

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CAPITAL MARKETS

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, Frank Raines, Chairman and CEO of Fannie Mae, testified this week before the House Banking and Financial Services Subcommittee on Capital Markets. His testimony was interesting and informative, and I appreciated hearing from him. So that those who will not receive a copy of his testimony may understand more about what Fannie Mae does, and what Mr. Raines' views are, I include for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of his speech before The National Press Club on May 12.

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY FRANKLIN D. RAINES, CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FANNIE MAE

Thank you for joining us today.

These are "interesting" times for the housing industry, and we wanted to bring you up to date since Jim Johnson gave his farewell address as Chairman of Fannie Mae from this podium in November of 1998. A year and a half may not seem like a long time, but it has been an unusually turbulent period, and much is at stake.

As some of you may recall, Jim titled his speech, "Why Homeownership Matters—Lessons Learned from a Decade in Housing Finance." He painted a very positive picture. He said the American Dream of homeownership was more alive, achievable and inclusive than ever. He said the growth in homeownership is making everything better, from the wealth of average families, to the health of older communities, to the strength of the nation's economy. The housing finance system, he declared, was the most efficient and effective ever devised.

Jim was absolutely right. And things have gotten even better. The national homeownership rate has just topped 67 percent, a new record. Even though mortgage rates have gone up, the housing market remains robust. Housing starts are strong. Home sales are vigorous. Home values are appreciating. Households are growing. Homes are getting larger. Home equity is rising. Default and foreclosure rates are at historic lows.

And the process of buying a home has never been better. Automated underwriting and other advances have made it faster, easier, less frustrating and less costly to finance a home, and reduced the bias in lending decisions. E-commerce and financial deregulation are giving consumers more power and more choices at lower costs. The mortgage industry has been breaking through the old red lines and bringing affordable housing finance to families that used to be overlooked, neglected or rejected.

Behind all of this, the secondary mortgage market—including Fannie Mae—is attracting billions of dollars of private capital from all over the world, providing lenders with a steady flow of funds in all communities at the lowest rates in the market and with zero risk to the government.

With the system we have today, and with the economic winds at our backs, the national homeownership rate could rise as high

as 70 percent in this decade, with ten million new homeowners and growth especially among minorities, new Americans and other historically underrepresented consumers.

Yogi Berra warned that, "A guy ought to be very careful in making predictions, especially about the future." But I think we're on pretty solid ground in predicting that the future of homeownership in America is very positive.

But I stand before you at a moment when questions have been raised about the utility of the U.S. secondary mortgage market that is so integral to the system's functioning as a whole. Some of these inquiries are well meaning. But it is no secret that some of the questions are generated by financial competitors that would earn more if Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were not lowering costs for consumers.

The U.S. housing finance system is strong, but it is not indestructible. Changing it significantly could have real consequences for real families. The burden of proof for anyone that wants to change the system is a simple but stringent test—does it help or hurt home buyers?

Today, let me reinforce why our system works so well and what we are up against.

To illustrate what is so good about our system, let's compare it to the other major industrialized countries. Most of the G-7 countries have a well-developed mortgage system organized around depository institutions. But the mortgages they offer are less consumer-friendly. In America we take the 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage for granted. Last year, 66 percent of the mortgages issued in the U.S. were 30-year, fixed-rate conventional mortgages.

Outside the U.S., the long-term fixed-rate mortgage is a rarity. In Canada, they have rollover mortgages, where the rate is fixed during the first one to five years, with a prepayment penalty equal to three months of interest. The fixed-rate term in Spain is usually one year. In France, 80 percent of all mortgages have variable rates. In Germany, you can get a fixed-rate for five to fifteen years, but you can't refinance during this period without paying a huge penalty.

The low down payment features of U.S. conventional mortgages are also unique. We now take for granted down payments as low as 5 and 3 percent. That's not the case in, say, Germany, France, the United Kingdom or Japan. In Germany, the down payment is typically 30 to 40 percent, and in Japan, you've had to put down effectively 50 to 60 percent.

Why are American conventional mortgages more consumer-friendly? Mainly because we have a secondary mortgage market. In other countries, the banks largely make the loans from their deposits and hold the mortgages as an investment. Our system primarily worked that way until the 1970s and 1980s. Today in America, banks, thrifts, mortgage bankers and credit unions make the loans, but they can depend on the secondary market to supply the long-term funding.

What Congress did in establishing a secondary market in the thirties and privatizing this market in the sixties made this change possible, and it has turned out to be absolutely brilliant. When it chartered Fannie Mae and then Freddie Mac as private companies, it created a system that harnesses private enterprise and private capital

to deliver the public benefit of homeownership. And it maximizes this public benefit while minimizing the public risk, without a nickel of public funds.

Let's do a quick risk-benefit analysis, starting with the risk side of the equation.

There is a simple reason fixed-rate mortgages with low down payments are rare outside the U.S. Since they don't have a secondary market to buy the mortgage, the lender has to hold the loan and take on all the risk. That is, the lender has to assume the credit risk—the risk that the borrower could default—and the interest-rate risk—the risk that interest rates will change and cause the lender to pay out more to depositors than he is receiving on loans. So the lender protects himself by requiring the consumer to pay more up front and more each month if interest rates rise.

In America, the secondary market purchases the mortgage, taking most of the credit and interest rate risk on the loan off the lenders' books. But the secondary market run by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac does not retain all the risk. We share or disperse the risk around the world.

This process is called "risk transformation." Here's how it works. Fannie Mae and our lender partners create mortgages that consumers want, like our 3 percent down Fannie 97. And we finance them with capital we raise by creating debt instruments that investors want, like our Benchmark securities. We share the credit risk on the Fannie 97 with mortgage insurance companies, and we hedge the interest rate risk by selling callable debt securities to Wall Street. We also work with Wall Street to develop even more refined strategies for hedging our interest-rate risk and credit risk. Last year, we spent about half of our gross revenues paying others to assume risk we didn't want.

Managing risk, in fact, is all we do. We manage risk on one asset—U.S. home mortgages—perhaps the safest asset in the world. All told, 96 percent of all mortgages in America are paid in a timely fashion, which goes to show just how much Americans cherish homeownership. And to help us analyze our risk precisely, we have amassed performance data on 29 million loans dating back over 20 years.

All of this helps to explain why our credit loss rate during the nineties averaged only 5 basis points—five cents on every hundred dollars—even during the recessions in California and New England. Just to compare, the bank credit loss rate on their more diverse set of assets was an average of 86 basis points, or 86 cents on every hundred dollars. Today, our loss rate is lower than ever, at just 1 basis point last year.

A strong secondary market makes the entire financial system safer and more stable. The government holds Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to the highest financial safety and soundness standards in the financial services industry. We have to hold enough capital to survive a stress test—essentially, ten years of devastating mortgage defaults and extreme interest rate movements. Other financial institutions would not last long under the scenario spelled out in our capital requirements. Thrifts, for example, would become insolvent after five to seven years. At the end of the ten years, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac would be the only major holder

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of mortgage assets still standing. A strong secondary market puts mortgages in the safest hands.

Now let's look at the public benefit.

First, the secondary market means consumers never have to hear their lender say, "sorry—we're out of money to lend." People think this can't happen, that it's something out of the Depression era. But without Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, this could have happened at least twice in the last 20 years. When the S&L system crashed during the eighties, the thrifts in California and Texas would have had no money to lend if we had not stepped in to back their loans. Then, in 1998 when a credit crisis shook the capital markets, conventional mortgage rates would have jumped as jumbo rates did if Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac hadn't been able to raise billions of dollars in capital, and keep it flowing to lenders. Home buyers never felt the credit crunch. In both cases, hundreds of thousands of families would have been denied a mortgage.

The secondary market also drives down mortgage costs. Last week, a mortgage backed by Fannie Mae would be \$19,000 cheaper, over the term, than a jumbo mortgage that's just a dollar beyond our loan limit. Our savings over the jumbo market jumped beyond \$26,000 during the credit crisis of 1998. Today, a Fannie Mae loan is about \$200,000 cheaper than a subprime mortgage, and even about \$18,000 cheaper than an equivalent FHA or VA loan backed by the government. During the nineties, Fannie Mae alone saved consumers at least \$20 billion through lower mortgage rates.

The secondary market also expands homeownership. Under the 1992 revisions to our charter, Congress requires Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to meet affordable housing goals, to devote a set percentage of our business to underserved families and communities. As many of you know, Fannie Mae has gone well beyond these requirements. In 1994, Jim Johnson pledged that we would provide \$1 trillion in housing finance to ten million underserved families by the end of 2000. We met that goal a month ago—eight months ahead of schedule—and immediately set an even greater goal to provide \$2 trillion in financing to 18 million families during this decade. We call this new pledge the American Dream Commitment.

Since 1993, these initiatives have boosted our lending to African Americans by 31 percent, and to all minorities by 16 percent. Last year, Fannie Mae alone provided nearly \$46 billion in housing finance for over 400,000 minority families. That's what having a strong secondary market can do.

The success of our housing finance system is not lost on the other major industrialized countries. I just returned on Tuesday from meetings in London and Frankfurt with our debt investors—the people who buy our Benchmark securities that allow us to finance mortgages here. One of the many ironies of being Chairman of Fannie Mae is that there are countries in which investors will help finance American homeownership while their own homeownership rate is lower.

Naturally, many countries are curious about our system. Fannie Mae has responded to many requests to serve as advisors overseas, not because we will ever buy loans abroad, but because of our expertise in the unique U.S. secondary market, a market that is viewed in other countries as some kind of miracle.

So over the past few years, a team from Fannie Mae has been invited to 29 different countries from Europe, to Africa, to Latin America, to Asia to help them figure out how to build a better system like ours. These countries have asked us how to deepen their capital markets, manage risk better and ex-

pand affordable lending and fair lending. We just had a team in South Africa to help a start-up secondary market conduit develop mortgage risk modeling, which they want to use to fight redlining.

What you see in America is a dynamic web of entities—both public and private sector—delivering homeownership to citizens of all backgrounds, incomes and circumstances. We have small, medium and large mortgage originators and lenders, serving consumers from store fronts to web sites. We have home builders, Realtors, mortgage brokers, mortgage insurers and appraisers and mortgage.coms. We have consumer advocates, citizen activists and nonprofit housing organizations. The system receives wide support from local, county, state and federal agencies and elected leaders, public policies and public benefits. And behind all of it, we have a vibrant secondary market drawing capital from all over the world to finance this homebuilding, lending and purchasing.

The interaction of these entities is constantly driving the housing system to improve itself, to reward low cost and high quality, to police the bad actors and chuck out the bad apples, to search for new markets and untapped home buyers, and break down the barriers. Looking back over my years in the industry gives me confidence that the U.S. housing system, with a little nudging here and there, will continue to do the right thing for consumers. Good money will drive out the bad. A better mousetrap is always in development. Underserved families will be served. Our system is constantly evolving and innovating to make owning a home more possible for more people.

Given how great our system is, it makes you wonder: Why are some voices suggesting there is something wrong with our housing finance system, something fundamental that needs to be fixed?

Certainly, the system benefits from constructive scrutiny. It is entirely appropriate for the Congress to hold oversight hearings on the safety and soundness of the secondary mortgage market. I look forward to testifying before Mr. Baker's subcommittee next week. It is also appropriate for our regulators—HUD and OFHEO—to monitor us closely. And it is appropriate for other agencies to ask questions within their purview as well. We welcome official scrutiny.

But something less constructive is also going on here in Washington. Recently, a senior Senator asked me why Fannie Mae was suddenly in the news so much. I explained to him that some very large financial institutions have decided they are not content with the way the system works for them. They see how Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac drive down mortgage costs for consumers and serve all mortgage lenders. They see how we give small- and medium-sized mortgage lenders a chance to compete with the large institutions. So this small group of large institutions would like to eliminate the benefits that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac provide, from low-cost financing to automated underwriting systems.

They have brought the fight to Washington under the name FM Watch. They began by defining themselves as a watchdog group, and their rhetoric was mild. But over the course of the past year, they have been unable to gain any traction. They have been unable to answer the question of how the consumer would benefit from any of their proposals regarding Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. And our nickname for this group, the "Coalition for Higher Mortgage Costs," has stuck like a tattoo.

So this group has switched from watchdog to attack dog. Its strategy is now to create an instant crisis, to convince policymakers that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are a fi-

nancial risk to the taxpayer, an S&L crisis waiting to happen. This is the equivalent of the owner of one movie theater going to a rival theater and shouting "fire!" A mortgage insurance industry that nearly collapsed in the 1980s and a banking industry that collapsed in the early 1990s now seek to tag the secondary mortgage industry with the word "risky."

By trying to create a crisis, FM Watch has gone beyond a watchdog role into an approach which, carried to its logical conclusion, would actually harm the housing finance system, all in an effort to create short-term advantages for its members.

Never mind that its claims collapse under scrutiny. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are far from the S&L problems and banking problems that bankrupted their deposit insurance funds and required federal direct and indirect bailouts. To the contrary, if the failed S&Ls and banks had stuck to safe mortgage investments like we do instead of all their speculative non-mortgage investments, they might not have failed.

Our safety and soundness allowed us to be the "white hats" in the S&L and banking crises as we rode in with additional capital to keep the housing system going. The risk-based capital standard that Congress gave us since the S&L and banking crises has made us even more safe and sound. What FM Watch does not mention is that if the economic stress test in our capital standard ever came to pass, the government would have to bail out their members long before Fannie Mae was in any danger.

But you can learn a lot from debating with an entity like FM Watch. They use so many facts that you just can't find anywhere else. It reminds me of a story Adlai Stevenson once told. He reminded his audience of the old lawyer addressing the jury, who closed his summation by saying: "And these, ladies and gentlemen, are the conclusions on which I base my facts." FM Watch is looking for any conclusion that will help to damage Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The facts will be altered to fit.

If this Coalition for Higher Mortgage Costs were successful, it would destabilize the secondary mortgage market and the related capital markets. This destabilization would undermine the entire housing industry and its progress, raise costs for consumers and stifle the advance of homeownership—harming underserved families first. Because such an outcome is unacceptable, I don't think this will happen. The American people and their elected representatives are smart. They will soon recognize another lobbyist-driven Potemkin-crisis public relations campaign for what it is. Then they and the capital markets will stop listening.

Certainly our housing system is not perfect. Minority homeownership rates are too low. There is still inequality in affordable mortgage credit. Too many families that can afford the least are being charged the most for mortgage credit. Too many borrowers are being targeted by predatory lenders or steered to subprime lending when they could, in fact, qualify for low-cost conventional financing.

One issue deserving of further study is the question of why disparities in loan approvals between white and minority borrowers continue to persist. Many have suspected overt racial discrimination. But those disparities can be found even in automated underwriting systems using racially neutral underwriting criteria.

We take this issue very seriously because in our experience, automated underwriting has in fact expanded lending to minority families. To try to understand the problem better, we have studied results from our system, Desktop Underwriter. We found that

differences in credit histories account for about 50 percent of the difference in loan approvals. And when you also factor in the applicant's loan-to-value ratio and reserves, these three factors together account for over 90 percent of the difference in the approval ratings. The results of this study point to the need for public policies addressing consumer credit education and minority savings and wealth development.

The housing finance system needs more answers to questions such as this. To further explore these issues, next month Fannie Mae is hosting a conference titled "The Role of Automated Underwriting in Expanding Minority Homeownership." We're bringing together a range of advocates, academics, regulators and lenders to engage in a meaningful dialogue concerning automated underwriting systems and their role in expanding homeownership and promoting fair lending. I am personally committed to working every day to make sure that these systems are the best they can possibly be.

All in all, the housing finance system—through inspiration, perspiration and a little luck—has grown into the most successful system in the world. It is worth protecting and defending. We must never allow the system to be damaged by those who would place their narrow financial interests ahead of those of the industry as a whole and—most importantly—ahead of the consumers we serve.

This being a national election year, it is a good time to discuss and debate our national priorities, and certainly homeownership is high among them. Few ideals unite us more than owning a home to raise your family, invest your income, become part of a community and have something to show for it. There are many ways to go about improving the housing finance system to make it better, more affordable and more inclusive. As we pursue these efforts, we need to keep our eyes on the prize and ask the most important question, "does this proposal help or hurt home buyers?"

Thank you.

HONORING AMBASSADOR STEPHEN CHEN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay homage to an outstanding diplomat who is leaving Washington with two years of distinguished service in the United States Diplomatic Corps, Ambassador Stephen Chen.

Ambassador Chen has been a wealth of information for me and my staff about the intriguing diplomacy of the Pacific Rim. He leaves Washington with the satisfaction of having represented the interests of his country well while in the United States, and he strengthened the all-important relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

Ambassador Chen is a career officer, serving Taiwan's foreign ministry for nearly 50 years now. He is the consummate diplomat, with a rare gift of persuasion without the appearance of appearing to be inflexible. He has charmed many Washington officials, guests and other diplomats during his time here with insightful knowledge about trade, international relations, and a variety of other topics.

At Twin Oaks, a historic landmark in central Washington, Ambassador Stephen Chen and

his lovely wife Rosa have hosted many gatherings. Ambassador Chen is always generous in regaling his guests with self-deprecating jokes, as well as stories about Taiwan and her people. He brought all of us closer to Taiwan and to his native culture.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Stephen and Rosa Chen well as they retire from the foreign service and return to their beloved Taiwan.

HONORING THE LATE EVANGELINE C. MILLS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a woman who supported countless local charities in the community. Mrs. Evangeline C. Mills passed away at the age of 69.

Born in Holtville on November 22, 1930, Eve lived in Salinas for 46 years. She played a very active role in the community including her membership on the advisory board of the Foundation for Monterey County Free Libraries, on the board of the Western Stage and also as past president of PEO, a women's philanthropic organization. In 1996 Eve and her husband were named Volunteers of the Year by the United Way of Salinas Valley where they served as co-chairs of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society. In the same year, the Development Executives Network and the National Society of Fund-raising Executives, Monterey Bay chapter, honored the couple as Philanthropists of the Year. Eve was also a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels of the Salinas Valley for over 20 years.

Eve will be forever remembered by dear family and friends. She will be sorely missed by the many people who were privileged to know her. Eve is survived by her husband; two sons, David and Jim Mills, both of Salinas; two daughters, Susan Mills of Salinas and Kathy Mills of Pacific Grove; her parents, Ted and Loreen Todd of San Jose; and eight grandchildren.

HONORING GEORGIA GULF CHEMICALS & VINYL, L.L.C.

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Georgia Gulf Chemicals & Vinyls, L.L.C. and its employees for selection by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce as the Industry of the Year.

Georgia Gulf and its employees have been responsible members of the Pasadena community, and have had a significant impact on the local business community. In addition to making sizable expenditures on supplies and raw materials in the Pasadena area, Georgia Gulf has shown a commitment to reducing the amount and/or toxicity of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes generated. Though not required by any state or federal regulations, Georgia Gulf operates a vapor recovery system for acetone loading, resulting in reducing emissions to the atmosphere.

Georgia Gulf received recognition from Pasadena's Local Emergency Planning Committee for their support and involvement with the Household Hazardous Material Collection Day. Georgia Gulf employees also volunteer with the Bay Day Celebration to provide information to the public on pollution prevention, water quality, and the Galveston Bay ecosystem.

In addition to environmental efforts, Georgia Gulf has shown a commitment to safety. The company received the Texas Chemical Council's "Caring for Texas" Award for outstanding performance in pollution prevention, community awareness, and safety awareness. The Council also recognized Georgia Gulf for going a year without a recordable accident in 1999.

A true connection exists between Georgia Gulf and the Pasadena community. Most of the 80 employees make their homes in Pasadena area neighborhoods. Demonstrating their generosity and connection to community, the company's employees have logged thousands of volunteer hours on local projects.

Georgia Gulf's active involvement in the Pasadena community can be traced through its participation in a wide variety of civic organizations, including the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, the Pasadena Citizens Advisory Panel, the Clean Channel Association and several community-based nonprofit organizations. The Pasadena Livestock Show and Rodeo and area Little Leagues also benefit from the active support of Georgia Gulf. The employees' participation in the American Heart Association's Heartwalk, United Way fund-raising, and the Bridge to help battered women, add to the list of reasons why Georgia Gulf has earned this year's Industry of the Year Award.

Georgia Gulf has contributed to efforts to provide a first-rate education for the young people of Pasadena. Georgia Gulf and its employees: serve on the East Harris County Manufacturers Association Schools Outreach Subcommittee to provide Pasadena schools with supplies, mentoring, and monetary donations; host industry tours for ninth graders from area high schools; participate in a mentoring program with fifth graders called the Pen Pal program; and donate computer equipment to the Pasadena school district.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the employees of Georgia Gulf on being named the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Industry of the Year. This honor is well-deserved for their work in expanding business and job opportunities, establishing safer conditions for workers, and instituting initiatives to protect the environment. This award indicates that Georgia Gulf has demonstrated a commitment to strengthening community relations by supporting employees volunteer activities and making contributions to deserving sectors of the community.

10TH PRESIDENT OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, Turkey is undergoing a peaceful transition of power,

which has received little attention in this country. Last Friday, the Turkish parliament secured the necessary support to vote Ahmet Necdet Sezer, a former top judge as the 10th President of the Turkish Republic. He will officially assume his post on May 16th.

This development was viewed positively by the European Union and western circles. President-elect Sezer is known as an outspoken advocate of democratic reforms and a staunch defender of secularism.

His accession to the presidency was also well received at home. According to a public opinion poll, he enjoys 81 percent popular support. According to the same poll, 75 percent of those polled believe that he would be a successful President.

Mr. Speaker, Turkey is well known as a dependable and strategically located NATO ally, but the State Department's 1999 report on global terrorism, which was recently released, highlights Turkey's contributions to curtail terrorism, perhaps one of the biggest threats to our security in this new millennium.

In 1999 Turkey not only captured Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the vicious PKK which was responsible for the death of tens of thousands of people, but also was successful in thwarting the activities of the leftwing Revolutionary People's Liberation Party/Front (DHKP/C) as they prepared to inflict damage on U.S. targets.

The report details the Turkish police's successful operation against the terrorist group in a shootout on 4 June as the terrorists prepared unsuccessfully to fire a light antitank weapon at the U.S. Consulate in Istanbul from a nearby construction site. Authorities also arrested some 160 DHKP/C members and supporters in Turkey and confiscated numerous weapons, ammunition, bombs, and bomb making materials over the course of the year, dealing a harsh blow to the organization.

According to the report, Turkey also made significant progress against Islamic terrorism, as Turkish authorities continued to arrest and try Islamic terrorists vigorously in 1999. The report states that militants from the two major groups—Turkish Hizballah, a Kurdish group not affiliated with Lebanese Hizballah, and the Islamic Great Eastern Raiders-Front—managed to conduct low-level attacks.

There were at least two attempted bombings against Russian interests in Turkey during 1999. On 10 December authorities discovered a bomb outside a building housing the offices of the Russian airline Aero-Flot in Istanbul. The bomb weighed approximately 14 kilograms, was concealed in a suitcase, and was similar to a bomb found on the grounds of the Russian Consulate in Istanbul in mid-November. Turkish officials suspect that Chechen sympathizers were responsible.

While most of our NATO allies have benefited from the end of Cold War, experts maintain that since 13 of the 16 possible conflicts in the world are in Turkey's neighborhood, Turkey has not benefited from a peace dividend. We must continue to support and nurture the friendship we have with the Republic of Turkey, a close ally that continues to shoulder a heavy burden for regional peace and security.

HONORING DR. JOE SAMUEL RATLIFF FOR HIS 30TH YEAR IN THE MINISTRY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to recognize the achievements of Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff, of Brentwood Baptist Church. On Wednesday, May 17, 2000, the congregation of Brentwood Baptist Church honored Pastor Ratliff for the many contributions he has made over the last 30 years in the name of the Lord.

Dr. Joe Samuel Ratliff of Lumberton, NC, received his Bachelor of Arts in History, from Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA. He received both the Doctorate of Ministry and Doctorate of Divinity degrees from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA. He has done post-doctoral work at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

It is difficult to imagine what the Houston community would be like today had Dr. Ratliff not been called to become Pastor of Brentwood in 1980. We have been truly blessed to have a man with his sense of dedication and selflessness among us. In 1993, Dr. Ratliff co-authored the book, *Church Planting in the African-American Community* (Broadman Press). He was named the first African-American Moderator of the Union Baptist Association . . . the nation's largest urban Southern Baptist body, consisting of 250,000 members in 1994. In March of 1997, his portrait was hung in the Hall of Fame in the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel on the Morehouse College Campus. Under Pastor Ratliff's leadership, the Brentwood family has grown to 10,000 strong.

Pastor Ratliff's time with the ministry has allowed him to develop a strong support network that extends outside the church. Dr. Ratliff currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Morehouse School of Religion and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Interdenominational Theological Center. Dr. Ratliff is a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and is married to Mrs. Doris Gardner Ratliff.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my fellow members of the 106th Congress to join me in saluting Pastor Joe Samuel Ratliff. Self-evident is his lifelong journey to enhancing the dignity and nurturing the spirits of all people. I am grateful that there are people like Dr. Ratliff who serve as examples of what we should all strive to be.

THE UCSD CANCER CENTER:
WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH, GAINING
SUPPORT WORLD-CLASS PRIVATE

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the exciting, new research opportunities being pursued by the UCSD Cancer Center in La Jolla, California, and to recognize some very gen-

erous families and organizations for the extraordinary private support they have recently pledged to provide to the Center.

The UCSD Cancer Center is now undergoing a tremendous period of growth and resurgence. Directed by the distinguished Dr. David Tarin, the goal of the Center is to research and help deploy the many new treatments and protocols now being developed to fight and prevent cancer. Through the leadership of people like Labor Appropriations Chairman JOHN PORTER, the Republican majority in Congress has successfully raised the bar of investment in health research and cancer research as a major national priority of the people of the United States. Now this research, in many cases, requires a next step: the testing and evaluation of treatments and medicines through clinical trials. Such trials are a major focus of the UCSD Cancer Center, so that we can bring together medical professionals, researchers and patients to the benefit of everyone. By consolidating research and treatment at the UCSD Cancer Center, we will learn more about treating and preventing this horrible scourge of cancer, in a way that preserves and enhances the dignity and peace of cancer patients, their families and their loved ones.

Such cancer is not inexpensive. Conversely, though, I believe that we cannot afford not to invest in such a center. It gaining increasing recognition from the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute, directed by my friend Dr. Rick Klausner. It is the focus of a regional effort by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, to apply local tobacco settlement funds to combat and prevent cancer.

I want to pay particular attention to several families who have put forth their own treasure to the improvement of this vital Center. Within the past several months, private gifts totalling \$47 million have been pledged for this purpose.

In thanksgiving for a gift of \$20 million by San Diego Padres majority owner John Moores and his wife Rebecca, the center will be named the John and Rebecca Moores UCSD Cancer Center.

Longtime investment banker and attorney Jerome Katzin and his wife Miriam have pledged another \$15 million.

And many more gifts large and small, by San Diego's leading families and by people whose lives have been touched by cancer, have been pledged to this Center.

Mr. Speaker, this Center is gaining national recognition in its field. As a strong supporter of cancer research and of this Center, I want to bring both the Center and its private family supporters to the attention of my colleagues in Congress and to the country.

I commend my colleagues to read the attached article from the San Diego Union-Tribune, describing both the Center and the gifts of its supporters in greater detail.

[From the San Diego Union-Tribune, May 5, 2000]

WORLD-CLASS CANCER CENTER PLANNED AT UCSD

(By Cheryl Clark)

A regional cancer center financed by gifts of \$47 million from local families is to be built in La Jolla, consolidating research and treatment in what UCSD officials hope will become one of the nation's best places for care.

The plan is to bring researchers, clinicians, prevention specialists and educators under one roof in an effort that UCSD Chancellor Robert Dynes called a "bench-to bedside approach to conquering cancer."

"San Diego deserves a cancer center that ranks among the world's best, and UCSD is the logical place," Dynes said yesterday.

University officials hope the coordinated center eventually will receive the higher level and prestigious "comprehensive" designation from the National Cancer Institute.

That label would not only attract more qualified scientists and clinicians, it would be a magnet for funding for clinical trials of cancer compounds from the federal government, private foundations and pharmaceutical companies.

The announcement follows several ambitious and far-reaching developments recently in the San Diego medical community focusing on cancer research and treatment.

"We can now see on the horizon the realization of a dream," said Dr. David Tarin, associate dean for cancer affairs and the new center's director. "At the moment, we are scattered at 24 sites and at two hospitals."

The largest of the gifts was \$20 million pledged by Padres majority owner John Moores and his wife, Rebecca. The center will be named the John and Rebecca Moores UCSD Cancer Center.

The Moores were unavailable for comment, but in a written statement they said, "When we lived in Houston, we observed the profound impact of a vigorous, highly regarded cancer center equally dedicated to research and patient care."

Another large contributor was Jerome Katzin, an attorney and former investment banker with Kuhn, Loeb & Co./Lehman Brothers for 35 years. He and his wife, Miriam, pledged \$15 million.

Officials hope to start construction next year, following approval by the University of California Board of Regents.

The facility will be built on 2.4 acres southeast of Thornton Hospital near the Shiley Eye Center and the Perlman Ambulatory Care Center.

The five-story structure would house laboratories, outpatient treatment areas and conference and office space for teaching. Patients requiring acute care would be treated at other area hospitals such as Thornton or UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest.

Dynes, Tarin and David Bailey, dean of UCSD's School of Medicine, said they are halfway to their fund-raising goal. They anticipate the project will cost \$75 million to build and an additional \$25 million to support clinical trials and treatment programs. They said they are confident they will raise the remaining \$53 million.

Numerous physicians and patients have criticized the region's existing cancer treatment resources, saying some patients who want to try certain experimental chemotherapies have to travel to larger programs in Los Angeles, Houston, Seattle, Boston or New York.

UCSD officials said they have long wanted to enhance their cancer program. Two years ago their application for National Cancer Institute funding received poor marks and was rejected, in part because evaluators said UCSD lacked a coordinated system by which UCSD and regional molecular biology research is translated to clinical care.

UCSD also was criticized for its lack of a formal vehicle for treating cancer in children. Plans to merge UCSD's pediatric program with that at Children's Hospital have fallen apart several times.

"It was mandated by the NCI that children should be included in clinical trials," Tarin said. "We want to make that a major component."

Bailey said he is having conversations with Children's Hospital and hopes to finally have an agreement.

Blair, Sadler, Children's president and chief executive officer, said such a collaboration would be "an ideal marriage" because Children's now has about 200 pediatric cancer patients enrolled in clinical trials and is following an additional 500.

UCSD is in a unique position to work on all sorts of common cancers, Tarin said, especially those that are not more prevalent in the San Diego area, such as uterine and cervical cancer and melanoma, which can be caused by overexposure to the sun.

"By assembling everything in one place, in a single building, we hope that the whole of our endeavor will become more than the sum of several parts, and that delivery of care will be a model for other communities to build upon," Tarin said.

"We need to understand the scale of this venture," he said. "Fifteen hundred people every day will die of this disease. That may not sound like a great number, but it represents about five jumbo jet planes crashing, and that would be big news."

UCSD is not the only major medical system trying to develop a cancer center. Seven months ago, cancer experts with the Scripps organization announced plans to build one and to apply for the NCI's "comprehensive" designation.

But UCSD appears to be the furthest along. Last week, NCI awarded UCSD's Dr. Thomas Kipps, a cancer immunologist, \$16.5 million to direct a coordinated attack against chronic lymphocytic leukemia, the most common blood cancer among adults, at nine institutions around the country.

Also under way is an effort, spearheaded by Tarin, to use \$100 million of the \$1 billion in settlement money from tobacco litigation to organize a regional collaboration of all cancer centers.

That effort, advocated by county Supervisors Ron Roberts and Dianne Jacob, is in the planning stages, and a consultant was hired for \$500,000 to write a report about what would be required to make that happen.

Roberts, who attended the news conference yesterday where architectural plans for the cancer building were unveiled, said: "I don't think we ever assumed there wouldn't be rivalry between the institutions (Scripps and UCSD). But our dream was that we could link them regionally in a way they'd never been before."

"Our dream was that we could compete with the Boston, Houston and New York cancer centers in providing services. But we have a long way to go."

Dr. Ernest Beutler, head of the Scripps molecular and experimental medicine department and chairman of the new Scripps cancer center's board of governors, said he doesn't see the two cancer center efforts "as a competitive thing."

"I don't think there could be too many people trying to make a dent in the cancer problem," he said.

Beutler declined to say how much Scripps has received in donations or whether Scripps and UCSD might be competing for the same philanthropic dollars.

"There will be areas where we certainly want to work with UCSD, which has some very good people," he said.

WORLD BANK PROTESTS

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues this recent editorial in the Star Tribune regarding the protests of the spring meetings of the World Bank and IMF in Washington, D.C. This intriguing perspective is an insightful analysis of the scope of the debt relief issue and role of the World Bank in combating this humanitarian challenge. Congress must move forward and address the growing problem of third world debt and follow a policy path that seeks to break the chains of debt for the world's most impoverished nations.

[From the Star Tribune]

WORLD BANK PROTESTS: WHAT, EXACTLY, IS THE POINT?

Anyone who has marched for justice or signed a petition can find some sympathy for the demonstrators who have swarmed into Washington, D.C., to disrupt spring meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. The question is: Why aren't they on the other side?

The World Bank, whose Pennsylvania Avenue headquarters has become an emblem of evil and conspiracy, is arguably the biggest antipoverty agency in the world today. In 1998 it made loans of \$28.6 billion—mostly to very poor countries and mostly to build schools, improve roads, buy fertilizer, equip medical clinics and promote population planning.

Has the World Bank sponsored some destructive and ill-conceived projects? Certainly. But Americans who want less poverty in the world, more schools, cleaner water and better nutrition should be in the streets seeking more money for the World Bank, not less.

Some protesters would say their target is not the World Bank, per se, but the trend it represents—a process known as globalization, variously defined as the sweatshop production of Gap clothing or the ceaseless expansion of McDonald's.

But this is a narrow and shabby definition of what has happened in the world's since 1970. Three decades of rapid economic integration and massive capital flows have been accompanied not by the immiseration of the world's workers, but by the most rapid reduction in world poverty in a century. In Asia alone, 1 billion people have been lifted out of poverty since 1980, and the world's overall poverty rate has been cut in half, from 34 percent to 17 percent.

Global capitalism can't take all the credit for these developments. But it has played an important role, according to a new report by the consulting firm A.T. Kearney. Kearney studied 34 countries representing three-fourths of the World's economic output. It found that countries that opened themselves to world trade most rapidly—countries such as China, Poland, Chile, Portugal and the Philippines—also posted the fastest economic growth and, despite widening income gaps, also made the best progress in reducing poverty and increasing government spending on social ills.

Some share of the demonstrators would say they are not trying to halt world trade or shut down the World Bank, but steer both toward a path of social and environmental sustainability. That message makes for demonstrations genuinely useful. Of course, it's not terribly different from the message coming from inside the targeted buildings. The

International Monetary Fund is now a leading advocate for debt relief in poor nations, while the World Bank incorporates environmental and labor groups into about half of its lending projects.

Now that they have the world's attention, the demonstrators should say, specifically, how they would improve upon those useful developments.

TRIBUTE TO THE PILGRIM
BAPTIST CHURCH OF SAN MATEO

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the proud history and social contributions of the Pilgrim Baptist Church of San Mateo, California. Since its founding over seventy-three years ago, this house of worship has grown not only in numbers but also in its commitment to community service.

During the 1920's, the Peninsula south of San Francisco was dotted with small towns, neighborhoods filled with people of many colors and creeds who were drawn to the beauty and promise of the Bay Area. In this era of change the Pilgrim Baptist Church was born. On New Year's Eve 1925, A.J. Lucas of San Mateo hosted a prayer and watch meeting in his North Fremont Street residence. These gatherings became regular occurrences in the months to follow, as Mr. Lucas and his fellow believers convened on Sunday and Thursday evenings at the Lucas' home. On April 4, 1926, the church was formally organized and named the Abyssinia Missionary Baptist Church.

During the decades to come, as America waged a world war and the City of San Mateo grew into a vibrant community of culture and commerce, the Pilgrim Baptist Church continued to thrive. In 1962, when it constructed its present sanctuary at a cost of over \$100,000, Pilgrim had over four hundred members. The church's outstanding reputation inspired the formation of new congregations throughout the Peninsula, many of them guided by former Pilgrim members.

In addition to educating its congregation and community about religious principles, the Pilgrim Baptist family offers a network of support that reflects the finest of its Christian values. Men and women with problems can turn to the church for spiritual guidance, emotional strength, and peer support. Others turn to Pilgrim Baptist Church in times of joy, among them the many Peninsula students who celebrate their high school graduations at the church's annual festivities to honor the accomplishments of African-American youth in the Bay Area. Some of these young people have received college scholarships from The Dukes and Duchesses, a group of Pilgrim congregants who work together to encourage minority educational advancement.

Mr. Speaker, chronicling every one of Pilgrim's religious and cultural contributions would be an arduous task. From the Home Bible Study Ministry to the annual concerts of the Mass Choir in honor of Black History Month, the Pilgrim Baptist Church offers extraordinary blessings to so many Bay Area residents.

Today, more than three-quarters of a century after A.J. Lucas began holding prayer meetings in his home, Pilgrim Baptist Church remains a beacon for the San Mateo community. Under the able leadership of its current pastor, Rev. Larry Wayne Ellis, membership is now approaching 600 people, and the congregation prepares to dedicate a new Education and Fellowship Building addition this July.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions of Pilgrim Baptist Church truly reflect the Biblical injunction to love and serve one another. I urge all of my colleagues in the Congress to join me in commending the values and public service of this exceptional San Mateo institution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was regrettably absent during the evening of May 10, 2000, and missed six recorded votes on amendments to H.R. 701. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Regula—vote No. 160—"nay"; Radanovich—vote No. 161—"yea"; Tancredo—vote No. 162—"nay"; Shadegg—vote No. 163—"yea"; Chenoweth-Hage—vote No. 164—"yea"; Pombo—vote No. 165—"nay".

I was also absent on Monday, May 15, 2000, and consequently missed three recorded votes. All three were conducted under suspension of the rules. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: H. Res. 491—vote No. 180—"yea"; H.R. 4251—vote No. 181—"Yea"; H. Con. Res. 309—vote No. 182—"yea".

HONORING THE THOMASVILLE
HIGH SCHOOL, LEDFORD SENIOR
HIGH SCHOOL, AND WEST-
CHESTER ACADEMY BASKET-
BALL TEAMS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, with the 2000 NCAA basketball season having drawn to a close and the NBA season in playoff fever, I would like to recognize three schools from the Sixth District of North Carolina that captured state basketball championships recently. Thomasville High School, Ledford Senior High School, and Westchester Academy, have all been crowned 2000 North Carolina high school basketball champions.

Thomasville High School captured the boys 1-A state title. Champions for the second time in three years, the Bulldogs had an impressive season. We congratulate Wingate Smith, Brandon Jefferies, Leandor Poole, Justin Fordham, Derrick Peake, Michael Christian, Roy Peake, Jeremy Tillman, Brandon Setzer, Anthony Harris, and Josh Cockman. Other people who contributed to Thomasville's state title were Head Coach Woody Huneycutt, Assistant Coach Lacardo Means, manager Josh Winnex, as well as Tracy Quick, Shalonda Long, and Matthew Mathis.

Ledford Senior High School claimed the girl's 2-A state championship, their third title in six years. For the first time in school history, the Panthers won 30 games in a single season, ending with a spectacular 30-2 record. We congratulate Leslie Hinkle, Kara Mendenhall, Pam Oast, Kristen Ferrell, Kristal Robbins, Katie Ralls, Jennifer McCarthy, Britt Krull, Casie Thomas, Nancy Hinson, Lindsay Smith, and Alicia Stokes. The Panthers achieved their success with the help of Head Coach John Ralls, and Assistant Coaches Alan Patterson, Joe Davis, and David Sands. They were ably assisted by managers Jennifer Shuskey, Michael Scheurman, Tim Bass, and Hunter Morris.

Westchester Academy won the boy's state independent school championship for the first time since 1976, dethroning five-time state champions Victory Christian. The Wildcats completed their season with an amazing 28-2 record. We congratulate Martin Rosenthal, Scott Craven, Brooks Weller, Jim Swaringen, Doug Esleeck, Kellie Jones, Tyler Hustrulid, Joel Foster, Matt McInnis, T.C. Crouch, Chad Habeeb, Lorenz Manthey, Johnston Spillers, Dwon Clifton, and Peter Tsampas. Head Coach Pat Kahny, Assistant Coach Jason Hailey guided the Wildcats to their state title, along with managers Jeff Finch, Rebecca Cochran, Trey Jones, and scorekeeper Lindsay Sams.

The Sixth District of North Carolina is proud of these three teams from Davidson County for their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to the boys from Thomasville High School and Westchester Academy, and the girls from Ledford Senior High School. Congratulations to all three teams for a job well done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 193, I was meeting with constituents and did not realize a vote was taking place. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CONGRATULATING ROBERT STINE
UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize Mr. Robert Stine, as he plans for his retirement from the Prince William County School System and Woodbridge Middle School. Mr. Stine has devoted 35 years of his life to the field of education. For the past 17 years he has been the principal of Woodbridge Middle School in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Mr. Stine was born in 1944 in Meadville, Pennsylvania. It was at an early stage of life that Principal Robert Stine first distinguished his extraordinary leadership skills. During his youth, he was actively involved in school organizations and rose to serve as President of

both the Key Club and the Letterman's Club. He also excelled in several high school sports serving as the captain of the baseball and basketball teams.

Following this impressive High School career, Mr. Stine went on to Alliance College where he received his Bachelor's degree in biology in 1966. Five years later he obtained his Masters Degree in Guidance and Counseling from the prestigious University of Virginia.

In August of 1970, Mr. Stine began his career in the Prince William County School System. Starting out as a high school guidance counselor and J.V. basketball coach, he quickly moved up the administrative ladder. Mr. Stine took the position of Assistant Principal in 1974. Two years later he became the Principal of Stonewall Jackson Middle School, and later of Godwin Middle School, before accepting his current position as Principal of Woodbridge Middle. For almost two decades he has tirelessly devoted his time and efforts to serving the students, teachers and parents of the Woodbridge community.

During his years at Woodbridge Middle School, he and the school have been recognized throughout the state of Virginia for the new and innovative programs the middle school has initiated for its students. The school was one of the first to utilize the proactive disciplinary technique P.A.T.S., which teaches the concepts of rights, responsibilities, behaviors, and consequences to students who attend the school. Under the direction of Mr. Stine, Woodbridge Middle was the first school in Prince William County and one of the few middle schools in the entire state to adopt a school uniform policy. Another important plan developed during Mr. Stine's administration was the school's advisory program. This program, which promotes successful teaming exercises and fairness among all students, has earned national recognition and was featured at a national Middle School Conference several years ago.

Mr. Stine was also instrumental in the institution's receipt of numerous awards of excellence, including recognition by the State Department of Education as a Vanguard School. This prestigious designation recognizes Woodbridge Middle as one of the 25 finest learning institutions in the State. Woodbridge Middle School is also a V-Quest School, a distinction given to schools that use creative math and science curricula.

With the guidance and direction of Mr. Robert Stine, Woodbridge Middle School has become an outstanding place for adolescents to learn and grow. The teachers are dedicated to the academic, social and athletic development of each student. Parent and community involvement is encouraged in every aspect of the school's operation, and every student is appreciated for their unique background, abilities and talents. Today, I rise to honor Mr. Stine not only as a member of the House of Representatives, but as a proud father who has watched his three sons mature, develop and become better students and people while attending Mr. Stine's school. For that I am very thankful. We will miss him greatly and wish him the best as he moves on to new challenges in the next exciting chapter of his life.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I express my support for the inclusion of the Hawaiian Homelands Homeownership Act, in the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act, H.R. 1776. I appreciate the leadership of Representative RICK LAZIO on this bill. The Native Hawaiian housing provisions that were a part of the manager's amendment are similar to legislation that I introduced in the 105th Congress. I am hopeful that we can continue to work together to assure these important initiatives are signed by President Clinton this year.

The purpose of the Hawaiian Homelands Homeownership Act is to allow access to federal housing assistance programs to Native Hawaiians who are eligible to reside on Hawaiian Home Lands but do not qualify for private mortgage loans.

Although Federal housing assistance programs in Hawaii have been administered on a racially neutral basis, Native Hawaiians continue to have the greatest unmet need for housing and the highest rates of overcrowding in the United States. Forty-nine percent of Native Hawaiians experience housing problems as compared to 44 percent for American Indian and Alaska Native households and 27 percent for all other households in the United States.

These troubling statistics are not recent news. In 1920, Congress enacted the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to address Congressional findings that Native Hawaiians were a landless and distressed population. Under the Act, approximately 200,000 acres of public land that had been ceded to the United States in what was then the Territory of Hawaii would be set aside for the native people of Hawaii.

When Hawaii was admitted into the Union of States in 1959, title to the 200,000 acres of land was transferred to the State of Hawaii with the requirement that the lands be held in public trust for the betterment of the conditions of Native Hawaiians. The Hawaii Admissions Act also required that the Hawaii State Constitution provide for the assumption of a trust responsibility for the lands. The lands are now administered by a State agency, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act authorized general leases of land set aside under the Act. Congress anticipated that revenues derived from general leases would be sufficient to develop the necessary infrastructure and housing on the home lands. However, general lease revenue has not proven sufficient to address infrastructure and housing needs. There are approximately 60,000 Native Hawaiians who are eligible to lease and reside on the home lands. However, due to the lack of resources to develop infrastructure (roads, access to water and sewer and electricity), hundreds of Native Hawaiians have been put on a waiting list and died before receiving an assignment of home lands.

In 1995, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands published a Beneficiary Needs Study as a result of research conducted by an independent research group. This study found that among the Native Hawaiian population, the

needs of those eligible to reside on the Hawaiian home lands are the most severe—with 95 percent of home lands applicants (16,000) in need of housing. Additionally, one-half of those applicant households face overcrowding and one-third pay more than 30 percent of their income for shelter.

The Hawaiian Homelands Homeownership Act will help move Hawaiians into their own homes. People have spent decades on the Hawaiian waiting list. One of the obstacles that has kept people from getting homesteads has been their inability to qualify for home lands. Once this bill becomes law, they'll have access to the loans they need to attain the dream of homeownership.

HOOSIERS SPEAK OUT ON EDUCATION

HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, over the past few months I have heard a great deal about education reform from my constituents. The correspondence I received is so insightful that I want to share some of these thoughts and ideas with my colleagues in the House of Representatives.

Pamela Rolfs, a research administrator at Ball State University in my home town of Muncie, Indiana wrote, "In talking with K-12 teachers I find that most of them feel that two of their biggest challenges are inadequate classroom funding and student discipline problems. More and more excellent teachers are leaving their field due to the stress brought on by school violence and discipline problems."

Henry Young of Muncie, Indiana made this point: "Proximity generally facilitates perception of needs. Accordingly, states may well be better informed of regional exigencies than federal management. However, local management of public schools . . . is the better level of government to direct public schools."

From Anderson, Indiana, Sandra Wilson wrote, "One recruiter, which contracted one of my children, took his red pen out and corrected the letter of reference the high school English teacher had written. I had not pre-read this letter and obviously that was my mistake assuming an English teacher would be grammatically correct as well as being able to spell correctly . . . Teachers need to be accountable. They need an end product accountability. If a teacher is teaching English, should not the students be learning English?"

Mrs. Ann Weldy of Markleville, Indiana asked two insightful questions: "How can teachers discipline well when they are not allowed to teach character building? How can we effectively discipline children, in order to create a better society, when the system is poor at disciplining itself?"

David Shepard, Professor Emeritus at Ball State University in Muncie stated, "The present program of aid to education certainly does not put money into the classroom but into the education bureaucracy and into more and more methods courses at the expense of content courses."

Said David Webster of Hope, Indiana, "I am an elementary teacher in a public school. For 26 years, I have been entrusted with the lives

of fifth graders. There are many individuals and groups continually striving to help children have the best education possible; however, I am becoming increasingly concerned about upper elementary class sizes."

Mr. Rufus Cochran states, "If you truly care about the state of education, consult classroom and special education teachers . . . Disruptive children and their parents are running our schools, because schools have been either stripped of their authorities or strongly discouraged from discipline for fear of lawsuits."

Mr. Speaker, although these suggestions come from different areas of the district, they focus on similar themes. To be successful, education reform should drive more dollars to the classroom, strengthen school safety and discipline, enhance local control, and enact accountability measures. I am proud to say that I and my colleagues on the Committee on Education and the Workforce have made great strides in these areas.

To empower teachers to maintain classroom discipline, I introduced legislation to provide limited civil litigation immunity for educators who engage in reasonable actions to maintain an orderly, safe, and positive education environment. As an amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the provision passed overwhelmingly.

To strengthen state and local involvement in education, Congress passed the Education Flexibility Act which allows eligible states and school districts greater flexibility in trying innovative education reforms using federal funds. This bill was signed into law on April 29, 1999. Building on the success of this law, the House of Representatives also passed the Academic Achievement for All Act which allows even greater state and local flexibility in exchange for greater academic achievement.

On October 12, 1999, the House of Representatives passed the Dollars to the Classroom Resolution which calls for at least 95 percent of federal funds to go directly to classroom expenditures. Currently, as little as 65 cents of every federal tax dollar actually makes it to the classroom!

In the Teacher Empowerment Act and the Student Results Act which fund teacher training and services for disadvantaged children respectively, we successfully included provisions which will ensure greater quality and accountability in our schools. These bills, which passed in the House of Representatives await consideration in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, we have worked hard to pass an impressive package of education bills which will empower parents, teachers, administrators, and communities to make needed changes to our education system. We have heard from our constituents whose ideas form the foundation of our legislative agenda. I would like to thank these constituents and others who have written and given me insight into the classroom.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREGORY
PLAGEMAN, JR., OF DAVIE,
FLORIDA

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gregory Plageman, Jr., of

Davie, Florida. Gregory was recently honored by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission after risking his own life to save the life of Pearl Steinberg. Indeed, Gregory committed a tremendous act of heroism of which he should be extremely proud.

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission awards a bronze medal to individuals throughout the United States and Canada who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save the lives of others. Since the program's inception in 1904 by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, the Commission has recognized acts of outstanding civilian heroism, providing financial assistance to the awardees and the dependents of those awardees who are killed or disabled by their heroic actions. Gregory's story of bravery truly exemplifies the tenets espoused by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

On June 24, 1999, 85-year-old Pearl Steinberg remained in her car after it had knocked over a gasoline pump at a local service station. Immediately engulfing the car, flames entered the rear of her car through a broken-out window. Upon witnessing this, Gregory forced open the car door, partially entered the automobile, and released Pearl's safety belt, pulling her out of the car and leading her to safety. The flames grew to 18 feet above the gas pumps within minutes, completely devouring the vehicle. Without Gregory's selfless act of bravery, Pearl Steinberg would likely have sustained fatal injuries.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Gregory Plageman, Jr., for his heroic efforts in risking his own life to save another's. This was a truly selfless act of courage—an act that Gregory and the entire southern Florida community can be proud of.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on a matter of critical importance and missed the following votes:

On the amendment to H.R. 853, to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. DREIER, I would have voted "nay."

On the amendment to H.R. 853, to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. GEKAS, I would have voted "nay."

On the amendment to H.R. 853, to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, introduced by the gentlelady from Texas, Mrs. JACKSON-LEE, I would have voted "yea."

On passage of H.R. 853, to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, introduced by the gentleman from Iowa, Mr. NUSSLE, I would have voted "nay."

IN HONOR OF THE GEORGE K.
ALMIROUDIS CHIAN GERIATRIC
FOUNDATION, LTD. AND HIS EMI-
NENCE METROPOLITAN
DIONYSIOS OF CHIOS, PSARA,
AND OINOUSSES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to the George K. Almiroudias Chian Geriatric Foundation, Ltd. on the occasion of their first honoree dinner. I also salute their guest of honor, His Eminence Metropolitan Dionysios of Chios, Psara and Oinousses.

The mission of the George Almiroudias Chian Geriatric Foundation, Ltd. is to provide emotional, physical, financial and psychological support to Hellenic American senior citizens residing in senior residencies and nursing homes in the United States. This foundation will also support the residents of the Zorzis Mihalinos Nursing Home of Chios.

This year, at their first annual dinner, the Foundation will honor Metropolitan Dionysios of Chios, Psara and Oinousses, born in Kalimeriani in Evoia. In 1952 he was ordained deacon and in 1956 he received his Bachelors Degree in Theology from the Theological University of Athens. For eight years he served as Archdeacon at the Metropolis of Athens and in 1960 was ordained a priest.

His Eminence Metropolitan Dionysios chose an eclectic education and mission within the priesthood. He attended Athens Law School and from 1960 to 1978 served in the Navy, teaching at the Training School of Non-Commissioned Officers of Poros and Naustathmos, and Salamina. He also served as the General Director of the Directorate of Religion of the Armed Forces of Greece.

On November 6, 1979 Archbishop Serafim of Greece ordained him Metropolitan of Chios, Psara and Oinousses at the Metropolis of Athens.

Metropolitan Dionysios has participated in various ecclesiastical missions and conferences in Greece and abroad, and was recognized for his services with many awards and medals of honor. He also served as a Supervisor at the Metropolises of Mytilini, Eressos, Plomaria, Samos, Ikaria and Korsei where he developed many diverse activities in the pastoral and philanthropic areas. He has also authored many books on ethic/religious, spiritual and ecclesiastical topics.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the life and work of Metropolitan Dionysios and ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing his contributions to humanity.

LUZERNE COUNTY HEAD START
CELEBRATES ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Luzerne County Head Start, Inc., on the occasion of its 35th anniversary, which will be celebrated May 22.

Luzerne County Head Start opened in 1965 and was one of the first such programs in the nation.

The program has grown from initially serving 90 children in one community, Wilkes-Barre, to serving a total of 692 children today at 11 locations in Luzerne and Wyoming counties.

Mr. Speaker, Luzerne County Head Start's accomplishments are truly impressive. Over the past 35 years, the program has prepared more than 12,000 children to enter kindergarten excited about learning and ready to succeed in school.

Further, four of Luzerne County Head Start's classrooms were accredited in 1999 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and other classrooms are being reviewed.

To put that in perspective, only 7 percent of early childhood programs nationwide have received this accreditation.

Head Start provides a high quality education program to children and their families. In addition, the program ensures that children receive nutrition and social services and needed medical services, including immunizations, health check-ups and preventive screenings.

Mr. Speaker, studies have shown that one-third more at-risk children who attended a quality early childhood program such as Head Start graduated from high school compared to those who did not attend.

Studies also show that at-risk children who have been enrolled in Head Start or other quality early childhood programs are 25 percent less likely to repeat a grade.

Since the current cost of public education averages \$5,200 per student, per year nationally, programs like Luzerne County Head Start save taxpayers a significant amount of money in the long run.

Head Start is a proven program that helps to give children a strong beginning in life. I am proud to support it and proud of the good work of the Head Start centers throughout my district.

Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, funding for Head Start has doubled and I strongly support President Clinton's goal of increasing the number of children served nationally by Head Start from 793,807 in 1997 to 1 million in 2002.

Lynn Evans Biga is the very capable director of Luzerne County Head Start. She is aided by the board, including the executive committee of President John Hogan, Vice President Carl Goeringer Jr., Secretary Joanne Coolbaugh and Treasurer Gene Caprio, all of whom volunteer their time for this fine program, as does every member of the board.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Luzerne County Head Start on the occasion of its 35th anniversary, and I send my best wishes for continued success to the employees and the many children and families whom they serve so well.

THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE DATA MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the Immigration

and Naturalization Service Data Management Improvement Act of 2000.

This bill would eliminate the present provisions of section 110 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, which requires the establishment of a new entry-exit data collection system at land, sea, and air borders to our country. The bill replaces the requirement for the implementation of a new data collection system with the implementation of an "integrated entry and exit data system" using currently available data.

I welcome this important change in the provisions of section 110. This is an issue of great concern to the people and businesses of Michigan and other border states. Studies have revealed that carrying out the mandate of section 110 to create a new entry-exit data collection system would cause massive traffic congestion along our borders, bringing personal and business travel at many border points to a halt. This would have a crippling effect on trade and tourism.

I also would like to note for the record my understanding of a technical issue. The bill includes an implementation deadline for high-traffic land border ports of entry. With regard to land border crossings, I have been assured that the implementation provision in the deadline only refers to the "Arrival-Departure Records" (Form I-94) that already are issued to some foreign nationals when they enter the United States and that the deadline provision does not in any way impose a requirement on the Attorney General to develop a new system for collecting exit data at land borders.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service Data Management Improvement Act of 2000 is a far preferable alternative to the onerous data collection requirements of the existing version of section 110 of IIRIRA. I look forward to working with Representative LAMAR SMITH in seeing that this important change is passed into law this Congress.

IN HONOR OF MRS. H. BERT
(RUTH) MACK

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Mrs. H. Bert Mack, who will be honored by The Hillcrest Jewish Center at their 60th Anniversary dinner dance on Sunday, May 21st, 2000.

Ruth Mack has devoted over 50 years of her life to maintaining the high standards of excellence for which The Hillcrest Jewish Center is known throughout the Jewish communities of Queens County and New York. Ruth and her late husband, H. Bert Mack, have both been major benefactors to The Hillcrest Jewish Center. In fact, Mr. Mack was a guarantor of the original mortgage to construct The Hillcrest Jewish Center youth building. It comes as no surprise that The Hillcrest Jewish Center's main building has been named after H. Bert and Ruth Mack.

Mr. Speaker, Ruth Mack continues to carry on the philanthropic legacy that she and her husband valued so greatly. She is a generous contributor to many Jewish organizations including: The Eldridge Street Synagogue and

the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Battery Park. She is also a benefactor of the esteemed Long Island Jewish Hospital. In addition, Ruth Mack has given generously of her own time, and she has spent many years teaching Hebrew to adults.

Growing up in the community, I can personally attest to the high esteem in which Ruth and her entire family are held by the multitudes who know and love her. On this special day it is also a privilege to be able to acknowledge Ruth Mack's four children: William, David, Earle and Frederick, as well as her six grandchildren: Steven, Richard, Andrew, Beatrice, Jason and Haley.

During my eighteen years of service in the U.S. Congress, I have been honored to speak and attend services at The Hillcrest Jewish Center on numerous occasions. The friendly and spiritual environment that I associate with The Hillcrest Jewish Center could not be possible were it not for the charitable contributions provided unselfishly by Ruth Mack.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in honoring Mrs. H. Bert (Ruth) Mack for her loyalty and dedication to The Hillcrest Jewish Center.

TRIBUTE TO HOUSTON COUNTY
LEGISLATOR JOSEPH SHERRILL
STAFFORD

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a great American and Georgian, Joseph Sherrill Stafford, who died Tuesday, May 9, 2000.

Mr. Stafford was an inspiration to all of us. As a leader and public servant, he believed strongly in doing what's right, and always gave 100 percent of himself to the people of Houston County, placing his faith in the Lord, his family, and his country. He will be greatly missed by the people of Georgia and his accomplishments will be long remembered.

Mr. Stafford was a graduate of Perry High School and married the former Ann Hallman of Bibb County, Georgia, in 1961. He served in the Army, from 1954-1956, and retired from Robins Air Force Base in 1989 after 30 years. He began his political career more than four decades ago as the mayor of Centerville, Georgia. Mr. Stafford was the first full-time chairman of the Houston County Commission, beginning in 1991, served as Chairman of the 21st Century Partnership, the community support group for Robins Air Force Base, taught Sunday school at First Baptist Church of Centerville, and just recently was named president of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I had the distinct pleasure of working very closely with Mr. Stafford on many projects. During his long and enduring career, Mr. Stafford always remembered the ones he represented in a smooth, soothing and effective manner. Mr. Stafford was proud of the new courthouse and jail under construction near Perry, Georgia and will long be remembered in my mind, and the people of Georgia as an honest, hard working, servant of his constituents and his country.

I will miss Sherrill Stafford as a public servant, but I will miss him even more as a good friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall nos. 180, 181, 182, and 183 I was unavoidably detained and missed these votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all four votes.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LINDA N. CLARK

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mrs. Linda Clark, principal of Flint Hill Elementary School in Vienna, Virginia. She has been the principal of Flint Hill Elementary for the past 25 years and will be retiring this week. From her humble start as a Third Grade teacher in Illinois to her being named the principal of Flint Hill Elementary in 1975, she has exemplified all that is good about the educational profession.

As principal of Flint Hill Elementary, Linda demonstrated and encouraged creativity and innovation in the classroom. She continually encouraged the staff, students and parents to stretch their talents and strengths and attempt new goals and endeavors, while always respecting the personality, teaching, and learning styles of staff, students, and parents.

Linda has always tried to foster cooperation between her school and her students' community. She held monthly parent coffees in various Flint Hill neighborhoods, and she created "Curriculum Nights" for various grade levels to share with parents. Linda also created "Highlights," a quarterly newsletter sent to all Flint Hill Elementary School families, which provides information on grade level curriculum activities for the upcoming school quarter. While strengthening ties between the school and the community, Linda also was an integral part of maintaining continuing dialogue between the faculty and staff in Flint Hill Elementary. Linda met regularly with staff members to discuss their professional growth and concerns. She always participated in morning and afternoon Flint Hill news programs, and she enjoyed meeting with individual and groups of students to discuss various issues, all-the-while encouraging feedback from students and staff regarding school programs and procedures.

While making Flint Hill Elementary School a friendlier place to learn, Linda took steps to keep herself, her staff, and faculty abreast of new developments in the field of education. To do this, she solicited feedback from many areas of expertise in formulating the school's curriculum. She shared reading material with the staff dealing with educational issues in particular child development: learning styles and brain development. Linda and Flint Elementary are also the proud hosts of the Area

Ill Technology Expo, where Fairfax County School staff and students share and learn about the latest developments in the fields of computer and technological instruction related to POS and SOL objectives. I have had the opportunity to attend this expo on several occasions and can attest to its depth and substance.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish to thank Principal Clark for all she has done for Flint Hill Elementary School over the past 25 years. She has been a role model for her students and colleagues, and she exemplifies the ideal of being a "lifelong learner." Her obvious curiosity about the world, its cultures, its people and her love of learning and sharing of knowledge are contagious. I know my colleagues join me in honoring Linda for her 25 years of dedicated service to educating our children and improving our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote Monday, due to family obligations requiring my presence in Milwaukee. I was also present for a vote on Tuesday evening and believe I voted, but my vote was not recorded.

On rollcall No. 187, concerning an amendment (H. Amdt. 709) offered by Representative GEKAS to the Comprehensive Budget Process Reform Act (H.R. 853), I was present but my vote was not recorded. I was present but my vote was not recorded. I had intended to vote "nay."

On rollcall No. 182, Expressing the Sense of the Congress with Regard to In-School Personal Safety Education Programs for Children (H. Con. Res. 309), had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 181, regarding the Congressional Oversight of Nuclear Transfers to North Korea Act (H.R. 4251), had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 180, regarding Naming a room in the House of Representatives wing of the Capitol in honor of G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (H. Res. 491), had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING ROBERT C. MCGANN,
ACTING JUSTICE OF THE NEW
YORK STATE SUPREME COURT

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Judge Robert McGann for his long career of service to the city and state of New York. Judge McGann will be the Guest of Honor at this year's Catholic Lawyers Guild annual dinner on May 24th.

Born on June 11th, 1948, Judge McGann is a native of Queens County. He is a 1969 graduate of Fordham University, where he received a degree in Political Philosophy. He served on the Editorial Board of the Law Re-

view at New York Law School where he was awarded a Juris Doctor degree in 1972.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge McGann was appointed as an Assistant District Attorney in Queens County in 1972, serving under Thomas Mackell, Michael Armstrong and Nicholas Ferraro. In 1976, he was appointed Special Assistant Attorney General in the office of Special Prosecutor John F. Keenan. From 1981 to 1986, he was an Inspector General in the administration of New York City Mayor Edward Koch.

Mayor Koch appointed him to the New York City Criminal Court in 1986. He has served as Justice of the Supreme Court by Designation since 1995.

Judge McGann has been an Adjunct Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at St. John's University since 1977. He has lectured nationally on arson and other Fire Service related issues. He attended the National College of District Attorneys and the Cornell Organized Crime School.

He is a member of the Queens County Bar and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Judge McGann is also a member of the Catholic Lawyers Guild and is active in his parish, St. Andrew Avellino.

Judge McGann and his wife, Jane, are the proud parents of two daughters, Laura and Elizabeth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me recognizing Judge Robert C. McGann on a distinguished career, and his lifetime of commitment to Queens County and New York City.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BIKE TO
WORK WEEK AND THE CON-
TRIBUTION OF THE LONG BEACH
BIKESTATION

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, May 14–20 is National Bike to Work Week. As a longtime supporter of bicycling, I encourage Americans to participate in this week of safe cycling as an alternative way to commute. As concerns rise about congestion on our roads and more air pollution, many workers forget about an alternative that is good for the soul and the environment.

Many commuters must rely on cars or public transit to get to work or school. However, for many, biking to work represents an often overlooked alternative. The bicycle represents a clean and convenient method of travel that more Americans are utilizing to stay fit, avoid traffic jams, parking hassles and expense, and promote clean air.

One development that is helping to make biking more attractive to commuters is located in the district I represent. The Long Beach Bikestation offers a public bike/transit center strategically located in downtown Long Beach to help people ride their bikes to work. Fifty thousand bikes have been used by satisfied customers. This facility won the Federal Highway Administration's Environmental Excellence award for Excellence in Community Livability in 1999. The Bikestation connects to more than 30 miles of suburban bike paths, downtown employment, shopping and a dining district. Modeled after facilities in Europe and

Japan, the Long Beach Bike Station is considered the first of its kind in the United States and has inspired many similar facilities across the nation.

The Bikestation was launched primarily with Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funds as part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, or ISTEA. Since its opening in 1996, the facility has offered access to Metro Rail and bus/shuttle services, free secure "valet" bicycle parking, rental bikes for tourists and local businesses, a changing room, repairs and accessories shop, bike/transit information and a small cafe for refreshments.

Building upon the gains in ISTEA, Congress broadened its support for bicyclists in 1998 with the passage of the Transportation Equity for the 21st Century Act, or TEA-21. This law explicitly made bike paths and facilities eligible for federal funding. It also mandates that bicyclists and pedestrians will be included in long range transportation plans and that bicyclist access and safety must be addressed in transportation projects.

I comment those who are promoting bike safety and awareness by participating in Bike to Work Week. More information on bicycle safety can be found on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's website at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/bike.

HONORING ANDREW U. AMWAY
FOR FORTY-ONE YEARS OF
TEACHING

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, as the school year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a teacher who has spent the last forty-one years educating students in my district.

Mr. Andrew U. Amway is a history teacher, the head of the social studies department, a coach, a club advisor and a mentor to countless Hempfield High School students. After spending one year teaching elementary students in a different school district, Mr. Amway came to Hempfield where he spent the rest of his career. Many students learned not only American history in his classroom, but also to take pride in being an American. He is an old-fashioned teacher that believes that hard work is the key to success. And he has certainly been successful in teaching and leading his students. The accomplishments of his students both in academics and in life speak for themselves.

Not only is Mr. Amway a dedicated teacher, but he served as the coach for several athletic teams at the high school—boys and girls tennis, boys and girls swimming, and cross country. During his thirty-nine years of coaching his combined record is an astonishing 1397–254–4. His teams have captured numerous district and league titles.

It is safe to say that Mr. Amway knows how to get the best out of his students both in class and on the playing field.

Forty-one years is a long time to work in any job, but it is particularly unusual in this day and age to find a teacher that has been

in the classroom that long. At Hempfield High School, it is the end of an era. Thank you, Mr. Amway for your many years of service.

HILLEL ACADEMY OF PITTSBURGH'S
RECOGNITION OF
SOPHIE MASLOFF AND ZVI AND
RINA SHULDINER

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, today I acknowledge an upcoming event in my district. The Hillel Academy of Pittsburgh will recognize three individuals who have made significant contributions to the quality of life in our community.

Former Mayor of Pittsburgh Sophie Masloff will be honored for her many years of public service. Under her leadership the City weathered some difficult challenges and laid the groundwork for the prosperity that it is enjoying today. I had the honor and pleasure of working with Mayor Masloff during that time, and I was always impressed by her energy and her dedication to the people of the City of Pittsburgh.

Hillel Academy will also honor Zvi and Rina Shuldiner, who have served Hillel in a number of capacities, including their work as faculty members and as volunteer chairpersons for major school events. They have been involved in a number of activities that have benefited the Jewish community in Pittsburgh. The Shuldiners, it should be noted, are also the proud parents of three Hillel alumni.

I congratulate Mayor Masloff and Zvi and Rina Shuldiner, and I want to thank both them and the Hillel Academy for their efforts to improve the quality of life in Pittsburgh.

CONSERVATION AND
REINVESTMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

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:

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999, and in support of the motion to recommit the bill to guarantee that any expenditure of funds will not jeopardize Social Security and Medicare. I strongly believe that eliminating the national debt and securing the financial future of Social Security and Medicare should be our top priorities. We must take advantage of our economic good times to secure these successful programs and rid this nation of its public debt.

During consideration of H.R. 701, Congressman Shadegg offered an amendment that purported to accomplish these goals. While I strongly supported the spirit of my colleague's amendment, it appears that its real intent was to prevent the strong conservation programs in the bill from being funded. The amendment stated that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) must provide "certification" that the public debt will be fully paid by 2013, that there will not be an on-budget deficit, and that the Social Security and Medicare trust funds will not fall into a deficit in the next five years before any CARA funding could be dispersed. As the CBO has asserted, it is not able to make such certifications, but can only provide estimates. Because of these technical imperfections in the Shadegg proposal, I believe his amendment would permanently block all CARA funding. For this reason, I joined 207 of my colleagues in voting against this amendment, and supported the motion to recommit the bill to ensure that Social Security and Medicare would truly be protected.

I am a cosponsor of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act CARA, because I strongly support increasing the federal investment in conservation. This bill will make an important, dramatic change in the funding of conservation programs. It establishes a permanent funding source for these programs by setting aside royalties earned from off-shore oil and gas drilling. This funding will be directed toward, coastal conservation, land acquisition through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, wildlife conservation, urban parks and recreation, historic preservation, federal and Indian land restoration, and endangered species recovery. Additional funds are also designated to increase federal payments for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes payments and the Refuge Revenue Sharing programs. I urge my colleagues to support his bipartisan legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAVE THE
CHILDREN'S WORK TO STAVE
OFF A LOOMING FAMINE IN
ETHIOPIA

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, today I call attention to the exemplary work of Save the Children, a relief organization based in my home state of Connecticut. For nearly seventy years, Save the Children has worked to relieve the suffering of millions of men, women and children worldwide. Save the Children has been on the front lines of humanitarian crises in Africa, Asia and Latin America, delivering humanitarian assistance to millions in need. In the United States, and specifically in Connecticut, Save the Children's relief workers have lent their assistance to both adults and children in underprivileged communities.

Save the Children represents the best of what America has to offer. Today, Gary Shaye, Vice President of International Programs for Save the Children International, testified before the House International Relations Committee on the organization's efforts to stave off a looming famine in Ethiopia. Save the Children's relief workers were among the

first on the ground in Ethiopia, helping to deliver critical food and humanitarian assistance to victims in the hardest-hit areas. The organization has spearheaded education, public health and food distribution programs in the region to meet the needs of a people on the brink of starvation.

Ethiopia today faces a crisis not unlike the famine of 1984. Sustained periods of drought have led to high rates of malnutrition, severe water shortages and a significant loss of livestock. Save the Children has developed a program to address each of these issues, by aiding in the distribution of food and water to the poorest areas and by vaccinating livestock to prevent death and improve the food security of families who depend on livestock for their livelihood. The organization has prepared and initiated food distribution programs for some 135,600 children and adult family members in the Liben, Afdheer, and Borena regions, with plans to distribute 9,200 metric tons of wheat, vegetable oil, and corn soya blend.

Over 10 million people face severe food shortages in Ethiopia alone. Nearly 16 million in the Greater Horn of Africa risk imminent starvation. We cannot afford to turn our backs to their outstretched arms or turn a deaf ear to their anguished cries. Instead, we must continue to provide humanitarian assistance to these victims. I am particularly proud that Save the Children of Connecticut is helping to lead this effort, both within Africa and our own country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, during the day on Wednesday, May 17, 2000, I attended the funeral services for Representative STUPAK's son. As a result, I was unavoidably absent from rollcall votes 190 through 193.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 190, "yes" on rollcall 191, "yes" on rollcall 192, and "yes" on rollcall 193.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE GRAND OPENING OF THE OVER 60 HEALTH CENTER, CENTER FOR ELDER'S INDEPENDENCE AND MABLE HOWARD APARTMENTS IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of the Grand Opening of the Over 60 Health Center, Center for Elders Independence and the Mable Howard Apartments located in the new Over 60 Building in Berkeley, California. This event will take place on Sunday, May 21, 2000, and include public tours, food and entertainment.

The Over 60 Building is a unique collaboration of three local non-profit organizations. Over 60, a division of LifeLong Medical Care, is the oldest community health center serving seniors in the United States; the Center for El-

ders Independence is one of 13 nationally-claimed "Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly" (PACE); and Resources for Community Development is a developer of low-income housing in Alameda County. This partnership will offer a full continuum of medical and community-based long term care services for low-income elders that will allow them to remain independent, socially active and live in a community throughout their life span.

In addition to the health care component of this new facility is the Mable Howard Apartments, named posthumously for one of Berkeley's most active, committed and influential residents. This site includes forty affordable studios and one-bedroom apartments for seniors with health care services just an elevator ride away.

The opening will showcase the building, introduce the local community and media outlets to these services, and unveil a community mosaic art project featuring beautiful tiles hand-made by over 600 elders and children that are installed throughout the building. This art project was funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Over 60 Building is truly an innovative model of care for seniors, quickly becoming a source of civic pride and a valuable resource for the citizens of Berkeley. I am excited to join in this grand opening and look forward to the possibility of similar facilities being established throughout the country.

IN HONOR OF JULIANA TEXLEY,
RETIRING SUPERINTENDENT OF
ANCHOR BAY SCHOOLS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the distinguished career of retiring Superintendent of Anchor Bay Schools, Juliana Texley. Administrator, educator, author and mother, Dr. Texley has dedicated her life to sharing knowledge and bringing it to others in multiple formats and settings.

Dr. Texley has been with the Anchor Bay Community Schools since 1990, but has been educating all her life. Beginning her career as a science and math teacher at Richmond High School, as her education increased, so did her responsibilities as an educator. She held instructor positions at Macomb Community College, St. Clair County Community College, Wayne State University, and Central Michigan University. Dr. Texley's influence on students has transcended the traditional classroom. She has contributed to many of the most respected scientific journals, studies and forums in the sciences.

Mr. Texley's toughness and determination were just what the Anchor Bay schools needed when she took over as Superintendent in 1993. She oversaw the rebuilding of a district ready to burst due to urban sprawl and new development. Thanks to her vision and resolve the Anchor Bay School system will soon see a brand new high school in addition to plans to renovate and modernize the elementary schools and junior high.

The presence of Dr. Juliana Texley will surely be missed throughout Anchor Bay Schools. But her legacy as a leader will be

seen in every modernized classroom and every successful student that walks the halls of an Anchor Bay school. Please join me in wishing Dr. Texley and her family all the best as she begins her new life.

HONORING THE SILVER BELL CLUB, LODGE 2365 OF THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, will be hosting the 27th Annual Hank Stram-Tony Zale Sports Award Banquet on May 22, 2000. Nineteen Northwest Indiana High School athletes will be honored at this event for their outstanding dedication and hard work. These exceptional students were chosen to receive the award by their respective schools on the basis of academic and athletic achievement. All proceeds from this event will go toward a scholarship fund to be awarded to local students.

This year's Hank Stram-Tony Zale Award recipients include: Christopher Bruszewski of Wheeler High School; Sara Butterworth of Andean High School; Doug Dybzinski of Boone Grove High School; Julie Hoover of Merrillville High School; Tim Kacmar of Crown Point High School; Jeannie Knish of Munster High School; Adam Kowalczyk of Hanover Central High School; Vanessa Krysa of Valparaiso High School; Tom Kubon of Bishop Noll High School; Kari Lukasik of Lake Central High School; Daniel Matusik of Highland High School; Greg Mytyk of Hobart High School; Gary Ray of Lake Station High School; Jonathan Siminski of Hebron High School; David Taborski of Calumet High School; Mark Wachowski of Lowell High School; Kevin Wlazlo of Griffith High School; and Natalie Yudt of Portage High School.

The featured speaker at this gala event will be Mr. Len Dawson. Mr. Dawson was a quarterback for Purdue University as well as the Kansas City Chiefs. With Dawson's leadership, the Chiefs won the AFL Championship in 1962, 1966, and 1969. Dawson quarterbacked for the Chiefs in both of their Super Bowl games, and was selected as Most Valuable Player in Super Bowl IV when the Chiefs upset Minnesota 23-7.

Hank Stram, one of the most successful coaches in professional football history, will also be in attendance at this memorable event. Hank was raised in Gary, Indiana, and graduated from Lew Wallace High School, where he played football, basketball, baseball, and ran track. While attending college at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Hank won four letters in baseball and three letters in football. During his senior year he received the Big Ten Medal, which is awarded to the conference athlete who best combines athletic and academic success. After college, Hank began coaching in the NFL, where he became best noted for coaching the Kansas City Chiefs to a Super Bowl victory in 1970.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending

the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, for hosting this celebration of success in sports and academics. The effort of all those involved in planning this worthwhile event is indicative of their devotion to the very gifted young people in Indiana's First Congressional District.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (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, and for other purposes:

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Gilchrest amendment to H.R. 4205. The amendment allows the Department of Defense to activate 5 more crucial emergency response teams designated as Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams, formerly called RAID teams, to address an emergency event caused by a weapon of mass destruction. As Chairman of the Special Oversight Panel On Terrorism, facts have been revealed to show that an event caused by a terrorist is becoming much more likely. It has also been revealed that first responders to such an event are not currently equipped to handle an incident that includes nuclear, biological, or chemical materials.

There are many adversaries of the United States who are becoming increasingly sophisticated and well financed. So it is not a matter of . . . "if . . . we are attacked by a weapon of mass destruction but . . . "when" . . . we are attacked. Our nation needs to be ready with well-trained teams that can help local first responders in managing such an event. These response teams, as trained and equipped by the Army, are a valuable resource for respective state governors.

Some parts of the country, such as my own area in New Jersey, are densely populated and have a great need for a response team. The New Jersey National Guard and the State of New Jersey needs to have a team that can easily reach the populated areas of its state and the surrounding region. Cities like Philadelphia and Atlantic City just to name two are far from the reach of even the closest response teams currently scattered throughout the country.

It is important that we have enough response teams to be able to work in concert with various agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Federal Emergency Management Agency, State Police, local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, hospitals, and emergency medical technicians to respond to WMD events all over the country. It is equally imperative that the response team have the means for being mobile so that a team may expeditiously deploy to a region that otherwise would be inaccessible by normal transportation mechanisms.

Mr. Chairman, I applaud the decision by the Secretary of Defense to create an organization that is immediately available to him for that expeditiously deploying resources in the event of a WMD incident. I also urge the Secretary to evaluate methods for enhancing prevention measures to complement the consequence management efforts. As individuals and groups gain an easier time to acquire information, materials, and resources, the need for our senior officials and citizens to have a sense of urgency becomes more evident.

Mr. Chairman, our nation has yet to face a WMD event involving nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons and we owe it to ourselves to be prepared. Some of the nation's most populated region are currently unprepared and unprotected. This amendment will provide a valuable resource that may be applied some of those regions.

I urge other members to emphatically support this measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, there are times when the obligation we have to be a good parent conflicts with the schedule of the House of Representatives. Tomorrow is such a day for me. Accordingly, I would like to note for the record that, were I able to be present tomorrow, I would vote in favor of the Transportation Appropriations bill the House will consider. I appreciate the assistance my district will receive because of this important appropriations bill as well as the courtesy that has been extended to me by both the Chairman and Ranking Member in considering funding requests important to Silicon Valley.

In addition, I have been informed that there will likely be an amendment offered to strike the provisions in this bill that would freeze CAFE standards at their current level. I would also like to note for the record that I would vote in favor of this amendment.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I speak in celebration of the 80th birthday of His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

Pope John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland in 1920. He studied secretly during the German occupation of Poland. His experience during the Nazi occupation of Poland changed his path. Karol Wojtyla was active during the war in the Christian democratic underground group and helped Jews escape Nazis. Before the end of World War II, he decided to become a priest.

In 1946, he was ordained and spent eight years as a professor of social ethics at the Catholic University of Lublin, Poland. In 1964, he was named the archbishop of Krakow and

only three years later he was appointed cardinal by Pope Paul VI. On October 16, 1978, Cardinal Wojtyla was elected Pope. He took the name of this predecessors, and became the first Polish leader of the Roman Catholic Church and the youngest pope in this century.

John Paul II has been the most traveled, popular and political pope. He has visited over 100 countries and almost every country that would receive him. He was a strong critic of the Communist regimes in Eastern Europe, especially in his native Poland and Soviet Union. In addition, he has opposed economic sanctions against Cuba, Iran and Iraq. Pope John Paul II is determined in promoting liberty and equality for all the people. Pope John Paul II stays determined to lead Catholics into the third millennium.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in sending His Holiness Pope John Paul II the best wishes for his birthday and many years of healthy and productive work. Stolat!

RECOGNIZING MAY 2000 AS NATIONAL ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to the attention of my colleagues an illness that affects millions of Americans. I am speaking of Arthritis. Today I recognize May 2000 as "National Arthritis Awareness Month." You may be surprised to learn that arthritis affects children and adults and is not limited to senior citizens.

Arthritis affects the lives of 43 million Americans or one out of every six of us, including 285,000 children. This number will grow to over 60 million individuals by 2020. Unfortunately, this crippling disease remains the leading cause of disability in the United States and it costs our economy \$65 billion annually.

What many of us do not know is that Arthritis also is more common among women—for whom it is the leading chronic condition and cause of activity limitation.

Despite these compelling facts, for generations, our nation has labored under the many myths surrounding Arthritis. It is still widely believed that arthritis is an inevitable part of the aging process. It is also widely believed that there are few effective treatment options for Arthritis apart from taking a few aspirin. Finally, yet another falsehood is that individuals with arthritis should refrain from physical activity.

Despite these misunderstandings and myths, however, we can do something to combat Arthritis in America.

Thanks to the work of voluntary organizations like the Arthritis Foundation, we are spreading the message that there is help and hope for Americans living with this painful and debilitating disease. In the past year, we have reached several milestones in our battle against Arthritis. Whether it involves the new and exciting treatment options arising from our investments in research or our first steps in implementing the National Arthritis Action Plan, we have been provided new tools to aid us in our fight against the disease.

In early 1998, the Arthritis Foundation joined forces with the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention to develop the National Arthritis Action Plan—an innovative public health strategy that will forcefully confront the burden of Arthritis. Among our goals are improving the scientific information base on arthritis, increasing awareness that arthritis is a national health problem, and encouraging more individuals with arthritis to seek early intervention and treatment to reduce pain and disability.

As we take stock of these accomplishments, it is important to remember the challenges we still face in improving the quality of life for Americans living with arthritis and, ultimately, finding a cure. Thus, as we mark National Arthritis Month, I call on the American public to apply our vast talents, energy, and unbending resolve to continue to find the means and measures to combat arthritis. Through this combined effort, we will find a cure.

THE ADDITION OF COSPONSORS OF
H.R. 3615, THE RURAL LOCAL
BROADCAST SIGNAL ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, all relevant committees have filed their reports on H.R. 3615, the Rural Local Broadcast Signal Act, and I was unable to add Congressman JOHN SPRATT of South Carolina as a cosponsor. However, Congressman SPRATT is a strong supporter of the legislation and agrees that rural citizens deserve to have the benefits provided by the legislation, which passed the House on April 13. I regret that he was not able to be included as an official cosponsor.

TRIBUTE TO NEIL K. BORTZ

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I honor Neil K. Bortz, a friend and community leader, who will receive the Distinguished Service Citation from the National Conference for Community Justice (NCCJ) on May 25. Neil was selected for this prestigious award for distinguishing himself personally and professionally and for furthering the cause of inter-group understanding in our community.

Neil is a Cincinnati native. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University, and continued his studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Business, where he received an M.B.A. Neil also served our nation as a Lieutenant in naval aviation.

Neil has been very active in our community. He is one of the founding partners of Towne Properties, a real estate development and management company that specializes in mixed use projects and suburban residential developments. He has served on the boards of the Harvard Business School Club of Cincinnati, where he served as Chairman; the Playhouse in the Park; Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce; the Harvard Club of Cincinnati; Cincinnati 2000 Planning Committee; Cincinnati Country Day School; and the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau. He

also was a member of the Young Presidents Organization.

Neil currently serves on the boards of many local organizations, including the Walnut Hills High School Alumni Foundation, where he is Chairman, and where I recently had the opportunity to join him at an event to celebrate an extraordinarily successful private fundraising effort for this top-ranked public high school. He is also on the board of United Jewish Appeal, where he is Co-Chairman; Cincinnati Equity Fund; Cincinnati Olympic 2012 Committee; and the National Multi-Housing Council. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute Multi-Family Committee and the Presidents Organization.

All of us in Cincinnati are grateful to him for his full devotion and service to our community.

RON SAATHOFF: LABOR LEADER
OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues today I recognize Ron Saathoff, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial Dinner with its Labor leader of the Year Award.

As President of International Association of Fire Fighters Local 145, Ron has been a committed labor leader for many years. He has been a determined advocate for decent wages and benefits for firefighters, and has led the fight to ensure that safety is the Fire Department's highest priority.

Ron has displayed a commitment not only to firefighters, but to the entire labor movement. He serves as a member of the Labor Council Executive Board, and as Chair of the Labor Council's Finance Committee, Ron has helped the Council grow and become a stronger organization.

Through his dedication, Ron has done much to advance the cause of the labor movement in our area. My congratulations go to Ron Saathoff for these significant contributions. I believe him to be highly deserving of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO Labor Leader of the Year Award.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY
RECOGNIZES RAYMOND P. FARLEY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the accomplishments of Raymond P. Farley and his contributions to central New Jersey. Over the course of the last thirty-six years, Mr. Farley has worked as a teacher, district supervisor, principal, adjunct college professor, and superintendent.

Mr. Farley has been the Superintendent of the Hunterdon Central Regional High School District since 1990. During his tenure, Hunterdon Central Regional has won a state record three "New Jersey Star School Awards" and nine "New Jersey Best Practices

Awards." It was the first ever Malcolm Baldrige Finalist in Education, and it received the Governor's Award for Performance Excellence. Mr. Farley himself was honored as an Earl Murphy Outstanding Educator/Administrator for 1994.

A constant theme in the accomplishments of Mr. Farley is technology. Hunterdon Central Regional High School has been deemed "One of America's Top 100 Wired High Schools" by Family PC magazine. Hunterdon Central Regional has also won the National School Boards Association's "Technology Leadership Award." The Courier News, in its "1997 People to Watch," remarked, "Hunterdon Central Regional High School Superintendent Raymond Farley revamped the school to make it the most technologically advanced public school in the state." Industry is also aware of the accomplishments of Mr. Farley. The President and CEO of Bellcore has said, "Ray is one of our state's leaders in educational telecommunications."

Mr. Farley has not limited his hard work to the halls of the Hunterdon Central Regional High School District. He has traveled as far away as Singapore, and here to the Capitol to lecture about school reform. Throughout his career, Mr. Farley has worked to spread his talents across many geographic and political boundaries.

Mr. Farley has also found time to share his talents with the community. To name a few, Mr. Farley has served on the Board of Directors of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, and is on the Board of Regents of St. Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Mr. Raymond P. Farley has demonstrated dedication to his goals and to the community. Friends, colleagues, and family of Mr. Farley are honoring his exemplary career this week. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Farley's accomplishments.

SALUTE TO MAXINE ALEXANDER

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I salute Maxine I. Alexander who will celebrate her 80th birthday on May 24, 2000. Maxine is an outstanding example of an individual who successfully balanced career and family by working hard, caring for loved ones, and serving others.

Maxine was born in Aurora, Nebraska, where she put the values of caring and serving into action early, becoming a school-teacher for the Aurora public schools at the age of 17. She continued to serve her community as clerk of the Draft board during the 50's, before going to work for the Bureau of Reclamation with assignments in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado.

Maxine retired in 1987 after a 50-year career and settled in Oakhurst, California where she has spent her retirement traveling and spending time with her family that she loves very much. She is the Mother of 5 children, Grandmother to 13, and Great grandmother to 18. I know that all of her family joins me in congratulating her on her 80th birthday and thanking her for her life of service and caring. Happy Birthday Maxine.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
NATHANIEL R. JONES

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a friend and distinguished constituent, the Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones, who will receive the Distinguished Service Citation from the National Conference for Community Justice (NCCJ) on May 25. Judge Jones was selected for this esteemed award for his outstanding work, personally and professionally, that has promoted the cause of inter-group understanding in our community.

Judge Jones was born and raised in Youngstown, Ohio. He served our nation in the Air Force during World War II. Following the war, he attended Youngstown State University, graduating with degrees of Bachelor of Arts in 1951 and Juris Doctor in 1956. In 1957, he was admitted to the Ohio Bar.

In 1961, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy named Judge Jones an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, where he served for nearly 7 years. He continued his service as Assistant General Counsel to the Kerner Commission, studying the causes of urban riots in the 1960s. In 1969, Judge Jones was asked to serve as General Counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). For 10 years, he worked tirelessly for the NAACP, organizing and arguing a number of cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. In 1979, he came to the Cincinnati area after President Carter appointed him to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit.

Judge Jones is deeply involved in legal education, having taught at the University of Cincinnati College of Law and a number of other law schools. He recently was chosen to deliver the inaugural Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Distinguished Memorial Lecture at Harvard Law School. He also regularly writes and lectures on a wide range of legal and social issues.

Judge Jones played a role in helping to end apartheid in South Africa; monitored the election process leading to Namibia's independence; participated in a U.S.-Egypt Judicial Exchange program; and went to the Soviet Union in 1986 to meet with officials in connection with human rights.

Judge Jones has received numerous awards and distinctions, including the Millennium International Volunteer Award from the State Department. In addition, Congress recently named the new federal courthouse in Youngstown, Ohio after Judge Jones.

Among his extensive list of civic activities locally and nationally, Judge Jones serves as a Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees for the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and as Co-Chairman of the Roundtable, which works to broaden the involvement of minorities in the legal profession.

Judge Jones and his wife currently live in Mt. Lookout. They have four children and six grandchildren. One of his children, a former law colleague of mine, Stephanie Jones, currently serves as a Chief of Staff to a Member of Congress. We are most fortunate for his service and commitment to our nation and

local community, and I congratulate him on this well deserved honor.

**BILL TWEET: LABOR TO NEIGHBOR
AWARD**

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, today I recognize Bill Tweet, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial Dinner with its Labor to Neighbor Award.

As Business Manager of Ironworkers Local 229, Bill has been one of Labor to Neighbor's strongest supporters. This vital program educates and involves union members and their families in the campaign to protect jobs and the future of working people in San Diego and Imperial Counties. By sponsoring the annual Labor to Neighbor Golf Tournament, Bill has helped to raise funds for member education and voter registration programs. Ironworkers Local 229 has also been a leader in staffing phone banks, walking precincts, and registering union members.

Bill's dedication to strengthening the Labor to Neighbor Program and the San Diego area's labor unions is an inspiration and example for us all. My congratulations go to Bill Tweet for these significant contributions.

**CENTRAL NEW JERSEY
RECOGNIZES AMY B. MANSUE**

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Amy Mansue, who is being honored by Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey on Tuesday, May 23, 2000.

Ms. Mansue will receive Planned Parenthood's Fred Forrest Community Service Award. This award recognizes people who view their passion for Planned Parenthood in the context of a fundamental commitment to improving their community in many ways.

Amy Mansue has served as a Policy Advisor in the Governor's Office of Management and Policy on health, human services and women's issues. Also, she served as the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Human Services, where she oversaw the Divisions of Youth and Family Services, Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health and Hospitals, Medical Assistance and Health Services, and the Office of Education.

Currently, Ms. Mansue is the Senior Vice President of Corporate Business Development of HIP Plans. Prior to this she served as President and CEO of HIP Plan of New Jersey, a not-for-profit health plan.

Amy Mansue's commitment to her community is evident by the multitude of boards she has served on, including St. David's Vestry, the University of Alabama School of Social Work Advisory Committee, PAM's List, New

Jersey Center for Public Analysis, and the New Jersey Community Development Corporation.

Ms. Mansue's peers have recognized her efforts through the years. She has been honored for her achievements by the New Jersey National Association of Social Workers as Social Worker of the Year, Modern Health Care's 1998 Up and Coming Healthcare Executive, the United Cerebral Palsy Association's Boggs Award and the New Jersey State Nurses Association's President's Award.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication of Amy Mansue serves as an excellent example to the citizens of New Jersey. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Amy Mansue.

INCREASE THE PEACE DAY

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing an important resolution which urges the House of Representatives to support "Increase the Peace Day" events throughout the country.

On April 20, 2000, on the one-year anniversary of the tragedy at Columbine High School, students, teachers, parents, and community leaders from Challenger Middle School in Lake Los Angeles, California hosted an "Increase the Peace Day".

The program featured the formation of a human peace sign and a presentation by a former skinhead who turned his life around and now works with the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance.

The highlight of the day was when the 650 students of Challenger signed an "Increase the Peace Pledge" in order to avoid any similar acts of school violence. Among the promises in the Pledge were to find a peaceful solution to conflicts, to not hit another person, to not threaten another person, to report all rumors of violence to an adult, to celebrate diversity, and to seek help when feeling lonely or confused.

I was proud to join the other supporters of "Increase the Peace Day" and be a part of this incredible event. I would like to take a moment to recognize the outstanding efforts of teacher Bruce Galler who came up with the original idea for "Increase the Peace Day" because he believes that something can be done.

Bruce uses a quote by Edward Everett Hale on all literature to promote the event and I believe it illustrates what each of those students accomplished last month. The quote is as follows, "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

That day, I promised to introduce this resolution in order to show that as one Member of Congress, I can do something to highlight this important event and encourage all Americans to reject anger and hate and instead to promote peace and community.

I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution and to encourage their local communities to institute a similar program.

SHARING AN ARTICLE FROM
MARTIN RAPAPORT: "GUILT TRIP"

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I share with our colleagues a moving plea written by one of the most respected experts in the diamond industry to other members of the industry.

Martin Rapaport, publisher of one of the top trade publications, traveled to Sierra Leone in the weeks before United Nations peacekeepers were captured. His article, "Guilt Trip," was written to propose a solution to the mayhem war diamonds fuel. It needs no embellishing, and I excerpt it here for my colleagues' review:

I don't know how to tell this story. There are no words to describe what I have seen in Sierra Leone. My mind tells me to block out the really bad stuff, to deny the impossible reality. But the images of the amputee camp haunt me and the voices of the victims cry out. "Tell them what has happened to us," say the survivors. "Show them what the diamonds have done to us."

"I am angry. I am upset. I am afraid that my words will not be strong enough to convey the suffering and injustice I have witnessed. How do I tell you about Maria, a pretty eight-month-old baby whose arm has been hacked off by the rebels? How can I fully describe the amputee camp with 1,400 people living in huts made of plastic sheets, babies in cardboard boxes, food cooked in open fires on the ground, no electricity or plumbing—everywhere you look someone is missing an arm, a leg or both. What can I say about the tens of thousands that live in displaced persons camps without adequate medicine, food, clothing and shelter.

Friends, members of the diamond trade. Please, stop and think for a minute. Read my words. Perhaps what is happening in Sierra Leone is our problem. Perhaps it is our business.

Sierra Leone is a beautiful country. It has a cornucopia of natural resources and a population that includes many well educated, highly intelligent people. In spite of the wars, which have decimated the population and destroyed the basic infrastructure of the country, the people of Sierra Leone are industrious and kind-hearted. During my visit last week, the capital, Freetown, was bustling with people trying to rebuild their lives and their country.

While there is much to be hopeful and optimistic about, the peace process is moving too slowly. The diamonds are holding up the peace process. The war in Sierra Leone is about power. It is about who controls the country, how they control it and what they do with their control. There is a strong perception that he who controls the diamonds will control the country.

Simply put, Sierra Leone's diamond industry is totally black market, underground, illegal and corrupt. Hundreds of millions of dollars of Sierra Leone diamonds are being traded on the world markets without any benefit going to the government, or people, of Sierra Leone.

The bastards are not just stealing Sierra Leone's diamonds, they are trading them for guns. Guns which are used to kill people to keep the war going, which assures that the government will not be able to control the illegal trade, assuring that the bad guys can continue to steal the diamonds. The real challenge facing Sierra Leone and the world

diamond trade, is how to stop this horrific murderous cycle of illegal diamond activity.

The problems of Sierra Leone are so great and discouraging that one hesitates to suggest solutions. . . [but] the situation in Africa is such that we must adopt a pro-active attitude towards the resolution of problems. We cannot sit back and write off the problems of Africa as unsolvable—the human suffering is simply too great.

The diamond industry must address the fact that illegal diamonds from Sierra Leone and other war zones are in fact finding their way into the diamond marketplace. While the industry in general cannot solve Sierra Leone's problems it can, and must, take realistic measures to assure that illegal diamonds are excluded from the marketplace.

The bottom line is that our industry must stop dealing with questionable diamonds. Consider the market for stolen diamonds and jewelry. Now we all know that these markets exist in a limited way, but no decent, legitimate or even semi-honest diamond dealer would ever consider buying stolen diamonds. When you buy a stolen diamond you encourage the thieves to go out and steal another diamond. You endanger your own life and you destroy the security of your business.

Would we walk around saying there is no way to tell if a diamond is stolen and just let the thieves market prosper? By the way—how is it that our industry is able to self-regulate in a reasonable manner against thieves, but not against conflict diamonds? Is the life of a black in Sierra Leone worth less than the life of a diamond dealer or jeweler in the U.S.?

Mr. Speaker, I met Mr. Rapaport before I went to Sierra Leone last year, and I have heard the industry's admiration for him. He and his colleagues are savvy, clever business people. I am confident they not only can figure out how to stop war diamonds from enriching butchers—but, more importantly, how to turn diamonds' economic potential into a positive force for the African people who so need that.

I applaud Mr. Rapaport for making his trip to Sierra Leone and for eloquently appealing to the diamond industry to find a solution to this urgent problem. And I urge my colleagues to join me in pressing for a targeted solution to the diamond smuggling that is destroying Sierra Leone's democracy and its people.

Please join Sierra Leone's democratic government, the U.S. diamond industry, and some of our most thoughtful colleagues in supporting H. Con. Res. 323.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXCELLENCE OF MARIEMONT HIGH SCHOOL'S DESTINATION IMAGINATION TEAM

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mariemont High School's Destination ImagiNation Team. The team has seven students: Carrie Badanes, Lizzy Anthony, Bobby Zepf, Juli Newton, Ben Cober, John Rutherford and Kate Young. They are coached by Anne Badanes and Sue Cober, and will compete in the 2000 Destination ImagiNation world championships. The competition will be held in Ames, Iowa on May 24–27.

During the event, the Mariemont team will compete using its creativity, teamwork, and

wits to solve difficult problems. The teams are judged by their ability to integrate a myriad of elements into a performance, which draws upon their knowledge of history, their acting skills, and their ability to improvise. Since last December, the Mariemont High School team has trained extensively. They have spent many hours working with their coaches, learning new skills, researching history, and attending live performances of a professional improvisation group at the Aronoff Center in Cincinnati. In addition, they continue to work with their teacher, Carrie Dattilo, honing their acting skills.

In 1999, the Mariemont High School team placed first at the regional competition and second at the state competition in Columbus. In previous years, the team has always placed second or third in the region and has won an unprecedented three Renatra Fusca awards for outstanding creativity. This year, they took first place in the regional and state competitions. At the regional competition, in March, they were awarded the prestigious DaVinci Award for outstanding creativity and teamwork. They are the first team from the Mariemont School District to compete in the world championships, and they are the sole team representing the Greater Cincinnati area.

We are very proud of the Mariemont team's accomplishments, and all of us in the Cincinnati area wish its members the very best in their upcoming competition.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS, BRANCH 70, BRANCH 1100, BRANCH 2525: COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, today I recognize the National Association of Letter Carriers Branches 70, 1100, and 2525, as they are honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial Dinner with its Community Service Award.

Some eight years ago the National Association of Letter Carriers began its annual food drive and has collected millions of pounds of food every year since. In 1999, more than 1,500 local National Association of Letter Carriers branches in more than 10,000 cities and towns across the country collected a total of over 50 million pounds of food for the needy.

NALC Branch 70, Branch 1100, and Branch 2525 annually collect large amounts of food that directly benefit families in need in our community. Their food drive provides local food banks and pantries with food to serve to needy families throughout the year.

The NALC's commitment to serving the community and especially those members of our community who are most in need is exemplary and worthy of our highest praise. My congratulations go to National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 70, Branch 1100, and Branch 2525 for these significant contributions.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY
RECOGNIZES SUSAN N. WILSON

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Susan Wilson of Princeton, who is being honored by Planned Parenthood of Central New Jersey on Tuesday, May 23, 2000.

Ms. Wilson will receive Planned Parenthood's Vivian Aaron Leadership Award. This award, created by the children of Vivian Aaron, recognizes individuals who have demonstrated leadership within their community in the areas of education and family communication.

Susan Wilson served on the New Jersey State Board of Education from 1977 to 1982. It was there that she championed the effort to establish a statewide mandate for family education in all New Jersey schools.

Since 1983, Ms. Wilson has served as the executive coordinator for the Network for Family Life Education at Rutgers University's School of Social Work. In her present capacity she has become a leader in the fight for effective family life/sexuality education and prevention of adolescent pregnancy.

In 1998, Susan Wilson received the Richard J. Cross Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Field of Human Sexuality from the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. In past years, she has also been the recipient of a Children's Defense Fund Leadership Award and a New Jersey Woman of Achievement Award from Douglas College.

Susan Wilson is a great asset to Central New Jersey. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Susan Wilson's dedication to her community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHER
EDUCATION TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS OF 2000

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleague, Mr. GOODLING, and I are introducing the Higher Education Technical Amendments of 2000. Many of my colleagues will remember that in the last Congress we enacted the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 on a bipartisan basis. The passage of that Act was one of the most important pieces of legislation we enacted for students and their parents. I want to again thank Chairman GOODLING for his leadership on that bill. Throughout that process he kept members focused on our goal of improving our student financial aid system. Additionally, I want to acknowledge his leadership in crafting this technical package, which will improve the implementation of the 1998 Amendments. I also want to thank the Committee Ranking Member, Mr. CLAY, the former Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, Mr. KILDEE, and the current Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, Mr. MARTINEZ. The 1998 amendments, which we crafted together, have been a great success, and our continued efforts on this legislation will only improve on those results.

As Chairman GOODLING noted in his statement, the legislation introduced today is technical in nature, but also makes policy adjustments that we believe are necessary to ensure that the Act is implemented in the way Congress intended. We worked with many organizations and individuals who put forth proposals for our consideration. We included those which are bipartisan in nature, benefit students and their parents, and are paid for. Our goal is to pass a bill that can be acted upon by the other body and enacted into law in the near future.

The legislation we are introducing today will improve our national early outreach efforts by making modifications to the TRIO and GEAR UP programs. The bill allows participating organizations to provide grant aid to students and, in the case of GEAR UP, to serve students from seventh grade through high school graduation.

It will improve the operation of our student loan programs by making minor adjustments to streamline some loan forbearances and to conform the law to reflect current practices for perfecting security interests. This bill will also improve the Perkins Loan program by allowing borrowers to rehabilitate loans by making a single lump sum payment and by clarifying that loans in deferment for a student that performs service resulting in their cancellation are reimbursed for interest as well.

Additionally, this legislation will improve the regulatory process for schools and other program participants. This is important, because we continue to hear reports that the Department does not give the public enough time to comment on or to implement complex student aid regulations. First, the bill will require the Department of Education to allow a minimum of 45 days for comment after the publication of a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM). Second, it prevents disclosure or reporting requirements from becoming effective for at least 180 days after the publication of final regulations.

Finally, the bill we are introducing will clarify and strengthen provisions in the Higher Education Act regarding the return of federal funds when students withdraw from school. Specifically, it will correct a Department interpretation so that students will never be required to return more than 50 percent of the grant funds they received. In addition, the bill will provide students with a limited grace period for repayment to help students who are unable to repay immediately upon their withdrawal, and it will set a minimum threshold for grant repayment of \$50. All of these steps will aid students who postpone or withdraw for emergency or financial reasons.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation we are introducing is bipartisan. It has no cost, and it will improve the implementation of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 which we worked so hard to enact in the last Congress. I urge every member of this body to support its passage.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN AND JOSEPH
PICHLER

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Joseph and Susan Pichler, good friends and

recipients of the Distinguished Service Citation from the National Conference for Community Justice (NCCJ) on May 25. They were selected for this award for their personal and professional qualities that have furthered the cause of inter-group understanding in our community.

Susan attended St. Mary's College, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in English. A dedicated volunteer for many years, she has done a great deal to improve inner-city education. She is a strong supporter of the Junior Great Books reading enrichment program, and locally, she initiated this program at Washington Park School and St. Francis Seraph School. While in Kansas, she worked with Junior Great Books at St. John the Evangelist Grade School; taught CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) at Our Lady of Guadalupe; initiated Junior Great Books at Avenue A School; chaired the Hutchinson High School Evaluation Committee for the School Board; and served on the Parent Teacher Association.

Currently, Susan is active with the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, serving as a member of the National Advisory Board and the Board of Trustees. She also serves on the Board of Trustees for St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana, and has spent 10 years as a volunteer librarian at St. Francis Seraph School.

Joe is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer at the Kroger Company, one of America's largest companies, and a company that gives much to our community. He graduated magna cum laude from Notre Dame University, and went on to obtain his M.B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

From 1968–1970, Joe served in the U.S. Department of Labor. He also taught at the University of Kansas School of Business for 15 years, and served as Dean from 1974–1980.

Joe has been involved in a number of civic and charitable activities. He is a former member of the Board of Advisors with the Salvation Army School for Officers Training. He is an Honorary Lifetime Member of the University of Kansas School of Fine Arts; a member of the Catholic Commission on Intellectual and Cultural Affairs; and a member of the Board of Trustees of Tougaloo College in Mississippi.

Locally, Joe is Co-Chairman of the Greater Cincinnati Scholarship Association; a member of the Xavier University Board of Trustees; an Advisory Member of the Cincinnati Opera; and a member of the Advisory Board of the Cincinnati Chapter of the Salvation Army.

Joe also is active as a member of the Board of Directors of Federated Department Stores, Inc., and Milacron, Inc. He is a member of the Board at Catalyst; a member of the Business Council; past Chairman of the National Alliance of Business; and a member of the Cincinnati Business Committee.

All of us in the Cincinnati area are grateful to Susan and Joe for their numerous contributions to our community, and congratulate them on receiving this prestigious NCCJ award.

A.O. REED & COMPANY: SPIRIT OF
COOPERATION AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, today I recognize A.O. Reed & Company, as it is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial Dinner with its Spirit of Cooperation Award.

A.O. Reed, founded in 1914, is one of the largest and most respected locally owned construction companies. The company has been in continuous business in San Diego for over eighty years, and it is responsible for some of the largest, most complex projects in the San Diego area, including the East Terminal at Lindbergh Field, Hyatt Regency San Diego, San Diego Marriott Hotel, Kaiser Hospital, Salk Cancer Research Facility, Scripps Institute of Oceanography and Marine Biology, California State Prison, Idec Pharmaceutical, and Callaway Golf Ball Facility. With this Labor Council Spirit of Cooperation award, we honor their long-standing support for the trade union movement.

A.O. Reed employees are compensated with wages and benefits that lead the industry. Their employees receive the best training available through state-approved apprenticeship and journeyman training programs. A.O. Reed management has demonstrated an admirable commitment to the collective bargaining process.

A.O. Reed is also a consistent leader in charitable giving. They donate labor and materials to those in the San Diego community who are in need of plumbing and mechanical services.

This award recognizes their contribution to San Diego and honors their partnership with Plumbers and Pipefitter Local 230 and Sheetmetal Workers Local 206. My congratulations go to A.O. Reed & Company for these significant contributions.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHER
EDUCATION TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS OF 2000

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Higher Education Technical Amendments of 2000. On May 8, 1998, the House passed the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 on a bipartisan basis. That legislation was subsequently enacted on October 7, 1998, and greatly benefited students by providing the lowest student loan interest rates in almost 20 years, as well as by making needed improvements to important student aid programs like Work-Study, Pell Grants, and TRIO.

At that time I congratulated the Subcommittee Chairman, Mr. MCKEON, the Ranking Member, Mr. CLAY, and the former Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, Mr. KILDEE, for a job well done. The past year and a half has shown that praise was well placed. Mil-

lions of students have since benefited from their efforts, and the minimal number of technical amendments that are needed is testimony to the fact that the bill was well crafted.

Since that time, the Department of Education has concluded its first round of negotiated rule making, and issued final regulations to reflect the changes. We have had a chance to analyze the implementation of the law with respect to congressional intent. In most cases our intent was adhered to, but in a few important instances it was not.

The legislation we are introducing today makes necessary technical changes as well as a few policy changes that we believe are necessary to implement the Act as intended. There are also a number of policy changes that were recommended to us that have not been included in this bill, and I expect that some will be disappointed at their exclusion. However, in crafting this legislation, we have worked to ensure that the bill is bipartisan, that it is fully paid for, that it will benefit students, and that it will be signed into law.

For example, I feel very strongly that the Department is not following our intent with respect to direct loan origination fees. Now, before this is taken out of context, let me be clear; I support better terms and conditions for students. The 1998 amendments were designed to provide students with the best possible deal under very tight budget constraints, and I believe we succeeded in doing that. However, the law is very clear in directing the Secretary to collect a four percent origination fee on direct student loans.

This is confirmed in legal opinions from the Congressional Research Service and the Comptroller General. It was not our intent to change that, and in my view the Department's action sets a very dangerous precedent. The fact that this legislation does not address this issue should not be taken as an endorsement of the Department's actions.

The legislation we are introducing today does make a needed change to the "return of federal funds" provisions in the Higher Education Act to help students who withdraw before the end of a term. Specifically, it corrects the Department's interpretation and clarifies that students are never required to return more than 50 percent of the grant funds they received. Again, I know there are those who would like us to go further. However, doing so would have mandatory spending implications that we have no way to pay for, and in many instances would result in students leaving school with increased student loan debt.

This bill will also modify the campus crime reporting provisions of the Act to provide parents and students with information on schools' policies regarding the handling of reports on missing students. Specifically, information will be provided on a school's policy on parental notification as well as its policy for investigating such reports and cooperating with local police. I have a long history of trying to ensure that parents have the information they need to make sure that their children are safe on campus, and I have worked closely with my colleague, Mr. Andrews, to craft this version of "Bryan's Law" so that it gives parents this information without overly burdening schools.

Finally, I would also note that we have included the provisions of H.R. 3629, the Tribal College Amendments, which we marked up last month and which passed the House under

suspension of the rules. These provisions will streamline grant applications for Tribal Colleges under Title III and allow institutions to apply for a new grant without waiting for two years. We have included them again here because we are uncertain whether the other body will act on H.R. 3629 in a timely manner. I also note that this bill contains similar treatment for Hispanic Serving Institutions under Title V, and I thank our colleague, MARK GREEN of Wisconsin, for bringing this issue to our attention.

I also want to thank Mr. CLAY, Mr. MCKEON, and Mr. MARTINEZ for their efforts in crafting this bipartisan legislation. This bill will not satisfy everyone completely. But it does make necessary technical and policy changes that will improve the implementation of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, and it does so in a way that will benefit students and that is likely to be enacted. I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support this legislation.

COMMENDING MASTER CHIEF
ANDE HARTLEY

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, today I commend Master Chief Ande Hartley of the United States Navy upon his retirement after twenty-one years of service and duty to our country. Ande carried out that duty as a submariner.

Being a member of a submarine crew for two decades is no small accomplishment. It is well known among members of our armed forces that submarine duty may be among the toughest and most challenging assignments in the Navy. After all, in most other assignments in the Navy, there is usually an opportunity to leave your station for a few hours and have time alone. When you are aboard a submarine there is no opportunity for retreat from one's responsibilities.

Ande's specific duties as a Machinist Mate aboard a nuclear submarine were to make sure that the mechanical systems of the submarine ran properly. All though I am not aware of all those responsibilities, I want to be sure and mention the importance of running the propulsion plant spacers and ensuring that all mechanics associated with the reactor plant were in proper working order. If a qualified member of the crew had not carried out these duties correctly, then this ship would be unable to perform its covert operations for the Navy that are so vital to the freedom of this nation.

Without reservation Mr. Speaker, I can say that Master Chief Ande Hartley has performed his duties well. I am sure there were days he realized he could pursue other employment opportunities and earn better pay, and benefits as well as enjoy more time with his family and friends. For Ande though, true commitment is more than pay and benefits, it is about the preservation of the freedom we enjoy so that our family and friends will have the opportunities they now have in the future.

Ande's sacrifices are without doubt noteworthy and commendable. His commitment is an example that his family, friends and fellow sailors can follow as a pattern in their own

lives. Thank you Ande for serving your country so faithfully, for so many years. It is an example we can all follow.

CONCERN FOR 13 MEMBERS OF
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY WHO
ARE ON TRIAL

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues the deep concern that I have for 13 members of the Jewish community in Iran who are on trial for a crime I do not believe they have committed. Iran's arbitrary charges against these thirteen individuals endangers that country's entire Jewish community and is an offense to world Jewry. The trial takes place at the same time when the world honors those who were lost to the Holocaust and vows never to let such atrocities of hate recur.

I am encouraged by the fact that so many of my colleagues have taken a role of moral leadership on this issue, and have expressed their outrage to the Administration and to Iranian authorities. This past week, members of Congress took further steps to emphasize how seriously this trial can affect Iran's status. We wrote to the World Bank and contacted nations on the bank's loan approval board to urge postponement of pending loans for development projects in Iran. Unfortunately, those loans were approved. I am grateful that representatives of numerous nations that were present expressed concern over the trial. The outcome of this trial will not be overlooked by members of Congress or the Jewish and human rights communities.

The future for these thirteen individuals does not look promising. No matter what the outcome of this trial is, I will never forget Iran's behavior and will take this matter into account as I make foreign policy decisions that affect that country. I commend to my colleagues an article written by Douglas Bloomfield for the Chicago Jewish Star. Mr. Bloomfield's column is usually full of great information and insight, this one is particularly compelling and is worthy of members' attention.

SHOA TRIAL

(By Douglas M. Bloomfield)

There was something deeply troubling and yet fitting that as Jews around the world last week remembered the Six Million who perished in the Holocaust, the Ayatollahs began the trial of 13 Jews accused of spying for Israel. It was a dramatic reminder that Jews remain endangered in some parts of the world.

The time and place were appropriate. Iran is where a long-ago Hitler once concocted genocidal plans for the Jews of the Persian Empire. Just a few weeks ago, Haman's modern descendants declared the ancient vizier was really an Egyptian, not unlike the Austrians trying to convince the world Hitler was really a German.

The trial of 13 men accused on trumped up espionage charges opened on a dramatic note with the televised confessions, outside the courtroom, of first, one man and then two more and other followed, all dutifully denying coercion.

It was an alarming development unabashedly offered by a regime that wanted the

world to see the confessions but not the trial.

Naturally, the "confessed" spies declared that their admissions were voluntary; what would one expect from a man who'd been in an Iranian jail for some 15 months, never allowed to see his lawyer?

It was reminiscent of Iran's Lebanese allies distributing videotapes of their American hostages pleading guilty to sundry offenses, and North Vietnam staging televised war crime confessions by American POW's.

No court in any civilized country would consider such confessions to be valid, but then again few would call Iran "civilized."

If the Iranian charges were true and the confessions freely given, there would be no reason to keep the evidence and the trial secret.

The defense attorney for one of the three said that under Islamic law and international norms, a confession given by a prisoner after more than a year in jail is invalid.

International attention is focused on the courtroom in the southern city of Shiraz. President Clinton has repeatedly spoken out, as have Members of Congress, the nation's governors and many mayors and other public officials.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright last week warned Iranian leaders the trial "will have repercussions everywhere" on that country's efforts to "earn international respect." That came in the same week that her department officially reaffirmed Iran's status as a leading state sponsor of international terrorism.

Other leaders have made serious and personal efforts to help: the Pope, UN Secretary General Kofi Anan, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Prime Minister Tony Blair and others from Japan, Russia, China, Europe and elsewhere.

More than 60 journalists, human rights activists and diplomats from the around the globe stood vigil outside the locked doors of a legal system controlled by the most extreme factions in that country. Inside, the lives of 13 Jews were in the hands of a single man who sits as prosecutor, judge and jury.

Israel has privately assured the United States the men are innocent and it is unaware of any links between the accused and Israeli officials. Charges that they also spied for the United States have apparently been dropped.

Some of the international pressure is apparently getting attention in Tehran. That's why the prisoners were presented on television confessing. It may also explain why the trial was adjourned for Passover, not exactly a national holiday in the fervently Islamic state, and why the three youngest defendants were released on bail. Trials in Iran usually last hours, not weeks as this one is expected to. The court could have declared them guilty and quickly hanged them, as happened three years ago with two other Jews similarly charged.

But will those gestures, aimed at the international community, be enough to save the lives of these men? What do these gestures mean?

The hard-liners have never shown much sensitivity to world opinion. In fact, they seem to revel in sticking their thumbs in the eyes of public opinion, especially American and Israeli eyes.

Just before the trial began, a leading cleric delivered a sermon over state radio declaring, "These people are spies . . . they are Jews and are . . . by nature enemies of Muslims."

These 13 Jews are pawns in a battle between the hard-line Islamic extremists and the reformers, who scored another important victory in last Friday's runoff elections, for control of an ancient land whose chief ex-

ports of late have been religious bigotry and terrorism. One thing the ruling ayatollahs and the reformers led by President Khatemi seem to agree on is their hatred of Israel.

If the verdicts are guilty, which carries a death penalty, some fear the ayatollahs declare that all Jews are Zionists, and the Zionist state is the mortal enemy of Islam and Iran, and thus all Jews are enemies and spies.

Iran wages daily war against Israel through proxies such as Hezbollah. Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said again recently the only way to solve the problems of the Middle East is to annihilate Israel.

As the trial in Shiraz opened, there was an event worth noting in another country with a long and bitter history of anti-Semitism: Poland. Some 5,000 young Jews from around the world, led by the presidents of Israel and Poland, took part in the annual March of the Living from Auschwitz to Birkenau to honor those who perished solely for the crime of being Jews.

Just weeks earlier, a British judge struck an important blow for the cause of truth and morality, a blow in an ongoing battle against Holocaust denial that should never have been necessary.

Other nations are at long last beginning to come to terms with their Holocaust guilt and with Holocaust denial; throughout the Arab world, however, denial is a surging companion to rising anti-Semitism, often officially encouraged as in Egypt and Syria.

In this country, too, we have made tremendous progress in confronting the scourge of anti-Semitism, but there are counter-forces, including a presidential candidate who admires Hitler, belittles the Holocaust and blames the Jews for dragging America into World War II.

The trial of the Iran 13 is an alarming reminder that for all the lessons learned from the tragic past, there remain places where Hitler's work is commended, not condemned. It is a clarion warning of our responsibility to stand guard on the legacy of Hitler's victims in Iran and around the world.

VIEJAS BAND OF KUMEYAAY INDIANS:
SPIRIT OF COOPERATION
AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, today I recognize the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, as it is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial Dinner with its Spirit of Cooperation Award.

The Viejas Indian Casino recently signed a contract with the Communications Workers of America Local 9400, in what is possibly the first ever union contract with any Tribal Casino in the United States. Not only did Viejas sign an agreement with the union allowing it to organize workers at the casino, but they also gave the union space for a temporary organizing office on the property and allowed the union easy access to the employees.

After the representation election, Viejas and the union successfully negotiated a contract that provides good wages, benefits, and union representation to employees. Viejas has been model of employer attitude and has forced a truly special relationship with the union.

Viejas has also been a leader in supporting community efforts through their charitable giving programs and active participation in community and business associations.

My congratulations go to the Viejas Bank of Kumeyaay Indians for these significant contributions.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE
CLARIFICATION ACT

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a bill that would make reasonable, and much needed change to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of 1993. The Family and Medical Leave Clarification Act will help implement and enforce the FMLA in a manner consistent with Congress' original intent.

I do not think anyone would dispute that the FMLA has helped those with serious family and medical crisis. However, some of the troublesome results are difficult to ignore. There is compelling evidence of problems with the implementation and the FMLA, problems affecting both employers and employees. The FMLA is still a relatively young law. In fact, the final rule implementing the Act was not published until 1995. As with any new law, there are some growing pains that need to be sorted out.

Testimony before the Committee on Education and the Workforce has established evidence of myriad problems in the workplace caused by the FMLA. These problems include: the administrative burden of allowing leave to be taken in increments of as little as six minutes; the additional burdens from overly broad and confusing regulations of the FMLA, not the least of which is the Department of Labor's ever-expanding definition of "serious health condition;" and inequities stemming from employers with generous leave policies in effect being penalized under the FMLA for having those policies.

Mr. Speaker, the FMLA created a Commission on Leave, which was charged with reporting the FMLA's impact. Upon release of the Commission's report in April 1996, we were told that all was well with the FMLA. But contrary to these assertions, the report was not a complete picture. In fact the Family and Medical Leave Act Commission admitted its report was only an "initial assessment." Its two year study began in November of 1993, just three months after the Act even applied to most employers and more than a year before the release of final FMLA regulations in January of 1995.

Simply put, the Commission's report was based on old and incomplete data studies long before employers or employees could have been fully aware of the FMLA's many requirements and responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, the first area the FMLA Clarification Act addresses is the Department of Labor's overly broad interpretation of the term "serious health condition." In passing the FMLA, Congress stated that the term "serious health condition" was not intended to cover short-term conditions for which treatment and recovery were very brief, recognizing specifically in Committee report language that "it is

expected that such conditions will fall within the most modest sick leave policies."

Despite Congressional intent, the Department of Labor's current regulations are extremely expansive, defining the term "serious health condition" as including, among other things, any absence of more than three days in which the employee sees any health care provider and receives any type of continuing treatment, including a second doctor's visit, or a prescription, or a referral to a physical therapist. Such a broad definition potentially mandates FMLA leave where an employee sees a health care provider once, receives a prescription drug, and is instructed to call the health care provider back if the symptoms do not improve.

The FMLA Clarification Act elects Congress' original intent for the meaning of the term "serious health condition," by taking word-for-word from the Democrat Committee report, and adding to the status, the then-Majority's explanation of what types of conditions it intended the Act to cover. It also repeals the Department's current regulations on the issue and directs the agency to go back to the drawing board and issue regulations consistent with the new definition.

My bill also minimizes tracking and administrative burdens while maintaining the original intent of the law, by permitting employers to require employees to take "intermittent" leave, which is FMLA leave taken in separate blocks of time due to a single qualifying reason, in increments of up to one-half of a work day.

Congress drafted the FMLA to allow employees to take leave less than full-day increments. Congress also intended to address situations where an employee needed to take leave for intermittent treatments, e.g., for chemotherapy or radiation treatments, or other medical appointments. Granting leave for these conditions has not been a significant problem.

However, the regulations provide that an employer "may limit leave increments to the shortest period of time that the employer's payroll system uses to account for absences or use of leave, provided it is one hour or less." Since some employers track in increments as small as six or eight minutes, the regulations have resulted in a host of problems related to tracking the leave and in maintaining attendance control policies. In many situations, it is difficult to know when the employee will be at work.

In many positions, employees with frequent, unpredictable absences can severely impact an employer's productivity and overburden their co-workers when employers do not know if certain employees will be at work. Allowing an employer to require an employee to take intermittent leave in increments of up to one-half of a work day would ease the burden significantly for employers, both in terms of necessary paperwork and with respect to being able to provide effective coverage for absent employees.

Where the employer does not exercise the right to require the employee to substitute other employer-provided leave under the FMLA, the FMLA Clarification Act shifts to the employee the requirement to request leave to be designated as FMLA leave. In addition, the Act requires the employee to provide written application of foreseeable leave within five working days, and within a time period extended as necessary for unforeseeable leave,

if the employee is physically or mentally incapable of providing notice or submitting the application.

Requiring the employee to request that leave be designated as FMLA leave eliminates the need for the employer to question the employee and pry into the employee's private and family matters, as required under current law. This requirement helps eliminate personal liability for employer supervisors who should not be expected to be experts in the vague and complex regulations which even attorneys have a difficult time understanding.

With respect to leave taken because of the employee's own serious health condition, the FMLA Clarification Act permits an employer to require the employee to choose between taking unpaid leave provided by the FMLA or paid absence under an employer's collective bargaining agreement or other sick leave, sick pay, or disability plan, program, or policy of the employer.

This change provides incentive for employers to continue their generous sick leave policies while providing a disincentive to employers considering discontinuing such employee-friendly plans, including those negotiated by the employer and the employees' union representative. Paid leave would be subject to the employer's normal work rules and procedures for taking such leave, including work rules and procedures dealing with attendance requirements.

Despite the common belief that leave under the FMLA is necessarily unpaid, employers having generous sick leave policies, or that have worked out employee-friendly sick leave programs with unions in collective bargaining agreements, are being penalized by the FMLA. In fact, for many companies, most FMLA leave has become paid leave because the regulations state that an employer must observe any employment benefit program or plan that provides rights greater than the FMLA.

Because employers cannot use the taking of FMLA leave as a negative factor in employment actions, such as hiring, promotions or disciplinary actions, nor can they count FMLA leave under "no fault" attendance policies, the regulations prohibit employers from using disciplinary attendance policies to manage employees' absences.

Mr. Speaker, the Family and Medical Leave Clarification Act relieves many of the unnecessary and unreasonable burdens imposed on employers and employees by the Department of Labor's implementing regulations, without rolling back the rights of employees under the FMLA. Finally, my bill encourages employers to continue to provide generous paid leave policies to their employees.

I urge my colleagues in joining me in co-sponsoring this measured and necessary mid-course correction to providing effective FMLA processes.

HONORING THE LATE STATE
SENATOR DONALD L. GRUNSKY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor an outstanding legislator and trial lawyer who was a long time resident of Santa

Cruz County. Former State Senator Donald L. Grunsky passed away at the age of 84.

Born in San Francisco, Donald received a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1936 and a law degree from Boalt Hall in 1939. He practiced law in the Bay Area for two years before entering the U.S. Navy during World War II. After being released from the service as a Lieutenant Commander in 1945, Grunsky established his law practice in Watsonville. He was the founder of Grunsky, Ebey, Farrar & Howell, one of the largest and most highly respected law firms in the Central Coast counties. Donald began his political career at age 32, serving as an Assemblyman from 1947 to 1952 and a Senator from 1953 to 1976. During his tenure Donald authored important legislation including measures to revise the state's divorce laws, the prohibition of off-shore drilling, a master plan for education and important water conservation measures. Donald also served as a chairman of seven Senate committees, some of which included the Finance and Judiciary committees.

Donald will be sorely missed by the many people who were privileged to know him both personally and professionally. He will forever be remembered by dear family and friends. Donald is survived by his wife Mary Lou Grunsky of Watsonville; brother-in-laws, Al Rushton and Joe Meidi; and several nieces and nephews.

STATEMENT ON PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS BY REVEREND RICHARD CIZIK, VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the House the following statement from Reverend Richard Cizik, Vice President for Governmental Affairs at the National Association of Evangelicals. Reverend Cizik, who has 30 years of experience on religious issues in China, believes that granting permanent normal trade relations with China will ultimately result in greater religious freedom for the Chinese people.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
EVANGELICALS,

Azusa, CA, May 16, 2000.

Re: Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
*Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: The National Association of Evangelicals is officially neutral on the topic of permanent normal trade relations with China. Evangelicals are not of one mind on how best to encourage China to move toward greater religious freedom. However, I write to express my own concerns.

The NAE has been vocal about the religious persecution of Christians and others around the world. Its 1996 "Statement of Conscience Concerning Worldwide Religious Persecution," was the touchstone of a movement culminating in the passage of the

International Religious Freedom Act. (I helped draft that statement and have been involved with China for more than twenty-five years, most recently participating as a staff member to President Clinton's "Religious Leaders' Delegation To the People's Republic of China.")

Millions of evangelicals, many within our 51 denominations and 43,000 churches, are convinced that we need to end the fractious debate over China trade policy which is damaging confidence in the United States among the Chinese people and elsewhere. Moreover, to have an effective policy that can actually achieve several goals—including gains in human rights and cooperative rather than hostile relations—requires a consistent policy that can only come from bipartisan consensus based on public support.

I respectfully suggest the following might help to create that new consensus.

Send clear signals to the government of the PRC of its primary responsibility to protect human rights and bring about social justice in China. For example, officials in Beijing and in Henan Province should immediately grant full freedom to Pastor and evangelist Peter Xu Yongzhe. Freeing Xu and other prisoners of conscience who have been unjustly detained or imprisoned would be an important step by China in terms of improving human rights, strengthening the rule of law, and building better relations with the United States. (The persecution of people of faith was raised by the members of the Religious Delegation in all of our meetings with government officials—including President Jiang Zemin.)

Recognize that there are no instant solutions but that progress is being made. China's cultural legacy of authoritarianism, the complexity of change, and the lagging of political reform behind economic developments requires a long-term struggle for human dignity and social justice. We should affirm the far-reaching improvements in personal freedoms and social-economic livelihood achieved over the past twenty years by the Chinese people in their attempt to leave behind the horrors of Maoism and to create a more democratic society.

Keep in mind that the key agents of change in China are Chinese citizens whose opinions will have growing impact on government action. We must ensure that our actions support rather than damage their efforts. In recent years, our annual debate over trade and human rights, while drawing attention to the religious liberty violations that should concern all Americans, has fueled hostility between Chinese and Americans rather than bringing about positive change in China. Additionally, it has served to strengthen the hand of Communist hardliners who oppose economic and political reform, as well as an improvement in US-Sino relations.

Listen carefully to the views of Chinese citizens, Americans living and working in China, and citizens of Hong Kong and Taiwan, all whom will be the most affected by the outcome. Many Chinese Christians, including those in the unregistered house churches and those in the US, call for expanded trade through the World Trade Organization because it helps create acceptance of international norms and keeps the door open to religious exchanges and cooperation. Trade sanctions increase social discrimination and government pressure against these believers.

Pay more attention to the real impact of our actions inside China. Using trade restrictions to send a signal of disapproval to the PRC government is likely to fuel widespread

public resentment of the United States. Restrictions on trade will be interpreted as an effort to block China's membership in the World Trade Organization and thus to stymie progress or even destabilize China. This will inevitably arouse anti-American sentiment, especially among younger generations.

Recognize that the United States government is only one actor and that many American institutions exert great influence in China, especially on moral and social issues. Religious groups, businesses, nonprofit institutions, academic, and medical organizations, as they interact with their Chinese counterparts, need to raise our concerns about human rights abuses. They also need to find constructive ways to assist efforts to speed up the restructuring of social and political institutions necessary to underpin the rule of law.

Let me make some specific suggestions on what should be done next.

(1) This administration and the next should make greater efforts to work multilaterally, especially with Asian nations, both to enforce China's compliance with WTO standards over the next decade and to create regional support for human rights. This will help create internal pressures for government conformity with international standards.

(2) Congress should work to establish good working relations with the National People's Congress of China in order to encourage good legislative practices. Congress should fully fund all the functions it has mandated to the Department of State and other government agencies.

(3) The Commission on International Religious Freedom (CIRF) should organize and fund a cooperative government-nongovernmental effort to improve the accuracy of reporting on the religious situation in China. It should encourage reporting by province and major city to highlight the responsibilities of local officials.

(4) The formation of a new bipartisan commission to coordinate all the goals (including religious freedom) of a consistent long-term policy toward China would be most effective if it focuses not on a single set of issues or short-term aims, but on effective strategy and tactics, and fosters dialogue with representatives of all the diverse sectors in our society that are involved with China.

(5) Congress should demonstrate the strength of its resolve on matters of human rights and religious freedom by enacting—not broad and blanket sanctions—but targeted and measured sanctions designed to accomplish their intended objective. For example, firm action against China National Petroleum Company's role in financing genocide in Sudan would send an indirect signal to China about our commitment to deal with religious persecution.

It is especially disturbing to me that during the past year there has been an escalation of harassment, intimidation, and persecution of people of faith. However, in my opinion (and that of organizations such as China Source, which represents dozens of Christian organizations working in China), granting permanent normal trade relations with China will ultimately result in greater religious freedom for the Chinese people, not less.

Sincerely Yours,

REV. RICHARD CIZIK,
Vice President for Governmental Affairs.

WILLIE PELOTE: FRIEND OF THE
LABOR COUNCIL AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, today I recognize Willie Pelote, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial dinner with its Friend of the Labor Council Award.

As the California Political and Legislative Director of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Willie oversees statewide political and legislative affairs for the nation's largest union of public employees and health care workers. He is responsible for developing and implementing the union's political strategy for campaigns at all levels of public office.

Through his work at AFSCME, Willie has been a strong supporter of and partner with the Labor Council. Willie helped AFSCME local unions in San Diego build strong member education and involvement programs, and he supported the development of the very successful Labor to Neighbor Program.

Willie's leadership has helped advance labor priorities across the state, as well as locally and for that he deserves our highest praise and admiration. My congratulations go to Willie Pelote for these significant contributions. I believe him to be highly deserving of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO Friend of the Labor Council Award.

COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET
PROCESS REFORM ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 853) to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for joint resolutions on the budget, reserve funds for emergency spending, strengthened enforcement of budgetary decisions, increased accountability for Federal spending, accrual budgeting for Federal insurance programs, mitigation of the bias in the budget process toward higher spending, modifications in paygo requirements when there is an on-budget surplus, and for other purposes:

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Comprehensive Budget Process Reform Act and I thank Congressman NUSSLE for bringing this important budgetary reform to the floor.

I also came to the floor this afternoon in support of an Amendment that my colleagues, Representatives DREIER, LUTHER, REGULA, and HALL will be debating shortly that would provide for a two-year federal budget process.

Mr. Chairman, like many of my friends on both sides of the aisle, I served in the state legislature before my election to the House in 1994. The North Carolina General Assembly, like many other states, operates under a two-year, biennial budget process.

That is what brings me to the floor today. Like many of my colleagues, I am frustrated with the annual budget system.

We spend months of every year debating the same issues. That leaves very little time for Members to explore many of the issues that directly affect the citizens of this nation.

A biennial budget would allow Members to devote the first session of any Congress to the budget resolution and appropriations decisions. The second session would be dedicated to program oversight in order to help eliminate wasteful government spending.

This process would provide Congress time to better address issues of important national interest, like the state of our military readiness, how to protect our nation's seniors and improve the current health care system, and how to best provide an effective safety net for our nation's farmers.

A biennial budget would also allow Congress to better manage unforeseen emergency budget situations that face our nation like the forest fires New Mexico is currently battling, or the hurricanes that have devastated North Carolina's coastline for the last few years.

When hurricanes have hit North Carolina, the General Assembly has been able to successfully help the State meet its unmet needs without creating undue hardship on the State or on our communities.

Mr. Chairman, Congress has a constitutional responsibility to oversee government spending and to improve the way government works. When we dedicate such a significant amount of time each year to appropriate funds for government programs, we lose out on needed opportunities to evaluate the performance of those programs and make necessary changes. A biennial budget would allow a full year of oversight to determine what is working and what is not so that the appropriations process can move more smoothly and the government can run more efficiently and effectively.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support the Comprehensive Budget Process reform. I also hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the biennial budget amendment to ensure American taxpayer dollars are being spent wisely.

HONORING TOPSFIELD,
MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, Topsfield, Massachusetts is observing a year-long celebration of the 350th anniversary of its founding as a town by the General Court of the Commonwealth in 1650. The observance will not only reflect upon the town's proud history, but will look with optimism toward the future.

When Governor John Winthrop arrived in Salem harbor in 1630, Masconomet, the sagamore of the Agawam tribe, who lived in the Topsfield area, welcomed him. The regional high school is named for Masconomet, who always lived peacefully with his new neighbors.

The early settlers of Topsfield, named after Toppesfield, England, were mostly farmers. But as British encroachment on their liberty through passage of various taxes escalated through the late 1600s and the 1700s, they became more and more concerned about de-

fending against attack. On April 19, 1775, 110 of Topsfield's citizenry in two companies joined with other towns in a march to Lexington and Concord to fight the redcoats at the very beginning of the Revolutionary War. Topsfield citizens have served with distinction in every war since.

While the town's character has changed through the years from farming to light manufacture and small business, it has retained its rural character. It is home each autumn to the Topsfield Fair, the Nation's oldest agricultural exposition. Its Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary is the largest sanctuary in the Massachusetts Audubon system.

A number of famous people have called Topsfield home. The Stanley family of the Stanley Steamer automobile arrived in 1659 and lived in the town until 1778. The ancestors of two leaders of the Mormon Church, Joseph Smith, its founder, and Brigham Young, its second president, were near neighbors in Topsfield.

Today, Mr. Speaker, Topsfield stands at the beginning of this new century looking optimistically toward a bright future while celebrating its long and proud heritage. A time capsule is being assembled that will include essays by fourth graders about what life was like in the year 2000, as well as recollections of seniors about the century just past. To those residents of Topsfield in the year 2100, as well as to the town's current citizens, may I add my sincere congratulations and best wishes.

HONORING ST. FRANCIS PRAYER
CENTER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak on behalf of a group of people who have made the community a truly joyous place to live. On Saturday, May 20, the St. Francis Prayer Center in Flint, Michigan, will celebrate their 25th Anniversary.

For many years, Father Phil Schmitter and Sister Joanne Chiaverini have worked diligently to do the Lord's work throughout the Flint community. Their selfless nature is tremendous and the compassion they show is indescribable. When creating the St. Francis Prayer Center in 1975, they were committed to simple goals: they wanted a central location where even the poor could walk, where they could provide guidance and promote spirituality regardless of denomination, and work to help bridge the gap between racial and religious lines. As a lifelong Flint resident, I am happy to say that their efforts have indeed improved understanding, acceptance, and genuine positive regard within the city of Flint, and the surrounding communities. They have provided a resource that we all can be very proud of. They have helped people come closer to God and to one another.

Also, the accomplishments of St. Francis would not be as strong if not for the work of the members of the Prayer Center Board and the many volunteers who are always there to lend a helping hand. These people also give much of themselves to further the impact that the center makes.

Mr. Speaker, our community would not be the same without the presence of Father Phil

Schmitter, Sister Joanne Chiaverini, and the St. Francis Prayer Center. Just as I consider it an honor and a pleasure to serve here as a Member of Congress, they also understand the joy of serving. I am pleased to ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating them on 25 wonderful years, and wish them success toward the next 25.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
VERSAILLES CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENTS NONA AND
BILL CAINE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I was recently informed that the Versailles Chamber of Commerce will present Nona and Bill Caine with the Lifetime Achievement Award on May 26, 2000, in a ceremony at the Morgan County Historical Society Heritage Garden in Versailles, Missouri.

Bill owned and operated Versailles Furniture for over 30 years. In addition to running his business, he served as the First Sergeant of the Army Reserve Unit and as the Mayor of the City of Versailles for six years. During his term in office, he oversaw installation of the airport, construction of the water tower and sewer for the southwestern part of the city and development of the parks system. Bill is also responsible for reviving the Versailles Chamber of Commerce and served as both Chamber President and Board Member. He shared responsibility, along with Rufus Harms, for organizing the Versailles Industrial Trust. Additionally, Bill served as President of the Versailles Lions Club and was twice the Fair Board Chairman for the Morgan County Fair.

Bill led three major community fund drives for the Brown Shoe Company, the Sheltered Workshop and the railroad spur. He was involved in the acquisition of Brown Shoe Company, Dixon Ticonderoga Pencil Company and Gates Rubber Company in Versailles. He presently serves on the Versailles Cemetery Board, Good Shepherd Nursing Home District Board and Bank of Versailles Board of Directors.

Nona worked for ten years at Wini's Fashions. She was a charter member of the Junior Sorosis, the WIN Investment Club and is a member of the Versailles Women's Civic Club. Nona was very active in organizations that benefit the children of Versailles. She was involved in Girl Scout and Boy Scout activities, was a member of the Parent Teacher Association and participated in numerous door-to-door solicitations for community fund drives.

Nona and Bill are both members of the Morgan County Historical Society and the Versailles United Methodist Church, where Nona has served as a Sunday School teacher and President and member of the Young Mother's Circle. They also are Charter Members of the Rolling Hills Country Club and have served several years on the Long Range Planning Committee. Nona served as President and Board Member, President and Golf Chair of the Ladies' Rolling Hills Organization and is Treasurer of the Fifty Plus Women's Golf Association of Central Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, Nona and Bill have set an example in the Versailles community for all Missourians to follow. I know that my colleagues in the House will be pleased to join me in congratulating them for their outstanding work.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (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, and for other purposes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Whitfield/Strickland amendment. Workers in the nuclear weapons complex serve in our nation's defense, and it is time to make amends to those who have fallen ill in the line of duty.

In the 1940s, the City of Lorain, Ohio in my district was home to a beryllium plant that produced nuclear weapons components. Exposure to beryllium dust can cause chronic beryllium disease, which is incurable and results in a lingering death.

Although the Lorain plant burned down in 1948, the effects of beryllium have not been forgotten, and I continue to hear many tragic stories of the deaths of loved ones from beryllium disease. A few former workers are fighting for their lives even today.

Non-workers in Lorain also fell ill. The Ohio health department identified 16 cases of beryllium disease in people who did not work in the plant, but lived across the street or washed their husbands' dusty clothes. These individuals or their survivors should also be eligible for compensation.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly support this amendment. I also urge prompt hearings and committee action on H.R. 2398, the Energy Employees Occupational Illness and Compensation Act.

CONGRATULATING JEFFERSON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jefferson Elementary School in Bergenfield, New Jersey, on the dedication of its new Garden of Love, Hope and Friendship. This peaceful, serene garden has been created as a place of meditation and reflection intended to help prevent a repeat of the horrible tragedies of gun violence that have plagued our nation's schools in recent years.

The focal point of the 30-by-70-foot garden is three dogwood trees, one each to symbolize the themes of love, hope and friendship. Azaleas ring the perimeter of the garden to rep-

resent each of the students killed in school shootings, while six rose bushes have been planted in memory of school faculty members who have died. Each Jefferson student will be involved by planting impatiens around the dogwoods. Plaques will be placed in memory of victims of the shootings. Gravel paths and wooden benches complete the setting.

The garden could not have been created without the help of the community. The project was headed by a 19-member committee of parents and other supporters, some of them former students at Jefferson. Grimm Landscaping and Standish and Sons Landscaping Inc. both contributed material and labor.

The garden is typical of Jefferson Elementary, an innovative and progressive school led by Principal Joseph Miceli. A cooperative effort between students, parents, faculty and administration focuses on connecting learning to life through activities such as Family Fun Night, Community Education Day, Author's Day, Celebrity Reader Day or Volunteer Appreciation Day. The school's mission is "to promote a lifelong love of learning."

We face a terrible problem in our communities—the alarming number of children dying from gun violence. Jonesboro. Springfield. Columbine. These cities and schools have become symbolic of troubled children bringing guns to school and killing other children or teachers. Firearm deaths among children under age 15 are 12 times higher in the United States than the 25 other industrialized nations combined. Our schools face enough problems today without becoming a combat zone.

We in Congress have come forth with many proposals for fighting school violence. I support closing the gunshow loophole, trigger locks, smart guns when the technology becomes available, mental health screening for youthful offenders and other steps. But legislation alone is not enough. We need more of these community-based activities, where teachers and other role models work with young people to change attitudes about violence and provide alternatives for troubled youth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the students, parents, faculty and staff of Jefferson Elementary School on this exemplary project. If it is successful in keeping only one young boy or girl from going astray, it will have been well worth the effort.

SUPPORT OF THE SAFE PIPELINES
ACT OF 2000

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, I joined Representative METCALF in support of H.R. 3558, the Safe Pipelines Act of 2000, to improve safety and provide states greater discretion to review and inspect interstate liquid pipelines. This vital legislation requires pipeline companies to inspect the pipelines both internally and with hydrostatic tests. To improve access to information, this legislation requires the U.S. Department of Transportation to post the location of all pipelines on the Internet and inform the public of accidents, leaks, and spills.

While the June 10th accident in Bellingham, Washington, has caught our attention, we must examine how to improve the integrity of the pipeline and instill public confidence that we are adequately protecting those who live near a pipeline. I remain supportive of hydrostatic testing as a method to ensure the integrity of the pipelines. However, we must also review the regulatory, maintenance, and day-to-day operations of the pipelines comprehensively to better serve our communities.

On May 13th, I held a public meeting to discuss efforts to improve the pipelines. With a panel of experts, we discussed the need for better communication between local elected officials and the pipeline companies servicing the Puget Sound area. We must remain vigilant in protecting our neighborhoods not only today but also in the future. Congress can help in this process by passing meaningful pipeline legislation this year.

HONORING HOWARD J. MORGENS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Howard J. Morgens, a retired chief executive officer of the Procter and Gamble Co. and also a donor of property that made the construction of the Hospice of the Central Coast possible. Mr. Morgens passed away at the age of 89.

Born in St. Louis, Howard was a graduate of Washington University and Harvard Business School. Howard then moved to Carmel Valley with his wife Anne in 1962. The couple moved permanently to Pebble Beach in 1990. Beginning in 1933, Howard worked for Procter and Gamble serving as chief executive officer from 1957 to 1974. He retired as chairman emeritus in 1977. In addition to his work in Procter and Gamble, Howard served on the boards of directors of several corporations including General Motors, Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., and Exxon. Howard was also dedicated to various civic, educational and charitable organizations, some of which include the American Museum of Natural History and the American National Red Cross and the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. On the Monterey Peninsula, Howard was a trustee of the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula Foundation and the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

Howard will be sorely missed by the many people who were privileged to know him both personally and professionally. He will be forever remembered by dear family and friends. Howard is survived by his wife of 64 years, Anne; two sons, Edwin of South Norwalk, Conn., and James of Atlanta; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROSEVILLE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the 50th anniversary of the Roseville Fed-

eration of Teachers. For fifty years the men and women of the RFT have been educating the young people of the Roseville Community School district. I have been working side by side with Roseville teachers since I first came to Congress, and I have always had the utmost respect and admiration for their dedication to their students and to the community where they work.

From kindergarten at schools like Eastland, Kaiser and Alumni through the halls of Roseville High School and the once bustling Brablec High . . . the Roseville Federal of Teachers has come together to ensure the best possible education for the students entrusted to their care.

While the current state administration has mounted an assault on teacher unions through attacks on collective bargaining, the right to strike and the current school voucher proposal, organization such as the RFT remind us that teachers are democracy's most valuable resource. Teachers have taken on the responsibilities of mentors, counselors and role models to young people. As your responsibilities have increased over the years, your benefits have not always grown at the same speed. Organizations such as the Roseville Federation of Teachers insure that teachers are fully represented and properly respected.

I ask you each to join me in congratulating the Roseville Federal of Teachers for their 50 years and wish them the very best as they continue to help our children meet the future challenges of this Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, I was attending my daughter's high school graduation and was absent for a series of votes on May 18. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on No. 202, "no" on No. 203, "no" on No. 204, "yes" on No. 205, "yes" on No. 206, "yes" on No. 207 and "yes" on No. 208.

HONORING SANDRA ELLEN BARRY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a superb educator in my district. In July, Sandra Ellen Barry will become the superintendent of the Anaheim City School District.

The district's current superintendent, Dr. Roberta Thompson, leaves the district this summer after many years of service. Sandy Barry will take her place.

And no one is better qualified to lead the district's 21,000 students and 1,900 employees, in 22 elementary schools. Ms. Barry comes with an extensive educational background.

She has served as the deputy superintendent for three years, a role in which she has prepared for her new position. She comes to the job equipped with the many challenges she will undoubtedly face.

But Sandy's experience is not limited to one district. She has served Orange County schools, children and families well through her work in many capacities. She came to her administrative career only after a decade of teaching, working with children from the ages of 7 to 14.

The Anaheim City School District will miss Superintendent Thompson. But I know that I join the community and her colleagues when I say that Sandy Barry is equal to the task.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (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, and for other purposes:

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Chairman, military retirees were promised a "lifetime of free medical care" in exchange for serving honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces for a minimum of 20 years. Although used by the services for decades as an effective recruitment and retention tool, this promise has no basis in law. Regrettably, our nation's failure to honor the "promise of health care" is a contributing factor to the critical retention and recruiting problems our armed services currently face.

In 1956, after the Korean War, only 11 percent of the eligible military medical beneficiaries were either retirees, their dependents, or survivors of former service men and women. At that time, existing military medical facilities were capable of serving these individuals. However, today, 52 percent of military medical beneficiaries are retirees and their family members. This growth in the military retiree population, along with recent base closures, has severely limited the ability of our government to provide them with direct care.

The Federal Government has fallen short of its commitment to the men and women who have served our Nation in the armed services. Demographic changes over the last several decades have led to an explosion in the number of military retirees, dramatically increasing the cost of providing health care to these individuals. While our Government could not have anticipated the factors which produced this problem, we must take action to ensure our military retirees receive the adequate care they deserve.

The Taylor amendment would expand and make permanent an existing Department of Defense (DoD) TRICARE Senior Prime demonstration program, more commonly known as Medical Subvention. Under Medicare Subvention, the costs of providing health care to Medicare-eligible military retirees who receive treatment at military medical facilities are reimbursed to the DoD by the Health Care Financing Administration.

As many of my colleagues know, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created a Medicare

Subvention demonstration project under which six military treatment sites were organized as Medicare+Choice plans and have enrolled and treated military retirees and their dependents 65 and over. This Demonstration will end December 31, 2000.

The Demonstration Project has been a success. There are long waiting lists to enroll at several of the sites. The number of retirees enrolling when they turn 65 is much higher than DoD expected. GAO reported that some retirees joined Tricare Prime at age 64 to be eligible to age-in to Tricare Senior Prime. The disenrollment rate is much lower than those of almost all Medicare managed care plans.

Enrollees in Tricare Senior Prime are guaranteed continuity of care at military health facilities. The current "Space Available" care cannot ensure that a retiree can see his cardiologist or other physician when he needs an appointment. The health needs of the over 65 population cannot wait for "space available." Medicare Subvention is needed to replace the Space Available policy as soon as possible.

Our men and women in uniform have earned and deserve quality health care for themselves and their families. Congress must take immediate action to live up to the medical care commitment the government made to our service men and women and their families. Though the Taylor Amendment does not take care of the entire military retiree population, it is a good first step to addressing this duty we have to take care of our nation's career service men and women. I urge your strong support of this important amendment.

RECOGNIZING DR. SPENCER PRICE FOR RECEIVING THE GENERAL DOUGLAS A. MACARTHUR LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a distinguished gentleman from Georgia's 8th District who is visiting Washington this week as one of six outstanding National Guard officers in the country, Dr. Spencer Price.

Dr. Price has been awarded the prestigious General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award for his dedication to both the medical and military community. Dr. Price is a respected internal medicine specialist at The Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon and is also a member of the Georgia Army National Guard. In addition, Dr. Price serves as a surgeon for the Georgia Guard's 121st Infantry Battalion.

Dr. Price has made a career of serving people and saving lives, and we all know this world needs more people who are willing to put selfishness aside and dedicate themselves to serving their community and their country. As a Member of Congress from Georgia and a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I have been fortunate to know Dr. Price and have had several opportunities to speak with him about issues facing both the Georgia Guard and America's military. His insight is always respected.

Mr. Speaker, Georgia is rich in military heritage and we have always been home to incredible leaders and public servants. Dr.

Spencer Price is one of those people. He is an outstanding American, and it is an honor to know him.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Children during their 75th Anniversary Gala Celebration. The VFW National Home for Children, located in Onondaga Township in rural Ingham County, has been serving our country, our state, our families and our children for 75 years. Through the initial efforts and determination of Amy Ross, a young woman from Detroit, this unique and cherished place has grown in the last several decades to include over 70 buildings on 629 acres nicely situated on the Grand River.

The VFW National Home for Children has created an inclusive community to assist families of those who served our country who can benefit from the assistance of a caring family environment. The National Home provides a variety of structural programs to help children develop the many skills that will enable them to succeed as young adults. Each of these programs, such as family living environment for orphans, single parent programs and preschool education and day care, provide essential assistance for our veterans and their loved ones. In addition, the Home's Education Department has a library, media center and computers that allow everyone to hone useful skills in our information-age connected economy. Tutoring is provided for students as well.

Mr. Speaker, the National Home also provides a dynamic roster of extra-curricular events throughout the year. These diverse activities include trips to cultural destinations throughout the state and beyond, such as the Detroit Zoo, fishing on Lake Erie, watching hockey games in Kalamazoo, canoeing on the Grand River, cross-county skiing and spending a day at Cedar Point in Ohio.

I was proud to support the VFW National Home for Children as a state legislator, and I am proud to rise today to commend the VFW National Home for Children on their 75th anniversary. This is a milestone which highlights many decades of service and commitment to the betterment of our future leaders.

IN MEMORY OF VICKI LEE GREEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize the life of a friend of mine, Vicki Lee Green. Vicki was a wonderful woman who was loved by many. She will be greatly missed by friends, relatives, business associates, and acquaintances.

Vicki was a Colorado native born in Palisade, Colorado on a peach farm on April 1, 1949. She was active in athletics and

cheerleading throughout her high school and college. Vicki went to Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colorado where she met her husband Lee Green. In 1970 they were married and in 1971 they moved to Glenwood Springs where they gave birth to their daughter Tonya.

In Glenwood Springs, Vicki worked as an exercise and ski instructor at Ski Sunlight. Vicki later took a real estate class and discovered her abilities as a salesperson, leading her to become a real estate agent. Vicki went on to create the latest real estate firm in the area and soon she was recognized as one of the top realtors in Colorado. Vicki earned a strong reputation for her business ability. Along with her business affairs, she provided many contributions to the community and the local college (CML).

Vicki was very dedicated to her family: her husband Lee, her brother Bill, her daughter Tonya, and her sister-in-law Jeannie. Vicki was so proud of her daughter in that among other things Tonya decided to follow her mom's footsteps as a realtor. Vicki considered her friends as family and on any occasion would assist them as only family could.

In the very broadest of terms, Vicki was a beautiful person who showed her compassion and love in many ways. Despite a battle of many years, her disease ravaged body finally surrendered, though Vicki's mind fought the good fight until the end. Memories of Vicki will remain solidified in the minds of many, many people for years to come. Vicki will be deeply missed by those of us who were fortunate enough to know her.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (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, and for other purposes.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chairman, I insert the following materials for the RECORD.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,
Washington, DC, May 17, 2000.

Hon. FLOYD D. SPENCE,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to Section 1027(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000 (Public Law 106-65, Oct. 5, 1999), please find the enclosed report on the use of military personnel to support civilian law enforcement. The report addresses:

1. The plan described in Section 1027(a);
2. A discussion of the risks and benefits associated with using military personnel to support civilian law enforcement;
3. Recommendations; and
4. The total number of active and reserve members, and members of the National Guard whose activities were supported using funds provided under section 112 of Title 32,

United States Code, who participated in drug interdiction activities or otherwise provided support for civilian law enforcement during fiscal year 1999.

Thank you for your continued support of the Department's counterdrug efforts. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

(For Brian E. Sheridan).

Enclosure: As stated.

CC: The Honorable Ike Skelton, Ranking Minority Member.

REPORT PURSUANT TO §1027 OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000, PUBLIC LAW 106-65, OCTOBER 5, 1999

Pursuant to §1027(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, Public Law 106-65, the Department of Defense is required to report to Congress on use of military personnel to support civilian law enforcement. The report is set out below.

Subsection (b)(1)

Section 1027(a)(1) plan to assign members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps to assist the Immigration and Naturalization Service or the United States Customs Service should the President determine, and the Attorney General or the Secretary of the Treasury, as the case may be, certify, that military personnel are required to respond to a threat to national security posed by the entry into the United States of terrorists or drug traffickers.

As a first step towards compliance with Section 1027(a), Department of Defense (DoD) representatives met with the senior leadership of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the United States Customs Service on several occasions, to identify any requirements that either agency had that would necessitate actually assigning members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps to respond to a threat to national security posed by the entry into the United States of terrorists or drug traffickers. In the end, neither the Immigration and Naturalization Service or the United States Customs Service could envision a scenario which would require such assignments. Instead, both agencies expected that they would use the existing system of plans and procedures to increase the level of support from DoD personnel who would report through the existing military chain of command. Both the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the United States Customs Service agreed that the current level of counterdrug support that DoD provides in the form of Title 1004 Domestic support through Joint Task Force (JTF) 6 and Title 32 State Plans National Guard support is adequate to meet their current requirements. The fact that neither agency envisioned requirements to assign military members to their agencies precluded DoD's development of a plan.

Subsections (b)(2) & (3)

In light of the forgoing, DoD could not assess the risk and benefits and could not make recommendations regarding the functions outlined in the plan associated with using military personnel to provide law enforcement support described in subsection (A)(2).

Subsection (b)(4)

The total number of active and reserve members, and members of the National Guard whose activities were supported using funds provided under section 112 of title 32, United States Code, who participated in drug interdiction activities or otherwise provided support for civilian law enforcement during fiscal year 1999.

Section 112 of Title 32, United States Code authorizes the Secretary of Defense to fund the Governors use of National Guardsmen, acting in state status, for drug interdiction and counter drug activities. Consequently, there were no active and reserve members, who participated in drug interdiction activities or otherwise provided support for civilian law enforcement during fiscal year 1999, whose activities were supported using funds provided under section 112 of Title 32. There were 3,429 National Guardsmen, who participated in drug interdiction activities or otherwise provided support for civilian law enforcement during fiscal year 1999, whose activities were supported using funds provided under section 112 of Title 32, United States Code.

CONCLUSION

During informal discussions with the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the United States Customs Service, both agencies responded that they could manage normal traffic flow at the border and accordingly, they could not envision any requirements that would require assigning members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps to their respective agencies to respond to a threat to national security posed by the entry into the United States of terrorists or drug traffickers. In emergencies the DoD will respond to requests for support as required. This type of support request does not necessitate assigning members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps to the requesting agency. Instead, DoD develops plans to support other federal agencies in cases of an emergency situation such as, operation "Graphic Hand" which is implemented in case of a postal service strike, and operation "Garden Plot" which is implemented in the event of civil disturbances that exceed the capabilities of civilian law enforcement. Of particular interest for the purpose of this report is operation "Distant Shores" which is implemented to support the Immigration and Naturalization Service in immigration emergencies. Within DoD, the Director of Military Support is the executive agent for the DoD for domestic support. Director of Military Support manages plans and directives to facilitate support requests from other agencies. These and other plans are updated annually to meet new requirements that arise or to address changes requested by the supported agencies. To execute a plan, the agency requests support through the Executive branch and a request is sent to the Secretary of Defense for possible tasking to the Director of Military Support. The Director then coordinates the DoD response required by the emergency situation.

Outside the terrorist and drug trafficker support there exist a good example of DoD support and planning. The following is a short synopsis from a letter signed by Attorney General Janet Reno of how DoD supports Federal law enforcement agencies during declared emergency situations using the Mass Immigration Emergency Plan (attached), referred to as "Distance Shores" by DoD: "The purpose of the Mass Immigration Emergency Plan is to protect the national security and facilitate the coordination of all types of Federal emergency response activities to deal with emerging or ongoing mass illegal immigration to the United States. The Plan outlines the planning assumptions, policies, concept of operations, organizational structures, and specific assignments of responsibility of the departments and agencies in working together to enforce Federal laws to protect the sovereignty and security for the United States."

Additional factors that should be considered in the context of assigning members of the armed forces to the Immigration and

Naturalization Service and the United States Customs Service are that doing so harms military readiness, and that the risk of potential confrontation between civilians and military members far out weighs the benefit.

Section 1027 requires that the members that are assigned to assist the federal law enforcement agencies receive law enforcement training. It is not in DoD's military interest to require training in search and seizure arrests, use of force against civilians, criminal processing techniques, preservation of evidence, and court testimony. This type of training has minimal military value and detracts from training with warfighting equipment for warfighting missions. Furthermore, this type of training competes with military training for the member's time. It will lead to decreased military training, which reduces unit readiness levels, military preparedness, and overall combat effectiveness of the Armed Forces.

Any expansion in the potential for armed confrontation between military and civilians in the United States increases the risk of a serious incident involving the loss of life. DoD's experience with the incident near Marfa, Texas illustrates graphically that risk.

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MASS IMMIGRATION EMERGENCY PLAN FOREWORD

The Mass Immigration Emergency Plan presents guidelines for a coordinated effort by the Federal government, at the national, regional, and local level, to enforce Federal laws to deter, interdict, and control massive illegal immigration to the United States. The Plan draws on the unique resources, authorities, and capabilities of a large number of Federal departments and agencies, with the support of State and local government and voluntary agencies, to work together to maintain the integrity of our national borders, protect public health, and control the admission of immigrants and refugees.

The Mass Immigration Emergency Plan was developed through the efforts of 37 departments and agencies, and the special work of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Intelligence Division at the national level, and INS regional and district offices and Border Patrol sectors. The INS has worked to ensure that departments and agencies with identified responsibilities in the Plan have fully participated in planning and exercise activities in order to develop, maintain, and enhance the concerted Federal emergency response capability.

The purpose of the Mass Immigration Emergency Plan is to protect the national security and facilitate the coordination of all types of Federal emergency response activities to deal with an emerging or ongoing mass illegal immigration to the United States. The plan outlines the planning assumptions, policies, concept of operations, organizational structures, and specific assignments of responsibility of the departments and agencies in working together to enforce Federal laws to protect the sovereignty and security of the United States.

The Department of Justice appreciates the cooperation and support of those departments and agencies which have contributed to the development and publication of this plan.

JANET RENO,
Attorney General.

BASIC PLAN OVERVIEW

The Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) establishes authority and procedures for controlling immigration to

the United States. The Act charges the Attorney General with the administration and enforcement of all laws relating to immigration and naturalization of aliens.

During 1981, the President of the United States directed the Attorney General to coordinate the development of a contingency plan for a government-wide response to a mass illegal immigration emergency. In January 1983, the Department of Justice completed the preparation of the Mass Immigration Emergency Plan, hereafter referred to as the Plan, which outlined requirements and procedures for a coordinated Federal effort utilizing the resources of appropriate agencies to control an attempted illegal mass immigration.

In 1992 the Attorney General directed the Immigration and Naturalization Service to coordinate the review of the Plan to address changes in Federal resources which would be available to respond to an immigration emergency, and deal with the recent and emerging problems relating to mass illegal immigration. The Plan, as updated in this edition, is designed to address the sudden or rapidly escalating arrival of large numbers of aliens attempting to enter illegally or being smuggled to the United States.

The Plan describes the basic mechanisms and structures by which the Federal government will deploy resources and coordinates multi-agency law enforcement and other operations to address the emergency situation. In following the model of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Federal Response Plan for natural and technological disasters, the Plan uses a functional approach to group types of operational and support activities under 10 Emergency Response Functions (ERF) which are most likely to be conducted during a mass immigration emergency. Each ERF is headed by a primary agency, which has been selected based on its authorities, resources, and capabilities in the particular functional area. Other agencies are designated as support agencies for one or more ERF based on their authorities, resources, and capabilities in the particular functional area. Law enforcement and other functions of the Plan will be conducted under the overall coordination of the Immigration Emergency Federal Coordinating Officer (IEFCO), designated by the Attorney General. A Lead Federal Operating Agent (LFOA) will be designated as the deputy to the IEDCO.

The Plan serves as a foundation for the further development of detailed headquarters, regional, and local plans and procedures to implement Federal and State responsibilities in a timely and efficient manner.

PURPOSE

The Plan establishes an architecture for a systematic, coordinated, and effective Federal response. The purpose of the Plan is to:

Establish fundamental assumptions and policies.

Establish a concept of operations that provides an interagency coordination mechanism to facilitate the implementation of the Plan.

Incorporate the coordination mechanisms and structure of other appropriate Federal plans and responsibilities.

Assign specific functional responsibilities to appropriate Federal departments and agencies.

Identify actions that participating Federal departments and agencies will take in the overall Federal response, in coordination with affected States.

SCOPE OF THE PLAN

The Plan applies to all Federal departments and agencies which are tasked to provide resources and conduct activities in an immigration emergency situation.

Under the Plan, a State means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam.

The Plan describes Federal actions to be taken in immediate and ongoing emergency response operations. The identified actions in the Plan, carried out under the ERFs, are based on existing Federal agency statutory authorities and resources.

In some instances, an immigration emergency may result in a situation which affects the national security of the United States. For those instances, appropriate national security authorities and procedures will be used to address the national security requirements of the situation.

ORGANIZATION OF THE PLAN

The Plan is organized in four sections:

The Basic Plan describes purpose, scope, situation, policies and concept of operations of Federal response activity.

The Emergency Response Functions Annex describes the planning assumptions, concept of operations, and responsibilities of each ERF.

The Support Annex describes the areas of Financial Management, Public Information, Congressional Relations, and International Relations.

The Appendix to the Plan includes a list of acronyms and abbreviations, definitions of terms, a list of authorities and directives, and indexes of agency references and key Plan terms.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (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, and for other purposes:

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I include the following GAO report for the RECORD.

United States General Accounting Office,
Report to Congressional Requesters

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH.—GOVERNMENT RESPONSES TO BERYLLIUM USES AND RISKS

May 19, 2000

Congressional Requesters

Over the last 50 years, federal policymakers and scientists have attempted to both capitalize on the advantages of beryllium and address health and environmental risks. Beryllium is a strong and lightweight metal that generates and reflects neutrons, resists corrosion, is transparent to X rays, and conducts electricity. It is also a hazardous substance.

Among the organizations that have played key roles in responding to the risks associated with beryllium are the Departments of Defense, Energy, and Labor. The Departments of Defense and Energy are the federal agencies that have most commonly used beryllium. Defense procures components containing beryllium for a variety of weapon systems from private contractors. Energy operates federal facilities (including nuclear

weapons production facilities) that use beryllium, and it has responsibility for protecting federal and contract workers at these facilities. Energy has identified at least 17 facilities that use or have used beryllium, and it estimates that about 20,000 current and former workers at these facilities were exposed or potentially exposed to beryllium from the 1940s to the present. The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has overall responsibility for protecting the health and safety of workers in most workplaces throughout the United States, including those that use beryllium.

This report responds to your request for information on beryllium as a hazardous material and on the health and safety controls over its use. As agreed with your offices, this report (1) provides information on beryllium's uses and risks and (2) describes selected key events that illustrate the evolution of the federal government's response to risks posed by beryllium. To respond to the second question, we identified and summarized key events from the 1960s through the 1990s involving actions by the Departments of Defense and Energy and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Appendix I describes the objectives, scope, and methodology for this review.

RESULTS IN BRIEF

Lightness, strength, and other attributes have made beryllium useful in a wide array of products, such as aircraft, spacecraft, X-ray equipment, and nuclear weapons. However, beryllium is considered hazardous. Health effects from high exposure to beryllium particles were first noted in the early 20th century. Beginning in the 1940s, scientists linked exposure to beryllium with an inflammatory lung condition now called chronic beryllium disease, which can be debilitating and, in some cases, fatal. Today, questions remain about the level of exposure that poses a risk and exactly how chronic beryllium disease develops. In the 1950s, studies showed that beryllium caused cancer in laboratory animals. National and international organizations now consider beryllium a human carcinogen. The magnitude of the risk from current occupational exposure levels is not known, but may be minimal.

From the 1960s to the 1990s, Defense, Energy, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration took a number of actions to assess and to respond to risks associated with exposure to beryllium. In reviewing selected key events, we noted that the agencies took the following steps to reduce risks from exposure to beryllium: discontinued testing of rocket propellant containing beryllium, assessed beryllium exposure standards, limited worker exposure to beryllium, established health surveillance measures, and proposed compensation for workers who have chronic beryllium disease. The key events are as follows:

Defense discontinued testing beryllium in rocket fuel by 1970, due in part to concerns about meeting air quality requirements.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration proposed a more stringent worker exposure standard for beryllium in 1975 based on evidence that it was carcinogenic in laboratory animals. The proposal generated concerns about the technical feasibility of the proposal, impact on national security, and the scientific evidence supporting the proposed change. According to Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials, the agency discontinued its work on the proposal in the early 1980s in response to other regulatory priorities such as lead, electrical hazards, and occupational noise. In 1998, the agency announced that it would develop a comprehensive standard for beryllium by 2001

Energy improved working conditions at its facilities and implemented medical testing for its current and former workers during the 1980s and 1990s after new cases of chronic beryllium disease were identified during the 1980s. From 1984 through 1999, 149 Energy workers have been diagnosed with definite or possible chronic beryllium disease.

In 1999, Energy issued a rule that established new worker safety controls, such as increased use of respirators and assessing hazards associated with work tasks, for its facilities that use beryllium. Energy also proposed a compensation program for Energy workers affected by chronic beryllium disease, which has been introduced as legislation in the Congress.

The Departments of Defense, Energy, and Labor provided written or oral comments on our report and generally concurred with the information presented. They suggested technical changes, and Labor officials also emphasized that the hazard information bulletin on beryllium cited in the body of this report was a significant effort to protect worker health.

BERYLLIUM USES AND RISKS

In the 1920s and 1930s, beryllium was used for a variety of purposes, including as an additive for alloying with copper and other metals in manufacturing, as an ingredient in fluorescent lamps, and for other purposes. Today, beryllium is used in nuclear reactor and weapons parts; aircraft, spacecraft, and missile structures and parts; military vehicle structures and parts; electronics; auto parts; lasers; X-ray equipment; dental prosthetics; and other consumer products. In some of these products, substitutes for beryllium can be used (e.g., titanium, stainless steel, and some forms of bronze and aluminum). However, Energy and Defense officials state there is no substitute for beryllium in key nuclear components or in weapons for which lightweight and strength are critical.

According to U.S. Public Health Service reports, people are exposed to extremely low levels of naturally occurring beryllium in the air, in many foods, in water, and in soil. The highest exposures to beryllium tend to occur in the workplace. Occupational exposure to beryllium occurs when it is extracted from ore; when the ore is processed into beryllium metal; and when this metal is made into parts (e.g., machined, welded, cut, or ground). Today, beryllium is used in many applications outside of the Defense and Energy industries.

Health effects from high exposure to beryllium particles were first noted in the early 20th century. Beginning in the 1940s, scientists linked exposure to beryllium with an inflammatory lung condition now called chronic beryllium disease, which is often debilitating and, in some cases, fatal.

Research on the biomedical and environmental aspects of beryllium is extensive.³ According to the National Jewish Medical and Research Center (a nonprofit institution devoted to respiratory, allergic, and immune system diseases), beryllium primarily affects the lungs. The disease occurs when people inhale beryllium dust, and it can develop even after workers have been out of the beryllium industry for many years. There are three main types of adverse health effects associated with beryllium exposure:

Chronic beryllium disease is caused by an allergic-like reaction to beryllium. Even brief exposure to very low levels can lead to this disease, which often has a slow onset and involves changes to lung tissue that reduce lung function. The first evidence of what was to be called chronic beryllium disease was identified in 1946. More recent studies indicate that reaction to beryllium de-

pends on the type of beryllium and the work task.⁴ According to the National Jewish Medical and Research Center, the disease occurs in 1 to 16 percent of exposed people, with the level of exposure that poses risk and the precise mechanisms of disease not yet well characterized.

Acute beryllium disease (symptoms lasting less than 1 year) results from relatively high exposure to soluble beryllium compounds (i.e., compounds that can be at least partially dissolved). This disease usually has a quick onset and resembles pneumonia or bronchitis. High exposures may also cause skin lesions. The earliest cases of this disease involved severe overexposure to beryllium that affected the lungs and skin of fluorescent light workers in the 1930s. It is now rare due to improved industrial protective measures designed to reduce exposure levels.

National and international organizations have identified beryllium metal and compounds as carcinogenic to humans. Studies involving workers in plants with high exposure during the 1940s showed subsequent increases in mortality. The magnitude of the risk from current occupational exposure levels is not known, but may be minimal.

KEY EVENTS IN THE FEDERAL RESPONSE TO BERYLLIUM RISKS

The following illustrative key events involving Defense, Energy, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) document concerns and actions taken regarding beryllium exposure risks. The events include (1) Defense's decision to discontinue testing beryllium in rocket fuel by 1970, (2) OSHA's efforts in the 1970s and since 1998 to lower the exposure limits, (3) Energy's steps to improve working conditions and medical screening in the 1980s and 1990s, and (4) Energy's 1999 rule on beryllium worker safety.

Defense discontinued testing of beryllium rocket propellant

Defense discontinued testing of rocket propellant containing beryllium by 1970 due to the potential risk of public exposure to hazardous levels of beryllium particles released in rocket exhaust. According to an August 1969 Air Force report, the Air Force and Advanced Research Projects Agency began development of beryllium rocket propellant in 1959. Experiments in the 1960s showed that rocket payloads could be increased 10 to 30 percent by using beryllium powder in propellant. Research and development efforts later expanded to include other Defense agencies and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

As military and civilian agencies experimented with beryllium in rocket fuel, they also pursued concerns about beryllium's potential risks. For example, an August 1962 manufacturer's internal memorandum stated that officials planned a visit from the Navy propellant plant at Indian Head, Maryland, to discuss health and safety concerns in handling beryllium powders at a test facility for solids fuel propellants. When testing began to involve firing large rocket motors that would release potentially hazardous levels of beryllium particles into the air, concerns expanded to include the general population in the vicinity of test facilities.

In 1966, the U.S. Public Health Service requested the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council to study the toxicity and hazards of beryllium propellant and its compounds and to recommend air quality criteria. The resulting March 1966 council report recommended a range of less stringent limits for atmospheric contamination. The U.S. Public Health Service concluded that release of any form of beryllium above 75 micrograms per cubic meter of air could be hazardous, and it did not adopt the council's recommendation to change the release limit.

According to a 1985 Air Force report, as a result of the U.S. Public Health Service decision, all beryllium propellant and motor testing has been discontinued since 1970. Following the U.S. Public Health Service decision, Defense issued a directive in 1967 that in effect curtailed open-air firing of beryllium-fueled rocket motors. The directive required that the release of beryllium in all open-air firings fall within the 75 microgram contamination limit, that exhaust from rocket motors be filtered to meet the 75 microgram limit, or that firings be conducted outside the continental limits of the United States. According to the August 1969 Air Force report, this directive severely limited development of beryllium-fueled rocket motors. The report also indicated that the 75 microgram contamination limit could not be met, the equipment needed to filter exhaust to meet the 75 microgram limit was not available, and firing at remote locations was expensive. The Environmental Protection Agency, which is today responsible for air quality standards, continues to limit such releases to the 75 microgram level.

OSHA actions to revise exposure standards

In 1971, OSHA adopted a beryllium standard developed by the American National Standards Institute to control exposure to beryllium in the workplace. OSHA subsequently began efforts to determine whether this standard should be revised. Officials at OSHA believed a change in the standard was warranted because of research conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, a component of the Center for Disease Control under the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare at the time. This research concluded that beryllium exposure caused cancer in animals and likely posed a similar risk to humans. OSHA policy at the time required that once a toxic material was confirmed as carcinogenic in animals, it should be treated as posing a carcinogenic risk to humans and employee exposure should be reduced to the lowest level feasible. OSHA's proposal would have cut the permissible exposure limit in half.

In a 1975 Federal Register notice outlining its proposal, OSHA cited several issues raised by the revised standard, including OSHA's decision to treat beryllium as a substance that posed a carcinogenic risk to humans based on laboratory animal data, the technical feasibility of achieving the proposed exposure limits, and the methods of monitoring airborne concentrations of beryllium. It solicited comments from the public and received about 150 written comments and 40 requests for a public hearing. As a result, from August through September 1977, OSHA held an informal rulemaking hearing and heard testimony from 46 individuals representing business, government, labor, and academia. Some commenters questioned whether there was sufficient scientific evidence to support a revision, whether employers (particularly beryllium producers) could comply with lower exposure limits with existing technology, and whether the cost of complying with the proposed standard was excessive.

In 1978, while government panels were considering the sufficiency of scientific evidence, the Secretaries of Energy and Defense questioned the impact of the proposed standard on the continued production of beryllium, which was important for national defense. August 30, 1978, letters from the Secretary of Energy to the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare noted that the proposed standard would place a heavy burden on the two primary beryllium producers in the United States, who might stop producing beryllium. Specifically, the letter stated that "Clearly,

cessation of beryllium metal and/or beryllium oxide production is unacceptable and would significantly degrade our national defense effort." The Secretary agreed that workers' health was paramount, but believed that the scientific questions warranted an independent peer review. The Secretary of Defense—in November 1978 letters to the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare—echoed the Energy Secretary's concerns about national security and the scientific evidence.

The first government panel reviewed human cancer studies, but documents did not show whether or how the panel's review was concluded. The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare formed a second panel in 1978 to address three questions. The questions were as follows: (1) Are the animal studies credible in showing beryllium carcinogenicity in at least two species? (2) Is beryllium-copper alloy a carcinogen? (3) Is there evidence indicating that is a carcinogen in man?

The second panel's consultants generally agreed that (1) beryllium was an animal carcinogen, (2) no good information existed on cancer involving beryllium-copper alloy, and (3) epidemiological evidence was suggestive of an association between beryllium exposure in the workplace and human lung cancer (however, the data were only suggestive because of alternative explanations for this association). In a 1978 report to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, the U.S. Surgeon General and the Assistant Surgeon General, who oversaw the panel and reviewed the scientific evidence, stated that the conclusion that beryllium was an animal carcinogen required the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to recommend standard setting and that more definitive answers were needed regarding the last two questions.

Representatives from Defense, Energy, and OSHA met to discuss the proposed OSHA standard in 1979. Concerns included national security, technical feasibility, and the scientific evidence. OSHA continued its efforts to finalize the standard and prepare a draft rule at least through July 1980. According to OSHA officials, work was discontinued in the early 1980s because of other regulatory priorities such as lead, electrical hazards, and occupational noise.

In 1998, OSHA announced that it was developing a comprehensive standard on occupational exposure to beryllium. In its announcement, the agency cited evidence of chronic beryllium disease associated with beryllium exposure below the 2 microgram limit, a new beryllium sensitivity test, and conclusions that beryllium is a human carcinogen. Officials from OSHA expect to propose a standard in 2001.

To develop information for this standard, OSHA contracted with a private firm and has obtained preliminary data on industries that use beryllium. It also issued a hazard information bulletin on beryllium exposure in September 1999 to alert employers and employees about the potential hazards of beryllium and to provide guidance on work practices needed to control exposure.

Energy improved working conditions and medical screening following new disease cases in the 1980s

Two Energy facilities that have large numbers of beryllium-related workers are Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site in Golden, Colorado, and the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Rocky Flats produced beryllium metal parts for nuclear weapons from 1958 through 1998, but no longer has any production role and is expected to be closed. Some workers at Rocky Flats may encounter beryllium during the

environmental cleanup process at the facility. The Y-12 Plant produces nuclear weapons parts from beryllium powder and has other roles in the nuclear weapons program that may expose workers to beryllium. Overall, as of March 2000, Energy had identified at least 17 facilities that use or have used beryllium. Energy's preliminary estimate is that about 20,000 current and former workers at its facilities were exposed or potentially exposed to beryllium.¹⁷

According to Energy documents, from the 1970s through 1984, the incidence of chronic beryllium disease appeared to significantly decline at Energy facilities. This apparent reduction, along with the long latency period for the disease, led Energy to assume that chronic beryllium disease was occurring only among workers who had been exposed to high levels of beryllium decades earlier, such as in the 1940s. However, in 1984 a new case of chronic beryllium disease was diagnosed in a worker employed in 1970 at Energy's Rocky Flats facility. Several additional cases were diagnosed among Rocky Flats workers in the following years, raising questions about the adequacy of worker protection measures. In response, Energy investigated the working conditions at Rocky Flats and made improvements to ventilation in 1986 and also improved working practices. Energy also instituted medical screening programs for beryllium workers at risk of developing chronic beryllium disease, making use of new medical advances such as a new blood test. In addition, Energy improved its practices for monitoring worker exposure.

Energy's Actions at Rocky Flats

After the new case of chronic beryllium disease was diagnosed in June 1984, Energy's Albuquerque Operations Office, which oversaw Rocky Flats, conducted an investigation of working conditions at the plant's beryllium machine shop to identify factors contributing to the disease case. The investigation, reported in October 1984, identified ventilation problems in the beryllium machine shop and hazards from performing certain operations outside of ventilation hoods, which are designed to collect and filter out airborne beryllium particles. The investigation also found that the affected worker had repeatedly been exposed to beryllium at levels greater than the permissible exposure limit of 2 micrograms per cubic meter of air (averaged over an 8-hour period).

During the 1984 investigation, the Rocky Flats facility began taking air samples from workers' "breathing zones" for the first time, using sampling devices placed on workers' shirts or lapels. Previously, the facility had used "area monitoring," in which sampling devices were placed on beryllium machines or other fixed locations in the work area. Exposed levels measured by personal breathing zone sampling were generally found to be higher than those measured by area samplers. Several reasons could account for the differing monitoring results, according to a 1996 research study and Energy officials. Fixed area monitors were not always well-placed to represent breathing zones.¹⁸ Also, fixed area monitors placed on or near machines may not capture exposures resulting from the use of hand-held tools or poor practices, such as shaking out cloths used to clean machines.

Following the investigation, Rocky Flats remodeled the ventilation system, eliminated most operations outside ventilation hoods, imposed procedures for cleaning tools and work areas, increased respirator use, and improved worker safety training. For example, starting in 1984, respirators were required to be worn in the Rocky Flats beryllium machine shop. According to officials,

workers exposed above the permissible exposure limit during the 1984 through 1989 era would have been protected by respirators. Energy officials indicated that this was an especially important interim corrective measure prior to completion of the remodeling project in September 1986. In addition, Rocky Flats hired a health and safety consulting firm to test the effectiveness of its remodeling by conducting "before-and-after" personal breathing zone monitoring. According to the consultant's study, samples taken in September and October 1986 (after the ventilation remodeling) showed lower average exposure levels and fewer samples were over exposure limits than was the case before the remodeling.

A second evaluation at Rocky Flats was conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, at the request of a union's local chapter. This evaluation, which was completed in May 1986 before the ventilation remodeling was completed, concluded that a health hazard existed from over-exposure to beryllium in the beryllium machine shop. The Institute recommended that Rocky Flats routinely use personal breathing zone sampling, conduct all beryllium machining under exhaust ventilation, and conduct medical monitoring of beryllium-exposed workers.

Improved Medical Testing

During the late 1980s, medical advances allowed for earlier and easier detection of chronic beryllium disease and sensitivity to beryllium. Beryllium sensitivity is an immune system reaction, similar to an allergic reaction, which can occur in some persons exposed to beryllium and that indicates an increased risk of developing chronic beryllium disease. A blood test for sensitivity, known as the beryllium lymphocyte proliferation test, was refined during the late 1980s. Another new diagnostic device, the flexible bronchoscope (a tubular lighted device), provided a less invasive means for examining the lungs for signs of chronic beryllium disease.

Energy and the National Jewish Medical and Research Center first began using the newly-developed blood test on a trial basis to identify workers sensitivity to beryllium at Rocky Flats in 1987. Beginning in 1991, Energy established medical screening programs for many additional current and former Energy employees, using this blood test. For those identified as having sensitivity to beryllium, Energy offered follow-up medical exams to determine whether chronic beryllium disease was present. Medical testing was provided in phases, due to the funding levels available, according to an official in Energy's Office of Occupational Medicine and Medical Surveillance. Specifically, blood testing for current and former Rocky Flats workers began on a routine basis in 1991, for current Oak Ridge workers in 1991, for former Oak Ridge workers in 1993, and for former workers at several other facilities where workers could have been exposed to beryllium in 1996 and 1997.

From 1984 through December 31, 1999, a total of 13,770 current and former workers (or about 69 percent of the estimated 20,000 workers who may have been exposed to beryllium) had been screened for definite or possible chronic beryllium disease. Through this testing, 149 Energy workers have been diagnosed with chronic beryllium disease. The Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety, and Health states that of the 149 workers, 89 have been diagnosed with chronic beryllium disease and another 60 have clinical findings presumed to be due to chronic beryllium disease. An additional 299 workers were identified as having sensitivity to beryllium; 219 of these workers do not have chronic beryllium disease; and 80 workers

had yet to complete clinical evaluations to determine whether or not they have the disease. Energy plans to continue offering testing to additional former workers.

Improved exposure monitoring

During the 1990s, Energy also expanded the use of personal breathing zone monitoring at its facilities. For instance, the Y-12 Plant at Oak Ridge took only 148 personal breathing zone samples prior to 1990, but took 1,448 personal breathing zone samples from 1990 through 1996. According to plant officials, beginning in January 1998 and continuing through fiscal year 1999, the Y-12 Plant sampled every beryllium worker on every shift and reported the results back to the workers the following day. More than 7,900 personal breathing zone samples were collected during this period, according to the plant's Industrial Hygiene Manager. The purposes of this monitoring effort were to make workers more aware of safety practices through immediate feedback, to identify any practices needing improvement, and to address the monitoring requirements states in a 1997 Energy notice on chronic beryllium disease prevention (described below). The Industrial Hygiene Manager for the Y-12 Plant told us that the plant plans to continue using personal breathing zone sampling routinely, sampling every worker in some locations and using a statistically based sampling approach in locations where more extensive data have already been gathered.

Energy established a rule on beryllium worker safety in 1999 and proposed a beryllium worker compensation program

Energy issued a rule in December 1999 establishing regulations to reduce beryllium exposure levels among its workforce, to reduce the number of workers exposed to beryllium, and to provide medical testing for exposed and potentially exposed workers. This rule on chronic beryllium disease prevention applied to federal, contractor, and subcontractor employees at Energy facilities where there is actual or potential exposure to beryllium. Energy has identified 17 facilities affected by the rule. These facilities have a total of about 8,100 workers who currently are associated with beryllium activities. According to officials in Energy's Office of Environment, Safety, and Health, each Energy facility is currently evaluating how it is affected by the new requirements in the rule. This review may result in identifying additional facilities that are affected by the rule. Several actions by Energy, such as a survey of its facilities to identify those with beryllium uses, preceded development of the final rule. In addition, in November 1999, the Secretary of Energy announced a legislative proposal to provide compensation for Energy workers who have contracted chronic beryllium disease or beryllium sensitivity.

Steps preceding issuance of DOE's rule

In 1996, Energy surveyed the contractors that manage and operate its facilities concerning the extent of beryllium usage and the estimated numbers of workers exposed to beryllium. Following the survey, in July 1997, Energy issued a notice to its offices requiring the development and implementation of programs to minimize workers' exposure to beryllium and to minimize the incidence of chronic beryllium disease. The Secretary of Energy stated that the programs were to be followed until an Energy rule on beryllium could be promulgated. The notice required that the programs include measures to monitor and reduce workers' exposures to beryllium. For example, Energy facilities were to access the hazards associated with each beryllium-related task. The contractors at these facilities were also required to offer voluntary medical testing for beryllium sen-

sitivity to their current workers. Seventeen Energy facilities developed chronic beryllium disease prevention programs in response to the notice.

Beryllium's rule on chronic beryllium disease prevention

Energy's December 1999 rule on chronic beryllium disease prevention includes a number of provisions designed to reduce beryllium exposure among its workers. First, the rule adopts OSHA's permissible exposure limit (currently 2 micrograms per cubic meter averaged over an 8-hour period) or a more stringent limit that may be promulgated by OSHA in the future. Second, the rule establishes an action level that is one-tenth of the permissible exposure limit, at which level certain controls must be implemented. Controls required when exposure reaches the action level include using respirators and protective clothing, periodically monitoring beryllium levels, setting annual goals for exposure reduction, and limiting work area access to authorized personnel. The rule requires that periodic monitoring occur at least quarterly and that facilities use personal breathing zone monitoring. In addition, some controls are required for any beryllium work, regardless of the exposure level. These include assessing hazards before beginning work tasks involving beryllium, providing safety training to workers, and providing respirators to any beryllium worker who requests one.

Energy's rule includes two other types of beryllium limits. First, the rule establishes limits for beryllium particles on surfaces such as floors, tables, and the exterior of machinery. Surface sampling must be conducted routinely, and specified housekeeping methods must be used to keep beryllium dust below the limits. Second, the rule sets limits called release criteria for beryllium-contaminated equipment or items. One limit is set for releasing equipment and items to other facilities that perform beryllium work. A second, more stringent level is set for releasing equipment and items for re-use outside of Energy facilities or in non-beryllium areas of Energy facilities.

Energy's rule requires that medical surveillance be provided, on a voluntary basis, to all current workers with known or potential exposure to beryllium. Beryllium workers' annual health evaluations are to include blood tests for beryllium sensitivity and a physical examination emphasizing the respiratory system. These health evaluations are to be provided at no cost to workers. If medical opinions so indicate, employers at Energy facilities must offer to remove workers from beryllium work and exposure. Individuals removed from beryllium work must be provided the opportunity to transfer to other work for which they are qualified or can be trained in a short period. If a position is not available, employers must provide such workers with their normal earnings, benefits, and seniority for up to 2 years.

Worker compensation proposal

In November 1999, the Administration transmitted a legislative proposal to the Congress to provide compensation for current and former Energy workers with chronic beryllium disease. The proposal covers employees of Energy and its predecessor agencies, Energy contractors and subcontractors, and beryllium vendors who sold beryllium to Energy. According to Energy officials who helped develop the proposal, employees of beryllium vendors were included because (1) Energy's contracts with vendors through the early 1960s generally required them to apply the same worker safety provisions that Energy used in its own facilities and (2) the vendors manufactured beryllium parts to government specifications and

for the sole use of the government. Affected workers would be eligible to receive reimbursement for medical costs, assistance for impairment or vocational rehabilitation, and compensation for lost wages. Workers with sensitivity to beryllium could also be reimbursed for medical costs involved in tracking their condition. In an announcement regarding this proposal, the Secretary of Energy noted that the proposal would reverse Energy's past practice of opposing and litigating most worker health compensation claims. The Administration's proposed legislation was introduced in the House and the Senate in November 1999. Two other bills concerning compensation for beryllium workers have also been introduced in the House and are pending.

Agency comments and our evaluation

We provided the Departments of Energy, Labor, and Defense with a draft of this report for their review and comment. They generally agreed with the information in the report and provided technical changes, which we incorporated as appropriate. Energy's written comments are in appendix II. An official of the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security orally concurred with the information in our report and suggested changes to clarify data on air monitoring and medical testing. An official of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration orally concurred with the information in our report and suggested changes to clarify terminology and to expand data on beryllium as a human carcinogen.

We will provide copies of this report to the Honorable William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Bill Richardson, the Secretary of Energy; the Honorable Alexis Herman, the Secretary of Labor; and other interested parties.

If you have any questions about this report, please call the contacts listed in appendix III.

David R. Warren, Director, Defense Management Issues.

List of Requesters

The Honorable Robert F. Bennett.
The Honorable Mike DeWine.
The Honorable John McCain.
United States Senate.
The Honorable Christopher Shays, Chairman, Subcommittee on National Security, Veterans' Affairs, and International Relations.
Committee on Government Reform..
The Honorable Tim Holden
The Honorable John McJorski.
The Honorable Marcy Kaptur.
The Honorable Jim Kolbe.
House of Representatives.

Appendix I

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

Our objectives were (1) to provide information on beryllium uses and risks and (2) to describe selected key events that illustrate the evolution of federal government responses to risks. More specifically, we were asked to examine key events at the Departments of Energy and Defense and at Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

To obtain information on beryllium uses and risks, we reviewed documentation such as agency studies and reports and interviewed officials at Energy, Defense, Labor, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration headquarters. We reviewed current and archived data and reports from the U.S. Public Health Service; the National Jewish Medical and Research Center, Denver, Colorado; Brush Wellman, Inc. (one of

two producers of beryllium in the United States) headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio; and the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

We selected key events during the 1960s through 1990s involving Energy, Defense, and Labor to illustrate agency responses to beryllium uses and risks. For each event, we screened current and archived records for documentation such as agency hearing records, studies, correspondence, and reports; we interviewed agency officials to identify agency positions; and we followed up on agency officials' interviews with other parties, to ensure the accuracy of our report.

For Energy, we contacted headquarters staff in the Offices of Environment, Safety and Health; the General Counsel; Defense Programs; Science; and Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology; and field staff from Defense facilities, including Rocky Flats, Colorado; Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant, Tennessee; Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico; and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, California. We obtained data on exposure sampling; working conditions; medical screening efforts; workplace controls; policy, practices, and procedures; and the rule, proposed legislation, and associated history.

For Defense overview information, we contacted staff from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security; the military service headquarters; the U.S. Army Center for health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland; the Navy Environmental Health Center, Norfolk, Virginia; the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Risk Analysis, Brooks

Air Force Base, Texas; and selected subordinate commands. Regarding beryllium rocket fuel, we also visited the Air Force Research Laboratory, Edwards Air Force Base, California. We obtained background information from the headquarters of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, its Langley Research Center, and the Chemical Propulsion Information Agency, Columbia, Maryland.

For Labor, we interviewed current and former staff from the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services' National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. We obtained and examined the complete transcript of the August-September 1977 informal hearing on beryllium, as well as key documents available from hearing records and related archive files.

This report was reviewed for classification by an authorized derivative classifier at Energy and was determined to be unclassified. We conducted our review from June 1999 through April 2000 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

Appendix II

COMMENTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Washington, DC, April 27, 2000.

David R. Warren,
Director, Defense Management Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, United States General Accounting Office, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. WARREN: In response to your April 7, 2000, request to the Secretary of En-

ergy, the Office of Environment, Safety and Health has reviewed the draft General Accounting Office report, RCED-HEHS-00-92, "OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH: Government Responses to Beryllium Uses and Risks" (GAO Code 709457.) The Office of Environment, Safety and Health has no essential comments requiring a reply from the General Accounting Office prior to the publication of the report. We found the report to be accurate. However, we are enclosing suggested comments for your considerations.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Lesley Gasperow, Director, Office of Budget and Administration, on 301-903-5577.

Sincerely,
DAVID MICHAELS, PH.D, MPH,
Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health.

Appendix III

GAO CONTACTS AND STAFF
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

GAO Contacts

Charles Patton, Jr., (202) 512-8412.
Uldis Adamsons, (202) 512-4289.

Acknowledgments

In addition to those named above, Bruce Brown, Rachel Hesselink, Arturo Holguin, Robert Kigerl, Lori Rectanus, Ronni Schwartz, George Shelton, and Glen Trochelman made key contributions to this report.