elian controversy, they would have scrutinized the administration more than justified it.

They concluded that the media would have explained the regimented reality of family life in Castro's Cuba.

The Media Research Center states that the media would have balanced the questioning of the motives of Elian's Miami relatives by questioning the motives of the reunification camp and they would have encouraged more discussion and oversight instead of trying to cut it off.

Thomas Jefferson said that ''the advertisement is the most truthful part of a newspaper.'' He may have been correct because, regarding the Elian controversy, it is apparent the media have been more interested in entertainment than in covering the facts.

The media do not tell the American public of the everyday horrors that take place in the homes of 11 million enslaved Cubans, the horrors that take place in the scores of Cubans, like Elian's mother Elisabet Brotons, who was willing to take the risk of their lives to escape.

The media have failed to question why Joan Campbell, posing as a church lady for the National Council of Churches, feverishly raised funds to send a boy back to a country that persecutes religious believers.

Why did the INS send a heavily armed SWAT team to seize Elian in the

name of parental rights, but it has done nothing to reunify another survivor from that ill-fated freedom journey with her beloved 5-year-old daughter in Cuba.

On Tuesday, May 23, at 2:30 p.m., I invite each of my colleagues to come and learn the answers to these questions by attending a special briefing to be held by Brent Bozell, founder of the Media Research Center, who will give a presentation on how the media have distorted the truth regarding the case of Elian Gonzalez.

Come learn the real reason why the Gonzalez family and anticommunist Americans everywhere are valiantly fighting for a fair chance to give Elian in his fair day in court in the United States.

If the fact that blacks and Jews are persecuted in Cuba, that gays and HIV patients are quarantined in concentration camps, and that all Cuban children are stripped from their parents and sent off to forced work camps is news to my colleagues, they can blame the biased media.

Galileo said ''all truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them.''

Mr. Speaker, I hope to see many of our colleagues attempting to unveil the truths about Elian Gonzalez' case by attending next Tuesday's briefing and discovering the truths about this case.

WORLD BANK AIDS MARSHALL PLAN TRUST FUND ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, the House took up the tribute to honoring the Nation's law enforcement officers. I would just like to add my appreciation and recognition of those officers, some of whom lost their lives in my own home town of Houston, Texas. I think the resolution was one of a very important statement to acknowledge the heroes that we meet every day in law enforcement who act to keep our communities safe.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the House addressed the question of world AIDS in H.R. 3519. I rise today to discuss this very important issue.

If we were to take a rollcall of the number of HIV/AIDS cases in sub-Saharan Africa, we would find the country of Botswana and the country of Zambia and the country of South Africa with numbers reaching up into 20 percent of the HIV infected adults in those particular countries.

When I traveled to Africa in the spring of 1999 on the first Presidential mission to the continent on the issue of HIV/AIDS to discover the number of children that will be orphaned by the year 2005, noting that some 40 percent of Africa's children could, in fact, be orphaned because of the devastation of AIDS. This legislation is long in coming.

I am a very proud co-sponsor of this legislation, and I want to salute the gentleman from Iowa (Chairman LEACH) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAFALCE), ranking member, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), the cosponsor and the proponent and mover of this legislation. I am very happy to join her in this effort, and as well, to encourage my colleagues in the Senate and for us ultimately to have this bill before the President of the United States.

As I indicated to my colleagues, the numbers in Zimbabwe are 25.9 percent, Botswana 25.1 percent, Namibia 19.4 percent, and South Africa 12.9 percent. An even more heart-wrenching statistic is that 13 million children have lost one or both of their parents to AIDS. This number is projected to reach 40 million by 2010.

It is interesting to note the many roads we have traveled to try to fight this devastating disease. But the important point is to recognize that we must face this together. This legislation will provide $100 million for prevention and education. This legislation is a start.

We all remember the Marshall Plan that was utilized to rebuild a fallen Europe. There is no more important issue than to rebuild humanity. AIDS is moving its way from the continent of Africa to India to China. This is not a respecter of one's income, of one's background, of the continent that one might live on.

In fact, in Zimbabwe, the life expectancy is only 38.8 years and in Malawi, 34.8 years. We are facing this devastation everywhere we go.

When I traveled to Africa, I went in to visit some of the locales and villages where HIV-infected persons were, living in desolation, alone, and without family support because of the confusion of the disease.

When I visited these bedridden individuals, I saw so many of them suffering, not only from the devastation of AIDS, but they were suffering from tuberculosis. Sometimes they were left to be cared for by children as young as 4 and 6 years old, because other families had already died.

One woman that I spoke to had already lost six members of her family, was HIV-infected herself along with her son. The reason is because she nurtured her husband who died of this disease, and none of the family members would explain what was occurring to him. It is a question of whether they even knew. So of course, she contracted the disease subsequently as well.

I do want to acknowledge as well Congressman Dellums, who formerly was a colleague of ours whose brain child this legislation was. We thank him for his constant persistence and his work with all of us, including the Democratic Caucus, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), the minority leader, the Congressional Black Caucus, all of whom have participated in visitations and in efforts to raise or heighten the sophistication and knowledge about this devastation.

When I was in Africa, I met with Ugandan first lady Janet Museveni, who was leading a campaign to help the orphans who had been victimized by HIV/AIDS, working with grandparents and providing support systems, some of whom have lost all their children, and they are caring for 10, 11, 12, 15 grandchildren.

It is important to recognize that there are things that we could do better in this bill. Frankly, I wish the Feingold and the Feinstein amendments could have been included dealing with prescription drugs.

I hope that, as we look to this bill in the future, even though the President, in his wisdom, ordered an executive order to take Senator FEINSTEIN's amendment and include it as an executive order, I believe that there is more that we could have done.

Let me also say, as I conclude, Mr. Speaker, that I was very gratified when we passed the African Growth and Opportunity Act, a legislation that I had an amendment to ask the private sector to involve themselves in fighting the devastation of AIDS was included.

Might I simply say that this is an important legislative initiative. I support it. I hope that we will see the efforts of this legislation helping to fight the devastation of AIDS.

I thank the Speaker for bringing this important piece of legislation to the Floor this week.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3519, the World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act.

I would like to thank Congressman LEACH for including the core provisions of BARBARA LEE's original bill, H.R. 2765, the AIDS Marshall Plan and Congressman Dellums for his public awareness regarding the importance of this bill.

This bill garners bipartisan support, including the Democratic Caucus and the CBC which both recognize the necessity of HIV/AIDS funding in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. Speaker, I personally saw the devastation that the AIDS epidemic is causing in Africa during a visit with the President during March of 1999. During that trip, I visited places like St. Anthony's Compound in Zambia where grandparents were caring for grandchildren orphaned by AIDS.

In Uganda, the government showed the delegation the impact of AIDS as we met with a grandmother who was caring for 38 of her grandchildren because they were orphaned by her 11 children.

I also met with Ugandan First Lady Janet K. Museveni who is leading the campaign to help orphans as we discussed the fact that over 13 million children have been orphaned because of AIDS.

This trip emphasized to me the dire circumstances existing in Africa today and the obligation countries like the United States have to combat this disease.

The goal of this bill is to create a trust fund administered by the World Bank to combat the AIDS epidemic is long overdue.

By directing the Secretary of Treasury to enter into negotiations with the World Bank and member nations, H.R. 3519 would serve as the impetus for an international response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

This bill would authorize the United States to contribute $200 million a year through fiscal year 2005 to this fund which would provide grants for prevention care programs and partnerships between local governments and the private sector that would lead to education, treatment, research, and affordable drugs.

Organizations like the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) would be recipients of these grants.

By providing grants to organizations like UNAIDS, this bill could help address the ''drug corruption'' in sub-Saharan Africa by requiring that only those countries that eliminate corruption are eligible for trust funds.

Just last week, this Congress passed the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act in which there is a structured framework for this country to use trade and investment as an economic development too throughout Africa and the Caribbean.

Unfortunately, the conference report does not include Senator Feinstein and Feingold's amendment that would have prohibited the Executive Branch from denying African countries to use legal means to improve access to HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals for their citizens. This amendment would have clarified the African Growth and Opportunity Act so that African Governments, in accordance with the World Trade Organizations policies, could exercise flexibility in addressing public health concerns.

Thus, this amendment would simply allow countries to determine the availability of HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals in their countries and provide their people with affordable HIV drugs.

Despite the failure of Senator Feinstein and Feingold's amendment, the White House still recognized the importance of access to drug therapies by issuing an Executive Order just last week Wednesday to provide access to HIV pharmaceuticals and medical technology.

This Executive Order incorporates the language of the Senator Feinstein-Feingold amendment and declares that the United States would not invoke a key clause in U.S. trade law against sub-Saharan African countries concerning the protection of patents on AIDS drugs. Like the Senators' amendments, the Executive Order would instead hold the African countries to the less stringent standard of the WTO on intellectual property protection.

Furthermore, I am pleased the House-Senate conference report includes amendments, which I offered during last year's consideration of the House bill.

The first provision encourages the development of small businesses in sub-Shararan Africa, including the promotion of trade between the small businesses in the United States and sub-Saharan Africa. This is an important victory for small business enterprises in America that are looking to expand remarkable trade opportunities in Africa.

It was once said, ''There is nothing more dangerous than to build a society, with a large segment of people in that society, who feel that they have no stake in it; who feel that they have nothing to lose. People who have a stake in their society, protect that society, but when they don't have it, they unconsciously want to destroy it.'' Although Martin Luther King was not speaking of AIDS, his comment rings true in so many aspects today.

The private sector must take responsibility for the eradication of this disease if these U.S. businesses are going to use African resources for their economic benefit.

Thus, I am pleased that an additional amendment I offered was incorporated into the conference report. This provision encourages U.S. businesses to provide assistance to sub-Saharan African nations to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS and consider the establishment of a Response Fund to coordinate such efforts.

This is important because HIV/AIDS have now been declared a national security threat. My provision reflects a national and international consensus that we must do everything we can to eliminate the HIV/AIDS disease.

Senior Clinton Administration officials clearly express their frustration that by all estimates on HIV/AIDS, that nearly $2 billion is needed to adequately prevent the spread of this disease in Africa per year.

Although, some say this may not be feasible at the moment, and the $200 million a year donation from the U.S. is not either, we no longer can deny that this disease is an epidemic of enormous proportion that can no longer be ignored.

The very fact that the Clinton Administration formally recognized a month ago that the spread of HIV/AIDS in the world today is an international crisis by declaring HIV/AIDS to be a National Security threat is illustrative of the devastating effect of this disease.

It is estimated that 800,000 to 900,000 American are living with HIV and every year another 40,000 become infected. Although newer and effective therapies have led to reductions in the mortality rate of people with HIV/AIDS, the demographics of this epidemic have shifted. Thus, women, young people, and people of color represent an alarming portion of the new cases of HIV/AIDS.

Globally, more than 16 million have died from AIDS Since the 1980's, 80% of them in sub-Saharan Africa.

The creation of a WorldWide trust in which nations would be able to obtain grants to address the needs of HIV/AIDS victims globally is truly needed.

We know that 60% of those that have died from AIDS are in Sub-Saharan Africa.

An even more heart-wrenching statistic is that 13 million children have lost one or both of their parents to AIDS and this number is projected to reach 40 million by 2010.

AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for nearly half of all infectious disease deaths globally.

The percentage of the adult population infected with HIV or suffering from AIDS is alarming. To name a few: In Zimbabwe—25.9%; Botswana—25.1%; Namibia—19.4%; and South Africa—12.9%.

Additionally, in places like Namibia there has been a 44.5% drop in the life expectancy. Now adults in Namibia are only expected to live 38.9 year!

In Zimbabwe, the life expectancy is only 38.8 years and in Malawi, 34.8 years! Not since the bubonic plague of the Middle Ages, has there been a more devastating disease.

Yet, HIV/AIDS is 100% preventable. There is no reason for 2 million to die a year in Sub-Saharan Africa and 4 million to become infected.

The AIDS Marshall plan will help to ensure that the federal government commits to addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic over the next several years.

The survival of Africa is at stake! The United States can and should be the leader in generating a global response to this incredible contagion.

Now is the time to act and I urge my colleagues to support this measure in its entirety.

MANIPULATING INTEREST RATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the national debt is rising at an annual rate of $100 billion per year while the Federal Government's obligation to future generations is rising even faster. Yet, little concern is shown here in Congress as our budgets grow and new programs are added on to old. Ordinary political deception has been replaced with the dangerous notion of invincibleness as Members claim credit for imaginary budgetary surpluses.

The percent of our income that government now takes continues to rise while personal liberty is steadily compromised with each new budget. But the political euphoria associated with the ''New Era'' economy will soon come to an end.

Although many have done well during the last 7 years of economic growth, many middle income families have had to struggle just to keep up. For them, inflation is not dead and the easy fortunes made on Wall Street are as far removed as winning the lottery. When the economy enters into recession, this sense of frustration will spread.

Business cycles are well understood. They are not a natural consequence of capitalism, but instead result from central bank manipulation of credit. This is especially true when the monetary unit is undefinable, as it is in a fiat monetary system such as ours. Therefore, it is correct to blame the Federal Reserve for all depressions, recessions, inflations, and much of the unemployment since 1913. The next downturn, likewise, will be the fault of the Fed.

It is true that the apparent prosperity and the boom part of the cycle are a result of the Federal Reserve credit creation, but the price that must always be paid and the unfairness of inflationism makes it is a dangerous process.

The silly notion that money can be created at will by a printing press or through computer entries is eagerly accepted by the majority as an easy road to riches, while ignoring any need for austerity, hard work, saving, and a truly free market economy. Those who actively endorse this system equate money creation with wealth creation and see it as a panacea for the inherent political difficulty in raising taxes or cutting spending.

A central bank that has no restraints placed on it is always available to the

politicians who spend endlessly for reelection purposes. When the private sector lacks its appetite to lend sufficiently to the government, the Federal Reserve is always available to buy Treasury debt with credit created outside of thin air. At the lightest hint that interest rates are higher than the Fed wants, its purchase of debt keeps interest rates in check; that is, they are kept lower than the market rate. Setting interest rates is an enormous undertaking. It is price fixing and totally foreign to the principle of free market competition.

Since this process is economically stimulating, the politicians, the recipients of government largess, the bankers, and almost everyone enjoys the benefit of what seems to be a gift without cost. But that is a fallacy.

There is always a cost. Artificially low interest rates prompts lower savings, over-capacity expansion, malinvestment, excessive borrowing, speculation, and price increases in various segments of the economy. Since money creation is not wealth creation, it inevitably leads to a lower value for the currency. The inflation always comes to an end with various victims, many of whom never enjoyed the benefits of the credit creation and deficit spending.

This silly notion of money and credit gives rise to the conventional wisdom that once the economy gets really rolling along, it is time for the Fed to stop economic growth. This false assumption is that economic growth causes higher prices and higher labor costs, and these evils must be prevented by tightening credit and raising interest rates.

But these are only the consequences of the previous monetary expansion, and blaming rising prices or higher labor costs is done only to distract from the real culprit, monetary inflation by the Federal Reserve.

In a free market, economic growth would never be considered a negative and purposely discouraged. It is strange that so many established economists and politicians accept the notion of dampening economic growth for this purpose. Economic growth with sound money always lowers prices. It never raises them.

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Deliberately increasing rates actually increases the cost of borrowing for everyone, and yet it is claimed that this is necessary to stop rising cost. Obviously, there is not much to the soundness of central economic planning through monetary policy of this sort.

There are some who see this fallacy and object to deliberately slowing the economy but instead clamor for even more monetary growth to keep interest rates low and the economy booming. But this is just as silly because that leads to even more debasement of the currency, rising prices, and instead of lowering interest rates will, in time, due to inflationary expectation, actually raise rates.

Fine-tuning the economy through monetary manipulation is a dangerous game to play. We are now completing a decade of rapid monetary growth and evidence is now appearing indicating that we will soon start to pay for our profligate ways.

The financial bubble that the Fed manufactured over the past decade or two will burst and the illusion of our great wealth will end. In time, also the illusion of ''surpluses for as far as the eyes can see will end.'' Then the Congress will be forced to take much more seriously the budgetary problems that it pretends do not exist.

PERMANENT TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform my colleagues and those who are listening this evening of the publication of an excellent new report called Made in China, released by Charles Kernaghan, of New York City. This report can be found at web site www.nlcnet.org. It talks about the role of U.S. companies in denying human and worker rights in China.

The report begins, ''For years, and now again with renewed vigor, U.S. companies have claimed that their mere presence in China would help open that society to American values.'' And it talks about ''Recent in-depth investigations,'' conducted by individuals in China, at great risk to themselves, ''of 16 factories in China producing car stereos, bikes, shoes, sneakers, clothing, TVs, hats and bags for some of the largest U.S. companies clearly demonstrate that Wal-Mart, Nike, Huffy and others and their contractors in China continue to systematically violate the most fundamental human and worker rights, while paying subsistence wages.''

The report talks about Kathie Lee handbags being made for Wal-Mart at the Qin Shi factory where 1,000 workers were being held under conditions of indentured servitude in that Communist country forced to work 12-to-14-hour days 7 days a week with only one day off a month while earning an average of 3 cents an hour. However, after months of work, 46 percent of the workers surveyed have earned nothing at all. In fact, they owed money to the company.

This report is absolutely amazing, and I would urge all my colleagues to take a look at the firms mentioned in this book.

I also want to refer this evening to one in particular, Huffy Bicycles, which had been manufactured in my own State of Ohio, where 2,000 people lost their jobs, people who were earning $11 an hour, making a quality product. They were asked by their company to take a $2 an hour wage cut in Salina, Ohio, and they did, earning $9 an hour, because they wanted to keep their jobs. And I might say that Huffy has 80 percent of the U.S. bicycle market. Those jobs were moved to China. They were testing the waters in China. This is even before this proposal here to have permanent normal trade relations with China.

Why should we approve of a system which does the following? Huffy uses a contractor in China, the Taiwanese Zhenzhen Nan Guan Corporation in Bicycle Factory Number 1. There is also a Bicycle Factory Number 2. They assemble these bikes from parts supplied from local materials, from local factories, or from the Fuda Corporation from Taiwan. The workers in this factory work from 8 in the morning until 9:30 or 11:30 at night. They work 7 days a week. They earn 25 cents to 41 cents per hour for a weekly wage of $16.68 for a 66-hour workweek.

Think about that. And if they do not work the mandatory overtime, they are penalized double. They lose $6.02 of their weekly wage, or 2 full days of wage if they refuse to work the overtime.

Not only that, but the quality of the bicycle has gone down. If we go to Kmart, if we go to these retail outlets and we buy a Huffy bike, it still costs $100, but look at the welds. The double welds that used to exist on the fenders, which our workers were very proud of their work in the State of Ohio, they know good metal and they know good quality workmanship, that does not exist any more. The quality of metals has gone down.

And when we try to find if the bearings are good or we try to figure out before we buy it whether the bike is of quality, everything is sprayed with paint now. We really cannot tell the quality of the workmanship until we buy the bicycle. Huffy does not stand for quality any more.

I will never get one of their campaign contributions, but what they did to the workers in Salina, Ohio, to me, is repugnant. And I think to have this kind of indentured servitude, for America to approve anything permanent with China, until we fix situations like this, really undermines the fundamental liberties and principles for which this Nation should stand domestically and internationally.

And let me add a word as a graduate of the University of Michigan. Two weeks ago the University of Michigan Board of Trustees, along with Brown University and the University of Oregon, refused to sign contracts with Nike Corporation, which is also talked about in this excellent report. And they did that because all the university boards of trustees asked to do was that the sports departments not buy sports equipment from sweat shop labor in places like China. Those companies were so angry that they cut off $26 million to the University of Michigan's endowment as well as the University of Oregon and Brown University.

Well, Mr. Speaker, my hat is off to those university boards. The presidents of those universities, including Gordon Gee of Brown University. They did the right thing for the world, the right thing for America. Their moral courage will stand on its own.

HONORING BERT SNYDER FOR HIS COURAGE IN THE FACE OF DANGER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the anniversary of the Columbine shooting has been the focus of media attention the last few years. It has been difficult during this time not to be reminded of the two young men who devastated a small Colorado town and the entire Nation with violence. The picture of these young killers has been ingrained in many of our minds when we think about today's youth. This is an image that the media continues to foster, and one that I personally find unfortunate.

While I recognize that we do live in a violent society, I also note that there are bright young men and women in every Congressional District across this country who are working to become active and productive members of society. Tonight, I am proud to tell my colleagues about one such individual from my district, the Third District of North Carolina.

I recently attended the Annual Recognition Banquet of the East Carolina Council of the Boy Scouts of America. I had the honor of presenting a very special award to a young man whose bravery and courage in the face of danger should serve as an inspiration to us all.

When I presented Bert his award, I could see the justified pride in his parents, Vern and Jessica Snyder's, eyes, as well as in the eyes of his scout leaders and his fellow boy scouts.

Bert Snyder is a student at Rose High School in Greenville, North Carolina. On May 10 of last year Bert and his friend, Rice Godwin, were driving home from school when they encountered a multi-car accident at an intersection near the high school. The two young men stopped their car at a local convenience store and ran to the scene of the accident. It was evident, as they approached the accident, that one of the drivers involved had suffered a severe injury to her arm and her knee. The passenger in the car had sustained a head injury and appeared to be in a state of unconsciousness.

By the time Bert arrived on the scene, as many as 30 people had already gathered, but, Mr. Speaker, nobody was making an effort to assist the victims. Bert stepped in and ordered a fellow student to call 911. He then assisted the female victim by providing comfort and assurance to help prevent her from going into shock. When he noticed that she was losing a significant amount of blood from the injury to her arm, he removed his own shirt and applied pressure to the site. Bert continued his efforts to stop the bleeding even after firemen arrived at the scene. Only when rescue personnel with the EMS unit arrived did Bert break from his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Bert Snyder placed himself in a potentially unknown and threatening situation to help someone in need. When onlookers did not take action, he stepped in and offered reassurance and emergency assistance. Mr. Speaker, I do not know, as an adult, if I would have been prepared enough or secure enough in my abilities to assist in a similar emergency situation with the same confidence and assertiveness as Bert.

As a result of his courage and bravery, Bert was honored with the National Heroism Award at the award ceremony. The award was presented to Bert on the recommendation of the National Court of Honor because he demonstrated heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save a life at risk to self.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor for me to present Bert with this important recognition. It was also a joy to attend the awards banquet and to be reminded of the number of young men and women who are working with organizations like the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to gain the values and leadership skills that will help lead this country into our future. Too often these bright young people do not receive the media attention they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to thank Bert Snyder for his courage and his commitment to his fellow man. Bert exemplifies the young men and women in our society who have the character and leadership skills to lead this country and tomorrow's future.

I want Bert to know how proud I am to have the opportunity to represent him and his family in the House of Representatives and to share his important story with this Nation. Bert Snyder is a member of today's youth who can make us all proud. I applaud his efforts and the efforts of every young person today who is working to make a difference within their communities.

Bert Snyder, America's future is bright because of young people like you throughout this Nation. We thank you for your courage.

PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, listening to my distinguished colleague from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) speaking earlier about the potential permanent normal trade relations vote that we will have on China soon reminded me that any opportunity I get I should come to the floor. And since there is an opportunity now, I thought I should take this 5 minutes.

As my colleagues know, President Clinton has sent a request for Congress asking this Congress to yield permanent normal trade relations with China. He bases that request on a U.S.-China bilateral agreement signed in 1999. He bases that request also on a history of absolutely noncompliance on the part of China of any trade agreements they have ever signed with the U.S., be they trade agreements for market access of U.S. products into China's market, be they trade agreements on intellectual property violations by the Chinese, be they trade agreements on use of prison labor for export, China year in and year out continues to violate these agreements, and now the President has said, the Chinese will honor this one.

Well, they are already backing off this one. In fact, in two areas of agriculture, of particular note I think to this body, the Chinese have a different interpretation. They are famous for reinterpreting treaties and agreements. For example, on the subject of wheat, the U.S. Trade Rep's factsheet says that wheat and grain, therefore, will be allowed into China. The Chinese Trade Rep says, any idea that the grain will enter the country of China is a misunderstanding. Beijing merely conceded a theoretical opportunity.

On the subject of meat, the Trade Rep's factsheet talks about meat and poultry, all forms, being allowed into China. The Chinese Trade Rep says, not so, not quite. He says diplomacy is a way of finding different forms of expression, and to that extent we found new expressions, we were diplomatic, but where there were no material concessions made.

So on the basis of a flimsy 1999 U.S.-China trade agreement, in which, by the way, there was little attention paid, practically none, to enforcement, compliance or implementation, the President is asking this body to surrender to the dictates of the regime in Beijing permanently any leverage that we have on trade and, indeed, human rights and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as well.

Even if we could put aside for a moment, Mr. Speaker, the brutal occupation of Tibet, the ongoing repression of human rights in China, the continuing proliferation of weapons, chemical, biological and nuclear weapons of mass destruction to rogue states, to Pakistan, the ongoing relationship between the Chinese and the Pakistanis in terms of missile technology transfer, same thing with Iran, more recently with Libya, since this 1999 U.S.-China trade agreement they have proliferated to Libya, the administration does not want that known, but it is in the public domain, so in any event, we have many areas of concern. But even if we were to make a determination strictly on

the basis of trade alone, there is no reason for us to permanently surrender our leverage.

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It is as if the U.S. wants to trade with China in the worst possible way, and that is exactly what the President is leading us to do in the worst possible way.

There is a better way. All the President needs to do is send a request to Congress for a special waiver for China to have normal trade relations for one more year, as he does every end of May. There does not even have to be a vote on that. We do not have to have the debate. We do not have to have a vote. No one has to go on record.

In the course of the next year, if the Chinese begin for a change, a drastic change, to start honoring the commitments, they do not have to do everything. In the agreement that would not be possible, but at least to take the initial steps to honor the agreement. Then next year around this time there should be no problem with saying, all right, they honored the commitment on trade, and the WTO is a trade regiment, so on the basis of trade alone, this might work for us.

I do not know why everybody is so afraid to do it in the normal course of events. Because if we believe that China is going to honor the agreement, they should have no problem with that.

The other reason that is important is because China has not even made its agreement with the European Union. And we are not supposed to see this arrangement, we are not supposed to even be voting on this until the Chinese reach an agreement with the other members of the WTO. So, effectively, the President is asking us to vote on something that we do not know what the terms are because they have not negotiated them with the EU yet.

What the President is asking us to do is give privileges to China permanently before they ever have to honor any commitments to the WTO. Indeed, they have not even reached the agreement to join the WTO.

What the President is asking us to do is for each of us to put our good names next to his failed China policy and try to redeem it with this rush to surrender permanently to the dictators in Beijing, thereby squandering our leverage on trade, squandering our leverage on our values, and surrendering our leverage on national security.

So I would hope that our colleagues would pay attention and ask the question, where is the implementation, where is the compliance, where is the enforcement on this, and where are our national values on this?

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION PROPOSING MASSIVE REDUCTION IN STRATEGIC FORCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OSE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I will not take the full hour. But I do rise to discuss a matter of vital importance, following the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), on issues relating to national security.

There are some in both parties who are concerned that, perhaps, we are rushing to try to create a new legacy for this President on foreign policies relative to our policies with China and Russia.

As someone who spends a great deal of time focusing on both of those countries as a senior member of the Committee on Armed Services and Chairman of the Committee on Military Research and Development and co-chairman of the inter-parliamentary dialogue between Russia and the U.S., I am extremely concerned about not just our relationship with China, which I will have more to say later on this week and next week relative to the NTR vote, but specifically to our relationship with Russia.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that the first week of June the President will take an historic trip to Moscow, where he has been asked to address the Duma, which is kind of an historic event, an American President being asked to speak before the lower house of the Russian Parliament.

I applaud the President for going to Moscow. I am concerned, however, that the election of Putin as the new President of Russia saw him take his first trip not to Washington, not to the West. But his first trip, in fact, is to Beijing, where he is, in fact, engaged in a series of high-level meetings with the leadership of China.

In fact, both China and Russia have talked about a new strategic partnership, one that would include China and Russia against the West and, in particular, against the U.S.

Now, it is important that we reach out to this new leader in Russia. I did the day that he was sworn into office on January 11 in a three-page letter that I wrote in Russian to him talking about the need for us to sit down and work together to build, once again, a solid relationship between our two countries.

But I am extremely concerned, Mr. Speaker, about the President's upcoming trip in June; and I want to call my concerns to the attention of our colleagues and to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, it is not that we do not want our President to go to Moscow. We do. And we do want him to discuss issues that are important between our two countries. And, obviously, reducing the threat of the massive buildup of arms that we both engaged in during the Cold War has got to be our top priority.

But, Mr. Speaker, many of us on both sides of the aisle are equally concerned that this President not rush to a quick judgment in our relations with Russia or China that would cause America to, in the end, be more insecure and would cause more destabilizing relations between us and those two nations.

Now, why do I raise these concerns today? Because, Mr. Speaker, last week it was brought to my attention by quiet conversations brought to me from both the Pentagon and the intelligence service that the President had ordered the Pentagon to look at a massive reduction in our strategic forces.

In fact, one individual told me that the President himself had ordered a presidential nuclear initiative that would, in fact, cut our strategic forces by 50 percent and that this initiative would be announced as a part of the President's trip to Moscow.

Now, why is that critically important? Mr. Speaker, as we both know, the strategic stability between us and Russia is based on an outdated theory called ''mutually assured destruction,'' where neither side dares challenge the other for fear of retaliation. We do not have a defensive system to defeat a Russian accidental launch. Although, the Russians do have a defense system around Moscow.

So when we negotiate with the Russians in terms of reducing arms, it is critically important that our Pentagon, that our military leaders, that our strategic thinkers in our Government, not Republican or Democrat thinkers, but career thinkers who are paid to protect America, be consulted in terms of what the final outcome of negotiations should be.

What I heard last week, Mr. Speaker, which was reported in at least three major newspapers in both Chicago, New York, and Washington on Thursday, was that the administration is, in fact, proposing massive reductions in our strategic forces in terms of our relations with Russia.

Now, why am I concerned about that? I do want to see us reduce our strategic forces and our reliance on them, but I want to do it in a logical and methodical manner. This administration, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately does not have a good track record in negotiating treaties that can get the bipartisan support of the Congress. This administration, in fact, has a terrible reputation in terms of our foreign policy in general.

Many of our colleagues talk, for instance, frequently about the President's comments before he went into Kosovo and declared that we would see hundreds of thousands of mass graves from where Milosevic had buried the people he had murdered. Well, after that war was, in fact, wound down this year, we had the CIA before our committee and I asked the CIA how many mass graves did we find. They said well below 10,000; and some of those graves may have actually been wounds inflicted by the allied forces in their attempts to remove Milosevic from power.

So while the President said one thing to get the support of the American people to go into Kosovo, which he promised us would last only a matter of

weeks and which we would win, here we are a year later and Milosevic is still in power. We spent tons of money and, in fact, we have since learned that we probably killed more innocent people with allied bombs than what Milosevic did in his reign of terror. And Milosevic, the war criminal, is still in power and, many would argue, stronger than he was before America and Britain led the NATO allies in a massive deployment in the Kosovo theatre.

Likewise, Mr. Speaker, many of our colleagues feel betrayed by this administration because of the failure of our arms control policies. In fact, in a floor speech 2 years ago, I documented 37 violations of arms control agreements by China and Russia since 1991, cases where we caught the Russians or the Chinese transferring technology illegally to states like Iran, Iraq, Syria, Libya, North Korea, as well as India and Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker, in all of those 37 cases where we had evidence or inclinations that Russia and China had, in fact, violated arms control agreements, this administration imposed the requirement sanctions only two times. Once we caught the Chinese transferring ring magnets to Pakistan for their nuclear program, and once we caught the Chinese transferring M–11 missiles to Pakistan, both of which are violations of arms control agreements. Seventeen times we saw the Russians transferring technology, and 17 times we did nothing about it.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, the Congress became so disenchanted with this administration and so concerned about the flagrant ignorance of violations that were occurring by Russian entities that the Congress did something that many felt we would never do. We passed the Iran Missile Sanctions legislation.

We passed that because Israel, just several years ago, I believe it was in 1998, told us that they had evidence that Russia was cooperating with Iran to build a new class of medium-range missiles, the Shahab 3 and the Shahab 4. These missiles could target most of Europe and all of Israel.

When the Congress heard that the Israelis had evidence, the question to our White House is, well, what are we doing to stop this transfer of technology? As we give Russia a billion dollars a year to assist them in stabilizing their economy, what are we doing to enforce the arms control agreements that require us to take actions against entities in any country that is illegally selling technology to rogue states?

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, the response by the administration when we began to get information from the CIA that Israel was correct that we had evidence that Russia was, in fact, cooperating with Iran, the response of this administration was to make life unbearable for Dr. Gordon Ehlers.

Dr. Gordon Ehlers was the Director of Nonproliferation for the CIA. Instead of being honest and candid with Members of Congress, as Dr. Ehlers was, the administration wanted to keep the evidence that we had of Russian cooperation with Iran quiet. So Dr. Ehlers was, basically, made so uncomfortable that he took early retirement from his job.

The Congress then, in response, introduced bipartisan legislation, the Iran Missile Sanctions bill, endorsed by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), a Republican, and Jane Harman of California. This bill would force the administration to impose the required sanctions on Russia. Immediately it got over 200 cosponsors because Members of Congress were livid that that administration was not enforcing arms control agreements that we and Russia were supposed to abide by.

By November of that year, the House was getting ready to vote on the Iran Missile Sanctions bill. Vice President GORE called 12 of us down to the White House, Mr. Speaker. I was one of those 12 Members called down to the old Executive Office Building. Sitting in the old Executive Office Building with people like John MCCAIN, Senator BOB KERREY, Congressman Lee Hamilton, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), Congresswoman Jane Harman, and Senator CARL LEVIN, we listened to the Vice President tell us that if the Congress passed this legislation, it would be devastating to our relationship with Russia.

When he finished talking to us for about an hour, the Members of Congress that were there from both parties from both Houses said, Mr. Vice President, we understand your concerns. But it is too late. The Congress has lost its confidence in this administration's ability to enforce arms control agreements that we are a party to.

A week after the Vice President called us down, in spite of his objections and the President's objections, the bipartisan Iran Missile Sanctions bill passed the House with 392 votes.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, we do not get those kinds of votes unless Members of Congress on both sides are absolutely upset and feel that this administration is not, in fact, living up to its requirements under our arms control treaties.

Then, Mr. Speaker, we broke for the Christmas and holiday recess and came back in February. The Senate was about to take up the same bill, the Iran Missile Sanctions Act.

The Vice President again called us back to the old Executive Office Building; and there again, the Vice President, with a member of the National Security Council, Jack Karavelli on one side, and the President's security adviser, Leon Furth on the other side, talked to us Democrats and Republicans, Senators and House Members, many of whom had been there for the earlier meeting, and said to the Senators, you cannot pass this bill. If you pass it, you will embarrass the President and you will cause us irreparable harm with the Russian leadership.

Mr. Speaker, for a second time, in spite of the personal pleas of the Vice President and the President, the Senate passed the Iran Missile Sanctions bill with a vote that included 94 Senators voting in the affirmative.

□ 2000

Mr. Speaker, you do not get 94 Senators to vote in unison to embarrass the President unless there are serious concerns about the policies of this administration. And those 94 Senators did exactly that. Mr. Speaker, the bill went to a conference. The President, as he said he would, vetoed the bill that year and we had the votes to override the veto because of a lack of confidence in this administration's policies. In fact, I was in all of those meetings where we discussed bringing the veto override up on the House floor with Speaker Gingrich one month before the Congressional elections that year in 1999.

Mr. Speaker, it was Speaker Newt Gingrich who stopped the veto override from coming up for a vote in the House. It would have passed. We would have had overwhelming numbers of Members on both sides overturning the President's veto, but Republican Newt Gingrich did not want to bring that bill up a month before the Congressional elections. So in this new Congress, without Speaker Gingrich, without Members like Jane Harman, bipartisan Members again reintroduced the Iran missile sanctions bill, and this year, Mr. Speaker, the Iran missile sanctions bill passed the House and the Senate unanimously. This year, Mr. Speaker, the President could not veto the bill because he knew he would be overridden. So what did he do? He did what Bill Clinton does so frequently. He changed his sides, came over in support of the legislation, and signed the bill into law, even though it was a direct slap at this administration and was a direct contradiction to their policies.

Mr. Speaker, that was probably the most clear evidence of the lack of confidence of this Congress in the policies of this administration when it comes to arms control. My most glaring evidence, Mr. Speaker, was when I was in Moscow in 1996 in January, a month after the Washington Post had just reported a front page story that we had evidence that Iraq had received guidance systems from Russia illegally. While I was visiting with our ambassador, Ambassador Pickering in his office in Moscow, I said, ''Mr. Ambassador, what was the response from the Russians when you told them that we caught them illegally transferring guidance systems to Iraq?'' Now, the importance of these systems is that they make their missiles more accurate. As we all know, we lost 31 young Americans in 1991 because of an Iraqi SCUD missile. Any technology that would make those missiles more accurate could endanger the lives of American troops and American allies. The Post reported that we had evidence

that Russia had been helping Iraq with their guidance systems. So when I asked Ambassador Pickering what the response was from the Russian side, he said, ''Congressman, I haven't asked the Russians yet.'' I said, ''Why haven't you asked them, Mr. Ambassador?'' He said, ''Because that's got to come from the White House.''

So I came back to Washington. At the end of January 1996 I wrote to President Clinton a letter saying, Dear Mr. President, we have evidence evidently, according to the Washington Post, that we have caught the Russians illegally transferring guidance systems to Iraq, in violation of the Missile Technology Control Regime, a key arms control agreement. That is a serious violation, Mr. President, and if it is so, what are you doing about it?''

Mr. Speaker, the President wrote me back in April of that year. He said, ''Dear Congressman WELDON, you are right. If the Russians did what the Post said they did, that would be a terribly serious violation of an arms control agreement, and I assure you, if we can prove that the Russians transferred those devices, we will take aggressive action, and we will take the required actions mandated by that arms control treaty.''

Mr. Speaker, little did I know that at that time, agencies of the U.S. Government had well over 100 sets of the Russian guidance systems that we caught being transferred from Russia to Iraq not on one occasion, not twice, but on three separate occasions. We caught the Russians transferring guidance systems to Iraq. In fact, I have a set of these devices that I carry around when I give speeches. Yet this administration did nothing to impose the required sanctions. In fact, Mr. Speaker, when asked by Members of Congress what action we had taken with Russia, the response by the administration was, ''Well, we got assurances from Russia that they'll never do it again.''

Mr. Speaker, because of the continued policy of ignoring Russia's violations, the Congress lost total confidence in this administration on arms control agreements. Mr. Speaker, as an aside, I am convinced that the reason we did not call Russia on those violations was because of our policy of a friendly relationship between Clinton and Yeltsin and therefore our policy in this country was to prevent anything from surfacing that would have embarrassed Boris Yeltsin. In fact, the year of those Iraqi violations was in fact the year that Yeltsin was running for reelection. In my opinion, that is why we never surfaced those clear violations of an arms control agreement.

So, Mr. Speaker, the track record of this administration on arms control is abysmal. Many in this city, including arms control groups, maintain it is one of the worst in the history of this country in terms of letting countries get away with obvious violations of arms control treaties. That is why this administration could not get the votes for the nuclear test ban treaty. That is why this administration could not get the votes for any arms control treaty that it negotiates with any country. That is a sad state of affairs, when the confidence is so low that neither body will support arms control negotiations completed by this administration.

Now, we had a similar occurrence occur, Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago. The administration, after the Senate ratified the START II treaty with Russia, a very important START II treaty, ratified by this country in 1993, the year President Clinton came into office, because the Senate believed START II was important to reduce arms negotiated by former President Bush and before that, former President Reagan. So the Senate approved it. But then the administration did something that caused further erosion in the confidence of the Congress. The administration held negotiations with the Russians in Geneva to amend the ABM Treaty. These negotiations went on for months. They were centered around two specific issues: One was to make the ABM Treaty a multilateral treaty that would not just apply to Russia but would bring in Belarus, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. Now, I could not understand for the life of me why we would want to amend the ABM Treaty to broaden it. The second issue was demarcation, a complicated issue but one that would set up a distinction between a theater missile defense system and a national missile defense system. This distinction would be based on interceptor speed, a very highly scientific development that would differentiate between the two systems. I did not understand the negotiations. Unlike our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, I went to Geneva. I think I am the only Member of Congress from either body who went over there to sit in on the negotiations firsthand. I got the approval of the administration up-front. I sat down at the negotiating table with our chief negotiator Stanley Riveles on my side and I sat across from the chief Russian negotiator, General Koltunov. For 2½ hours I questioned the Russians through General Koltunov about the negotiations going on at Geneva. For instance, Mr. Speaker, I asked Koltunov, ''Why does Russia want to multinationalize or lateralize the ABM Treaty?'' I said, ''General, you are the only country left of the former Soviet Union that has long range missiles. Why do you want to include Ukraine and Kazakhstan and Belarus? They don't have long range missiles. They have all been removed.''

He looked at me and he said, ''Congressman, you're asking that question of the wrong person. We didn't propose multilateralizing the treaty. Your side did.'' Now, for the life of me, Mr. Speaker, I could not understand why we would want to multilateralize the ABM treaty unless there are those in the White House who wanted to make it more difficult to amend the treaty after they left office. If you bring Belarus in, with an unstable leader like Lukashenko, you could have Russia and America agree on an ABM change and have the Russians quietly tell Lukashenko, ''Don't support it,'' and have Belarus be the country that stopped the treaty from being changed. That became a very controversial item of negotiation that this administration agreed to.

Then there was a second item, and that was demarcation. The administration agreed to a number difference between theater and national missile defense systems. I asked General Koltunov, ''Where do these numbers come from, General, how do you determine what is a theater versus a national missile defense system? Where is that line? How do you arrive at it? Is it some theory of physics?''

He said, ''Congressman, these numbers were very carefully negotiated by our military and your military.''

I said, ''Well, General, I don't understand but I think it's ridiculous that we would amend the ABM Treaty to broaden it to include theater missile defense systems when you, Russia, already have some of the world's most capable theater missile defense systems and you're selling them all over the place.''

I came back to Washington not satisfied with what I heard. The administration concluded their negotiations in Geneva, and those two items became known as the protocols. I found out a year later what I think is the reason that these numbers were reached for the demarcation between these systems, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I simply want to compliment him on his fine work and to say that the bill which will be coming forward tomorrow on military construction should I think go a long way towards addressing some of the concerns that my friend has raised.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. I thank my colleague. I thank him for his chairmanship of the Committee on Rules and look forward to his new rule, hopefully tomorrow, on the defense authorization bill for 2001.

Mr. DREIER. We are going to work on that right now.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I read an article in the Tel Aviv newspaper that documented that Russia was trying to sell Israel a brand new defense system called the Antei 2500. I had never heard of this system. I know most of Russia's systems. So I called the CIA. They were not quite sure of it either but they sent an expert over about a month later who was a missile expert for the CIA. He brought in some documents with him. I said, ''Have you ever heard of this new Russian system called the Antei 2500? It is supposed to be fantastic.'' He said, ''Congressman, I know the system.'' He said, ''In fact the Russians have printed documents, marketing brochures,'' and he gave me one. He said, ''This is what they were showing at the Abu

Dhabi air show this year.'' I picked it up and looked at it. There were photographs of this new missile defense system that Russia was in fact trying to sell. I found out they were not just trying to sell it to Israel, they were also offering it to Greece. I read through the brochure. The agent and I, the CIA agent and I had a discussion about the capability. He said, ''It is a very capable system, almost as capable as our PAC–3.'' On the back page of that document, Mr. Speaker, was a summary sheet of all the capabilities of that system. To my amazement, the interceptor speed of that Antei 2500 was right below the threshold of the demarcation that our government got sucked into by the Russians in Geneva. So in effect, Mr. Speaker, that is where the demarcation number came from. In our haste to enter into an agreement with the Russians, we agreed to an artificial number between theater and national missile defense that would let the Russians a year later market a brand new system right below that threshold but would prohibit us from making our systems go beyond that capability.

Mr. Speaker, that is why there is no confidence in this administration's ability to negotiate arms control agreements. It is because this administration has a terrible track record. In fact, Mr. Speaker, today the Iranians are developing the Shahab 4 system which they got help from the Russians on which has a defined capability of at least 2500 kilometers.

□ 2015

If we were to accept the administration's demarcation protocol, we could not improve our systems to defeat the Iranian Shahab-4 system which Russia helped Iran build. That is why this Congress, Mr. Speaker, has no confidence, and that is why I have no confidence in this administration in arms control negotiations.

Now, to add further insult to injury, when the administration finished their negotiations in Geneva and these two protocols were signed by the White House and by the Russian leadership, by law and by the Constitution, the President is required to submit those changes to the treaty to the Senate, because constitutionally the Senate has the role of advise and consent.

Mr. Speaker, that was 3 years ago. For 3 years Senate leadership has been asking the administration to send those two protocols up so the Senate could debate them, and for 3 years the White House has refused to send those two items up. Why? Because they know they could not get them passed, because no Member of the Senate would have confidence in those two items that we negotiated based on the outline I have just provided to our colleagues, so for 3 years the Senate held those protocols back.

Quietly, in getting the Russians to approve START II, the administration gave a wink and a nod to Russia and said, look, instead of us bringing those demarcation items up and those protocols up separately, attach those to START II. So when the Russian Duma ratified the START II treaty three weeks ago, they did not just pass the START II treaty that our Senate ratified in 1993, they added those two protocols on to the START II ratification.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this President knows that this Senate will never approve START II with those two protocols included, so now we have a case where the START II treaty is in jeopardy, and it is in jeopardy again because of the underhanded and deceitful way in which the protocols were not brought before to the Senate or to the House, but rather, forced on the Russian side as a part of the START II final passage.

The President also knows that we have a law on the books that says the President cannot go below a certain threshold of strategic weapons unless START II is fully ratified. START II is not fully ratified, Mr. Speaker, and this President cannot get START II fully ratified under the terms agreed to by the Russians. So if we cannot get START II ratified as agreed to by the Russian side, then how are we ever going to reach below that to a START III level? In fact, Mr. Speaker, in last year's defense bill, we also put a provision in that said, in Section 1201, that not later than September 1, 2000, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services in the Senate and the House, in consultation with the CIA, an assessment of the strategic balance between Russia and the U.S. based on decreasing numbers of strategic weapons.

Mr. Speaker, we have been informed by the Pentagon they have not even completed the assessment for this report. They have not even completed the assessment for the further reductions that would come under START III, and here is President Clinton telling the Pentagon, ''Tell me how I can cut our strategic forces in one-half.''

Mr. Speaker, that is why there is no confidence. There is no confidence because last week when I heard the administration was proposing these changes, I went to see Majority Leader TRENT LOTT. I said, ''Mr. Majority Leader, have you had any consultation with the White House on what is going to be discussed in Moscow in June?'' He said ''none.''

I went to the Speaker, I went to the Majority Leader, I went to the Majority Whip. I went to the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, I went to the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations. I said to all of them, ''Have you been briefed by this administration on what they are going to offer and negotiate with Russia at the summit in June?'' They all said no.

So here we have an administration that has lost the confidence of this Congress on arms control agreements for all the reasons I documented, plus many more, now proposing a major announcement of a reduction with the Russians in Moscow in June. It is not that we do not want to work with the Russians to reduce arms. I want that, Mr. Speaker, and I work at that every day. But, Mr. Speaker, I want those negotiations based on candor, I want them based on fact, I want them based on what the Pentagon feels is within our best security limitations.

I do not want the President going off to Moscow to reverse the legacy of 7½ years of helping to cause Russia to become a failure, a basket case, where in 1992 young Russians were parading in Moscow streets waving American flags, and Boris Yeltsin's first speech was declaring a new strategic relationship between the U.S. and Russia, and, 7 years later, in 1999, having 5,000 Russians stand in front of the American embassy in Moscow throwing bricks and cans of paint at our embassy, and one of Boris Yeltsin's final speeches declaring a new strategic relationship between Russia and China with the U.S. as the enemy.

Now, we cannot blame all of that turnaround on Bill Clinton, but, Mr. Speaker, I can tell you that we have not done well with Russia over the last 8 years, and the level of confidence from both Russia and China is at an all time low. Our concern is that this President, in his rush to repair his tainted foreign policy image, may try to come out with some grandiose scheme that does two things: It puts a new face on the foreign policy legacy of Bill Clinton; and, secondary, it gives Al Gore, who has been trailing in the polls by about 8 or 9 points to Governor Bush, a political issue to run on through the November election.

Mr. Speaker, arms control negotiations with the Russians cannot be based on what is best for a presidential campaign, and they cannot be based on trying to recreate a legacy that does not exist when it comes to foreign policy issues.

Here is my greatest fear, Mr. Speaker; that the President, in a rush to accept the advice of some of his political advisers to have some newly negotiated level of reduction in arms with the Russians, may end up reaching an agreement that the Senate will never ratify, and, therefore, again we will let Russia down, and again the Russians will lose confidence, and they will think that we did it deliberately, that the President went over to Moscow to negotiate something, announced something was potent in front of the entire Duma and the entire country, and then America did not follow through. Why? Not because of any disagreement necessarily with Russia, but because this Congress has no confidence in this administration's arms control track record. In fact, it was not until last year that the administration began to finally impose some limited sanctions on Russian entities that we, in fact, knew were in violation of arms control agreements.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want Russia to succeed, and I work at it every day. I

want them to be a stable friend of ours. Calling violations of arms control agreements into question when Russian entities do things that are wrong is no different than when we accuse a company like Loral or Hughes or some other American firm of illegally selling technology in violation of those same agreements or our own laws. And what we did for 8 years was ignore the violations of Russian entities. We did it because I think we had a failed foreign policy of not wanting to embarrass Russia's leaders. Now we are paying the price for that.

We cannot let in the matter of the last 6 months of this administration a President who, in my opinion, is desperately trying to reverse what will be his legacy of a failed foreign policy, to announce some grandiose plan that is not based on substance and does not have bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, one month ago, Secretary Cohen called six of us from the House over to the Pentagon for a luncheon meeting, three Democrats, three Republicans, and the Secretary had all of his senior staff there, and we talked about where we should go with Russia.

I told the Secretary then our policy with Russia has got to be a bipartisan policy. This administration has lost the confidence of the Congress, and the only way this administration can have any hope of a successful new relationship is to bring in leaders of both parties.

I suggested to Secretary Cohen that he lead a bipartisan delegation to Moscow to meet with Putin's people, with Republicans and Democrats sitting together, to discuss a new relationship. What do we have a month later? This President, without any consultation with the Speaker, without any consultation with the Majority Leader, without any consultation with any Member of Congress, secretly proposing a new deal, one that he could stand up before the cameras, before the Duma, bite his lip and talk about a new relationship in America's and Russia's relations, when he knows full well this Congress just does not trust his ability to negotiate successful treaties that are in America's best interests.

If this President does not take those steps, then it is wrong for him to go to Moscow and lay out a scenario to the Russians that he knows full well this Congress will not support. He may try to give Al Gore a political campaign theme, but that is not going to work, Mr. Speaker, because we caught onto this act in advance.

That is why last week the White House was in a skirmish, because the cat got out of the bag. Members of Congress were aware that there were secret discussions taking place that were leading up to a major announcement by the President in Moscow that would shake America and shake Russia.

Now, Mr. Speaker, thank goodness our leadership has responded. Only Friday Majority Leader TRENT LOTT and Speaker DENNY HASTERT announced that they are forming a bipartisan coalition that will begin to assess our defense posture, but specifically what increased threats might come about by unilateral discussions in our strategic forces.

I called former CIA director, Jim Woolsey, on the phone last Thursday and said, ''Director Woolsey, would you be willing to serve on such a panel?'' He said ''Absolutely.'' People of the caliber of Jim Woolsey and Don Rumsfeld are the kind of people that this Congress has confidence in. When Don Rumsfeld and Jim Woolsey and the other seven Members of the Rumsfeld Commission came back to this Congress two years ago with a report that said the CIA was wrong, the administration was wrong, the threat to our security from countries like Iran and Iraq and China were closer than what they were originally stated to be, the Congress responded with overwhelming bipartisan support.

We now need those same bipartisan people, who are recognized experts on defense and strategic issues, to analyze what would happen if we, in fact, agreed in Moscow to lower the number of strategic weapons and what the onus would be on our side in terms of security risk, because there are many in this country who have argued that to go too low with strategic forces coequally be destabilizing.

So, Mr. Speaker, tonight I am asking our colleagues to begin to ask the questions before President Clinton goes to Moscow. The first question is, Mr. President, why have you not involved the Congress? If you want to succeed, Mr. President, do what we suggested to Secretary Cohen 5 weeks ago; bring a bipartisan delegation together, a delegation that you have called upon when you want support for your initiatives.

I can recall in each of the past 5 years, former administration official Howard Smith calling me each year to deliver Republican votes for the administration's cooperative threat reduction program, and each year we did that. The administration has had a policy of calling us when they want our support for their priorities, but ignoring us when they tread on such delicate issues as arms control treaties and relations.

Nothing could be more devastating to our relationship with Russia than to have a President of the United States go to Moscow, make a grand appearance before the Duma and announce some grand strategy, only to have the Senate say, ''We don't agree, Mr. President. You went too far.''

□ 2030

Right now, that is the way the Senate feels about START II, Mr. Speaker. In the words of senators like JON KYL and JIM INHOFE, Senators on both sides of the aisle have questioned the two protocols that were added to the START II treaty by the Russian side. This administration needs to clear up those two protocols before it attempts to negotiate further reductions in the START III process.

Mr. Speaker, in the end I want us to reach historic new levels in our relationship with the Russians, as Ronald Reagan and George Bush did; but Ronald Reagan and George Bush negotiated with Russia with three basic conditions in mind: Strength, consistency and candor.

For the last 7½ years, Mr. Speaker, we have not seen any of those three positions used in our negotiations with Russia. We have wavered. We have ignored reality. We have pretended things are not what they are and we have allowed Russian entities to get away with deliberate violations of arms control treaties that have undermined the confidence of the Congress in terms of a new treaty we would enter into, and that is a real sorrowful situation.

So I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that this administration and the President and his team would reach out in the last 3 weeks before the Moscow trip to the Congress to bring in Republican and Democrat leaders, to have a full and open debate and dialogue about where we are going with Russia; not to do something in secret, not to have some grand announcement, where he attempts to capture the imagination of the American people to restore a failed foreign policy legacy and not to boost Al Gore's campaign and give him an edge on defense issues.

If the President does not do that, Mr. Speaker, then this Congress will not support anything that the President negotiates and, unfortunately, we will again create more of a lack of confidence on the Russian side as to what our intentions are in our relationship.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I have encouraged the President to move away from the whole theory of mutually assured deterrence where we basically dare each other to attack and build up these large missiles to attack each other and move toward what I call asymmetric deterrence, where we continue to negotiate with the Russians decreases in our offensive weapons but begin to allow in those negotiations strategic defensive systems as well, so that we focus on defending our people as opposed to threatening to attack the other side.

Mr. Speaker, if this President wants to change the legacy that he has made for himself, the best thing he could do would be to go to Moscow with a bipartisan approach. In fact, I would go even one step further, Mr. Speaker. I would implore the President in this, an election year, to invite Governor George Bush and Vice President Al Gore in to let each of them share in any negotiation that takes place in Moscow, because President Clinton is not going to get anything ratified that he does in Moscow, number one, because of the legacy of the failed arms control practices of the past 7½ years but, two, just because of the time involved.

The President will go in June. We will be in session the rest of June and July. We will break in August, come back in September. No arms control agreement has ever been ratified that quickly by a Senate, and the President knows that. So he will not have to get the support of the Congress in the next session. It will be either Al Gore or George W. Bush.

So my advice to the President would be, bring in Republicans and Democrats, Mr. Speaker; have an honest discussion with us about our approach with the Russians; clear up the START II treaty; get rid of those two protocols that were never a part of the START II treaty that the Senate ratified in 1993 and bring in George W. Bush along with Al Gore and involve both of them in any discussions with the Russians, because if the President does not, Mr. Speaker, if he does not do that then we could only read his intent as being purely political; purely political because the President knows that his only attempt would be to, one, change his own legacy and, two, bolster Al Gore's campaign and not to a sincere effort to get this country's legislative bodies to ratify a substantive agreement with Russia, because if that were the case the President would involve this Congress and he would involve George W. Bush in this process before he goes to Moscow.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to convey their concerns, as I will be doing.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4425, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. DREIER (during the special order of Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106–618) on the resolution (H. Res. 502) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4425) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001 and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, a few years back I was privileged, along with my Asian Pacific colleagues on Capitol Hill, to attend a special White House ceremony where President Clinton signed an official proclamation declaring May, this month, as it is true each year, as National Asia Pacific Heritage Month.

Tomorrow, my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD), who is currently the chairman of our Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus, along with our other colleagues, will hold a special order commemorating the month of May which honors Asian Pacific Americans.

I commend and thank the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) for his strong leadership of the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus, which he has brought to the forefront and addressed many of the critical issues facing our Nation.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I will not be able to participate in the special order tomorrow, as I have a prior commitment to give an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month speech at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and then at Fort Hood, Texas, this coming weekend.

On that note, Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where last week I delivered addresses to our service men and women at their Asia Pacific Heritage Month programs.

I certainly want to extend my deepest appreciation to Major General William Boykin of the U.S. Army Special Forces headquarters and Brigadier General Thomas Turner of the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne, both groups at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and also my good friend Major General James Peake, the commanding general at Fort Sam Houston, for their warm and gracious hospitality and the courtesies that were extended to me when I visited them earlier this month.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to be here tonight to share with our great Nation a legacy of those Americans whose roots extend from the soils of nations in the Asia and Pacific region. Mr. Speaker, the Asian Pacific region is a dynamic area of the world where two-thirds of the world's population reside. Our Nation's trade with the Asian Pacific region is almost twice of any other region, including Europe.

I recall Senator DANIEL INOUYE of Hawaii once elaborated or illustrated our trade with the Asian Pacific region and Europe in this fashion, he once made the comment that for every one or single 747 that flies between the Atlantic and the East Coast of our Nation four 747s fly between the Asian and Pacific region to our country.

Asians, or Americans of Asian Pacific descent, over 10.5 million strong, are among the fastest growing demographic groups in the United States today. Over the last decade, the Asian Pacific American community has more than doubled and this rapid growth is expected to continue in the 21st century. By 2050 the Asian Pacific American population is projected to exceed 40 million people.

As many of my colleagues are aware, the immigrants of the Asian Pacific countries are amongst the newest wave to arrive in the United States in recent years. However, they are merely the latest chapter in a long history of Asian Pacific Americans in our Nation.

During this time of celebration, Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that we honor our fellow citizens of Asian Pacific descent both from the past and the present that have blessed and enriched our Nation. I submit that Asian Pacific Americans have certainly been an asset to our country's development and it is most appropriate that our President and the Congress recognize these achievements by establishing a National Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

The peoples of the Asian Pacific have contributed much to America's development. For example, in the fields of sciences and in medicine nothing exemplifies this more than Time Magazine's selection a few years ago of a Chinese American as its Man of the Year, Dr. David Ho, head of the prestigious Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center at New York University Medical School.

Dr. Ho's journey, starting as a 12-year-old immigrant from Taiwan to gracing the cover of Time Magazine, has given hope to millions of people around the world afflicted by the HIV virus. His story is a stirring testament to the significant contributions that Asian Pacific American immigrants have made to our Nation. As one of the foremost AIDS scientists in the world, Dr. Ho pioneered a treatment for the HIV infection with the usage of an anti-viral drug. This has fundamentally changed the approach of combatting AIDS, stated Time Magazine in honoring Dr. Ho. Dr. Ho's work is greatly responsible for containing the AIDS epidemic in America and today less than 1 percent of our citizens are infected.

The rest of the world is not so fortunate, Mr. Speaker. Just recently, the Clinton administration announced that global spread of AIDS has reached catastrophic dimensions that threaten to overwhelm foreign governments, ignite wars and destabilize entire regions of the world. With 16 million dead from AIDS and over 33 million infected worldwide, the AIDS crisis has spread from Africa to South Asia to the former Soviet Union and even Eastern Europe.

The global AIDS pandemic is now so serious that the National Security Council of the United Nations has declared it a national security threat even to our own nation.

Against this backdrop, Dr. Ho's medical research is increasingly front and center stage in the worldwide battle to contain this destructive disease. By restoring hope to millions of patients around the world suffering from this deadly virus, Dr. Ho is a credit to our Nation and the Asian Pacific American community.

Dr. Ho's scientific advances continue a long record of service by other Asian Pacific Americans. For example, in 1899 a Japanese immigrant arrived on the shores of this Nation. After years of study and work, this man, Dr. Hideyo Noguchi, isolated a syphilis

germ leading to a cure for this deadly widespread disease.

For decades, Dr. Makio Murayama conducted vital research in the United States that laid groundwork for combat in sickle-cell anemia.

In 1973, Dr. Leo Esaki, a Japanese American, was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics for his electron tunneling theories, and in engineering few have matched the architectural masterpieces created by the genius of Chinese American I.M. Pey.

In the fields of business and commerce, the names of prominent Asian Pacific American and corporate leaders and legal scholars are too numerous to mention. One need only read our Nation's top periodicals and newspapers to document that Asian Pacific students, both in secondary schools and universities, are among the brightest minds that our Nation has produced.

For example, a recent Stanford graduate, Jerry Yang, a Taiwanese American who cofounded Yahoo, the Internet directory, Yang's Internet company recorded $588 million in sales last year and is valued at over $11 billion today.

Just last week, Mr. Speaker, USA Today announced its top 20 high school students around the Nation, and among the 20 top students that was announced by USA Today, Mr. Speaker, 13 were Asian Pacific Americans.

In the entertainment fields in sports, American martial arts expert Bruce Lee captivated the movie audiences of this Nation destroying the stereotype of that passive, quiet Asian American male.

Worldclass conductor Seiji Ozawa has led the San Francisco and Boston Symphony Orchestras through brilliant performances over the years.

Mr. Speaker, a native Hawaiian by the name of Duke Kahanamoku shocked the world by winning the Olympic Gold Medal for our Nation in swimming 7 decades ago; followed by Dr. Sammy Lee, a Korean American who won the Olympic Gold Medal in high diving.

Then there was Tommy Kono, a Japanese American from the State of Hawaii, also a Gold Olympic Medalist in weightlifting and, yes, perhaps the greatest Olympic high diver ever known to the world, a Samoan Greek American by the name of Greg Louganis, whose record in gold medals and national championships and international tournaments will be in the books for a long, long time to come.

□ 2045

There is Japanese American Kristi Yamaguichi, and Chinese-American Michelle Kwan's enthralling ice skating performances at the Winter Olympics continued the milestone achievements by Asian Pacific Americans.

In professional sports, we have Michael Chang blazing new paths in tennis, and Pacific Islanders Brian Williams and Michael Jones in world rugby, and many others.

Of course, we cannot forget the tens of dozens of Polynesian Americans, like Samoan All-Pro linebacker Junior Seau of the San Diego Chargers, and former All-Pro guard Jesse Sapolu of the San Francisco Forty-Niners, former All-Pro tackle Dan Saleaumua of the Kansas City Chiefs, and All-Pro tackle Luther Ellis of the Detroit Lions, who have made their mark as stars in the National Football League.

Yes, I am also impressed with dot you end, a Vietnamese American who won numerous college awards as a top linebacker, and will expect to play first string this year with the Dallas Cowboys.

In professional boxing, which a fast rising Samoan challenger in heavyweight professional boxer Dat Nguyen, a Vietnamese American, who is now ranked number one in the world heavyweight division by the International Boxing Federation.

USA Today just 2 days ago gave David Tua as ranking number 3 overall in the world, just ahead of Evander Holyfield and Lewis Lennox. It is expected that David Tua will be fighting for the heavyweight title sometime in November of this year.

Mr. Speaker, one of the brightest stars to emerge recently from our community is, yes, none other than Tiger Woods, a professional golfer who has identified himself not only as an African-American but as an Asian American, too, due to his mother being of Thai ancestry.

In routing the field in the Masters Tournament a few years ago, Tiger made history. He continued making history this year by winning 6 PGA golf tournaments in a row, matching the second longest winning streak in history. Before Tiger Woods' career is finished, Mr. Speaker, this American will reinvent the game of golf.

I recall when someone asked Tiger who he was or who he is in an article, he said he is part African-American, he is Native American, he is white, he is Asian American, and that makes him a pure golfer.

Another professional golfer, Mr. Speaker, we must honor is Vijay Singh, originally from the island of Fiji and is now an American resident. This Pacific Islander showed great discipline and tremendous heart in winning this year's Masters Tournament despite grueling weather conditions and competition from the world's best golfers. The win was Vijay's second major victory establishing his place certainly among golf's elite.

We also have Asian Americans who are making their mark, Mr. Speaker, in history, not in our country but even in the Far East. We have Samoan American Salevaa Atisanoe, who only weighs 578 pounds as a former sumo wrestler in Japan for 15 years; a wrestler by the name of Konishiki. He was the first foreigner in Japanese centuries-old sport to break through to the rarefied area of sumo's second-highest rank. Another Samoan/Tongan American, Leitani Peitani, known in Japan as Musashimaru, has now attained the last position in sumo wrestling known as Yokozuna, or grand champion.

Along with him is a native Hawaiian by the name of Chad Rowen, or Akebono as he is known in Japan. He has scaled even greater heights in sumo by attaining the exalted status of grand champion.

Until this Polynesian American arrived on the scene no foreigner had ever been permitted to assume this sacred position, as the Japanese associated the Yokozuna with the essence of Shinto's guardian spirits.

The ascendancy to grand champion sumo status goes to the heart of the Japanese religion and culture, and it is a tremendous achievement by this native Hawaiian and certainly a credit, a tribute to the Asian American community.

Mr. Speaker, in honoring the Asian American Americans that have served to enrich our Nation, I would be remiss as a Vietnam veteran if I do not honor the contributions of the Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. Army's 100th Batallion and 442nd Infantry Combat Group.

History speaks for itself in documenting that none have shed their blood more valiantly for America than the Japanese Americans who served in these units while fighting enemy forces in Europe during World War II.

The records of the 100th Batallion and 442nd Infantry, Mr. Speaker, are without equal. These Japanese American units suffered an unprecedented casualty rate of 314 percent and received over 18,000 individual decorations, many awarded posthumously for bravery and courage in the field of battle.

Mr. Speaker, a total of 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, and 9,480 Purple Hearts were awarded to the Japanese American soldiers who fought in the 100th Batallion and 442nd Infantry.

Given the tremendous sacrifice of life, however, it was highly unusual that only one Medal of Honor was given. Nonetheless, the 442nd Combat Group emerged as the most decorated group unit of its size ever in the history of the United States Army.

President Truman was so moved by their bravery in the field of battle, as well as that of the African-American soldiers and sailors who fought during World War II, that President Truman then issued an executive order to desegregate the Armed Forces.

I am proud to say that we can count Senator DANIEL K. INOUYE, a highly respected Senator, and the late Senator Spark Matsunaga of Hawaii as soldiers who distinguished themselves in battle with the 100th Batallion and 442nd Infantry.

It was while fighting in Italy that Senator INOUYE, then a young lieutenant, was shot in the abdomen and leg and had his arm shattered by a grenade

while advancing alone and personally eliminating three German machine gun nests that had pinned down his platoon. The Senator lost his arm and spent 20 months recovering in Army hospitals before receiving the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest medal for bravery awarded by our Nation.

Last week, Mr. Speaker, Secretary of the Army Lewis Caldera and the Department of Defense announced they have completed a reevaluation of the exceptional heroism displayed by the soldiers of the 100th Batallion and 442nd Infantry. As a result, I am very proud to say that next month, on June 21, in a special White House ceremony, Senator DANIEL INOUYE from Hawaii and 18 of his fellow Japanese American soldiers shall be awarded this Nation's last military decoration, the Medal of Honor.

Additionally, two other soldiers, a Filipino American and a Chinese-Hawaiian American, shall also receive Medals of Honor at the White House ceremony.

For the past 12 years, Mr. Speaker, I have been complaining about this injustice, where anti-Japanese and anti-Asian prejudice prevented these American heroes from being properly recognized. On that point, Mr. Speaker, Senator DANIEL K. AKAKA of Hawaii deserves tremendous credit and our Nation's gratitude for introducing legislation that passed in 1996 which mandated that the Pentagon review and reevaluate the courageous exploits of the soldiers of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Infantry.

Finally, the records are being changed to reflect the legendary bravery of these Asian American warriors, and finally justice is being done. It took 50 years, Mr. Speaker, and today there are only seven survivors out of the 21 Medal of Honor recipients, but this is what makes America a great Nation, Mr. Speaker, I submit. I am pleased to see that this injustice has been corrected.

Mr. Speaker, despite this change where we will now honor 21 Asian Pacific Americans to become recipients of our Nation's highest award in the field of battle, that of the Medal of Honor, there are complaints from some so-called experts that the only reason why we made these changes is because of political pressures, and that it is done because it was politically expedient.

I say to such criticism, they are full of baloney. What I would say is also the word Awaha, in the Hawaiian language, a bunch of hot air.

Let me share with my colleagues and with the American people, Mr. Speaker, why the U.S. Army and the Department of Defense has properly upgraded these Distinguished Service Cross recipients to the Medal of Honor.

For example, Staff Sergeant Rudolph DaVila, of Vista, California, in the Army's breakthrough from a beachhead in Anzaio, Italy, in 1943, he single-handedly saved 130 riflemen from German machine gun fire by silencing several gun positions.

Private Barney Hajiro of Waipahu, Hawaii, charged uphill in eastern France in 1944, where he destroyed two German machine gun nests and killed two snipers, a member of the 442nd Infantry.

Private Mikio Hasemoto, Hawaii-born, killed in action December 1, 1943, in Italy, a member of the 100th Batallion.

Private Joe Hayashi of Pasadena, California, killed in action. He led attacks that took strategic hills near Tendola, Italy, a member of the 442nd.

Private Shizuya Hayashi of Pearl City, Hawaii, charged with his automatic rifle near Cerasuolo, Italy. He killed nearly 20 Germans and took four prisoners, a member of the 100th Batallion.

Second Lieutenant DANIEL INOUYE, now a United States Senator, April, 1945, he destroyed three German machine gun positions, staying on the field to direct his troops, after his right arm was shattered by an enemy grenade, a member of the 442nd Infantry.

Tech. Sergeant Yeiki Kobashigawa of Waianae, near Lanuvio, Italy, where he had a companion, destroyed two German machine gun defense emplacements, a member of the 100th Battalion.

Staff Sergeant Robert Kuroda, a medal awarded posthumously, killed in action in October, 1944, a member of the 442nd Infantry.

Private First Class Kaoru Moto of Makawao, Maui, who died in 1992. Alone, he wiped out a machine gun nest and later crawled 100 yards under fire to capture prisoners, a member of the 100th.

Private First Class Kiyoshi Muranaga, killed in action. His mortar fire forced the Germans to withdraw an 88 millimeter Howitzer threatening his platoon. A shell from a German gun killed him, a member of the 442nd Infantry.

Private Masato Nakae, Hawaii. He died in 1998. When his submachine gun was damaged, he picked up a wounded comrade's rifle to hold off the advancing enemy with rifle grenades. Also throwing hand grenades, he forced an enemy retreat; a member of the 100th Batallion.

Private Shinyei Nakamine of Hawaii, killed in action, age 24, while attacking machine gun nests, a member of the 100th.

Private First Class William Nakamura, killed by a sniper in 1944 in Italy during a bitter firefight in which he pinned down German gunmen to allow his platoon to withdraw, member of the 442nd Infantry.

Private First Class Joe Nishimoto of Fresno, California, killed in action 8 days after the heroism in France for which he is honored. Fiercely attacking alone he forced enemy withdrawal and broke a 3-day stalemate; member of the 442nd Infantry.

Sergeant Alan Ohata of Hawaii, died in 1977. Eight days off the ship, he and a companion advanced through fire and killed at least 51 attacking Germans; a member of the 100th Battalion;.

Tech Sergeant Yukio Okutsu from Hilo, Hawaii, destroyed two machine gun nests, captured a third at Mount Belvedere in Italy; a bullet bounced off his helmet; member of the 442nd Infantry.

Private First Class Frank Ono who died in 1980. In 1944 in Italy he silenced a machine gun, killed a sniper, defended a position with hand grenades, and helped rescue his wounded platoon leader; a member of the 442nd Infantry.

Sergeant Kazuo Otani of Rivers, Arizona, killed in action, multiple acts of bravery while his platoon was pinned down in an open field; a member of the 442nd.

Private George Sakato of Denver, Colorado. His squad was pinned down in France. He led a charge that destroyed a stronghold; a member of the 442nd Infantry.

Tech Sergeant Ted Tanouye, killed in action 2 months after his arrival in Italy. He led men to capture a hill, refused aid for a wound, then led a long-odds night attack to break a 2-day German resistance, member of the 442nd.

And there was Captain Francis Wai, posthumously awarded for his actions of bravery in the fight for freedom in the Philippines.

Mr. Speaker, I do not consider these acts of heroism as politically expedient.

Mr. Speaker, I include these two articles as part of the RECORD, these newspaper articles.

The articles referred to are as follows:

[From the USA Today, May 12, 2000]

21 ON MEDAL OF HONOR LIST

(By Martin Kasindorf)

President Clinton yesterday upgraded the World War II decorations of 21 Asian-American heroes to the coveted Medal of Honor, including at least 10 men from Hawaii.

For ethnic groups whose fighting ability and even patriotism were once doubted by the nation's leaders, the action 55 years after the war is the final stamp of commendation.

Clinton signed documents accepting Pentagon recommendations of higher honors for men who had received the Army's second-highest medal, the Distinguished Service Cross. Seven are still living. Eleven were killed in action.

Nineteen names on the list are those of Japanese Americans who fought in Europe with the racially segregated 442nd Regimental Combat Team or 100th Infantry Battalion. Among those receiving the medal: U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, 75, who lost his right arm in battle as a platoon leader with the 442nd in Italy.

Another medal recipient, Francis Wai, an infantry captain, was of Chinese and Hawaiian ancestry. A UCLA football star before the war, Wai was killed during Gen. Douglas MacArthur's 1944 liberation of the Philippine island of Leyte.

Recipient Rudolph Davila, 84, of Vista, Calif., is of Filipino and Spanish ancestry.

Presentation of the medals at an outdoor White House ceremony on June 21 will bring to 462 the number of Medals of Honor awarded for the highest gallantry in World War II, in which 15 million Americans served in uniform. Only two fighting men of Asian or Pacific island ancestry, Army Pvt. Sadao

Munemori and Sgt. Jose Calugas of the Philippine Scouts, previously had received the blue-ribboned medal for that conflict.

Asian-American veterans say the additional Medals of Honor validate a long drive for justice. Suspecting that wartime prejudice had limited their recognition, veterans of the 442nd and 100th persuaded U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, to sponsor 1996 legislation that ordered a Pentagon search for Medal of Honor candidates among Asian Americans and Pacific islanders.

The law was patterned on an Army study that led to the 1997 award of Medals of Honor to seven black World War II soldiers. No blacks had won the medal during the war because of a biased ''racial climate,'' the Army admitted.

At least four of the Asian Americans named yesterday to receive the Medal of Honor were originally recommended for it by their commanders. They got the Distinguished Service Cross instead.

The Asian-American medal study provoked controversy. When Army historian James McNaughton described the project in 1998 to the Legion of Valor, a group whose members earned the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross and Air Force Cross, he was beset with protests about race-based ''political correctness.''

Former Legion of Valor President Mike Gilroy now says: ''I think there probably would be a concern about it being a politically motivated thing, but it needs to be done.''

The citations of those being upgraded speak of astonishing acts of courage: enemy machine guns and tanks silenced by men who charged at point-blank range; wounded comrades carried to safety through galling fire.

HARD TO BELIEVE

The living recipients, making no claims of past discrimination, were quietly delighted when aides to Army Secretary Louis Caldera phoned them with the news.

''It was hard to believe it,'' Shizuya Hayashi, 82, of Pearl City said. ''During the war, we didn't think about medals. We just wanted to do our job. I was surprised they gave us medals.''

Under Akaka's bill, the Army reconsidered 104 Asian Americans and Pacific islanders who had won the Distinguished Service Cross. The Navy reopened the files of the single Asian American who had won its equivalent medal, the Navy Cross. A Navy decorations board ruled that Cmdr. Gordon Chunghoon didn't merit higher commendation.

Historians at the Army's Presidio of Monterey in California unearthed the old citations of 47 Japanese Americans, one Korean American, one Hawaiian-Chinese America, 54 Filipinos and one Filipino American. Davila, who served in the Third Army in Europe, is the lone Filipino American.

Army lawyers determined that 23 Filipinos who got the Distinguished Service Cross from MacArthur were ineligible by law for the Medal of Honor. They had served in the Philippine Army or constabulary, not the U.S. Army.

But 25 Philippine Scouts, attached to the U.S. Army, were considered for the top-ranking medal. None were recommended for it by the Army's three reviewing boards of senior generals, headed by Gen. Eric Shinseki before he became Army chief of staff in June.

HEAVILY DECORATED UNITS

Their dominant share of the new Medals of Honor won't surprise wartime admirers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Infantry Battalion.

After months of initial suspicion by military leaders, political lobbing by Japanese Americans in Hawaii won the community's young men the right to serve in 1942. The 1,300-member 100th and later the 4,500-member 442nd were organized in Hawaii and fought in France and Italy.

One-third of the units' enlistees volunteered from Mainland relocation camps where 110,000 Japanese Americans had been interned by presidential order. At least four of those named yesterday for the Medal of Honor left the camps to go to war.

The Asian-American units, which were commanded by whites, were thrown into the thickest fighting. Casualties were heavy. Their loss of 650 men killed and 8,836 wounded marked the highest casualty percentage among Army formations.

At the same time, the 442nd and 100th were the most decorated units of their sizes in Army history. A partial medal count, updated yesterday: 20 Medals of honor, 48 distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, 4,000 Bronze Stars, 9,468 Purple Hearts.

[From the Honolulu Advertiser, May 12, 2000]

PERSONAL GLORY WAS NEVER GOAL OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN SOLDIERS

(By Mike Gordon)

They fought for their country. They fought for the honor of Americans of Japanese ancestry. And they fought to win World War II and come home alive.

They never fought for medals.

But now the bravery of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the 100th Infantry Battalion will be rewarded with the Medal of Honor, decades after their battles became the stuff of Army legend.

Now 19 more will forever be tied to the nation's highest honor.

Shizuya Hayashi is 82, and the words and the memories of that long-ago war come in fits and spurts. But in 1943, in Italy, the young private charged a German position and killed 20 enemy soldiers. He also took four prisoners.

Next month the Pearl City resident will be at the White House for the special ceremony. He'll meet a president who wasn't born until after the war.

''It's kind of surprising,'' he said. ''A lot of other boys deserve it, but they're not here. Those days, we didn't think about medals. You were there to do a job. It was something you had to do.

Barney Hajiro fought, too. He helped to rescue the Lost Battalion, a Texas unit trapped behind enemy lines. He was wounded three times.

On Tuesday, he got a telephone call from Washington, informing him of the medal.

''I was thinking a long time ago about this,'' Hajiro said yesterday. ''They turned me down, so I didn't care. Then it came up again, and I said I would accept it for my buddies who died in the war, not for myself.''

U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye also is one of the recipients. Inouye lost an arm during the war.

''I am deeply grateful to my nation for this extraordinary award,'' he said. ''The making of a man involves many mentors. If I did well, much of the credit should go to my parents and the gallant men of my platoon. This is their medal. I will receive it on their behalf.''

Ed Ichiyama, a veteran of the 442nd and one of those who researched old military documents to support the awards, said yesterday that he feels like a new father. He is 76.

''The AJAs left a legacy of valor, loyalty and self-sacrifice,'' he said. ''We like to think we opened the door of opportunity slightly for succeeding generations.''

He, too, plans to be in Washington for the ceremony, proud to honor his comrades living and dead.

''To think these guys, in spite of their fear, did what they did, is simply awesome,'' Ichiyama said, ''I don't know how they generated the courage to do what they did.''

[From the Honolulu Advertiser, May 12, 2000]

MEDAL OF HONOR'S ROSTER OF WARTIME VALOR

These are the World War II winners of the Distinguished Service Cross who were upgraded to the Medal of Honor by President Clinton. In some instances, a more detailed summary of actions was not available. Members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team or 100th Infantry Battalion are noted.

Staff Sgt. Rudolph Davila, 84, of Vista, Calif. In the Army's breakout from a beachhead on Anzio, Italy, in 1943, he single-handedly saved 130 rifleman from German machine-gun fire by silencing several gun positions.

Pvt. Barney Hajiro, 82, of Waipahu. Charging uphill in eastern France in 1944, he destroyed two German machine-gun nests and killed two snipers. 442nd.

Pvt. Mikio Hasemoto, Hawaii-born, killed in action Dec. 1, 1943, at Cerasuolo, Italy. 100th

Pvt. Joe Hayashi, of Pasadena, Calif., killed in action April 22, 1945. He led attacks that took strategic hills near Tendola, Italy. 442nd.

Pvt. Shizuya Hayaski, 82, of Pearl City. In a charge with his automatic rifle near Cerasuolo, Italy, in 1943, he killed nearly 20 Germans and took four prisoners. 100th.

2nd Lt. Daniel Inouye, 75, now a U.S. senator. In April 1945 he destroyed three German machine-gun positions, staying on the field to direct his troops after his right arm was shattered by an enemy grenade. 442nd.

Tech. Sgt. Yieki Kobashigawa, 82, of Waianae. Near Lanuvio, Italy, on June 2, 1944, he and a companion destroyed two German machine-gun defense emplacements. 100th.

Staff Sgt. Robert Kuroda, medal awarded posthumously for actions on Oct. 20, 1944, at Bruyeres, France. 442nd.

Pfc. Kaoru Moto, of Makawao, Maui, who died in 1992. Alone, we wiped out a machine-gun nest and later crawled 100 yards under fire to capture prisoners. 100th.

Pfc. Kiyoshi Muranaga, killed in action June 26, 1944. His mortar fire forced the Germans to withdraw an 88mm howitzer threatening his platoon. A shell from the German gun killed him. 442nd.

Pvt. Masato Nakae, Hawaii. He died in 1998. When his submachine gun was damaged, he picked a wounded comrade's rifle to hold off the advancing enemy with rifle grenades. Also throwing hand grenades, he forced an enemy retreat. 100th.

Pvt. Shinyei Nakamine, of Waianae. Killed in action June 2, 1944, at age 24, while attacking machine-gun nests. 100th.

Pfc. William Nakamura, killed by a sniper on July 4, 1944, at Castellina, Italy, during a bitter firefight in which he pinned down German gunmen to allow his platoon to withdraw. 442nd.

Pfc. Joe Nishimoto, of Fresno, Calif., killed in action eight days after the heroism of La Houssiere, France, for which he is honored. Fiercely attacking alone, he forced enemy withdrawal and broke a three-day stalemate. 442nd

Sgt. Alan Ohata, of Hawaii. He died in 1977. Eight days off the ship to Europe, he and a companion advanced through fire and killed at least 51 attaching Germans. 100th.

Tech. Sgt. Yukio Okutsu, Hilo. He destroyed two machine-gun nests and captured a third at Mount Belvedere, Italy, in April 1945, A bullet bounced off his helmet. 442nd.

Pfc. Frank Ono, who died in 1980. On July 4, 1944, in Castellina. Italy, he silenced a machine gun, killed a sniper, defended a position with hand grenades and helped rescue his wounded platoon leader. 442nd.

Sgt. Kazuo Otani, of Rivers, Ariz, killed in action July 15, 1944, near Pieve di Santa Luce, Italy. For multiple acts of bravery after his platoon was pinned down in an open field. 442nd

Pvt. George Sakota, 79, of Denver. When his squad was pinned down at Biffointaine, France, in October 1944, he led a charge that destroyed a stronghold. 442nd.

Tech. Sgt. Ted Tanouye, killed in action two months after July 1944 heroism in Italy. He led men to capture a hill, refused aid for a wound, then led a long-odds night attack to break a two-day German resistance. 442nd.

Capt. Francis Wai, posthumously, for actions at Leyte, the Philippines, Oct. 20, 1944.

Mr. Speaker, these Asian Pacific Americans paid their dues in blood to protect our Nation from its enemy. It is a shameful black mark on the history of our country when the patriotic survivors of the 100th Batallion and 442nd Infantry returned to the United States, many of these soldiers were reunited with their parents, their brothers and sisters and loved ones who were locked up behind barbed wire fences, living in concentration camps.

Members might be interested to know that our colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. MATSUI) and former Congressman, Mr. Mineta, were children of these concentration camps.

The wholesale and arbitrary abolishment of the constitutional rights of these hypothetical Japanese Americans will forever serve as a reminder and testament that this must never be allowed to occur again, Mr. Speaker.

When this miscarriage of justice unfolded in World War II, Americans of German and Italian ancestry were not similarly jailed en masse. Some declare the incident as an example of outright racism and bigotry in its ugliest form.

After viewing the Holocaust Museum recently in Washington, Mr. Speaker, I understand better why the genocide of some 6 million Jews has prompted the cry, never again, never again. Likewise, I sincerely hope that the mass internments on the basis of race will never again darken the history of this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, to those that say, well, that occurred decades ago, I say, we must continue to be vigilant in guarding against such evil today.

Not long ago we had the case of Bruce Yamashita, a Japanese American from Hawaii who was discharged from Marine Corps officer training program in an ugly display of racial rescission. His superiors taunted him with ethnic slurs and told him, ''We don't want your kind around here. Go back to your own country.''

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The situation was made worse by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, a four star general, who appeared on television's ''Sixty Minutes'' and stated, ''Marine officers who are minorities do not shoot, swim or use compasses as well as white officers.'' The Commandant later apologized for his remarks, but it was a little too late.

After years of perseverance and appeals, Mr. Yamashita was vindicated after proving that he was the target of vicious racial harassment during his officer training program. The Secretary of the Navy's investigation into whether minorities were deliberately discouraged from becoming officers resulted in Bruce Yamashita receiving his commission as a captain in the Marine Corps.

I am also greatly disturbed, Mr. Speaker, by events of recent years involving political campaign funding, where the integrity of the Asian Pacific American community has been unfairly tarnished in the media for political contribution transgressions of a few.

I find this racial scapegoating to be repugnant and morally objectionable. At least I find this quite objectionable, Mr. Speaker. Playing up fears of the Asian connection serves to alienate the Asian Pacific Americans from participating in our political process. Moreover, this negative reporting acts to marginalize Asian Pacific American political empowerment at a time when we are coming of age in American politics.

Perhaps these attacks are a convenient way to ostracize a growing American political force. When mainstream Americans raise money for political purposes, it is called gaining political power; but when Asian Pacific Americans begin to participate, we are accused of being foreigners trying to infiltrate the mainstream of our Nation's political system. On this note, Mr. Speaker, remember the Oklahoma City bombing incident? Americans of Arab descent or Arab Americans were immediately targeted and investigated as terrorists by local and Federal law enforcement agencies. Mr. Speaker, I submit it is wrong, and this type of negative stereotyping must not continue.

This is nothing new, Mr. Speaker. One need only look at the history of this country to see that scapegoating of Asian Pacific Americans as foreigners has been used as an excuse to burn down Asian Pacific communities in the 1880s and deny Asian Pacific Americans the right to own land, marry our own kind, and practice many professions in the early 1900s.

Today, in a time of heightened tension between the United States and the People's Republic of China, many Asian Pacific Americans question whether the same issue of racial scapegoating are being raised again in the case of Taiwanese American scientists Wen-ho Lee. As my colleagues may know, Mr. Speaker, Dr. Lee is the target of a heavy-handed Federal prosecution for the alleged crime of mishandling classified materials while working in Los Alamos National Lab. After 3 years, Mr. Speaker, after a 3-year FBI investigation, however, there is no evidence that Dr. Lee disclosed classified information, and he, in fact, has not been charged with espionage.

While Dr. Lee is in jail in manacles and held in solitary confinement, former CIA Director John Deutsch, who similarly mishandled classified materials by accessing files through an unsecured home computer connected to the Internet, was left off with a slap of the wrist.

Mr. Speaker, the double standard and selective prosecution has not gone unnoticed. Asian Pacific American researchers employed at the U.S. National Labs report that they work in a climate of fear and paranoia. As one Taiwanese American scientist stated, ''They want us to be Americans and work in their defense labs, but they never treat us as Americans. They always treat us like foreigners, like Chinese.''

Mr. Speaker, incidents like these sadden me. To protect America's greatness, we should all be sensitive to the fact that full acceptance of and democratic participation by people of all races and backgrounds, including Asian Pacific Americans, is crucial to our Nation's health and vitality.

I think the cases of Dr. Bruce Yamashita and Dr. Wen-ho Lee, and the hysteria surrounding Asian Pacific American contributions, bear implications, not just for the military, the government, and the media, but for our society as a whole. It asks the question, how long do we have to endure the attitude of those who consider Asian Pacific Americans and other minorities as lesser Americans?

I applaud Dr. Yamashita and others like him who have spoken out to ensure that racial discrimination is not tolerated. During this month as we recognize the diverse experiences and contributions of the Asian Pacific American community to our great Nation, I hope that we all take inspiration from them.

When I envision America, Mr. Speaker, I do not see a melting pot designed to reduce and remove racial differences. The America I see is a brilliant rainbow, a rainbow of ethnicities and cultures, with each people proudly contributing in their own distinctive and unique way.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, I did not have to be categorized as a Pacific Island American or Chinese American or Asian American or black American. I do not hear anybody calling themselves French Americans or British Americans or European Americans.

Asian Pacific Americans wish to find a just and equitable place in our society that will allow them, like all Americans, to grow, to succeed, to achieve, and to contribute to the advancement of this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close my remarks this evening by asking, what is America all about? What is this great Nation all about? I think it could not have been said better than on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on that

summer day in 1963 when a black minister by the name of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said, ''I have a dream. My dream is that one day my children will be judged, not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.''

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of personal business.

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of personal reasons.

Ms. BERKLEY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of an airline cancellation.

Mr. MCNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and Tuesday, May 16, on account of attending the state convention.

Mr. STUPAK (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of personal reasons.

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and Tuesday, May 16, on account of official business.

Mr. VENTO (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of health reasons.

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of travel delays.

Mr. ENGLISH (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of transportation problems in getting back to Washington, DC.

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of illness in the family.

Mr. SCHAFFER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of official business.

Mrs. WILSON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. TAUSCHER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COMBEST, for 5 minutes, on May 16.

Mr. SIMPSON, for 5 minutes, on May 16.

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, for 5 minutes, on May 16.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on the following date present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

On Thursday, May 11, 2000:

H.R. 2412. To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 South Harrison Street in Fort Wayne, Indiana, as the ''E. Ross Adair Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 07 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 16, 2000, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7574. A letter from the Regulatory Liaison, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Regulations Issued under the Packers and Stockyards Act (RIN: 0580–AA64) received April 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7575. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FVOO–985–4 IFR] received April 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7576. A letter from the Assistant, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule—Home Mortgage Disclosure [Regulation C; Docket No. R–1053] received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7577. A letter from the Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Financial Crimes Enforcement Network; Amendments to the Bank Secrecy Act Regulations-Requirement that Money Transmitters and Money Order and Traveler's Check Issuers, Sellers, and Redeemers Report Suspicious Transactions (RIN: 1506–AA20) received March 16, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7578. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations—received April 14, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7579. A letter from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Implementation of Section 3(n) and 332 of the Communications Act [GN Docket No. 93–252] Regulatory Treartment of Mobile Services; Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate Future Development of SMR Systems in the 800 MHz Frequency Band [PR Docket No. 93–144] Amendment of Parts 2 and 90 of the Commission's Rules to Provide for the Use of 200 Channels Outside the Designated Filing Areas in the 896–901 MHz Band Allotted to the Specialized Mobile Radio Pool [PR Docket No. 89–553] Received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7580. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Investment Management; Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Rulemaking for EDGAR System [Release Nos. 33–7855; 34–42712; 35–27172; 39–2384; IC–24400 File No. S7–05–00] (RIN: 3235–AH79) received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7581. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that on May 12, a U.S. C–17 aircraft is scheduled to deliver urgently required ammunition and other supplies and equipment to Sierra Leone for the Jordanian contingent in UNAMSIL; (H. Doc. No. 106—236); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

7582. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report to the Congress on Chemical and Biological Weapons Defense, submitted pursuant to Condition 11(F) of the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and the Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, adopted by the United States Senate on April 24, 1997; to the Committee on International Relations.

7583. A letter from the Auditor, District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of a report entitled ''Recent Inspection of Community Correctional Center No. 4 Confirms Overcrowded Condition and Building Code Violations,'' pursuant to D.C. Code section 47—117(d); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7584. A letter from the Chairman, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, transmitting the Council's fiscal year 1999 annual report, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 470(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7585. A letter from the Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Department of Energy, transmitting the 1999 Annual Report of the Bonneville Power Administration, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7586. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the FY 2001 Performance Plan and the FY 1999 Annual Performance Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7587. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan and FY 1999 Performance Evaluation Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7588. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the annual report to Congress on the operations of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for Fiscal Year 1999, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635g(a); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7589. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 1999 and the 2000 State of the Markets Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7590. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting the Annual Performance Plan for FY 2001 and the Program Report for FY 1999 for the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, as required by the Government Performance and Results Act; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7591. A letter from the Chairman, International Trade Commission, transmitting the Performance Report for Fiscal Year 1999; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7592. A letter from the Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Circular 97–17; Introduction—received April 25, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7593. A letter from the Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Regulation; Utilization of Indian Organizations and Indian-Owned Economic Enterprises [FAC 97–17; FAR Case 1999–301 (99–301); Item IV] (RIN: 9000–AI52) received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7594. A letter from the Acting Deputy Associate Administratior, Office of Acquisition Policy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Regulation; Caribbean Basin Trade Initiative [FAC 97–17; FAR Case 2000–003; Item III] (RIN: 9000–AI73) received April 25, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7595. A letter from the Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Regulation; Determination of Price Reasonableness and Commerciality [FAC 97–17; FAR Case 1998–300 (98–300); Item II] (RIN: 9000–AI45) received April 25, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7596. A letter from the Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Regulation; Competition under Multiple Award Contracts [FAC 97–17; FAR Case 1999–014; Item I] (RIN: 9000–AI53) received April 25, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7597. A letter from the Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA, National Air and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Acquisition Regulation; Ocean Transportation by U.S.—Flag Vessels [FAC 97–17; FAR Case 1998–604 (98–604); Item V] (RIN: 9000–AI39) received April 25, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7598. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting a report on the Commission's Fiscal Year 1999 Accountability Report and the Inspector General's Fiscal Year 1999 Performance Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

7599. A letter from the Director, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting the Fiscal Year 1999 Performance Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7600. A letter from the Secretary of Congress, transmitting the FY 1999 Annual Program Performance Report and the FY 2001 Annual Performance Plan; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7601. A letter from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 1999; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7602. A letter from the Director, Selective Service System, transmitting the Fiscal Year 1999 Performance Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7603. A letter from the Under Secretary, SMITHsonian Institution, transmitting the FY 1999 Performance Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7604. A letter from the Congressional Members and Presidential Members, U.S. Census Monitoring Board, transmitting a report of the U.S. Census Monitoring Board; to the Committee on Government Reform.

7605. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Status for the Santa Ana Sucker (RIN: 1018–AF34) received April 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7606. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic MACKerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries, 2000 Specifications [Docket No. 99128354–0078–02; I.D. No. 111299C] (RIN: 0648–AM49) received April 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

7607. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the report of the Institute on its activities under Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act for 1998, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3766b; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7608. A letter from the Director, Policy Directes and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Adjustment of Status for Certain Polish and Hungarian Parolees [INS No. 1825–97] (RIN: 1115–AE25) received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

7609. A letter from the Chief, Regulatory Branch Operations Division, Directorate of Civil Works, Department of the Army, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishing an Administrative Appeal Process for the Regulatory Program of the Corps of Engineers—received April 6, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7610. A letter from the Deputy Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting a copy of a building project survey, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 610(b); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7611. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Medical, dental, etc., expenses [Rev. Ruling: 2000–24] received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7612. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Low Income Housing Credit—received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7613. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Weighted Average Interest Rate Update [Notice 2000–25] received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7614. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Delay in finalizing proposed regulations regarding last known address [Announcement 2000–49] received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7615. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Relief From Disqualification for Plans Accepting Rollovers [TD 8880] (RIN: 1545–AU46) received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7616. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Alternative Minimum Tax for Individuals—received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7617. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Child Care Providers—received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7618. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Garden Supplies—received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7619. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Determination of Issue Price in the Case of Certain Debt Instruments Issued for Property—received April 24, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7620. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Nonconventional Source Fuel Credit/Inflantation Adjustment Factor/Reference Price for Calendar Year 1999 [Notice 2000–23] received April 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7621. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on the initial estimate of the applicable percentage increase in inpatient hospital payment rates for Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2001, pursuant to Public Law 101—508, section 4002(g)(1)(B) (104 Stat. 1388—36); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

7622. A letter from the Lieutenant General, Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a report authorizing the transfer of defense articles and services to Bosnia-Herzegovina; jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Submitted May 12, 2000]

Mr. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce H.R. 1291. A bill to prohibit the imposition of access charges on Internet service providers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106–615). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SPENCE: Committee on Armed Service. H.R. 4205. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 106–616). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Submitted May 15, 2000]

Mr. YOUNG of Florida: Committee on Appropriations. Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2001 (Rept. 106–617). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. REYNOLDS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 502. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4425) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. 106–618). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ARCHER (for himself, Mr. CRANE, Mr. MATSUI, and Mr. TANNER) (all by request):

H.R. 4444. A bill to authorize extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TAUZIN (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BLILEY, and Mr. BOUCHER):

H.R. 4445. A bill to exempt from reciprocal compensation requirements telecommunications traffic to the Internet; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. BARTON of Texas (for himself and Mr. BOUCHER):

H.R. 4446. A bill to ensure that the Secretary of Energy may continue to exercise certain authorities under the Price-Anderson Act through the Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environment, Safety, and Health; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 4447. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 919 West 34th Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the ''Samuel H. Lacy, Sr. Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 4448. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3500 Dolfield Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the ''Judge Robert Bernard Watts, Sr. Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 4449. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1908 North Ellamont Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the ''Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 4450. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 900 East Fayette Street in Baltimore, Maryland, as the ''Judge Harry Augustus Cole Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 4451. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1001 Frederick Road in Baltimore, Maryland, as the ''Frederick L. Dewberry, Jr. Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. DICKS (for himself, Mr. SKEEN, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

H.R. 4452. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for wildland fire management for fiscal year 2000; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. PORTER, and Mrs. MORELLA):

H.R. 4453. A bill to encourage the establishment of a United Nations Rapid Deployment Police and Security Force; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. PORTER (for himself and Mr. BEREUTER):

H.R. 4454. A bill to authorize appropriations to expand and enhance United States international broadcasting operations around the world, specifically enhancing the depth and scope of programming thoughout the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4455. A bill to require providers of electronic mailboxes to provide forwarding addresses; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Ms. STABENOW:

H.R. 4456. A bill to establish or expand existing community prosecution programs for gun-related crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TERRY (for himself and Mr. BEREUTER):

H.R. 4457. A bill to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2221 North 24th Street in Omaha, Nebraska, as the ''Reverend J.C. Wade Post Office''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. TERRY (for himself and Mr. MANZULLO):

H.R. 4458. A bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to limit the information that may be requested on decennial census questionnaires; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. WILSON (for herself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

H. Con. Res. 326. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the Federal Government's responsibility for starting a destructive fire near Los Alamos, New Mexico; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. RAMSTAD (for himself and Mr. STUPAK):

H. Res. 501. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Nation's law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. BLUMENAUER introduced a bill (H.R. 4459) to liquidate certain U.S. Customs Service duty drawback claims as filed; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 65: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. WOLF.

H.R. 82: Mr. LIPINSKI and Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

H.R. 207: Mr. DAVIS of Virginia and Mr. FORD.

H.R. 229: Mr. LAFALCE.

H.R. 230: Mr. BERRY, Mr. TURNER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SAWYER, and Mr. JEFFERSON.

H.R. 303: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. WEYGAND, and Mr. WOLF.

H.R. 329: Mr. BONIOR and Mr. LEACH.

H.R. 783: Mr. FOLEY.

H.R. 1102: Mrs. CUBIN and Mr. WELDON of Florida.

H.R. 1168: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LEACH, and Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO.

H.R. 1217: Mr. POMEROY and Mr. MCINTOSH.

H.R. 1304: Mr. STRICKLAND and Mr. COYNE.

H.R. 1310: Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 1347: Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 1592: Mr. SHUSTER.

H.R. 1686: Mr. DOOLITTLE.

H.R. 1689: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1732: Mr. SAXTON.

H.R. 1824: Mr. BROWN of Ohio.

H.R. 2233: Mr. SPENCE.

H.R. 2308: Mr. SHAW.

H.R. 2321: Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 2571: Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 2581: Ms. CARSON, Mrs. THURMAN, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 2749: Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey and Mr. FROST.

H.R. 2894: Mr. WAMP.

H.R. 2969: Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 3004: Mr. MCINTOSH and Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 3125: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California and Mr. SHAW.

H.R. 3140: Mr. GANSKE and Mr. STARK.

H.R. 3144: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 3188: Mr. WOLF, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. LANTOS.

H.R. 3193: Mr. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. DAVIS of Florida.

H.R. 3202: Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 3240: Mr. KINGSTON.

H.R. 3436: Mr. HINOJOSA and Mr. LAMPSON.

H.R. 3485: Mr. GEKAS.

H.R. 3489: Mr. COBURN.

H.R. 3519: Mr. BACA.

H.R. 3544: Mr. SKEEN, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. SHAYS, Ms. DUNN, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. VENTO, Mr. JOHN, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. PHELPS, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. GARY MILLER of California, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. BACA, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. POMBO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. COOK, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, and Mr. CAMP.

H.R. 3573: Mr. BRYANT.

H.R. 3590: Mr. RADANOVICH.

H.R. 3663: Mr. CALVERT and Ms. BERKLEY.

H.R. 3688: Mr. Oliver.

H.R. 3698: Mr. HORN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. BONILLA, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. SABO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. GELLEGLY, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. HALL of Texas, and Mrs. MYRICK.

H.R. 3806: Mr. KINGSTON.

H.R. 3817: Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. SCHAFFER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. MCINNIS, and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 3826: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. TOWNS, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 3841: Mr. FORD.

H.R. 3891: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 3910: Mr. HAYWORTH and Mr. STUMP.

H.R. 3915: Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 3916: Mr. CONDIT, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. POMBO, and Mr. SHADEGG.

H.R. 4004: Mr. BERMAN, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. WYNN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. NEY and Mr. DEUTSCH.

H.R. 4042: Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 4057: Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4061: Mr. GORDON, Mr. LAFALCE, and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 4064: Mr. GORDON.
H.R. 4106: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 4176: Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. LUTHER, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.
H.R. 4184: Mrs. MORELLA.
H.R. 4196: Mr. CANNON and Mr. RADANOVICH.
H.R. 4198: Mr. STUMP.
H.R. 4201: Mr. BLUNT and Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 4215: Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 4249: Mr. BROWN of Ohio and Mr. MINGE.
H.R. 4357: Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. WEINER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. STARK, Mr. POMBO, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4373: Ms. CARSON.
H.R. 4398: Mr. WAMP, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. TANCREDO, and Mr. JENKINS.
H. Con. Res. 286: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
H. Con. Res. 307: Mr. CROWLEY and Mr. LANTOS.
H. Res. 155: Mrs. ROUKEMA.
H. Res. 398: Mr. COYNE, Mr. WOLF, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GUTIERREZ, amd Ms. LEE.
H. Res. 491: Mr. WICKER, Mr. FORBES, MR. HOEKSTRA, Mr. CALLAHAN, MR. GIBBONS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. PICKETT, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. QUINN, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. SCHAFFER, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. GARY MILLER of California, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. DIXON, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. BUYER, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. PORTMAN and Mr. PICKERING.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of the rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H. Res. 396: Mr. SKELTON.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 146 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MAY 15, 2000 No. 59

Senate

The Senate met at 1:01 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON KYL, a Senator from the State of Arizona.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Holy Father, we join with Americans across this land in the celebration of National Police Week. We thank You for police officers who serve in sheriff and police forces in cities and counties across this land. They serve in harm's way, facing constant danger, so that we may live with security and safety. We gratefully remember the law enforcement officers, Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson, who lost their lives in the line of duty here in the Capitol 2 years ago. Thank You for their valor and heroism. Continue to bless their families as they endure the loss of these fine men. Today, our prayer is that our gratitude and affirmation for the Capitol Police officers will encourage them as they encourage us by their strong presence. May they know that we cheer them for being willing to stand in harm's way so we can keep Government moving in Your way.

Through our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JON KYL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF THE ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 15, 2000

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JON KYL, a Senator from the State of Arizona, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KYL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 3 p.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Hawaii, Mr. AKAKA, is recognized to speak for up to 30 minutes.

The Senator from Hawaii.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today with deep admiration and praise for an integral presence within America's diverse society—Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Every May, during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we commemorate the major contributions made by this small, but by no means insignificant part of the U.S. population.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, both in the aggregate and in groups of distinct and unique ethnic origin, comprise a growing force in our citizenry. Whether their ancestry is Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Indian, Korean, Vietnamese, Thai, Laotian, Hmong, or other Asian American, or Native Hawaiian, Chamorro, Samoan, Micronesian, Tongan, Fijian, or other Pacific Islander American, they are a vibrant part of our society. If one could see numbers about each of the distinct peoples in the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, they would observe that we make up one of the fastest growing segments of the population. Our reach in communities across America is increasing. Asian Pacific Americans should not be thought of as located only in a few select states such as Hawaii or California. We have migrated over time from various points of origin in the U.S. to all parts of the country and have come to contribute to local business, education, and politics in every state.

Nearly 11 million Asian and Pacific Islanders lived in the U.S. in about 2.5 million families, according to last year's estimates. About four-fifths of these families were headed by married couples. Furthermore, the Census Bureau projects that the Asian and Pacific Islander population will more than triple to nearly 38 million by the middle of this new century, climbing from four to nine percent of the American population. This growth in the number of Asian Pacific Americans will be felt across the country, and more light will be shed on the multifaceted strengths and varied needs of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

President Clinton recognized the importance of increasing awareness about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders when he signed Executive Order 13125 in June, 1999. The Executive Order established the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with the goal of improving the quality of life for this population by increasing their participation in Federal programs. Such programs include those related to health, human services, housing, education, labor, transportation,

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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economic development, and community development programs—encompassing those which currently serve this population and those which may not have served this population in the past.

I am happy to say that the Initiative is marching onward through high-level, interagency meetings involving all major agencies in the Executive Branch, and the establishment of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The Commission will be sworn in later this week and includes 15 members representing various interests and diverse segments of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. It will be chaired by an esteemed colleague, former Congressman Norman Mineta, and will include representatives such as Haunani Apoliona from my State of Hawaii. I hope that now and in the next Administration, the Initiative and the Commission will continue to work hand-in-hand toward: increased research and data collection; private sector, public sector and community involvement; and, development, monitoring, and coordination of Federal efforts toward improved quality of life for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

There is clear evidence to show that this type of Federal attention is needed. As stated in the Presidential Proclamation for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2000, despite many successes, the needs in the community still continue to be great:

> While many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders today are thriving, others are still struggling to overcome obstacles. Because of oppression in their countries of origin, some new immigrants have arrived without having completed their education; once here, some have encountered language and cultural barriers and discrimination. Pacific Islanders, too, must overcome barriers to opportunity caused by their geographic isolation and the consequences of Western influences on their unique culture. For these and other reasons, too many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders face low-paying jobs, inadequate health care, and lack of educational opportunity.

The Initiative, Advisory Commission, and the Asian American and Pacific Islander community have much work to do in these areas. I urge that the proper resources and attention continue to flow to support this combined effort.

Mr. President, within this Federal effort, I cannot underscore enough how much we need to focus on improving data collection for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The tremendous diversity in the community poses challenges that have produced data and statistics that are inadequate. Most data collection tends to lump the various Asian American and Pacific Islander ethnicities together in a single category, swallowing up numbers for each distinct group and failing to present an accurate picture of the services needed.

For example, the respected organization, the College Board, produced a report regarding minority achievement in higher education. The report failed to include Asian Pacific Americans because we were considered to be overrepresented in higher education. Unfortunately, in the making of the report, differences between individual groups within the community were ignored. For example, higher educational attainment is greater for groups like Japanese and Chinese Americans than it is for American Samoan and Southeast Asian Americans. Statistics such as these must be brought to light so that educational agencies and institutions know to which groups they should target their limited resources. Thankfully, Congressman ROBERT UNDERWOOD, the Chairman of the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus, worked to counter this problem and, in the end, reached an agreement with The College Board to work together and analyze disaggregared data for the population.

As another example of data collection challenges, I have worked on Office of Management and Budget Statistical Policy Directive No. 15, which governs the racial and ethnic data collection by Federal agencies. In 1993, I began efforts to change the Directive so that Native Hawaiians would be disaggregated from the Asian Pacific Islander category. My main concern was that Native Hawaiians, as an indigenous people were being classified with populations that had immigrated to the U.S., thereby creating the misperception that Native Hawaiians were immigrants rather than the indigenous peoples of Hawaii.

I finally succeeded in 1997, when OMB Policy and Statistical Directive No. 15 was revised. Native Hawaiians were disaggregated from the Asian Pacific Islander category and a new category entitled, ''Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders'' was created. That was one step toward fixing inaccuracies in data collection. Agencies have until January 1, 2003 to make all existing recordkeeping or reporting requirements consistent with its standards. However, provisions of the revised directive took effect immediately for all new and revised recordkeeping or reporting requirements that include racial and/or ethnic information. It is my understanding that only the Department to Health and Human Services has established a policy with respect to the requirements of OMB Directive 15. I have encouraged all Federal agencies to actively work to implement this Directive, especially in collaborative efforts with the White House Initiative and President's Advisory Commission.

As a further example, on March 14, 2000, I hosted a forum to discuss Census 2000 and its impact on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Honolulu. The forum included panel members from the Federal government, Congress, and Native Hawaiian, Samoan, and Chamorro community organizations. The issue which generated the most concern regarding Census 2000 was the application of multiracial reporting. This issue is one of particular sensitivity in Hawaii, where a large percentage of the population has multiethnic backgrounds.

In Hawaii, it is very common for individuals, when asked for their ethnicity, to list their entire ethnic background. Only when asked which ethnicity the individual most identifies with will the individual limit the answer to one ethnic background. Furthermore, it was revealed through forum discussion that there is no resolution as to how data will be reported for those who check off more than one race on the 2000 Census form. This raises the fear that the final counts of various Pacific Islander populations—such as the Native Hawaiian population—where multiple-race backgrounds are common, would be inaccurate. Statisticians verify that this has enormous effect on smaller populations.

I am continuing to work on this problem because of the tremendous impact that Federal data has in its use in deciding funding and participation in thousands of Federal, state and local programs. Inaccurate data means that many individuals will not be served, and we must do what we can to prevent this from happening. We must work on these and other issues facing the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, just as we do for issues facing our country's other populations, because it is part of our responsibility to keep each part of our diverse America as strong as it can be.

Mr. President, I recently introduced related legislation that would allow us to take a broader look at, and emphasize the heterogeneous nature of, America. S. 2478, or the Peopling of America Theme Study Act of 2000, takes pride in America's diversity by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to identify regions, areas, districts, structures and cultures that illustrate and commemorate key events or decisions in the peopling of this country. I hope that this effort will provide a basis for the preservation and interpretation of the complex movement of people, ideas, and cultures to and across the American continent that resulted in the peopling of the nation, and the development of our unique, pluralist society—one that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are fully a part.

The bill encourages development of preservation and education strategies to capture elements of our national culture and history such as immigration, migration, ethnicity, family, gender, health, neighborhood, and community. The prehistory and the history of this nation are inextricably linked to the mosaic of migrations, immigrations and cultures that has resulted in the peopling of America. Americans are all travelers from other regions, continents and islands, and I feel we need a better understanding and appreciation of this coherent and unifying

theme in America. This is the source of our nation's greatness and strength. Our rich American heritage includes the traditions, cultures, and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, both as a group and as individuals.

Mr. President, I would like to conclude my statement with a note of praise and congratulations to some of the members of the Asian Pacific American community most deserving of recognition. President Clinton recently approved the Army nominations of 21 Asian Pacific American World War II veterans to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. This concluded a review that I requested of service records of Asian American and Pacific Islanders who received the Distinguished Service Cross during World War II. The approval of the Medal of Honor for these 21 men who served with valor in World War II—19 from the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 100th Infantry Battalion—is long overdue recognition of the heroic service and bravery displayed by these Asian American soldiers and their comrades in arms. As we honor these patriots, including my colleague Senator DANIEL INOUYE, let us also remember the thousands of young men, living and deceased, whose courage, sacrifice and spirit proved that patriotism is a circumstance of the heart, not a consequence of the skin.

The 100th/442nd fought with incredible courage and bravery in Italy and France. Its members won 1 Medal of Honor, 53 DSCs, and more than 9,000 Purple Hearts. The unit itself won 8 Presidential Unit Citations. The fact that the 100th/442nd saw such fierce and heavy combat, yet received only one Medal of Honor award, and then only posthumously and due to congressional intervention, raised serious questions about the fairness of the award process at that time. Unfortunately, Asian Pacific Americans were not accorded full consideration for the Medal of Honor at the time of their service. A prevailing climate of racial prejudice against Asian Pacific Americans during World War II precluded this basic fairness, the most egregious example being the internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans. The bias, discrimination, and hysteria of that time unfortunately has an impact on the decision to award the military's highest honor to Asians and Pacific Islanders.

I commend Secretary Caldera and all the Army personnel who conducted the DSC review in a thorough and professional manner. They carried out the difficult task of identifying and reconstructing the records of more than one hundred veterans with diligence, sensitivity, and dispatch. The stories documented for each of the 104 DSC recipients will astonish and humble all who read them and underscore our faith in a nation that produces such heroes.

As the only Chinese American in this body and the sole Native Hawaiian in the Congress, I am proud of the legacy that we as Americans are leaving for the world. I am proud of our great country, and I am proud of the citizens that make our country great—including our nation's Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. We have much to celebrate during Asian Pacific Heritage Month 2000.

Mr. President, thank you again for this opportunity, and I yield the floor.

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. In 1992, President Bush signed into law legislation designating May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to celebrate the contributions the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities have made to our country.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been instrumental in the development of the American landscape for more than a century. The diversity within the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities exemplifies the richness of our multicultural country, celebrated through Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Valuing family, cultural heritage, and commitment to society, Asian Americans and Pacific islanders have built strong communities contributing to our dynamic society and adding strength to the foundation of our country. With strong values, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have succeeded in many facets of life including science where Dr. David Ho was celebrated as Time Magazine's 1996 Man of the Year; the arts, with fashion designer Vera Wang, writer Amy Tan, and actress Ming Na-Wen; sports with ice skaters such as Kristi Yamaguchi and Michelle Kwan and football legend Junior Seau; in the military where General Eric Shinseki is the Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army; and politics where there are two Pacific Islander Governors and where I am joined by six other Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders serving in Congress, and where a record number of Asian American and Pacific Islanders are serving as Administration appointees in some of the highest offices of government. This list is by no means exhaustive, it only scratches the surface of the contributions Asian American and Pacific Islanders have made to our country. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month allows us to pay tribute to the commitment and contributions these men and women have made to their communities and to our country.

The growth of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, along with the achievements we have gained, have brought Asian American and Pacific Islander issues to the forefront of American politics. Last June, President Clinton signed Executive Order 13125 establishing the White House Asian and Pacific Islander Initiative seeking to improve the quality of life for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through increased participation in federal government programs where they are most likely to be underserved. I commend the President for this Initiative and optimistically look forward to the progress this commission will achieve, under the chairmanship of Mr. Norman Mineta, to highlight and challenge issues pertinent to Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made considerable contributions to our nation. I am pleased that through Asian Pacific American Heritage Month the various histories, cultures, triumphs, and hardships of all Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders can be celebrated, honored, and remembered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, each May, hundreds of civic organizations, community groups, students, and public agencies around the nation organize events to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Throughout the month of May, we salute the profound contributions that Asian Pacific Americans have made in all areas of life in the United States. From the arts and sciences to politics and education, their accomplishments have helped shape our culture and build our nation.

In my home state of California, May brings major events celebrating Asian Pacific American culture in Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles, and San Diego. For more about these events and other interesting information, I invite everyone to consult my special Asian Pacific American Heritage Month web page at http://boxer.senate.gov/apa/index.html.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month originated in 1977, when Representatives Norman Mineta and Frank Horton introduced a resolution calling on the President to proclaim the first ten days of May as Pacific/Asian Heritage Week. Senators DANIEL INOUYE and Spark Matsunaga introduced similar legislation in the Senate. The following year, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution proclaiming Asian/Pacific Heritage Week. The celebration was significantly expanded in 1992, when May was officially designated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by an Act of Congress.

The term ''Asian Pacific American'' denotes scores of Asian and Pacific Island ethnic groups with diverse languages, culture, and history. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month offers every American an opportunity to learn more about these peoples, who have woven so many beautiful threads into the tapestry of American life. During the month of May and throughout the year, I hope that every American will take a moment to learn and appreciate more about the rich traditions and major achievements of Asian Pacific Americans.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BANKRUPTCY REFORM

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I have with me an investigative article from the May 15, 2000 issue of Time magazine, the title of which is ''Soaked by Congress, Lavished with campaign cash, lawmakers are 'reforming' bankruptcy—punishing the downtrodden to catch a few cheats,'' by Donald L. Barlett and James B. Steele, who are well known for their investigative journalism—some of the best investigative journalism in the country.

Mr. President, I thank these two journalists for the work they have done over the years. I used to assign their books to classes, and I think it is very good investigative journalism.

Let me read from one part of this lengthy article. I sent a copy of this out to colleagues. I commend this piece to all of them.

Under the legislation before Congress, new means tests would force more borrowers into Chapter 13—leading to still more failures—and would eliminate bankruptcy as an option for others. For this second group, life will be especially bleak. Listen to their future as described by Brady Williamson, who teaches constitutional law at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and was chairman of the former National Bankruptcy Review Commission, appointed by Congress in 1995: ''A family without access to the bankruptcy system is subject to garnishment proceedings, to multiple collection actions, to repossession of personal property and to mortgage foreclosure. There is virtually no way to save their home and, for a family that does not own a home, no way to ever qualify to buy one.'' The wage earner will be ''faced with what is essentially a life term in debtor's prison.''

Brady Williamson, who teaches constitutional law at the University of Wisconsin, is joined by law professors all across the country in their strong critique in, I would really say, condemnation of this bankruptcy bill. Again, he was the chairman of the former National Bankruptcy Review Commission, which was appointed in 1995.

The reason I mention this is that I want to take a few minutes to talk about this bill.

When there was an effort to separate this bankruptcy bill out from minimum wage legislation, I opposed it. I opposed the unanimous consent agreement. Senator FEINGOLD was out here on the floor with me. We did this because we believe this piece of legislation deserves more scrutiny, albeit it passed by a big margin in the Senate. But I am telling you that many colleagues, I think, had no idea of some of the provisions that were in this legislation—some really egregious provisions. We have learned something about what many of us call the pension raid, which basically for the first time would enable these creditors, as a condition for making the loan, to call upon borrowers to say, look, you can also put a lien on my pension. That has never been done before.

But there are other egregious provisions as well. I again point out that last week Time magazine published this investigative article entitled ''Soaked by Congress,'' written by Donald Barlett and James Steele.

I think this is a true picture of who files for bankruptcy in America. You will find a far different profile of who the people are than from the skewed version that was used to justify this ''bankruptcy reform bill'' passed by the House and the Senate.

I would like to give my colleagues an example of the kind of families we are talking about—working families, hard-pressed families, crushed by debt, people who need a fresh start.

Tomorrow, Senator KENNEDY will be coming with other Senators —I will join them—in speaking about this bill as well. Since I came to this floor and I objected to any unanimous consent agreement to separate this bankruptcy bill, passing it and moving it forward, and since I have done everything I know how as a Senator to stop this bill, I want to discuss why.

First, I will talk about this legislation from the perspective of ordinary people, people who don't have a lot of money—not the big banks and not the big credit card companies that have been running the show on this legislation.

I will read the beginning of this article by Bartlett and Steele:

Congress is about to make life a lot tougher—and and more expensive—for people like the Trapp family of Plantation, Fla. As if their life isn't hard enough already. Eight-year-old Annelise, the oldest of the three Trapp children, is a bright, spunky, dark-haired wisp who suffers from a degenerative muscular condition. She lives in a wheelchair or bed, is tied to a respirator at least eight hours a day, eats mostly through a tube and requires round-the-clock nursing care. Doctors have implanted steel rods in her back to stem the curvature of her spine.

Her parents, Charles and Lisa, are staring at a medical bill for $106,373 from Miami Children's Hospital. then there are the credit-card debts. The $10,310 they owe Bank One. The $5,537 they owe Chase Manhattan Bank. The $8,222 they owe MBNA America. The $4,925 they owe on their Citibank Preferred Visa card.

The $6,838 they owe on their Discover card. The $6,458 they owe on their MasterCard. ''People don't understand, unless they have a medically needy child, these kinds of circumstances,'' says Charles Trapp, 42, a mail carrier.

Most of the people who file for bankruptcy under chapter 7 for a new start, about 40 percent-plus, are people who have been put under because of a medical bill. The studies don't talk about a lot of abuse. They mention 3, 4 or 5 percent of the people at most abusing this system. Most of the people in the country who do have to start over find themselves in these awful situations because there has been a divorce and now there is a single parent or because people have lost their jobs or because people face catastrophic medical bills. We are going to punish these families?

The figures on the amount of money pouring in, let me be clear, are not on one to one. I am not going to stand here and say every single Senator who disagrees with me on this disagrees with me because they received a lot of money from big credit card companies. Then someone can turn around, and I know the presiding Chair will agree, and say every position you take is based on money you have received. That is simply an analysis that should be unacceptable. I will not do that. It is not fair to people I serve with and I don't believe it.

However, from an institutional view of who has power and who doesn't have power in America, we see an industry that has a tremendous amount of clout, that certainly contributes a lot of money—Republicans and Democrats alike—that has the lobbyists, is certainly well connected and, of course, the people whom we are talking about, such as the Trapp family, don't have the same kind of connections.

We are, I think, about to do something very egregious to these families. Yesterday was Mother's Day—Sheila and I marched in the Million Mom March and were proud to do so—so I'd like to read from a letter signed by 70 scholars at our Nation's law schools who are opposed to this legislation about how this bill will affect mothers. They write directly to this issue of how low-income, women-headed households will be devastated by this bankruptcy bill.

As the heads of the economically most vulnerable families, they have a special stake in the pending legislation. Women heads of households are now the largest demographic group in bankruptcy, and according to the credit industry's own data, they are the poorest. The provisions in this bill, particularly the provisions that apply without regard to income, will fall hardest on them. A single mother with dependent children who is hopelessly insolvent and whose income is far below the national median income still would have her bankruptcy case dismissed if she does not present copies of income tax returns for the past three years—even if those returns are in the possession of her ex-husband. A single mother who hoped to work through a chapter 13 payment plan would be forced to pay every penny of the entire debt owed on almost worthless items of collateral, such as used furniture or children's clothes, even if it meant that successful completion of a repayment plan was impossible.

I don't think the choices in this debate could be stated any more starkly. The core question is, Are we on the side of these big credit companies and these banks or are we on the side of too many women in this country struggling to support their families?

I will mention a few other provisions in this legislation that are punitive. I already mentioned the pension grab. People didn't even seem to know about that provision. That is being reworked. Good. I want to see the bill improved, although a wise proverb comes to mind: Never put good stitching in a rock cloth.

I think this bill is fundamentally flawed—not the Senators who support

the bill, the bill. Section 102 of this bill removes the ability of a debtor to seek sanctions against a creditor who brought coercive, frivolous claims against the debtor, as long as the claim in question is less than $1,000. If someone has a loan for less than $1,000, a creditor can intimidate and threaten legal action, even if he doesn't intend to take legal action with impunity.

Section 105 imposes mandatory credit counseling on debtors before they can seek bankruptcy relief at the debtors' expense—as if the debtors have the money for this. This is regardless of whether the bankruptcy would be the result of simple overspending or the result of unavoidable expenses such as catastrophic medical expense. There is no waiver of this requirement. People can end up being evicted.

Section 311 ends the practice of stopping eviction proceedings against tenants who are behind on rent who file for bankruptcy. This is critical for tenants under current law.

I could go on and on.

I speak from the Senate floor to the people in the country. This is a reform issue. I talked about who has the clout in America and who doesn't. At one time, there was a bill that came to the floor of the Senate, a much better bill, that I voted against. It was a 99–1 vote. I thought that bill was too harsh and too punitive, but most of my colleagues disagreed. People had done good work on it.

Now this bill that passed the United States, it is as Barlett and Steele pointed out in their very important piece, it is completely one sided. There is no call for accountability or responsibility on the part of the creditor, credit card companies. There are harsh provisions, many of which—most of which—all of which, frankly, disproportionately affect low-income people, moderate-income people, women, working families, you name it, based upon the assumption that most people who file for bankruptcy abuse the system—which is not true. Most people are put under because of a medical bill or they have been out of work or because there is a divorce. This bill is just a carbon copy of what this credit card industry wants.

I objected to the unanimous consent agreement to try to move this bill, first to decouple it from the minimum wage and then to try basically to move it through. I do not want to. I want to try to stop this piece of legislation. Because different Senators are entitled to their own viewpoint, I will be pleased, as we get a chance to really look at the provisions of this legislation carefully, as in the case of this Barlett and Steele piece, and if this bill comes back before the Senate and we have the debate, I will be willing to agree to time limits on amendments—you name it. But we need to have a thorough debate on this bill. I am not going to let it go through by unanimous consent or continue in any way, shape, or form.

The effort that is underway is to take this legislation and put it into an unrelated bill; the e-signatures bill is the latest, the effort to take this bankruptcy—quote, reform—bill and put it into the conference committee on e-signature legislation. It has nothing to do with e-signature legislation. Then the effort is to bring the conference report back to the Senate where it cannot be amended and can be only voted up or down.

It is clever enough, but the truth of the matter is, again, my goal in life is to have people interested in politics, public affairs. Even if they vote Republican, I am all for them if they are interested in public affairs. That is my view. I just don't want people opting out and being disillusioned and becoming cynical because then I think our country suffers, I think representative democracy suffers. That is what I believe in more than anything else.

This is a reform issue. People hate this. They hate the way this process works, where you can take a bill and now put it into a completely unrelated piece of legislation, outside the scope of the conference committee, tuck it in, do it at midnight, do it late at night, do it when people cannot see it, do it in whatever way you can, in the most private way possible, and then just try to push it through. It is a neat parliamentary technique, it is a neat trick through this process, this legislative process. But it is an outrage.

I do not think Senators should support this. I certainly am going to challenge this question on the scope of conference. I think we had a ruling on this which was an unfortunate ruling. We will have to go back through that. There are other Senators, Senator HARKIN, Senator FEINGOLD, Senator KENNEDY—a number of others—just to mention a few who I think feel very strongly about this. The more Senators really know what is in this piece of legislation, the more Senators who read this investigative report in Time magazine, the more Senators are going to be worried about this. They are going to be worried about this legislation going through in this form.

There are good Senators who have worked on this legislation, some I consider to be some of the best. But this legislation is fundamentally flawed. I speak about it today. I am going to continue to do everything I can to stop it. I want people in the country to know what the effort is right now, which is to put this piece of legislation into an unrelated conference report.

I want to make it clear on the floor of the Senate that everything I know how to do as a Senator, to insist that this bill goes back in the regular order and comes back through this legislative process—which will give us an opportunity to look at other provisions we did not know were in this bill, such as the pension grab amendment—is what I insist on. I think other Senators feel the same way.

I do not believe Senators, Democrats or Republicans alike, whether they agree or disagree on this particular piece of legislation—I do not think they should accept the proposition we can just put it into an unrelated conference report. We are heading nowhere good if we start doing that with different pieces of legislation. We are heading nowhere good as a legislative body. It is the wrong way to legislate. It is the wrong way to conduct our business.

Then the question is, PAUL, do you have a right to just come out here and object to a unanimous consent agreement?

Yes, I do. We had a minimum wage and we had a bankruptcy bill tied together, and there were tax cuts included with minimum wage provisions. But tax measures need to originate in the House of Representatives under the Constitution and the Senate leadership knows that. If that mistake was made—to unconstitutionally add the tax cuts—and I oppose this bill and, by our own rules, it requires unanimous consent to correct the mistake, of course I have a right to object, especially if I think this is an egregious piece of legislation which hits hard at the most vulnerable, low-income citizens in the United States of America. Of course I have the right to do that.

I say to the majority leader, if he wants to bring this bill back on the floor, let's have at it. We will even have some time agreements on some amendments. But we will have a thorough debate on this, and I will have a chance to point out many egregious provisions in this legislation in a way we were not able to last time. Then we will see where we go.

But if this gets put into a conference committee—and I hope there is enough pressure from other Senators and I hope there is enough pressure from the public that this does not happen. That is the best outcome. I hope the journalists will write about this piece of legislation and will write about what could very well happen here because I think it is indicative of what does not work well here in the legislative process.

If this gets folded into a conference report, I have no doubt a number of Senators—we will do everything we can to hold it up in every way possible. But my hope is we do this the right way and not the wrong way. The right way is, let's have a little bit more of a focus and a little more spotlight on this piece of legislation.

To reiterate, I wanted to take just a few minutes today to talk about the so-called bankruptcy ''reform'' bill which some Members of this body are trying to force down the throat of working families. As I hope my colleagues are aware, as I speak here today this punitive legislation is being negotiated by a small group of staff working for a handful of members in a secret ''shadow'' conference. Their plan is to attach this legislation to an unrelated conference report and pass the bill with minimal public scrutiny.

When you really look at what's in this bill, and what's driving this bill,

it's really not surprising that some of my colleagues have been trying to do this behind closed doors. But recently, there has been an increasing drum beat of outrage and attention from outside Congress both on the bill itself and the desperate tactics being used to pass it. As I said, last week Time magazine published an investigative article about the bill, entitled ''Soaked by Congress,'' The article, written by reporters Dan Bartlett and Jim Steele, is a detailed look at the true picture of who files for bankruptcy in America. You will find it far different from the skewed version that was used to justify the bankruptcy ''reform'' bill passed by the House and Senate.

Last week I sent a dear colleague around with a copy of the article. I hope all my colleagues saw it. Tomorrow I believe a group of Senators will speak in the morning about this article, but I'd like to talk about it this afternoon for just a few minutes in the hope that some of you will take another look at this bill, take another look at what it will do to working families, folks crushed by debt, folks who need a fresh start. I want my colleagues to look at this bill from the perspective of ordinary folks—not the big banks and credit card companies.

I'd like to read the beginning of the article, it begins:

> Congress is about to make life a lot tougher—and more expensive—for people like the Trapp family of Plantation, Fla. As if their life isn't hard enough already. Eight-year-old Annelise, the oldest of the three Trapp children, is a bright, spunky, dark-haired wisp who suffers from a degenerative muscular condition. She lives in a wheelchair or bed, is tied to a respirator at least eight hours a day, eats mostly through a tube and requires round-the-clock nursing care. Doctors have implanted steel rods in her back to stem the curvature of her spine.
>
> Her parents, Charles and Lisa, are staring at a medical bill for $106,373 from Miami Children's Hospital. Then there are the credit-card debts. The $10,310 they owe Bank One. The $5,537 they owe Chase Manhattan Bank. The $8,222 they owe MBNA America. The $4,925 they owe on their Citibank Preferred Visa card. The $6,838 they owe on their Discover card. The $6,458 they owe on their MasterCard. ''People don't understand, unless they have a medically needy child, these kinds of circumstances,'' says Charles Trapp, 42, a mail carrier.

Now I ask my colleagues, is there one thing in this bill that would have helped this family head off bankruptcy? Absolutely not, this bill would simply make it harder for them to get the relief they needed to take care of themselves and their daughter. Why aren't we talking about what could have kept this family out of bankruptcy? What does this bill do to help a woman or man who wants to educate themselves so they can earn a better living for their family? What does this bill do to keep ordinary folks from being overwhelmed by medical expenses? What does this bill do to promote economic stability for working families? Shouldn't the goal be keeping families out of circumstances where they can't pay their debts instead of punishing them once it's too late? I believe if my colleagues really wanted to reduce the number of bankruptcies they would focus more on providing a helping hand up rather than removing the safety net. If they really wanted to tackle bankruptcy, they would take on the credit card companies and their abusive tactics.

Yesterday was Mother's Day Mr. President, I would like to read from a letter, signed by approximately 70 scholars at our nation's law schools, who are opposed to this legislation. They write directly to this issue of how low income women headed households will be devastated by this legislation:

> As the heads of the economically most vulnerable families, they have a special stake in the pending legislation. Women heads of households are now the largest demographic group in bankruptcy, and according to the credit industry's own data, they are the poorest. The provisions in this bill, particularly the provisions that apply without regard to income, will fall hardest on them. A single mother with dependent children who is hopelessly insolvent and whose income is far below the national median income still would have her bankruptcy case dismissed if she does not present copies of income tax returns for the past three years—even if those returns are in the possession of her ex-husband. A single mother who hoped to work through a chapter 13 payment plan would be forced to pay every penny of the entire debt owed on almost worthless items of collateral, such as used furniture or children's clothes, even if it meant that successful completion of a repayment plan was impossible.

I don't think the choices in this debate can be made any more stated any more starkly. The core question is this: Will colleagues be on the side of these women, struggling to raise their families? Or do they see these women as the banks and credit card companies do: just an economic opportunity ripe for exploitation?

A constituent from Crystal, Minnesota wrote to my office last July to tell me about her experience with bankruptcy. Her life was very much like any of ours until an injury forced her to leave the financial security of her factory job. She worked multiple minimum wage jobs for several years as her marriage fell apart and her daughter began a descent into deep clinical depression. In the meantime, she enrolled in computer school so that she could pursue a career that would give her and her daughter a stable income. She purchased a computer on credit so she could spend more time working at home. In time, the payments on the computer, her mortgage and her daughter's medical bills became too much, and she fell behind on debt payments. When creditors approached her, she tried to work out a repayment schedule that she could meet. Some were willing to do so. However, she says in her letter:

> What I want you to know specifically is that this one credit card company would not offer any reductions in the interest rate, demanded over one quarter of my entire monthly income, did not care if I could not meet my payments for the most basic requirements of human existence, suggested that I use a food shelf, and they refused to acknowledge that my child was suicidal and that their harassing phone calls to my house nearly caused her to overdose on the only non-prescription pain relievers that I could have for myself.

So she filed for bankruptcy. She has begun to rebuild her life and she ended her letter by saying:

> Please to not vote for Senate Bill 625 or any other bill that makes bankruptcy harder for people who find themselves caught in the unforeseen predicaments of life for which they have no control. It is not fair to pass a bill that helps the credit card companies by hurting people like me without forcing them to look at what they are doing, and how they respond. They have many options that could be used without creating the emotional trauma that forces hard working people to choose the relief of bankruptcy.

What the Bartlett and Steele article makes very clear is that these stories are typical in our bankruptcy courts today. And what does this bill do to these folks? It makes it more difficult to file, harder to get a fresh start, allows them to discharge less debt. Forces them to pay more in attorney's fees or maybe make an attorney cost prohibitive—but not for the big banks. It forces families into Chapter 13 which ⅔ which of all debtors currently fail to complete because of economic circumstances. This legislation allows them to be victimized by coercive debt collectors and abolishes critical tenant protections.

This is reform?

Let me be clear: The bankruptcy bills passed by House and Senate are ill-conceived, unjust, and imbalanced. They impose harsh penalties on families who file for bankruptcy in good faith as a last resort, and address a ''crisis'' that is self-correcting. They reward the predatory and reckless lending by banks and credit card companies which fed the crisis in the first place, and it does nothing to actually prevent bankruptcy by promoting economic security in working families.

Here are just a few of the punitive provisions in the Senate passed bankruptcy bill:

No. 1. Section 102 of the bill would remove the ability to a debtor to seek sanctions against a creditor who brought coercive, frivolous claims against a debtor—as long as the claim in question is less than $1000. So in other words, as long as the loan was for less than $1000, a creditor may intimidate the borrower or threaten legal action it doesn't intend to take (all illegal under current law).

No. 2. Section 105 imposes mandatory credit counseling on debtors before the can seek bankruptcy relief—at the debtors expense. This is regardless of whether the bankruptcy would be the result of simple overspending or something unavoidable like sudden medical expenses. There is no waiver of this requirement if the debtor needs to make an emergency bankruptcy filing to stave off eviction or utility shutoff.

No. 3. Section 311 will end the practice under current law of stopping eviction proceedings against tenants who are behind on rent who file for bankruptcy. This is a critical right of tenants under current law.

No. 4. Section 312 will make a person ineligible to file for Chapter 13 bankruptcy if he or she has successfully emerged from bankruptcy within the past 5 years—even if it was a successful chapter 13 reorganization where the debtor paid off all their creditors.

No. 5. The bill's new reporting, filing and paperwork requirements will make bankruptcy process more onerous than ever before—expensive legal expertise will be more necessary, a burden which low and moderate income families with high debt loads can ill afford. But several sections of the bill create a variety of disincentives for attorneys to represent consumers in bankruptcy. The results of these provisions will be that some attorneys will leave the practice of consumer bankruptcy, and others will have to raise their fees to account for the increased expenses and risks involved. This in turn will lead to more consumers being unable to afford an attorney and either obtaining no relief or falling prey to nonattorney petition preparers who provide services which are usually incompetent and often fraudulent.

No. 6. The means test to determine which debtors can file Chapter 7 bankruptcy—as opposed to Chapter 13—is inflexible and arbitrary. It is based on IRS standards not drafted for bankruptcy purposes that do not take into account individual family needs for expenses like transportation, food and rent. It disadvantages renters and individuals who rely on public transportation and benefits higher income individuals with more property and debt.

CAPITOL HILL POLICE BUDGET

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I also want to very briefly mention another matter since I have the floor. I think the Senate is going to be united. This I hope will be less of a battle than on the horrible bankruptcy bill, credit card company bill, big banker bill. This is the week where we honor law enforcement. I said it last week. I will say it one more time. I say it to the Presiding Officer. I say it to every Senator.

You should, if you get a chance, talk to some of the Capitol Hill police officers at the different stations here on the Senate side. You will be really troubled by how demoralized they feel and also how angry they are. I have never seen anything like this, and I have been here 9½ years. I have never seen anything like this.

Sheila and I are pretty good friends socially and in other ways with some of the police officers. I am sure some of the Senators are. They are just livid. In July, 2 years ago, we lost two fine officers, and after all the concern that was professed, they cannot believe, in light of that and in light of the fact that we do not have two officers on every post where we need two officers just for security reasons for the public, for us—and I would argue just as important for them—that not only are we not living up to that commitment and doing what we need to do—the Sergeant at Arms on the Senate side, Jim Ziglar, has been terrific on this and Senator BENNETT, the Republican chair of the appropriations legislative subcommittee; his subcommittee has been terrific on this—these police officers cannot believe what the House of Representatives has done.

It is unbelievable. What the House of Representatives has done is to call for fairly dramatic—I don't have the figures. I don't know if the figures are so important. They are calling for dramatic cuts in the budget so we will have hundreds fewer, 400 fewer, police officers.

I will say to some of the Representatives on the House side, and in particular I am going to say it to the Republicans because on this one there seems to be a pretty major party split where the Democrats have expressed a lot of indignation, where Congressman HOYER and Congressman OBEY spoke up rather strongly about this, in all due respect, do we need to wait for this to happen again where we only have two police officers at the memorial post over the weekend, with long lines of people, and one person shows up who is deranged, and those two officers cannot possibly handle that situation when there are all sorts of other people coming through the line, and you have to check baggage and check what people have and you have to be talking to people and keep your eye on so many different people, and it cannot therefore be prevented or avoided, and we lose more? What are you waiting for?

It is absolutely outrageous. I say to the police union, the officers' union, which is a fine union, whatever the union decides to do is what the union decides to do, but I would not blame this union if the police officers do not express clearly their indignation.

I cannot believe this was done. As I said last week, it is one of the most unconscionable, one of the worst things that has been done in the Congress since I have been here. I really believe that.

I say to Senators, when this appropriations bill comes to the floor, I know Senator REID, who is a former Capitol Police officer, and I know I will be out here and others will be, too, with an amendment that will get the funding up. All of us will agree, Republicans and Democrats, that we are in good shape on the Senate side, and I am proud of that.

I say to the Chair, what I would rather not see is two different operations where on the Senate side we have the funding and do what we need to do to make sure these officers are given the resources for their own security, much less the security of the public, and then on the House side, they have a completely different situation.

I wanted to bring this to the attention of my colleagues because we are going to have a very strong showing on the Senate side. I do not believe it is posturing just to show one is on the side of the police officers. People feel strongly about it in the Senate.

We went through far less than the families of Agent Gibson and Officer Chestnut. We went through a living hell here. We do not want it to happen again. We do not know whether we can prevent it from happening again, but we certainly ought to do everything we can. Cutting 400 police officers is not doing everything we can.

AGRICULTURE CRISIS

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, it is interesting the Senator from Kansas is in the chair because I know we are in agreement on this, but I at least want to make the appeal to my colleagues that, for my own part, I believe it is good that in our budget resolution we made allowance for additional funding for help and assistance to farmers. It was somewhere close to $7 billion.

My hope is we will not do this in the process of an emergency appropriations bill; that we will give care to how we allocate this money, how we get assistance out to farmers. My fear is—and maybe it will be a good arrangement—that if we double AMTA payments and put it into the conference report to accompany the crop insurance bill, we will have lost our opportunity to have hearings in the Ag Committee and have some focus, some substantive discussion, some careful discussion about how we can make sure we target the assistance to those producers that need it the most.

I voted for AMTA payments. I am not intellectually arrogant. I figured, what help we could get the people, get it. I had an uncomfortable feeling that some of the landowners who were not even farmers and some of the largest operators least in need were getting more than they needed. The flip side was the people who needed help the most were not getting it. I do not want an inverse relationship of assistance to need. Some, regarding the AMTA payments, suggest that is what is happening.

At a minimum, I say to my colleagues, we should, between now and the end of June—we have time—have some hearings in the Ag Committee. We should have some careful discussion and deliberation about how we get this assistance out to family farmers. It should be more targeted than the AMTA payments have been. I do not believe it is appropriate, again, to deal with such an important issue and such an important question by putting it into another conference report, this particular one being on crop insurance.

When we went through the budget process and allocated this money, we were making a statement that we did

not want to be forced into a situation of one more time getting emergency funding out there without any deliberation as to how. I thought this meant we were, on the part of the authorization committee, Senator LUGAR's committee, going to have hearings and an opportunity for Senators and people from the countryside to talk about the best way to get this assistance out to the countryside to help the people most in need.

It looks to me, again, that we may be making an end run around that process, and that is a mistake. I speak out for the hearings. I speak out for deliberations. I speak out for doing something about the price crisis other than every year just getting money out to people. Most of the producers in the country would far rather get a decent price. That is a whole other discussion and debate which I hope we will have.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, what is the regular order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time between 2 and 3 o'clock shall be under the control of Senator THOMAS from Wyoming, or his designee.

Mr. GREGG. I ask unanimous consent to proceed as if in morning business for 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, today Gov. George W. Bush set forth some ideas addressing the issue of Social Security. It is my understanding that the Vice President is also going to discuss this issue today, although he has, before today, made a number of comments in this area.

I have spent a considerable amount of my time over the last 7 years I have served in the Senate working on the issue of Social Security, working on it in a bipartisan manner, trying to develop a coalition in this Senate to move toward resolution of what I consider to be one of the most significant public policy matters we have confronting us.

Let me define the problem so we understand what we are working with and what the concerns are. Today, the Social Security system is running a very aggressive surplus. In other words, it is taking in more money than it is paying out. The Social Security system is on a dollar in/dollar out basis. In other words, there is no asset value that is placed somewhere. There are not a set of dollars saved to pay your Social Security benefit. The dollar raised today pays the benefit that is incurred today. The younger worker who is paying Social Security taxes today is paying for the older worker who is retired today.

We have the baby boom generation working today at its maximum earning capacity, and because we have a larger younger generation than the generation that is retired, we are now running a surplus. In other words, more money is being taken in to pay for the benefits than is being spent on the benefits. That extra money is being borrowed by the Federal Government. It is being used basically to operate the day-to-day activities of the Federal Government. In exchange for that, a note is given back to the Social Security trust fund.

Alternatively, the money is being used to buy down the debt of the Federal Government—the public debt in many instances—and that money is then basically returned to the marketplace in the form of proceeds going into the capital markets because we no longer have the Federal Government borrowing those moneys from the capital markets but, rather, the money is no longer needed by the Federal Government and, therefore, the capital markets are free to create more activity for a stronger capital market.

The problem is, the baby boom generation today is generating the huge surplus in Social Security funds and is going to start retiring in the year 2008. When that generation starts to retire, the demographics of the situation change radically. The Social Security system was always perceived as a pyramid. It was always believed there would be a larger working generation than the retired generation. The retired generation at the top of the pyramid would be smaller and the working generation at the bottom of the pyramid would be larger.

Because the postwar baby boom generation is so large, it is that unique generation that has changed this country in every decade and forced the country to build all sorts of elementary schools in the 1950s and created the disruption to a large degree in the 1960s. It has gone through the pipeline and has changed the system in every generational phase. When that generation retires, we go from a pyramid to almost a rectangle. Instead of having 3.5 people working for every one person retired by the year 2015, we only have two people working for every one person retired. The system comes under a huge strain. The benefits don't change—or there is no plan to change them—and therefore all the folks who are retired have to be supported by a younger generation, which is a smaller generation, but they have to support them again with the tax dollars earned by that generation.

As we look into the future—and we don't have to look very far; it begins in 2008—we see as we head into the second decade of this new century, the next generation, our children and their children are going to be subjected to a huge cost, a huge tax increase, in order to support the retirement of the baby boom generation. This escalates rather dramatically through the year 2045.

There are Members who think something should be done, that we should not pass this huge burden on to the next generation; that we, as a baby boom generation, have an obligation to get ourselves and our Nation ready for the retirement of our generation.

As I said, we worked across the aisle for the last few years to try to develop policies to address this problem. Dramatic progress has been made. There are at least four or five major initiatives in this Senate today which legitimately address the issue of making the Social Security system solvent for 100 years. One of them happens to be one which I worked on with Senator BREAUX, Senator KERREY, Senator THOMPSON, Senator THOMAS, Senator GRASSLEY, and Senator ROBB. It is bipartisan and crosses philosophical spectrums.

Our proposal, as scored by the Congressional Budget Office and by the Social Security actuaries, makes the system solvent for the next 100 years. It does it without any tax increase of any significance.

In order to accomplish this type of a change, we have to have comprehensive reform. We cannot do it piecemeal; we have to do the whole system. We can't just simply pick out one point in the system and try to change that and expect to address the system so it becomes solvent, so we do not put a huge burden onto our children's backs in new taxes, or additional tax increases.

We have tried to draw into this debate, to get this process moving, the White House and the President, but we have had singularly little luck in doing that. Regrettably, although this administration has occasionally talked about Social Security reform, and the President in his State of the Union even said this would be one of his primary goals in his waning years in office, it has done virtually nothing and, in fact, has put out proposals that would dramatically cause the situation to deteriorate, especially for the younger generation, in the form of major tax increases.

Today, Governor Bush has put forth a proposal. Regrettably, the response by Vice President GORE, up until today—and I suspect he will not change his tune today—and the response of the White House, has been to essentially take the old time school approach of attacking it in the most demagogic terms, saying the proposal is going to end Social Security; it is going to put at risk recipients who are presently benefiting from Social Security, and that it is a proposal which undermines this critical national program of Social Security.

The Vice President has used terms such as ''risky'' to describe it. He has used terms such as ''inappropriate.'' He has used terms—''smug,'' I think is one term, and other terms which try to demonize the proposal in a way that is

not constructive. So let's look at the proposal because I think it is important to think about this. What Governor Bush has suggested is this.

First, we recognize anybody who is on the Social Security system today, or about to go on the Social Security system soon, should have their benefits locked in place and the structure of the system maintained exactly as they receive it; there should not be any change at all for those folks. So any senior citizen today or anybody who is about to go on the system, anybody 55 years or older, I believe, has no concern here. Essentially the proposal says you will be held harmless. Nothing is going to impact your way of life as it relates to Social Security. Yet it is very obvious the Vice President is trying to scare senior citizens and is saying the proposals coming from Governor Bush will in some way affect their benefit structure when Governor Bush is saying specifically it will not.

Second, Governor Bush suggested we set up a bipartisan commission to take a look at this, a proposal that has been put forth by Senator MOYNIHAN and Senator KERREY and Senator MCCAIN, I think. It is not a bad idea because this needs to be done in a bipartisan way, and we have worked very hard on the bipartisan process in this Senate, so that makes sense.

Third, the Governor suggested we take a look at what is known as personal savings accounts. This is an idea whose time has come, in my opinion. Why? First, let's talk about what personal savings accounts are in the context of Social Security reform.

There are three ways you can address Social Security and make it solvent, only three ways. One, you can raise taxes. That is the Clinton-Gore proposal. In fact, under the Gore-Clinton proposal, there will have to be a tax increase each year going forward on working Americans in order to support retired Americans. That goes up and goes up, I think, until it is $1 trillion around 2035. That is their proposal: Raise taxes on Americans in the outyears. Just do not tell Americans that is what is going to happen to them.

The way they do not tell you is they say we are going to use the interest on the Social Security to pay down the debt, which is occurring today because we are returning a surplus; we are going to use that interest to extend the life of the trust fund. That is a paper game, the bottom line of which is a tax increase that hits $1 trillion by the year 2035. Why is that?

Just to make an aside for the moment, so people understand what the Vice President is proposing: There are no assets in the Social Security trust fund other than Government bonds. What do Government bonds do? Government bonds are a claim on the taxpayers of America to be paid. It is an IOU from the taxpayers to the trust fund. It says we, the taxpayers of America, owe you this money. When you need this money, when that baby boom generation retires, then we, the taxpayers, of America will pay it.

Who is ''we''? We are the younger generation. The ''we'' in that sentence is my children and their children, your children and grandchildren who will be working then. They will get stuck with the IOUs that Vice President GORE wants to stick them with, with his little gamesmanship of transferring interest, which is purely a paper transaction, creating absolutely no assets in the trust fund. All it does is create an IOU which has to be paid by the younger generation. These kids sitting right here as pages are going to pay that IOU.

It means their taxes on Social Security will not be 12 percent of their payroll; it will be somewhere in the vicinity of 18 percent of their payroll. As I said, it will amount to about a $1 trillion tax increase on working Americans by the year 2035. That is the Vice President's proposal: Raise taxes but do not tell anybody it is coming. Use this little euphemism: We are going to transfer the savings on interest over to the trust fund, which means we are going to create a massive tax burden on the next generation in the outyears in order to pay for the benefits of this generation of which I am part, the baby boom generation. But do not tell anybody about that. Just use the term, ''We are going to transfer the savings from interest.'' ''We are going to transfer the savings from interest on Social Security'' sounds good—do that by paying down the Social Security funds, and that savings means we will extend the life of the trust fund.

That means nothing. It simply means we are going to end up increasing taxes and having more IOUs our younger generation has to pay. So that is the first way you can do it; you can raise taxes—the Vice President's proposal.

The second way you can address the issue is to reduce benefits. There is not much incentive for reducing benefits in our society. People do not like that idea in a democracy. In fact, the Vice President not only is not going to reduce benefits; he is already suggesting we increase benefits. The only specific proposals he has made on Social Security is we raise benefits in two different accounts. It happens to be both those proposals to raise benefits make some sense, but they have to be done in the context of the entire structure. There has to be some tradeoff. If you are going to raise those benefits, there has to be some adjustment in the other benefit side or else you significantly increase the liability to the trust fund, which means once again you raise the taxes on the next generation to pay for those benefits, that younger generation. So he has raised benefits. That is not the way to solve it.

The third way he can address it—remember, you can address it by raising taxes on the younger generation that is earning the benefits for the older generation that is receiving the benefits, or the third way is you can prefund the liability. That is what personal savings accounts do, prefund the liability. By prefunding the liability, we mean you actually create an asset which is owned, actually physically owned by the person who is going to retire, which is not a debt instrument of the Federal Government. It is not an IOU that has to be paid for out of taxes, necessarily. It can be stocks or bonds—some of the bonds could be U.S. Government bonds—but it would be an asset owned by the individual. What does that do?

Today, if you are in the Social Security system and you happen to die, unfortunately, before you reach retirement age—say you die and you are 59 years old and you do not have a spouse or any children. Everything you paid into the Social Security system is lost. You paid in for years and years and years and your estate does not get anything from it. It is gone; it just dissipates into the system. Somebody else benefits from all those taxes you paid. You have no asset value.

Even if you have a spouse and you die before you retire at 62 or 65, or even if you die soon after that, the benefits that spouse gets as a result of your death, as a result of your Social Security payment, is really minimal—very, very small—compared to the amount of taxes you actually paid in to Social Security. So there is nothing physically there that you own. You have an obligation from the Federal Government to support you at a certain level after you retire, but you have no asset value.

What a personal account does is it allows you to take a small portion of the taxes you are paying in to Social Security—and it is a very small portion. Under the plan that we have, it is 2 percent. Of the 12.4 percent of taxes you presently pay in Social Security, you would get to put 2 percent of those taxes into some sort of savings vehicle which you would own. You would physically own it. It might be stocks; it might be bonds, but you would physically own it. It could not be placed in those vehicles and then be speculated with; it would follow the course of what we call the thrift savings vehicle. That vehicle would require the Social Security trustees to basically set up the investment vehicles in which you could invest.

One would be limited in how one could invest that money. They could not speculate with it. They would have to put it into basically large mutual funds which would be approved by and would be under the fiduciary control of the Social Security trustees.

Mr. President, I note it is 3 o'clock. I ask unanimous consent to proceed for another 4 minutes.

Mr. BURNS. I have no objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, a person would have this asset called a personal account which they would have to invest in three, four, five, or six different

funds set up under the auspices of the Social Security Administration. The asset would be owned by that person. If they were to die at 45 or 59 or even 66, their estate would receive the asset held in that account and it would go to their wife, husband, children, or to whomever they wanted it to go.

Equally important, the rate of return on personal accounts would dramatically exceed what one gets under the Social Security system today. A person who is today beginning in the workplace, who is about 22 or 25 years old, is going to pay more, if they are an African American, into the trust funds than they will ever receive from the trust funds. In other words, they get zero rate of return.

If one happens to be a typical, average American, their rate of return in the Social Security trust funds, if they are in their twenties today, is about 1.4 percent. If they are in their thirties, it might get up to 2 percent. If they are in their forties, it might reach 2.5 percent—might. It is a terrible rate of return under the Social Security system. People are paying all these taxes and getting virtually nothing in return.

Under a personal account—remember, it is only a small percentage of one's Social Security tax which is going to be invested in this personal account—one will own the asset; plus, the average rate of return over any 20-year period, including the Depression, of investment in the stock market exceeds 5 percent. Since I am talking about a 20-year period, not a 4-month period or a 5-month period or a 1-year period or 3-year period, one can be pretty sure the rate of return on the personal account is going to be at least twice the rate of return on the taxes that person is paying into the Social Security fund generally.

That is called prefunding liability. In other words, we are going to give a person the opportunity as a citizen, especially a younger citizen—people over 55 are not going to be affected by this at all—to actually own an asset and have that asset grow at a rate that is at least twice the rate of their investment in Social Security. Then when they retire, that asset will be physically there to benefit them in their retirement. The liability that is owed to that person by the Federal Government will have actually been prefunded. There are many ways we can talk about that, but it gets into some complexities I do not have time for now.

Essentially, what it means is that the younger generation, instead of having to pay a huge tax increase to support retirement, is going to actually be creating assets which give them, when they retire, a rate of return which will be significantly or at least as good as what they would get under Social Security without having to pay all these new taxes. It is a way of keeping the system solvent and, at the same time, maintaining a benefit structure that is reasonable and, at the same time, not dramatically increasing taxes.

What we have is a pretty simple debate, in real terms, between the Vice President and Governor Bush. The Vice President does not want to tell people the younger generation is going to get hit with a huge burden of new taxes under his plan, and he does not want to tell us how he is going to address the Social Security system and reform it in the outyears. Governor Bush, on the other hand, is willing to step forward and put some interesting and innovative ideas on the table to address one of the most critical issues that will face our country over the next 30 or 40 years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I appreciate the courtesy of the Senator from Montana. I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume consideration of S. 2521, which the clerk will report by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2521) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I am reluctant to proceed on this bill, although I think we will hold it. My ranking member, Senator MURRAY from Washington, will not be back in town until 5 o'clock this afternoon. This was the weekend her son was married in Seattle. She is returning from her State. I have no comments to make. If Senators want to make comments on the bill, they are free to do so. In the meantime, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to address the Senate once again on the subject of military construction projects added to an appropriations bill that were not requested by the Department of Defense. This bill contains almost $900 million in unrequested military construction projects.

What makes this bill even more offensive than most pork-laden military construction bills is the fact that, while the Senate is willing to act swiftly to approve these pork-barrel projects, we have failed to act to end the disgraceful situation of more than 12,000 military families forced to use food stamps to make ends meet. For the second year in a row, Congress is on the verge of spending hundreds of millions of dollars for purely parochial reasons, while rejecting a proposal that would cost just $6 million per year to take care of those military families most in need.

I am appalled at the extraordinary and inexplicable resistance I have encountered to enacting legislation to get these brave young men and women and their families off food stamps. I am ashamed that the Senate would put hometown construction projects ahead of desperately needed relief for our most junior enlisted personnel.

I appreciate the Senate's unanimous expression of support during consideration of the budget resolution for additional funding for food stamp relief in the defense budget, and I hope my colleagues will reiterate that support when I offer an amendment to the defense authorization bill to end the food stamp Army once and for all.

Every year, I come to the Senate floor for the express purpose of highlighting programs and projects added to spending bills for primarily parochial reasons. While I recognize that many of the projects added to this bill may be worthwhile, the process by which they were selected violates at least one, if not several, of the criteria set out several years ago to limit just this sort of wasteful spending.

I will address the Kosovo language included in this bill at another time. Suffice to say for now that this language, grounded though it may be in an understandable frustration with the Administration and our allies' handling of that contingency, represents foreign policy making by Congress at its worst. This language, certain to prompt a veto of the bill, constitutes a highly questionable approach to solving the problem of burden-sharing and sets a precedent that will damage our credibility abroad for years to come.

Particularly objectionable, apart from the obvious funding issues already alluded to, is the addition to this bill of funding provisions and legislation having nothing to do with military construction and clearly not an emergency requiring immediate redress. In this regard, note must be made of Section 2109, which legislates a funding profile for a ship that has not been requested by the Navy and that cannot be built under the expedited process the ship's congressional sponsor seeks to impose. The $8 million added by the Appropriations Committee for the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, with the proviso that the funds be designated as an ''emergency requirement''—$8 million for the year 2002 Olympics designated as an ''emergency''? It continues to stagger the imagination. It compels a reference to

the old Yogi Berra malapropism about experiencing deja vu all over again.

I am also at a loss as to the rationale for including in this bill certain site-specific earmarks like the $300,000 to transfer excess housing to Indian tribes of North and South Dakota. And mention should be made of the usual Buy America restrictions included in the bill, with a notable exception when it is in the interest of important Members of Congress. Section 112, for example, prohibits the use of funds in the bill to award contracts worth more than $1 million to foreign contractors, except when a Marshallese contractor is seeking contracts at Kwajalein. The $7 million in the bill ''to ensure the availability of biometrics technologies'' will require more research.

It will be very interesting to discover the motivation behind that little phrase.

I would like to point out that the report on this bill was filed late, and thus the information available to Senators about specific projects included in this bill is somewhat limited.

We get into an interesting habit of taking up legislation around here without a report available for the Members to read. If history is any guide, however, skepticism regarding many items added to this bill is warranted. Enough is known about the process by which appropriations bills are put together to justify continued outrage at abuse of the system to satisfy parochial considerations.

Mr. President, the abuse of the Future Years Defense Plan as a criteria for adding projects to military spending bills is seriously out of control. Witness, for example, the number of projects in this bill that are in the fourth or fifth year of the FYDP and that have had no design work done. At least 17 such projects were added to the bill. While they are listed as executable, should we really be advancing unrequested projects by four and five years at the same time we continue to ignore the disgrace of 12,000 military families on food stamps?

It was interesting to see, Mr. President, that the authorization bill for military construction includes a provision equating the term ''Readiness Center'' to the term ''Armory.'' We all enjoy semantic gamesmanship now and again, but if we are going to continue to funnel money back home to National Guard Armories, let's just say so. Let's not exploit the legitimate issue of military readiness that we are finally focused on in order to conduct the same old pork-barrel spending practices that are as much a part of this institution as the collegial colloquialisms that characterize our demeanor on the Senate floor.

There are 28 members of the Appropriations Committee. Only two do not have projects added to the appropriations bill. I wonder what happened to the other two. Perhaps the manager of the bill can tell us what occurred there.

Those numbers, needless to say, go well beyond the realm of mere coincidence. Of 145 projects added to this bill, 111 are in states represented by Senators on the Appropriations Committee, totaling over $700 million. The $12 million added to the bill for the first phase of an access road in Hawaii, the $25 million added for a Joint Mobility Complex in Alaska, the $4 million added for Army National Guard parking in Kentucky, the $14 million added for a fuel cell maintenance dock in Louisiana, the $4.5 million added for an Army National Guard administration building in Nevada, the $10 million added for an Army National Guard Readiness Center (read: Armory) in North Dakota, the $10 million added for the first phase of a base civil engineer complex in South Dakota, and the $1.4 million for channel dredging in Mississippi, are just a handful of the projects added by members that were not in the budget request. Forts Richardson and Wainwright, both in Alaska, fared particularly well, the latter receiving $300,000 for a trail and $900,000 for a biathlon live fire course—which could only be considered a close cousin to the previously mentioned money for the upcoming Winter Olympics.

Yet, many of the Senators whose projects are included in this bill continue to oppose spending just $6 million a year to remove military families from the rolls of those eligible for food stamps. If I sound repetitive, Mr. President, it is out of frustration—frustration at the ability of my colleagues to close their eyes to the disgraceful plight of thousands of our enlisted personnel who don't make enough money to feed themselves and their families.

I believe I have made my point. As usual, I labor under no illusions regarding the impact my comments will have on the way we do business here. I have in the past attempted legislative recourse to pork-barrel spending, and I will do so again. But the history of votes on such efforts causes me to exercise that right sparingly. My self-restraint is simply an acknowledgment that I represent a small minority of this body. Wasteful and unnecessary spending continues because most Members of Congress truly believe that it is one of their primary reasons for being here. I submit, Mr. President, that a wide line exists between serving one's constituents in the context of our nation's best interests and simply funneling money back home because that's how we remind our constituents to vote for us again.

About 2 weeks ago, there was a study completed concerning the deplorable state of the U.S. Army. More captains are leaving the U.S. Army than at anytime in history. We will shortly have a Senate authorization bill, as well as this and other appropriations bills. They don't address this problem. I can guarantee those captains aren't leaving the Army because they need $12 million for the first phase of an access road in Hawaii, or $25 million for a joint mobility complex in Alaska, or $4 million for Army National Guard parking in Kentucky.

If the Republican leadership and the chairmen of these committees continue to spend taxpayers' dollars in this profligate manner, sooner or later the American people will repudiate those actions. I hope it will be sooner rather than later.

The thing that is particularly appalling to me is that this appropriations profligate spending of unauthorized, unnecessary, wasteful pork barrel spending continues at a greater rate every year than the previous year. It will stop sooner or later. I believe it will stop sooner because this bill is a classic example of the abrogation of our responsibilities to average taxpayers, those who are not represented here in Washington, DC.

I yield the floor.

Mr. BURNS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. COLLINS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that there be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Iowa.

TEN SMART THINGS TO DO WHILE YOU AGE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, getting old is probably the most universal experience no one really likes to talk about. Sure, people talk about minor aches and pains, but the big topics are unmentionable. They include paying for a funeral, preparing for a nursing home stay, or getting checked for prostate problems. These things make people uncomfortable, but they really should not. Consider Katie Couric's comment about colon cancer. She said, ''Some people find the procedures like . . . colonoscopies unappealing. I can tell you they are all much more appealing than dying of this disease.''

In honor of Older Americans Month, I encourage aging adults—and that means all of us—to mention the unmentionable, and to think the unthinkable. Once you get these chores done, the rest of your years will be a day in the country. Here are 10 Smart Things to Do While You Age:

1. Secure your retirement income. One financial planner said saving for

retirement is ''like pushing a ball up a hill. The longer you wait, the steeper the hill (seems).'' Yet 56 percent of U.S. households do not save enough for retirement. What should you do? The experts advise developing a financial plan and sticking to it. Save $25 a week for 40 years with 5 percent interest. You will have $165,000. Before you decide how much to set aside, think about how much you will need to maintain a standard of living.

My own advice is do not overrely on Social Security. Think of it this way, a solid retirement plan is a three-legged stool of Social Security, retirement savings, and a pension. Look carefully at your pension plan, too. Make sure you understand what's coming to you, and when.

2. Think about where you would like to live, and how. Do you dream of staying in the same town or city for the rest of your life? If necessary, could you modify your home to accommodate you as you get older? Would you like to move closer to friends and family? Would you like a condo on the beach in Florida or an assisted living facility, where you pay people to do your laundry and cook your meals? This item goes hand-in-hand with financial planning. The more retirement income you have, the more housing options you have.

3. Get preventive health checks, exercise, and eat well. Preventive health checks are getting easier all the time. Increasingly, they are available through insurance coverage. Medicare covers vaccinations, mammograms and screenings for colon and prostate cancer, diabetes and other illnesses. Unfortunately people often do not take advantage of the health screenings available to them. Only one of eight older people gets the recommended testing for colon cancer. This is a shame, when you consider that colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death.

More than half of all Americans do not get the exercise they need. Generally, the older people get, the less they exercise. Of course, some people have physical limitations that prevent such activities, but those who can exercise should, and at any age, doctors say. Exercise can help stave off heart disease, colon cancer, diabetes and high blood pressure. A good diet carries many of the same benefits

4. Write a will or living trust. Either of these documents delineates how you'd like your property distributed after your death. If you die without a will, the State will distribute your property for you. The result may be contrary to your wishes. It is best to write a will or living trust well before old age. That way, your spouse and children will be provided for if you face an untimely death. More than 40 percent of people 35 or older do not have any kind of legal document determining how their belongings will be distributed after they die.

5. Consider long-term care insurance. Many people do not realize that nursing homes are very expensive. Most nursing home residents do not pay out of their pockets for long. They spend down their assets to become qualified for Medicaid, which then picks up the tab. Spending down assets means giving up almost everything, including a house. Long-term care insurance is an option for covering long-term care expenses. The earlier you buy the insurance, the less expensive your premiums. I have sponsored legislation that would establish a tax deduction to encourage the purchase of long-term insurance.

6. Plan your funeral and burial or cremation. The national average cost for a funeral, burial and monument is $7,520. These costs can be much lower, but they can be much, much higher. The average mark-up on caskets is high. The latest estimated mark-up is 500 percent. Some are marked up as high as 2,000 percent. The high costs, and the presence of some bad applies in this industry, build the case for arranging a funeral early. It is hard to comparison-shop when you are grieving. If you plan ahead, you can call funeral homes for the best price. Of course, planning ahead has its pitfalls. Be sure you tell your family members about prearrangements, and give them all the relevant paperwork. That way, your family can verify that your contract is fulfilled after you're gone.

7. Think about whether a family member will care for you, or vice versa. Unpaid family caregivers keep millions of people at home and out of nursing homes. More than 22 million households have a caregiver who is age 50 or older. The majority are women. Caregiving takes a large toll, both financially and emotionally. I am working to provide more resources to family caregivers, including a $3,000 tax credit that would help them cover their expenses.

8. Decide how long you will work. Until recently, people who worked past age 65 lost Social Security benefits if they made more than $17,000 a year. Congress just repealed that penalty for people ages 65 to 69. This likely will cause many Americans to rethink whether they will work past age 65, either part-time or full-time. Choosing the best age at which to retire is an important financial decision.

9. Determine your treatment at the end of life. In a living will, which, or course, is completely different from an estate-planning will, you direct how your doctor should administer life-sustaining treatment if you are unable to decide for yourself. A living will guides your treatment if you are terminally ill, irreversibly unconscious, or in a persistent vegetative state.

10. Enjoy yourself. You have worked hard to stay financially fit and physically healthy. The opportunities for older Americans are greater than ever before. You can work well into your eighties and nineties if you choose. You can become a competitor in the Senior Olympics. You can write a book, volunteer with your church, or teach people how to read. Surf the Internet. E-mail your grandchildren. Take advantage of the insight and depth that inevitably come with aging. Someone once said, ''Being a fun person is the hallmark of true maturity.

I yield the floor.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, May 12, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,667,021,443,140.97 (Five trillion, six hundred sixty-seven billion, twenty-one million, four hundred forty-three thousand, one hundred forty dollars and ninety-seven cents).

One year ago, May 12, 1999, the Federal debt stood at $5,578,150,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred seventy-eight billion, one hundred fifty million).

Five years ago, May 12, 1995, the Federal debt stood at $4,859,131,000,000 (Four trillion, eight hundred fifty-nine billion, one hundred thirty-one million).

Twenty-five years ago, May 12, 1975, the Federal debt stood at $515,906,000,000 (Five hundred fifteen billion, nine hundred six million) which reflects a debt increase of more than $5 trillion—$5,151,115,443,140.97 (Five trillion, one hundred fifty-one billion, one hundred fifteen million, four hundred forty-three thousand, one hundred forty dollars and ninety-seven cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF CFIDS AWARENESS DAY

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize May 12 as Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunctions Syndrome [CFIDS] Awareness Day as well as the efforts of the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome [CFS] Association of the Lehigh Valley in fighting this disease.

CFIDS, also known as CFS, is a complex illness which effects multiple systems of the body. The syndrome is characterized by neurological, rheumatological, and immunological problems; incapacitating fatigue; and numerous other symptoms. Over 800,000 Americans of all ages, races, and socioeconomic classes suffer from this often debilitating disease. Tragically, persons with this syndrome can experience symptoms sufficient to deprive them of opportunity for gainful employment.

CFIDS is often misdiagnosed because it is frequently unrecognized and can resemble other disorders. Therefore, it is imperative that education and training of health professionals regarding CFIDS be expanded and that there be greater public awareness of this serious health problem. While there has been increased activity at the national, state, and local levels, and in private

research institutions, more must be done to support patients and their families.

The CFS Association of the Lehigh Valley works to encourage further research to conquer CFIDS and related disorders, and to inform and empower those affected by the disorder until a cure is found. The association, a member of the CFIDS Support Network of the CFIDS Association of America, is celebrating their eight year of service to the CFIDS community and has participated in May 12 activities since 1993. Moreover, the association has been awarded the CFIDS Support Network Action Award for ''Excellence in Service in the Area of CFIDS Awareness Day'' in 1996 and for ''Excellence in Commitment and Other Service to the CFIDS Community in the Area of Public Policy'' in 1995.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the CFS Association of the Lehigh Valley for its efforts, and in recognizing May 12th as CFIDS Awareness Day.●

RECOGNIZING K.S. OF WEST VIRGINIA

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize and celebrate the recent expansion of K.S. of West Virginia. It seems like just a short time ago, in August of 1995 to be precise, that I had the privilege of announcing that this Japan-based company would be moving to Ravenswood, West Virginia.

Remarkable things have happened since that day almost five years ago. At that time, just two Japanese firms called West Virginia home. Today, I am honored to say that seventeen Japanese companies are thriving in our state, creating good paying jobs that support both families and communities.

K.S. of West Virginia has played an important role in that success, and I would like to personally extend my gratitude to the Kato family for their unwavering support and belief in us. Our efforts in Japan would surely suffer were it not for the positive voices of our friends here at K.S. Indeed, Mr. Kato's enthusiasm and excitement about West Virginia is unmistakable and contagious. West Virginia has found a valuable ally and a good friend in Mr. Kazuo Kato, and his tireless work continues to be appreciated.

Too often in this country we have witnessed the destruction of families and whole communities as the result of the corporate philosophy of the bottom line. However, companies like K.S. of West Virginia, who recognize the importance of their employees and communities, demonstrate that compassion and sound judgement are the real keys to success. K.S. is an example of the kind of company that truly deserves our praise and support.

There is no clearer example of this than an issue Mr. Kato and I have been working on over the past year. As the leader of K.S., Mr. Kato faced a difficult situation with costly ramifications. Yet, instead of maintaining the status quo, Mr. Kato made a series of innovative decisions that will have far-reaching effects for both K.S., and the U.S. steel industry.

Not only a leader in the business world, K.S. has shown leadership in the West Virginia community, as well. Companies like K.S., who believe that their success is measured not just by overall profit margins, but by the amount that is shared with the people who make them profitable, teach us a valuable lesson in management, ethics, team work and mutual respect. This philosophy is as ancient as Confucius or the Bible, and as relevant as the news you read in this morning's paper.

Indeed, there are 115 individuals who have contributed to the prosperity of K.S. of West Virginia. Their hard work is not taken for granted, and as this company grows, so does the value of their loyalty. We are blessed in West Virginia to have parents and grandparents who taught their children that by working hard and playing by the rules a person can be successful—each employee at K.S is a reflection of this tradition and a credit to our State.

As part of his core teaching, Confucius emphasized that people in positions of leadership have a sacred obligation to serve those who have entrusted them with power. If this power is abused, then the entire system would break down, dooming any enterprise. Thus, I am proud to add my voice to the collective celebration of the success we are witnessing at K.S. of West Virginia. To Mr. Kato and his family, and all the members of K.S. of West Virginia, I extend my thanks and congratulations. You have demonstrated that by working together, unattainable dreams can become reality.●

THE RETIREMENT OF MS. JANET HUVAERE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ms. Janet Huvaere, who is retiring this spring after 39 years of teaching at St. Jude School in Northeast Detroit. During her time at St. Jude, Ms. Huvaere has constantly been a light in the lives of her students and her fellow staff members, and her dedication to them and to her profession has truly been remarkable.

Ms. Huvaere was born in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, on October 11, 1938. She attended St. Ambrose School for both grade school and high school. After graduating from St. Ambrose, Ms. Huvaere worked for a year at Bon Secours Hospital, and then entered the Adrian Dominican Order. After two years, she left to attend Siena Heights University in Adrian, Michigan. She began teaching at St. Jude upon receiving her bachelor's degree from Siena Heights in 1961.

In her 39 years at St. Jude School, Ms. Huvaere has taught the third, fifth and sixth grades. Her dedication to her students is surpassed only by her dedication and love for her family. One of her greatest memories came in 1986, when her father, who was ill at the time, was able to partake in a celebration marking her 25th year at St. Jude.

Mr. President, Ms. Huvaere has touched many lives during her thirty-nine years of teaching, and has been a role model to many children in the State of Michigan. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Ms. Huvaere on a wonderful career, and wish her the best of luck in retirement.●

THE GRAND OPENING OF ''A TEST OF A NATION: THE HONOR OF A COUNTY''

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on May 19, 2000, the Barry County Parks and Recreation Commission will unveil a brand new exhibition at Historic Charlton Park Village, Museum and Recreation Area in Hastings, Michigan. The exhibition is entitled ''A Test of a Nation: The Honor of a County,'' and is a tribute to the soldiers that Barry County sent off to battle during the Civil War, and also to their families. I rise today, Mr. President, in honor of this special occasion.

During the Civil War, Barry County, at the time populated by less than 15,000 people, contributed 1,632 men to the Union Army, the highest percentage of citizens per county in the State of Michigan. The new exhibition illustrates what life was like for these men out in the field, and for their loved ones at home. Part of the grand opening celebration on May 19, 2000, will be educational programs on the topic of the Civil War.

The exhibition was made possible in part by funds from a Michigan Arts, Cultural and Quality of Life Grant. On September 1, 1999, Historic Charlton Park received $339,000 to remodel and expand the museum. ''A Test of a Nation: The Honor of a County'' marks the completion of the first phase of the project.

Mr. President, it goes without saying that the Civil War is one of the most important events in American History, and perhaps the most important. I applaud all of the people whose efforts made this exhibition possible, for with these efforts they have allowed individuals of all ages an opportunity to experience a little part of that history. They have given them a chance to see what life was like for the men, women and children of Barry County who played an important role in keeping our nation together.

On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Historic Charlton Park Village on the opening of ''A Test of a Nation: The Honor of a County.'' It is truly an important exhibition, and I know that the people of Barry County will greatly appreciate it.●

THE FRIENDS OF THEODORE ROETHKE HISTORIC MARKER DEDICATION

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on May 18, 2000, The Friends of Theodore Roethke, a group dedicated to maintaining the legacy of the great poet, will unveil a historic marker in his honor on the lawn of his childhood home at 1805 Gratiot, Saginaw, Michigan. I rise today, Mr. President, in honor of this special occasion.

Mr. Roethke was born in Saginaw in 1908, the son of Otto and Helen Huebner Roethke. He attended the University of Michigan and Harvard Graduate School, and later was a professor at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, Michigan State University, Penn State University, Bennington College in Vermont, and the University of Washington in Seattle.

Before his death on August 1, 1963, Mr. Roethke received many awards for his poetry. In 1954, he became the first Michigan man to win the Pulitzer Prize for his collection of poems entitled The Waking. And in 1959, he received the Bollingen Prize and a National Book Award for another collection of poems entitled Words of the Wind. Some of his other works include The Lost Son, Praise to the End!, and I Am! Says the Lamb.

In 1998, the Friends of Theodore Roethke purchased both Roethke homes in Saginaw, Michigan, with a mission to promote, preserve and protect the literary legacy of the great poet by restoring his family residences for cultural and educational opportunities. Since the group purchased the homes, they have written grants for educational writing workshops combining Saginaw public and Saginaw Township students, offered tours for students and teachers, purchased some of the original Roethke furnishing, opened the houses to working writers, and made some much needed repairs, such as a new furnace and asbestos removal.

Mr. President, I applaud The Friends of Theodore Roethke for their wonderful efforts to keep alive the legacy of Michigan's only Pulitzer Prize winning poet. I am sure that the unveiling of this historic marker is only the first of many tributes. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate The Friends of Theodore Roethke on the dedication of this historic marker, and wish President Annie Ransford and the rest of the organization continued success in the future.●

IN MEMORY OF MS. MARY S. PALMERI

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today in honor and in memory of Ms. Mary S. Palmeri, who passed away on August 30, 1999. Ms. Palmeri served the County of Wayne, Michigan, for 32 years, and has been chosen by her peers to posthumously receive the coveted Court Clerk of the Year Award, which will be presented to her family this week.

Ms. Palmeri was born in St. Mary's Hospital in Detroit in 1939, and was a lifelong resident of the city of Dearborn, Michigan. She graduated from Fordson High School in 1958, and spent approximately two years in college. In June of 1967, Ms. Palmeri became a typist at the County of Wayne Department of Civil Service, thus beginning a thirty-two year career of public service.

A few years later Ms. Palmeri was transferred to the County Clerk's Office, where she worked in numerous offices prior to becoming a Court Clerk, including the Record Room and as Supervisor of the Appeals Department. Ms. Palmeri ultimately worked as a Court Clerk for many prominent judges, including the Honorable Henry J. Szymanski, the Honorable William J. Cahalan, and the Honorable Pamela R. Harwood.

In addition to her work, Ms. Palmeri enjoyed many hobbies, including bowling, ceramics, crocheting, knitting and crewel embroidery. She was both a terrfic seamstress and a wonderful cook. She also loved to play cards, work on crossword puzzles, and play board games. She was also an active member of St. Alphonseus Catholic Church in Dearborn, Michigan. Ms. Palmeri is survived by her husband of thirty years, Frank, and their three children, Christopher, Cindy and John.

Mr. President, I am glad that the County of Wayne has chosen to honor Ms. Palmeri's many years of service by presenting her family with the Court Clerk of the Year Award. She was a hard worker who truly cared for the people around her, and her warm and generous personality is deeply missed by the entire Dearborn community.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

A DRAFT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION ENTITLED THE ''CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2000—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 104

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit today for immediate consideration and prompt enactment the ''Consumer Product Safety Commission Enhanced Enforcement Act of 2000.'' This legislative proposal would increase the penalties that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) could impose upon manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products who do not inform the CPSC when the company has reason to believe it has sold a product that does not meet Federal safety standards or could otherwise create a substantial product hazard. The proposal would also improve product recalls by enabling the CPSC to choose an alternative remedy in a recall if the CPSC finds that the remedy selected by the manufacturer is not in the public interest.

Under current consumer product safety laws, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products are required to inform the CPSC whenever they have information that one of their products: (1) fails to comply with a CPSC product safety standard; (2) contains a defect that could create a substantial product hazard; or (3) creates an unreasonable risk of serious injury or death. After a company reports this information to the CPSC, the CPSC staff initiates an investigation in cooperation with the company. If the CPSC concludes that the product presents a substantial product hazard and that a recall is in the public interest, the CPSC staff will work with the company to conduct a product safety recall. The sooner the CPSC hears about a dangerous product, the sooner the CPSC can act to remove the product from store shelves and inform consumers about how to eliminate the hazard. That is why it is critical that companies inform the CPSC as soon as they are aware that one of their products may present a serious hazard to the public.

Unfortunately, in about half the cases involving the most significant hazards—where the product can cause death or serious injury—companies do not report to the CPSC. In those cases, the CPSC must get safety information from other sources, including its own investigators, consumers, or tragically, from hospital emergency room reports or death certificates. Sometimes years can pass before the CPSC learns of the product hazard, although the company may have been aware of it all along. During that time, deaths and injuries continue. Once the CPSC becomes aware of the hazard, many companies continue to be recalcitrant, and the CPSC staff must conduct its own independent investigation. This often includes finding and investigating product incidents and conducting extensive laboratory testing. This process can take a long time, which means that the most dangerous products remain on store shelves and in consumers' homes

longer, placing children and families at continuing risk.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission can currently assess civil penalties against companies who fail to report a dangerous product. Criminal penalties are also available in particularly serious cases. In fact, in 1999, the CPSC assessed 10 times the amount of civil penalties assessed 10 years ago. But, even with this more vigorous enforcement, too many companies still do not report, especially in cases involving serious harm.

This legislative proposal would enhance the CPSC's civil and criminal enforcement authority. It would provide an added incentive for companies to comply with the law so that we can get dangerous products out of stores and consumers' homes more quickly.

My legislative proposal would also help to make some product recalls more effective by allowing the CPSC to choose an alternative remedy if the CPSC finds that the manufacturer's chosen remedy is not in the public interest. Under current law, a company with a defective product that is being recalled has the right to select the remedy to be offered to the public. My proposal would continue to permit the company to select the remedy in a product recall. My proposal would also, however, allow the CPSC to determine—after an opportunity for a hearing—that the remedy selected by the company is not in the public interest.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission helps to keep America's children and families safe. This legislation proposal would help the CPSC be even more effective in protecting the public from dangerous products. I urge the Congress to give this legislation prompt and favorable consideration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *May 12, 2000.*

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC–8934. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled the ''U.S. Department of Agriculture Mediation and Arbitration for Agriculture Products in Foreign Commerce Act of 2000''; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–8935. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation relative to civilian personnel and Mentor-Protege Programs; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–8936. A communication from the Federal Maritime Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Ocean Common Carriers Subject to the Shipping Act of 1984'' (Docket No. 99–10), received May 9, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–8937. A communication from the Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Transfer and Repurchase of Government Securities'' (RIN1550–AB38), received May 9, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–8938. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled the ''Consumer Financial Privacy Act''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–8939. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to implementation of the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program under the FY 2000 Department of Defense Appropriations Act; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–8940. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation relative to civilian personnel and Mentor-Protege Programs; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–8941. A communication from the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Information Collection Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2000''; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–8942. A communication from the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Code of Federal Regulations; Authority Citations'', received May 9, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–8943. A communication from the Chairman, New York State Subcommittee on Sweatshops, transmitting a report entitled ''Behind Closed Doors II: Another Look into the Underground Sweatshop Industry''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–8944. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled ''College Completion Challenge Grant Act of 2000''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–8945. A communication from the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revised OIG Civil Money Penalties Resulting from Public Law 104–191'' (RIN0991–AA90), received May 4, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–515. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii relative to the observance of the centennial of the Organic Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

Whereas, on January 17, 1898, the Kingdom of Hawaii was overthrown; and

Whereas, on July 7, 1898, the Republic of Hawaii was annexed by the United States by a Joint Resolution of Annexation; and

Whereas, after annexation, United States President William McKinley appointed, pursuant to the Joint Resolution, five commissioners to recommend to Congress ''such legislation concerning the Hawaiian Islands as they shall deem necessary or proper''; and

Whereas, the five commissioners were United States Senators Shelly M. Cullom, chairman, and John T. Morgan; United States Representative Robert R. Hitt; and Hawaii residents Sanford B. Dole, and Walter F. Frear; and

Whereas, the commissioners held meetings and hearings in Honolulu and the neighbor islands in the fall of 1898; and

Whereas, on December 6, 1898, President William McKinley of the United States transmitted the report of the Hawaiian Commission, appointed pursuant to the ''joint resolution to provide for annexing the Hawaiian Islands to the United States,'' approved July 7, 1898; together with a copy of the civil and penal laws of Hawaii; and

Whereas, on April 30, 1900 the Congress of the United States passed the Organic Act; and

Whereas, the Organic Act provided for a government for the Territory of Hawaii; and

Whereas, the Hawaiian Islands consisted of the following islands: Hawaii, Maui, Oahu, Kauai, Molokai, Lanai, Niihau, Kahoolawe, Molokini, Lehua, Kaula, Nihoa, Necker, Laysan, Gardiner, Lisiansky, Ocean, French Frigates Shoal, Palmyra, Brooks Shoal, Pearl and Hermers Reef, Gambia Shoal and Dowsett and Maro Reef; and

Whereas, under the laws of the Kingdom of Hawaii, the Crown lands were declared to be inalienable; and

Whereas, under the Organic Act, the Crown lands were declared to be public domain and ''subject to alienation and other uses as provided by law''; and

Whereas, On July 9, 1921 the Congress of the United States enacted the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act; and

Whereas, On March 18, 1959 the Congress of the United States enacted An Act to Provide for the Admission of the State of Hawaii into the Union; and

Whereas, in December 1999, representatives of the Department of Interior held reconciliation discussions within the Native Hawaiian communities regarding the unlawful overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Twentieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2000, the Senate concurring, That the centennial anniversary of the passage of the Organic Act is hereby commemorated; and be it further

Resolved, That members of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Legislature, ''Express Aloha'' to the Native Hawaiian community on this centennial event that saddens many Native Hawaiians; and be it further

Resolved, That all members of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Twentieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, are encouraged to gather with the Native Hawaiian community at Iolani Palace on April 30, 2000, commemorating the centennial of the Organic Act; and be it further

Resolved, That this Concurrent Resolution serve as a reminder to the United States Congress of its involvement in the creation of the Organic Act; and be it further

Resolved, That this Concurrent Resolution serve as an invitation to President William Jefferson Clinton of the United States of America and the Congress of the United States to gather with the Native Hawaiian community at Iolani Palace on April 30, 2000, commemorating the Centennial of the Organic Act or at their earliest convenience; and be it further

Resolved, That certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the Attorney General of the United States, the United States Secretary of the Interior, the President of

the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, Hawaii's Congressional delegation, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the governor of each state, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawaii, the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and each member of the House of Representatives of the State of Hawaii.

POM–516. A resolution adopted by the House of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to the financial structure of the Coal Act; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 374

Whereas, Pennsylvania is a coal-producing and coal-consuming state that has benefited tremendously from the hard, dangerous work of retired coal miners; and

Whereas, The United States Government entered into a contract with coal miners in 1946 that created the United Mine Workers of America Health and Retirement Funds; and

Whereas, This contract was signed in the White House in a ceremony with President Harry Truman; and

Whereas, A Federal commission established by Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole concluded in 1990:

''Retired coal miners have legitimate expectations of health care benefits for life; that was the promise they received during their working lives and that is how they planned their retirement years. That commitment should be honored''; and

Whereas, This promise became law in 1992 when the Congress of the United States passed and President George Bush signed the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act (the Coal Act); and

Whereas, The Coal Act reiterated the promise of lifetime health benefits for retired coal miners and their dependents; and

Whereas, Congress intended the Coal Act to:

''(1) remedy problems with the provision and funding of health care benefits with respect to the beneficiaries of multiemployer benefit plans that provide health care benefits to retirees in the coal industry;

(2) allow for sufficient operating assets for such plans; and

(3) provide for the continuation of a privately financed self-sufficient program for the delivery of health care benefits to the beneficiaries of such plans''; and

Whereas, Certain court decisions have eroded the financial structure Congress put in place under the Coal Act; and

Whereas, These court decisions have placed the continued provision of health benefits to retired coal miners in jeopardy; and

Whereas, the President has included in his proposed budget $346 million in general Federal funds over ten years to protect the long-term integrity of the Combined Benefit Fund for Retired Miners and their Dependents; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President and the Congress of the United States to work together to enact legislation to reform the financial structure of the Coal Act by providing for an annual transfer of general Federal funds to the combined benefit fund addressing the shortfall created by the above-mentioned court cases; and be it further

Resolved, That, in accordance with the contract of 1946, the health care benefits promised to retired coal miners be continued, preserved and ensured; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE

Under authority of the order of the Senate of May 11, 2000, the following reports of committees were submitted on May 12, 2000:

By Mr. WARNER, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 2549: An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106–292).

S. 2550: An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2551: An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military construction, and for other purposes.

S. 2552: An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the following reports of committees were submitted on May 12, 2000:

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2553: An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September, 30, 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106–293).

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2311: A bill to revise and extend the Ryan White CARE Act programs under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, to improve access to health care and the quality of health care under such programs, and to provide for the development of increased capacity to provide health care and related support services to individuals and families with HIV disease, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-294).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 2554. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the display of an individual's social security number for commercial purposes without the consent of the individual; to the Committee on Finance .

By Mr. KERREY (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 2555. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income of individual taxpayers discharges of indebtedness attributable to certain forgiven residential mortgage obligations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 2556. A bill to make technical amendments to the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 regarding the implementation of the per diem prospective payment system for psychiatric hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 2554. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to prohibit the display of an individual's Social Security number for commercial purposes without the consent of the individual; to the Committee on Finance.

AMY BOYER'S LAW

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2554

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as ''Amy Boyer's Law''.

SEC. 2. PROTECTING PRIVACY BY PROHIBITING DISPLAY OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES WITHOUT CONSENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part A of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN MISUSES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

''SEC. 1150A. (a) LIMITATION ON DISPLAY.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person may display to the public any individual's social security number, or any identifiable derivative of such number, without the affirmatively expressed consent, electronically or in writing, of such individual.

''(b) PROHIBITION OF WRONGFUL USE AS PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.—No person may obtain any individual's social security number, or any identifiable derivative of such number, for purposes of locating or identifying an individual with the intent to physically injure, harm, or use the identity of the individual for illegal purposes.

''(c) PREREQUISITES FOR CONSENT.—In order for consent to exist under subsection (a), the person displaying, or seeking to display, an individual's social security number, or any identifiable derivative of such number, shall—

''(1) inform the individual of the general purposes for which the number will be utilized and the types of persons to whom the number may be available; and

''(2) obtain affirmatively expressed consent electronically or in writing.

''(d) EXCEPTIONS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

''(1) prohibit any use of social security numbers permitted or required under section 205(c)(2), section 7(a)(2) of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a note; 88 Stat. 1909), or section 6109(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

''(2) modify, limit, or supersede the operation of, or the conduct of any activity permitted under, the Fair Credit Reporting Act

(15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) or title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6801 et seq.);

''(3) except as set forth in subsection (b), prohibit or limit the use of a social security number to retrieve information about an individual without displaying such number to the public;

''(4) prohibit or limit the use of the social security number for purposes of law enforcement, including investigation of fraud; or

''(5) prohibit or limit the use of a social security number obtained from a public record or document lawfully acquired from a governmental agency.

''(e) CIVIL ACTION IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT; DAMAGES; ATTORNEYS FEES AND COSTS; REGULATORY COORDINATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any individual aggrieved by any act of any person in violation of this section may bring a civil action in a United States district court to recover—

''(A) such preliminary and equitable relief as the court determines to be appropriate; and

''(B) the greater of—

''(i) actual damages;

''(ii) liquidated damages of $2,500; or

''(iii) in the case of a violation that was willful and resulted in profit or monetary gain, liquidated damages of $10,000.

''(2) ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS.—In the case of a civil action brought under paragraph (1)(B)(iii) in which the aggrieved individual has substantially prevailed, the court may assess against the respondent a reasonable attorney's fee and other litigation costs and expenses (including expert fees) reasonably incurred.

''(3) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No action may be commenced under this subsection more than 3 years after the date on which the violation was or should reasonably have been discovered by the aggrieved individual.

''(4) NONEXCLUSIVE REMEDY.—The remedy provided under this subsection shall be in addition to any other lawful remedy available to the individual.

''(f) CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who the Commissioner of Social Security determines has violated this section shall be subject, in addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed by law, to—

''(A) a civil money penalty of not more than $5,000 for each such violation, and

''(B) a civil money penalty of not more than $50,000, if violations have occurred with such frequency as to constitute a general business practice.

''(2) DETERMINATION OF VIOLATIONS.—Any willful violation committed contemporaneously with respect to the social security numbers of 2 or more individuals by means of mail, telecommunication, or otherwise shall be treated as a separate violation with respect to each such individual.

''(3) ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES.—The provisions of section 1128A (other than subsections (a), (b), (f), (h), (i), (j), and (m), and the first sentence of subsection (c)) and the provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of section 205 shall apply to civil money penalties under this subsection in the same manner as such provisions apply to a penalty or proceeding under section 1128A(a), except that, for purposes of this paragraph, any reference in section 1128A to the Secretary shall be deemed a reference to the Commissioner of Social Security.

''(4) COORDINATION WITH CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall take such actions as are necessary and appropriate to assure proper coordination of the enforcement of the provisions of this section with criminal enforcement under section 1028 of title 18, United States Code (relating to fraud and related activity in connection with identification documents). The Commissioner shall enter into cooperative arrangements with the Federal Trade Commission under section 5 of the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1998 (18 U.S.C. 1028 note) for purposes of achieving such coordination.

''(g) LIMITATION ON REGULATION BY STATES.—No requirement or prohibition may be imposed under the laws of any State with respect to any subject matter regulated under subsections (a) through (d).

''(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term 'display to the general public' means the intentional placing of an individual's social security number, or identifying portion thereof, in a viewable manner on a web site that is available to the general public or in material made available or sold to the general public.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) applies with respect to violations occurring on and after the date which is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. KERREY (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 2555. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income of individual taxpayers discharges of indebtedness attributable to certain forgiven residential mortgage obligations; to the Committee on Finance.

MORTGAGE CANCELLATION RELIEF ACT OF 2000

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to correct an inequity in the tax code which can hurt homeowners who sell their homes at a loss. I am delighted to be joined by Senator HATCH in introducing this legislation.

We all know someone who, for whatever reason, has wound up selling their home at a loss. In these situations, where the value of a home is less than the outstanding loan on that home, a mortgage lender will sometimes forgive all or part of the outstanding mortgage balance. Under current law, the amount forgiven is counted as taxable income to the seller.

This doesn't make any sense, particularly since gains on a principal residence are tax exempt up to $500,000. The legislation we are introducing today will fix this problem by exempting taxpayers from including in ordinary income mortgage amounts forgiven by the lender on a principal residence, provided the proceeds of the home sale won't satisfy the qualified outstanding mortgage.

The legislation we are introducing today is targeted to protect against any abuse and we expect the cost to be very low over a 10-year period. I urge my colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I stand before the Senate today to urge my colleagues to support a bill, the Mortgage Cancellation Act of 2000, that I am introducing along with Senator KERREY. This bill would fix a flaw in the tax code that unfairly harms homeowners who sell their home at a loss.

Often, homeowners who must sell their home at a loss are able to negotiate with their mortgage lender to forgive all or part of the mortgage balance that exceeds the selling price. However, under current tax law, the amount forgiven is taxable income to the seller.

For example, suppose a young family purchased their home for $150,000 with a $130,000 mortgage, $120,000 of which is still outstanding. Let us also assume that there is an economic downturn that has both decreased the value of the house to $110,000 and put this family in financial distress because the primary wage earner has lost his or her job. Because the family is no longer able to meet their mortgage payments, they are forced to sell their home for $110,000, $10,000 below the value of the mortgage, with the condition that the lender will forgive this difference. Unfortunately, under current tax law, this family will have to recognize this $10,000 difference as taxable income at a time when they can least afford it. This is true even though the family suffered a $40,000 loss on the sale.

Mr. President, I find this predicament both ironic and unfair. If this same family, under much better circumstances, was able to sell their house for $200,000 instead of $110,000, then they would owe nothing in tax on the gain under current tax law because gains on a principal residence are tax exempt up to $500,000. I believe that this discrepancy creates a tax inequity that begs for relief.

Finally, I want to stress that now is the time to address the inequity, while the economy is healthy, instead of waiting for the next recession, when this problem will be much more common. Luckily, the problem addressed by this bill is not widespread in our country right now. However, a few years ago, many families in my home state of Utah suffered losses on the necessary sale of their homes, and had to pay taxes on the canceled mortgage debt. Families in other areas of our nation experienced similar problems.

So, Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to join with Senator KERREY and me in support of this bill.

By Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. BREAUX):

S. 2556. A bill to make technical amendments to the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 regarding the implementation of the per diem prospective payment system for psychiatric hospitals; to the Committee on Finance.

LEGISLATION MAKING TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT ACT OF 1999

• Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the legislation I am introducing today with my colleague, Senator BREAUX, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2556

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE BBRA.

(a) PER DIEM PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS.—Section 124 of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (113 Stat. 1501A–332), as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(6) of Public Law 106–113, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''October 1, 2001'' and inserting ''October 1, 2000''; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''October 1, 2002'' and inserting ''October 1, 2001''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 124 of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (113 Stat. 1501A–332), as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(6) of Public Law 106–113.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 741

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 741, a bill to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

S. 1333

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1333, a bill to expand homeownership in the United States.

S. 1361

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1361, a bill to amend the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 to provide for an expanded Federal program of hazard mitigation, relief, and insurance against the risk of catastrophic natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, and for other purposes.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify certain franchise operation property as 15-year depreciable property.

S. 1638

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1638, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the retroactive eligibility dates for financial assistance for higher education for spouses and dependent children of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty.

S. 1732

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) were added as cosponsors of S. 1732, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit certain allocations of S corporation stock held by an employee stock ownership plan.

S. 1805

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1805, a bill to restore food stamp benefits for aliens, to provide States with flexibility in administering the food stamp vehicle allowance, to index the excess shelter expense deduction to inflation, to authorize additional appropriations to purchase and make available additional commodities under the emergency food assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1810

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1810, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify and improve veterans' claims and appellate procedures.

S. 2044

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2044, a bill to allow postal patrons to contribute to funding for domestic violence programs through the voluntary purchase of specially issued postage stamps.

S. 2045

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2045, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to H–1B nonimmigrant aliens.

S. 2064

At the request of Mr. EDWARDS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2064, a bill to amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act, to expand the purpose of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to cover individuals who are at least 18 but have not yet attained the age of 22.

S. 2065

At the request of Mr. EDWARDS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2065, a bill to authorize the Attorney General to provide grants for organizations to find missing adults.

S. 2068

At the request of Mr. FITZGERALD, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2068, a bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from establishing rules authorizing the operation of new, low power FM radio stations.

S. 2071

At the request of Mr. GORTON, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2071, a bill to benefit electricity consumers by promoting the reliability of the bulk-power system.

S. 2107

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2107, a bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to reduce securities fees in excess of those required to fund the operations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, to adjust compensation provisions for employees of the Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 2217

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2217, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Museum of the American Indian of the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes.

S. 2311

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2311, a bill to revise and extend the Ryan White CARE Act programs under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, to improve access to health care and the quality of health care under such programs, and to provide for the development of increased capacity to provide health care and related support services to individuals and families with HIV disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2408

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) were added as cosponsors of S. 2408, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to the Navajo Code Talkers in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 2459

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2459, a bill to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan in recognition of their service to the Nation.

S. 2539

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2539, a bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 with respect to export controls on high performance computers.

S. 2540

At the request of Mr. KERREY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2540, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a carbon sequestration program to permit owners and operators of land to enroll the land in the program to increase the sequestration of carbon, and for other purposes.

S. 2546

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2546, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the use of methyl tertiary

butyl ether, to provide flexibility within the oxygenate requirement of the reformulated gasoline program of the Environmental Protection Agency, to promote the use of renewable ethanol, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 84

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 84, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the naming of aircraft carrier CVN–77, the last vessel of the historic ''*Nimitz*'' class of aircraft carriers, as the U.S.S. *Lexington*.

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED

EXTENDING RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY DATES IN THE OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT OF 1968

LEAHY AMENDMENT NO. 3147

Mr. BURNS (for Mr. LEAHY) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1638) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the retroactive eligibility dates for financial assistance for higher education for spouses and dependent children of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty; as follows:

On page 2, line 10, strike ''May 1, 1978'' and insert ''January 1, 1978''.

On page 2, line 12, strike ''October 1, 1978'' and insert ''January 1, 1978''.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2000, at 2 p.m. to conduct an oversight hearing on Implementation of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act, P.L. (101–644). The hearing will be held in room 562, Dirksen Senate Building. Those wishing additional information may contact committee staff at 202/224–2251.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 17, 2000, at 2 p.m. to conduct a hearing on S. 1148, to provide for the Yankton Sioux Tribe and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska certain benefits of the Missouri River Pick-Sloan Project and S. 1658, to authorize the construction of a Reconciliation Place in Fort Pierre, South Dakota. The hearing will be held in the Committee room, 485 Russell Senate Building. Those wishing additional information may contact committee staff at 202/224–2251.

COMMEMORATING AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 247, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 247) commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, we need to do a better job supporting our federal law enforcement officers and our State and local law enforcement officers. This is National Police Week and today was the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service in which we remembered another 139 federal, State and local officers who died in the line of duty. I commend Senator CAMPBELL for introducing S. Res. 247 back in January. I am sorry that the Judiciary Committee did not take it up and report it before today, but am supportive of his efforts and agreed to discharge the Committee, so as not to miss today's activities.

As someone who served in law enforcement for 8 years as the Chittenden County State's Attorney, I respect and admire those who devote their careers to public safety. I took issue with the extreme rhetoric that some have recently used to attack our Federal law enforcement officers who helped return Elian Gonzalez to his father.

For example, one of the Republican leaders in the House of Representatives was quoted as calling the officers of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, the U.S. Border Patrol, and the U.S. Marshals Service: ''jack-booted thugs.'' And the Republican Mayor of New York City, who is seeking election to this body, called these dedicated public servants: ''storm troopers.'' This extreme rhetoric only serves to degrade federal law enforcement officers in the eyes of the public.

Let none of us in the Congress, or who are seeking to serve in Congress, contribute to an atmosphere of disrespect for law enforcement officers. No matter what your opinion of the law enforcement action in South Florida, we should all agree that these law enforcement officers were following orders and putting their lives on the line, which they do everyday. Let us treat law enforcement officers with the respect that is essential to their preserving the peace and protecting the public.

This harsh rhetoric by Republican public officials reminds me of similar harsh rhetoric used in April 1995, when the NRA sent out a fund-raising letter calling federal law enforcement officers ''jack-booted thugs'' who wear ''Nazi bucket helmets and black storm trooper uniforms.'' President George Bush was correctly outraged by this NRA rhetoric and resigned from the NRA in protest. President Bush wrote to the NRA: ''Your broadside against federal agents deeply offends my own sense of decency and honor. . . . It indirectly slanders a wide array of government law enforcement officials, who are out there, day and night, laying their lives on the line for all of us.'' I praised President Bush in 1995 for his actions and again recently.

President Bush was right. This harsh rhetoric of calling federal law enforcement officers ''jack-booted thugs'' and ''storm troopers'' should offend our sense of decency and honor. It is highly offensive and did not belong in any public debate on the reunion of Elian Gonzalez with his father, either. We are fortunate to have dedicated women and men throughout Federal law enforcement in this country who do a tremendous job under difficult circumstances. They are examples of the hard-working public servants that make up the federal government, who are too often maligned and unfairly disparaged. These are people with children and parents and friends. They deserve our respect, not personal insults.

In countless incidents across the country everyday, federal law enforcement officers, who are sworn to protect the public and enforce the law, are in danger. These law enforcement officers deserve our thanks and our respect. They do not deserve to be called ''jack-booted thugs'' and ''storm troopers.''

I went to the Senate floor in the wake of those comments to join the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association in condemning these insults against our nation's law enforcement officers. Any public official who used this harsh rhetoric owes our Federal law enforcement officers an apology. I regret that members of the majority party have not followed President Bush's example and, likewise, condemned that extreme rhetoric.

This week is an annual occasion in which we pause to remember the federal, State and local officers who gave their lives in the line of duty over the past year. It is a difficult week and an important week. It should be a productive week, as well.

I said last week at the Judiciary Committee Business Meeting that the Committee should be taking up and reporting S. 2413, the bill that Senator CAMPBELL and I introduced to improve our Bulletproof Vest Grant Partnership Act by reauthorizing the program for another 3 years, raising the annual appropriation to $50 million and guaranteeing to jurisdictions with populations less than 100,000 a fair share of these resources. This program has been

very helpful in offering federal assistance to help protect State and local officers in concrete ways. It is an extraordinarily successful program and it should be extended and expanded. I thank President Clinton for his support and for calling for enactment of this measure during his remarks at the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service today. I hope that when the Committee meets later this week, Senator HATCH will see fit to include this measure on the agenda and that the Committee will act favorably on it.

In addition, I look forward to enacting additional measures that protect and assist State and local law enforcement. In particular, I was extremely disappointed last year when an anonymous Republican objection prevented S. 521, my bill to improve the Bulletproof Vest Grant Partnership Act, from passing. This bill would allow the Attorney General to waive or reduce the matching fund requirement for assisting poor and rural law enforcement units to provide this life-saving equipment to officers and prevent injury and death. I cannot understand why anyone would want to oppose that effort.

Finally, I am disappointed that the Congress has not taken final action on the Public Medal of Valor Act, S. 39, championed by Senator STEVENS. The awarding of a medal for extraordinary valor shown by law enforcement officers every year would be a good way to draw attention to the service provided every day by officers all across this country. That bill passed the Senate a year ago by unanimous consent. I cosponsored the bill along with 28 others. For the past year, the House has not found the time to pass it. Today the President announced that he will explore ways to proceed to honor valor by our public safety officers through executive action if Congress continues to stall action on this bill. I hope that Congress will finally act on S. 39 this week and send it to the President for his signature.

These are just a few of the important legislative matters that the Congress should address to help our federal and state law enforcement officers. We should strive for constructive action rather than half-baked rhetoric.

Mr. GRAMS. Madam President, I rise today to honor Federal, State and local law enforcement officers who work to protect and serve the public on a daily basis. I am proud to be a cosponsor of S. Res. 247, which designates today as ''Peace Officers Memorial Day'' and recognizes law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty.

During National Police Week, law enforcement officers in all fifty states will pay tribute to their fellow officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, approximately 130 law enforcement officers lost their lives in 1999 while protecting the public. In my home state, 187 Minnesota law enforcement officers have died in the line of duty since 1914. Most recently, the name of Minnesota State Patrol Corporal Timothy Bowe was added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Sadly, more than 14,000 law enforcement officers paid this ultimate sacrifice during the 20th Century. I am honored to pay tribute to the men and women who demonstrated extraordinary bravery while caring for our families and communities.

I would also like to note the extraordinary sacrifice of families who have lost a son, daughter, spouse, parent, or relative who was slain while performing their police duties. We honor the memory of these officers by providing for the families that they have left behind. When I think about these families, I am reminded of the inscription on the wall of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial—''In valor there is hope.''

I am very pleased that the Senate is continuing its efforts to provide support for the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Specifically, I have cosponsored S. 1638, legislation introduced by Senator JOHN ASHCROFT that would retroactively provide financial assistance for higher education to the spouses and children of federal, state, and local law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Current law provides that the dependants of federal law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty after May 1, 1992, are eligible for this assistance. Dependants of state and local law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty after October 1, 1997, are also eligible. This legislation would change these dates to May 1, 1978, for federal law enforcement officers and October 1, 1978, for state and local law enforcement officers.

This important legislation, endorsed by the Fraternal Order of Police and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, builds upon police benefits legislation that passed the 104th and 105th Congress with my strong support. Since 1995, we have enacted the Federal Law Enforcement Dependants Assistance Act of 1996, the Public Safety Officers Educational Assistance Act of 1998 and the Care for Police Survivors Act of 1998. These laws help to support the families of our law enforcement officers and keep alive the memory of these brave and heroic men and women.

During National Police Week, I join all Minnesotans in honoring the memory of slain law enforcement officers and their contributions to promoting public safety throughout our communities.

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and, finally, that any statements in relation to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 247) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 247

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of this country is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 700,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens in their capacity as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are the front line in preserving our children's right to receive an education in a crime-free environment, which is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas 134 peace officers lost their lives in the performance of their duty in 1999, and a total of nearly 15,000 men and women have now made that supreme sacrifice;

Whereas every year 1 in 9 officers is assaulted, 1 in 25 officers is injured, and 1 in 4,400 officers is killed in the line of duty; and

Whereas, on May 15, 2000, more than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in our Nation's Capital to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor them and all others before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2000, as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I welcome our law enforcement officers to town. There are quite a few of them. They have a memorial at Judiciary Square here in town. They are acknowledging those young men and women who have fallen in the line of duty.

OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 434, S. 1638.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1638) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the retroactive eligibility dates for financial assistance for higher education for spouses and dependent children of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 3147

(Purpose: To further extend the retroactive eligibility dates to January 1, 1978)

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, Senator LEAHY has an amendment at the desk, and I ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] for Mr. LEAHY, proposes an amendment numbered 3147.

The amendment is as follows:

On page 2, line 10, strike ''May 1, 1978'' and insert ''January 1, 1978''.

On page 2, line 12, strike ''October 1, 1978'' and insert ''January 1, 1978''.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I know that Senator ROBB strongly supports this bill and I was glad to work with him and Senator ASHCROFT to expedite Judiciary Committee action in February and finally to achieve Senate consideration today.

I support extending the educational assistance benefits to the families of public safety officers who died in the line of duty. I supported those efforts when we acted for federal officers' families back in 1996 and when we extended those benefits to State and local officers' families in 1998.

A number of us joined with Senator SPECTER and Senator KOHL back in 1996 to pass the Federal Law Enforcement Dependents Assistance Act. Our efforts grew out of the Ruby Ridge investigation and our shared concern to help the family of U.S. Marshal Bill Degan and the families of others killed in the line of duty.

At the time we were unable to gain the consensus needed to authorize these education benefits to State and local law enforcement officers. Some thought that would cost too much. We came back in 1997 and 1998 and were able to pass the Public Safety Officers Educational Benefits Assistance Act to extend these educational benefits to State and local public safety officers. We were led in that effort by Senators SPECTER and BIDEN.

I am delighted to see these benefits expanded further by extending them retroactively by this bill, S. 1638. We were told in February that the estimated cost of this expansion would be $125 million. Since then we have received a significantly revised estimate from the CBO greatly diminishing the estimated costs. I do not know whether CBO was wrong in February or is wrong now, but I commend Senator ASHCROFT and all the sponsors of this measure for their willingness to make this investment and authorize these payments.

I have said that rather than move the eligibility dates back approximately between 14 and 19 years, we should consider removing them altogether. I do not want some to be penalized by the arbitrary selection of the eligibility date. In this regard I have urged an amendment to take the eligibility dates back to at least January 1978, in order to cover at least one, and possibly more, Vermont families who suffered the loss of a family member who was a public safety officer earlier that year. The family of Arnold Magoon, a Vermont game warden, should not be penalized again because he died on April 27 and not after May 1 or October 1 of 1978.

I said in February when the committee considered this measure that I would be working to speed its passage and to help it achieve its goal of making these assistance payments as comprehensive as possible. As soon as the majority got around to suggesting consideration of this matter on Wednesday, May 10, I cleared it for consideration so that we could proceed.

In addition, I look forward to enacting additional measures that protect and assist State and local law enforcement. In particular, I was extremely disappointed last year when an anonymous Republican objection prevented S. 521, my bill to improve the Bulletproof Vest Grant Partnership Act, from passing. This bill would allow the Attorney General to waive or reduce the matching fund requirement for assisting poor and rural law enforcement units to provide this life-saving equipment to officers and prevent injury and death. I cannot understand why anyone would want to oppose that effort.

This year, in addition, I have joined again with Senator CAMPBELL to introduce S. 2413 to improve our Bulletproof Vest Grant Partnership Act by reauthorizing the program for another 3 years, raising the annual appropriation to $50 million and guaranteeing to jurisdictions with populations less than 100,000 a fair share of these resources. Senator HATCH has joined us as a cosponsor of our measure.

I hope that the Judiciary Committee and the Senate will act on these measures without additional delay, as well.

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3147) was agreed to.

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time, and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, without any intervening action, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1638), as amended, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 1638

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY DATES FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION FOR SPOUSES AND CHILDREN OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1216(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796d–5(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''May 1, 1992'', and inserting ''January 1, 1978,'' ; and

(2) by striking ''October 1, 1997,'' and inserting ''January 1, 1978,''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect October 1, 1999.

APPOINTMENTS

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER FOUNDATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 100–702, appoints John B. White, Jr. of South Carolina, to the board of the Federal Judicial Center Foundation, vice Richard M. Rosenbaum of New York.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority and minority leaders of the Senate and the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Public Law 104–1, announces the joint appointment of Susan S. Robfogel, of New York, as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2000

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 16. I further ask consent that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 11 a.m., with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator MURKOWSKI of Alaska or his designee, 45 minutes; Senator KENNEDY of Massachusetts, 35 minutes; and Senator DORGAN of North Dakota, 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I further ask consent that the Senate stand in recess from the hours of 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. for the weekly policy conferences to meet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. BURNS. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will be in a period of morning business from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. tomorrow. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the military construction appropriations bill. Any amendments prior to 2:15 p.m. must be cleared by both bill managers. However, those Senators who have general statements on the bill are encouraged to come to the floor during tomorrow morning's session. Votes are possible throughout tomorrow's session, and Senators will be notified as those votes are scheduled.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous

consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator KENNEDY of Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BURNS. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EDUCATION LEGISLATION AND SCHOOL SAFETY

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, last Tuesday, the Senate suspended consideration of the education bill. I hope that our Republican friends have just temporarily suspended the bill, and not expelled it. We owe it to the nation's schools, students, parents, and communities to complete action on this priority legislation.

So far, we have considered only eight amendments to the bill over six different days.

When the bankruptcy bill was on the floor, our Republican colleagues did everything they could to satisfy the credit card companies. That bill was debated for 16 days, and 67 amendments were considered.

Obviously, when the credit card companies want a bill, our Republican friends put everything else aside to get it done. But when it comes to education, the voices of parents and children and schools and communities go unheard.

We should be debating education. It's a top priority for parents. It's a top priority for communities. It's a top priority for the country. And, it should be a top priority for Congress.

It is wrong for the Senate to leave the nation's schools with so much uncertainty about whether and when they will get urgently needed help to ensure better teachers, modern schools, smaller classes, and safe classrooms.

Democrats are ready to debate and address these issues now, and finish Senate consideration of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. But, we have no assurance from the Republican majority that we will be able to do so.

Clearly, there are strong disagreements about how to address the issue of education reform. But, we should all agree to make it a top priority for final action.

Republicans have made block grants the centerpiece of their education proposal. But, block grants are the wrong approach. They undermine the targeting of scarce resources to the highest education priorities. They eliminate critical accountability provisions that ensure better results for all children. The block grant approach abandons the national commitment to help the nation's children obtain a good education through proven effective reforms of public schools.

The lack of commitment by our Republican colleagues to genuine education reform is also clear in the recent actions by the Senate and House Appropriations Committee.

Both bills eliminate critical funding for reducing class size and improving teacher quality. Instead, they put some of those funds into the title VI block grant.

Both bills do nothing to guarantee communities help for modernizing their school buildings.

Both bills eliminate critical funding for helping states to increase accountability for results and turn around schools that aren't getting results.

At the same time that they expand support for block grants and eliminate support for greater accountability, Republicans are cutting funds to communities to improve education. Under the President's budget request, communities would have received a total of $4.05 billion in the coming fiscal year to reduce class size, modernize school buildings, and improve teacher quality. The Republican bill block grants these programs and cuts total funding by $2 billion below the President's request in the House and $500 million below the President's request in the Senate.

Under the Republican block grant scheme, communities get less aid and parents get no guarantee that their children's classes will be smaller, that their teachers will be better qualified, or that their schools will be safe and modern.

Block grants are the wrong direction for education and the wrong direction for the nation. They do nothing to encourage change in public schools.

In the Republican ESEA bill, states are not held accountable for educational results until after 5 years. By that time, many students will have lost five years of potential gains in student achievement.

Block grants also leave the door open for needless waste and abuse. They provide no focus on proven effective strategies to help schools. Senator DEWINE, in urging increased accountability, pointed out the poor history of states and local school districts in spending Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities funds. He characterized those dollars as being ''raided'' for pet projects or to support ineffective methods.

Under block grants, school districts and schools can use scarce public tax dollars to support fads and gimmicks, with no basis in research or proven practice. They can even use the funds to support the football team, buy computer games, or buy new office furniture, if they decide that these uses serve so-called ''educational purposes.''

In short, block grants provide no assurance that federal education funds will be used where they're needed most—to improve instruction and teacher quality, strengthen curriculum, reduce class size, provide after-school learning opportunities, or support other proven strategies for helping all students reach high standards.

The Republican block grant also undermines local control, because it concentrates educational decision-making at the state level. By authorizing the state to decide whether it will enter into a performance agreement, the Republican bill gives the state ultimate authority to determine the parameters of the agreement, including which schools and which school districts will receive funds, and how funds may be spent. Far from giving local districts flexibility, as the policies and waiver provisions under current law do, the Republican block grants will increase the power of governors over local education policy at the expense of local districts, local school officials, and parents.

The American people want a strong partnership that includes the important involvement of parents, local school boards, local community authorities, States, and the Federal Government. We are not looking to take over education. We are saying that educating the nation's children is a top national priority, and Congress ought to be a strong partner in efforts to improve education.

The Republican proposal says there will only be one member in the education partnership, and that will be the State. It won't be the local community or parents, because they give all of the funds to the States. Then the States make the judgment about how it is going to go down to the local level.

Parents want a guarantee that, with scarce resources, we are going to have accountability for results and for getting national priorities. They know and we know small class sizes work. We guarantee there will be a well-qualified teacher in every classroom.

We guarantee more afterschool programs, which are absolutely essential to help and assist children and enhance their academic achievement and accomplishment.

We guarantee strong accountability provisions.

We guarantee resources for technology in schools so we can eliminate the digital divide, as Senator MIKULSKI speaks to with great knowledge, awareness, and, correctness.

But all of those efforts I have just mentioned are at risk with the proposal of the Republicans to just provide a blank check to the States and let the States work out what they might.

The Republican block grant approach abdicates our responsibility to do all we can to improve the current federal efforts. All that the GOP approach does is hand off the many current problems to states and local communities to solve.

Block grants are particularly harmful, because they abdicate our responsibility to help those most in need, such

as homeless children, migrant children, and immigrant children. States rarely spend their own funds to help these children now—and they won't do it under a block grant. These children need targeted federal assistance to help them succeed in school.

Prior to the time the Federal Government provided targeted programs for the homeless under the McKinney Act, the Emergency Immigrant Education program, and the Migrant Education program, these children were not getting the help they needed.

State help for these children is virtually nonexistent. The only help and assistance for any of these children is the assistance provided in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. But the Republican bill wipes out these programs.

The parents of migrant children are among the most industrious, yet neglected, populations in the country. Poverty, mobility, health problems, isolation from the larger community are characteristics common to migrant families. In the 1997 to 1998 school year, an estimated 752,000 migrant children were counted as eligible for the Migrant Education Program. That would be block granted under the Republican blank check approach. Obviously, the States didn't worry about the problems of migrant children because they were here today and gone tomorrow. That has been the history. We are talking 752,000 children who are going to be cast adrift.

We had seen important progress, as I mentioned in the debate last week, where those working on the education of migrant children have worked out a process where they were able to get children's school records, provide some waivers that were essential to get children enrolled in the schools. We are having at least some positive impact in helping meet the needs of some of these children. With a block grant that goes to the States, that effort will be ended. Without the Federal Migrant Education Program, there are few incentives for schools to implement a means for improving instruction for migrant children.

The Republican block grant bill also wipes out assistance for the homeless children. Nationwide, homeless children are isolated and often stigmatized. They face significant barriers to obtain adequate services of all kinds, including education. According to the December 1999 report of the Interagency Council on the Homeless, most homeless children are young, 20 percent are age 2 or younger; 22 percent are age 3 to 5; 20 percent are age 6 to 8; and 33 percent are between 9 and 17.

According to a 1990 report from the Better Homes Fund, a nonprofit charity dedicated to helping homeless families, homeless children face extremely stressful situations. Each year, 90 percent of homeless children move up to three times; 40 percent attend two schools; 38 percent attend three or more schools; 21 percent of homeless children nationwide repeat a grade due to homelessness, compared with only 5 percent of other children; 14 percent of homeless children are suspended from school, double the rate of other children.

This is what the National Coalition on Homeless says: The Federal program requirements that accompany McKinney funds focus upon State responsibility to ensure equal opportunity for homeless children and youth. They set forth the rights of homeless children to receive the same educational opportunities as their nonhomeless peers.

Under the Republican proposal, States that opt for the block grant would no longer have to follow these programs. Without the McKinney Act requirements, homeless children and youth are shut out of school again, destroying their chance for school success. It is wrong for Congress to turn its back on these children.

Finally, the block grant ignores the pressing needs of immigrant children. In 1997, the foreign-born population in the United States was 25.8 million, the largest in the Nation's history. In fiscal year 2000, States reported that more than 864,000 recent immigrant students were enrolled in schools, with an increase of these students of 55,000 over 1995. Large numbers of immigrant students traditionally have been enrolled in schools in seven States: Arizona, California, Illinois, Florida, New Jersey, New York, and Texas. However, with the increase of immigrant students in other States, the percentage in these States has fallen from 80 percent in 1995 to 71 percent in 2000.

This year, a number of other States reported a dramatic increase in the recent immigrant student enrollment: Connecticut, up 72 percent; Georgia, up 39 percent; Louisiana, up 34 percent; Michigan, up 35 percent; Missouri, up 50 percent; Oregon, up 28 percent; Tennessee, up 33 percent; Utah, up 38 percent. Immigrant students, particularly those with limited-English proficiency, are at significant risk of academic failure. Among all youth ages 16 through 24, immigrants are three times more likely to be drop outs than native born students.

Our overall goal in this legislation should be to write an education guarantee to parents, children, and schools, a guarantee that we will work with them to improve their schools and ensure every student receives a good education. We want to guarantee a qualified teacher is in every classroom. We want to guarantee small class sizes. We want to guarantee modern and safe schools. We want to guarantee after-school opportunities for children to help them succeed in school and stay off the street. We want to guarantee the parents have more opportunities for significant improvement in their public schools. We want to guarantee a good education for homeless children, migrant children, and immigrant children. We want a guarantee that States, districts, and schools are held accountable for results. We want to guarantee parents that their children are free from guns in their schools.

Yesterday, to celebrate Mother's Day, hundreds of thousands of mothers from across the United States marched on the Nation's Capital to insist we do more to protect children from the epidemic of gun violence that continues to plague our country. The Million Mom March has focused the attention of the entire country on this critical challenge. The question now is whether Congress will at long last end the stonewalling and act responsibly on gun control.

For many months, Democrats have continued to ask the Republican leadership for immediate action on pending legislation to close the loopholes in the Nation's gun laws, but every request so far has been denied. In fact, as a conferee on the juvenile violence legislation, in 8 months in caucus, we have had 1 day of meetings. The reason is because, evidently, the leadership is sufficiently concerned that perhaps as a result of a conference between the House and the Senate we might pass sensible and responsible legislation that deals with gun show loopholes in our present laws.

Yesterday, hundreds of thousands of mothers from across the United States marched on the Nation's Capital to insist that we do more to protect children from the epidemic of gun violence that continues to plague our country. The Million Mom March has focused the attention of the entire country on this critical challenge. The question now is whether Congress is willing at long last to end the stonewalling and act responsibly on gun control. For many months, Democrats have continued to ask the Republican leadership for immediate action on pending legislation to close the loopholes in the Nation's gun laws, but every request has been denied.

Each day we fail to act, the tragic toll of gun violence climbs steadily higher. In the year since the killings at Columbine High School in Colorado, 4,560 more children have lost their lives to gunfire, and countless more have been injured. It is inexcusable that the Republican Congress continues to block every attempt to close the gaping loopholes that make a mockery of the Nation's current gun laws. The guns used to kill 9 of the 13 people murdered at Columbine High School were purchased at a gun show. The woman who bought the guns for the two young killers said she never would have purchased the weapons if she had to go through a background check.

Perhaps six year old Kayla Rolland in her first grade class in Flint, Michigan, would be alive today, if the gun her classmate used to kill her had a child safety lock on it. If Congress had listened after the school killing in West Paducah, Kentucky in 1997—or Jonesboro, Arkansas in 1998—or Columbine High School in 1999—thousands

more children would have been alive to celebrate Mother's Day yesterday.

By refusing to learn from such tragedies, we condemn ourselves to repeat them. How many wake-up calls will it take before Congress finally stops kowtowing to the National Rifle Association and starts doing what is right on gun control?

The evidence is all around us that more effective steps are needed to protect schools and children from guns. In a survey of over 100,000 teenagers conducted last month, 30 percent said they could get a gun in a few hours—and 11 percent said they could get a gun in one day. Four in ten of these teenagers said there are guns in their homes; more than half say they have access to those weapons themselves. The fact is there are more than a million children returning home today to homes where there are guns that are loaded and unlocked.

No other major nation on earth tolerates such shameful gun violence. According to a study by the Centers for Disease Control in 1997, the rate of firearm deaths among children 0–14 years old is nearly 12 times higher in the United States than in 25 other industrial countries combined.

In fact, I heard it said best from a person who was out marching yesterday on The Mall for the Million Mom March. She was asked about the presence of guns in our society and responded that only the United States and the IRA allow virtually unlimited access to guns. At least the IRA are preparing to turn theirs in.

At the very least, Congress owes it to the nation's children to take stronger steps to protect them in their schools and homes.

Gun laws work. Experience is clear that tough gun laws in combination with other preventive measures have a direct impact on reducing crime. In Massachusetts, we have some of the toughest gun laws in the country. We have a ban on carrying concealed weapons. A permit is required to do so. Local law enforcement has discretion to issue permits, and an individual must show a need in order to obtain the permit. We have a minimum age of 21 for the purchase of a handgun. We have increased penalties for felons in possession of firearms. We have an adult responsibility law. Adults are liable if a child obtains an improperly stored gun and uses it to kill or injure himself or any other person. We require the sale of child safety locks with all firearms. We have a Gun-Free Schools Law. We have a licensing law for purchases of guns. We have enhanced standards for the licensing of gun dealers. We have a waiting period for handgun purchases. It takes up to 30 days to obtain a permit. We have a permit requirement for secondary and private sales of guns. We have a ban on the sale of Saturday Night Specials. We have a requirement for reporting lost or stolen firearms.

As Boston Police Commissioner Paul Evans testified last year in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, ''Any successful approach to youth violence must be balanced and comprehensive. It must include major investments in prevention and intervention as well as enforcement. Take away any leg and the stool falls.''

Commissioner Evans also stated that to be effective, efforts must be targeted and cooperative. Police officers must be able to work closely with churches, schools, and health and mental health providers. After-school programs are essential to help keep juveniles off the streets, out of trouble, and away from guns and drugs.

There are partnerships between the Boston Public Schools and local mental health agencies. School districts are employing mental health professionals. Teachers and staff focus on identifying problems in order to prevent violence by students. The Boston police work actively with parents, schools and other officials, discussing incidents in and out of school involving students. The Boston Public Health Commission promotes programs by the Boston Police Department.

In developing an effective approach like this, Boston has become a model for the rest of the country. The results have been impressive. The success of Boston's comprehensive strategy is borne out in these results:

From January 1999 through April 2000, no juvenile in Boston was killed with a firearm.

In 1990, 51 Boston young people, ages 24 and under, were murdered by a firearm. Last year, there were 10 such murders.

Reports from emergency rooms about firearm injuries are also down dramatically.

It's no coincidence that the firearm death rate in Massachusetts is significantly lower than the national average. When we compare states with tough gun laws to those that have weak gun laws, the differences are significant. In 1996, across the nation, the number of firearm-related deaths for persons 19 years old or younger was 2 deaths per 100,000 persons.

In states that have the weakest gun laws, the number was significantly higher:

Utah had 5.1 firearm-related deaths per 100,000 people—two and a half times higher than the national average.

Indiana had 5.9 firearm-related deaths per 100,000—three times higher.

Idaho had 6.9 firearm-related deaths per 100,000—three and a half times higher.

Mississippi had 9.2 firearm-related deaths per 100,000—four and a half times higher.

It is clear that strict gun laws help to reduce gun deaths. Yet, every time that Democrats propose steps to keep guns out of the hands of young people—proposals that would clearly save lives—our Republican friends have nothing to say but no. No to closing the gun show loophole. No to child safety locks. No to support for stricter enforcement of current gun laws. No to every other sensible step to reduce the shameful toll of gun deaths.

Nothing in any of our proposals threatens in any way the activities of law-abiding sportsmen and women. Surely, we can agree on ways to make it virtually impossible for angry children to get their hands on guns. We can give schools the resources and expertise they need to protect themselves from guns, without turning classrooms into fortresses.

We must deal with these festering problems. There is ample time to act before this session of Congress ends this fall. We could easily act before the end of the current school year this spring. We could act this week, if the will to act is there. All we have to do is summon the courage and the common sense to say no to the National Rifle Association—and yes to the Million Mom March.

I want to take a moment or two more to talk about the issue which has been raised by others who say, really the answer is just Federal enforcement of existing gun laws.

The National Rifle Association calls in public for more effective enforcement of the nation's gun laws. But it has waged a shameful and cynical campaigns over the years to undermine Federal enforcement activities by restricting the budget for the very enforcement it calls for.

Between 1980 and 1987, for example, the number of ATF agents was slashed from 1,502 to 1,180, a reduction of over 20 percent, and the number of inspectors dropped from 655 to 626 even as the number of licensed firearms dealers soared.

For the past 25 years, Congress has provided ATF with far fewer funds than necessary to support enough inspectors and agents to effectively enforce the nation's firearms laws. In 1973, ATF and the Drug Enforcement Agency had comparable numbers of agents and nearly equal funding—about $250 million a year. From 1973 to 2001 we see the cuts—in the number of agents—that have been made when we had the Republican leadership here in the Senate and in the House.

By 1998, however, the number of DEA agents had almost tripled, from 1,470 to 4,261, while ATF's remained constant. 1,631 ATF agents were on payroll in 1998—only 9 more than in 1973. Yet there are more licensed firearm dealers in the United States than there are McDonalds franchises.

A substantial increase in funding is needed if we're serious about helping ATF enforce the gun control laws. At every opportunity, the NRA and the Republicans say ''We don't need more gun laws. We need to enforce what's already on the books.'' Well, enforcement is exactly what Federal agents and prosecutors are doing. The facts are clear:

Overall firearms prosecutions are up. Criticism of Federal prosecution statistics ignores the basic fact that both

Federal and State authorities prosecute gun cases, and Federal authorities generally focus on the worst type of offenders.

The gun lobby says that the Federal Government should prosecute every case in which a person lies on the background check form, without exception. The fact is that ATF and DOJ do not have the resources to prosecute every case. Instead, their strategy is to have state law enforcement officials investigate and prosecute most of the gun violations while federal law enforcement officials pursue the more serious cases.

Although the number of Federal prosecutions for lower-level offenders—persons serving sentences of 3 years or less—is down, the number of higher-level offenders—those sentenced to 5 years or more—is up by nearly 30 percent—from 1049 to 1345.

Do you understand that, Madam President? The number of Federal prosecutions for low-level offenders serving a sentence of 3 years or less is down. The number of higher level offenders of 5 years or more is up more than 30 percent. Why don't our Republican friends quote those statistics?

At the same time, the total number of Federal and State prosecutions is up sharply—about 25 percent more criminals are sent to prison for State and Federal weapons offenses than in 1992, from 20,681 to 25,186. The number of high-level offenders is up by nearly 30 percent.

The total number of Federal and State prosecutions is up. Twenty-five percent more criminals were sent to prison for State and Federal weapons offenses in 1997 than in 1992.

The instant background check, which the NRA initially fought, is a successful enforcement tool. It has stopped nearly 300,000 illegal purchases since 1994. It has also resulted in the arrests of hundreds of fugitives.

Violent crimes committed with guns, including homicides, robberies and aggravated assaults, fell by an average of 27 percent between 1992 and 1997, and the Nation's violent crime rate has dropped nearly 20 percent since 1992.

The results speak for themselves. The increased collaboration among Federal, State, and local law enforcement has resulted in a more efficient distribution of prosecutorial responsibilities, a steady increase in firearms prosecutions on a cumulative basis, and, most important, a sharp decline in the number of violent crimes committed with guns.

Those are the facts. We will hear, as I have heard in the Judiciary Committee and in various debates: This is not really about more laws; what we need to do is prosecute.

The Republicans have cut the agents who are responsible for the enforcement of the laws by 20 percent, and on the other hand, we have seen the total prosecutions, not only the prosecutions but the results of those prosecutions—people going to jail as a result of the combination of Federal, State, and local prosecutions—has increased significantly. I hope in these final weeks of debate we will not keep hearing those arguments that have been made.

I mentioned Boston a few moments ago and about the stringent gun laws. Also, as Chief Evans has pointed out, we need effective prosecution; we need the laws, but we need prevention as well.

In Boston, between 1990 and 1999, homicides dropped by 80 percent.

In 1990, there were 152 homicides in Boston as compared to 31 in 1999. Indeed, serious crime across the board is at its lowest level in 30 years.

In 1999, no juvenile in Boston was murdered by a gun and none so far this year.

In 1990, 51 young Boston people, age 24 and under, were murdered by a firearm. Last year, there were 10; this year, thus far, 3.

Between 1990 and 1999, there was an 80-percent drop in young people age 24 and under murdered by a firearm.

There can be effective efforts, and they are making them. We ought to continue to eliminate, to the extent possible, the proliferation of weapons in the hands of children and those who should not have them. Every day in this country 12 children die. We need to make sure we take steps, including safety locks, parental responsibility, smart-gun technology, and the range of options to cut into that figure dramatically. We can do that. We cannot solve all the problems of violence in our society, but we can make a very important downpayment on it. That power is in our hands. I hope very much we will heed the mothers of this country who spoke out yesterday and listen to their message. They have spoken the truth with power. We should respond. I look forward to working with my colleagues in making sure we do.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

STAR PRINT—REPORT ACCOMPANYING S. 2507

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the report accompanying S. 2507 be star printed with the changes that are at the desk. I understand this has been agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator is recognized.

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I thought I had seen some fairly unusual and Byzantine proposals around this town, but one that was described in last Friday's Washington Post almost takes the cake. Going back some years, there was a proposal by the U.S. Post Office that would allow people to file change of address forms in the event of a nuclear war. I thought that was rather bizarre. One can imagine being under nuclear attack and trying to find the road to the post office to leave a forwarding address. That is not very likely. There is a proposal even goofier than that.

On Friday, May 12, John Berry, a Washington Post staff writer—someone for whom I have respect and he is an excellent writer and thinker—wrote an article about ''Rate Forecasts Climbing.'' He was talking about interest rates. John describes the thinking of some members of the Federal Reserve Board and the Open Market Committee about what they intend to do with interest rates. I wish that this story, however, included an analysis of opposing views and there are some.

Here is the situation: Tomorrow morning at 9:30, there will be a meeting in this town of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and regional Fed bank presidents—five of them—who will make decisions about interest rates. The speculation is they will increase interest rates by one-half of 1 percent despite the fact there is no evidence of inflation that suggests they should do this.

It is the same as deciding they are going to tax the American people. In fact, the rate increases last June, August, November, February, March, and now tomorrow—we will have another, mark my words—those rate increases have added about $1,210 in interest charges to the average household. If one has a $100,000 home mortgage, one is paying $100 more a month because of what the Federal Reserve Board has done. Every household is paying on average some $1,210 more per year in interest charges.

That is from the folks who meet in secret and effectively impose a tax on every single American. The only difference is, when it is done in this Chamber in the form of taxation, there is a debate and then a vote. It is done in the open. Tomorrow, the Federal Reserve Board will deal with interest rate questions in secret.

At 9:30, if those who are paying attention to C-SPAN want to go down to the Federal Reserve Board and say, I want to be involved in this discussion, they will be told: No, you cannot be involved; this is secret; the doors are locked; we intend to make decisions about your life and you can have no involvement.

Here is what the Washington Post article said about what these folks are going to think tomorrow which I think is bizarre. They are saying that American workers are becoming more productive and because the productivity of the American worker is up, they believe that justifies higher interest rates.

It used to be the same economists who cannot remember, in most cases, their home telephone numbers and their home addresses but who can tell us what is going to happen 5 years or 7

years from now, would say our problem is we have inflation pressures in this country because we do not have increases in productivity. If we have increases in productivity, that will deal with all of the other pressures that come to bear on the economy and offset them.

Now they are saying, but if workers become more productive, we are going to have to raise interest rates. You see, they are concerned about workers' pay. If workers in this country receive more pay, they say that is inflationary. So the workers are kind of stuck, aren't they?

The Fed has already said, if workers receive more money, that is going to drive up inflation. But in the past they have said, if workers' productivity goes up, that will be all right, because you can receive more money if you have greater productivity, right? You ought to. American workers ought to expect they would be able to share in their increased productivity and increased output.

Now the Fed is saying: That is not right either. Workers can be more productive, but we don't intend to see them get more money. We intend to continue to raise interest rates to slow down the American economy.

If workers in America become more productive, the Fed wants to go into a room tomorrow and penalize them—all of them. Talk about a goofy idea.

I was going to go through the entire article. I will not.

But let me do this, as I conclude. The folks who are going to do this, they all have gray suits, they all look like bankers, and they all think like bankers. They all have worked there for 100 years. These folks are confirmed by the Congress. To be appointed to the Board of Governors, they have to be confirmed by the Senate. But these other folks also serve on that Open Market Committee on a rotating basis—tomorrow five of them will be in a room with the Board of Governors. They are not confirmed by us. They represent their regional Federal Reserve Banks. They are all presidents of the regional banks. They are going to be voting.

I could have described what they said in that article. I could have described what Cathy Minehan said in that article. Strange. I don't understand this at all. Workers are more productive, and therefore you must penalize them? It used to be that people would say, if workers were more productive, they would be able to expect to receive more wages.

None of you folks down at the Fed has ever given a whit about the top executives in this country who earn $1 million, $5 million, $10 million, $100 million, or $200 million a year. You all have seen those numbers. I have spoken about some of them on the floor. It does not matter to these folks if the upper crust is getting a lot of money. But let the American workers get a gain in productivity and an increase in wages, and then you have these folks running in a room, closing the door, and, in secret, deciding they want to impose another higher interest rate on the American people. There is no justification for it at all.

The core Producer Price Index is up only three-tenths of 1 percent over the past 6 months. Retail sales are down. Auto sales fell seven-tenths of 1 percent—the second straight monthly drop. Building material sales are down 1.6 percent. These are the last monthly figures. There is no justification at all.

The only thing I can conceive of is these people just do not sleep. They see things that do not exist. Imagine how they must feel when the lights are turned off. They see inflation that does not exist.

For nearly a year they have been worried about inflation that does not exist. They have been willing to impose a penalty on the American economy and the average American household to the tune of $1,210 a year.

What do you think people would say if this Congress said: We have a proposal; let's increase taxes on the American people $1,210 a year on the average household? They would have apoplectic seizures around here. But these folks are doing it in secret, with no justification at all. Why? Because they tilt on the side of money center banks on the question of monetary policy. They always tilt that way. It is funny they can stand up, they tilt so far.

It seems to me this country deserves a monetary policy that allows workers in our factories, on our main streets, in our towns, to be more productive and to be able to receive the rewards of that increased productivity.

If these folks close that door tomorrow—and they will; mark my words—and increase interest rates another full one-half percent—and that is likely what they are going to do—they are going to continue to injure this economy and injure the American workers.

I said before that Mr. Greenspan has sort of used himself as a set of human brake pads. His only mission in life somehow is to slow down the American economy. He has always insisted we could not grow more than 2.5 percent without more inflation and that we couldn't go below 6 percent unemployment without more inflation. He has been wrong on both counts. We have been below 6 percent unemployment for 5 years, and inflation has gone down. We have had more than 2.5-percent economic growth for some long while, and inflation has gone down.

At some point, the American people, through this Congress, ought to ask the tough questions of this Federal Reserve Board: How do you continue to justify this? How do you justify this at a time when there is no evidence of real inflationary trouble in this country, risking ruining our economy, ruining continuous economic growth for some while and imposing on the backs of the American citizen, on the backs of the average families in this country, such a significant penalty? It is wrong, wrong, wrong.

I will have more to say about this tomorrow, after the Federal Reserve Board meeting.

Madam President, I guess that ends the business for today.

I yield back my time.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 5:16 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 16, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate May 15, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PAMELA E. BRIDGEWATER, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BENIN.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GLENN A. FINE, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, VICE MICHAEL R. BROMWICH, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE KENNETH W. KIZER, TERM EXPIRED.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF NURSING HOME WEEK

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize National Nursing Home Week and pay tribute to the health care professionals who work in nursing homes across the country. The average life span of Americans has extended over 10 years in the past century due to advancements in health care and our increased knowledge of our own well being. With more Americans living longer, our society is having to meet the needs of caring for our older citizens.

Thousands of hardworking men and women are looking for affordable, quality health care for their older friends and relatives who need additional medical attention. Nursing homes provide stable and caring environments for seniors to receive the medical attention they may need, while maintaining a community feel.

The unsung heroes of this profession are the people that work in nursing homes. These tireless dedicated professionals and volunteers form a network of caring support in our Nation's vast health care system and deserve special recognition. There is one specific nursing home in my district in North Carolina, Five Oaks Nursing Home in Concord, whose nursing staff is exceptional in their care for Five Oaks residents.

We in Congress need to fundamentally change the way health care for senior citizens is administered. Medicare, as it is structured now, will not support the millions of baby boomers who will be in need of nursing home services in the 21st century. I will continue who work for a Medicare system that will support our health care providers and will not compromise the quality of care for our seniors.

I'd like to voice my appreciation for the nursing home care givers in North Carolina and across the nation for their continued efforts to improve the quality of life for all Americans.

HONORING THE GLENSIDE FIRE COMPANY ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Glenside Fire Company on its 100th anniversary. The town of Glenside was founded in 1888 when Philadelphians sought residential summer homes in the newly developing suburbs of Montgomery County.

Glenside was a small town of fewer than 200 inhabitants 100 years ago, but with the advent of the railroad the town began to flourish. In February 1900, W.T.B. Roberts, George D. Heist, and Frederick Smith led an initiative to create a local volunteer fire department. By March the fire company was officially founded. On May 17, 1900, the county officially granted the Glenside Fire Company a charter.

The Fire Company progressed quickly. In June 1900, the company's first foreman and assistant foreman were elected. The firefighters bought a wagon with a hose and constructed a fire alarm by striking the rim of a steam locomotive with a sledgehammer.

The Glenside Fire Company set up a temporary location near Mount Carmel Avenue and Easton Road. It was in 1901 the Weldon Hotel caught on fire and the company made its first official response. By 1907, the company established a permanent location about 100 feet away from its present location.

In the past 100 years, many dedicated people have volunteered at the Glenside Fire Company. I am proud to have such an extraordinary Fire Company in my district. This anniversary should serve as a long-standing tribute to hard work and dedication for all who have made the Glenside Fire Company the wonderful organization it is.

CELEBRATING THE 83RD BIRTHDAY OF YOLANDA INGRAM

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Yolanda Ingram was born May 15, 1917 to Giovanni and Giovanna Marie Caiazza.

Whereas, Irene married William Ingram and spent fifty-one years working for Bank One. In addition, Yolanda has spent a lifetime in dedication to her family and her community.

Whereas, I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Yolanda a wonderful 83rd birthday. I am proud to call her a constituent and a friend.

HONORING OFFICER STEVEN LEVY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the memory of fallen officer Corporal Steven Levy, 35, of the Washington Township Police Department, State of New Jersey, for his invaluable service to law enforcement and to the citizens of our nation. Officer Levy was killed in the line of duty that fatal day on October 21, 1999. This tragic incident which took Corporal Levy's life, resulted in leaving behind his loving wife, Mrs. Janeen Levy and his two small children, Kevin and Jessica.

Corporal Levy's tireless efforts to make a positive difference throughout our community is evident throughout his entire law enforcement career and life. The First Congressional District of New Jersey, the Law Enforcement Community and the citizens of our nation pay tribute to Corporal Steven Levy for his ultimate sacrifice in safeguarding others from harm and death.

On October 21, 1999, Corporal Levy was fatally wounded during a domestic standoff in Woodbury, NJ, while he served as a Washington Township Police Officer dedicated to the official duties instilled upon him by his responsibilities as a prestigious member on the Gloucester County Critical Incident Team.

During his distinguished law enforcement career, Corporal Levy was awarded numerous awards which recognized him for his standard of excellence and extraordinary accomplishments. Over the years, he was awarded six official accommodations and 16 official letters of recognition. In 1995, Corporal Levy helped rescue two young girls who fell through thin ice on a lake, and a man who fell in the water trying to retrieve the girls. To recognize Corporal Levy for his achievements and constant efforts to help others in need, the Gloucester County Police Awards Committee presented Corporal Levy with Lifesaving Awards in 1995 and 1996 and the Distinguished Service Award in 1996 and 1998.

Corporal Steven Levy's determination and courage serves as an inspiration to law enforcement officers and to the citizens of the United States of America. Corporal Levy shall be recognized by the First Congressional District of New Jersey and by the 106th Congress, as we forever remember his ultimate sacrifice—the sacrifice of his life to safeguard the lives of others. I stand along with my fellow citizens as a grateful nation to honor and recognize the life of Corporal Steven Levy.

HONORING THE TORRANCE ROTARY CLUB

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize an important organization within my district, the Torrance Rotary Club. The Torrance Rotary is currently celebrating its 75th year as a valuable member of the community.

For the last 75 years, the Torrance Rotary has provided generous support to various programs throughout the community. Its members are community and professional leaders who have been active in promoting the betterment of the local region. The Torrance Rotary was established in 1924 and currently has over 60 members.

The club's objectives include the development of fellowship and understanding among the business and professional leaders in Torrance. They are also active in promoting public service as well as high standards in business and professional practices. The members

strive to help local charities with their time, money, and fellowship.

I congratulate the members of the Torrance Rotary on achieving this milestone. The club is a valuable part of the Torrance community. Its contributions are much appreciated. I wish the Torrance Rotary continued success.

HONORING THE HEBREW IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY (HIAS) AND THE COUNCIL MIGRATION SERVICE OF PHILADELPHIA ON THEIR 118TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and the Council Migration Service of Philadelphia on their 118th (one hundred plus ''chai'') Anniversary. Founded in 1882 by Louis Edward Levy, HIAS and Council was the first organization of its kind in the United States.

HIAS and Council is part of a humanitarian effort of help Jews and people of other backgrounds who are fleeing from persecution. HIAS and Council helps to provide asylum and resettlement to all people who want to enter the United States. HIAS and Council works diligently to help the refugees adapt to their new environment and gain permanent residence in America.

Because of the extensive work done by HIAS and Council in the 1920's, Philadelphia became the second most active community in the country for assisting Jewish refugees fleeing from Eastern Europe.

In 1976, the U.S. Justice Department's Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) recognized HIAS and Council as an agency authorized to practice immigration and nationality law on behalf of eligible clients. This organization is the only Jewish agency in the Philadelphia area that provides law-related refugee and immigration services. The agency services clients from over 35 countries worldwide.

I am proud to represent such an extraordinary organization as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Council Migration Service of Philadelphia. This anniversary should serve as a long-standing tribute to hard work and dedication for all who have made HIAS and Council the wonderful organization it is.

RECOGNIZING DR. JAMES BERTZ

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Dr. James Bertz, a native of Cadiz, Ohio recently traveled to South America as part of the ''Healing the Children Mission''; and,

Whereas, This is just the most recent of many such missions that Dr. Bertz has set out on to perform corrective facial surgeries on children; and,

Whereas, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Bertz. His dedication and commitment to helping heal children all over the world deserve recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION—VOTE CLARIFICATION ON H.R. 701—THE CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT (CARA)

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a clarification of my vote during final passage of H.R. 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. Mr. Speaker, during final passage, I was gathering together Members of the House Agriculture Committee to catch a flight to Idaho for a committee field hearing. I mistakenly voted ''yea'' when I intended to vote ''no'' on final passage.

Let me clearly state for the record my opposition to H.R. 701 is due to the concerns I have over its impact on private property rights, federal budgeting, and the troubling shift in policy to acquire more federal land instead of properly maintaining what the United States government already owns. During consideration of H.R. 701, I supported numerous amendments that sought to remedy these concerns and improve the bill. Unfortunately, the measure in its final form was still not a bill that I could support and is why I intended to vote ''no'' on passage. I would ask that this statement follow debate on H.R. 701 in the permanent CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Again, I regret this error and appreciate the opportunity for clarification.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOYOLA SCHOOL

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to an exceptional independent school in the New York Metropolitan Area as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary. The Loyola School is a prime example of independent and progressive education at its best.

Loyola school is an institution filled with rich history. It was founded by a most visionary educator, The Reverend Neil McKinnon, S.J. In October of 1900, McKinnon, Pastor of the Parish and founding Principal of the school, opened the door to eight young men of various ages and academic readiness. Since its conception 100 years ago, the school has survived and thrived through its early days of struggle, the depression, two World Wars, rising educational costs, and the struggle to maintain the ever important Jesuit tradition.

Throughout its history the school has overcome a century filled with challenges in order to encourage and establish the highest of educational and religious standards. The Loyola School strives to provide every student with an excellent education complimented by diverse and enriching extra-curricular activities.

Loyola is nationally recognized as a School of Excellence and regionally respected as one of the finest independent schools in the Metropolitan area. They enjoy success in sports, both old and new. To complement the success of the staff and students, the school also enjoys a growing endowment and an expanded faculty. All of these factors have proven successful to the students.

In addition to the excellence of the staff and student body, Loyola school also enjoys the convenience of new network wiring and learning curriculum to incorporate technology into a vibrant and interesting juxtaposition of traditional heritage and forward-thinking education.

Loyola's rich history provides the school with a promising future. The school now educates some 200 of the brightest boys and girls in a comprehensive program which works to mold its young individuals into conscious, competent and compassionate graduates. Their hope is to enrich students with intellectual ability, religious clarity, and a commitment to justice. The graduates of Loyola move forward armed with the ''strength from the past and faith in the future.'' I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the faculty, students and individuals involved in creating and maintaining the standard of excellence at The Loyola School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 10, 2000, I missed rollcall vote No. 154. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on this procedural vote on H.R. 3709, the Internet Nondiscrimination Act.

While I regret my absence from the floor, I was at the White House with the President and many of my Democratic colleagues speaking out on the need for prescription drugs for our seniors. Nearly every day I receive letters and calls from individuals in the North Bay who are worried if Medicare will be there when they need it. That's why I have consistently been pushing the Republican-led Congress to consider legislation to protect the future of the Medicare Program and expand Medicare to cover medications. It is my hope that the Republican leadership will open the debate so that we may consider meaningful health care reform for Medicare beneficiaries. With a projected Federal budget surplus, it only makes common sense to make the Medicare Program a top priority. I look forward to working with the President and my House colleagues to make this happen.

HONORING MR. BOB WILLARD FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Mr. Bob Willard for 50 years of service on the active crew of the Glenside Fire Company. Mr. Willard joined the fire department in 1949 and quickly rose up through the ranks. In less than 5 years, Mr. Willard was promoted to lieutenant. Four years later he

moved up to captain. He served as captain for a year and was then elected deputy chief. Mr. Willard served as deputy chief for 17 years, tying the company record. He has also served as the company's vice president for the past 25 years.

I am proud to have such a civic minded and hard-working constituent in the community. As a leader in the Glenside Fire Department, Mr. Willard has impacted the lives of countless individuals. The residents of Glenside have long benefited from his service and that of the entire Glenside Fire Department. I applaud the Glenside Fire Department for honoring Mr. Willard and I enthusiastically concur with their recognition of his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN C. SIMPSON

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding career of Captain John C. Simpson, who is retiring on June 2, 2000, after 25 years of distinguished Coast Guard service. Captain Simpson's career has had a wide-ranging impact across a broad spectrum of our vital national interests. This includes serving on high endurance cutters in the Pacific to protect our maritime boarder and preserve our natural resources, commanding coastal units on the Gulf Coast to rescue those in distress and ensure compliance with federal maritime laws, and developing progressive naval doctrine to enhance the interoperability of the Coast Guard and Navy to protect our global strategic interests.

For the past three years, Captain Simpson has commanded Coast Guard Group Galveston, Texas. His area of responsibility includes both the inland and offshore waters on the coast of Southeast Texas. As Group Commander, he integrated active duty, reserve and auxiliary personnel into a cohesive team that together conducted more than 3,500 search and rescue cases, resulting in over 700 lives saved and $35 million in property preserved. He carried out an aggressive program that balanced maritime law enforcement with education of the boating public, commercial vessel operators, and the fishing industry. He also directed the annual maintenance and servicing of over 2,550 aids to navigation in the critical waterways leading to the Ports of Galveston, Port Arthur, Beaumont, Freeport, and Houston. One can only truly appreciate Captain Simpson's contribution in ensuring maritime safety after realizing that over 90 percent of the goods imported into the United States are carried by ships, and a large percentage of that trade enters the maritime thoroughfares under his charge.

Despite these accomplishments, Captain Simpson's greatest and most lasting achievement has been his strong advocacy for the men and women under this command. In times of limited resources and an austere budget climate, when the Coast Guard is being asked to do more than ever before, Captain Simpson has been tireless in his pursuit to ensure that his units had the right tools to get the job done. During my visits with Captain Simpson, I have been continually impressed with the resourcefulness, dedication, and commitment of the men and women at Coast Guard Group Galveston, which is a testament to his exceptional leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Simpson's career is ripe with countless examples of self-sacrifice and extraordinary accomplishment in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Captain Simpson and his wife, Jan, fair winds and following seas as they chart a new course together in Seattle, Washington.

Congratulations, Captain Simpson, on a job well done.

VOTE NO ON PNTR

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I oppose granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China. It is clearly the wrong step to take if we want meaningful change from China on a wide variety of issues that are important to all Americans.

It must be noted that Chinese leaders have broken every previous trade agreement they have signed with the United States. What makes us believe that this time will be any different? During the last decade alone, China violated four major trade agreements: the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding on Prison Labor, the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding on Market Access, the 1994 Bilateral Agreement on Textiles, and the 1996 Bilateral Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights. Most recently, after signing the current bilateral in November, China turned its back on the agreement. Their Chief Negotiator stated, ''it is a complete misunderstanding to expect this grain to enter the country . . . Beijing only conceded a theoretical opportunity for the export of grain.'' These governments are not ventures in theory—these agreements should be unbreakable.

Another argument for supporting PNTR is that US businesses will introduce the Chinese people to democracy and human rights. However, when we look at how Chinese workers are already being treated by corporations such as Wal-Mart, Timberland, Nike, Alpine and others, it becomes clear that is not the case. Wal-Mart and Nike's operations in China have become synonymous with child labor, forced labor and hazardous working conditions. These are not the values we want to bring to other countries. By granting PNTR, we give up any hope of influencing the PRC's policy on worker and human rights. We are inviting US companies to leave the US to produce goods in a country which does not support a minimum wage, basic safety regulations, or the right of association. Let's export our values—not our jobs.

It is not only workers who are oppressed by China. Religious groups too often are denied basic human rights. Recent examples include prison sentencing of Falun Gong members without trials for undetermined sentences. The United States Catholic Conference expressed their opposition to PNTR by stating, ''. . . we have urged that the well-documented violations of the Chinese peoples' human rights, and notably their lack of true religious freedom be seriously addressed and reversed.'' Religious freedom is one of the most important freedoms guaranteed to US citizens. Let us not reward a country who so blatantly disregards this right.

The agreement also omits any statement on environmental protections. Having just celebrated the 30th anniversary of Earth Day in the United States, we should continue to be vigilant in our pursuit of a healthy international ecosystem. We would send a message that protecting the world's natural resources and pollution control are not important if we agree to PNTR. According to the Sierra Club, ''nothing was done in the WTO/PNTR package to mitigate the increased risks to endangered wildlife.'' They also note the State Department's 1999 Report of China's Human Rights Practices, ''the China Development Union (which works for environmental and political reforms) virtually was shut down by arrests of its members during the year.'' This agreement is not just an affront against the environment, but also against the Chinese who press the government to protect their natural resources.

Some members of the agricultural community are looking favorably on this agreement. However, it should be noted that China already has had overall agricultural surpluses and is still producing a glut of agricultural goods. China has already backtracked on tariff and market-access portions of the bilateral. The PRC will not allow American farmers to participate in a competitive marketplace. Charles McMillion, a founder of the Congressional Economic Leadership Institute, wrote, ''China's agricultural glut is likely to continue with WTO membership. . . .'' Even the National Farmers Union, opposes giving this permanent status: ''We must not unilaterally disarm our Nation's ability to respond if China fails to comply with commitments contained in this agreement.'' Make no mistake, international markets are critical to our farmers. However, we must not engage in agreements with countries who frequently renege on past agreements and who do not believe in the type of fair trade that will benefit American agriculture.

President Clinton has said that this is an essential national security issue. He is right—but he is on the wrong side of the argument. There are just too many incidents where China has acted egregiously against American security interests. In recent years, China fired several live missiles in the Taiwan Straight. At the same time, the PRC has supplied other rogue nations with weapons that could be used against U.S. soldiers abroad. Already, five major military organizations—the American Legion, the Fleet Reserve Officers Association, the National Reserve Association, the Warrant Officers Associations, and the Reserve Officers Association—have publicly agreed that it would not be in the best interest of the United States to grant PNTR.

This vote is one that will have repercussions for generations to come. We can take this opportunity to stand for military security, human and worker rights, the environment, and fair market access, or we can choose to give a ''blank check'' to China, allowing them to dictate a lower standard. I urge my colleagues to reject PNTR.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNELIESE C. TAYLOR AND BRUCE G. ANDERSEN

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to a young couple soon to be wed. On June 3, Anneliese C. Taylor and Bruce G. Andersen will be united in marriage at Mission San Gabriel in California. I am confident that through Anneliese's dedication to literature and education, and through Bruce's commitment to public and community service, this couple will serve society well and share the good fortune of their talents with others.

I am proud to represent eleven members of the groom's family, who reside in Whittier, Hacienda Heights and La Puente. I wish them, Bruce and Anneliese great happiness upon this momentous occasion.

HONORING THE BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Borough of Conshohocken on its 150th anniversary. On May 15, 1850, William Fraeme Johnson, the Governor of Pennsylvania, signed the official incorporation papers making Conshohocken the third incorporated borough in Montgomery County. In 1850, Conshohocken began with only 727 residents living in the area. Today, the borough is home to 9,000 residents.

Following World War I, the Federal Government recognized Conshohocken for its contribution to the war effort. In fact, the borough sent more men and women, per capita, off to war than any other American town. As a reward for their efforts, the U.S. Government built and named a merchant marine ship, the *Conshohocken,* after the borough. Conshohocken also contributed heavily to the World War II effort when one out of seven residents served in the Armed Forces.

The Borough of Conshohocken is nationally recognized for its sports teams as well. Since their early professional basketball and football teams were crowned national champions, Conshohocken is recognized in both the National Basketball Association and the National Football League Halls of Fame.

Conshohocken, which means ''Pleasant Valley,'' is also home to nationally recognized industries. In 1835, the Schuylkill Navigation Company built a canal through the area. This canal brought the iron industry to Conshohocken. Alan Wood Steel was formed when James Wood and his son, Alan, used the canal water to power furnaces and form a steel mill. By 1920, Alan Wood Steel was responsible for 8 percent of the country's steel production as it provided jobs for local residents.

Conshohocken was the site of many industrial innovations. The former John Wood company invented the ''Arc'' weld, Conshohocken's Lee Tires invented the vulcanization of rubber and Hale Pumps led the industry in fire truck pump production.

Conshohocken is part of a nationwide initiative to revitalize towns that were dominated by the coal, iron, or steel industries. Through this program Conshohocken has made a remarkable transition from an industrial town to one that fosters corporate development and programs.

I am proud to represent such an extraordinary town like Conshohocken, PA. This sesquicentennial anniversary should serve as a long-standing tribute to hard work and dedication for all who have made Conshohocken the wonderful place it is.

HONORING FREDERICK BOLD

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Frederick Bold, Jr., one of the most distinguished and talented attorneys to ever practice the complex craft of water law in California. For fifty years Mr. Bold has provided expert and reasoned advice to the Contra Costa Water District and many others, and I know that many throughout California join me in honoring his many years of service.

My own relationship with Mr. Bold goes back many years to his work with my father, State Senator George Miller, Jr., when much of modern water law in California was being developed. I learned from both of them that water law and water politics can be complex and treacherous, but also fascinating and, for our state, critical to our economic growth and environmental quality of life.

Mr. Bold grew up in San Francisco and graduated from Stanford University magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. He received his law degree from Harvard University, and served as a professor at Hastings Law School and San Francisco Law School.

Mr. Bold began his legal career with the distinguished firm of Pillsbury, Madison and Sutro, and was for two decades a partner in the Richmond law firm of Carlson, Collins, Gordon and Bold. He later was senior partner of the firm now known as Bold, Polisner, Maddow, Nelson and Judson.

For 44 years, he served as general counsel for the Contra Costa Water district which serves many of my constituents and has long been in the forefront of the often fractious battles over water policy in California. He has also served as general counsel for the Diablo Water District.

Mr. Bold worked closely with my father in the drafting of the Delta Protection Act, which was a key part of the Burns Porter State Water Project Act and which has formed much of the legal basis for defending the quality of Delta water from degradation over the years. He also was involved in many other legal, legislative and regulatory actions that helped form the framework for modern water policy in California including Delta Decisions 1379 (1972–72), and 1485 (1977–78).

Mr. Bold has been very active in a wide range of community services including serving as a cofounder of Richmond Brookside Hospital, president of the Richmond Memorial Youth Center, the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, Richmond Kiwanis Club, Exalted Ruler of the Richmond Elks Club and president of the Richmond Bar Association. He is also a skilled sailor and horseman.

On May 19, 2000, many friends and leaders in the water community will be joining Helene and Fred for his recognition dinner. I know that all members of the House will want to join me and Congresswoman PELOSI in wishing Mr. Bold the very best, and in thanking him for his many contributions to public service over the years. He has helped lay a strong foundation to protect the water and environment for our region for many decades to come, and we all owe him a special debt of gratitude and appreciation.

CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 701) to provide Outer Continental Shelf Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes:

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Chairman, as an original sponsor of H.R. 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act, I am in strong support of this important legislation.

By providing an estimated $17 million per year for wildlife protection, open space preservation, urban parks, and coastal protection to my home state of Rhode Island, CARA will go a long way in providing the resources and investment necessary to fund vital conservation and recreation programs.

As many of my colleagues know, I am a landscape architect by profession. I began my public service career by serving on my local planning board. Later, as Lieutenant Governor, I served as chairman of Rhode Island's Land Use Commission. During that time, I wrote Rhode Island's current land use and zoning laws which the won praise of planning organizations nationwide. I have spent the last 25 years working on ways to improve land use planning for communities and states. I can say with a high degree of expertise that providing a steady and stable conservation funding stream will improve the ability of states and communities to plan better and manage their growth. This legislation provides this critical funding stream.

As communities continue to struggle with uncontrolled growth and the loss of sensitive environmental lands, this legislation provides states with the resources they need to address these issues. Many of us in Congress

have been working hard to make our communities more livable. CARA takes us one step closer to making communities across the country more livable.

As I travel across Rhode Island, my constituents urge me to make their communities more livable by improving the environment in which they live. In the northern part of my state, I continue to hear that we need more green and open space, more parks for their children to safely play. This legislation will provide the funds that communities, such as my home town of North Kingstown need to provide additional parks and open space.

In the southern part of my State, the coastal areas, I continue to hear that we need to take further action to address coastal erosion, and prevent further damage to sensitive wetlands and salt ponds. As many of you know, Rhode Island is subject to severe winter storms and hurricanes. These storms do untold damage to habitat and salt ponds, and increase coastal erosion. This bill will provide Rhode Island with several million dollars per year to address the problems resulting from these storms.

Many Members have taken to the floor to talk about the environmental importance of this bill. I agree. I would also like to address the potential economic benefits. For a state who's economy and way of life is largely dependent upon the Atlantic Coast and Narragansett Bay, preserving and restoring critical habitat and coastline is not only important to Rhode Island's environmental health but vital to its economic stability. Protecting our coastline will undoubtedly result in cleaner water which in turn, yields improved fish stocks for both the recreational and commercial fisheries. Both are significant economic generators for Rhode Island.

One of Rhode Island's largest economic generators is the tourism industry. People from all over the world come to Rhode Island to sail, visit its beaches, and experience the natural beauty of its coastal landscape. Taking steps to protect the State's natural beauty will undoubtedly result in an improved tourism industry.

Mr. Chairman, CARA is good for our environment, it is good for our economy, it will ease growth pressure on our communities, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

A TRIBUTE TO ANGELINE MCKELVIE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I remember the life of Angeline M. McKelvie, who on April 20, 2000, died of a heart attack at the age of 62. Angeline was a dedicated public servant and lifelong resident of Cudahy, WI.

Angeline, mother of four, was not content to be an observer when it came to her children's education. She became an active participant by running for the Cudahy School Board which served as the foundation for her political career. She set an example in the relationships she formed with area residents and became known as someone who cared about people.

It was here school board experience that enabled her to move into the broader circle of politics. Angeline believed that a female perspective was needed on the all-male common council. After a few setbacks at the polls, in 1990 she became the first woman to serve on the Cudahy Common Council, paving the way for other women to become involved. While in office, she worked diligently to win the trust of her constituents.

Even though her struggles with diabetes eventually led to the amputation of both legs, Angeline continued to work hard for the people in her beloved city, Cudahy. When it was time for a vote to be cast, Angeline knew what the people in her district wanted. Along with her desire to help people, she had a gift for listening. It was her determination and commitment to the people of Cudahy that enabled her to remain in office for 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I ask that you join me in paying tribute to the life and work of Angeline McKelvie.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY A. KING

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, throughout towns and cities across our nation there are individuals who are willing to step forward to dedicate their talents and energies to making life better for their friends and neighbors. The citizens of California are fortunate to have such an individual in Jerry A. King.

Jerry King's involvement with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, and community, began in 1983 when he was first appointed by Governor George Deukmejian. As a Regional Board member Jerry represented the community's concerns, set priorities for projects and plans of action, allocated funds, and made decisions essential to the future of water quality in southern California. His endless energy is displayed by his long list of business and community involvements including: President and owner of J.A. King & Associates, Chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Orange County Transportation Authority, board member of the Industrial League of Orange County, President of the Newport Beach Conference and Visitors Bureau and countless other local charitable and civic associations and organizations.

Jerry King has made, and continues to make, a lasting and positive impact in the southern California community. His involvement and leadership have established a path for those individuals following in his footsteps. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jerry for his dedication, influence and involvement in our community. He has served as an outstanding representative of community leadership. It is a great pleasure for me to congratulate Jerry King for the outstanding job he has done as a member of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD ''LEFTY'' GORDON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay my final respects to one of San Francisco's finest leaders, Leonard ''Lefty'' Gordon. Mr. Gordon dedicated his life to helping young African-Americans get a better chance in life and became a respected community figure in the process. A talented athlete with an agile mind, Lefty Gordon could have achieved personal fame or amassed great wealth, but he chose instead to live his life in service to his community.

Born in Mississippi, Lefty moved with his family to San Francisco when he was three years old. Growing up in the Western Addition neighborhood, Lefty excelled at any sport he tried, but he became particularly known for running track.

Upon graduation from high school, however, he decided to pursue his education rather than athletics. Mr. Gordon first earned a bachelor's degree from San Francisco State University and then earned a Master of Sociology degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

While pursuing his education, Lefty always made time to work with young people. Upon his graduation, this part-time work became his vocation. As a counselor at the Booker T. Washington Community Center, Mr. Gordon dedicated himself to mentoring young African-American men. He encouraged them to get an education and tied to provide them with opportunities, but, more than anything else, he respected them.

In 1983, Lefty became the Executive Director of the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center. Under his leadership, the Center became a dynamic place where students received tutoring, where children and senior citizens learned to use computers, where the unemployed received job training, and where the neighborhood's young people found guidance and caring.

Lefty was a mentor to the young, but he was also a leader among his peers. The Ella Hill Hutch Community Center became a meeting place for the city's African-American elected officials and city department heads. Working together, these leaders sought to improve the lives of their fellow San Francisco residents, and it was Lefty who brought them together.

The unexpected passing of Lefty Gordon leaves a void in the city of San Francisco. Lefty was a true friend to his community, and he was loved for it. His talents are not easily replaced, and his caring heart will never be. We will miss him greatly.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Scarlett, his son, Gregory, and all of his family and friends.

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, May 16, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on Indian arts and crafts programs.
SR–485

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine global warming issues.
SR–253

Environment and Public Works
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Clean Air Act, focusing on an incentive-based utility emissions reduction approach.
SD–406

Rules and Administration
To hold hearings on S. 1816, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide meaningful campaign finance reform through requiring better reporting, decreasing the role of soft money, and increasing individual contribution limits.
SR–301

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD–366

10 a.m.
Finance
Business meeting to markup proposed legislation extending Permanent Normal Trading Relations to China.
SD–215

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine internet security and privacy.
SD–226

11 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
Business meeting to markup proposed legislation making appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense.
SD–192

2 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 1148, to provide for the Yankton Sioux Tribe and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska certain benefits of the Missouri River Basin Pick-Sloan project; and S. 1658, to authorize the construction of a Reconciliation Place in Fort Pierre, South Dakota.
SR–485

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the operation, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, of the Flathead Irrigation Project in Montana.
SD–366

Foreign Relations
International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings to examine satellite export controls.
SD–419

MAY 18

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 2439, to authorize the appropriation of funds for the construction of the Southeastern Alaska Intertie system; and the nomination of Mildred Spiewak Dresselhaus, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Energy Research.
SD–366

Armed Services
To hold hearings on United States strategic nuclear force requirements. (Closed Hearing will follow in SR–222).
SR–253

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine mental health parity.
SD–430

Environment and Public Works
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2417, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase funding for State nonpoint source pollution control programs.
SD–406

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Financial Institutions Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the attack of the ''I Love You'' virus and its impact on United States financial services industry.
SD–538

Judiciary
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD–226

Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia
Subcommittee
To hold hearings on issues relating to training Federal employees, focusing on Federal agency's programs to train and educate employees throughout their careers to maintain their skills and productivity.
SD–342

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 1584, to establish the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania; S. 1685, to authorize the Golden Spike/Crossroads of the West National Heritage Area; H.R. 2932, to authorize the Golden Spike Crossroads of the West National Heritage Area; S. 1998, to establish the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area; S. 2247, to establish the Wheeling National Heritage Area in the State of West Virginia; S. 2421, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing an Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts; and S. 2511, to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area in the State of Alaska.
SD–366

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the extent to which fraud and criminal activities are affecting commerce on the internet, focusing on the widespread availability of false identification documents and credentials on the internet and the criminal uses to which such identification is put.
SD–342

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine drug safety and pricing.
SD–430

10 a.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings on Internal Revenue Service restructuring, focusing on small businesses.
SR–428A

10:30 a.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine human rights abuses in Russia.
2200, Rayburn Building

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 740, to amend the Federal Power Act to improve the hydroelectric licensing process by granting the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission statutory authority to better coordinate participation by other agencies and entities.
SD–366

3 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the Meltzer Commission, focusing on the future of the International Monetary Fund and world.
SD–419

MAY 24

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.
SR–485

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on S. 25, to provide Coastal Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; S. 2123, to provide

Outer Continental Shelf Impact assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people; and S. 2181, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to provide full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to provide dedicated funding for other conservation programs, including coastal stewardship, wildlife habitat protection, State and local park and open space preservation, historic preservation, forestry conservation programs, and youth conservation corps; and for other purposes.

SD–406

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD–366

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2163, to provide for a study of the engineering feasibility of a water exchange in lieu of electrification of the Chandler Pumping Plant at Prosser Diversion Dam, Washington; S. 2396, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts with the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District, Utah, to use Weber Basin Project facilities for the impounding, storage, and carriage of nonproject water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and other beneficial purposes; S. 2248, to assist in the development and implementation of projects to provide for the control of drainage water, storm water, flood water, and other water as part of water-related integrated resource management, environmental infrastructure, and resource protection and development projects in the Colusa Basin Watershed, California; S. 2410, to increase the authorization of appropriations for the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978; and S. 2425, to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the planning, design, and construction of the Bend Feed Canal Pipeline Project, Oregon.

SD–366

MAY 25

10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Public Health Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine gene therapy issues.

SD–430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the potential ban on snowmobiles in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the recent decision by the Department of the Interior to prohibit snowmobile activities in other units of the National Park System.

SD–366

JUNE 7

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 2282, to encourage the efficient use of existing resources and assets related to Indian agricultural research, development and exports within the United States Department of Agriculture.

SR–485

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2300, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for coal that may be held by an entity in any 1 State; S. 2069, to permit the conveyance of certain land in Powell, Wyoming; and S. 1331, to give Lincoln County, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain public land in the county.

SD–366

JUNE 21

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on certain Indian Trust Corporation activities.

SR–485

JUNE 28

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 2283, to amend the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century to make certain amendments with respect to Indian tribes.

SR–485

JULY 12

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on risk management and tort liability relating to Indian matters.

SR–485

JULY 19

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on activities of the National Indian Gaming Commission.

SR–485

JULY 26

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on authorizing funds for programs of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

SR–485

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3931–S3156

Measures Introduced: Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 2554–2556. **Page S3946**

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows: Reported on Friday, May 12, during the adjournment:

S. 2549, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces. (S. Rept. No. 106–292)

S. 2553, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September, 30, 2001. (S. Rept. No. 106–293)

S. 2550, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces.

S. 2551, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military construction.

S. 2552, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for defense activities of the Department of Energy.

Reported today:

S. 2311, to revise and extend the Ryan White CARE Act programs under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, to improve access to health care and the quality of health care under such programs, and to provide for the development of increased capacity to provide health care and related support services to individuals and families with HIV disease, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 106–294) **Page S3946**

Measures Passed:

Commemorating Law Enforcement Officers: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 247, commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S3949–50**

Law Enforcement Financial Assistance Extension: Senate passed S. 1638, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the retroactive eligibility dates for financial assistance for higher education for spouses and dependent children of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S3950–51**

Burns (for Leahy) Amendment No. 3147, to further extend the retroactive eligibility dates to January 1, 1978. **Pages S3950–51**

Military Construction Appropriations: Senate resumed consideration of S. 2521, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001. **Pages S3940–41**

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Tuesday, May 16, 2000.

Appointments:

Federal Judicial Center Foundation: The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 100–702, appointed John B. White, Jr. of South Carolina, to the board of the Federal Judicial Center Foundation, vice Richard M. Rosenbaum of New York. **Page S3951**

Office of Compliance: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate and the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Public Law 104–1, announced the joint appointment of Susan S. Robfogel, of New York, as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance. **Page S3951**

Messages From the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled the ''Consumer Product Safety Commission Enhanced Enforcement Act of 2000''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (PM–104) **Pages S3944–45**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Pamela E. Bridgewater, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Benin.

Glenn A. Fine, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Department of Justice.

Thomas L. Garthwaite, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Page S3956**

Messages From the President: **Pages S3944–45**

Communications: **Page S3945**

Petitions: **Pages S3945–46**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S3946–48**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3948–49**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S3949**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S3949**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3942–44**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 1:01 p.m., and adjourned at 5:16 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 16, 2000. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3951.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Governmental Affairs: On Friday, May 12, committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Amy L. Comstock, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics, Office of Personnel Management, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 15 public bills, H.R. 4444–4458; 1 private bill, H.R. 4459; and 2 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 326 and H. Res. 501, were introduced. **Page H3049**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Filed on Friday, May 12, H.R. 1291, to prohibit the imposition of access charges on Internet service providers, amended (H. Rept. 106–615);

Filed on Friday, May 12, H.R. 4205, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2001, amended (H. Rept. 106–616);

Committee on Appropriations Report on the Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2001 (H. Rept. 106–617); and

H. Res. 502, providing for consideration for H.R. 4425, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001 (H. Rept. 106–618). **Pages H3048–49**

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Tancredo to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2969**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:58 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H2973**

Trade Policy for Sub-Sahara Africa: S. Con. Res. 112, to make technical corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 434. **Pages H2973–74**

Presidential Message Consumer Product Safety Commission: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted his legislative proposal entitled "Consumer Product Safety Commission Enhanced Enforcement Act of 2000" referred to the Committee on Commerce and ordered printed (H. Doc. 106–235). **Page H2975**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse: S. 2370, to designate the Federal building located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, as the "Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse"—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H2975–78**

Naming the Sonny Montgomery Room in the Capitol: H. Res. 491, naming a room in the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol in honor of former Representative G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (agreed to by a yea and nay vote of 380 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 180); **Pages H2978–82, H3028–29**

John J. Buchanan Post Office Building: Concur in Senate amendments to H.R. 1377, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 13234 South Baltimore Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the "John J. Buchanan Post Office Building;" clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H2982–83**

Environmental Cleanup in Northern Europe: H.R. 4249, amended, to foster cross-border cooperation and environmental cleanup in Northern Europe; **Pages H2983–86**

Commending Croatian Elections: H. Con. Res. 251, amended, commending the Republic of Croatia for the conduct of its parliamentary and presidential elections; **Pages H2986–88**

Congressional Oversight of Nuclear Transfers to North Korea: H.R. 4251, amended, to amend the

North Korea Threat Reduction Act of 1999 to enhance congressional oversight of nuclear transfers to North Korea (passed by a yea and nay vote of 374 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 181);

Pages H2988–92, H3829–30

Impact Aid Reauthorization: H.R. 3616, to reauthorize the impact aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;

Pages H2292–H3002

In-School Personal Safety Education Programs: H. Con. Res. 309, expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children (agreed to by a yea and nay vote of 383 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 182); **Pages H3002–05, H3030**

Commending the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol of Littleton, Colorado: H. Res. 456, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives to acknowledge and highlight the efforts of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol of Littleton, Colorado; **Pages H3005–16**

AIDS Epidemic Trust Fund: H.R. 3519, amended, to provide for negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the International Development Association to combat the AIDS epidemic; and **Pages H3016–25**

Commending the Nation's Law Enforcement Officers. H. Res. 501, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Nation's law enforcement officers. **Pages H3025–28**

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the joint appointment of Ms. Susan S. Robfogel, New York, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance, to fill the existing vacancy thereon.

Page H3028

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H2969 and H3025.

Quorum Calls Votes: Three yea and nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3028–29, H3029–30, and H3030. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PRIVACY COMMISSION ACT

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology held a hearing on H.R. 4049, Privacy Commission Act. Testimony was heard from John Spotilla, Administrator, Office of Regulatory Affairs, OMB; David Veator, General Counsel, Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation, State of Massachusetts; Mike Hatch, Attorney General, State of Minnesota; and a public witness.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, an open rule on H.R. 4425, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, providing one hour of general debate to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives clause 4(c) of rule XIII (requiring the three-day availability of printed hearings on a general appropriations bill) against consideration of the bill. The rule waives clause 2 of rule XXI (prohibiting unauthorized or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill) against provisions in the bill. The rule authorizes the Chair to accord priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record. The rule allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce voting time to five minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a fifteen minute vote. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that, for purposes of enforcement of the Congressional Budget Act, the appropriate levels of new budget authority and total budget outlays shall be those reflected in the table entitled "Conference Report Fiscal Year 2001 Budget Resolution Total Spending and Revenues" in House Report 106–577. Testimony was heard from Representatives Hobson and Olver.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2000

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings on the nomination of the following named officer for appointment as Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy, and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 5033: Adm. Vernon E. Clark, to be Admiral, 10 a.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation, to hold oversight hearings on HUD's single family management and marketing contracts, 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Maritime Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, to hold oversight hearings on the United States Forest Service's proposed transportation policy, 3 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings on the Army Corps of Engineer's backlog of authorized projects and the future of the Army Corps of Engineer's mission, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the U.S. Commission for International Freedom's findings on Russia, China, and Sudan, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services, to hold hearings to examine long term care insurance for federal employees, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice Oversight, to hold hearings to examine threats to Federal Law Enforcement Officers, 2 p.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Appropriations, to mark up the Transportation appropriations for fiscal year 2001, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing on improving regulation of the housing Government Sponsored Enterprises, focusing on H.R. 3703, Housing Finance Regulatory Improvement Act, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 4288, to clarify that environmental protection, safety, and health provisions continue to apply to the functions of the National Nuclear Security Administration to the same extent as those provisions applied to those functions before transfer to the Administration; S. 1937, to amend the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act to provide for sales of electricity by the Bonneville Power Administration to joint operating entities; S. 422, to provide for Alaska state jurisdiction over small hydroelectric projects; and H.R. 2335, Hydroelectric Licensing Process Improvement Act of 1999, 12 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on Consumer Safety Initiatives: Protecting the Vulnerable, focusing on the following bills: H.R. 4145, Child Passenger Protection Act of 2000; H.R. 2592, to amend the Consumer Products Safety Act to provide that low-speed electric bicycles are consumer products subject to such Act; and H.R. 3032, National Amusement Park Ride Safety Act of 1999, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth, and Families, hearing on Ritalin Use Among Youth: Examining the Issues and Concerns, 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, to continue hearings on H.R. 4049, Privacy Commission Act, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, Subcommittee on International Economic Policy and Trade, hearing on Conducting Business in Latin America: Challenges and Opportunities, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, to mark up H.R. 3605, San Rafael Western Legacy District and National Conservation Act; followed by a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 946, Graton Rancheria Restoration Act; H.R. 2671, Yankton Sioux Tribe and Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska Development Trust Fund Act; and H.R. 4148, Tribal Contract Support Cost Technical Amendments of 2000, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 3657, to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of public domain land in the San Bernardino National Forest in the State of California; H.R. 3817, to redesignate the Big South Trail in the Comanche Peak Wilderness Area of Roosevelt National Forest in Colorado as the "Jaryd Atadero Legacy Trail"; H.R. 4226, Black Hills National Forest and Rocky Mountain Research Station Improvement Act; S. 439, to amend the National Forest and Public Lands of Nevada Enhancement Act of 1988 to adjust the boundary of the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; H.R. 3388, Lake Tahoe Restoration Act; S. 1374, Jackson Multi-Agency Campus Act of 1999; and S. 1288, Community Forest Restoration Act, 2 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3632, Golden Gate National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act of 2000; H.R. 4063, Rosie the Riveter-World War II Home Front National Historical Park Establishment Act of 2000; and H.R. 4125, to provide a grant under the urban park and recreation recovery program to assist in the development of a Millennium Cultural Cooperative Park in Youngstown, Ohio, 9:30 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 4205, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, 11 a.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Tax, Finance, and Exports, hearing on Trade with China Helps Small Business Exporters Work, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on the Future of Aviation Technology "Is the Sky the Limit?" 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Health Care Coverage for Families Leaving Welfare, 10 a.m., B–318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing on Internet tax issues, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the **SENATE**

9:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the recognition of three Senators for speeches and the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 11 a.m.), Senate will continue consideration of S. 2521, Military Construction Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2001.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

9 a.m., Tuesday, May 16

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 1291, Internet Access Charge Prohibition Act (suspension);

Consideration of H.R. 4425, Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2001 (open rule, one hour of general debate); and

Consideration of H.R. 853, Comprehensive Budget Process Reform Act (structured rule, one hour of debate).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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