

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RIVERDALE COMMUNITY CENTER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, nearly three decades ago the rise in juvenile delinquency led to the creation of the Riverdale Community Center. It gave a growing number of teenagers, who were unsupervised after school because their parents worked, a place to go. Drug and alcohol abuse were escalating as was teen pregnancy. The dropout rate was also soaring. The Community Center was organized to provide a structure where, under adult supervision, teens could escape the dangerous crosscurrents of life in the streets.

A free weekend recreation center was opened, then an after school program was added followed by a drug outreach program. Soon more than 1,400 teens a year participated in the after school program. In addition, the Center developed an Adult and Youth Education Center where, for modest fees, families could take classes. This program now serves upwards of 1,000 children, adults and seniors in a variety of courses.

Today, more than 2,400 people a year enjoy the many programs at the Riverdale Community Center.

The Center is a marvelous example of what a community can do when faced with adversity. Instead of wringing their hands, the parents of Riverdale mobilized. The Riverdale Community Center every year serves more people in more and better ways. I am proud to honor the Center on the occasion of its annual brunch. I congratulate the Center for all it has accomplished—and it has accomplished an awful lot.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
KYLE W. HEMMINGER ON HIS
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Kyle W. Hemminger of Port Clinton, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Kyle's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2004. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men

and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Kyle is an outstanding student who brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Port Clinton High School, Kyle has attained a grade point average of 3.929, which places him seventh in his class of one hundred ninety-three students. Kyle is a member of the National Honor Society and has received the Port Clinton Kiwanis Scholar Athlete Award for his academic achievements.

Outside the classroom, Kyle has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Kyle served as Captain of the Varsity Football team and received the 1997 and 1998 Football Ironman Award. Kyle is also a member of the Varsity Wrestling team and was named the 1997–1998 Most Improved Wrestler. He is the President of the Leadership Council and is a member of the Varsity Club. In addition, Kyle has performed in several school musicals and was a delegate to Buckeye Boys State.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Kyle W. Hemminger. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Kyle will do very well during his career at West Point and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

URGING COMPLIANCE WITH HAGUE
CONVENTION ON CIVIL ASPECTS
OF INTERNATIONAL CHILD AB-
DUCTION

SPEECH OF

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 293, which urges all parties to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction to comply with this important treaty.

Too many countries that have signed this compact fail to live up to its principles. Whether by design or passivity, these countries act as obstacles to reuniting parents with their kidnapped children. This not only occurs with rogue nations that ignore basic human rights; but even some of our closest allies.

I first became acquainted with this issue several years ago when a constituent of mine lost his only daughter to his German ex-wife. She was only 15-months old. For the next four years, he followed the Hague Convention to the letter, going to court in the United States and Germany to seek custody and visitation with his little girl and paying child support. Though a German court eventually awarded him visitation rights, his wife refused to comply and the German courts failed to enforce their own orders.

I was shocked at the impudence of the German government in its application of the Hague Convention. But, I was even more outraged at the failure of our own government to act as an aggressive advocate on behalf of American parents. The U.S. State Department left him to fend for himself, which his ex-wife appeared to have all of Germany fighting for her. I wrote to Secretary Albright, our Ambassador to Germany, and others seeking assistance, but my efforts were rebuffed as well. This happens to thousands of American parents every year, with similar responses.

Today's resolution says with firm resolve that the U.S. Congress will stand with these left-behind parents and fight for their children. When we unite with these parents in even a simple "sense of Congress" resolution, things can change and these nations will take notice.

Because of all the publicity that has been generated by this resolution and this issue, my constituent's ex-wife finally complied with the court-ordered visitation. He saw his little girl for the very first time in nearly four years last week. As he puts it, "I can't see her very often, she doesn't speak English, and hardly knows who I am, but I feel like I just won the lotto."

That is what this is all about. I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 293.

HONORING MR. GEORGE WILLIAM
ROBERTSON

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and honor the life of Mr. George William Robertson, a community activist in Southern Maryland fondly known simply as "Capt. Billy." Captain Billy was born in Baltimore on June 12, 1930, and grew up along the Potomac River. By the age of 19, he knew he wanted to live off the water and built Robertson's Crabhouse on the Potomac shores in Popes Creek. He purchased Capt. Drink's restaurant in 1986 and renamed it Capt. Billy's.

Captain Billy had many pastimes. In addition to his passions for the water and his restaurant, he owned Dahlgren Hardware Store in Virginia, was an avid horseman as he loved to race with friend Gene Euster, a zealous golfer, and a competitive bowler who was inducted into the Duckpin's Bowler's Hall of Fame. Another passion of his was cars, which he turned into a business by opening Capt. Billy's Auto Sales on U.S. 301 in La Plata. Every week with friend Dave Phillips, he attended car auctions throughout Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Captain Billy was diagnosed with gall bladder cancer in January 1999. Together with his friend Robert Mitchell, he sponsored a benefit golf tournament in August 1999 at Swan Point Golf Course in Issue. Four hundred golfers participated to raise \$170,000 for the American Cancer Society. For his efforts to fight the

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

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

disease, the American Cancer Society recently presented him with the Excalibur Award. In addition, he was a strong supporter of Civista Medical Center in La Plata. At the first Mardi Gras Ball sponsored by the Physicians Memorial Hospital Foundation, he was crowned "King Rex." Robertson also raised money for Richard R. Clark Senior Center in La Plata, Hospice of Charles County, United Way of Charles County, Melwood, local churches and schools, and supported Newburg Volunteer Rescue Squad, Bel Alton Volunteer Fire Department, and local softball and baseball leagues.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to speak on behalf of the people of Southern Maryland, for whom Captain Billy gave so much, and thank him for all that he has done to benefit our community and our country. We remember his life and the memories he has given us. On behalf of the people of my district, thank you Captain Billy.

TRIBUTE TO REV. PHILIP RONAN BRENNAN

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the Reverend Philip Ronan Brennan, a remarkable man who has rendered fifty years of service to the people of my Northern California district.

Born on August 23, 1926, in Duleek, County Meath, Ireland, Philip Brennan was ordained as a Roman Catholic priest on June 18, 1950, in Dublin. His first assignment in the priesthood brought him half way around the world to the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, where he has made his home ever since. In fact, although born in Ireland, he is now a naturalized citizen of the United States. It is here that he has offered a lifetime of compassion and dedication to others.

Beginning as an associate pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Auburn, in 1950, Reverend Brennan later went on to serve as an assistant at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish in Truckee in 1952. In 1956, he began an eleven-year assignment as Chaplain at Folsom State Prison. In this capacity, he worked with some of those members of society who stand in the greatest need of comfort and guidance. Then, in 1967, Father Brennan advanced to the position of pastor at Corpus Christi parish in Tahoe City, California, which included the community of Squaw Valley.

In 1972, Rev. Philip Brennan returned to where he began his ministry, serving as pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Auburn. During his years in Auburn, he negotiated the purchase of a 16-acre parcel of land in North Auburn, moving St. Joseph's school from the overcrowded and landlocked downtown location to the new site. He also sparked the building of a large parish center there. Recognizing his contributions to the community, in 1988 the City of Auburn named Father Brennan as one of the 100 most influential people in the city's first 100 years of history.

After spending eight years at St. Joseph's, Father Brennan moved to the small town of Sutter Creek, serving for 12 years as pastor at

the Immaculate Conception parish. Since retirement in 1992, he has again settled in Auburn, where he continues to sit on Diocesan committees and acts as supply pastor throughout the Sacramento Diocese.

As he celebrates the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood on June 18, I join with his many friends and admirers in honoring the Rev. Philip Ronan Brennan for his tireless efforts to meet the temporal and spiritual needs of those he has served so faithfully. No price can be placed on Father Brennan's contributions. His influence cannot be measured. His service cannot be gauged. His is a life well-lived, and I thank him for it.

HONORING JOSEPH PURE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, America has been very fortunate in that many of its finest citizens come from other lands, landing here to better their lives or sometimes only hoping to escape persecution. Joseph Pure is a man who did both. He was born in Bialystock, Poland 75 years ago. Like all European Jewry he came face to face with the Holocaust. He is more fortunate than the great majority because he survived. He came to America from a ravished Europe and in the course of his life here founded the very successful Woodworking Specialty Company and several other firms. But he did not forget his heritage and was extremely supportive of Jewish causes. He also became a mentor for a generation of young.

His strong character, determination, industry and luck made him a success in America and made America a better country for his coming here. He is a shining example of how people can prosper under freedom, away from the evils of totalitarianism.

Joseph Pure was married to the late Alice Pure and they had three children, Samuel, Ellen and Vivian, and a granddaughter, Nicole Negrin. I want to wish him a very happy 75th birthday. He has earned the best wishes of all of us.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
THOMAS J. ROOT ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Thomas J. Root of Norwalk, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, TJ's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2004. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience

that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

TJ brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Norwalk High School, TJ has attained an astounding grade point average of 4.329, which places him fourth in his class of one hundred fifty-three students. TJ is a member of the National Honor Society, Principal's List, and was Captain of the Academic Challenge Team. Additionally, TJ placed fifth in the state on the Ohio Test of Scholastic Achievement Pre-Calculus exam. TJ was twice presented with the Huron County American Legion Award for his academic accomplishments.

Outside the classroom, TJ has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, TJ has earned letters in Varsity Football and Wrestling. TJ was also named Captain of both the Football and Wrestling teams. TJ has also been active in the Norwalk High School Key Club and with his church youth group.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Thomas J. Root. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that TJ will do very well during his career at West Point and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE SALT RIVER
PROJECT

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the profound and positive impact that Salt River Project has had on the state of Arizona for nearly 100 years. Accordingly, SRP has a deserving place in the Library of Congress' Local Legacies.

SRP is the oldest multipurpose federal reclamation project in the nation, older even than the state of Arizona. Named for the major river that supplies much of the water to the region, SRP is the Phoenix area's largest supplier of water and among the largest public power utilities in the United States.

SRP's history links people, events, and projects that have defined the progress and prosperity of Arizona. Its legacy includes the cooperative water management efforts of late nineteenth-century settlers, President Theodore Roosevelt's passage of the National Reclamation Act of 1902, and the construction of major dams throughout the state.

SRP continues to power the state of Arizona today, providing reliable and affordable electricity and water, and extraordinary community service. Its canals are an integral part of our environment and serve as a lasting reminder of SRP's importance to the future of our state.

For these and many others reasons, SRP is a fitting and valuable addition to the Library of Congress' Local Legacies.

TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL
COALITION FOR MISSING
ISRAELI SOLDIERS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the International Coalition for Missing Israeli Soldiers and its dedicated staff. Since its inception seven years ago, the Coalition has been the driving force behind the international grassroots campaign to return Israel's missing soldiers to their families. The Coalition's efforts, both in the United States and abroad, have jarred the conscience of the international community on behalf of American citizen Zachary Baumel and other missing Israeli soldiers. The single-minded dedication of this organization to assisting these soldiers, who were all but forgotten by the international community, has thrust the issue once again onto the international agenda.

In particular, Mr. Speaker, I want to note the successful lobbying efforts of the Coalition for legislation which I introduced in the Congress last year—H.R. 1175, "a bill to Locate and Secure the Release of Zachary Baumel, an American Citizen, and Other Israeli Soldiers Missing in Action." Some one hundred Members of the House joined as cosponsors of this legislation, and ultimately the bill passed with the unanimous support of both the House and Senate. It was signed into law by President Clinton last November. I took this action in order to raise the priority of this issue in American foreign policy and to facilitate a more concerted effort to bring closure on this matter after eighteen frustrating years.

Mr. Speaker, Israel is our closest ally in the region, and some years ago Israel played a major role in securing the release of American hostages being held in Lebanon. Now it is fitting that we repay this debt and take meaningful action on behalf of Israel's missing soldiers. Success in this endeavor can only strengthen American initiatives in the Middle East by creating an atmosphere that can make Middle East peace a reality.

On June 4th of this year, Mr. Speaker, the Coalition is sponsoring "An Evening of Conscience" Dinner in Jerusalem. I would like to take this opportunity to wish the Coalition great success at this upcoming event and recognize the leadership and staff of the Coalition for the remarkable work that has been done by Coalition Chairman Daniel Eisen, and the Coalition staff members: Brigitte Silverberg, Reya Eisen, Daniel Ehrlich, Daniel Grisarou, Gittel Davis, Gedalya Gower, and the Coalition's Washington representatives Alyza D. Lewin and Vicki Iseman.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere hope that Zachary Baumel, Tzvi Feldman, Yehuda Katz, and Ron Arad will soon be home with their families and that the dedicated staff of the Coalition will be able to find other uses for their many talents.

HONORING THE GRAND TRAVERSE
BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIP-
PEWA INDIANS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as a lifelong Michigan resident, and as Co-Chair of the House Congressional Native American Caucus, it gives me great pleasure to stand before you today to speak on the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. On May 27, the Band will celebrate 20 years of reaffirmed federal recognition.

The Grand Traverse Band has a rich and long history. The Tribe entered into treaties with the United States in 1836 and 1855. These treaties specified land for the Band, but a misinterpretation caused the Band's recognition to be terminated, and it was left without federal assistance. Determined to rectify this error, the Tribe applied for federal recognition under the Indian Reorganization Act in 1934, and was denied by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It tried again, unsuccessfully in 1943. Such disappointment would have deterred many people, but the members of the Grand Traverse Band were steadfast, and tried once again in 1978, and on May 27, 1980, the Tribe's federal recognition was finally reaffirmed.

In these twenty years, the Grand Traverse Band has served as a strong example of tribal self-determination. It has developed a strong socioeconomic system. It established a solid infrastructure, and provides many governmental services to its members. The Tribe is the county's largest employer and is among the largest employers within a six-county area. Northwest Michigan is a better place because of the Grand Traverse Band.

Last year, the Tribe was honored by Harvard University for providing an outstanding example of tribal governance. The Harvard Project on American Indian and Economic Development noted the Tribe's innovation in crafting a formula for distributing its share of the Michigan Indian Land Claim Settlement Award. I would also like to acknowledge George Bennett, Chairman of the Tribe, and my friend of more than 30 years, for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians have enriched many lives with its history and heritage. I consider myself a better person for working alongside the Tribe on many issues and concerns. After a long fight to achieve federal recognition, the Band has much to celebrate with this milestone. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to please join me in congratulating the Grand Traverse Band on 20 years of reaffirmed recognition of their retained sovereignty, and wishing it continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE HON. DENNIS
GILLETTE

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Dennis Gillette, who is retiring next month

as Executive Assistant to the President for Special Projects at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA.

It is his second retirement from his second successful career. In his spare time he has managed to hold elective office—he is currently Mayor of the City of Thousand Oaks—and support so many non-profit organizations that it would be impossible to list them all. He also holds a California Teaching Credential and has taught at numerous academies, universities and colleges.

Dennis began his CLU career in 1988, coming on board as Vice President for University Development. He also served as Vice President for Administrative Services/Treasurer prior to his current position. In this post, he is responsible for overseeing several major construction and design projects.

His first career was with the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, where he rose to the rank of Assistant Sheriff. During his 25 years of the Department, he also served on the original Thousand Oaks Police Department and was Chief of Police for the cities of Camarillo and Thousand Oaks.

Not surprisingly, Dennis Gillette has been awarded numerous honors over the years, including being named "Man of the Year" by the Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce in 1987, and the Conejo Valley Historical Society's "Don Triunfo" in 1992. He has received commendations from Optimist International and the Optimist clubs in Thousand Oaks and Camarillo. The cities of Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Simi Valley, Moorpark, and Ventura have honored his commitment to community.

Dennis' wife, Terry, is an English teacher for the Conejo Valley Unified School District. They have two daughters, Kristine and Lisa. In 1983, the Gillettes were named the Conejo Valley Family of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in wishing Dennis and his family the best on the occasion and his second retirement, and Godspeed for whatever new endeavors he may decide to undertake.

HONORING PARKCHESTER CHORUS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today we have something to sing about: The Parkchester Chorus is celebrating its 60th Anniversary. This wonderful group performed its first spring concert in 1940. It was founded by residents of the Parkchester housing complex and is the oldest choral group in the Bronx. Over the years the group has expanded from out of the Parkchester community and now draws its members from as far as New Jersey and Connecticut. But it still reflects its roots in the Bronx as a multi-ethnic, multi-racial, non-sectarian choral group.

The Parkchester Chorus is a vital part of the cultural life of the Bronx. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Chorus and its members for their valuable contributions to our lives and their gift of music to our parents, to us and to future generations. I offer them three musical cheers.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
LUKE M. TWAREK ON HIS AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Luke M. Twarek of Marblehead, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, Luke's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming midshipmen class of 2004. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Luke brings an outstanding mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class at the Naval Academy. While attending Danbury High School, Luke has attained a grade point average of 4.055, which places him first in his class of forty-six students. Luke is a member of the National Honor Society and is an Honor Roll member. Luke has received the PTO Academic Honors Award and Academic Letters in each year of high school. Clearly, Luke has performed very well in the classroom.

On the fields of competition, Luke has distinguished himself as a fine student-athlete. He is a four-year member of the Varsity Football team and served as co-captain during his senior season. Luke is also a four-year letter winner on the Varsity Track team. In fact, Luke has received the Scholar-Athlete Award in both football and track. Luke serves as Vice President of the Key Club, Editor of the school web page, and co-captain of the Academic Challenge Team. He is also a member of the Science Club, Concert and Pep Band, Computer Club, and has attended the Naval Academy Summer Seminar.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Luke M. Twarek. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Luke will do very well at the Naval Academy and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. It's important that we recognize the rich cultural heritage of the Asian and Pacific Islander American community and all that they have contributed to America and American values.

All too often, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans are subject to prejudice and acts of violence. We must resolve to repair the damage done from past abuses and recognize and promote equality in every walk of life and in every way possible.

I introduced H. Con. Res. 111 to condemn acts of prejudice against Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and support political and civic participation by Asian and Pacific Islander Americans. I'm also proud to be a co-sponsor of legislation and a signatory on several letters that recognize the rich heritage of Asian and Pacific Americans and condemn past wrongs.

I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in supporting the following bills and letters:

I'm proud to be a signatory of Representative MATSUI's open letter in support of the President's initiative aimed at preserving WWII-era Japanese American Internment Camps in order to educate future generations about lessons learned from this stain on our nation's history.

I'm proud to be a co-sponsor of the Wartime Parity and Justice Act which would grant relief to Japanese Latin Americans who were abducted and unlawfully interned in the United States but who were not included in the settlement agreement signed into law by the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

I call for the leadership of the Congress to move forward without delay on the nomination of Bill Lann Lee as the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights and I pay tribute to the efforts of the Administration to act on Bill Lann Lee's appointment.

The President has appointed more Asian Pacific Americans to Administration positions and the Federal bench than any other President. In June 1999, the Clinton-Gore Administration issued an Executive Order dedicated to improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans, the first of its kind ever issued. President Clinton has also proposed \$698 million for civil rights enforcement this year—a 13 percent increase—to prosecute criminal civil rights cases, including hate crimes and police misconduct.

Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have suffered unfounded and demagogic accusations of disloyalty throughout the history of the United States. We should, instead, recognize the rich cultural heritage of the Asian and Pacific Islander American community and all they have contributed to America and American values.

We must never forget the strength our country has gained from the inspiration, the hard work, the loyalty and the leadership of Asian and Pacific Americans and all they contribute to the strength of our nation.

RECOGNITION OF FRANK
McDUFFIE

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism of Mr. Frank McDuffie of Richmond County, North Carolina. Mr. McDuffie joined the Navy in 1935 at a time when America was trying to recover from the Great Depression and Europe was in turmoil.

Even in 1940, the war raging in Europe seemed distant and surreal. Yet on that infamous day in early December, 1941, Mr. McDuffie experienced the dark reality of war. Serving as a machine gun operator and a cook aboard the USS *Nevada*, Mr. McDuffie was stationed below the water line of the ship as Japanese bombers shelled Pearl Harbor. As the United States was violently thrust into World War II, Mr. McDuffie peered through the ship's window to see the Rising Sun flying overhead and felt the bombs' vibrations rumbling through the *Nevada*. Tied to the USS *Arizona* and the USS *Oklahoma*, the *Nevada* managed to cut loose while withstanding the onslaught of rapid machine gun fire and torpedo explosions. However, the damage to the ship was extensive enough that the ship had to run aground to avoid sinking at sea. Although the *Nevada* fared better than the *Oklahoma* and the *Arizona*, both of which sank due to extensive damage, she survived with a gaping hole.

Nearly 60 years after that foreboding day in December, 1941, I stand today before you to honor Mr. Frank McDuffie. Mr. McDuffie is illustrative of the Greatest American Generation—a generation of ordinary men and women asked to do the extraordinary. He joined the Navy to defend the United States and its citizens, to protect the freedoms and liberties we deem natural and God-given. Men like Mr. McDuffie, ordinary citizens willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for their country, provided the foundation on which America grew to become a great nation of unsurpassed international leadership and influence. Veterans like Mr. McDuffie are genuine American heroes. Mr. McDuffie's experience is a reminder that this country was built on the sacrifices of the brave men and women who served in the military to protect our country and preserve our freedom.

REMEMBERING A TRUE PUBLIC
SERVANT, MAYOR JOE BOB
PARKER

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to offer tribute to a man I've known all my life, a man who was a true public servant to the small Southeast Alabama community in which we both grew up.

On Monday, the Town of Midland City in my congressional district lost its mayor of many years and I lost a good friend. Mayor Joe Bob Parker passed away on May 22 while on duty at his post in the historic Midland City City Hall.

Joe Bob Parker served his community for 12 years as mayor and before that for 16 years on the city council. He was so popular with the people that he was unopposed for reelection to a fourth term in office at the time of his passing.

I'm sure that you could go anywhere in America and not find a more dedicated public official or a bigger friend. He was instrumental in promoting local industrial development, fighting for a much-needed senior citizens center, and was even recognized by the Alabama League of Municipalities with a Distinguished Service Award.

As a native of his beloved Midland City, I stand today with all the people of that south Dale County town in remembering and celebrating the life of one of the finest people I've ever known. Joe Bob Parker was special to us and he will be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, on May 23, 2000, I attended the funeral for the brother of Representative ANTHONY WEINER and was therefore unable to cast votes on rollcalls 214 through 223. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: "Yea" on rollcall 214; "yea" on rollcall 215; "yea" on rollcall 216; "yea" on rollcall 217; "yea" on rollcall 218; "yea" on rollcall 219; "yea" on rollcall 220; "yea" on rollcall 221; "yea" on rollcall 222; "yea" on rollcall 223.

HONORING THE UNITED HOCKEY LEAGUE CHAMPION FLINT GENERALS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Flint Generals of the United Hockey League, who on May 17, defeated the Quad City Mallards in the UHL Colonial Cup Championship series. The game was truly an exciting battle, which the Generals won 5-4.

The Generals are a great example of what hard work, determination, and a passionate desire to win can accomplish. The Generals celebrated a stellar regular season with a record of 51-14-9, and 111 points. This not only earned them the Central Division Championship, but they tied a league record for most points by a team in the regular season.

The Generals went on to score decisive victories in the postseason, defeating the Madison Kodiaks, the Muskegon Fury, and ultimately, a strong and skilled Mallard team.

The Generals are the third team to bring a professional hockey championship to my hometown of Flint, Michigan. They are another testament to the rich sports history that exists throughout the state of Michigan. Their accomplishments shine bright in the eyes of the people of Flint. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in saluting the Flint Generals. They are true champions.

HONORING THE WEST END MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN WOODBURY, NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on May 24, at 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., at West End Memorial School in Woodbury, NJ, Col. Larry Engel,

vice-president of the Battleship NJ Foundation, will present a print of the Battleship to the Woodbury School District, certificates to the three elementary schools and decals to the 178 fifth grade students who raised \$1,000 toward the Battleship's Museum. They stitched over 1,400 needlepoint bookmarks and sold them for \$.50 each, several Easter baskets which sold for \$5 each and issued \$1 stock certificates to local businesses and civic organizations toward their Battleship NJ Peace Project. The students will present an assembly to the 4th and 5th grade students dedicated to those who have served our nation. Col. Engel will address the group about the NJ and Memorial Day. The students will present a check to Col. Engel for the Museum.

HONORING REV. DOCTOR WILLY UPSHAW

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the year 2000 is significant for many reasons, not least of which is it being the 33rd anniversary of the Rev. Doctor Willie Upshaw's ministry at the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Yonkers, a church which has grown under his guidance and inspiration from 150 congregants to more than 2,500.

This incredible expansion of his ministry is based on his motto: "Its no secret what God can do." The high esteem and love given the Rev. Upshaw by his congregation is based on his devotion to his pastoral duties of visiting and praying with the sick and shut-ins, dedicating infants, bringing God to patients at nursing homes and to prisons, and helping those in the community who seek him out for his wisdom and counsel.

Under his pastorate eight deacons have been ordained and seven ministers licensed, of who two have been ordained. Under Pastor Upshaw the Youth Church Ministry has been organized, drawing large numbers of young people to membership through the Rites of Passage and Vows of Purity programs, movements made easier by the Pastor's great love for all youth.

Pastor Upshaw has also served in many other capacities: Executive Vice President of the Yonkers Council of Churches, President of the Ministerial Fellowship of Yonkers, member of the Central Hudson Baptist Association, and member of the Board of Directors of the Yonkers General Hospital among so many others.

Rev. Upshaw has contributed an almost infinite amount of goodness and decency into the community. I am proud to stand here today to congratulate him on 33 years of his pastorate and to wish him, and all of us, many more years.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JEREMY L. HAAS ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional district. I am happy to announce that Jeremy L. Haas of Sandusky, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Jeremy's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2004. Attending one of our nations' military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Jeremy brings a great deal of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class at the Air Force Academy. While attending Sandusky High School, Jeremy has performed very well in the classroom. Jeremy has attained a grade point average of 3.775, which places him eighteenth in his class of three hundred six students. Jeremy is a member of the National Honor Society. In addition, Jeremy has received Scholar Athlete Awards in Football and Track in each year of his high school career.

On the fields of competition, Jeremy has distinguished himself as a fine student-athlete. He is a member of the Varsity Football team and has participated in the summer running and weightlifting programs. Jeremy is also a member of the Varsity Track team. In addition, Jeremy has been involved with the International Club and the Sandusky High School band. He has also served as a volunteer at the Sandusky Community Police Station.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Jeremy L. Haas. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Jeremy will do very well at the Air Force Academy and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

POEM BY SOL AXELROD

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I share a poem written by my constituent Mr. Sol Axelrod of Commack, New York. The Merchant Marines have served as the sixth Armed Force of our country. Mr. Alexrod beautifully describes our ocean-going Patriots who have laid down their lives for freedom. As Memorial Day approaches, I thought his words were particularly moving.

Forever at Rest

Yes, I recall that fateful day

A mighty force had struck my way.
 Being thrust upon the deck,
 With no feeling in my legs or neck
 "Abandon ship", a voice cried out
 I could not stir or even shout.
 Merchant seamen rest in the deep
 Heroes in eternal sleep
 Confined to a watery grave.
 Patriots, bold and brave.
 To my regret, I cannot leave.
 There is no consolation for those who
 grieve—
 Here forever, I am part of the sea
 Having given my life for others to be free.

HONORING SHOLL'S CAFETERIA, A
 WASHINGTON LANDMARK

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on March 15th, I joined in celebrating the 72nd Anniversary of Sholl's Cafeteria. Sholl's is more than a business, it is a cherished institution here in Washington.

One of the most important family rituals is eating together, joining together in a daily activity and discussing the events of the day and the plans for tomorrow. Sholl's provides this family atmosphere by providing a place for people to come together in an enjoyable environment, to share in taking a meal and to experience the sense of community.

I would like to submit for the RECORD this poem by John Seitz which honors this Washington landmark.

ODE TO SHOLL'S CAFETERIA

(By John R. Seitz)

Come bring along a friend to Sholl's. Liver and onions! Ah, the rolls! The chopped steak is the best in town. Meatloaf or blue fish share renown.
 Some folks favor the rhubarb pie, While pumpkin's what others swear by. Something lighter you might savor Is egg custard, rich in flavor.
 Water glasses catch the eye, Sparkling with ice as you go by. Coffee is smooth from cup to cup. Whichever time of day you sup.
 Is breakfast the meal you prefer? The eggs will suit without demur. The bacon's always crisp and done. Waffles, pastries, suit everyone!
 So grab a tray, and step in line. The wait's not long, and you'll do fine. Sit where you like, then dig right in. Your tasty meal waits to begin.
 Now you may hear, a threatening fear, That Sholl's could close and disappear. It's true; but Sholl's is open now. It plans to stay, and here is how.
 Patrons, diners, all who should Step forth for food that's cheap and good, Promote tradition with these goals! So "S.O.S."—"Support Our Sholl's!"

EXTENSION OF REMARKS CONCERN FOR RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN IRAN

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, ten percent of the citizens of the Islamic Republic of Iran

are members of religious minority groups. According to the State Department and internationally recognized human rights organizations, religious minorities in Iran—including Sunni Muslims, Baha'is, Christians, and Jews—have all been the victims of human rights abuses simply because of their religious beliefs. More than half the Jews in Iran have been forced to flee that country since the Islamic Revolution of 1979 because of religious persecution.

Five Jews have been executed by the Iranian government in the past five years without having been tried. There has been an increase in anti-Semitic propaganda in the government-controlled Iranian press. I want to express my concern today about the thirteen Jews who Iran accused of spying for the United States and Israel and who were arrested on the eve of Passover in 1999. These men are currently being held in an Iranian jail, and although their trial has already begun, they have still not been charged. Further, contrary to Iranian law, these prisoners have been denied the right to choose their own legal counsel, and ten of the defendants have been imprisoned for over a year without any legal representation.

Both Israel and the United States have denied that these men were spying on their behalf. But, this case is indicative of the continued concern I have regarding Iran. From the continuing development of long range missiles capable of striking our friends and allies in the Middle East, to the lack of basic human rights and freedom for the Iranian people, to support for terrorists who target Americans, Iran persists in engaging in a pattern of unacceptable behavior that should cause all of us great apprehension.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing alarm about Iran. It is my hope that the thirteen Jews currently being held on these trumped up espionage charges will be accorded their basic legal rights and that Iran will release all prisoners held on the basis of their religious beliefs.

HONORING MILES LERMAN

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, after 22 years of dedicated service, Miles Lerman will soon step down as Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. At the end of this month, the Museum will be honoring his extraordinary commitment and dedicated leadership.

I would like to join with Mr. Lerman's fiends and colleagues in saluting his years of service not just to our Nation, but for the cause of justice throughout the world.

During World War II, Mr. Lerman fought the Nazis as a partisan in the forests of southern Poland. Upon liberation, he returned to his native town only to discover that his mother and siblings had been murdered.

After the War, he rebuilt his life in the United States, with his wife Chris, a survivor of Auschwitz.

Mr. Lerman has long been prominent in Jewish leadership, for which he received the medal of achievement from the Prime Minister of the State of Israel.

In 1980 he was appointed by President Carter to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, to build a national Holocaust Memorial Museum in tribute to the victims of Nazi atrocities. He has been reappointed repeatedly by subsequent presidents. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is now the largest single repository of Holocaust artifacts in the world outside of the Nazi death camps.

In recognition of these achievements, President Clinton appointed Miles Lerman as Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, the governing body of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Mr. Lerman has also received numerous honors throughout his distinguished career, including the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal, Department of the Army, May 15, 1996; The Inaugural Israeli Bonds Freedom Award, the State of Israel Bonds, Washington D.C. June 5, 1994; the Jules Cohen Memorial Award, Jewish Community Relations Council, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for commitment to international human rights and holocaust education, March 3, 1994; Commander's Cross (the highest award for a non-citizen of Poland), presented by Lech Walesa, President of the Republic of Poland, April 3, 1993; the Partisans Cross, for bravery in combat with the Nazi invaders, presented by the Order of Council of Ministers of the Republic of Poland, July 14, 1989; Prime Minister's Medal of Achievement, the State of Israel Bonds, June 10, 1973.

HONORING GERALD SQUILLANTE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, we all rely on hospitals for our well-being or more accurately, the people in our hospitals to help us through our individual crises. One of the people I want to praise today for his work is Gerald Squillante, Director of the School of Radiation Therapy at Montefiore Medical Center.

He has brought diligence and compassion to his work and he is being honored for his 18 years of service at Montefiore Hospital to the people of the community. He graduated from the first class of the School of Radiation at Montefiore Medical Center's Radiation Oncology Department.

For the 18 years he has served as Director he has dedicated his time and ability to assist the administrative, technical and medical staff whenever they have called on him. He has been a dedicated teacher who helped his students reach their goal of graduating from the School of Radiation Therapy Technology and to pass the National Registry Examination in order to obtain their licenses to treat.

He has shown care and devotion to his family, his colleagues and his students, who are known with affection as "Jerry's Kids".

I want to join with his family, friends, colleagues and students in wishing him the very best on his anniversary. The work he does certainly is a benefit to all of us.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
KRISTY L. LAUDICK ON HER AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young woman from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Kristy L. Laudick of Van Wert, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Kristy's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2004. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Kristy brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending the Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana, Kristy has attained a grade point average of 3.42, which places her thirty-third in her class of one hundred seventy-nine students. During her time at Culver Military Academy, Kristy has received several commendations for her superior scholastic efforts. During her first year, she received two Gold Cards. Kristy received two gold A's, one Silver Star, and one Gold Star during her second year. In addition, she received two Gold Stars and two Silver A's for her academic efforts in her third year.

Outside the classroom, Kristy has distinguished herself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Kristy has participated in Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Swimming, and Varsity Crew. She has also been involved in the Fall Rowing Club. Kristy has served as Secretary of the Campus Activity Board and is involved in the German Club, Band, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Kristy L. Laudick. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Kristy will do very well during her career at West Point and I wish her the very best in all of her future endeavors.

A SALUTE TO REDFORD HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Teresa Holder-Hagood and the students of Redford Senior High School in my home district of Detroit, MI. On Tuesday, April 25th, 2000, I was honored to visit with them to discuss various issues the students deemed important.

The memorable opportunity was prompted by a visit from Mrs. Holder-Hagoods' govern-

ment class to my Detroit office in September of last year. The students were quite inquisitive, following up their visit with over 40 written requests to join them and address an even larger assembly. After personally responding to each inquiry, I arranged to meet with several classes of Redford students on Tuesday, April 25th, 2000; we were joined by my former staffer Ms. Susan Watson, a "locked-out" Detroit newspaper columnist, now with the Detroit Federation of Teachers.

Our visit proved to be a very stimulating session, capturing the essential character of the Detroit secondary-school community. After I was introduced by Ms. Cheri Luster, a sophomore in the school's college-prep curriculum, I found myself fielding questions covering a wide array of topics ranging from racial profiling and mandatory minimums to voting and education reform. While the student's inquiries were incisive, I could not help but be struck by their outstanding scholastic accomplishments, including, but not limited to, two Grand Winners in Math and Science at the Metro-Detroit Annual Engineering Fair and Leading Contender at the National Competition on Robotics—2000. At a time in our nation's history when an understanding of information and technological innovation is critical, these successes deserve acclaim.

Moreover, Redford Senior High School is currently celebrating its 80th Anniversary; what more wonderful way to mark the occasion than to tout these victories in national scholastic competitions.

In the early 1900's, the very first teacher at Redford, Mr. Hiram Wilmarth, started out in a small white-frame school teaching only eight students. Today, Mrs. Holder-Hagood and her Redford colleagues, under the guidance of Principal Dr. Walter McLean, exemplify that same kind of solid commitment to student achievement. As senior teacher in the Social Studies Department and school "Special Events Chairperson", Mrs. Holder-Hagood, who has taught at Redford since 1969, utilizes the kind of educational tools which enrich her student's understanding of real world institutions in real time, through interactive experience.

This approach to education is epitomized by the "Close-Up" educational program here in Washington, D.C., which arranges "close-up" meetings with Capital Hill legislators. Several Detroit area schools, including Redford, have visited my Washington office through this wonderful program, and its benefits have been quite rewarding for all participants.

From its humble beginnings in 1907 of just under 10 registrants, Redford High School's enrollment has mushroomed to approximately 2,500 students from many backgrounds and cultures, and on Thursday, June 22, 2000, Redford High School expects to graduate over 250 seniors.

While there is still much reform needed in our nation's urban learning centers, stories of triumph, like those being authorized by Mrs. Teresa Holder-Hagood and the students, teachers, administrators and parents of Redford High, remind us of what true heroism really is and encourage us all. And so, on behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I want to wish Redford Senior High School of Detroit a Happy 80th Anniversary and every success in the coming years.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4528

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill H.R. 4528 the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000 along with the distinguished gentleman from New York, Mr. HINCHAY to encourage undergraduate college students to study abroad for a year.

Experts agree that a global society is the future. Americans, need to be prepared to operate in an international environment and economy. This preparation starts at a young age and is the reason I am introducing this measure to assist college-level students to study abroad.

I have been a longstanding supporter of international exchanges, because exposure to a world outside of one's home country leads to greater understanding. People-to-people contact—the seeing, doing and interacting—is how we learn to appreciate similarities, differences or other ways of doing things. I would like to expand the horizons of our college students by providing incentive grants to encourage lower income students to consider a study abroad program.

This bill authorizes \$1.5 million to be made available to the State Department for grants up to \$5,000. These incentive grants are to be used to cover travel or other expenses related to studying overseas. The intention of the bill is to provide current study abroad programs that exist on many college and university campuses with funds that would allow them to reach out to other students that may not have considered such study because of the added expense of travel and living.

Developed with the assistance of college administrators and exchange experts, it is hoped that a streamlined program will encourage more students to participate in an overseas educational program and motivate them to learn and apply a foreign language. These experiences and skills will serve them well as they enter the workforce. Through these grants, I want to help prepare and motivate our young students to participate in the international arena.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the full text of this important measure to be inserted at this point in the RECORD:

H.R. 4528

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of this Act to establish an undergraduate grant program for students of limited financial means from the United States to enable such students to study at institutions of higher education in foreign countries. Such foreign study is intended to broaden the outlook and better prepare such students of demonstrated financial need to assume significant roles in the increasingly global economy.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN STUDY BY AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENTS OF LIMITED FINANCIAL MEANS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of appropriations and under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, the Secretary of

State shall establish and carry out a program in each fiscal year to award grants of up to \$5,000, to individuals who meet the requirements of subsection (b), toward the cost of 1 academic year of undergraduate study at an institution of higher education in a foreign country.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—An individual referred to in subsection (a) is an individual who—

(1) is a student in good standing at an institution of higher education in the United States (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965);

(2) has been accepted for an academic year of study at an institution of higher education outside the United States (as defined by section 102(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965);

(3) is receiving any need-based student assistance under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

(4) is a citizen or national of the United States.

(c) APPLICATION AND SELECTION.—

(1) Grant application and selection shall be carried out through accredited institutions of higher education in the United States or combination of such institutions under such procedures as are established by the Secretary of State.

(2) In considering applications for grants under this section, priority consideration shall be given to applicants who are receiving Federal Pell Grants under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

The Secretary of State shall report annually to the Congress concerning the grant program established under this Act. Each such report shall include the following information for the preceding year:

(1) The number of participants.

(2) The institutions of higher education in the United States that participants attended.

(3) The institutions of higher education outside the United States participants attended during their year of study abroad.

(4) The areas of study of participants.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated \$1,500,000 for each fiscal year to carry out this Act.

SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

CONGRATULATING KAHUKU HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my heartiest congratulations to the students at Kahuku High and Intermediate School in Kahuku, Hawaii on winning the Region 1 award at the We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution national finals held in Washington, DC, May 6–8, 2000.

This prestigious award is presented to the school in each of five geographic regions with the highest cumulative score during the first two days of the national finals. These outstanding young people competed against 50 other classes from throughout the nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideas and values of American constitutional government.

The Kahuka High and Intermediate team—Cady Albert, Stephen Allred, Amber Alvarez,

Brandon Barker, Ben Burroughs, Travis Cameron, Lauren Day, Nicole Francisco, Janae Hanson, Shin Ho, Erik Kokkonen, Michael Lau, Jason Ludlow, Shantel Musick, Ryan Nielson, Jon Robertson, Steven Robertson, Heather Sandison, Mea Shimizu, Jennifer Sickler, and Noa Walker—bring great honor to their school, their teachers, and to the State of Hawaii. I also take this opportunity to commend their teacher Sandra Cashman, State Coordinator Lyla Berg, and District Coordinator Sharon Kaohi on this marvelous achievement.

I want to recognize and thank the Center for Civic Education, which conducts the We the People program, for providing this wonderful program for our young people. We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution reaches more than 26 million students at elementary, middle, and high schools.

HONORING CALVIN B. ALDERMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Calvin B. Alderman on the occasion of his graduation from Medgar Evers College.

Mr. Alderman, born in Brooklyn, NY, was raised singularly by his mother. In 1986 his son, Calvin B. Alderman, Jr., was born. Two years after the arrival of his son came the birth of his daughters, Shakeera and Traquana. In an effort to support his children, he worked as a carpenter's apprentice for the Yonkers Construction Company for 5 years until he was shot three times in a robbery attempt. The incident left him with a spinal cord injury, requiring extensive physical rehabilitation therapy and a wheelchair for mobility.

After his recovery he became determined to improve the quality of his life. He began researching the rights of disabled persons. He discovered that many people with disabilities were unaware not only of their civil rights but, of federal, state, and city agencies which provide services to help ease the burdens of the disabled. He saw his accident as a way of getting him to help others with disabilities. After his research, he decided to attend Medgar Evers College, and began to advocate for the disabled.

He entered the CUNY B. A. Program at Medgar Evers College and will now graduate in June 2000. While enrolled at Medgar Evers College, he became actively involved in student organizations. He was the president of the Differently Abled Student Association (DASA) from 1995 to 1998, a nondelegate in the University Student Senate (USS) from 1996 to 1998, and a student advocate from 1995 to the present. He has also served as the vice president of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Alpha Phi Chapter, from 1997 to 2000, a member of the Public Administration/Public Policy Club from 1996 to 1997, and the vice-chairman of Disabled Student Affairs from 1998 to 1999 to name some of his affiliations.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the accomplishments of Calvin Alderman, and wish him continued success in his advocacy and future ventures.

IN HONOR OF JOHN A. ERTOLA

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a man who is a pillar of the San Francisco community. John A. "Jack" Ertola is receiving an award as "San Franciscan of the Year" from the San Francisco Forum, and it is an honor that he richly deserves.

Born in San Francisco's North Beach area, Jack learned the value of community service at home. His mother, Marie, was active in community groups, and his father, Charlie, became a member of the board of supervisors. Jack absorbed these lessons well and has been a longtime servant to his country and community.

As a young man, Jack answered the call of duty and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After attending the College of Marin, he graduated from Stanford University in 1951. He continued his education at the University of San Francisco Law School and earned his juris doctor degree in 1954.

Jack went into the private practice of law. In 1964, he was appointed to the San Francisco board of Supervisors. He became president of the board of supervisors in 1968.

When he left the board of supervisors in 1970, he became a Superior Court Judge. In this capacity he served the people of San Francisco honorably for 20 years. In 1987, he was selected as Judge of the Year by the San Francisco Trial Attorneys. Jack has been a member of the California Veterans' Board and was counsel to the board president of the San Francisco Fire Commission. He has also served on the University of San Francisco Law School Board and the Lawyers' Club Board of Directors.

Outside of his government and professional activities, Jack has been an active member of the community. He served on the board of directors of the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Association and as president of the Golden Gate Neighborhood and Settlement House Association. He won the Jane Addams Award for community service on the 50th anniversary of the Settlement House movement. He has been a member of the North Beach Lions, the Columbus Civic Club, Easter Seals, and the Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association. He also served as chair of the California Boys State Program.

Jack is married to Shirley Clark Ertola and has a son, Chad, and a daughter, Jill. His children are both married and have given him four delightful grandchildren.

Jack Ertola is an upstanding citizen of San Francisco, and his life of civic engagement is an example to us all. I commend him on his distinguished career and congratulate him on this award.

RETIREMENT OF LT. LYNDON WILMOT OF THE COVENTRY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Lieutenant Lyndon Wilmot on the

occasion of his retirement from the Coventry Police Department following nearly 31½ years of dedicated service.

Lieutenant Wilmot joined the Coventry Police Department on January 9, 1969. Over the next three decades, he rose through the ranks and served in a number of important leadership positions. He attained the rank of Lieutenant in 1986. He served as the senior supervisor for many years and as the liaison between the Department and a correctional institute in nearby Mansfield. Throughout his tenure, he was a very active member of the Coventry Police Benevolent Association. As a police officer, Lieutenant Wilmot provided an extraordinary level of service and commitment to the community. His involvement in the Benevolent Association demonstrated his commitment to his fellow officers and their families. Lieutenant Wilmot also played an important role on behalf of his colleagues as a leading union member.

During his career, Lieutenant Wilmot participated in a number of important investigations and took countless actions to protect public safety and property. He took a leading role in investigating an extremely rare homicide in Coventry several years ago. His retirement offers the Department and the community the opportunity to reflect on the totality of his service on a daily basis.

Lieutenant Wilmot is known to residents as much more than a police officer. According to his close friend and colleague, Lt. Walter Sotenski, he is an ardent bass fisherman and an active member of the Coventry Historical Society. As a life-long resident of Coventry, his roots run very deep in the region.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join residents of Coventry in wishing Lt. Lyndon Wilmot the very best in the years ahead.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
BRIAN J. DYER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Brian J. Dyer of Sandusky, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Brian's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2004. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Without question, Brian brings a special mix of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Perkins High School in Sandusky, Brian's academic diligence has helped him to attain a grade point average of 3.66. Additionally, Brian is a member of the National Honor Society.

Outside the classroom, Brian has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Brian is a three-year letterman on the Perkins Swimming team and a two-year letterman on the Cross Country team. His efforts on the field and in the classroom helped Brian to receive the Scholastic Award in each year he has participated in both sports. Brian has also been active in the Pep Band, Jazz Band, and Brass Choir. To further demonstrate his commitment to our nation's military, in the summer of 1999, Brian enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard and is a private in Troop 2C/107th Cavalry.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Brian J. Dyer. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Brian will do very well during his career at West Point and I wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF KATHLEEN
McMAHON

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, in a special message to the Congress in 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson wrote, "Every child must be encouraged to get as much education as he has the ability to take. We want this not only for his sake—but for the nation's sake." Kathleen McMahon took that message to heart and dedicated her life to the noble profession of teaching.

As a Chicago Public Schools teacher for 34 years, she enriched the lives of countless students and "encouraged" them in the classroom. She knew from the start that a life of teaching is well worth the rewards. Her time and energy were the building blocks that helped many students thrive and grow.

On behalf of all her students, their parents, and her colleagues, I wish to commend Kathleen McMahon for her years of dedication and her immeasurable contribution to our community and wish her well in retirement. We are thankful for all her hard work teaching our nation's future leaders. I am sure that she will be missed by all at Norwood Park School.

HONORING NEW MEXICO'S
ANCHORMAN, DICK KNIPFING

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring to your attention Dick Knipfing, a man who has faithfully served New Mexicans for 36 years. He has served our state as a news anchor on all three of our largest local channels and has dedicated his life to informing his viewers on issues important to New Mexico. He is known and respected in New Mexico as a real "pro" who knows more about New Mexico history, politics and policy than most of the people he covers every day.

In 1996, he was inducted into the Silver Circle Society, which is one of the more prestigious honors in his field. In the late eighties, he was elected by his peers as one of the "Best in the Business" and listed in the "Washington Journal Review."

To many New Mexicans, Dick is the one they rely on to give them the straight story, every night. "Dick always believed that news is a service, not a product," said former co-worker and reporter Janet Blair. Indeed, Mr. Knipfing's dedication to serving the public will be solely missed.

We wish him the best in all future endeavors. He will always have a place in the hearts of New Mexicans for his integrity, his commitment to children and families, and his love of New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, television news has changed a lot in the last 36 years. It's a 24-hour a day, multi-channel business where, in some places, form is more important than substance. Dick Knipfing has always been a man of substance giving New Mexicans the truth with integrity. He will be missed.

Please join me in honoring and thanking Mr. Dick Knipfing, New Mexico's anchorman, for all he has done.

HONORING JAMES V. KIMSEY,
FOUNDING CEO AND CHAIRMAN
EMERITUS OF AMERICA ONLINE
INC., ON THE COMPANY'S 15TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who personifies America's pioneer spirit, exemplifies its entrepreneurial vision, and, most importantly, stands as a sterling example of the uniquely American practice of philanthropy.

A son of the Nation's Capital, James V. Kimsey is the Founding CEO and Chairman Emeritus of America Online, Inc., as well as the Chairman of the AL Foundation and the Kimsey Foundation. He studied at Georgetown University on an honors scholarship and graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point before serving in the United States Army as an airborne ranger, rising to the rank of Major. He received numerous awards for service and valor during one term in the Dominican Republic and two in Vietnam.

The list of honors bestowed upon this great American literally goes on and on. Mr. Speaker, allow me to mention just a few: 1994 Business Leader of the Year, Washingtonian Magazine, KPMG Peat Marwick High Tech Entrepreneur of the Year, American Academy of Achievement Golden Plate Award. The first annual "I Have a Dream Award." Presidential appointments to the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees and the West Point Board of Visitors. Chairman of the Washington Millennium and Bicentennial Commission. Chairman of the Board of The Washington Opera and member of the National Symphony Orchestra's executive committee.

But the accomplishment for which I rise today, Mr. Speaker, is that for which Jim Kimsey is best known—his visionary leadership in founding the company now called AOL

on May 24, 1985. After leaving the Army, Kimsey took his self-described "airborne-ranger-infantryman" mentality into the D.C. business world, opening restaurants, dabbling in real estate, and creating a bank-holding company. Then, in the early 1980s, he got involved in ControlVideo Corporation, a small firm that downloaded video games over the telephone—a venture he now calls a "first-class fiasco."

Always a step ahead of the curve, Kimsey, along with his partners, opted to move CVC's assets to another company rather than kill it. CVC became Quantum Computer Services, and from there—with the help of some venture capital—AOL was born. In a magazine interview last year, Mr. Kimsey recalled those anxious days, and it struck me on reading the piece how any stakeholder would love to have him at the helm:

"We were like a little boat speeding through the bayou. We didn't want anyone to see how big we were getting before we broke out into the open. Our challenge was to keep our eyes on where the river was flowing. . . . Because we kept a low profile, we went unnoticed by the big boys until we were a major force in the market."

Beyond such David-and-Goliath strategizing, furthermore, is a born leader who holds steady to the American ideal of self-reliance. Witness another excerpt from the magazine interview:

"When you are in battle, it's your job to accomplish your mission and bring your man back alive. There's no excuse if you don't. If you're a business CEO and you didn't figure out where the universe was moving, or what it takes to make your company successful, there's no excuse. When you have the mindset that there is no excuse, you will be successful."

Successful indeed, Mr. Speaker, AOL and Jim Kimsey are now American institutions because they represent the very best of America in the Information Age: innovation, energy, risk-taking. I am proud to have had the chance to spend a good deal of time with this man, for I have learned much from him. He is the kind of person who reminds us, when we are in his presence, of Melville's words: "It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation."

And now—now that he has accomplished all that an American businessman could dream of accomplishing—now he has turned his attention to serving America, much as he did during his years at West Point and his three tours of duty. "Having money," Kimsey has said, "doesn't necessarily mean that you're successful. It just means that you were lucky."

That selfless perspective was apparent back in Vietnam, when he founded an orphanage he continues to support today. And it is apparent now as he takes on new philanthropic endeavors—from the dozens of non-profit boards he sits on to the message of education in the Internet Age that he spreads to teachers, students, parents and communities across America. Jim Kimsey believes as I do, that if we address the plight of disadvantaged children early, many of our society's problems will all but disappear. One of the challenges he's taken on is to figure out how technology can ameliorate the problems of education. During a trip to Vietnam just a couple years ago, he even dedicated a school in Dong Ha to which he continues to donate money.

Blink your eyes and there he is, deep in the mountains of Colombia, talking to leaders of that country's Revolutionary Armed Forces,

trying to improve communication between their camp and that of Colombian President Pastrana. Blink your eyes once more and there again is Kimsey, serving as host at a fundraiser for one of the many charities to which he lends his name, energy and know-how.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to extend my sincere congratulations to my friend Jim Kimsey on the 15th anniversary of one of America's great companies. I want to thank him for all that he has given to the greater Washington area, and all of the United States. Due largely to his foresight and determination, America is leading the way in the Information Age. Even more importantly, I want to thank him for serving as a model of corporate philanthropy.

FREE MARKET EDUCATION

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, good schools are an essential element of any thriving community. In Colorado, we are doubly blessed with several good schools and many great communities.

As a father of five, I take the issue of education personally. My wife and I have chosen to educate all of our school-aged children in the Poudre School District. It's a topic to which the majority of my work in the United States Congress has been devoted, and I'm most encouraged by the common-sense reforms taking place back home in Colorado.

Governor Bill Owens has elevated the goal of improving public schools to statewide priority status. His is a challenging initiative of high expectations and structured accountability. The exercise is aimed at achieving more effective stewardship of the considerable resources Coloradans pour into public education, but even more so to afford greater opportunity to all students through real academic success.

Many innovative approaches to education in northern Colorado have become blueprints for academic success across the state. Consequently, Mr. Speaker, Colorado is fast becoming a national template for education overhauls in other states, and Gov. Owens' quality initiative is commanding the attention of governors coast to coast. Colorado's higher academic standards, community involvement, and innovative free-market solutions, have also become the basis for my most successful pro-child victories in the Congress.

Colorado is confirming for the rest of America that empowering states and school districts is the key to guaranteeing every student succeeds and that no child is left behind. Americans tend to agree, but the forces in Washington advocating greater consolidation of education authority here and federalizing our schools are nonetheless powerful.

Colorado is confirming for the rest of America that empowering states and school districts is the key to guaranteeing every student succeeds and that no child is left behind. Americans tend to agree, but the forces in Washington advocating greater consolidation of education authority here and federalizing our schools are nonetheless powerful.

"Before we continue spending more tax money trying to find a solution to [America's education] problem, maybe we need to understand the problem better," said Joey Lopez of Ft. Collins, Colorado recently when he testified before Congress. A seventeen-year-old Ft. Collins High School senior, Lopez understands what Americans intuitively know: It's going to take much more than cold hard cash to improve our nation's schools. It's takes the innovation, hard work, and committed leadership of parents, teachers, students, and elected officials everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, most Coloradans agree with Lopez. He typifies our independent, western spirit which is among the chief reasons our state ranks well for its ongoing efforts to improve education. Like other top-performing states, including Texas, Michigan, Florida, and North Carolina, Colorado excels not just because of the money it spends, but because of its dedication to innovative and proven education policies producing solid results for children.

Where schools are concerned, Coloradans have never been content to entertain trendy national initiatives. Our history has rather persuaded us America's education challenges will not be answered in Washington, D.C. by federal agents who do not know the names of Colorado's principals and teachers, much less the names of the children. Enduring solutions are more likely to be found in diverse communities throughout each of America's fifty states, just as the U.S. Constitution suggests.

That neither words "education" nor "public schools" are mentioned anywhere in the Constitution is a fact that surprises many, Mr. Speaker. Responsibility for educating American youngsters was deliberately and wisely reserved to the states and to the people—and it still is.

America's Founders understood well the value of a locally controlled framework of schools, and the perils of a federally co-opted one. They knew it was better to have decisions made independently by the several states, each free to innovate and duplicate successful methods rather than subsist under one mandate for all.

Following decades of increasing federal meddling in our local schools, Americans have learned all too well how perceptive our Founders were. Since 1980, for example, the federal government has funneled over \$400 billion through the U.S. Department of Education bureaucracy. Unfortunately, the percentage of money actually making it back to classrooms is far less.

Coupled with the modest amount of federal funds local schools receive each year is a mountain of red tape, regulation, and costly unfunded mandates foisted upon each public school administrator. Washington provides about seven percent of an average school's budget, yet the amount of contingent paperwork and compliance burdens requires an estimated 48.6 million hours of paperwork each year.

A growing number of my colleagues in Congress are of the opinion that empowering states and local communities is the surest way to help states reestablish for themselves the finest schools in the world—schools held accountable to the parents who rightly demand real results for their children.

Last October, Mr. Speaker, the House passed important legislation providing states

and local school districts more control and flexibility. Commonly known as "Straight A's," the Academic Achievement for All Act gives states the freedom to raise student academic achievement through more flexibility in spending federal education funds. This bill is a giant step in the right direction. Rather than relying on Washington-based programs, Straight A's gives states and local school districts the freedom to focus resources on locally proven efforts and solutions.

This is the kind of reform Colorado and every state needs and wants. In a letter to Congress, Gov. Owens stated,

Colorado has schools that are blazing a trail of change. More schools and states need greater flexibility in their use of federal dollars. As the father of three children who attend three different public schools, I am proud to put my full support behind Straight A's. This legislation will allow the diverse areas, schools and people of Colorado to decide what they need most for their schools.

Placing more authority in the hands of local school boards will also ensure more dollars end up in classrooms. Meanwhile, officials at the U.S. Department of Education have been so busy devising and enforcing their various rules, and restrictions that they have failed to account for the billions in precious tax dollars entrusted to them to help promote education.

As part of an ongoing effort to root out waste, fraud, and abuse in federal government, my colleagues and I on the Education Committee have uncovered evidence of widespread financial mismanagement at the Department of Education. Eight months behind schedule, the department last November released a financial report in which its auditors determined the agency's 1998 books were not auditable. In other words, the department could not account for how it managed its \$120 billion budget that year.

At an investigative hearing on Capitol Hill in March, we also found, amount other things, evidence the department violated the Credit Reform Act by hoarding \$2.7 billion in education funds improperly in an internal account. In addition, we're currently monitoring an ongoing Justice Department investigation of a computer and electronic equipment theft ring operating within the department.

Mr. Speaker, such widespread and chronic mismanagement is clearly not in the best interest of our children. That is why in March the House unanimously passed legislation I authored directing the General Accounting Office—the federal government's financial investigative arm—to conduct a comprehensive fraud audit of the Department of Education.

Students, parents, teachers, and schools all suffer when scarce resources are lost in the bureaucracy instead of invested properly in education. It is past time for Congress to end such waste and abuse and force the Department of Education to place the interests of America's schoolchildren first.

Mr. Speaker, Colorado is doing just that. One of our state's most innovative and successful efforts has been the creation and promotion of charter schools. Currently benefiting thousands of Colorado students (with thousands more on waiting lists), charter schools are public schools created through a contract, or charter, with local school agencies. They are open to all children. Colorado's 68 charter schools are afforded a high level of autonomy and flexibility over curriculum and operation in exchange for maintaining high standards for

student achievement and unique goals laid out in the charter. As founding parent of the Liberty Common School, a charter school in Fort Collins, I have personally experienced the positive results of a good charter school community.

Dr. Katherine Knox, headmaster of Liberty Common School, recently testified before the House Education Committee and underscored the importance of local autonomy. According to Knox,

Though we all want quality in funding, and accountability for results, we don't want strings attached that allow subtle and increasing federal direction and control of local schools. The momentum for charter schools comes locally, and the attitude and culture is positively different in a good charter school because of the local control.

Ensuring a successful and well-funded education system in each of America's fifty states is important in the nation's effort to leave no child behind. But this laudable goal will never be attained until we first remove the shackles of an intrusive and unaccountable federal bureaucracy indifferent to the needs of our children. Local control is our best hope for education excellence, Mr. Speaker.

As a member of the United States Congress, I relish the chance to do everything within my elected capacity to ensure every child in America has access to the best education possible. My primary guide will continue to be the common-sense opinions of Coloradans, our home-spun western orientation for quality, and our abundant love for our families. These are the important components of a successful free-market education system established and championed by the great state of Colorado.

HONORING THE INGLEWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, it is with extreme pride that I come to the floor of the House of Representatives today. I want to share the fantastic accomplishments of some of my constituents—the students, parents, teachers, administrators and school board representatives of the Inglewood Unified School District in Inglewood, California.

A recent Los Angeles Times article, "Inglewood Writes the Book on Success: It's Elementary Schools Draw Experts Studying How Poor, Minority Kids Get Test Scores as High as Beverly Hills': Keys Include Phonics, Constant Testing, Intensive Teacher Training" by Duke Helfand highlights the phenomenal educational achievements by Inglewood's students. The article extensively chronicles the success of this urban school district.

The article explains that Inglewood's Elementary school students, 98% of whom are African-American and Latino, have scores on the Stanford 9 educational test in the top half of the list of all California school districts. These students are not considered the "norm," the majority qualify for school lunch programs, have learned English as a second language and are being taught by a 45%

uncredentialed elementary school teacher force. These students are defying all of the rules governing poverty, parental achievement and educational attainment.

An educational environment exists where the administrator defied the state educational guidelines and stuck to the basics—phonics drills, writing exercises and children's literature. The schools did not follow the move toward bilingual education and continued teaching in English only, according to the article. The administrators involved the parents in their child's education, keeping in mind the parent is a child's first educator.

Inglewood elementary schools have shattered the myths about poverty and education. I am excited to be here today to share that fact with my colleagues. Public schools work. The level they have reached is the level we expect from all our children regardless of where it is they happen to live. In Inglewood, educational excellence is the norm.

In today's news, we usually only hear about problem situations with our young people. We often do not hear enough about the hard work of the majority of our own constituents. We do not hear the success stories of the young people, their parents, teachers and administrators. I am pleased to be able to share this exciting success story with you. I thank Mr. Helfand, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer, for writing this informative article. I have attached a copy of the complete article for inclusion at this time.

Congratulations, Inglewood Unified School District! You have made us all proud. Continue to keep up the excellent academic achievements you have begun. We are a better community for your accomplishments.

[From the Los Angeles Times, April 30, 2000]

INGLEWOOD WRITES THE BOOK ON SUCCESS; ITS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS DRAW EXPERTS STUDYING HOW POOR, MINORITY KIDS GET TEST SCORES AS HIGH AS BEVERLY HILLS': KEYS INCLUDE PHONICS, CONSTANT TESTING, INTENSIVE TEACHER TRAINING

(By Duke Helfand)

It is an axiom of education that the best public schools are found in affluent suburbs. Parents shopping for a top-tier campus, however, might want to take note of a more urban exception—Inglewood.

The city's elementary schools, many located under the landing path of Los Angeles International Airport, are filled with poor students who qualify for free lunches and who learn English as their second language. Yet they have leaped to the top ranks of California's new Academic Performance Index, defying the rule that equates poverty and minority status with low achievement in the classroom.

Inglewood's elementary students—virtually all Latino or African American—have produced Stanford 9 test scores that equal levels found in more upscale cities. In some cases, the Inglewood schools register math scores surpassing those in largely white enclaves of affluence such as Irvine, Malibu and Beverly Hills.

That success seems attributable to reforms that feature an intensive focus on basic reading skills, constant testing to detect students who fall behind and relentless teacher training. The model was perfected at two campuses that eschewed bilingual education and social promotion when both were popular, and that stuck with basic phonics when the rest of the state turned to a "whole language" approach to reading.

"You don't have to be white and rich to learn," said Nancy Ichinaga, principal at Bennett-Kew Elementary, one of the district's top-performing schools, along with Kelso Elementary.

Kelso earned a 10 and Bennett-Kew a 9 on the state's new accountability index, which ranks schools from 1 to 10 on the basis of their Stanford 9 test scores. In all, eight of the district's 13 elementary schools ranked among the top half of campuses in the state, shattering the crippling link between poverty and low academic performance.

Decades of research have shown that income and family background are the surest predictors of academic achievement. Students from low-income homes where parents have limited education consistently earn lower grades and test scores. Race and ethnicity are also closely associated with performance, with black and Latino students lagging well behind whites and Asians.

The achievement gap between poor and affluent, as well as white and minority, has long been the glaring failure of public education. Since President Lyndon Johnson launched his Great Society programs in the 1960s, the federal government has pumped billions of dollars into schools that serve the poorest children. Nonetheless, the gulf has persisted.

Inglewood's campuses fit the profile of schools that usually fail. They are among the most disadvantaged in the state when it comes to student poverty, lack of English skills, numbers of uncredentialed teachers and other obstacles associated with low performance, a Times study of state data shows.

Nearly three-fourths of Inglewood elementary students qualify for subsidized lunches, the leading measure of poverty among schoolchildren. More than one-third are not fluent in English. Latinos and African Americans account for 98% of the students. Forty-five percent of the elementary school teachers have not completed their training and hold emergency credentials.

But the elementary schools earned an average rank of 6.2 on the state's accountability scale and an average raw score of 654—exceeding the state median of 630. Districts with similar socioeconomic characteristics earned far lower scores. For example, El Monte's elementary schools scored an average 125 points lower on the accountability index and Montebello schools trailed by 166 points.

"It's impressive that virtually all of Inglewood's elementary schools performed better than expected," said Kim Rueben, a research fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California who reviewed the test scores as part of a broader statewide study of academic achievement. "I think we should try to take lessons from the district."

Inglewood's middle and high schools do not show the same level of success. The city's two middle schools registered 3s on the accountability index, with an average score of 526, well below the state median. Its two high schools bottomed out with 1s, with an average score of 441. Officials say that the bulk of recent reforms have concentrated on the primary grades and that students who benefited from those measures are just now moving into the middle schools.

Those reforms began to take root in the district three years ago under the late Supt. McKinley M. Nash. Wanting to duplicate the success of Kelso and Bennett-Kew, he pressed the other elementary schools to embrace their techniques and programs.

SCHOOLS ADOPT SAME READING PROGRAM

Officials say a crucial reform had each school adopt the Open Court reading program, which uses heavily scripted lessons that combine phonics drills, writing exercises and children's literature. The lessons dictate virtually every detail of daily instruction.

Some teachers complained that Open Court robbed them of creativity in the classroom.

Others protested what they believed was a one-size fits-all approach for children with a range of abilities. They argued that it was particularly unsuitable for students new to English.

But the schools pushed ahead, significantly boosting training for teachers in Open Court. Each campus designated a "reading coach"—essentially a master teacher to show the others how to use the reading program. The coaches have been funded with nearly \$2 million in grants from the Packard Humanities Institute, a Los Altos, Calif., foundation that has spent about \$45 million to install reading coaches in 28 California school districts using Open Court.

The coaches have helped solidify the new reading program in Inglewood's elementary classrooms, where nearly one in two instructors holds an emergency credential.

Inglewood educators also introduced "pacing schedules" in the primary grades to ensure that teachers in every class covered the same reading lessons at about the same time. The idea, patterned after the practice at Kelso and Bennett-Kew, was to ensure that students at every school consistently acquired the same skills.

Schools also began testing their students every six to eight weeks in spelling, vocabulary and other skills in the same way that Kelso and Bennett-Kew had done for several years. Teachers began poring over the data together to identify lagging students and to refine their practices.

"There's little wiggle room to fall through the cracks," said Betty Jo Steward, principal of Highland Elementary School, which earned a rank of 8 on the state index, even though more than two-thirds of its teachers are uncredentialed. Highland switched to Open Court five years ago, ahead of the other campuses. "It's made a tremendous difference," Steward said.

Inglewood's elementary schools have become urban laboratories for educators and researchers. Several of the state's largest urban school systems—including those in Burbank, Riverside and Oakland—have sent delegations to study Inglewood's classrooms.

The Los Angeles Unified School District is among the latest to send observers. In July, the district will begin introducing Open Court and reading coaches in most of its elementary schools.

"Anything Inglewood can do, Compton or Los Angeles can do—we are not unique," said Marge Thompson, Kelso's principal of 25 years until her retirement in February. She still visits regularly to help train teachers.

Inglewood's schools are among a group of campuses around the country that are gaining attention in education ranks for producing solid results with low-income and minority students.

"People need to make the study of schools like those in Inglewood the single highest priority in the country," said Samuel Casey Carter, a researcher at the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., who included Bennett-Kew in a new book about 21 impressive campuses that serve low-income children.

Carter found that the successful schools shared common practices and features such as an emphasis on basic skills, strong principals, frequent testing and assessment, and continuous teacher training.

"There is nothing these schools do that is beyond the reach of any school in America," he said.

What Carter found at Bennett-Kew were students like Omir Perez.

Omir's first language is Spanish; both of his parents were born in Belize. His family lives on about \$18,000 a year. Yet the Bennett-Kew fifth-grader has produced Stanford 9 test scores that would please any parent: the 73rd percentile in math, the 80th in reading, the 97th in spelling.

"Education gets you a good job sooner or later," said Omir, who wants to be an airline pilot.

Omir's record already is paying dividends. He won a scholarship next year to the exclusive Chadwick School on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, along with four other Bennett-Kew students who had equally high marks.

The \$11,600 tuition is nearly two-thirds of what Omir's father, a machinist, earns in a year.

"We had a lot of people praying for this," said Omir's mother, Isabel, who like her husband speaks English and is a naturalized U.S. citizen. "It's a blessing."

Omir is bright and studious, and his parents make his education their top priority. But his marks are hardly exceptional. "We have 20 kids in the fifth grade like Omir," Ichinaga said.

CLOSING A STUBBORN ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Inglewood's schools are succeeding at closing a stubborn achievement gap that emerges as early as age 3—even before children enter school. Children from poor families arrive in the classroom with less exposure to books and smaller vocabularies than their more affluent peers.

That gap widens the most during the elementary years but persists through high school and college—showing up in grades, test scores, graduation rates and other measures of achievement.

Ultimately, it affects students' earning power as adults.

The most recent round of national tests—in 1998—demonstrated the scope of the divide.

Among fourth-graders 39% of whites and 37% of Asians met the "proficient" level in reading on the National Assessment of Educational Progress. That meant that the students demonstrated competence over challenging subject matter.

By contrast, just 13% of Latinos and 10% of African Americans met the proficiency standard.

African American and Latino 12th-graders had fallen so far behind by the end of high school that they performed at about the same level in reading as white and Asian eighth-graders, the nationwide test scores revealed.

A growing number of experts argue that more experienced and qualified teachers are the key to reversing the trend.

Studies in Texas, North Carolina and other states have found that competent teachers—those who earn high test scores themselves and have a deep knowledge of the subjects they teach—produce higher-achieving students.

"If we took the simple step of assuring that poor and minority children had teachers of the same quality as other children, about half of the achievement gap would disappear," said Kati Haycock, director of the Education Trust, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that monitors student achievement in low-income communities.

"If we went further and assigned our best teachers to the students who most need them, there's persuasive evidence to suggest that we could entirely close the gap," Haycock added.

But the reality is that urban schools serving the neediest students tend to have the greatest proportion of novices leading their classrooms.

Inglewood fits the pattern: 45% of its elementary school teachers hold emergency credentials. Only six of California's 1,000 school districts have higher percentages of teachers without full credentials. But Inglewood has overcome inexperience by literally molding its own talent and taking the guesswork out of teaching.

MAKING NEWCOMERS COMPETENT TEACHERS

The district has found a way to turn green newcomers such as Andrew Gin into competent instructors. Gin arrived at Payne Elementary School two years ago, after fleeing an unhappy career as a stock analyst for investment firms in Los Angeles. He brought enthusiasm, energy and a desire to work with children—but zero job skills. “I didn’t know where to begin,” he recalled.

At Payne, Gin was handed the Open Court reading program and a thick teacher’s manual that told him what skills to teach every day, even when to praise his second-graders. “It was a godsend,” he said, “like a huge outline.”

Meanwhile, Gin became a student in this own school. Payne’s teachers became his mentors.

Principal Georgia Leynaert began visiting Gin’s classroom regularly to teach him techniques for engaging students. Two senior teachers met with Gin at lunch and after school, showing him how to design lesson plans and giving him tips on games that encourage learning, such as math bingo. A reading coach helped demonstrate Open Court.

“Whenever I need something clarified or explained, I know where to go,” said Gin, 33, who is working toward his credential at Cal State L.A.

More than half of Payne’s teachers have emergency credentials. Still, in a school where 87% of the students qualify for subsidized lunches and 72% speak limited English, Payne earned a rank of 7 on the state’s new accountability index, placing it among the top third of elementary schools in California.

“If you hire right, then inexperience doesn’t have to be a negative,” Leynaert said. “You hire people who are going to be good. Then you give them structure so that no teacher is left out there alone.”

DRIVEN BY HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Payne and the other schools also are driven by high expectations, an intangible quality that shapes the culture of their campuses.

Teachers reject the idea that their students are destined for mediocrity because they are poor or speak limited English. Instead, they demand that students meet the state’s academic standards.

“If you set high expectations for children, they generally rise to the occasion,” said Norma Baker, principal of Hudnall Elementary School, which earned a state rank of 8 with nearly half the students still learning to speak English. “You get what you expect.”

That message literally surrounds the students in Barbra Williams’ fourth-grade classroom at Hudnall.

Mock graduation caps with black tassels hang from the ceiling. Each has the name of an elite university scrawled in white letters on the back: Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Princeton.

The walls carry similar messages. A sign on one wall ways, “ENGLISH MAJORS EXCEL,” in big black letters, with student reports stapled to the wall. A sign on another wall ways, “MATH MASTERS”; the wall features colored pictures of sliced pizzas that the students created to demonstrate fractions. The banner on a third wall ways, “SOCIAL STUDIES SCHOLARS.”

Williams requires all of her students to write essays at the end of the year about universities they will attend, and to select majors they plan to study. Students are encouraged to collect admissions packets in the course of their research.

“I tell them. ‘You have to go to a really good college. You have to get good grades,

good test scores. You have to get in the habit of taking it seriously,’” said Williams, 25, a graduate of UC Irvine. “I want to instill in them that these universities are out there. Some of these students don’t hear that or haven’t thought about it. When I ask them about colleges, they mention El Camino or Southwest two local community colleges.”

Nine-year-old La Tijera Avery has already picked her university. It’s Stanford.

“I want to grow up to be a great doctor who helps people who get stuck,” said La Tijera, who earns mostly as an impressive Standard 9 test scores—the 62nd percentile in reading and the 85 percentile in math.

La Tijera’s mothers, La Tasha Holden, is thrilled with her daughter’s progress. When the family moved across Inglewood a few years ago, Holden purposely kept La Tijera at Hudnall. The philosophy of the school, she believed, reflected the values she teaches at home.

“My kids are going to college if I have to give every penny I have or sell my house,” Holden said.

STRONG LEADERSHIP SEEN AS CRUCIAL

When educators speak about school reform, they inevitably seize on the issue of leadership. High-performing campuses, the experts say, are led by able principals who firmly manage, show a keen ability to motivate teachers, set unambiguous goals and establish a serious academic tone.

Two of the lowest-performing elementary schools in Inglewood have faced regular turnover among top administrators. Lane, a kindergarten through eighth-grade school that earned a 3 on the state’s accountability index, has had eight principals in 10 years, said the latest administrator to hold that position.

Since taking over at Lane 2½ years ago, Principal Adrienne Jackson has replaced about half her staff and opened a school library for the first time in years. Lane’s reading test scores have improved an average of eight point during her tenure.

None of the administrators has done the job as successfully as Ichinaga and Thompson, the longtime principals of Bennett-Kew and Kelso, respectively.

Both have made careers of bucking the educational establishment.

Ichinaga and Thompson began using Open Court in the mid-1980s, and stuck with it even as phonics was being phased out in California. They hewed to scripted math programs that stressed basic computational skills, even as the state moved to more experimental approaches.

Both also required their teachers to give regular student assessments, and they personally analyzed the results, a previously unheard-of practice that is only now gaining currency in schools.

In addition, both long ago said no to social promotion, holding back failing kindergartners in “junior first” classes that provide an extra year of phonics practice.

And both rejected bilingual education two decades before California voters officially ended the practice in 1997.

“I didn’t believe in bilingual education, and my parents were dead set against it,” said Thompson, a former first-grade teacher in Inglewood. “I didn’t need a job bad enough to violate my ethics.”

For Ichinaga, the decision grew out of personal experience: She was reared in a Japanese-speaking home on a Hawaiian sugar cane plantation but attended schools that taught in English. “My kids come to school much like I was, with very little English,” she said.

These principals’ methods, and the stability they brought, are reflected in test scores.

The average Kelso second-grader reached the 71st percentile in reading and the 79th percentile in math on last year’s Stanford 9. The scores are comparable to the district average for second-grader in Irvine and Beverly Hills, which have two of the region’s most affluent school systems. Bennett-Kew’s scores also were high: The average third-grader was in the 58th percentile in reading and the 84th in math.

The scores mean that the students were in the top echelons of test-takers nationwide.

Thompson and Ichinaga are a contrast in styles. While she was principal, Thompson was a quiet force on campus, personally training her teachers and parents while keeping a low public profile. Ichinaga is an outspoken advocate for her methods and a master at delegating authority to her best teachers.

“I’m dismayed that so many people still believe if you’re a minority by color or language, you’re at a disadvantage,” Ichinaga said. “I don’t believe that for a minute. We have to get rid of that mentality.”

Ichinaga’s campus has drawn more attention in recent years because of the visible role she has taken in education reform. She sat on the task force that helped draft Gov. Gray Davis’ education agenda shortly after he was elected two years ago, and she is regularly invited to speak at education conferences. Davis appointed her this year to the State Board of Education.

Although Bennett-Kew has received more acclaim, Kelso, a year-around school, has quietly assumed the top rank in the district. One reason, Thompson and Kelso’s teachers say, is that all students are invited to take classes during their vacation breaks for a few hours a day. Up to two-thirds of her students return, meaning they literally attend school all year long.

“We’re committed to overturning perception in education—that so-called low socioeconomic children can’t learn,” said Linda Stevenson, a longtime Kelso teacher who was the first to use Open Court at school. “Of course, they can learn. We’re here to prove it.”

MAIN STREET POOCH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the people of Martinez, California, lost a great friend and a fixture in the community with the death of Charlie, the beloved golden retriever and member of the Ross family. Mr. Speaker, the relationship between Gene Ross and his dog, Charlie, was wonderful to behold. They went everywhere together. Whether Gene was running in the hills of Alhambra Valley or the trails of the Sierra Mountains above the Tahoe Basin, Charlie was always at his side. And if you walked or ran with them, you could listen to their constant conversation.

During summer vacations at Donner Lake, Charlie would dive into the chilly water where others were timid. He especially loved it when the kids were in the water, so he could look after them and swim with them. As friends and family gather for the upcoming traditional Fourth of July festivities at the Ross cabin, this year will be different. This year just before the fireworks start, we will not kid Gene as he talks to Charlie to calm him down about the

fireworks and then puts him in the bedroom with the radio on so he won't be frightened at the explosions. In all those years together Gene could never convince Charlie not to be afraid of the fireworks.

Mr. Speaker, downtown Martinez and all the friends of Gene and Marge Ross are going to miss both Charlie and the special relationship that they enjoyed. Following is a letter that Gene wrote that was published in our local paper:

[From the Contra Costa Times, May 2000]

MAIN STREET POOCH WON'T BE FORGOTTEN

DEAR GARY: On Monday we suffered the loss of our beloved golden retriever, Charlie.

Charlie was a fixture on Main Street in Martinez. He went to work with me every day for 14 years and had so many people that loved him. This is our way of letting them know about him.

Last Friday, Dr. Ruth Adams, our veterinarian, diagnosed Charlie with a fast-growing bone cancer. There was no hope of saving him, only of keeping him happy for the few remaining days.

Charlie loved greeting visitors to our office, visiting with clients (as long as they didn't try to sit in "his" chair) and going down Main Street with me to take care of his business. He brought a smile to everyone's face.

He ran in Briones Park with our running group, Rob, Peter, Paul and myself, for 14 years. His excitement over our long runs never altered. If we ran 10 miles, he ran at least 15, always checking back to make sure we weren't lost.

He loved hiking in the Sierra, swimming in Donner Lake and cheering on our bocce team. His energy was boundless.

He talked, really "talked" to my wife, Margie, every night to let her know how our day at the office went. And always with two or three tennis balls in his mouth.

He let our two little grand-daughters cuddle and climb on him with such patience.

On Monday he went to the office with me for the last time. By noon I could see that he was not doing well. I took him home to my wife who "talked" to him. He told her he was in pain and that it was time. She gave him medication to ease his pain.

As he wagged his tail and held his tennis ball in his mouth, we held him close, and Dr. Adams eased him into the world where his puppyhood friends, RJ and Morgan, waited for him at the Rainbow Bridge.

His tennis balls are still scattered around the house. Not to tell us he is coming back, but to tell us he will always be with us.

Thanks to all of Charlie's friends who have been so supportive and kind. And to you, for letting us share our loss.

GENE ROSS, *Martinez.*

RECOGNITION OF THE SALT RIVER PROJECT AS A LOCAL LEGACY

HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the inclusion of the Salt River Project in the Local Legacies Program of the Library of Congress. I nominated the Salt River Project for this honor because of the pivotal role which it has played in the growth of the City of Phoenix and Central Arizona. This nomination was a natural decision for me: my father Stephen Shadegg wrote several books

on the Salt River Project, including its first narrative history in 1942, and subsequent works on the importance of the Project to Arizona's development. These books include: *Arizona: An Adventure in Irrigation* (1949), *The Phoenix Story: An Adventure in Reclamation* (1958), and *Century One: One Hundred Years of Water Development* (1969).

In 1868, Phoenix had a population of 100 people; it is now the sixth largest metropolitan area in the United States. All of this growth was made possible by the development of water storage and irrigation facilities and, since 1903, the Salt River Project has played a central role in this development.

In a desert state like Arizona, access to a reliable supply of water is literally a matter of life and death. The early settlers recognized this fact and constructed the first of many water supply canals in Phoenix in 1868. These early canals relied on diverting water from the rivers but did not include the construction of dams to create water storage reservoirs. This failure to store water proved to be a fatal flaw when drought hit in the 1890's. For three years, there was no rain and the rivers ceased to run. The population of Phoenix plummeted and conflicts, some of them deadly, erupted over the limited water available.

This devastating drought forced the citizens of Phoenix to band together and create an organization capable of financing, constructing, and operating a water storage and delivery system. It required the highest degree of personal commitment: each property owner in the Phoenix area pledged his or her property as collateral to finance the construction of the system. In 1903, this organization took shape as the Salt River Water Users' Association, now a part of the Salt River Project, and became the first water storage system organized under the Federal Reclamation Act.

Today, it is easy to take the necessities of life for granted, including the ability to get water by simply turning on a faucet. However, the laws of nature still apply and, in a desert, a reliable supply of water will always be a matter of life and death. Life in Arizona, Southern California, and other desert regions is only possible because a guaranteed, permanent supply of water is available.

While the laws of nature should be self-evident, there are some individuals and organizations who refuse to accept them and instead advocate the destruction of the water supply reservoirs which make life in the desert possible. We are currently locked in a struggle against the willful ignorance of these groups and individuals and, while we are supported by the facts, we must not underestimate the zealous dedication of the other side. We must not allow such destructive proposals as the draining of Lake Powell to lead to a repeat of the devastation inflicted on Phoenix by the drought of the 1890's.

As long as people live in the desert, there will be a need for organizations like the Salt River Project to supply them with the most basic substance needed for life. I salute the Salt River Project for its historic role in the development of Phoenix and its continued importance, and welcome its inclusion in the Local Legacies Program.

COLORADO STATE SENATE
PRESIDENT RAY POWERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this moment to recognize the career of one of Colorado's leading statesmen, President of the Senate, Ray Powers. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty. It is clear that Senator Powers' dynamic leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace.

Elected to the State Senate in 1980, he sponsored many bills addressing, for example, death penalty, highway funding and more judicial requirements for judges. In 1983, Ray served as the Majority Caucus Chairman and then moved to the position of the Assistant Majority Leader.

Senator Powers also received many honors. He has received the United States Veterans Committee Distinguished Service Award and was named by the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and the Colorado Public Affairs Council as Legislator of the Year.

This year marked the end of Senator Powers' tenure in elected office. His career embodied the citizen-legislator ideal and was a model that every official in elected office should seek to emulate. The citizens of Colorado owe Senator Powers a debt of gratitude and I wish him well.

MUHAMMED ALI BOXING REFORM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, four years ago, the Congress passed the Professional Boxing Safety Act, an Act within the primary jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. This Act created comprehensive nationwide regulations for the sport of boxing. It was a first step establishing a uniform system of licensing and minimum health and safety standards for boxers.

Because of the Professional Boxing Safety Act, for the first time, states could keep track of and protect professional boxers with appropriate oversight and supervision.

Corruption continues to taint the sport of boxing. A major international sanctioning body has been charged with bribery, racketeering and money laundering. And, the sport continues to endure allegations of fixed fights. The Miami Herald has reported that over 30 prizefights in the last 12 years have been fixed. Tragically, the boxers themselves suffer the most from the exploitation and anti-competitive business practices seemingly endemic to the sport.

The Muhammed Ali Boxing Reform Act would help to put an end to this corruption. It requires the establishment of objective and consistent criteria for the ratings of professional boxers. It requires the disclosure of compensation received in connection with a

boxing match by promoters, managers, sanctioning bodies, judges and referees. It provides tough new penalties for criminals who continue to try to manipulate and undermine the sport through coercion and bribes. ESPN says that "The Ali Act, modest in scope, can make a difference. It is a small, but significant step, and one that would cost nothing to taxpayers."

I would like to thank the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. OXLEY, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials, and the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BILLEY, the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, for their leadership in moving the Muhammed Ali Boxing Reform Act forward.

BILL TO DESIGNATE THE WASHINGTON OPERA IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AS THE NATIONAL OPERA

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to designate the Washington Opera in Washington, DC, as the National Opera. The beginnings of the Washington Opera were unusual having been founded by a music critic, Day Thorpe of the now defunct Washington Star, along with a few others who decided that the nation's capital should have an operatic enterprise of its own. In the early years, the Opera Society of Washington—later renamed the Washington Opera—was limited by financial and practical constraints to no more than one or two productions per year, the Opera Society performed in the Lisner Auditorium of George Washington University until the early 1970's, when Artistic Director Ian Strasfogel led the company into the Kennedy Center Opera House with the world premiere of Ginastera's *Beatrix Cenci*.

The ensemble has since been named the resident opera company of the Kennedy Center, for which it receives honorary, but not monetary, support.

The Washington Opera became the first American opera company to produce a repertory season in two separate theaters. Giving performances in the 2,200 seat Opera House and the more intimate 1,100 seat Eisenhower Theater allows the company to perform in settings that reflect each opera's proper acoustical ambience.

In addition to performances, the Washington Opera has created several education and community programs that serve a broad and diverse population. These outreach programs are dedicated to enhancing the lives and learning of the children and adults of the greater Washington region, developing future audiences, and making the experience of opera available to those whom otherwise have limited access to the art form.

Through these programs, the Washington Opera has made extensive outreach to the Washington D.C. area public schools and to the community at large. These outreach programs have reached more than 150,000 individuals, and have been driven by the idea that "learning by doing" is a highly effective way to spark young children's interest in the arts. The number and scope of programming has grown to 22 programs that provide performance ex-

periences, curriculum enhancement activities, in-school artist and docent visits, professional development opportunities for teachers and young artists, interactive family-oriented presentations, and more.

Under the stewardship of Artistic Director Placido Domingo, the Washington Opera has achieved the stature of a world-class company and plays to standing-room-only audiences at the Kennedy Center Opera House and Eisenhower Theater. The Washington Opera has earned its position of leadership in the musical world without the crucial government support typical in most world capitals, in a city without the strong business base that helps fund many U.S. opera companies.

The company has been a leader through its commitment to sustain new American operas by presenting them in crucial second productions, giving these new works life beyond the short span of their premieres. It leads by championing lesser known works of significant musical worth rarely presented on today's opera stages. It has been hailed for its work with operas on the epic scale, as the British magazine *Opera Now* recently stated, "The Washington Opera is carving out a new area of expertise . . . staging grand spectacles to exacting standards with precision and power not often seen even at the world's top houses." The company is also renowned for the number and quality of its new productions, its discovery and nurturing of important young talent and the international collaboration system it has pioneered with leading foreign companies.

Since 1980, the company has grown from a total of 16 performances of four operas to 80 performances of eight operas, while the budget has increased from \$2 million to more than \$25 million.

In 1980, the opera did not own a single opera set; by the spring of 2000 the company had originated and built 61 new productions, becoming one of the most prolific producing companies in the U.S. The company has averaged 98 percent attendance over the last fourteen seasons a remarkable sales record. It now earns approximately 65 percent of its total budget through ticket sales, raising the remaining 35 percent through contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations. A sign of fiscal strength, this ratio of earned to contributed income is the highest of any opera company in the country.

The Washington Opera has requested that I introduce legislation to designate the Washington Opera as the "National Opera." There are precedents for granting private or quasi-private entities a "national" designation. For example, the National Aquarium in Baltimore and the National Aviary in Pittsburgh both received their "national" designation through acts of congress. Such a designation does not bring with it federal funding or a federal subsidy.

Rather, it grants the entity national prominence, which may increase ticket sales and improve fundraising prospects.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO CHAIM DOV SACKS

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to an outstanding scholar and student leader, Chaim Dov Sacks. Dovi Sacks was recently named a Presidential Scholar, an award presented to two outstanding students from every U.S. state and territory. The award recognizes student leadership, SAT scores, and participation in the community. Dovi excelled in all these categories. He is the student body president, and a National Merit Scholarship Finalist who received a perfect 1600 on his SAT at Pine Crest Academy.

Dovi has brought further recognition to Fort Lauderdale's prestigious Pine Crest Academy. The school has had two Presidential Scholars in the past two years, and Dovi is the third in three years, an unprecedented feat. Just this year Pine Crest had 3 perfect SAT scores and 32 graduating seniors planning to attend Ivy League schools.

I know the House will join me in recognizing and honoring this outstanding scholar and wish him continued success as a future leader of the country. In addition, I would like to acknowledge Pine Crest Academy for their excellence in education and hope for continued achievement in teaching.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF JUDGE PHILIP A. CHAMPLIN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Napa County Superior Court Judge Philip Champlin on the occasion of his retirement from this distinguished post. Judge Champlin has served as Napa's Superior Court Judge for 21 years and has been an outstanding community leader throughout our Valley.

Few people make an impact on their community the way Philip Champlin has improved and touched ours. Both on and off the bench, his integrity and intelligence have enhanced the quality of life for those around him. Be it through his judicial efforts or his community involvement with the Red Cross, Rotary, Boy Scouts and other civic groups, he has made contributions that will be remembered for a very long time.

Born in Annapolis, Maryland in 1939, he attended Yale University where he earned his B.A. in Psychology in 1961. He traveled to California to attend the Boalt School of Law where he received his J.D. in 1964 and later went on to attend the California Judicial College in Berkeley.

Judge Champlin began his distinguished career by serving as an associate for the law firm of Coombs and Dunlap in Napa, California in 1965. By 1967 Judge Champlin was a partner in the firm, where he remained until 1977. In 1978 Philip Champlin became Judge of the Municipal Court in Napa County. He only served in this post for one year before

becoming California Superior Court Judge for Napa County in 1979. Judge Champlin also served as a Justice Pro Tem for the California Court of Appeals First Appellate District in 1996 and 1998.

The Napa County community has recognized Judge Champlin for his great work numerous times. In 1987 he was named the Napa Citizen of the Year by the Napa Chamber of Commerce and KVON Radio. He was named a Silver Beaver by the Silverado Council of the Boy Scouts of America in 1985 and was likewise granted the Award of Merit by the Napa District of Boy Scouts in 1984.

Judge Champlin has been a dedicated family man throughout his life. He has been married to Lynne McWilliams for 34 years and together they have two children, Christopher and Catherine Champlin.

Clearly, Mr. Speaker, Philip Champlin has been an outstanding lawyer, judge and citizen. Our Napa Valley community has been fortunate to have such a dedicated and distinguished man serve us throughout the last three decades. It has been my honor, first as a State Senator and now as a Congressman to represent Philip Champlin. For these reasons, I move that we officially honor Judge Philip Champlin for his meritorious service to the people of Napa County, California.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES THE JAMESBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Jamesburg Volunteer Fire Department's 100th anniversary. Over the last century, the members of this organization have made a tremendous contribution to their community by protecting their residents and assisting other local departments.

On March 19, 1900, a special meeting was held at the Jamesburg Borough Hall to discuss fire protection in Jamesburg. At this time, the Borough had allocated \$666 for fire protection. At this meeting, it was determined that there was a need to create a permanent organization to provide fire protection and prevention in the Borough of Jamesburg; The organization was named "The Jamesburg Fire Protective Association."

The next month, arrangements were made for the purchase of a Holloway Double Fifty Gallon Tank Chemical Engine for \$1,440. Later that month, an organizational meeting was held, and 55 volunteers attended to offer their services. The name of the organization was changed to "Jamesburg Fire Co. No. 1." The first fundraising event was held on May 15, 1900, and was a huge success, raising over \$100. The same night as the organizational meeting, the company responded to its first call—a fire that destroyed a local barn.

To summon the volunteers for a fire call, an alarm system was needed. The first was a flange of the rim from a locomotive wheel that was sounded by being stricken with a sledge hammer. This system proved inadequate and the company purchased a 1,100-pound bell in November of 1901. The alarm system was

electrified in 1914 by placing an automatic striker in the bell.

Starting in 1901, local youth were allowed to assist the department by carrying water in pails to the scene of the fire. These youths affectionately referred to as the bucket brigade. The tradition still exists today in the form of a Junior Membership Program that allows individuals between 16 and 18 years of age to join the department and learn the skills of fire-fighting in preparation for becoming certified firefighters.

In 1982, the Borough of Jamesburg formed a fire district, allowing the department to receive some funding through a fire tax. Today, the Jamesburg Volunteer Fire Department is a completely volunteer staffed department that upholds the pride and tradition of their founders. In addition to providing fire protection in the borough, the department is contracted to respond to calls in Monroe Township and a stretch of the New Jersey Turnpike.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Kingston Volunteer Fire Company.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4444.

Giving China permanent normal trade relations with the United States gives us a valuable tool for protecting the human rights in China. It assures China that it can take American jobs through low wages and forced labor.

In the auto industry GM has admitted that GM plans to increase its use of China-made parts in its Shanghai facility from 40 to 80 percent. Those parts will replace parts made in America. The manufacturing jobs will move from the U.S. to China.

REI announced this month that it is closing its Seattle clothing plant to open a plant in Mexico. REI credits NAFTA for the move. As a result of NAFTA 325 jobs have now moved to Mexico for a simple reason: The Mexican workers will be paid \$50 per week. This is a foretaste of what is to come with PNTR especially with Chinese workers earning 25 cents per hour.

Chinese workers have little in the way of rights. Chinese workers are prohibited from freely organizing labor unions and any signs of discontent are punished.

A demonstration last week in Liaoning by 5,000 workers and retirees over unpaid wages and pensions was met by 1,000 police who forcefully broke up the demonstration, beat 50 people and arrested the organizers. That is the usual Chinese government reaction to workers seeking justice.

The Chinese government operates 1,100 factories, farms and other facilities which use forced labor. U.S. law prohibits the importation of goods made by forced labor, but the goods are widely believed to enter this country. Harry Wu, who spent 19 years in the forced labor

system, has brought 28 complaints about these imports. The State Department's Report on Human Rights for 1999 states that whenever the U.S. Customs has identified illegal goods, China simply ignores or denies the allegation. We cannot expect any U.S. firm to be able to compete against manufacturers using forced labor.

Increased trade has not helped improve human rights in China. According to the State Department's Human Rights Report for 1999 released in February, 2000, "A crackdown against a fledgling opposition party, which began in the fall of 1998, broadened and intensified"; "tens of thousands of members of the Falun Gong spiritual movement were detained. . . . several leaders . . . were sentenced to long prison terms . . . and hundreds of others were sentenced to reeducation through labor"; "child labor persists"; and "poor enforcement of occupational health and safety regulations continues to put workers' lives at risk." A single sentence in the Report sums up China's human rights record: "Abuses included instances of extrajudicial killings, torture and mistreatment of prisoners, forced confessions, arbitrary arrest and detention, lengthy incommunicado detention, and denial of due process."

H.R. 4444 is indeed a trade bill. It trades American jobs and Chinese human rights for a chance for profits from China. That is a trade I am not willing to make, and urge Members to vote against the bill.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JEFFREY A. KELLOGG, OUTGOING LONG BEACH CITY COUNCILMAN AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to pay tribute to the Honorable Jeffrey A. Kellogg, for his 12 years of distinguished public service as a Long Beach City Councilman and Chairman of the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority.

On July 18th, Councilman Kellogg will leave public office and his position with the Alameda Corridor. He will be truly missed by his colleagues and the Long Beach community for his steady leadership, vision and calming influence.

Councilman Kellogg has represented the City of Long Beach on the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority Governing Board since it was formed in 1989 to oversee design and construction of the Alameda Corridor rail cargo expressway. He has served as Chairman three times, including during the project's critical early stages. Councilman Kellogg is the only member of the Alameda Corridor Transportation Governing Board to have served since its inception.

In 1995, Congress recognized the Alameda Corridor as "a project of national significance." The Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles comprise our nation's busiest port complex, and cargo volumes are projected to triple by 2020. The Alameda Corridor will link the ports to the transcontinental rail yards near downtown Los Angeles, creating a more efficient

way to distribute cargo and allowing our ports—and our nation—to maintain their competitive edge.

It is a testament to Councilman Kellogg's exemplary service that the Alameda Corridor is now in full-scale construction, on budget, and on schedule for completion in 2002.

Councilman Kellogg has conducted himself with great honor and integrity during his years as a public servant, and should be commended for his outstanding service.

COMMENDING ISRAEL'S REDEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 331, a bill that commends Israel's redeployment from southern Lebanon. I commend and thank my colleagues, the sponsors of this resolution for giving all members an opportunity to formally support Israel's recent withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

We have all witnessed some tough times in Israel's journey toward the peace it desires. This unilateral and courageous step shows the world and especially those in the Middle East that Israel is committed to moving forward for peace.

This decisive action on Israel's part is one of many risks Israel's leaders have proven willing to take in order to make peace a reality. I commend Prime Minister Barak, the members of the Knesset, and the people of Israel for their courage and resolve. I also want to acknowledge the important work of so many in our country who have devoted time and energy to ensuring a bright future for Israel.

I am committed to supporting Israel and helping to guarantee her security so that the dream of peace in the Middle East may one day be a reality.

Along with my colleagues, I hope to see the United Nations bring about a more secure environment in southern Lebanon, including taking action to disband any terrorist organizations in that area.

I am so proud of Israel for taking this meaningful step toward peace. While Israel has shown great restraint in the face of violence, I want to reassert my belief that Israel has every right to protect itself against terrorists or attacks by other nations. Israel is the United States' closest ally in the Middle East and other nations would not be wise to test the strength of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Again, I applaud Israel for this bold move, and I urge all parties in the Middle East to re-enter serious negotiations for peace in the Middle East. I urge all of my colleagues to vote in support of H. Con. Res. 331, so that this body can be on record in our support for Israel's efforts to bring peace to that nation and the region.

FIRE TRIBUTE TO BROWARD COUNTY'S RESCUE SERVICE

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Broward County's Fire Rescue service. Recently, they were named the number one emergency and medical service in the state of Florida.

Broward Fire Rescue has had many outstanding accomplishments this year. They received a grant of \$100,000 to put automatic external defibrillators in public buildings. This program is intended to quicken the process of helping heart attack victims. They were also the first agency in the county to give the heart attack clot-busting drug, Retavase, to patients while on the way to the hospital. In addition, the fire-rescue workers transport heart attack and stroke victims to the county hospital that is best equipped patients rather than just the nearest one. Furthermore, the agency began airing fire-safety announcements before films at Muvico theaters.

I would particularly like to honor the men and women of Broward Fire Rescue for their tireless efforts of providing care for the injured and sick. Without these individuals, the accomplishments listed above would not be possible. The agency should be recognized for their hard work and dedication to Broward County and its residents.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROUND VALLEY INDIAN TRIBES STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIAN WOMEN PROGRAM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Hoaglen and the Round Valley Indian Tribe's STOP Violence Against Indian Women Program.

A recipient of the 2000 National Crime Victim Service Award, Special Award for Innovations in Service to Victims in Indian Country, the Round Valley STOP Program is an example of how dedication and collaboration with local resources can make an impact on victims of domestic violence and their children in Indian Country.

The Crime Victim Service Award, the highest award for victim advocacy, honors those that have provided extraordinary service and great commitment to victims.

In existence since May 1998, the Round Valley STOP Program has forged partnerships with local agencies, entering into agreements with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and the County Victim Witness Unit.

In addition, they completed a draft Tribal Domestic Violence Ordinance that has generated discussion of issues surrounding domestic violence. The program works closely with the local domestic violence shelter and has provided funding for a Children's Program offering care and support for children living in the shelter.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge Margaret Hoaglen and

the Round Valley STOP Violence Against Indian Women Program for the dedicated service they provide to victims in Indian Country. Congratulations to them for receiving this very important award.

HONORING T. L. HANNA HIGH SCHOOL IN ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I honor T. L. Hanna High School in Anderson, SC. This school has been recently named a 1999–2000 school year "Blue Ribbon School" by Secretary of Education, Richard Riley.

Since its inception in 1982, more than 3,800 of the most successful and challenging schools in the country have been honored by inclusion in the Blue Ribbons Schools Program. The schools chosen for this program must fulfill stringent, research-based criteria for overall academics, excellence. To be eligible to be a Blue Ribbon School, schools are judged in all areas of academics, instruction, professional development, and school curriculum. In addition, honored schools exhibit exceptional levels of community and parental involvement, high student achievement levels and rigorous safety and discipline programs within their schools.

T. L. Hanna High School was one of only four schools in South Carolina honored with this prestigious award this year. In fact, they were one of an elite 198 schools nationwide chosen for this honor for the 1999–2000 school year.

T. L. Hanna High School is an outstanding example of effective public school and is well deserving of this national award. Their parents, students, teachers, administrators, and school officials should all be proud for achieving this special honor. This school is a strong example of excellence in academics in the 3rd District of South Carolina and should serve as a model for schools across the country. I am proud to have this blue ribbon school in my district of South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my fellow colleagues will join me in congratulating T. L. Hanna High School for their commitment to educational excellence.

CONSUMER AUTOMOBILE LEASE ADVERTISING IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today legislation to amend current federal law to provide consumers with more relevant, complete and timely information about the terms and costs of automobile leases. My legislation, the "Consumer Automobile Lease Advertising Improvement Act of 2000", seeks to empower consumers by providing them with the information they need to evaluate lease offers, to comparison shop for the best lease

deals and to make informed consumer choices.

This legislation has been endorsed by the Consumer Federation of America and the American Automobile Association. It also incorporates important changes in current law that have been proposed by the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Reserve Board and by numerous State Attorneys General.

My legislation responds to the dramatic increase over the past decade in the role of leasing in the market for new and used automobiles. Leasing has clearly changed the way Americans approach their second most important consumer transaction—the family car. Automobile leases now account for over one in every three new car transactions, over half of all transactions for higher cost luxury automobiles, and also for a large and growing percentage of used car transactions.

While leases can be advantageous for many consumers—offering lower monthly payments, manageable down payments and lower maintenance costs and typical financing arrangements—they can also involve considerable risks and hidden costs. Consumer Reports magazine has consistently warned consumers that a lease is “not the simple transaction it’s made out to appear” and can often result with consumers “paying thousands of dollars more” than necessary. The confusing terms and complex calculations in auto leases create numerous opportunities for deception and fraud. According to the National Consumer Law Center, “no area of fraud over the last decade has been more endemic and widespread than that involving auto leases.” Last year the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators listed auto leases among the “top ten complaints” expressed by consumers to local consumer protection agencies.

CONSUMERS’ RIGHT TO INFORMATION

While government can not, and should not, seek to dictate the way auto leases are structured, calculated or sold to the public, I believe it does have a responsibility to assure that consumers receive relevant and accurate information about lease terms and obligations. The consumers “right to know”, as embodied in the Truth In Lending Act and other federal statutes, clearly requires that consumers have something approaching a level playing field when attempting to compare lease and purchase options and when trying to negotiate the best lease deal. As the Comptroller of the Currency, John D. Hawke, Jr., commented recently, “consumers must have information to make wise choices in today’s complex financial world.”

Two problems, in particular, need to be addressed. First, under current industry practices and federal disclosure guidelines consumers do not have a right to know some of the most important and necessary information for evaluating a lease offer. They do not have a right to know the applicable lease interest rate, or so-called “money factor.” They don’t have a right to know what consumer incentives are available from manufacturers, lenders and dealerships. They do not have a right to know the residual value of the vehicle they wish to lease in advance of receiving the actual deal. In short, they have very little basis on which to evaluate or compare lease offers.

This is information that every automobile dealer has at their fingertips, but it’s not available to consumers. It is available in industry

publications, it is available on computer programs provided by manufacturers, banks and finance companies, and it is often written on large boards in the back offices of dealerships or on a single sheet of paper in the desk drawer of the lease manager. Yet, this information is typically withheld from consumers.

Unfortunately, federal law requires only that relevant information about lease terms and costs be fully disclosed to the consumers at the time of lease signing, after they have agreed to the terms of a lease. By then it is too late to negotiate a better deal and it is clearly too late to comparison shop with other lease offers. As a special task force of State Attorneys General commented to the Federal Reserve Board several years ago, current lease disclosure standards tend to “sanction the hiding of valuable information from consumers.”

The second problem centers on the fact that lease advertisements provide little of the information consumers need to understand and compare various lease offers and to avoid the unnecessary hassle and manipulation that can occur at many dealerships. The problem of lease advertising is visible every day—in television advertisements that boldly promote attractive monthly lease payments while scrolling other costs and conditions illegibly across TV screens, in print advertisements that hide important lease terms in virtually unreadable print, and in advertising generally that fail to disclose substantial consumer costs and liabilities. These ads are virtually impossible to read or understand and offer no basis whatsoever for making thoughtful shopping comparisons.

Many lease advertisements attempt to confuse consumers by not distinguishing between lease and purchase offers or by merging the terms of both transactions in unreadable print. Others feature attractive lease payments that apply only to a single vehicle, to previously-driven “loaner” cars or to other vehicles whose lease terms are not representative of the lease the dealer will generally offer to the public for vehicle of the same model.

Many lease advertisements also feature low, “come on” monthly lease payment that are artificially reduced through a number of common devices. The advertisement of extended or irregular lease terms, such as 28 months or 42 months, rather than 24 or 36-month terms typically offered consumers, can misleadingly lower monthly payments amounts. Substantial required down payments, typically hidden in small print, can produce the same result. Mileage allowances that are considerably below the mileage that most drivers require or accept can inflate vehicle residual values and also reduce monthly payments, while hiding substantial lease-end excess mileage charges. Many lease advertisers typically employ all of these devices.

Clearly anything goes in lease advertising under the current system. Left to their own devices, lease advertisers have one purpose in mind and one purpose only—getting customers into the dealership where they can be misinformed and manipulated into accepting almost any available lease deal. There is no desire to adequately inform or educate consumers. The primary purpose of lease advertising is to bait consumers with misleading or incomplete information that minimizes real costs and makes it virtually impossible to compare alternative deals on comparable vehicles.

In their comments to the Federal Reserve the State Attorneys General expressed concern that “automobile lease advertisements have, for several years, generally failed to adequately disclose material information consumers need to make informed decisions.” The Federal Trade Commission echoed this sentiment, stating that current “misleading advertisements” may significantly hinder comparison lease shopping, in direct contradiction of the purposes of the Consumer Leasing Act.”

PROVISIONS OF THE LEGISLATION

The legislation I am introducing today addresses these problems by requiring that move relevant and uniform information be provided in lease advertisements and that information on key leasing terms be made available to consumers far earlier in the lease process. It would do this in a number of ways. First, lease advertisers that highlight a monthly lease payment would have to include a calculation of the payment using a formula that includes several fixed lease terms. These are relatively standard terms found in consumer leases, but often manipulated for purposes of advertising: (a) a lease term of 24 months, (b) no required down payment or capitalized cost reduction, and (c) a mileage allowance of 12,000 miles per year (b) no required down payment or capitalized cost reduction, and (c) a mileage allowance of 12,000 miles per year (or other allowance that the Federal Reserve determines as more reflective of typical automobile usage.)

While seemingly minor, this change would eliminate much of the artificial differences between advertised lease payment amounts, thus highlighting more basic cost differences between competing leases. Advertisers could also included a different monthly payment amount in an advertisement for the same vehicle, as long as it is not featured more prominently than the required information, and provided also that they identify the varying lease terms—a required down payment, a longer lease term, etc.—that explain the difference between the two payment amounts in print equal in size to the monthly payment. This change would provide a relatively uniform monthly payment amount that makes it easier for consumers to compare advertised lease payments for similar, comparably-priced vehicles. It would also help inform consumers of the potential options available in auto leases, of how changes in key terms will affect monthly payments and of the potential costs and penalties that may be hidden in otherwise attractive lease payments.

Second, my bill would require that automobile dealers post in a conspicuous location in their dealership a listing of all customer incentives available to consumers on vehicle models they offer. This would include special interest and lease rates, cash rebates, special vehicle residual amounts, regional promotions and other special offers available for both lease and purchase transactions by auto manufacturers, banks, leasing companies and local dealers. This public information that can be invaluable in helping consumers make an informed choice among competing vehicle makes and models and in deciding whether to lease or purchase the vehicle they’ve selected.

Third, my bill would also require that automobile dealers make available, both in a conspicuous location within the dealership and to

individual consumers upon request, a written statement for each vehicle model that is available for lease that describes the key lease terms used in calculating payments under the leases—specifically, the rebates and other incentives available on leases for such models, the lease interest rate or money factor, and the vehicle residual value. “By knowing the money factor and residual value”, Consumer Reports has emphasized, consumers will “be better able to compare lease deals.” Disclosure of the money factor, in particular, was emphasized in comments by the Attorneys General Task Force “as a matter of the consumer’s basic right to know.”

Fourth, the bill amends current advertising standards to require that advertisers clearly identify advertised payments as applying to lease transactions and that highlighted lease terms that apply only to a single vehicle, or only to a limited number of vehicles, be clearly and conspicuously identified in advertisements.

Fifth, the bill would incorporate in current law several important changes in lease advertising advocated by the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Trade Commission. It includes Federal Reserve proposals to increase the maximum contractual obligation amount of leases that are subject to federal disclosure and advertising requirements to \$50,000 to accommodate the higher cost leases routinely offered in today’s marketplace. It would clarify the “clear and conspicuous” disclosure requirement in current law with more detailed “reasonably understandable” standards implemented by the Federal Trade Commission in its 900 Number rule and other industry advertising orders. It strengthens the FTC’s authority to enforce lease advertising requirements by seeking civil penalties in federal court. And it would codify the prohibition, enunciated in recent FTC enforcement actions, against advertising that highlights that no down payment is required on a lease when, in fact, substantial undisclosed payments are required at lease signing.

Finally, my bill would clarify that the requirements of the Consumer Leasing Act apply not just to television, radio and newspaper advertising, but to all potential lease advertising in publications, videotapes, toll-free telephone numbers, newsletters and commercial mailing and fliers. It would also bring the Consumer Leasing Act into the electronic age by extending disclosure requirements to advertising in computer programs and internet web sites.

TRUTH IN LEASE ADVERTISING

Mr. Speaker, other than purchasing a home, buying or leasing an automobile is one of the most important consumer transactions for most American households. It shouldn’t be a confusing or an intimidating experience. Consumers have a right to know all the relevant costs and details before signing a lease. And they deserve to have adequate information to comparison shop for auto leases in the same way they shop for a mortgage or any major consumer purchase.

By introducing this legislation I am simply trying to extend the principle of “truth in advertising” to the auto leasing process. My legislation does not dictate how leases must be structured or transacted, but requires only that dealers make available to consumers the relevant information about costs and terms they

use to calculate a lease. For an industry that puts so much emphasis on the operation of free markets, I find it hard to believe that automobile manufacturers and dealers can oppose providing consumers with the information they need to make informed marketplace decisions.

I believe this is important and needed legislation that can transform the entire auto leasing process in ways that will benefit both consumers and automobile dealers. I urge my colleagues to give careful consideration to the changes and initiatives I have proposed in this legislation.

RECOGNIZING CENTRAL NEW JERSEY NOMINEES TO THE U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of very special young men and women from Central New Jersey. One of the most important duties of a Member of Congress, as well as one of the most enjoyable, is nominating students to the U.S. service academies. In an age when media portrayals of young people are increasingly negative, getting to know students through the nomination process is an important reminder of the patriotism, dedication, and excellence of America’s youth.

From a pool of over 60 students from my district who went through the rigorous and time-consuming process of applying for a congressional nomination, I am very proud to say that 14 young women and men from central New Jersey will be enrolling in America’s service academies this year. They are the very best of an exceptional group, and I was proud to nominate them.

Six young people from the area will be attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, and will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Army. I would like to recognize Margaret Nenchek of Califon, Alan Van Saun of Titusville, Frank Aburto of Freehold, Michael Rapiejko of Princeton Junction, Thomas DiRienzo of Oakhurst, and Michael Lynch of Flemington.

Five young people from central New Jersey will be attending the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, and will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Navy. I would like to recognize Jason Mortimer of Lebanon, Adam Farber of Cranbury, Lily-Ann Thomas of Branchburg, Matthew Latyszzonek of Kendall Park, and Frank McBride of Tinton Falls.

Two young men from my district will be attending the U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO, and will be commissioned as officers in the U.S. Air Force. I would like to recognize Keith Fitzpatrick of Princeton Junction and Kevin O’Reilly of East Brunswick.

One young man from central New Jersey will be attending the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. I would like to recognize Frank Megna of Titusville.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the House joins me in noting the accomplishments of these young men and women, and in wishing them the

best of luck at the service academies and in their careers.

H.R. 4370, IMMIGRATION RELIEF FOR THE SUPPORT STAFF OF FERDINAND MARCOS

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, in 1986 President Marcos of the Philippines was granted political asylum in the United States to avert civil conflagration because of a popular uprising against his regime. The civil unrest arose following a controversial election in which President Marcos claimed to have defeated Corazon Aquino but was widely accused of election fraud. Growing street demonstrations in support of Mrs. Aquino raised fears of violence against what many viewed as a fraudulent election result. President Marcos left the Philippines on February 25, 1986 at U.S. urging and went into exile in Hawaii.

President Marcos, his wife Imelda and 88 members of his staff and their families were advised that they were being allowed into the United States with “parole” status for the convenience of the U.S. Government. This status is a legal fiction in which the individual is physically present in the United States but had never been “admitted” to the United States. The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) can terminate parole status at any time. The individual can be treated as if he or she had entered the United States illegally and had no right to be here. In this case, it is extremely unfair.

INS has instituted proceedings to expel some of these individuals and their families but not all of them. There does not seem to be any pattern to which individuals have been selected.

These immigrants were invited to the United States to help care for President Marcos who was already ailing and died in 1989. They were told that they could bring their families with them. They have been in the United States for fourteen years and are fully integrated into our society.

These people should not be deported. They came to the U.S. for an important reason. Because that reason is now past should not cause us to turn against them.

To rectify this unfair treatment, I introduced H.R. 4370 on May 3, 2000. The bill grants the individuals and their families the right to remain in the United States. These honest, hardworking people came to the United States at the invitation of our government. Their presence was known and they have done nothing to violate our immigration laws. To uproot them would be an injustice to them and their families that we should not allow.

The exile Marcos government in Hawaii was instigated by the U.S. to save the Philippines from political turmoil and rebellion. Those who came to implement this policy to end civil unrest in the Philippines should have the protection of this government.

COMMENCING ISRAEL'S REDE-
PLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN
LEBANON

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 331, and wish to commend the Government of Israel for its courageous decision to unilaterally withdraw its troops from Southern Lebanon.

As Israel demonstrates its willingness to take risks for peace in the Middle East, the international community must rise to its obligation to ensure that Southern Lebanon never again becomes a staging ground for attacks against Israel.

We must stand by Israel during these difficult times, recognize Israel's right to self defense found in Chapter 7, Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, and work toward peace for the citizens of Israel and all the Middle East.

PRESIDENT ARPAD GONCZ AC-
CEPTS ROOSEVELT INTER-
NATIONAL DISABILITY AWARD
FOR HUNGARY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 12, at a United Nations ceremony the President of the Republic of Hungary, Arpad Goncz, received the fourth annual Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award on behalf of his country. This award is sponsored by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the World Committee on Disability. United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, and the Vice Chairman of the National Organization on Disability, Christopher Reeve, were among those who presented the award to President Goncz.

Mr. Speaker, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award is presented annually to a nation that makes noteworthy national progress toward the full and equal participation of people with disabilities. This important international recognition was given to Hungary in recognition of the great improvements that Hungary has made on behalf of disabled individuals. Hungary's 1998 Rights of Persons Living with Disability and the Equality of Opportunity law defined the rights of this important segment of the population and raised national awareness of disability issues in the country. Hungary has made outstanding improvements by establishing educational programs for children with disabilities and incentives for employers who hire those with disabilities. In addition to these changes the Hungarian government actively promotes the development of disability support groups.

In particular, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Mrs. Zsuzsa Goncz, the exceptionally talented wife of President Goncz, for her important role and her critical efforts in bringing about the positive steps that have been made by the government of Hungary to provide

equal opportunity for the disabled. President and Mrs. Goncz are figures of great integrity and have given important moral leadership to this effort. I am honored to have them as my friends.

Mr. Speaker, Secretary General Kofi Annan made the following statement commending Hungary for its receiving the Roosevelt Award: "The full and equal participation of people with disabilities is the main message of the United Nations World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons. I commend the initiative of the Roosevelt Institute and the World Committee on Disability in establishing this award, and I heartily congratulate the Government of Hungary for its work to build a world in which each and every person can participate fully, actively and equally."

Alan Reich, Chairman of the World Committee on Disability also praised Hungary for its commitment to the U.N. World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons: "Proactive efforts such as Hungary's should inspire other countries throughout the world. There are Half a billion of us on our planet with disabilities. This crisis that demands action. We urge all nations to respond to the U. N.'s call as Hungary has."

Mr. Speaker, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Award, established in 1995 by the Roosevelt Institute and the World committee on Disability, consists of a bronze bust of Franklin Roosevelt and a \$50,000 grant for an outstanding disability program in the selected nation. Previous winners of this award are Ireland, the Republic of Korea, and Canada. President Roosevelt, for whom the award is named, contracted polio at the age of 39 and from that time on could not walk without assistance. Despite this serious disability he was elected President of the United States four times, lead the U.S. through the Great Depression and World War II, and was a founding father of the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, the Chairman of the Roosevelt Institute emphasized the role of the former President of the United States in dealing with disabilities: "President Roosevelt's role in the founding of the United Nations was one of his proudest accomplishments. It is wonderful to be in this institution more than 50 years later, celebrating progress in the rights of people with disabilities-progress that he would fully endorse as a person who lived with a significant disability for much of his life."

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Hungary and to Zsuzsa and Arpad Goncz on the occasion of Hungary's receiving the fourth annual Franklin Delano Roosevelt International Disability Award.

TRIBUTE TO ROY ORR

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a dear friend and a great public servant Roy Orr of DeSoto, Texas.

Roy has served his hometown of DeSoto in almost every capacity imaginable, and he has been elected to numerous public offices. First he was elected to the DeSoto Independent

School District Board of Trustees, then he served as mayor of DeSoto, and most recently he served as County Commissioner. Recently, Roy finished his term as Chairman and Charter Member of the DeSoto Economic Development Commission. To list all of the boards, commissions, civic and church related activities that Roy has been a part of would be impossible.

Recently, DeSoto's Mayor Richard Rozier and the City Council decided it was time to honor Roy Orr for his many years of service. Friday, June 2, 2000 will be declared Roy Orr Day in the City of DeSoto, and the linear trail system along DeSoto's Ten Mile Creek will be named the "Roy Orr Trail" in his honor.

I deeply regret that I will not be able to join Roy on this special occasion for him. Therefore, I want to thank him now for all he has done to make DeSoto the wonderful place it is today. Congratulations on these tremendous tributes Roy, they are richly deserved for a lifetime of service.

HONORING PICKENS MIDDLE
SCHOOL IN PICKENS, SOUTH
CAROLINA

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Pickens Middle School in Pickens, South Carolina. This school has been recently named a 1999-2000 school year "Blue Ribbon School" by Secretary of Education, Richard Riley.

Since its inception in 1982, more than 3,800 of the most successful and challenging schools in the country have been honored by inclusion in the Blue Ribbons Schools Program. The schools chosen for this program fulfill stringent, research-based criteria for overall academic excellence. To be eligible to be a Blue Ribbon School, schools are judged in all areas of academics, instruction, professional development, and school curriculum. In addition, honored schools exhibit exceptional levels of community and parental involvement, high student achievement levels and rigorous safety and discipline programs within their schools.

Pickens Middle School was one of only four schools in South Carolina honored with this prestigious award this year. In fact, they were one of an elite 198 schools nationwide chosen for this honor for the 1999-2000 school year.

Pickens Middle School is an outstanding example of effective public school and is well deserving of this national award. Their parents, students, teachers, administrators, and school officials should all be proud for achieving this special honor. This school is a strong example of excellence in academics in the 3rd District of South Carolina and should serve as a model for schools across the country. I am proud to have this blue ribbon school in my district of South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my fellow colleagues will join me in congratulating Pickens Middle schools for their commitment to educational excellence.

IN HONOR OF THE NEW JERSEY
ARYA SAMAJ MANDIR, INC., AND
ITS FIFTH ANNUAL COMMEMORATIVE
FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the New Jersey Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc., and the fifth annual commemorative flag-raising ceremony in celebration of the 34th Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Guyana.

This fine organization was incorporated in 1988 to promote Indian culture, while also assisting with the sometimes trying period of adjustment that immigrant families experience upon entering, settling, and residing in a foreign land. Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc., serves the educational, cultural, religious, and social needs of New Jersey's Arya and Hindu immigrants in a way that improves the quality of their American experience.

Guyana's independence is the primary reason for this flag-raising ceremony, and in honor of Guyana's Independence and its many years of struggle to realize that independence, it is important to provide overview of its history.

'Guyana' is an indigenous Indian word that means land of many waters. In 1622, the Dutch began colonizing Guyana and in 1640, the first group of slaves arrived. Following the 1763 Berbice Slave Rebellion, British captured the colony in 1781, were ousted a year later, and they returned in 1812. Laborers were brought from Portugal in 1935, from India in 1838, and from China in 1853.

Under universal suffrage, the first elections were held in 1953. The People's Progressive Party (PPP) won the election, but it was removed 133 days later by the British. The PPP was reelected in 1957 and again in 1961. In 1966, Guyana became an independent nation. However, corrupt elections led to 28 years of unpopular rule. It was not until 1992 that the Republic of Guyana held free and open elections. Today, the PPP-Civic government is in power under the Presidency of Dr. Cheddi Jagan.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the New Jersey Arya Samaj Mandir, Inc., and the fifth annual flag-raising ceremony in honor of Guyana's independence.

THE U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues excerpts of a speech recently delivered by the Vice President on the subject of the U.S.-Israel relationship and the situation in the Middle East region. I found the Vice President's remarks to be quite thoughtful and believe they would be of great use to members.

The Vice President made a number of especially important points. He stated that the United States can and should continue to

guarantee Israel's qualitative military edge. We all want to see peace in the Middle East. But without security, Israel cannot be expected to negotiate with hostile adversaries toward a resolution of age old differences.

I am pleased that the Vice President spoke of Israel's participation in international politics, and underscored his commitment to helping Israel achieve full and fair status at the United Nations.

The Vice President made it clear that he understands the importance of the U.S.-Israel friendship. He also pointed out that while we are close allies, and are supportive of the peace process, we must never pressure Israel to do anything it feels may compromise its security.

I am so pleased that Egypt and Jordan have entered into peace treaties with Israel. I join the Vice President in expressing hope for success with the Palestinian authorities. I agree with him that a final agreement between Israel and the Palestinians is possible. However, we must see as much resolve from Yassir Arafat and the Palestinian leadership toward that goal in order for it to be reality. Like many Israeli's, Syrians, and others around the world, I am disappointed that Syria has not taken advantage of the opportunities presented so far to negotiate in good faith toward a fair and lasting resolution to the issues the two nations face. I hope that President Assad will engage Israel again and commit to working through the challenges that remain in the way of peace between Israel and Syria.

The Vice President's words regarding Russian and Iran were encouraging, in that, he realizes that Russia must actively work to help reduce the threat Iran poses to the international community, to Israel, and to the U.S.

Finally, I join the Vice President and numerous other leaders in this nation and around the world in remaining committed to Israel's security now and in the future. Until the day comes that we witness peace between Israel and all of her neighbors, I will remain steadfast in my support for our great ally in the Middle East. I will always work to maintain a strong friendship and strategic alliance between our two nations.

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

AIPAC ANNUAL POLICY CONFERENCE

"... Now, almost two decades later, the crowd is a little bigger, and the challenges before Israel and the U.S.-Israel relationship have changed. But some things have not: our enduring support for a strong partnership between the United States and Israel; and our commitment to one of the cornerstones of America's national security—a strong, secure, peaceful, and prosperous State of Israel.

... Even when the world is upside down, the United States and Israel see eye-to-eye. Ben-Gurion may have had unorthodox ways of conducting diplomacy, but he was a modern-day prophet. He was part of a generation that believed it was their responsibility to make the centuries-long dream of a Jewish homeland a reality. He was one of the dreamers who believed that they could make the desert bloom. He was one of the warriors who never lost hope for peace. As Ben-Gurion wrote to a friend near the end of his life, "there is hope . . . that peace is approaching, not quickly, but slowly, slowly . . . and it appears to me that by the end of this century, the prophecy of Isaiah will be fulfilled."

I want to talk with you today about what we can do to achieve peace and security for

Israel, for our own country, and ultimately, throughout the world. In a speech three weeks ago in Boston, I laid out a vision for America's strength and role abroad. I believe we need to recognize that the classic security agenda—the question of war and peace between sovereign nations—is still with us during this new Global Age, in which the destinies of billions of people around the globe are increasingly intertwined.

We need to recognize that this Global Age presents us with a new set of threats—such as rogue nations or terrorist groups acquiring biological, chemical, or nuclear weapons—or merely the ability to disrupt our computer networks. Or the continued degradation of our environment which threatens the long-term security of all humanity. At the same time, this new age also presents us with new opportunities—for peace, and for economic growth. . . .

... When we took office seven years ago, President Clinton and I decided that the United States needed to chart a new course with regard to the Middle East peace process. Unlike our immediate predecessors, we chose to get intimately involved. But we also established a firm, new rule—that we must not, and would not, in any way try to pressure Israel, to agree to measures that they themselves did not see were in their own best interests.

This commitment to Israel was not new for me. I stood against the efforts of the two previous administrations to pressure Israel to take stands against its own view of what was in Israel's best interests. In 1988, I took a strong stand against a previous administration's efforts to force Israel into concessions that would have threatened its security. And in 1991, I remember vividly standing up against a group of administration foreign policy advisors who promoted the insulating concept of "linkage," which tried to use loan guarantees as a stick to bully Israel. I stood with AIPAC, and together, we defeated them.

And incidentally, I have never and will never interfere in an Israeli election. But I certainly hope that all of you will be active in this upcoming American election because a lot is at stake.

Facilitating peace, not forcing it; standing by our friends, not against them—these have been the hallmarks of my approach for my entire career, and it will be my approach if I'm entrusted with the Presidency.

I will never, ever let people forget that the relationship between the United States and Israel rests on granite—on the rock of our common values, our common heritage, and our common dedication to freedom.

If, from time to time, we disagree, I will always work to make sure that we emerge even stronger—with a better understanding of each other's interests—so that we are always working to reinforce one another. I will never forget that Israel's security rests on its superiority in arms. That is why, two years ago, the United States and Israel established a new strategic partnership, ushering in an unprecedented level of military cooperation. I am absolutely committed to make sure that Israel's qualitative edge remains, and remains strong.

Our renewed partnership has brought historic progress over the past seven years. Last year, when we met, I told you I would work to end Israel's half-century of ostracism from the United Nations groupings of countries from which membership in the UN Security Council is drawn.

When I was last at the UN in January, I raised this issue with Secretary General Annan in a private meeting. I have continued to work on it, and I can report to you that we are closer than ever to seeing Israel finally, and proudly, take its rightful, equal

place in the international order. The shameful wall that has blocked Israel's full integration into the community of nations must come down.

In these seven years, Jordan has joined Egypt as an Arab state which has signed a peace agreement with Israel. The negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis have reached a point where final status talks and a full resolution are still possible, although the difficult struggle to get there is clearly growing more intense. As we have seen again this past week, there are those who prefer violence to negotiation. I condemn this violence. Just as I supported Prime Minister Netanyahu's efforts, I now applaud Prime Minister Barak's resolve, and his clear message that peace will be achieved at the bargaining table, not in streets torn by riots and violence. We should all be proud of his courage. He has shown as much bravery in negotiations as he has demonstrated in a lifetime of heroic service on the battlefield.

The negotiations can not be a one-way street. The Palestinians, too, must recognize that they will not get all that they want. It is the responsibility of Yasir Arafat and the Palestinian leadership—a responsibility they acknowledge—to prevent those who would resort to violence from disrupting the peace process at this extraordinarily difficult and delicate time.

It is a particular disappointment that Syria, at least for now, has turned down offers made in good faith in Geneva. As Israel proceeds to withdraw from Lebanon in compliance with Resolution 425, President Assad can decide to let this happen without incident as a down payment for peace in the future. Or, by continuing to allow Hezbollah to harass Israel as her troops withdraw and even after they withdraw, he can signal that he is not interested in progress.

Syria may not choose to pursue peace for now. But make no mistake: Syria has no right to pursue a course of conflict that denies peace to others. The people of the Galilee should be able to live their lives without the disruption of an air-raid siren. If peace does not come to this area, President Assad will bear a heavy responsibility before the entire world.

It is a sign of how serious matters have become that Prime Minister Barak has decided to remain at home, canceling his trip to the United States. Ehud Barak is far away from here tonight, but the message we all send to him should be loud and clear: we stand by you in these critical days. The classic challenges of war and peace extend beyond Israel's immediate neighborhood, to Iraq and Iran.

In Iran, there is an increasing tension between the people, who clearly want to lead normal lives, and the most extreme clerics, who are bent on preserving their radical regime, by whatever means necessary.

We see this tension playing itself out in the trial of thirteen Iranian Jews in Shiraz. Like the closure of newspapers and the assassination of dissident leaders, this trial is part of the effort to block reform in Iran. Those conducting the trial claim that due process is being served, but the proceedings are closed to international observers and to the press. They say they have received confessions from some of the accused—but it is clear that these confessions are meaningless and that the trials are a mockery of justice. We utterly and absolutely condemn these show trials as an immoral and illegal abuse of basic human rights.

And let me be clear: the United States will judge Iran by its actions, not by its assurances.

Iran is not only a conventional threat to our national interests, the security of Israel,

and the stability of the region. It also stands at the crossroads, where the classic and new security agendas meet—for it is a major sponsor of terrorism and seeker of weapons of mass destruction, a deadly and unacceptable combination.

We have been working to cut off all possible suppliers of missile and nuclear technology. We have gained full cooperation from our European allies. But Russia represents a special concern—because there is a gap between the stated policy of its government to stop proliferation, and what occurs in practice. We have used our leverage with Russia.

We have made progress at some points, but not at others. We now call on President Putin to show leadership in this area—not just because it is in our interests, but also because it is in Russia's interests.

The challenges of the classic security agenda—facilitating peace between Israel and its neighbors, and containing and transforming Iran and Iraq—are ones that I believe we can meet, with unwavering vigilance and commitment. But we also recognize that when the time comes for that last peace treaty to be signed—if it comes—there will then be agreements between governments, but not necessarily peace between peoples. True peace—if it is to take hold—will come about only if we apply the same courage and determination to making the Middle East a more stable, secure, and prosperous region.

I ask us, for a moment, to lift our eyes and look beyond the ebb and flow of daily events. Despite all the grave problems of the moment, all the real challenges to the prospect for peace, let us envision the Middle East as it can be ten or twenty years from now—a Middle East at peace with itself, taking full advantage of all its potential and the talents of all its people. And let us focus on the steps we can take to make that vision a reality.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, the vote this week on whether to establish Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with China will undoubtedly be the most important one we will take in this first year of the new millennium. I rise today to express my intent to vote "yes" on granting stable trade status to China and to explain, in some detail, the reasons behind my decision.

This issue involves the economies of the United States and China, and indeed the economies of nations around the world. But the judgments to be made involve far more than economic concerns alone. What we do this week will affect national and international security. It will set the agenda for how the U.S. interacts with China on such important matters as human and worker rights, the environment, and religious freedom. And it will help to determine how both the U.S. and China address the rest of the world for decades to come.

EVOLUTION IN CHINA

Over the last two decades, I have been fortunate to witness the social and economic

evolution in China "up close and personal." In January 1979, I traveled to Beijing as part of a Congressional delegation representing the United States as we reestablished diplomatic relations with China. This past week I reminisced with President Carter about that historic day, the intervening twenty years, and today's historic vote. We share virtually identical views.

Twenty years ago China was a backward, drab country just starting to recover from the disaster that Mao called "the Cultural Revolution." The streets were crowded—with pedestrians and bicycles. A few newspapers posted on a few walls were the only visible demonstration of "openness" allowed by the government at that time.

I went back to China a few years ago. The change and the progress in the human condition were profound. What had been gray now had a rainbow of color. Economic development—and the entrepreneurial spirit—was evident around every corner. The streets were still crowded, but this time jammed with cars. And the newspapers plastered on walls had been supplanted by cell phones and laptop computers with Internet access. There was an openness that I believed was virtually irreversible, although much progress still needs to be made.

Two personal stories: (a) when first in China, a colleague used a Polaroid camera and the Chinese people thought a miracle had been wrought. They had never before seen themselves in print. Today, Eastman Kodak sells more film in China than in any other country in the world outside the United States; (b) when last in China, a human rights activist said to me, "Let's keep in touch. What's your e-mail address?" That's progress.

I have no doubt that commercial relations between China and the United States—and the rest of the world—contributed substantially to these changes in Chinese society. Mao's approach was wrong, and the actions, if not the words, of subsequent leaders in Beijing have demonstrated that they know he was wrong. They have opted for a movement toward a market economy, with all that means for progress and development and, ultimately and inevitably, various forms of freedom.

This view is also held by both President Jimmy Carter and President Bill Clinton, by both Vice President AL GORE and Senator Bill Bradley, by both Governor George W. Bush and Sen. JOHN McCAIN, by both Senators from New York and by both Senate candidates in New York.

I believe that bringing China further into the international economic system will only accelerate these trends. And I am persuaded that these trends enhance freedoms for the Chinese people which, in turn, should make Asia and the world more secure.

BILATERAL U.S.-CHINA TRADE

Looking at this purely in commercial terms, it seems fairly clear that the consequences of rejection of PNTR on U.S. businesses generally would be quite severe. There is virtual unanimity in the business community that welcoming China into the WTO—which will happen regardless of how the upcoming vote in Congress goes—and stabilizing our trading relations with that massive and growing market is in our economic interest. And if that were the only criterion on which to base our vote, the decision would be easy indeed.

We should also keep in mind that the vote is solely on the status of our trading relationship with China. It is not a vote on whether to permit China to join the WTO. That will happen regardless of how Congress votes. The agreement before us contains provisions which substantially open up China's market to U.S. goods and services, but it does not open our market wider to China's exports. If we approve the agreement, our business community will be able to compete on a level field with European, Japanese and other exporters seeking to expand their business in China. But if we disapprove it, firms from elsewhere in the world will have a major leg up on American exporters, threatening our ability to participate in the growth of the Chinese market and reducing the number of American jobs that would otherwise be created as our trade with China builds.

Even if we wanted to, we cannot build an economic wall around China and one-fifth of the world's people. Outsiders will trade with China; the only question is whether and to what extent they will be Americans. I fear that opposing this agreement would be tantamount to building a wall around ourselves, trying to deal with the world by ignoring it. Throughout the 20th Century we have seen all too often how ineffective such an approach can be.

These points were among those made just last week by Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan when he went to the White House to endorse approval of normalizing trade relations with China.

Looked at from the perspective of New York State, and from my role as the ranking Democrat on the Banking Committee, the case is equally strong. New York's financial services industry is a key source of economic growth and job creation—in the state and nationally—and this agreement will be of enormous economic benefit to that industry.

This is not to say that the business community has been entirely right in its approach to this issue. Quite the contrary. American business leaders have almost refused to acknowledge that the concerns about workers' rights, human rights, religious freedom and the environment are legitimate ones. They have resisted calls for even minimal standards in these areas. What they fail to recognize is that trade requires both capital and labor, and that therefore it's not inappropriate for a trade deal to address concerns of both capital and labor. What they ignore in this situation, as they have so often here at home, is that environmental degradation is a real cost of doing business, just one that doesn't happen to show up on their balance sheet. I wish that there had been greater recognition of these legitimate concerns by the business community as this debate progressed.

JOBS AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

My friends in the labor movement express concerns that approving the China agreement might mean loss of jobs in the U.S. And they also express concerns that a vote for the agreement might be seen as approval of some of the very serious ways in which the regime in China undermines workers' rights there.

These are real concerns. I do not make light of them. The labor leaders who express them are not alarmists; they are in the great tradition of leaders who have helped make the United States the most productive economy in the world; leaders who played such a large role in bringing down communism in the former Soviet Union and eastern Europe.

But I also have deep respect for other labor leaders who take a different view. One is both the former President of the U.A.W. and the former Ambassador to China, Leonard Woodcock. No one would ever describe him as naive, and he was one of the most forceful and effective leaders the United Auto Workers ever had. His view of the proposed trade agreement is that it is an imperative to advance our national interests.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The leadership in Beijing, while improving the human condition of the Chinese people in many ways over the past twenty years, still has demonstrated inadequate concern. I abhor, for example, population policies which condone and sometimes even demand forced abortions. Freedom of speech and association, among our most cherished treasures, are still being developed in China. And too often, individuals are discriminated against because of their religious beliefs.

In the 19th Century, our nation was abhorred, and rightly so, because of slavery. And subsequently, well into the 20th Century, our society condoned or tolerated lynchings, burnings, and massive racial discrimination including denial of the most fundamental right, the right to vote. Those policies are and were wrong, our nation was wrong. We were equally wrong in denying women the vote for so long. But, fortunately, we were not ostracized from the world community. Rather, other countries dealt with us, despite our shortcomings, and we with them, despite their failures. Our nation evolved and improved, without others seeking to impose their approaches on us. They engaged us, and we learned.

I believe that influencing human rights in another country can be done far more effectively through engagement than through isolation. I believe that if we immerse China with American people and products, it will generate broader freedoms in that nation. I believe that if the Chinese see and interact with Americans, tourists and business men and women, they will see what freedom brings and will demand, and get, more freedoms for themselves.

We should not ignore the situation in Tibet or the recent efforts to suppress the Falun Gong. And some human and religious rights advocates, from China and elsewhere, think that disapproval of PNTR will enhance the cause of freedom inside China. But there are many other human and religious rights advocates who disagree strongly. For example, the views of Martin Lee and other human rights advocates in Hong Kong are particularly striking, to say nothing of the new democratic leaders in Taiwan, and the Dalai Lama. They believe that engagement with China and approval of PNTR will advance the cause of human rights in mainland China.

Moreover, individuals in the United States who have dedicated their lives to advancing human rights and religious freedom for the people of China support granting PNTR with China. President Jimmy Carter argues persuasively that a negative vote would deal a serious setback to further democratization, freedom and human rights in China. Prominent Catholics, among them former-Member of Congress, Father Robert F. Drinan; University of Notre Dame President-Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh; and Father Peter Ruggere with the Maryknoll Fathers all support PNTR for China and believe it is how the U.S.

can best advance human rights and religious freedom for the people of China. And the Quakers have expressed their belief that normalization of trade with China will advance all of the basic human security concerns—human rights, labor rights, arms control, and environmental protection—to which they are dedicated.

As we rightly criticize China for policies that we abhor, let us also remember that she has done some things that are very praiseworthy as well. China is a poor nation, relatively speaking, but, if nothing else, they have found ways to ensure that their vast population has enough to eat. The poverty level in China is only nine percent, versus a poverty level of over 40% in India. Further, during the recent economic crisis in Asia, China stood the course, resisting the lure of steps which might have helped their economy in the short term (such as devaluation of their currency) but which would have meant much more serious problems for the entire region in the longer term. Finally, China has allowed and is supporting the spread of phones—from virtually none to about 130 million in a generation—and access to the Internet for millions—the greatest democratizing tool the world has ever known, for it brings ideas from every corner of the world. Clearly, the ability to communicate is a fundamental right that has grown dramatically because of our twenty years of engagement.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND GEOPOLITICS

China is arguably the second strongest conventional military power in the world, and of course it is also a member of the nuclear club, with a small but growing capability to deliver nuclear arms. China's relations with her neighbors—Russia and India in particular—become difficult at times. And the situation concerning Taiwan is potentially the hottest "hot spot" in Asia if not the world.

We should not approve PNTR simply because it might help ease tensions in Asia. But it is most appropriate to include this consideration in assessing PNTR. And in that light, it is illuminating to look within China and see how various segments of their society view the move toward broader trade relations with the U.S. and others.

The fact is that the hard-liners in the Chinese government and military oppose or are lukewarm, at best, about China joining the WTO and entering into the proposed agreement with the United States. They believe that taking these steps will enhance freedom inside China, and in so doing dilute their power and influence. I think they are right, and that this is one more reason to engage, rather than isolate. After all, the best way to defeat an enemy is not to best him on the field of battle, but to make him your friend. Disapproving PNTR will result in the hard-liners saying, "See, we told you so, America is hostile to us so we must guard against her." We should do what we can to bolster those in China who want to establish friendly relations with the rest of the world, rather than those who believe that might is the only thing that matters.

The Taiwan situation warrants our most careful attention. The war of words between Beijing and Taipei would lead one to think that there was little if any meaningful contact between Taiwan and the mainland. But that is not the case. Already the amount of trade between the robust economy on Taiwan and the mainland is huge, it is growing, and the economic links grow tighter and tighter. Taiwan's

new leaders, proponents of freedom and capitalism, realize that their relations with the leaders in Beijing can enhance or threaten these economic ties. And they favor PNTR.

AVOIDING PAST MISTAKES

As I have studied the situation with China, I have found myself reflecting more and more about mistakes made by the U.S. this century. Almost a century ago, we made a gigantic mistake in not joining the League of Nations, and it helped lead to war with Germany.

A half century ago, we made a gigantic mistake with regard to Cuba. I have concluded that our policies in that situation were seriously mistaken. I believe that if we had resisted imposing the embargo on Cuba, Castro would be history and democracy would be flourishing there as it is in almost every other nation of the western hemisphere. Our effort to isolate Cuba has contributed mightily to keeping its economy from growing. But obviously they did not succeed in bringing about political change. Quite the contrary.

By letting a tiny but vocal minority dictate our Cuba policy, we missed an opportunity to send our message of freedom to the oppressed people there. We have strengthened Castro, unwittingly, and put ourselves in a situation where we have very little real influence on a nation only 90 miles from our shores.

We must not make the same mistakes with a country of 1.3 billion people that we made with a country of 10 million people. China has over 20 percent of the world's population; she is important, even vital, to world peace and prosperity in the decades ahead.

CONCLUSION

This agreement includes the strongest anti-surge controls ever legislated. We created the Congressional-Executive Commission on China to oversee every aspect of human rights, including worker rights. We negotiated a provision blocking imports from slave or prison labor. We fought for the creation of a specific inventory of the rights Congress will examine annually on behalf of the Chinese people. This new way of keeping the spotlight on Beijing is crucial, in my view, as we seek to build on the progress of the past.

China must become part of the world community, one way or another, or we will live in a more dangerous world for decades or longer. I think everyone involved in this debate agrees on that central point. The real question is how we can best influence continued change in China. Whatever choice this Congress makes, China will become a member of the WTO and an ever more important player in the global economy. That will inevitably impact on U.S. labor and U.S. business in ways we cannot avoid—only try to shape.

Labels help to shape the debate, of course. We talk about this being a vote on Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China. But is "permanent" the right word in a world where little is permanent, where laws can change from year to year? I don't think so. To my mind, the better words to use as a label for this issue would be Continuance of the Normal Trade Relations that have existed for 20 years. After all, this year's vote would simply end what has before been an annual automatic sunset on normal trade relations. But it would hardly prohibit Congress from re-visiting the matter next year or at any time in the future and sunseting it with an affirmative vote, rather than by automatic operation of law. So those who say this is fraught with danger be-

cause of its "permanency" are, in my judgment, incorrect.

As I have reviewed this situation, I have frequently thought about the young people of China. A generation ago, Chinese students traveled to Moscow and learned the Russian language and Marxist-Leninist doctrine. Now, the children of these students attend universities in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and Buffalo and Rochester.

The collaboration between the school of business at the University of Buffalo and its counterparts in two Chinese universities is a dramatic example. Graduates of those programs are now a successful and influential group of alumni inside China. I have no doubt that China benefits from this educational partnership. But I am also convinced that the United States benefits, too. American faculty and students learn about China while they learn about us. And the messages of capitalism and freedom are spread.

This is but a microcosm of what engagement can mean. Look at what happened in Poland. Americans found ways to interact with people in Poland. Our labor unions supplied Solidarity with computers and vast amounts of assistance and encouragement. No one can know exactly how significant these contacts were in bringing the communist regime down and setting the stage for dismemberment of the old Soviet empire. But what we do know is that they did play a part, and the world is a better place for it.

My vote, Mr. Speaker, is for engagement and against isolation. Our leadership in the world requires it.

TRIBUTE TO JAKE SCHRUM

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jake Schrum, a tremendous educator who will soon be leaving his position as president of Texas Wesleyan University after a distinguished tenure.

Under Jake's stewardship, Texas Wesleyan has become a truly first-class university—enrollment has doubled, the Annual Fund and operating budget have doubled, and the University has acquired a law school that is accredited by the American Bar Association.

Jake has preformed important work in defining the role of the university in America's urban, multi-cultural settings. His Democracy's last Stand: The Role of the New Urban University, focuses on the mission of Texas Wesleyan and similar schools in maintaining an inclusive learning environment and serving the needs of a student body representing a broad cross section of America's college students.

In addition to his service at Texas Wesleyan, Jake has served on numerous business and community boards and educational organizations in our Fort Worth community and around the world—working on educational issues in Europe, Mexico, and Canada. Jake has said that his primary interest in higher education is fostering the moral development of students.

Jake will become president of Southwest University in Georgetown, Texas. Our loss will certainly be Southwest University and the

Georgetown Community's gain. Thank you, Jake, for all you have done for Texas Wesleyan and our Fort Worth community.

COMMEMORATING ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join my colleagues in the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus to commemorate May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

The Asian Pacific American experience displays a journey characterized by triumphs and struggles. Like many groups of people who came to America from other shores, Asian Pacific Americans embraced the values of this nation and worked to build a better life in this country while contributing to a stronger America. Indeed, these citizens have enriched our society in virtually every field and facet.

Today, I am pleased to recognize such notable Asian Pacific Americans as nuclear physicist Samuel Chao Chung Ting whose work earned him the Nobel Prize. Architects like I.M. Pei and Minoru Yamasaki have made enormous contributions to their profession. I extend my appreciation to athletes like Sammy Lee, Kristi Yamaguchi, Michelle Kwan, and Michael Chang who have represented the United States with inspiration and excellence. Our nation has been enriched by Asian Pacific Americans like these who have done so much to earn the applause of their fellow Americans.

As we celebrate the achievements of Asian Pacific Americans, we must also remember the obstacles they endured. Asian immigration into the United States began in the mid 1800's. These immigrants came to work in hopes of a better life. Unfortunately, America did not always extend the torch of liberty to these immigrants. In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act prohibiting immigration from China. Further, in 1917, Congress acted to prohibit immigrants from an area called the Asiatic Barred Zone which included most of Asia and a majority of the islands in the Pacific Ocean. These actions displayed the resistance that America showed towards Asian Americans at that time.

One of the most staggering reminders of the discrimination that these Americans faced is the unconscionable internment of more than 100,000 Japanese Americans during World War 11. Branded as disloyal to the very flag they saluted, these Americans of Japanese descent endured tremendous hardship during one of our nation's most trying times. History would eventually vindicate these loyal Americans as not even a single documented case of sabotage or espionage was committed by an American of Japanese ancestry during that time. Indeed, the Japanese American soldiers of the 44nd combat regiment, the most decorated group of soldiers in American history, proved their devotion for this country as they fought for our nation even as their own family members stood locked behind barbed wires.

Truly, Asian Pacific Americans of every stripe have proven their love for their country. I am privileged to represent Los Angeles, home to the largest Asian Pacific American population in the United States. This is a thriving community of people who exemplify American values and a love for our nation. That is

why it is so appropriate that we celebrate the profound contributions of Asian Pacific Americans to this country. Accordingly, I stand with my colleagues in observing May as Asian Pacific American Heritage month and salute this rich and diverse community.

RECOGNIZING TERRY STYLES

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and congratulate Terry Styles for receiving the Developer of the Year Award for 2000.

The National Association of Industrial and Office Properties presented Stiles Corporation with this award. This is a first for a developer in South Florida. This prestigious honor, which is only given to one company each year, illustrates the vibrant industry that entrepreneurs such as Terry Stiles are creating in South Florida.

Stiles Corp. met the six requirements necessary to win the award from NAIOP. The criteria include quality products and services, civic involvement in their communities, and financial consistency and stability. South Florida can use more outstanding companies such as Stiles Corp. I ask the House to join me in paying tribute to a great businessman.

IN HONOR OF THE ELIZABETH WATERFRONT FESTIVAL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Elizabeth Waterfront Festival, an annual event celebrating the diversity of this great country by bringing together Hispanic families from Cuba, Colombia, Honduras, Peru, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, and Mexico.

The festival will take place in Elizabeth, New Jersey on May 27, 28, and 29. The expected 450,000 visitors to the festival will enjoy three days of games, rides, crafts, and traditional Latin music and food.

The Waterfront Festival celebrates the history, culture, and arts of the area's Hispanic community, while also providing access to some of Elizabeth's fine resources. The waterfront is an exceptional feature of the city and a perfect place to hold a festival honoring Hispanic heritage.

In addition to celebrating the heritage of other nations, this festival celebrates America's heritage by acknowledging the contributions that made our country great—we are a nation of nations, and this festival is a fine example of why America's collective soul lives on in prosperous fashion—with this celebration, we honor our past and embrace our future.

This celebration would not have been possible without the sponsorship and support of the City of Elizabeth, Melly Mell Productions, Inc., and the Elizabeth Cubanos Lions Club. For their kind support, I extend my sincerest gratitude.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this wonderful festival, and ask that we honor America's rich diversity.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES HELEN AND ALBERT LEVINSON

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Helen and Albert Levinson of Monroe Township, who will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary this Friday. Together they have served on a wide variety of committees, held countless leadership positions in the community, and tirelessly advocated the importance of public service and "giving back" to the community.

Both Helen and Albert Levinson were born in the United States. Both of their fathers emigrated from Eastern Europe, while their mothers were born in the United States. They met in Newark, NJ, and were married in 1940. Albert served his country during World War II by working in the Newark Shipyards. After the war, he opened Levinson's Furniture in Newark, and in 1968 entered a real estate business specializing in commercial real estate. Albert concluded his real estate career by joining forces with his two sons, Robert and Marc, in the form of Levinson Associates. Helen received a degree in teaching from Newark State Teachers College, and began teaching primary school while raising her two young boys. She eventually embarked on a new career in social services, specializing in pediatric casework.

Albert and Helen moved to the Clearbrook Adult Community in Monroe Township in 1973, and Albert served as president of that community for 3 consecutive years. He was then asked to join the Township Council and was elected for a 4-year term. Today, both Albert and Helen remain active in their communities. At 83 years of age, Albert still comes to work daily, and is a commissioner of the Monroe Township Municipal Utility Authority.

Albert and Helen have willingly given themselves to the community. As they plan to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary tomorrow, I urge my fellow representatives to join me in recognizing this exceptional couple.

CONTRIBUTION OF SULTAN QABOOS OF OMAN TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS COUNTRY AND TO U.S.-OMANI RELATIONS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, without doubt, the most distinctive feature of my office in the Rayburn House Office Building is a model ship. This is not just any model of a ship, it dominates my office—the ship fills one entire wall of the office standing nine feet tall and stretching about 12 feet long. This ship model, Mr. Speaker, is an accurate scale model of the ship *Sultanah*, a vessel built in Oman in

the last century. The model was constructed from the original blueprints for the ship which are still in the hands of the Omani government. The *Sultanah* has great importance for United States relations with Oman because this ship brought the first Arab ambassador to the United States in 1840. In fact, Mr. Speaker, April 13 of this year was the 160th anniversary of the arrival of the *Sultanah* in New York harbor.

This ship is not only an important symbol of U.S.-Omani relations, but it is important for U.S. relations with the entire Arab world. This model ship was given to the United States Congress by the government of Oman in 1995 when I hosted an exhibit of Omani culture and history in the Rotunda of the Cannon House Office Building to mark the 25th anniversary of the ascension to the throne of Oman of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Sid Al-Said. The model of the *Sultanah* is temporarily in my office, Mr. Speaker.

I mention this model of the *Sultanah*, Mr. Speaker, as an introduction to remarks I wish to make today in paying tribute to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos of Oman. First, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues the singular honor recently bestowed on His Majesty. Georgetown University presented the 25th Anniversary Founders Award of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies to Sultan Qaboos in recognition of his important contribution to the establishment of the Center. In 1975, when the Center was established, the Sultan made one of the first grants to permit its establishment. Five years later, he endowed the Sultanate of Oman Chair in Arabic and Islamic Literature, and in 1993 he made a further endowment by establishing a scholarship fund for the Department of Arabic at the university.

This is only the latest recognition of the Sultan's role in improving relations between Oman and the United States and between the Arab world and the United States. His commitment to better ties between our two countries has been an important element in the friendship that marks our relationship with Oman.

Mr. Speaker, the second reason I call the attention of my colleagues to the activities and role of Sultan Qaboos is that this year marks the 30th anniversary of his assumption of power on July 24, 1970. When he became the new leader of Oman, he was confronted with insurgency in a country plagued by endemic disease, illiteracy, and poverty. One of the new sultan's first measures was to abolish many of his father's harsh restrictions, which had caused thousands of Omanis to leave the country. He offered amnesty to opponents of the previous regime, and many of them returned to Oman and have played critical roles in the economic, political, and cultural development of the country.

Sultan Qaboos established a modern government structure, launched a major development program to upgrade educational and health facilities, built a modern infrastructure or roads, airports, and public utilities, and began the development of the country's resources. The results of this effort have been dramatic. The number of schools rose from three in 1970 to more than 840 by 1993, while hospital and clinic beds increased during this period from 12 to 4,355. There have been further substantial increases in quantity and quality of public services since that time.

Under the leadership of Sultan Qaboos, Oman has pursued a foreign policy that has

contributed to stability and moderation in that important part of the world. The relationship between the United States and Oman has been cordial and cooperative. In an important indicator of the warmth and importance of our relationship with Oman, President Clinton stopped in Oman on his return from India earlier this year and held important discussions with Sultan Qaboos. Agreements on security and economic cooperation between the United States and Oman have established a firm and secure basis for our relationship.

Oman has also played a positive role in encouraging peace and reconciliation in the Middle East. It supported the Camp David accords and was one of only three Arab League states that did not break relations with Egypt after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty in 1979. Not long after the signature of the Oslo Accords, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres were invited to visit Oman, and the country has taken a positive role as chair and host of a Middle East working group on water issues. During the Gulf War, Oman assisted the UN coalition effort.

Mr. Speaker, I want to call the attention of my colleagues to important legal and political changes that have been taking place in Oman under the leadership of His Majesty. In 1996 with the personal involvement of the Sultan, a Basic Charter was promulgated which provides for many basic human rights, such as an independent judiciary, and freedoms of association, speech, and the press. Some of the enabling legislation issued under the Basic Charter has been issued by the government, but others still remain to be issued.

Sultan Qaboos has also taken a number of important steps to increase the involvement and participation of the citizens of Oman in their government. In November 1991, he established the Majlis ash-Shura (Council of Deliberation/Consultation), in an effort to systematize and broaden public participation in government. In 1997 he established a second consultative body, the Majlis al-Dawla, to further increase the accountability of the government to public representatives. In forthcoming elections, suffrage has been expanded and the participation of women in the political process significantly increased. These political institutions and the broadening of political participation are important steps toward greater democracy, and I commend Sultan Qaboos for taking these important steps.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleague to join me in commending Sultan Qaboos and the people of Oman as we mark the thirtieth anniversary of the ascension of the Sultan to the throne of Oman, and as we note Georgetown University's appropriate honor to him for his contribution to better understanding between the people of Oman and the United States.

HONORING THE LATE JAMES
HOUSTON DOSS, JR.

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and remember an outstanding civic leader of the 12th District of Texas. Mr. James Houston Doss, Jr., a great business leader

and philanthropist, passed away Monday, May 22, at the age of 85. While Mr. Doss's passing is a loss to the community, his life was a blessing to the entire area.

Mr. Doss was raised in Weatherford and graduated from Weatherford College in 1934. He spent time at the University of Texas in 1936 and Harvard Graduate School of Business in 1937.

Many knew Mr. Doss through his role as a successful banker. Not many realized that he worked his way up from the bottom to enjoy his success. Mr. Doss joined Weatherford's Merchants and Farmers State Bank (now Texas Bank) in 1929 as a janitor earning only \$15 each month. After years of dedicated service, he was chosen to serve the bank as president from 1945–55.

Mr. Doss then left banking to pursue other interests in homebuilding, shopping center development, and real estate investment but quickly returned to the bank. He served as Chairman of the Board for years and became Chairman Emeritus in 1998. Most recently, Mr. Doss was named "Banker of the Year" by the National Institute of Community Banking.

In addition to his successful career in the banking business, Mr. Doss taught accounting at his alma mater, Weatherford College. His contributions of time, talent, and resources were responsible for the Doss Student Center, the Doss Scholarship Fund, and many other initiatives. His commitment to education was demonstrated in his service as a trustee of Weatherford College and the Weatherford Independent School District. For 33 years, he was on the Board of Trustees at Trinity University in San Antonio. In 1976, he was named Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce because of his business success and commitment to education.

In addition to his service in the education community, Mr. Doss was also very involved in the Presbyterian Church. He was the third generation of his family to serve as a Presbyterian elder in Parker County; and he held many positions within the church including moderator for the Synod of Texas of the Presbyterian Church in the USA in 1964, first president of The United Presbyterian Foundation Synod of the Sun, and trustee of the National United Presbyterian Foundation in New York City.

Mr. Speaker, I speak for the entire community when I express our great remorse at the passing of James Houston Doss, Jr. Mr. Doss set a standard for community activism and professional excellence, and he will be greatly missed.

HONORING THE LATE JOSEPHINE
BARNETT LACKEY

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, my heart is heavy and saddened today at the passing of Mrs. Josephine Barnett Lackey, affectionately known as "Miss Jo", who passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, May 14, 2000, at the St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville, TN, after suffering cardiac arrest. "Miss Jo", a constituent of mine from Forest, Mississippi, was the wife

of Jimmy Lackey, owner of Lackey Home Center in Forest, and one of the more prominent Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders, and Exhibitors in our state. Her death was untimely, and has certainly shocked and devastated the Forest community.

"Miss Jo" grew up in the Standing Pine community in Leake County, and graduated from Walnut Grove High School. She graduated from Delta State University with a degree in Elementary Education in the spring of 1950, and shortly thereafter moved to Forest where she taught in the Forest school system. She and Mr. Lackey were married in 1953, and on July 12, 2000, they would have celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary. For more than 50 years, she was a resident of Forest.

"Miss Jo" delighted in meeting, greeting and helping people. That was her hallmark. That is why the Gift and Bridal Registry Shop she operated in the Lackey Home Center was such a fascination and delight to her. She loved being with people, and offering suggestions that would make their life happier and enjoyable. Sid Salter, editor-publisher of the Scott County Times, summed it up real well when he said in his May 17, 2000, editorial, Josephine Lackey, "there are few homes in Forest that don't have a piece of fine crystal or china hand chosen by Jo Lackey as a gift. For rich and poor alike, she gave her best advice and treated every customer at Lackey Home Center as a friend."

"Miss Jo" was president of the Forest Garden Club, and was a member of the Hontokalo Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a member of the Forest Baptist Church and was a substitute Sunday School teacher. Her love and faith in God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, was most evident in the two scripture passages that were used by her Pastor Reverend Gordon Sansing, and her former Pastor Sonny Adkins as the text for their remarks at her funeral. These passages were: Psalms 71:17–18 "O God, thou hast taught me from my youth; and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. Now that I am old and greyheaded, O God forsake me not, until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come", and Proverbs 3:5–6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct thy paths."

Again, quoting Sid Salter, "Josephine Barnett Lackey was—by every rational measure of mind, body and spirit—a beautiful, elegant woman. Blessed with the beauty nature gave her as a young woman, Josephine Lackey merited the still beautiful face of a faithful wife, devoted mother and grandmother, hard-working business woman and dependable friend she had earned at the age of 70 when her great heart finally failed her.

Our community is diminished by her passing and we will—with her family—sorely miss her."

"Miss Jo" had a deep love for her family that included husband, Jimmy, son Jim, daughters Julie and Jenny along with their husbands, and five grandchildren. Another daughter, Joy, preceded her in death in 1996.

Without a doubt, the legacy that "Miss Jo" would want us to remember her by is the love she had for her Lord, her Family, her Church, her Friends, her Country, her State, and by all

means her love for Forest and Scott County. She was truly a dedicated Christian lady, and a great American. I extend my heartfelt sympathy to her family. Also, I want to express my appreciation, and that of all citizens of the 3rd district for her life of service, and contributions to the betterment of our world.

INTRODUCTION OF ESTATE TAX
RELIEF LEGISLATION

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to introduce legislation to provide significant and much needed relief to those who inherit family farms and family-owned small businesses. The current estate tax dramatically reduces any legacy a parent wishes to leave to his or her children. Often, inheritors are forced to sell crucial assets of a business or farm in order to pay this federal tax. This greatly discourages the next generation from continuing the family business or life on the farm.

I hear all the time from parents who fear that they will not be able to pass their operations onto their sons and daughters because of the steep tax due upon their death. Due to inherent value of business or farm equipment, property and other assets, an estate of a family-run business—as many farms are—can quickly and greatly surpass the current exemption of \$1.3 million. To me, it is absolutely unfair that people who work all their lives to build a business can have it snatched away from their families by Uncle Sam after they die. According to the Congressional Research Service, more than 70 percent of family businesses do not survive the second generation, and 87 percent are not passed onto a third generation.

Our economy is currently experiencing the largest peacetime expansion in our nation's history. We are constantly reminded that small business has been the engine of this growth. Why can't the fruits of this prosperity be passed to the next generation? Because of a tax code which has not kept up with the rate of economic growth in America.

My bill would increase the current estate tax exemption for family-owned businesses from \$1.3 million to \$4 million over the next five years and then index the exemption to inflation. I know that this is not as far as some of my colleagues would like to go. However, I believe reducing estate taxes in this way stands a better chance of becoming law than repealing the tax altogether. Frankly, I'd rather get some estate tax relief enacted as opposed to getting nothing accomplished.

Our families deserve to see the fruits of their labor passed on to the next generation, and reducing the burden of estate taxes is something that we absolutely must accomplish. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this approach to estate tax relief. Let's get something done on this issue rather than grandstand and obtain nothing.

HONORING THE WOMEN'S DAY 2000
COMMITTEE OF ST. ANTHONY
BAPTIST CHURCH "STRIVING TO
BE A VIRTUOUS WOMAN" PROV-
ERBS 31:10

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Women's Day 2000 Committee of St. Anthony Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. On Sunday, May 28, 2000, the Women's Department of St. Anthony will celebrate their annual Women's Day.

To celebrate the first Women's Day of the new Millennium, the theme of the event will be "Striving to be a Virtuous Woman," which is taken from scripture, Proverbs 31:10. The task of being virtuous is not easy to accomplish, but it is attainable. The woman of Proverbs 31 had it all. She had excellence, greatness, the favor of God, love and honor, the law of kindness in tongue, morality and character. All of these amazing attributes are the result of a God-centered life.

Mr. Speaker, the reference to the Virtuous Woman in the scriptures is fine and appropriate for this inaugural Women's Day celebration of this new Millennium. I know the ladies of St. Anthony well, and I can say without hesitation, in the tradition of the late First Lady, Sister Grace McCollum, that every one of them exemplifies excellence in leadership, spiritual integrity, high moral and ethical standards. They truly are made in the image of the Virtuous Woman.

While space will not allow me to name each of these remarkable women individually, I do want to pay special tribute here to Rev. Dr. Carrie Johnson, Rev. Renee Washington and Rev. Barbara Williams Norman, the eloquent and passionate guest speakers at the celebration.

Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to recognize the Chairperson, Sister Elizabeth King-Atwood and Co-Chairperson, Sister Alisa Parris, as well as Captains of the Women's Day 2000 Committee: Sister Tiffany Hiers; Sister Wilhelmena Lewis; Sister Deidre Lewis; Deaconess Enid Hinds-Robinson; Sister Earnestine Frazier; Sister Penny Lilley; Sister Alma Reedy-Dorsey; Sister Carolyn Vails; Sister Clara Martin, and Sister Clara Hayes.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize Rev. Theresa Moon, Chaplain; Evangelist Mary Harden; Evangelist Eva Wise; Mother Lucille Norman; Mother Lillian Carter-Wilson; Mother Selma Alexander, and Mother Beatrice Brockington. These women, and the many I could not name here, deserve our recognition and praise.

HONORING THE TEXAS
TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, it has recently come to my attention that this year, the Texas Transportation Institute will mark a historic occasion. For more than 50 years, the Texas

Transportation Institute has conducted applied research in all modes of transportation and transferred the results to the public and private sectors, enhancing transportation safety, efficiency and sustainability and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Director Herbert H. Richardson and the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI).

Looking back on the history of the Institute gives us an interesting perspective on how far we've come in terms of transportation and technological advances. I was interested to note that some of the earliest safety research performed by TTI was to develop safer roadside structures, including breakaway supports and impact attenuation systems. One of the first real-world tests of a breakaway sign occurred in my congressional district in September 1965 when a driver lost control of his vehicle and skidded into an "EXIT" sign on IH-10 near Beaumont. Less than 24 hours before the accident, the local THD maintenance force had placed the TTI-designed slip base and hinge sign support in place of the old fixed one. In this accident, the driver and passenger escaped uninjured, and the vehicle sustained only minor damage. Less than a year earlier, a driver hit the same sign, then mounted on a standard base, and was killed. Today, highway safety is still an issue of major concern and I am pleased that TTI has continued to develop technological advances, such as the ADIEM crash cushion, to make our nation's roads and highways safer. I am certain that there are many Americans who owe their lives to the development of this technology, which is now in use in nearly 40 states. Dr. Richardson and the Institute can certainly be proud of the work.

In the 1950's, Dean of the College of Engineering, Fred Benson was quoted in the Daily Eagle as saying "The Institute intends to assemble a group of men at this college with a thorough knowledge of all types of transportation. These men . . . will provide a forum for analyzing and discussing problems [and] will outline and guide our research program and provide high level education to mature students with an interest in transportation." Given the fact that TTI employs about 570 people—275 professionals, 105 support staff and 190 students, divided about evenly between graduate and undergraduate students, is home to four National Research Clearinghouses and eight National Research Centers, and has urban laboratories in every major metropolitan area in the state, I am certain that Dr. Benson would indeed be very proud of the men and women of TTI and their many accomplishments. Congratulations and best wishes for the next 50 years.

HONORING ELIAS KARMON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about Elias Karmon, who is being honored tonight at a testimonial dinner celebrating his 90th year. To read what he has done is to wonder if anybody else did anything.

He has generously given of his considerable talents to virtually every worthy cause and individual. In 1943 he successfully fought the

extradition of a young African American to North Carolina. He has been named an honorary Puerto Rican, by the Board of Directors of the Puerto Rican Day Parade, is a charter member and founder of the Bronx Urban League, and a life member of the Zionist Organization of America.

He has been honored by, among too many others to mention, the Bronx Council of churches, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Bronx Boys and Girls Club, the American Red Cross, the Bronx YMCA, and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (which he helped to found).

He has organized fund raisers for many worthy organizations. He helped to found the South Bronx Board of Trade, aiding minority businesses in particular, and was four-time president of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce. If that wasn't enough, he is probably the only man to have a housing development, a gym and a swimming pool named after him.

Elias Karmon's accomplishments would scare lesser people. Even in his 90th year, he is not slowing down, for which we all give thanks. I want to thank him for the many outstanding and wonderful things he has done for the Bronx and its people and wish him many more years.

REAUTHORIZING AND REFORMING THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, today our colleague from Illinois, Mr. EWING, who chairs the Subcommittee on Risk Management, Research, and Specialty Crops of the Committee on Agriculture, is introducing a bill to begin the process of reauthorizing and reforming the Commodity Exchange Act (CEA).

Mr. Speaker, the CEA is the primary statute providing for the regulation of futures and futures options trading in the United States. While its provisions are founded in legislation adopted by Congress in the 1920s, the Act has been modified repeatedly over the years in response to changing market conditions. We have changed the Act to cover metals and energy products, to cover trading in foreign currencies, to cover bonds and stock indexes, and to permit trading in options on futures. Each innovation that the market has brought forward presented challenges to Congress and to regulators. Along with the increase in contracts traded, total volume of trading in derivatives has grown vigorously and consistently over recent decades.

In particular, over the last 15 years is the market in over-the-counter derivatives such as swaps and forward rate agreements has increased tremendously. Because these products have economic characteristics so similar to exchange-traded futures contracts, a legal debate has taken place over whether or not they are in fact covered under the CEA. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) has generally found that these products are not appropriately regulated as futures contracts and has used powers at its disposal to settle that question to the extent possible.

In 1989, the Commission issued the "Swaps Policy Statement" laying out in essence a safe

harbor for trading in over-the-counter derivatives. So that the agency would have more flexibility in addressing the swap situation and other situations, the Congress in 1992 granted the CFTC the authority to issue exemptions from the CEA to contracts that meet specified conditions. The CFTC has used that authority to exempt swaps (and other OTC derivatives), hybrid securities, and certain energy contracts from CEA regulation. In spite of these actions, an element of legal uncertainty remains regarding these products.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has recognized that the financial services industry is changing rapidly. We face this reality very clearly in the derivatives world. During a recent speech before the International Organization of Securities Commissions, CFTC Chairman William J. Rainer pointed out that only two new exchanges sought CFTC approval between 1986 and 1997, while in the last six months the CFTC has become aware of numerous electronic exchanges that may soon seek the agency's approval. Technological advances are greatly complicating our task of keeping our regulatory systems up to date.

Mr. Speaker, financial capital flows across international boundaries today with an ease that was unimaginable only ten years ago. As our commercial world continues to shrink in this manner, we see ever more clearly how vulnerable our industries can be to outside competition if we hamper them with unreasonable or inappropriate regulation.

Mr. Speaker, these changes and trends challenge the Agriculture Committee—working together with the Banking and Commerce Committees—to again update the CEA. Chairman EWING has vigorously engaged all segments of this industry in an effort to discover what improvements need to be made. Thanks to his effort, the task has been clarified and we are poised to proceed ahead on legislation that meets these objectives:

Provides full legal certainty to the OTC derivatives industry so that the rules of commerce will be clear.

Modernizes our scheme for the regulation of trading that occurs on exchanges.

Eliminates statutory barriers to trading products that can be useful to the management of financial risk.

Mr. Speaker, I support Chairman EWING's effort and am committed to participating alongside with him. I share his goals and know that we can find common ground on how they can be achieved. Important components of the legislation he introduces today are the result of very productive industry discussions and I believe they will lay an excellent foundation for modernization of the CEA. Along with industry representatives, the several regulators involved are engaged in cooperative discussions—a condition that has often been lacking in past modernization efforts—and stand to be extremely helpful in resolving these tasks.

Mr. Speaker, while domestic modernization of financial contract regulation is an important goal I will also work to develop provisions that promote the goal of international harmonization of regulatory standards. The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) has demonstrated in recent years that a great deal of coordination can be achieved. In particular, the BIS has devised uniform capital standards that have been widely adopted by bank regulators of the major industrialized nations.

Securities and futures regulators have also made great strides in recent years in creating

formal lines of communication with their foreign counterparts to prepare for coordinated responses to cross-border crises. Already they serve as members of the International Organization of Securities Commissions, which has facilitated much of this progress and served as a tool for its member nations to become familiar with the regulatory systems that exist.

Our recent history has shown us that manufacturing capacity moves easily offshore. The manufacturing capacity of financial contracts—capital—moves across borders with much greater ease in search of the lowest cost investment environment. By encouraging continued international discussions regarding regulatory standards, we can encourage the elimination of artificial distortions that threaten the competitiveness of our futures exchanges and other financial institutions. As we develop CEA improvements, we should do all we can to facilitate international coordination and harmonization.

Mr. Speaker, in the weeks ahead I trust that all interested members of the public will take the opportunity to closely examine the bill Mr. EWING introduces today. I am particularly hopeful that the markets' end-users—including agricultural producers and merchants, energy producers, and investors—will pay close attention and provide detailed comments regarding their view of the challenge of achieving appropriate regulation of derivatives markets. I look forward to assimilating those views and to working closely with Chairman EWING, with the Subcommittee Ranking Member, Mr. CONDIT, and others on the Agriculture Committee and other committees in this effort.

HONORING KAY McMANUS

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding achievement of Kay McManus, one of the many constituents who distinguishes my Congressional District.

Kay works tirelessly to ensure that the children in our schools receive the nutrition they need to pay attention in class, participate in after school activities and do all of the things that young adults need to do to grow into thoughtful adults. We know that when a child receives a good breakfast he or she performs at a higher level. Hungry children have more respiratory illnesses and are absent from school more often than children who are well fed. Many children receive two out of their three meals at school—and it is critical that nutritional choices are available to them. Kay's work is making that possible.

The American School Food Service Association recently recognized Kay's hard work by naming her the "Outstanding Director of the Year." This is the first time that this award has ever been given. It will be bestowed annually on a Food Service director whose work serves as a model for Food Service programs across the country. Future recipients of this award have a tough act to follow. I am proud to represent a district that has so many dedicated, committed individuals. Kay, thank you for making America a better place.

WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE
CITIZENS AND THE CONSTITUTION

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the We the People. . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program, and applaud the outstanding East High School students that came to Washington, DC, after winning the state competition and went on to win an Honorable Mention as one of the top ten finalists in the national finals. These young scholars have worked diligently to make it to the finals and their hard work has gained them a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The names of the students are: Adrienne Cassart, Emma Douglas, Kelly Durcan, Jill Friedman, Aaron Goldhammer, Jessica Harvey, Elizabeth Hultin, Matt Johnson, Casey Madison, Merrin McCabe, Emily Olson, Joe Pallett, Elisha Roberts, Evan Samples, Erica Simms and Grant Wylie. Additionally, I would like to commend their teacher Edna Sutton who deserves much of the credit for the success of this great team and recognize the District Coordinator, Loyal Darr, and the State Coordinator, Barbara Miller.

The We the People. . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. These hearings consist of oral presentations by the students acting as constitutional experts before a "congressional committee" made up of a panel of judges acting as Members. The student testimony is followed by a period of questioning during which the judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

I know first hand how well this program works because I was a volunteer coach for years at a high school back in my district in Denver, whose students have done extraordinarily well in the We the People. . . . competitions over the last decade. East High School has been among the top ten finalists most years since they have competed, and they won the competition in 1992.

Once again, I commend the East team for winning the state competition and winning Honorable Mention as one of the top 10 finalists in the national finals.

CELEBRATING SMALL BUSINESS
WEEK

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a member of the House Committee on Small Business and a former small business owner in celebration of the 37th annual Small Business Week.

What better time to recognize America's small businesses and their vital contribution to

our nation's well-being. With the advent of a new economy, it is especially appropriate to talk about how high-risk, fast-growing entrepreneurial firms are creating jobs and unprecedented economic growth across the country.

Our challenge is to spread the word across the country that we must do more to support and strengthen risk taking entrepreneurs in both big cities and small towns. In so doing, we will ensure that ever-accelerating global change remains our country's ally. Then we will continue to bring the benefits of our entrepreneurial economy home to every community in America.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF REV. ROBERT T. STROMMEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the Rev. Robert T. Strommen on the occasion of his retirement after 41 years of ministry.

Mr. Strommen graduated from Princeton University in 1956, then went on to earn a master's of divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He was ordained in 1959, and served as pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Larimer, Pennsylvania for the next 7 years. In 1967, Reverend Strommen was called to Philadelphia, where he served as Minister of Metropolitan Mission for the United Church of Christ.

Throughout his many years of faithful service, Reverend Strommen has been active in community affairs. He received an award from the Greenburg-Jeanette Chapter of the NAACP for his services. In Philadelphia he worked with leaders of inner city congregations and developed Conference urban strategy. He also worked with the Philadelphia Welfare Rights Organization, the Action Alliance of Senior Citizens, and other community action groups.

Reverend Strommen began working with the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries in 1976, serving as secretary for Social and Urban Concerns. He was very involved in issues related to health and welfare and also coordinated the Board for Homeland Ministries' Minister of Metropolitan Mission program. In 1987, Mr. Strommen developed a program for training for mission outreach with local churches.

Since September, 1988, Reverend Strommen has served as association minister of the Western Reserve Association of the Ohio Conference. He continues to be involved in urban issues, and has served on the steering committee of the Jobs with Justice coalition in Cleveland.

Reverend Strommen has been a dedicated advocate for the working person's right to be treated with dignity and justice. He has set an example for us all with his tireless and energetic work in defense of workers' rights.

My fellow colleagues, please join with me on the occasion of his retirement in honoring the Rev. Robert T. Strommen for his dedication, faith, and commitment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY PROTECTION FROM FIREARMS GIVEAWAYS ACT

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, last year, the House of Representatives failed to consider reasonable gun control and safety measures as part of legislation to combat crime. Despite the support of a majority of the House for reasonable measures, the Republican leadership has consistently refused to debate the numerous gun proposals introduced in the House.

Common sense gun control measures such as a three business day waiting period for background checks, closing the gun show loophole, requiring gun locks to be sold with firearms, and a ban on the importation of large capacity ammunition clips are all reasonable approaches to gun control and safety. However, more can and must be done.

That is why I am being joined by Representatives TOM CAMPBELL, GREG MEEKS, BARBARA LEE, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, ELIOT ENGEL, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, GRACE NAPOLITANO, JAN SCHAKOWSKY and LOUIS GUTIERREZ in introducing bipartisan legislation, the "Community Protection from Firearms Giveaways Act," to close yet another dangerous loophole in Federal gun control laws.

As unbelievable as it may sound, our current gun control laws allow criminals to win guns at raffles without having to go through a criminal background check. This must be stopped.

Our legislation will amend U.S. law to require winners in a lottery where a firearm is the prize to pass a background check at a licensed gun dealership. The gun dealership may charge a reasonable fee as prescribed under current law for this service. Additionally, the Community Protection from Firearms Giveaways Act has a carve out exempting the background check if the lottery winner has a current gun owners permit, or if the check takes more than 5 business days.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can all agree that giving away guns as prizes poses a serious danger to our communities. Requiring a background check on a lottery winner if a firearm is the prize is sensible and should be required under Federal law.

Our communities deserve to be protected from criminals with easy access to guns. While gun safety measures will not stop violent crime, it must be a key component of any anti-crime strategy addressed by Congress.

I would urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation.

H.R.—

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Community Protection from Firearms Giveaways Act".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF BRADY LAW TO FIREARMS WON IN LOTTERIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 922 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after subsection (y) the following:

"(z)(1) It shall be unlawful for an individual who is not a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, or licensed dealer to transfer a firearm won in a lottery (as defined in section 1307(d)) to the winner, unless—

“(A) a licensed dealer contacts the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act;

“(B)(i) the system provides the licensee with a unique identification number; or

“(ii) 5 business days (meaning a day on which State offices are open) have elapsed since the licensee contacted the system, and the system has not notified the licensee that the receipt of a firearm by the winner would violate subsection (g) or (n) of this section; and

“(C) the individual and the licensee have verified the identity of the winner by examining a valid identification document (as defined in section 1028(d)(2) of this title) of the winner containing a photograph of the winner.

“(2) The rules of paragraphs (2), (3)(A), (4), (5), and (6) of section 922(t) shall apply to a firearm transfer assisted by a licensee under this subsection in the same manner in which the rules apply to a firearm transfer made by the licensee.”

(b) PENALTIES.—Section 924(a)(5) of such title is amended by striking “or (t)” and inserting “, (t), or (z)”.

TRAGEDY AT THE LOWE'S MOTOR SPEEDWAY IN CONCORD, NC

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for millions of Americans who were relieved to learn that no fatalities were suffered in the tragic accident that occurred in my hometown of Concord, NC this past weekend. As many of you know, a pedestrian bridge at the Lowe's Motor Speedway collapsed injuring 107 people last Saturday night after the NASCAR Winston stock car race. In time, I hope that investigators will determine the cause of the accident. Today, however, I want to recognize the men and women who provided emergency response to the accident and prevented what could have been a substantial loss of life.

Unfortunately, two individuals remain in critical condition, and I know you will join me in praying for their swift recovery. But amazingly, the other 105 individuals treated for injury are in stable condition or have already been released from the hospital. Mr. Speaker, this kind of emergency medical response speaks volumes about the quality of our professionals who represent the EMS and law enforcement. Doctors, nurses and medics from the greater Charlotte area have not treated this many people from one serious accident in recent memory. And yet their rapid, on-site medical attention to the victims of this catastrophe demonstrated a superior degree of preparation and training.

Most of our local medical facilities were represented in this miraculous effort. We in North Carolina owe a debt of gratitude to the fine staffs of Rowan Regional Medical Center, Carolinas Medical Center, the University Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital. In particular, Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize NorthEast Medical Center in Concord. It is my understanding that under the leadership of my friend Larry Hinsdale NorthEast's handling of this major emergency was flawless.

THE PUTIN PATH: ARE HUMAN RIGHTS IN RETREAT?

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, two days ago, the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which I am honored to chair, held a hearing entitled “The Putin Path: Are Human Rights in Retreat?” I was pleased to be joined on the dais by my colleagues on the Commission, Co-Chairman Senator BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL, Senator TIM HUTCHINSON, Ranking House Member Representative STENY HOYER, and Representative MATT SALMON.

As part of the hearing, the Commission had also planned to feature a video-conference with Moscow-based Radio Liberty journalist Andrei Babitsky. As Members are aware, Mr. Babitsky was arrested by Russian authorities for allegedly “participating in an armed formation,” as a result of his reporting from besieged Grozny last year. Subsequently, as a civilian, Babitsky was “exchanged” to Chechen forces in return for certain captured Russian military personnel, and is not permitted to leave Moscow. Unfortunately, technical problems precluded the possibility of the videoconference, but Mr. Babitsky provided a written statement for the hearing record. Mr. Babitsky was recently awarded the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's prize for journalism, and as head of the U.S. Delegation to the OSCE PA, I hope that he will be able to attend the award ceremony at the Assembly's annual meeting in Bucharest this July.

Tuesday's hearing was one of a series of hearings the Commission has held to examine human rights issues in the States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The mandate of the Commission is to monitor and encourage compliance with the provisions of the Helsinki Accords and successive documents of the OSCE.

As I have noted on previous occasions, Russia is no longer the dictatorial, closed society that it was during the Soviet period, and certainly there are countries around the world where human rights are in much more perilous straits. I have yet to hear of a working church in Russia being destroyed by bulldozers and wrecking cranes, as was the case last November in Turkmenistan. And we know that in China religious believers of many faiths are thrown in jail for simply desiring to worship without government interference.

Indeed, under the administration of President Yeltsin, human rights activists were able to achieve significant gains in making respect for human rights, if not a standard, at least a consideration in public policy. There is growing concern, however, that Russia's development in the area of human rights is taking a turn for the worse under recently-elected President Vladimir Putin.

The testimony of Igor Malashenko, First Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of Media-Most and President of NTV, summarized how their offices were the target of the infamous raid by government agents on May 11 last. Mr. Malashenko described how the agents carted away documents, tapes, computer discs and equipment, and subsequently issued “contradictory and unsatisfactory jus-

tifications” for this raid. Moreover, he provided extensive information on several other less-publicized examples of violence and intimidation toward media outlets and journalists throughout Russia.

General William Odom, former director of the National Security Agency, and a man of exceptional expertise in things Soviet and Russian, noted that Russia is a “weak state” and suffers from a lack of institutions capable of providing the level of civil society and economic development that we had hoped would follow after the collapse of the Soviet Union. General Odom also suggested that the United States should not treat Russia as a major power, or think that much of Russia's internal problems can be solved by “ventriloquism” from the West.

Professor Georgi Derluguian of Northwestern University asserted that President Putin is the product of the KGB network that survived the collapse of the Soviet Union. In order to seek a distraction from the Chechen quagmire, suggested Professor Derluguian, Putin will most likely launch a massive anti-crime campaign. I would note that when Yuri Andropov and his KGB began to assume power in the twilight of the Brezhnev regime, part of the crackdown on political dissent at that time was under the guise of cracking down on corruption.

Ms. Rachel Denber, Deputy Director for Europe and Central Asia at Human Rights Watch, testified that in Grozny, “the graffiti on the walls reads ‘Welcome to Hell Part Two.’ The bombing campaign has turned many parts of Chechnya into a wasteland even the most experienced war reporters we, have spoken to told us they have never seen anything in their careers like the destruction of the capital Grozny.” Ms. Denber also described summary executions of civilians, including the death of three generations of one family shot to death in the yard of their own home.

One of the brighter aspects of civil society under President Yeltsin was the expansion of NGO activity. However, Professor Sarah Mendelson of the Fletcher School of Diplomacy and Law at Tufts University noted that there is in Russia today “an atmosphere that is hostile to civil rights activists, and in fact, anyone with opinions that differ from the Kremlin's. While “the treatment of Andrei Babitsky in January and February was shocking and disturbing, and the FSB raid on MediaMost in May was brazen,” she testified, this is “part of a larger pattern of harassment that has grown steadily worse over the last year and a half.”

In this connection, I would like to point out another proposal made by Professor Mendelson in her testimony. She suggested that President Clinton, while in Moscow next month at the Summit with President Putin, should meet with activists who are promoting human rights and democracy in Russia today. This gesture, she notes, “would send a signal not only to those in Russia who care about democracy but to those in Russia who do not.” I believe this idea is right on target. In fact, Mr. HOYER and I have written to the President noting that this year is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Helsinki Accords. We have encouraged the President to meet with the surviving veterans of the Soviet-era human rights struggle, and with their contemporary colleagues, in both Moscow and in Kyiv, where the President plans to meet

with President Kuchma following his Moscow visit.

I hope that President Clinton will take this advice, as I believe such a gesture would give new impetus to the struggle for human rights and democracy in two pivotal nations of the international community.

In closing, I would call attention to a resolution to be introduced by our colleague Mr. LANTOS and House International Affairs Committee Chairman BEN GILMAN, regarding the issue of free media in Russia. I am pleased to join as an original cosponsor of this resolution, which among other provisions, calls upon the President, the Secretary of State, and other officials and agencies of the United States Government to emphasize to Russian government officials our concern and preoccupation that official pressures against the independent media are incompatible with democratic norms. I am pleased to co-sponsor this resolution, I hope my colleagues will join us, and I hope that President Clinton will heed this call when he meets with President Putin in Moscow next month.

COMMENDING ISRAEL'S REDEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, and I rise today in strong support of its adoption.

Earlier this week, the Israeli government completed a courageous and historic act. It removed the last of its military forces from southern Lebanon, in compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 425. This act was inspired and led by Prime Minister Ehud Barak, whose strategic vision has once again opened up new opportunities for a comprehensive peace in the region.

With this act, Israel has taken a brave step forward in the interest of peace for its people and its neighbors. It is now incumbent upon other parties in the region to follow Israel's lead, and to take the commensurate steps called for in U.N. Resolution 425 to further enhance security in the region. In addition to calling for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, the U.N. resolution demands "strict respect for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries." It also establishes and directs a United Nations force—known as UNIFIL—to work with the Lebanese government to restore its effective authority in southern Lebanon.

H. Con. Res. 331 addresses each element of U.N. Security Council Resolution 425, and calls for swift action by Israel's neighbors to demonstrate their own commitment to the terms of the U.N. resolution and to peace in the region. With adoption of this resolution, the House of Representatives will make clear what we expect to occur, now that Israel has withdrawn from Lebanon:

First, we expect the United Nations to swiftly verify and endorse Israel's withdrawal, in full compliance with U.N. Resolution 425.

Second, we expect the United Nations to move swiftly in conjunction with the Lebanese government to assert control over southern Lebanon.

Third, we expect Hezbollah and other groups in southern Lebanon to be disarmed in order to prevent terrorist activities originating from that area against the State of Israel and its people.

Fourth, we expect the Syrian government to follow Israel's lead and remove its own forces from Lebanese territory.

And finally, we expect all parties to use this historic opportunity to resume negotiations aimed toward a comprehensive peace for all of the people of the Middle East.

Israel has shown today that it can—and will—take risks for peace. America stands by Israel in its courageous action, and shares its commitment to peace in the region. I call on Israel's neighbors to demonstrate similar commitments in the days and weeks ahead.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to passage of the PNTR bill before the House of Representatives today.

Passage of this legislation would recognize China as a permanent trading partner as opposed to reviewing our trade relationship with China on an annual basis.

The key word in this debate is permanent. Why would the United States want to move from an annual review process to recognizing China as a permanent trading partner? China continues to make the world a more dangerous place by its cooperation with rogue states and China's ongoing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Normally, individuals and countries are rewarded because of their improvements or achievements. In this case, we would be recognizing a country that has violated every single trade agreement that they have signed with the United States. While proponents of this legislation may be correct in asserting that corporate America and our economy might benefit from this agreement, what message are we sending to the Chinese government, Chinese workers and the rest of the world.

Permanent recognition of China would tell the Chinese government and the rest of the world that when it comes to corporate profits and the almighty dollar the United States will throw in the towel on the very issues that the American people and our country have stood for from the beginning. This is of course not to mention the tens of thousands of jobs that will be lost in the United States as a result of this agreement.

The Chinese government continues to sit by idly while workers are paid 25 cents an hour, forced to work 12 to 14 hour days and are forced to work 7 days a week.

If a person is as bold as Zhang Jingfeng and attempts to organize employees into a

union, they in fact can be jailed and sent to prison. Mr. Jingfeng in fact was sentenced to a 13-year prison term—and he is not alone.

In addition to a deplorable record on human rights, the Chinese people have limited freedom to assemble, limited freedom to express and practice their religious beliefs and there is limited freedom of the press.

I do not believe that United States firms are creating new markets in China—or new opportunities for Chinese workers. Instead, I believe they are creating new maquiladoras where products will be made for slave wages in horrible working conditions that will be sold to our consumers here in the United States for huge profits.

This is not the time to throw in the towel and grant permanent trading status to China. We should hold firm and review our trading relationship with China on an annual basis.

Mr. Speaker, for the above reasons, I strongly oppose PNTR and ask my colleagues to join me in voting "no."

INTRODUCTION OF TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS AWARENESS RESOLUTION

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Tuberos Sclerosis Awareness Resolution. Tuberos Sclerosis is a common genetic disorder that remains poorly understood. Even though 1,000,000 people worldwide are affected with the disease, few are even aware of it.

Tuberos Sclerosis is a genetic disorder that causes benign tumors to form in any of the vital organs—including the brain, eyes, heart, kidneys, and skin. It is often first recognized because of epileptic seizures and/or varying degrees of developmental delay. But, too often Tuberos Sclerosis goes undetected or is misdiagnosed because its symptoms are similar to those of more well-known diseases, such as epilepsy or autism. However, more recognition and early diagnosis is desperately needed. Infants and children too often spend their lives being misdiagnosed, possibly leading to irreparable brain damage, kidney failure, and even premature death. With a variety of treatments currently available to ease symptoms and improve the quality of life for people with Tuberos Sclerosis, diagnosis is critical.

Mr. Speaker, as May is Tuberos Sclerosis Month, I urge my colleagues to join me in bringing awareness to a devastating disease that affects at least one child born each day. By helping America to learn about and understand Tuberos Sclerosis, we will help to improve the quality of life for many children.

HONORING HEAR O'ISRAEL

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a valued organization within the Houston community, Hear O'Israel, which is sponsoring

Listen to the Cries of the Children National Campaign 2000. Hear O'Israel International, Inc. developed the campaign to strengthen the unity of families and enhance public awareness of the negative effects that alcohol and drug abuse, family violence, child abuse, and gang activity have on children and their families across Houston.

Mr. Speaker, the following resolution approved May 11th by the Mayor and Houston City Council demonstrates the high regard for Hear O'Israel in our community.

[From the Hear O'Israel International, May 22, 2000]

LISTEN TO THE CRIES OF THE CHILDREN
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN 2000

A non-profit, non-denominational organization, Hear O'Israel International, Inc. developed its Listen to the Cries of the Children National Campaign to strengthen the unity of families and enhance public awareness of the negative effects that alcohol and drug abuse, family violence, child abuse, and gang activity have on children and their families. The campaign has heard the cries of the children and parents, young and old, who are crying out due to neglect; physical challenges; broken homes; or lack of adequate food, shelter, clothing, and health care. The Listen to the Cries of the Children National Campaign 2000 will promote "... wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and forgiveness that will break them out of their prisons, visible or invisible."

As part of its ongoing effort to help the suffering, Hear O'Israel International, Inc. has conducted community-oriented programs, campaigning with former gang members who were shot and, after becoming quadriplegic, are presenting themselves as physical evidence to reinforce the negative consequences of gang involvement and experimentation with drugs and alcohol. As a part of this year's campaign, Hear O'Israel International, Inc. will call for ten seconds of silence at noon C.S.T. every day throughout the year 2000, in an effort to bridge cultural boundaries and unify a response to hear and Listen to the Cries of the Children and to "stop violence and have mercy, love and compassion for our fellow man; to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, linking and strengthening the connection that should be present between every parent, child, American, and all around the world."

The Mayor and the City Council of the City of Houston do hereby salute Hear O'Israel International, Inc. for its efforts to improve and enhance the quality of life for our children, and extend best wishes for continued success.

Approved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Houston this 11th day of May, 2000, A.D.

THE CERRO GRANDE
COMPENSATION ACT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, twenty-one days ago the National Park Service in the Bandelier National Monument initiated a prescribed burn located near Los Alamos, New Mexico. Despite adverse and unpredictable weather conditions, the Park Service elected to ignite this fire.

As all of you are aware, control of that fire was quickly lost resulting in the destruction of

over 200 homes and over 44,000 acres of land. Although now under control, the fire continues to burn today.

The legislation titled "The Cerro Grande Compensation Act" would expeditiously compensate those individuals who have suffered losses as a direct result of this fire. Specifically, this bill would compensate individuals, businesses, homes, public buildings, and Native American tribes for personal injuries and property losses sustained as a result of this tragedy.

This legislation is only a first step in an attempt to make these victims whole again. Particularly those who lost everything in the fire and have a long road ahead after recovering from their losses.

I will continue to work with the New Mexico delegation and the Clinton Administration to see that a plan is quickly put in place to compensate the victims of the Cerro Grande fire.

Through this painful experience I am confident that we as Members of Congress and the Federal Government will continue to show compassion and understanding to those who have been affected by this disaster, and do everything we can to make them whole.

TIME TO REORGANIZE THE U.S.
FOREST SERVICE

HON. JOE SKEEN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that is long overdue and desperately needed. My legislation, the 2000 U.S. Forest Service Organization Reform bill is simple legislation. Under this proposal the current Regional Offices of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) would be eliminated. In the terms of organization structure they would be replaced by state USFS offices. Each state would have a state director, just as several other agencies within the U.S. Department of Agriculture operate. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in the Department of the Interior also is organized in this manner.

Authority would be granted for the establishment of up to six technical support centers as well as allowing the USFS to have multi-state directors where the Federal forest presence is minor. The Forest Service office for a state would be responsible for the administration of National Forest System lands within the state.

I have come to the conclusion that I can no longer wait for the USFS to do the right thing. I can no longer wait for them to solve their management problems. I can no longer wait to see our forests suffer from neglect, mismanagement and misuse. This administration's record on addressing the major issues facing our forests on these issues is dismal. Reinventing government in the USFS today means that nobody is in charge. It means forest plans that nobody can understand. It means lawsuits and court decisions that destroy people's livelihoods and damage their families irreparably. And now it means catastrophic fires that cost millions of dollars and endangered the life and property of our citizens that live in and near our forests.

USFS state offices will be the first step in bringing accountability into this agency of government. This office will be closer to the peo-

ple in the state. The Director will interface directly and often with state officials, local government and concerned citizens. The Director will be accountable for what happens in the forest of the respective states. No longer would the USFS be able to hide in their regional offices. No longer would they be able to ignore problems in the respective states. The BLM manages more land than the USFS. The BLM planning program has been a model of unbridled success when compared to the disastrous Forest Service process. Part of the reason for this success is having a more responsive State office.

I would add at this point I have met numerous excellent USFS employees and I have been continually puzzled as to why these good people cannot make this agency work? Why, year after year, do we have study after study that talks about the mismanagement? I have finally decided that it is the structure of the USFS that is smothering the abilities of the individual employees and stopping them from solving the problems on our Forest Service lands. Today, we have "teams" and "team leaders" in government but not supervisors. Let me repeat, we have teams and team leaders, but not supervisors. Our forests deserve attention not unsupervised teams. We need people who will be responsive to the needs of our natural heritage—not to the faceless bureaucracy that currently exists in the Forest Service.

There is no doubt that the USFS will say the cost of implementing this legislation is too expensive. It will not be too expensive or more expensive. Not if they do it right. They need to stop trying to protect their sacred regional office turf. If USDA agencies can do it and BLM can do it, then so can the USFS.

We need an agency that listens to the people. We need an agency that responds to the communities most impacted by forest policy. We also need funding that is used on the ground projects that improve the health of our forests. We do not need funding that disappears in the Washington, D.C. office and in the Regional offices of the USFS. I ask the Congress when will we say about the total mismanagement "enough is enough"?

NORTHEAST DISTRICT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEGRO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the Northeast District of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., will hold its 42nd Annual District Conference at the Doubletree Somerset Hotel in Somerset New Jersey from June 2nd through June 4th.

The theme of the conference is "Leadership By Example: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." What an appropriate theme: for the challenge of leading by example has been the driving force behind this great organization, on the national level, throughout the Northeast District, and especially the Central Jersey Club. The organization, through its leadership,

helps to plant the seeds from which many projects grow, both from within and from outside the organization.

The Central Jersey Club was one of the first organizations to give an AIDS/HIV workshop in the Central New Jersey area, and they also care for AIDS babies at St. Clare's Home in Neptune, NJ. The Club also provides career awareness programs, offers scholarships to needy students, works with the homeless by tutoring the clients and teaching them to knit, and donates clothing and Easter egg hunts for children. Some clubs donated food baskets to the needy during Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter, and they celebrated Women's History Month by sponsoring essay contests at various schools. The North Jersey Unit promoted and implemented at the local level the Leontyne Price Vocal Arts Competition for talented African American opera singers. The winner will be competing at the semi-finals at the upcoming conference. The Union County Club plays an important part in their community with their scholarship program.

The Northeast Division was organized in 1959, being one of seven districts in the organization. The Northeast is the largest in the organization, consisting of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Northern New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and the Commonwealth of Bermuda.

As a non-profit organization, the organization's national program thrust is Health, Education, Employment and Economic Development (HEED). Other projects that clubs participate in are Breast Cancer Awareness Programs, Adopt-A-School, Welfare to Work, and Black Entrepreneurship programs, among others.

The Northeast District's involvement in National projects includes sponsorship of water wells in Cameroon, and the opening of a health care facility in the Village of Atrapa in Ghana. Mary Singletary, past national president and a member of the North Jersey Unit, was very instrumental in these projects. In addition, the District continues to be involved with UNICEF and the United Nations as a non-governmental organization.

I want to salute the great work of Yvonne Harris Jones, the Governor of the Northeast District of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., and all of those whose efforts contribute to making this organization such a force for positive change in our community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ED CRAPO

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable man from my district, Mr. Ed Crapo, Property Appraiser of Alachua County. Mr. Crapo has recently been elected to the position of President of the International Association of Assessing Officers.

The IAAO is an educational and research association of individuals in the assessment community and other professionals with an interest in property taxation. Membership is open to anyone, and includes individuals working in government, private industry, academia and members of the general public.

Through the position of president, Mr. Crapo will help the IAAO to promote innovation and excellence in property appraisal and property tax policy and administration through professional development, education, research and technical assistance.

In 1992, Mr. Crapo was first appointed as a State Representative for the IAAO. Through this position, he was able to make the IAAO's professional standards more widely known throughout the state of Florida. Since then, he has served the IAAO through eight other appointed and elected positions.

As chair of the Research and Technology Committee, he guided the development of professional standards and has helped other appraisers with technical assistance. While serving as chair of the Professional Development Committee, he oversaw an education program which trains more than 6000 assessment employees each year. Through his current position as president-elect, as well as being a former vice-president and board member, Mr. Crapo has been able to change the organization as necessary to meet the ever-changing needs of the assessment community.

By being a member of this organization, Mr. Crapo, is able to learn valuable information from other appraisers around the world. Because of this outstanding resource, he is able to bring his knowledge back to Alachua County to better serve the local residents.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Ed Crapo for his service to Alachua County and for his election to the office of President of the International Association of Assessing Officers.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF GARY YATES

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of San Mateo City Councilman Gary Yates, one of the city's most talented and effective public servants, who passed away suddenly last weekend at the age of only 54 years.

During his quarter-century as a San Mateo City resident, Gary served his community in many capacities, from mayor to president of the local homeowners association. Gary was, however, far more than just an officeholder; he was a dedicated advocate for the needs and interests of all the citizens of the City of San Mateo. He championed initiatives to improve paramedic response times; worked to make city government more efficient by expanding the use of performance bonuses; fought to maintain the beauty of the City of San Mateo by authoring a successful ballot measure to limit the height and density of buildings; and spent countless hours solving public problems both large and small. Mr. Speaker, Gary Yates deserves credit for helping to make the City of San Mateo one of the most pleasant cities places in America to live.

Gary Yates was a dear friend, and it was an honor and a pleasure for me to work with him on a number of issues of importance to the people of the City of San Mateo over the past two decades. His daughter, Dana, served ably as an intern in my office. I would like to offer

my heartfelt condolences to Gary's wife, Linda, and his entire family. Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning the San Mateo County Times eloquently recounted the outstanding legacy that Gary Yates has left to his community, his friends, and his family. I ask that this editorial be placed in the RECORD.

YATES WILL BE MISSED

San Mateo County Times, May 24, 2000

With the untimely death of City Councilman Gary Yates on Sunday, San Mateo has lost a politician, a civic-minded citizen, a friend. Yates was a man who, in the words of City Manager Arne Croce, "lived and breathed this community."

Yates, 54, served on the council since 1993.

But his community involvement stretched back 25 years before that when the San Francisco-born man chose San Mateo as his home town.

Yates became involved with local issues as a member of the Fiesta Gardens Homes Association, and was later president of the umbrella organization, San Mateo United Homeowners Association.

He served as mayor in 1996 and would have held the office again next year.

Yates was remembered by his colleagues on the council as a mediator who could disagree without rancor and always had the community's best interests in mind.

He respected the council's decisions, even when votes didn't go his way.

He was also a strong advocate for public safety, pushing for Advanced Life Support paramedic services countywide and convincing city residents to pass a bond measure funding seismic retrofits at the police and fire stations.

Today, when lots of cities can't even get enough candidates together to hold a contested council election, and many residents are too busy with work and family to get involved in local issues, someone with Yates' dedication to civic life is rare indeed.

Gary Yates will be missed most by his wife, Linda, and his children, Jeff, Dana and Alicia. But the loss echoes throughout San Mateo, which has one less leader and advocate.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, although I am for free and fair trade, as well as engagement with China, now is not the time for Permanent NTR.

Like many of my colleagues, I look at all trade agreements on an individual basis and weigh their positives and negatives accordingly.

For example, I support United States participation in the World Trade Organization and I supported annual NTR because I believe it is important to engage China. However, I opposed the Africa/CBI trade deal because it was bad for American workers and did not contain enough protections from potential trade related job losses to mitigate the impact it would have on American employees and my constituents in New York.

For me, this debate is not about engagement or isolation. I am opposed to PNTR because it is the wrong time to make permanent China's trade benefits with the United States.

China, has simply not matured enough politically or economically to have permanent normal trade relations with the United States.

China has a record of gross human rights violations, including the use of prison labor and a lack of religious freedom and it still poses a danger to our national security. China also has a terrible record on the environment and has some of the most polluted cities in the world.

Last year, 1999, was the worst year for religious freedom in China since the Cultural Revolution of the late 60's, according to the U.S. Commission on Human Rights. In China, numerous religious and human rights groups have suffered severe repression, including Catholics and the Falun Gong. No wonder religious leaders and human rights groups are opposed to PNTR, including the U.S. Catholic Conference.

Even the State Department Report on Human Rights contains tough criticism of Beijing's increased repression of democracy activists and religious groups such as Tibetan Buddhists and Chinese Christians. The report states that religious services were broken up while church leaders were harassed, detained, beaten and tortured.

Prison labor continues to be a problem in China as well. The Laogai Research Foundation has documented nearly 1,100 forced labor camps in China. In these prison camps, laborers receive no compensation for their work, conditions are appalling, and beatings are common.

China also continues to pose a threat to our national security and the security of our allies in the region, especially Taiwan.

We know that China sells weapons and weapons technology to countries like Libya, Sudan and Iran. It should come as no surprise that veterans groups such as the American Legion and the Order of the Purple Heart are against this agreement because of the national security implications.

Economic arguments are another good reason to oppose this agreement.

Despite what PNTR proponents are saying, the economic benefits of this deal are overstated. We already have Normal Trade Relations with China, which have resulted in a large and growing trade deficit.

United States imports from China more than tripled in real terms between 1992 and 1999, and the United States trade deficit with China increased 256 percent to \$68 billion in 1999 (in 1999 dollars). While China runs a huge trade surplus with the United States, it has a sizeable trade deficit with the rest of the world.

The existing trade deficit with China is the product of current United States trade policies. The United States already accepts 40 percent of China's exports. By giving China PNTR status, Congress will be giving up America's most effective tool for changing those policies. Without the ability to negotiate directly with China, the deficit with China will surely grow and United States job losses as a result of the deficit will mount.

The Chinese also have a bad track record when it comes to adhering to existing agreements.

China has violated every trade agreement it has made with the United States over the last

10 years. The Chinese government has broken agreements on opening its markets, stopping the piracy of intellectual property and ending the export of slave labor-produced goods.

The U.S. response, create a monitoring group. But, by creating a monitoring group the Administration is undermining its own argument that, by joining the WTO, China will begin to comply with the rules.

We already know that China has not and will not comply with their agreements. How will a powerless monitoring group help?

Unless there is a mechanism that will punish China for its continued violations of human rights, its poor labor record, its environmental excesses and its religious persecution, it will not do enough to help the situation. A monitoring group, or the Commission created under this legislation is a nice idea.

I commend my colleagues, Congressmen SANDER LEVIN and DOUG BEREUTER, for their hard work on this Commission. They have made some promising steps and I encourage the Senate to retain this worthwhile addition. But it's only one step in a multi-step process.

There is also no guarantee that the Chinese will cooperate with the commission. A commission will also not raise the issue in the public mind as much as the annual review process.

Even the surge protections are a welcomed addition to the legislation, but its benefit is exaggerated.

We have protections now, but under the agreement, if we use them, China can retaliate against us. Also, what guarantee do we have that the Chinese will accept our definition of a surge in imports and respect our decision? The real answer is maintaining the annual review process.

The annual review process focuses attention on China's practices in a way that is unmatched with any other country. It brings awareness to China's practices on human rights and other issues to the highest levels. Because of China's record on human rights, the environment and compliance with international treaties, the American people should be making this decision every year.

The administration's plan to set up a new rapid response team to monitor China's compliance with its market commitments under WTO reinforces the argument I've been making all along—China won't comply with the new agreement.

Like some of my colleagues, I believe China must meet a set of benchmarks before we make these benefits permanent.

First, they must recognize basic human and worker rights. Second, they must stop the proliferation of missile and nuclear technology and equipment. Third, they must promote environmental conservation. And fourth, they must comply with past and present international commitments.

When China has proven itself politically and economically mature enough for PNTR, only then should we extend these benefits. Until then, we should oppose this agreement, vote down this legislation and maintain the annual review process.

It is dangerous to give up the most important leverage we have in getting China to comply with its agreements, the annual review process and the carrot of permanent relations. You don't give away the carrot before you get the result you want.

COMMENDING LIFE UNIVERSITY AND ITS 17TH ANNUAL RUN FOR LIFE

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to congratulate the founder and president of Life University, Dr. Sid E. Williams, and his staff for the continuing success of their Annual Run for Life fund raiser, held each year in Marietta, Cobb County, GA. The 17th Annual Run for Life is set for August 5, 2000. The 2000 Run for Life 5k and 10k will begin at Life University, proceed to the "Big Chicken," then to Historic Marietta Square and back to Life. This is an exciting and fast course that promises to produce many positive results.

Dr. Sid E. Williams conceived the Run for Life as a way to raise funds for community needs while encouraging health and fitness. Their contributions will provide another chance for abused children and youths. In addition, this year's Life University Run for Life is contributing to the World Children's Fund and the "Stop Teenage Smoking" program. Other charities that Life supports are battered women, underprivileged children, American Red Cross, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and Cobb County Children's Center.

Responding to Dr. Williams' constant quest for excellence, Life has also gained national acclaim for its phenomenal achievements in sports. Life University's athletic programs have claimed national championships in basketball, rugby, soccer, cross-country, ice hockey, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field. In all, the University has won more than a dozen national titles and has more than justified the title of "School of Champions."

People of all ages in Georgia and surrounding states look forward to their annual trek to the Life University campus where the spectacular, free Christmas lights display never fails to thrill and delight the millions of visitors who have made the Lights of Life a part of their holiday tradition.

Mr. Speaker, Life University, under the leadership of Dr. Sid Williams, is a tremendous asset to Cobb County, the State of Georgia, and, indeed, the nation. This great institution brings honor to my district and to my State, and I offer my sincerest congratulations to Life University for its long list of achievements and wish Dr. Williams and his associates many more decades of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2000 CENTRAL CABARRUS HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding group of student-athletes from North Carolina's Eighth District.

Last weekend, the Central Cabarrus High School Softball Team completed a truly amazing season by winning the North Carolina AAA Softball State Championship.

"Central Cabarrus set a record for dominance in a softball championship game" wrote a local newspaper. The Viking won by a score of 14-0 over C.B. Aycock High School. This was the largest margin of victory in the history of NCHSAA Softball Championships. This capped off a perfect 28-0 season for the Vikings. The Tournament's most valuable player was sophomore pitcher Crystal Cox who threw a one-hitter and struck out 12 batters. The game was essentially decided in the first inning, finishing the inning with a score of 7-0. The game concluded after only 5 innings, by the 10-run mercy rule.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the 2000 North Carolina State 3-A Softball Champions, the Central Cabarrus High School Vikings. I would urge all of my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to this outstanding team.

HONORING PALOS VERDES
PENINSULA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, an outstanding educational institution within my district. The U.S. Department of Education recently recognized Peninsula High as one of the top high schools in the nation.

Peninsula High was one of ten high schools in the nation to receive both the Blue Ribbon Schools Award and New American High Schools Award. This is a tremendous accomplishment. It is a testament to the quality of education in the South Bay.

Peninsula High received the Blue Ribbon School Award for its commitment to strong leadership, high quality of teaching, rigorous curriculum, and parental involvement. 198 middle and secondary schools throughout the nation were recognized as Blue Ribbon Schools. Among the 198 Blue Ribbon winners, ten also received the New American High Schools Award. The New American High Schools initiative recognizes American high schools committed to achieving high academic standards for all students, preparing all students for college, and providing them with opportunities to learn about careers.

I commend Principal Kelly Johnson and the teachers of Palos Verdes Peninsula High School for offering a curriculum that encourages its students to develop exceptional learning habits. This preparation is invaluable for students who pursue a higher education. Congratulations on this much deserved recognition. You have earned it. I wish the students and teachers of Peninsula High continued success. You are an example for the nation.

TRIBUTE TO KATRINA MARIE
DOMJANCIC, ELIZABETH ANN
JACKSON, AND CARRIE COLLEEN
TAYLOR

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Katrina Marie Domijancic, Elizabeth Ann Jackson and Carrie Colleen Taylor for attaining the Girl Scout Gold Award. They are members of the Senior Girl Scout Troop #326 located in Hobart, Indiana, and will receive this honor at a Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony on Sunday, May 28, 2000 at the Hobart Scout Cabin.

A special significance is attached to the title of Girl Scout Gold Award, a significance that accompanies a young woman throughout her life. As she pursues endeavors in higher education, business, industry and community service, she will carry with her the lofty goal of success through leadership. To qualify for the Gold Award, each Girl Scout must fulfill rigorous requirements in the areas of leadership, career interest and service. Upon completing the above requirements, a prospective Gold Award candidate must find and complete a project that meets a need in the community. Katrina, Carrie, and Elizabeth's Gold Award Project involved enhancing the underused areas of the Hobart Scout Cabin to provide more useable space.

Katrina Domijancic is the daughter of John and Rebecca Domijancic of Hobart, Indiana. She has been a Girl Scout for nine years, and has been president of Senior Girl Scout Troop #326 since 1998. As a Senior Girl Scout, she has earned the Senior Leadership Pin, the Senior Career Exploration Pin, and the Senior Challenge Pin. Katrina attained the Gold Award in conjunction with her academic achievements at Hobart High School. She has served as Vice President of the Hobart High School Spanish Club, Captain of the Cheerleading Squad, and a member of the National Honor Society. Katrina will graduate this June from Hobart High School with honors. After graduation, Katrina plans to attend college, and hopes to become a pharmacist.

Elizabeth Jackson is the daughter of Charles and Annette Jackson of Valparaiso, Indiana. Elizabeth is a junior at Boone Grove High School, and has been a Girl Scout for eleven years. As a Senior Girl Scout, she has earned the Senior Leadership Pin, the Senior Career Exploration Pin, and the Senior Challenge Pin. In addition to being a member of Senior Girl Scout Troop #326, she has participated in the Valparaiso University Community Band and the Boone Grove High School Band. She also was a member of the Boone Grove High School Math Team, which placed fifth in the state.

Finally, Carrie Taylor is the daughter of David Taylor and Georgia Cox of Hobart, Indiana. She has been a Girl Scout for all thirteen possible years. As a Cadette Girl Scout, she earned the Girl Scout Silver Award for attempting to bring the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday to the Hobart Public School System. As a Senior Girl Scout, she has earned the Senior Leadership Pin, the Senior Career Exploration Pin, and the Senior Challenge Pin. Carrie will graduate from Hobart High School

in June of this year. She has enlisted in the United States Navy and will begin active duty in August. She will serve in the Atlantic Fleet and be based out of Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Katrina, Elizabeth and Carrie for their commendable achievement. Their parents and their communities can be proud of these young women. It takes a great deal of tenacity and devotion to achieve such an illustrious award. These young ladies have a promising future ahead of them, which will undoubtedly include improving the quality of life in Indiana's First Congressional District.

HONORING JOE WILLIAMS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, a concerned, giving and caring man is retiring from public office after many years of serving the people of his communities. Joe Williams is stepping down as President of the City Council of Warren, Ohio. He has already received many awards for his outstanding public service; including the Governor's Award and the Mayor's Award for outstanding civic contributions, the City Council Citation, Honorary Auditor by the State Auditor and Honorary Deputy. He was inducted into the Trumbull (County) African-American Achievers Hall of Fame and has also been honored by the Black Knights Police Association and Who's Who Among Black Americans.

He holds the record for being elected to the City Council for 22 years and has been elected to the Trumbull County Central Committee of the Democratic Party for five terms. He was the first African American to represent the Seventh Ward and the first to become President of the Warren City Council.

Joe was born and raised in Tuskegee, Alabama where he attended the Tuskegee Institute, completing an Associate Degree in Electrical Design. In 1977 the City of Tuskegee proclaimed him Honorary Mayor.

Joe has been an electrician for 34 years at General Motors. He is married to Marilyn Hainesworth Williams and they have two children. Joe Williams is an outstanding example of someone who dedicates his life to his family and his community. He is a public servant who could serve as a role model for all of us. I congratulate him on his many accomplishments and wish him the very best in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE TEXAS BAY
AREA AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Texas Bay Area American Cancer Society.

Anyone who has a friend or family member stricken by cancer knows the importance of the American Cancer Society. We have all

heard of the great accomplishments in fighting cancer during the past decade, and ACS has played a key role. Raising millions of dollars to research cancer treatments and cures are perhaps the most well known of its efforts. There is also the Society's important work to prevent cancer through education and other efforts.

Its assistance to those struggling with the disease is perhaps most closely felt. Cancer victims and their families turn to the American Cancer Society for support when the fight against cancer become all too personal. There are countless survivors who know what a difference the Society can make.

An effective, national organization, the American Cancer Society derives its greatest strength from its volunteers and activists across the nation. I wish to just highlight one of its many local groups, the Bay Area American Cancer Society in the southeast of Texas. Stretching from Friendswood, to Pearland, through Webster and Nassau Bay, the Baytown Chapter encompasses more than a dozen small towns. These diverse communities across the Clear Lake area of Texas join together in their fight against cancer.

The educational work of the Bay Area American Cancer Society doesn't stop in Clear Lake, or even in Texas. We hear their message even here in the nation's Capitol. Whether it is the call for critical federal research funds or to support coverage of routine patient care costs for Medicare beneficiaries with cancer, it is the local activists who alert me to the key issues in the fight against cancer.

I applaud their efforts, I applaud their accomplishment, and I join in their dream to end the disease of cancer that touches too many lives and families.

HONORING HELEN McDOWELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Helen McDowell, a nurse, a parent, and a pillar of her community. Her motto is: "Lots of talk and activity don't impress me; results are what really counts." I honor her today because she has an impressive history of achieving results and serving the needs of others.

Helen McDowell was born in Montclair, New Jersey, the daughter of the late George McDowell of Birmingham, Alabama and his wife, Mary, of Halifax, North Carolina. After living several years in New Jersey and Queens, New York, Helen McDowell moved with her mother and two brothers to Stuyvesant Avenue in Brooklyn, New York.

In her new home in Brooklyn, Helen attended the Holy Rosary School and Catherine McAuley High School. These distinguished institutions prepared her well for college, and she began her college career at St. John's University. After spending some time at St. John's, Ms. McDowell pursued a course of study at the Bellevue School of Nursing at New York University. Public Nursing was her forte, and her interest in it led her to continue her studies at Teachers College at Columbia University.

"Ms. Mac," as her friends know her, began an illustrious teaching career in San Fran-

cisco, California. Through her teaching position in San Francisco, she got the opportunity to travel to Africa, Haiti and the Eastern Caribbean with the United Nations' World Health Organization. As you can imagine, during her seventeen years away from her community in Brooklyn, Ms. Mac had the good fortune to combine her work, travel and, sometimes, play on several continents.

Ultimately, Ms. Mac returned to us in Brooklyn, reestablishing her roots in Bedford Stuyvesant. However, she continued to fulfill her commitment to lifelong learning, a cornerstone of her philosophy of life. So, at the age of 50, she enrolled in a graduate program in Business Administration, which she completed with distinction.

An early retirement enabled Ms. Mac to become deeply involved with non-profit organizations in her local community. She eventually established Marimac Services, Inc., a corporation that enabled her to invest in and assist others with tenant and building management services. Many local professional organizations benefited from her dedication, expertise and professionalism.

While she is too shy to admit her many talents, like her fluency in French, her family and friends know how remarkable she is. Whether she is spending her time overseeing building renovations, home repair or decorating, her energy and resources seem endless. Ms. Mac is more than worthy of receiving this honor, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

TRIBUTE TO COCHISE CASH

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Cochise Cash. For many years now, Mr. Cash has been a leader in our Fort Worth community. He is a groundbreaking journalist, being one of the first African Americans to work as a television reporter in the Dallas/Fort Worth market. He has also given an enormous amount of his time to various charitable and community activities.

In recognition of his dedication to his fellow citizens, this past September Cochise Cash was elected as President of the prestigious Southside Optimist Club of Fort Worth. Mr. Cash is the first African American president in the club's history.

This is a high compliment to Cochise Cash and a fitting recognition of his many years of good work. Your family and friends must be proud of you. Mr. Cash, I'd like to thank you on behalf of all of my constituents, good luck in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF KALEIDOSCOPE 2000—THE 20TH ANNUAL NAPA VALLEY WINE AUCTION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Napa Valley Vint-

ners Association's 20th Annual Napa Valley Wine Auction to be held on June 3, 2000 at Meadowood Resort in St. Helena, CA.

Since its inception in 1981, the Napa Valley Wine Auction has become the world's largest charity wine auction contributing more than \$20 million to local nonprofit organizations.

Last year, the auction raised over \$4 million, which was allocated to area health care providers, and youth and housing programs. Organizations that have benefited from these funds include Napa Women's Emergency Services, Hospice of Napa Valley, Planned Parenthood, the Boys and Girls Clubs of American Canyon, Napa Valley, and St. Helena, and Healthy Moms and Babies.

The auction weekend kicks off on Thursday, June 1st with the opening of the display auction lots at newly remodeled Silverado Vineyards with a trio of joint venture lots and concludes on Saturday, June 3rd with a family-style dinner on the Meadowood fairway.

The three-day event includes a tasting of foods prepared by dozens of Napa Valley restaurateurs and caterers as well as a Vintners black-tie dinner Gala.

This year's event features soul diva Patti LaBelle, who agreed to perform a 40-minute show after learning that last year's monies went to farm worker housing, youth at risk, and health care.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we acknowledge the 20th Napa Valley Wine Auction and the Napa Valley Vintners Association's efforts to improve the quality of life in our community.

IN CELEBRATION OF KANSAS CITY'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Kansas City, Missouri's 150th Birthday. The sesquicentennial marks an era of growth and prosperity in the Midwest. John Calvin McCoy, the father of Kansas City, created a small trading town on the banks of the Missouri River. It was a link from the stunning East to the sprawling West. Truly in the Heart of America, this City was destined to become a great metropolitan area as it is today.

The innovation of bridges allowed travelers and goods to move through Kansas City to complement the Missouri River's movement of commerce. Soon railroads aided this cause and Kansas City flourished. It became a metropolis known for its stockyards and wheat. The 1900's brought growth.

The citizens of this distinguished and lovable city have seen the building of the Liberty Memorial, the only World War I monument dedicated by the five allied leaders; the development of the Country Club Plaza by J.C. Nichols, the first outdoor shopping venue now visited by travelers from all over the world for its elegance; the Pendergast era in which Kansas City's own political machine ruled for years; a Convention Center rebuilt from fire ruins in less than 90 days for the 1900 Democratic National Convention; and the birth of Kansas City Jazz which can still be heard throughout our country. We became a Major

League sports city supported by the Kansas City Royals Baseball team, the Kansas City Chiefs Football team, and the home to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. Unfortunately it is impossible to cover the entire expansive and rich history my City has displayed.

Kansas City is now the second largest rail hub. We are second only to Rome in fountains and have more miles of boulevards than Paris. Kansas City is first in greeting card publishing as the home to Hallmark Cards. We have more freeway miles per capita than any major metro area and are 25th in U.S. population. Kansas City is adored for its 24 public lakes and 200 public parks. We stand 1.6 million people strong in the metropolitan area.

We highlight our rich history through events and activities that enliven the culture of our community and celebrates its diversity and sense of unity. This year Kansas City was blessed with events such as "Arrivals and Departures—Union Station" a Kansas City symphony performance to highlight the importance and the memories shared at our newly renovated Union Station; Benjamin Ranch Celebration Picnic allowing our youth to experience the wild outdoors with horse rides, stagecoach and hayrides; the 18th and Vine Vintage Vine afternoon at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum recreated the excitement of a Monarchs game; and finally the Kansas City Zoological Park brings our community 150 new animals. The grand finale will be held at Arrowhead Stadium where Walter Cronkite, Kenny Rogers, Little Richard, Oleta Adams, and the biggest fountain and pyrotechnic special effects show ever seen in the Midwest will swing us into the next incredible 150 years.

Throughout the 150 years of Kansas City we have been known for our hospitality, strong work ethic, fairness, and ability to develop a consensus. These attributes of our community are constantly enhanced by our citizens' commitment to continue to grow and expand upon these inherent traditions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the City of Kansas City's 150th Birthday.

IRANIAN JEWS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join several of my colleagues in condemning the actions of the Iranian government against 13 members of that nation's Jewish community. These Jews, arrested over a year ago, have been accused of spying for Israel. In Iran, a country where Jews enjoy virtually no freedoms and are under constant government scrutiny, one of the world's most effective intelligence organizations, Israel's Mossad, has allegedly chosen to use Jews to collect state secrets. Not only is this assertion preposterous, it is offensive. A shoe salesman, a candy store owner, and a 16-year-old boy, are being portrayed as agents of espionage.

Ten of the 13 have been imprisoned since their arrest last year. All have been brought before a court with no jury, in which the judge also serves as the prosecutor, to face accusations they have not heard, without the assistance of a lawyer or any contact with their fam-

ilies or friends. To add insult to injury, a Justice Ministry spokesman recently announced that "only one or two" of the 13 Jews were actually accused of espionage, the others were accused of the lesser crime of acting against national security. This after the Minister of Intelligence and Security said, in January, "if they are condemned to hang, they will be hanged." As if "one or two" deaths were any less despicable than 13.

This would not be the first time a show trial in Iran resulted in the deaths of members of the Jewish community there. Since the Islamic revolution in 1979, 17 Jews have been executed in Iran. I say it is time for this to stop. I ask those in Iran who represent fundamental Islamic faith to recall the centuries old Islamic tradition that protects strangers in Muslim lands. I call on those in Iran who represent reason and reform to intervene and prevent a brutal outcome to this trial. And I ask all Iranians to look at the changing world and recognize that by rejecting reconciliation with Jews, they are no longer on the fore of a unified Arab front, they are lonely outsiders who will never reap the benefits of the lasting partnerships being formed in the Middle East.

EVENT AT WEST END MEMORIAL SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, Who: 200 4th and 5th grade students from Woodbury Public Schools.

What: Will host Vice-president Lawrence Engel of the Battleship New Jersey Foundation.

When: May 24, 2000 at 1:30 PM.

Where: West End Memorial School, Woodbury, NJ.

Why: The fifth grade students from the three elementary schools engaged in a two month project of designing, making, and selling needlepoint bookmarks and stock certificates which resulted in raising \$1000.00 for the Battleship New Jersey Museum which is to be located in Camden, NJ. An assembly featuring Liberty, Uncle Sam, The Minuteman, Betsy Ross, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt will engage the students in the singing of patriotic songs, the presentation of the check to Col. Engel, and refreshments to celebrate their success.

Col. Engel will present the district with a print of the Battleship and certificates of participation to each of the three elementary schools. He will address the classes about the ship and its contributions to democracy, present a slide show, and bring a six-foot model of the ship with him. He will also comment on the significance of Memorial Day.

May 24 has been designated Red, White, and Blue Day at West End School in celebration of Memorial Day and the student's success.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE ILLINOIS PTA

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the members of the Illinois PTA, and celebrate the 100th, anniversary of this extraordinary organization. Tuesday, May 30, 2000, will mark 100 years of partnership between the dedicated parents and teachers from across the great state of Illinois.

The Illinois PTA is invested in improving the quality of education and opening the doors of opportunity for all students. From our largest cities to our smallest towns, the PTA is working to ensure that each student has the resources needed to succeed and is provided with a safe, healthy environment in which to flourish.

We must make a commitment to helping the members of the Illinois PTA and parents, teachers, and students from across the country, by providing them with the tools they need to do their jobs. We know that the greatest investment we can make in our youth is to provide them with a quality education. In this time of economic prosperity, we can afford to make a long overdue investment in public education. I hope you will join me in the effort to bring quality teachers, smaller class sizes, greater accountability, and modern schools to American communities. The time is now.

I commend the tireless efforts of the members of the Illinois PTA and express my deepest gratitude for their noble work. I wish them continued success in the years to come.

HONORING JUDGE VEL PHILLIPS

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Judge Vel Phillips, who was recognized on May 14, 2000, with an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Vel Phillips has been my friend for many years and a friend to the people of Wisconsin for many years more. I first developed my admiration for Vel Phillips as a young paperboy, reading about her work in public office. I assumed two things about her: first, that she must be very important, and second, that she must be very old. I was obviously wrong about her age, because thirty years later, she is as active and vibrant a person as any I know. In fact, she's forever young.

The record of barriers she broke and accomplishments she attained is too long to list in full, but I am pleased to offer a few examples. Vel was the first African American woman to earn a law degree at the University of Wisconsin Law School. She was the first woman and the first African American elected to serve on Milwaukee's Common Council, and her incisive mind, great personal charm and deep sense of devotion to the needs of her constituents made her an effective and respected representative. After 16 years on the Council, Vel was appointed to Milwaukee

County's Children's Court, and became the first woman and the first African-American to serve as a Wisconsin judge. In 1978, she ran a successful campaign for Wisconsin Secretary of State and became the first African American to be elected to a statewide, constitutional office.

The University of Wisconsin honored Judge Phillips' unparalleled contributions to our community and to Wisconsin history on May 14, 2000, by bestowing on her an honorary Doctorate of Laws. On May 28th, her friends and admirers will gather at the Community Brainstorming Conference in Milwaukee to congratulate Vel. I join them in commending Judge Vel Phillips on this latest distinction, and I celebrate her years of dedicated service to the people of Wisconsin.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, greed has rolled like a bulldozer over all of the numerous logical reasons supporting the denial of a permanent trade agreement with China. The megaprofits to be realized by the corporate elite are so overwhelming that this juggernaut cannot be halted. This act will have tornado-like devastation on the employment of ordinary men and women in this nation. Workers on both sides of the world will be the victims of this agreement. Chinese laborers paid twenty five cents per hour or less will fill the bank accounts of multi-national corporations. American workers will be forced to struggle harder and work more hours as industrial and manufacturing jobs are moved to China. Only lower paying service jobs or hi-tech positions requiring a college education will be left here on our shores.

Trade agreements standing alone on the floor of the House should never be accepted in the future. We should be voting on a comprehensive bill which anticipates the consequences of this arrangement with a nation of 1.2 billion people. The legislation should cover provisions to compensate for the massive economic dislocations that will inevitably escalate over the next few years. A massive worker retraining is needed for adults who face the immediate loss of their livelihoods. We also need a thorough revamping of the nation's public school system, an institution which serves working families, to guarantee that the emerging work force will have the qualifications to fill the thousands of information technology and telecommunications vacancies.

Mr. Speaker, if this risky agreement is passed today, we must immediately develop legislation to establish Worker Technology Retraining Centers to be operated by unions and other worker organizations in all parts of the nation where a loss of jobs will take place.

We must also take advantage of the enormous 200 billion dollar surplus available this year and the anticipated two trillion dollar sur-

plus over the next ten years to revamp our public school system. To cope with the massive transformations of the future work places in America we must mandate that no less than ten percent of the surplus must be allocated to education for the next ten years.

We must vote no on this bill before us. At the same time, we must resolve not to desert our working families. Pledge now to adequately finance the world's greatest public education system.

TRIBUTE TO RAY PERRY, C.O.P.E. UNITY AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a distinguished American, a proud Californian and a great labor leader, Ray Perry, who has been chosen to receive the C.O.P.E. Unity Award at the 21st, Annual Committee on Political Education banquet.

Ray Perry has devoted more than two decades of his life in steadfast support of the San Mateo County California Central Labor Council. Since the beginning of his career as an apprentice mechanic at Alameda Naval Air Station in 1966, Ray Perry has brought his skills and energy to community activism and has become a leader of the labor community. First appointed as a Delegate to the San Mateo Central Labor Council in 1979, Ray Perry is now President of the International Association of Machinists, Local Lodge 1781, representing over 10,000 employees of United Airlines at San Francisco International Airport.

As a Delegate, he's worked tirelessly to guide and develop the COPE structure into one of the most well organized, innovative and effective political programs in San Mateo County. Because of his leadership in the campaign to gather signatures, the drive to restore CAL-OSHA was successful in preserving the toughest worker safety program in our nation.

Today, Ray Perry continues his extraordinary work. As Chairman of the U.A.L. Grievance Committee, he is currently working to strengthen the United Airlines Labor Coalition of Machinists, the Association of Flight Attendants, and the Airline Pilots Association. He is widely admired for his boundless energy and his effective work as well as his passionate crusade to improve the lives of those around him.

Ray Perry's life of leadership and community involvement is instructive to us all. His dedication to the ideals of democracy and public service stand tall. I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in honoring this good man whom I'm privileged to know and call my friend. We are indeed a better community and a better country because of him.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

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. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Chairman, the Navy resumed training on the Atlantic Fleet bombing range in Vieques after Federal Agents cleared the bombing range of protesters. Unfortunately, a very tense situation remains. Yet we in the legislature, instead of leaving in place the agreement reached by the President, the governor of Puerto Rico and the Secretaries of Defense and Navy, we tried to add fuel to the fire with a provision in H.R. 4205 that unilaterally undermined a deal where concessions were made on all sides.

I am pleased with the passage of Mr. SKELTON's amendment and celebrate our victory in striking out the deal breaking language in H.R. 4205 and reinstating our agreement with Pedro Rossello, Governor of Puerto Rico. Let us recall that the agreement reached last January is a deal where concessions were made by both sides—negotiators had worked in good faith to reconcile the vital need for training with the legitimate concerns of the people of Vieques. Mr. SKELTON's amendment leaves in place the compromise agreement for the orderly transfer of land on the Western side of Vieques, land not utilized by the Navy, to Puerto Rico. I urge the continuation of the President's deal as H.R. 4205 moves toward conference.

One thing is evident, our actions influenced the Navy's ability to continue crucial training on Vieques. We simply would have done a disservice to our sailors and their readiness if our legislative actions somehow led to more unrest in Puerto Rico. Let us not forget that the Navy has not been the best of neighbors to the American citizens of Vieques. Since the early days of World War II, the people of Vieques have been exposed to bombing raids 180 days of each year. Unfortunately, a little over a year ago, a bomb fell 2 miles off target, killing Mr. David Sanes Rodriguez, a civilian employee by the Navy and severely wounding four others. This tragic accident redefined and emboldened virtually all of Puerto Rico to demand for the safety, the security, and the well-being of the 9,311 Puerto Rico Americans who reside in Vieques.

Let me be clear on the point that the Skelton amendment is strongly supported by the Government of Puerto Rico. I have spoken with Governor Rossello. He told me that over 70 percent of the American citizens on Vieques live below the poverty level and that civilian residents reportedly suffer from a cancer rate 26 percent higher than that of Puerto Rico as a whole. Doctors also note high levels of birth defects, skin diseases, asthma and other respiratory diseases. Yet without this amendment the resources that these people need would have been jeopardized.

If you are concerned about the ability of the Navy and our sailors to be militarily ready, then you will support the continuation of the President's deal in conference because it represents the quickest way for us to resume a full spread of training activities which can include live fire exercises.

The bottom line is that we have already negotiated a deal that is supported by all sides in this debate. But without the Skelton Amendment we would have had no deal. And so whether you are coming at this debate from a military or Puerto Rican perspective you can be sure that supporting the President's deal is the right thing to do.

REMEMBERING LANCE CORPORAL
KEOKI P. SANTOS AND LANCE
CORPORAL SETH JONES

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, on April 8, 2000 nineteen U.S. Marines were killed in the Arizona desert when their MV-22 Osprey crashed during a training exercise.

Two of those Marines, Lance Corporal Keoki Santos and Lance Corporal Seth Jones, were citizens of Oregon.

Lance Corporal Santos—who was only 24 years old—was a native of Grande Ronde, a Native American confederation which I have the good fortune of representing here in Congress.

He was an outstanding Marine. Keoki was also deeply loved by his mother, Mrs. Christina Mercier.

Lance Corporal Jones, who was only 19 years old, was an equally outstanding Marine.

He too left behind grieving relatives—his mother, Ms. Michele Tytlar, lives in Portland, Oregon and his father, Mr. Daniel Jones, lives in Bend, Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, this Monday is Memorial Day. Most, if not every Member of Congress, will return home to participate in official remembrance ceremonies.

Yesterday, three flags were flown over the Capitol of the United States commemorating the bravery of Lance Corporal Santos and Lance Corporal Jones.

This Memorial Day, I will present these flags to the families of these two Marines at Willamette National Cemetery.

I will also read aloud and present each family a letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James L. Jones.

This letter shares the Commandant's thoughts on the service and loss of not just these men, but all nineteen of the Marines killed in this tragic accident.

We owe an enormous debt to every American soldier, sailor, flyer, and Marine.

As we all return home this weekend to observe Memorial Day, we must remember those who served our Nation in uniform and now lie in eternal rest.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE INS OMAHA DISTRICT OFFICE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would commend to his colleagues the following editorial from the May 12, 2000, edition of the Omaha World-Herald.

As the editorial correctly notes, the Omaha District Office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), which serves Nebraska and Iowa, has experienced a dramatic increase in demand for the services it provides. Despite the on-going efforts of the Nebraska and Iowa Congressional Delegations, on behalf of their constituents, to bring attention to this untenable situation and also to the lack of resources committed to the enforcement of immigration laws in this country's interior states, INS officials at the Federal and regional levels remain unresponsive. This Member and several of his colleagues from Nebraska and Iowa feel that the problems must now be addressed through the appropriations process.

This Member hopes that his colleagues in the House of Representatives will favorably review the requests outlined in the editorial and that they will increase assistance to INS operations not only in Nebraska and Iowa but in this country's interior region as a whole.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, May 12, 2000]

SHOW THEM THE MONEY

The figures are as solid as they are daunting: The Omaha office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service has a backlog of more than 5,000 cases. Over the last five years, it has seen a 400 percent increase in the number of documents processed. Workloads like that can't be handled with smoke and mirrors. Warm bodies must be in place, and that place needs to be safe and efficient. Some members of Congress clearly understand the problem, and they are commendably committed to solving it.

Last week the entire Nebraska congressional delegation, joined by Rep. Jim Leach of Iowa, wrote to colleagues whose committees oversee spending for the INS. The request was for them to earmark enough money (about \$119,000 yearly) to add two immigration information officers and two clerical positions to the local office.

This request for a direct appropriation wouldn't have been necessary if Mark Reed, director of the INS Central Region, had responded to these officials' 1999 request to flesh out the office's ability to respond to public needs. It's hard to fathom why he didn't.

Now, Nebraska's three House members have approached the chair of the appropriate subcommittee about getting a one-time injection of \$2 million to relocate the Omaha INS branch to new quarters, possibly near Eppley Airfield.

If the lawmakers are successful in these efforts, that will address the local agency's two biggest problems: a personnel shortage and an inadequate physical plant. It's about time something was done. The modern-day trend toward more and more newcomers argues that from an operational standpoint, things are likely to get worse before they get better.

For years, the local INS has operated piecemeal out of four buildings, the main one being at 3736 South 132nd St. Until last fall, clients had to wait outside in all kinds of weather. That was addressed when the local INS officials leased a 2,400-square-foot waiting area, but even that was a stopgap measure. Getting the 65,000-square-foot building envisioned by the local officials and community activists, along with an adequate number of people to staff it, would be the right thing to do.

What the lawmakers are attempting amounts to a fiscal end-run, asking for improvements the INS should already have requested on its own. There's no telling it will work, but let's hope so. Certainly, the intentions are honorable. The INS overload here has gone beyond embarrassing and is edging toward intolerable.

IT'S TIME THAT CONGRESS LOOK INTO THE FEDERALIZATION OF CRIMES

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, its high time that Congress takes a serious look at the federalization of crimes in the United States. The State and Federal Courts together comprise an intertwined system for the administration of justice in the United States. The two courts systems have played different but equally significant roles in the Federal system. However, the State courts have served as the primary tribunals for trials of criminal law cases.

The Federal Courts have a more limited jurisdiction than the State Courts with respect to criminal matters because of the fundamental constitutional principle that the Federal government is a government of delegated power in which the residual power remains with the States. In criminal matters, the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts should compliment, not supplant, that of the State Courts.

The 1999 Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary shows how its caseload has grown:

One hundred years ago, there were 108 authorized federal judgeships in the federal judiciary, consisting of 71 district judgeships, 28 appellate judgeships, and 9 Supreme Court Justices. Today, there are 852—including 655 district judgeships, 179 appellate judgeships and 9 Supreme Court Justices. In 1900, 13,605 cases were filed in federal district courts, and 1,093 in courts of appeals. This past year, over 320,194 cases were filed in federal district courts, over 546,000 in courts of appeals, and over 1,300,000 filings were made in bankruptcy courts alone.

It is apparent that some growth of the federal court system should occur over time due to increases in population. But what also has grown substantially is the scope of federal jurisdiction. Federalization of the states' criminal codes is something that politicians, especially here at the federal level, cannot seem to help but engage in from time to time. It has been over time, in response to criminal concerns nationwide, that Congress has again and again federalized crimes in the name of fighting crime and protecting the nation's populace. But, is the federalization of crime really an antidote for our nation's crime problems? Is it really proper to federalize crime so politicians can "prove" their effectiveness? These are important questions that must be asked. We all

must look in the mirror and ask ourselves whether there is a sound justification for having two parallel justice systems.

Americans should not be subject to different, competing law enforcement systems, different penalties depending on which system brings them to trial, and an ever-lengthening possibility that they might be tried for the same offense more than once.

Mr. Speaker, much of what I just stated is contained in the findings of the bill I introduced today—the Federalization of Crimes Uniform Standards (FOCUS) Act of 2000.

The bill is simple. It lays out what the appropriate Federal activity—response—is an offense against the Federal Government. Under the bill, section 6, an offense, or federal crime, is an activity with respect to which a clear need for uniform Federal law enforcement exists. This includes an activity that involves conduct of an interstate or international nature, or of such magnitude or complexity that a State acting alone cannot carry out effective law enforcement with respect to that conduct; or that involves conduct of overriding national interest, such as interference with the exercise of constitutional rights. The criminal conduct must be an offense directly against the Federal Government, including an offense directly against an officer, employee, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal Government. Seems pretty basic.

The idea behind this section is to set a standard definition to what constitutes a federal crime. The current method seems to be that a federal crime is whatever Congress deems it to be, without any true consideration of the constitutional issues involved. Therefore, under the current methods, political will is the only thing that keeps us from federalizing crime. Political weakness in the face of media sound bite criticisms force Congress to act again and again to federalize crime—even when there is nothing but rhetoric to suggest that “something must be done!” to fight crime.

Sometimes less is better. In 1999, the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee held hearings on the issue of “controlling the federalization of crimes that are better left to state laws and courts to handle.” The hearings were held in part as a response to questions raised by Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist regarding the federalization of criminal law. The hearings also focused on the American Bar Association’s Task Force on the same issue. The Task Force, which was chaired by former Attorney General Edwin Meese, concluded that in order to maintain balance in our Constitutional system of justice, there must be a “principled recognition by Congress for the long-range damage to real crime control and to the nation’s structure caused by inappropriate federalization.”

Inappropriate federalization. Now, some will say that this is a Republican’s attempt to weaken the laws of the land. My reply is simply that federalization of crime does not make anyone safer. Simply adding more laws to the federal code will not necessarily help the citizenry. On the contrary, it could end up hurting those we want to help.

Consider that increased federalization has caused a significant case backlog in our federal courts. Those people with cases pending in the federal system for things other than criminal purposes are impacted. Their rights to due process for fair hearings on their issues are delayed. The rights of those who are

criminal victims are often delayed, too, due to the length of time it takes at the federal level to hear a criminal case. The backlogs are real. The delays are frustrating. Justice is not being served.

Some say, let’s add more money so we can get these cases to trial. Again, my response to that is, why should we have two entirely parallel systems of justice in our country? Money is not the answer. Better utilization of our constitutional system of federalism and separation of powers is a good place to begin.

Let the states work their will. The Federal Government doesn’t always have the best answers. We effectively have 50 different constitutional republics that can and do serve as policy laboratories. The electorate in these states are the very same people that elect us all to Congress. They can take control of what is happening in their states and compare outcomes with 49 other state jurisdictions (not to mention the District of Columbia and the territories). With a federal system, will we ultimately move to a single federal criminal code? It would appear that way. It may not happen this year, this decade or even this century. However, over the course of time, the trend indeed is moving that way.

This bill is a common sense approach to checking the Congress’ penchant for federalizing crimes. It sets guidelines for Congress, which will certainly debate crime again in the legislative branch. The standards state that no federal criminal legislation shall be enacted unless and until certain criteria are met: the legislation must center on the core functions discussed earlier; the States must be inadequately addressing the perceived need; the Federal Judiciary is able to meet the needs without restructuring and without affecting efficiency; and, the bill includes a federal law enforcement impact statement. We pass bills all the time to address certain needs. Let’s put the rhetoric to a test.

Finally, the bill sets up a Commission to Review the Federal Criminal Code. This commission will review, ascertain, report, and recommend action to the Congress on the following matters: the Federal criminal code (Title 18) and any other federal crimes as to compliance with the standards in this Act; recommend changes, either through amendment or repeal, to the President and Congress where appropriate to the offenses set forth in said criminal code (Title 18) or otherwise; and such other related matters as the Commission deems appropriate.

Finally, for each piece of legislation passed out of congressional committees of jurisdiction that modify or add to federal criminal code, the commission must submit a report to Congress. This report will be called a Federal Crimes Impact Statement that shall be included in the reports filed prior to consideration by the House and Senate.

The membership of the commission is important to consider. The bill calls for 5 appointed members—1 each from both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate, and one appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States, who shall chair the Commission. This will bring a new, and much needed, dimension to the debate. Under the bill, the commission would be charged with obtaining official data directly from any department or agency of the United States necessary for it to carry out this section—unless doing so would threaten the national security, the health or safety of

any individual, or the integrity of an ongoing investigation.

Finally, the bill would subject certain legislation to a point of order—if it has not met the conditions set out in the legislation. This would provide additional time for Congress to debate the merits of legislation being considered.

In effect, this bill is about considered and appropriate debate for federalizing crime. It will help educate Congress to make more informed decisions that impact the daily lives of all of our constituents. It will help take some of the politics out of the important issues that we face with regard to protecting people from crime.

Mr. Speaker, we need to act. The Judiciary has made subtle and not so subtle pleas for Congress to refrain from and restrain its penchant to federalize the criminal code. Most recently, in a decision concerning the Violence Against Women Act, the Chief Justice writes,

[t]he Constitution requires a distinction between what is truly national and what is truly local, and there is no better example of the police power, which the Founders undeniably left reposed in the States and denied the central government, than the suppression of violent crime and vindication of its victims. Congress therefore may not regulate non-economic, violent criminal conduct based solely on the conducts’ aggregate effect on interstate commerce. [*U.S. v. Morrison et al. decided May 15, 2000 (Syllabus)*]

Clearly, there is a message in those words about the federalization of crime. It is time that Congress heeds it.

MEMORIAL DAY 2000

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, every year on Memorial Day, small replicas of our Star-Spangled Banner appear in cemeteries across our Nation. They mark the final resting places of those who gave their lives to defend the helpless, to let democracy flower around the world, and to defend the freedoms and liberties we enjoy as Americans.

These honored dead have not died in vain, as Abraham Lincoln solemnly pledged during the most divisive, soul-rending war this nation had yet faced. We have a long, proud history of service and sacrifice given by those men and women who quit the safety of everyday life and friends “to hazard all in freedom’s fight.” Today, we have such men and women deployed around the world, and we hold them and their families in our hearts and prayers.

That oath to defend the Constitution has been sworn by every soldier, sailor, flyer, and Marine, living and dead. On Memorial Day, we recall with bittersweet fondness, those who gave everything to preserve the security and liberty of those they loved and those they never knew. What wonderful people we have lost! What gifts might they have given the world, had war not shortened their lives! And yet they gave the dearest gifts they had, and now they lie beneath small flags of red, white and blue in grassy fields all around us.

We have honored their graves and their lives on Memorial Day since the end of our own Civil War. In 1866, spontaneous rites of remembrance were held in Carbondale, IL, in

Columbus, MS, and Waterloo, NY. The families of the men killed in that war came together to place flowers by their gravestones. The veterans joined this practice, honoring their fallen comrades with their own recollections of courage and devotion on stricken fields. Ever since then, veterans and their families have led the observance of Memorial Day.

There have been times, during and right after wars, when most Americans have known some of these honored dead. Those who defend this country, after all, are men and women from every town and every walk of life. They are as ordinary as the earth they lie beneath, and more precious than diamonds.

But in prolonged times of peace, children are born and grow up never knowing anybody who fell in war. While peace is an immeasurable blessing, not to have known any of these honored dead is a loss. Some feel it in never knowing a father or other relative lost in combat. Others have no connection beyond gratitude.

Memorial Day brings that connection to our consciousness. On this day we are all aware of the service so many have given this Nation, and of what risk those who defend this nation share. This is a day, I would hope only one of many, on which the living remember and salute those who served our Nation in uniform and now lie at eternal rest.

On this Memorial Day, I would like to remember two fallen heroes from the Second Congressional District of Florida, which I have the distinct honor of representing in the House of Representatives. Air Force Master Sgt. Sherry Lynn Olds, of Panama City and Marine Sgt. Jesse N. Aliganga, of Tallahassee, made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country. These soldiers were two of 12 Americans that gave their lives in the August 7th, 1998, terrorist bombing of the United States Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. On this day, we honor them and the many others that have gone before them, and the contributions all of them have made for us.

Service of this country in uniform has been, since the beginning, one of the greatest sources of unity and equality, in our national life. More than half a century ago, President Franklin Roosevelt reminded the American people that, "Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them." I hope on this Memorial Day 2000, we as a nation, and each of us as individuals, will take to heart President Roosevelt's reminder that it is the sacred duty and great privilege of the living to honor and remember those who have died to protect the American ideals of freedom, democracy, and liberty. The men and women who have died in service to America and to all of us deserve no less.

MARTHA MATILDA HARPER'S
BUSINESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I speak in honor of Small Business Week. As we salute the entrepreneurial engine of our country, it is my distinct privilege to inform you

that I represent the district where modern franchising was first conceived in Rochester, NY.

In 1888, Martha Matilda Harper, an impoverished Canadian immigrant who came to the United States to change her destiny, developed a new business model to share the economic opportunity of business ownership with former servant women, her working-class sisters. She demonstrated how to use business for social change. Ultimately, Harper had over 500 healthy hair and skin care salons throughout the world, delighting world leaders, including our presidents, first ladies, suffragists, and socialites. President Woodrow Wilson went for nightly scalp massages in the Harper Paris salon to relax his tired nerves, while he was negotiating the Treaty of Versailles.

As we go forth in the new millennium, I hope we remember to credit the early innovators in our country, especially when they were poor women such as Martha Matilda Harper who changed the face of our business models. It is particularly fitting that May 26th in Rochester, NY, is being declared Martha Matilda Harper Day as a new museum exhibit and book reveal the extraordinary feats and principles of this remarkable woman. May her wisdom and leadership guide us as we compete in our global economy.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am strongly opposed to recognizing, as normal, China's persistent violations of fundamental human rights, labor rights, reproductive rights, religious freedom, political rights, social and economic rights, as well as their export of sophisticated and destabilizing weapons, and their overt threats to Taiwan, by granting them Permanent Normal Trade Relations.

To be sure, some people will benefit from granting PNTR to China. If you can shut down your production lines in the United States, turn out your employees, and move your production to China where you can pay workers 25 cents an hour in sweatshop conditions—and have no moral qualms about that—then this deal can be a sweet one, indeed. But I thought the United States was supposed to stand for more than just making a quick buck.

I thought the United States was supposed to stand for what is good in the world.

It used to be that we did stand for good in the world. And because of that, we gained the respect and the moral integrity to make our word prevail throughout the world. Indeed, our power and authority went well beyond our ability to rattle sabers and exercise gunboat diplomacy. But it is obvious now to me, that by negotiating agreements like this that are devoid of moral content, my country has completely abdicated its professed concern for human rights.

My vote against PNTR is not a vote against trade. However, my vote against PNTR is a vote against the terms of trade that are being

employed today by U.S. firms in China and elsewhere. By granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations, we now eschew one of our most important tools for examining the human rights practices of China. Unfortunately, the human rights record of China will likely get worse before it gets better. And the presence of U.S. corporations has not had and will not have a positive impact on the human rights record of China or on workers' rights.

Each year, the State Department submits to the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, where I serve as Ranking Democrat, its Country Reports on Human Rights. This is our government's formal assessment of basic human rights practices around the world. The record is clear. China's human rights record has markedly deteriorated as we have expanded trade. In fact, this year, my friend and Chairman of the Subcommittee, Congressman CHRIS SMITH and I had to hold two hearings on the State Departments annual human rights report—one for China, and one for every other nation in the world because China's record is so deplorable and is getting worse.

But after a historic look at rhetoric versus reality, that should not surprise us. After all, we had robust trade with the Nazis before World War II, extensive trade with Iraq just prior to Operation Desert Shield and we maintained an extensive trading relationship with South Africa during the dark years of apartheid.

In fact it was the people of this country—not the corporations—that put South Africa's human rights record on the national agenda. By focusing on South Africa, the people demanded the opposite of normal trade relations—an embargo! U.S. corporations had nothing to do with changing South Africa's internal policy toward its black majority nor U.S. policy of supporting the racist apartheid regime in South Africa. The U.S. corporate community, in fact, protested the embargo and some never abided by it. If we had waited for U.S. corporations to export democracy, Nelson Mandela would still be on Robben Island. On this issue, the people were heard over the high-priced lobbyists in Washington, DC.

And that is what now scares the high-priced lobbyists in Washington.

The way to keep China's human rights record on the national agenda is through our annual NTR review. That is one way that human rights activists in China and in the United States can inform the public of China's human rights record. The fancy lobbyists have squelched that now, so that there is no possibility of the American people becoming informed of what is happening in China, thereby thwarting the kind of action against China that was done against the racists in South Africa.

America's right to know has been severely damaged as a result of this vote.

Freedom, equality, human dignity, and human rights are not for sale. And that's one reason why I chose to vote against this tremendous human rights give-away.

Many proponents of PNTR, including Governor George Bush, say that "Trade is the way to export freedom." A recent study entitled, "Dollars and Democracy" shows the post-Cold War decline of US trade and investment in developing democracies. In other words, US corporations are running away from the countries that are struggling to institute democracy—the countries we say we do like—

and are flocking to the authoritarian regimes around the world—the kinds of regimes we say are not good. More to the point, if given a choice between an emerging democracy and an authoritarian regime then US corporations take US taxpayer subsidies and choose the regimes that don't respect human rights, worker rights, or the environment.

For example, Charles Kernaghan in "Made in China" states that at one of the factories where Kathi Lee handbags are being made for Wal-Mart, the workers are forced "to work 12 to 14 hours a day, seven days a week, with only one day off a month, while earning an average wage of 3 cents an hour. However, even after months of work, 46 percent of the workers surveyed earned nothing at all—in fact, they owed money to the company."

Companies are allowed to get away with this kind of worker treatment in authoritarian regimes, not democracies. Furthermore, democracies tend to be more transparent and less corrupt. Yet US private investment currently favors the authoritarian over the democratic.

Supporters of PNTR dribble on about the need of engagement to facilitate a "movement" toward democracy. Yet the facts are that US corporations are leaving democracies at an unprecedented rate. US taxpayers subsidize this new "corporate flight." And unfortunately, one need only look at Chevron Corporation and Occidental Petroleum Company to see examples of just the kind of "movement" that we ought not want to export. In fact, Chevron is in federal court today for aiding and abetting in the murder of Nigerian citizens demonstrating to protect their environment against Chevron's wanton pollution of their indigenous lands. Occidental Petroleum seems to be on the same path as Chevron, willing to run over Colombia's fledgling democracy in order to despoil the sacred lands of the Uwa people. The U'wa have vowed to die before Occidental is allowed on their land. None of this bodes well for anyone involved—except the stockholders, perhaps, of both Chevron and Occidental. And in China, workers who protest their conditions are fired or could face prison for life!

Americans who buy Huffy bicycles, Alpine car stereos, RCA TV's, or Timberland, Keds, Fubu and Nike shoes or Spiegel clothing should have a right to know the conditions under which those items are made. American workers who used to make those items and who are now struggling to find their place in the new economy, certainly should have a right to know why their jobs "fled" to China.

Despite the rhetoric, the vote on China PNTR will not protect the US worker, nor will it protect the Chinese worker. There is a need for something more. That is why I will soon be introducing the Corporate Code of Conduct Act. This bill will establish minimum human rights, labor rights, and environmental protection guidelines based on US and internationally recognized standards. This legislation will allow us all to put our money where our professed values are: fair trade, democracy, respect for workers, sensible environmental standards, and no child labor.

I believe that our corporations can export freedom, prosperity, equality, and justice; and our bill, the Corporate Code of Conduct Act, will ensure that they do.

THE WATER POLLUTION PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000 (H.R.
4502)

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman and Ranking member of the House Committee on Agriculture, we are pleased to introduce the Water Pollution Program Improvement Act of 2000 on behalf of farmers, ranchers, woodland owners, local governments and states throughout America.

In August of 1999, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed two changes to the regulations governing the implementation of the Clean Water Act which, if finalized, would fundamentally alter the agency's role in the management of nonpoint sources of pollution. While we agree with the EPA's stated intent of improving the quality of our nation's waters, we strongly oppose both the substance of these rules and the accelerated process employed by the EPA to bring them to finality. Our bill is designed to address these two concerns directly.

Our criticisms of EPA's proposed rules generally fall into two categories: (1) lack of authority and (2) lack of information.

LACK OF AUTHORITY

Congress has clearly identified the responsibilities of the federal government and the states for maintaining the quality of our nation's waters. When Congress enacted the Clean Water Act in 1972, the primary emphasis of that legislation was to address point source pollution discharges. Congress at that time established a clear role for the Federal Government in the regulation of point source pollution through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination (NPDES) program.

Congress was also careful to define the point sources of pollution that would be subject to the NPDES program. This definition specifically excluded agricultural storm water discharge from the point source designation, thereby placing discharges from farming, ranching and silviculture operations outside of the reach of the federal permitting program.

In 1987 Congress amended the Clean Water Act to establish a framework within which states could carry out their responsibility to manage nonpoint sources of pollution. It was the intent of Congress at that time to preserve the distinctions between point and nonpoint sources of pollution established in the 1972 Act so that there would be no ambiguity with regard to the role of the state in relation to the federal government.

At no time has Congress granted the federal government an affirmative regulatory role in the management of nonpoint sources of pollution. Neither has Congress granted the EPA the authority to unilaterally change the clear distinctions between point and nonpoint sources of pollution currently established in law.

Upon review of the draft rules proposed by the EPA, it is our view that the agency's proposal exceeds the authority provided by the 1972 Act and the 1987 amendments both in terms of the new regulatory role assumed by

the EPA and the designation of silvicultural activities as point sources of pollution. We further believe that while the joint statement issued by the EPA and USDA on May 1, 2000 partially addresses concerns raised by Congress and affected stakeholders regarding the EPA's authority, it does little to overcome this fundamental problem.

LACK OF INFORMATION

Over the last 28 years, the Federal government and the states have placed great emphasis on reducing pollution levels from point sources. Both have made significant investments in technologies and scientific methods to measure and control pollution discharges. These investments have paid off as we have seen dramatic decreases in point source pollution over the last two decades.

Recently, both the Federal government and the states have begun to place increasing emphasis on the improvement of programs to reduce pollution from nonpoint sources. Understandably, because of the priority emphasis placed on point sources over the years, the technology and data needed to achieve measurable large-scale reductions on nonpoint source pollution are not yet fully developed.

States, local governments, businesses and landowners are currently poised to voluntarily spend billions of dollars over the next 20 years in an earnest attempt to acquire this technology and data. In order to realize the optimum return on these investments, however, states, local governments and other affected stakeholders must be allowed to operate within the flexible framework established by the 1987 Clean Water Act amendments. This will preserve the ability of the states to develop innovative methods to gather the information upon which sound management objectives can be based and thereafter design programs carefully tailored to meet those objectives.

Unfortunately, EPA's proposed rules move in exactly the opposite direction. By establishing arbitrary deadlines for completing TMDLs, threatening to unilaterally establish TMDLs and load allocations, and imposing mandatory guidelines for best management practices, EPA will force states to act before they have the data needed to act intelligently. In fact, the General Accounting Office has found that few states have the majority of the data needed to comply with the onerous requirements outlined in the EPA's proposed rules. Forcing states to comply with the new regulatory framework required by the EPA at this stage of the process will waste time and money and result in confusion rather than better water quality.

PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION

The purpose of the bill we are introducing today is to address the two concerns raised previously, namely, that the EPA lacks both the authority and the information to proceed with the agency's proposed rules.

Our legislation commissions an independent study of the scientific methodologies, programs, and costs associated with the development and implementation of TMDLs. We intend this independent review to provide the EPA, the Secretary of Agriculture and the states a valuable tool with which to develop sound policies for the management of nonpoint sources of pollution. This approach will help remedy the current problems associated with identifying impaired water bodies and establishing TMDL allocations based on anecdotal and otherwise unverifiable data. It

will also require EPA to take a more deliberate and thoughtful look at how the agency might better cooperate with states and landowners to improve water quality rather than impose arbitrary standards and guidelines that will achieve uncertain outcomes.

We are also concerned about the workload impact on the conservation agencies that serve private landowners, such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and local conservation and resource conservation and development districts. Nor do we believe that EPA has adequately reviewed the technical and financial assistance that will be needed to assist landowners under the proposed rules.

Our bill will also underscore both the language and the intent of the Clean Water Act relative to the role of the EPA in managing nonpoint sources of pollution. We believe the law is clear that the EPA has no regulatory role in the management of nonpoint source pollutions. We also maintain the EPA has no authority to unilaterally change the definition of point source pollution to encompass nonpoint sources. The language of our legislation re-emphasizes these points and restricts the EPA from pursuing these unauthorized objectives in a regulatory proceeding.

To summarize, we support the objective of improving the quality of our nation's waters. However, we insist on achieving these objectives within the parameters of the law and using the best available information. The Water Pollution Program Improvement Act of 2000 is designed to help ensure that outcome. We urge our colleagues to support this important legislation.

COMMENDING ISRAEL'S REDEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for Israel's redeployment from Southern Lebanon.

Prime Minister Ehud Barak ensured Israel's compliance with the 1978 United Nations Security Council Resolution 425, which calls on Israel to withdraw its forces from all Lebanese territories. His commitment to redeploy Israeli forces by June 7, 2000 must also be commended.

Prime Minister Barak has shown remarkable leadership in Israel and in his commitment to advance peaceful negotiations with all of her neighbors; I am confident these steps will bring genuine peace to the Middle East. Prime Minister Barak's appeal to the Lebanese President, Emile Lahoud, to use the Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon as a springboard for peace is a step in the right direction. As these countries move forward in their efforts, it is also extremely important that the American government work to encourage peace in the entire region.

For many years, I have been committed to moving forward to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict in the spirit of peace. I have stood with great conviction, alongside my constituents, many of whom have close ties, to urge a

peaceful resolution to conflicts in the Middle East.

Prime Minister Selim al-Hoss has assured the safety of residents in Southern Lebanon. Lebanon has been a victim of far too much blood shed in recent decades. It now stands in the midst of a crucial transition. Therefore, the physical security guaranteed by all parties must also ensure protection for religious freedom, political independence and liberty. Only under these conditions, will Southern Lebanon be able to fully redevelop its communities and provide its people with the ability to lead fruitful lives.

Again, I offer my support and encourage Prime Minister Barak and President Lahoud to continue on the path of peace and progress.

COMMENDING ISRAEL'S REDEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the government of Israel has followed through on its commitment to withdraw its troops from Southern Lebanon.

This is a step that could end one of the most tragic episodes in the difficult recent history of the Middle East.

I commend the government of Prime Minister Ehud Barak for fulfilling its commitment to withdraw Israeli troops from Lebanon, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

I have always believed that all foreign forces should leave Lebanon.

We have seen what the cycle of violence has done to people of all faiths and backgrounds in Lebanon and throughout the Middle East. And while it is important to reflect on the past, we must also move forward.

Today, I join with the many voices which are renewing the call for peace. Those who want to perpetuate the violence will try to stand in our way but we can't let that happen.

We must stand together and demand that all the parties work for peace, seek justice, and forsake violence. That is our only option. Let that be our task in the days ahead.

Step by step, over time, the withdrawal of troops and other measures will build tolerance and mutual respect, so that differences are settled not with guns, but with compassion and understanding.

Mr. Speaker, we must all learn to not let our differences stand in the way of joining together for a common purpose. I believe that if all parties work together in good faith peace can be achieved.

PRAISING EFFORTS OF MANUEL STAMATAKIS

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the Cradle of Liberty

Council Boy Scouts of America in saluting Mr. Manuel N. Stamatakis as the recipient of this year's Scout Mariner Award.

Mr. Stamatakis—in addition to being a close, personal friend—is president and chief executive officer of Capital Management Enterprises, a financial service and communications conglomerate headquartered in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Mr. Stamatakis has made community service and partnerships a hallmark of his life's work. He has been and continues to be a shining example of a person of action and integrity. Manuel N. Stamatakis certainly fits the criteria of a "Scout Mariner."

The "Scout Mariner Award" is presented to one who exemplifies in his daily life the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America as expressed in the scout oath and law. The recipients are chosen by their peers for outstanding community service as evidenced by the interest and leadership given to many worthwhile organizations, as well as the respect and esteem in which they are held by their colleagues.

Mr. Stamatakis is also the Chairman of the Delaware River Port Authority. It is interesting to note that the "Scout Mariner Award" is symbolized by a Norman Rockwell painting of a seaman talking to scouts, entitled "Tales of Many Lands." Since 1998 Mr. Stamatakis chairs the Team Pennsylvania Ambassador Program—a network of business, cultural and academic leaders working to expand domestic and international business in Pennsylvania. As chairman, Mr. Stamatakis was particularly well suited to this role as he has traveled throughout the world to promote trade within the Commonwealth. In the past two years alone, he has visited Brazil, Germany, China, Finland, Russia and Japan.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Manuel N. Stamatakis and those like him who take the time to give back to their communities more than they take for themselves. Scouting is a positive force in our area and thousands of youth benefit from the program and the involvement of distinguished business leaders such as Mr. Stamatakis who have gone above and beyond the Boy Scout protocol. I ask all of my colleagues in Congress to please join me in honoring Mr. Manuel N. Stamatakis for his commitment to community service and our youth.

IN HONOR OF BONEAL, INC.—RECIPIENT OF THE 2000 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE QUALITY SUPPLIER AWARD

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, too often, when we think of American manufacturing, images of industrial giants come to mind. We think of huge machinery housed in cavernous factories, men stoking enormous furnaces in an environment of hard hats, rivets and lunchtime whistles.

This image is, in large part, a vision of the past. We still make steel, iron, and heavy machinery. But today's manufacturing is also about men and women in casual attire and rather quiet workstations as they inspect computer boards and assemble complex yet compact circuitry. And, contrary to popular perception, most of the things that are made in

America are made in small and mid-sized companies.

Historically, small businesses have been the wellspring of creativity in our society. From the Wright brothers to Bill Gates, some of our most successful manufacturers have started out in a garage with little more than a dream. Inventions that have changed our lives, from that first voyage in flight to the high-speed microprocessors of today, have been developed in small firms. These companies provide the backbone of the manufacturing sector.

Today, I rise to honor one such small business company and its success in providing contract-manufacturing services that include design, completed high-tech assemblies, sub-assemblies, testing, and more. The U.S. Postal Service has recognized Boneal, Inc., of Means, KY, with the 2000 Quality Supplier Award for its distinguished performance as a specialized small business manufacturer.

Boneal Incorporated, first established in Corbin, KY, in 1980, is a womanowned small business that prides itself in offering "solutions to your most challenging manufacturing needs." Boneal Inc., in its efforts to provide fast and seamless manufacturing, accepts projects from any point in the manufacturing process, ranging from small projects that require hand assembly of consigned components to large projects that require capital investment, equipment design, and product distribution.

And so today, I join the U.S. Postal Service, the community of Means, KY, and small companies throughout the United States in congratulating Boneal, Inc., for its selection to receive this distinguished award. I also recognize its outstanding contribution to American manufacturing.

CONCERNING THE 13 IRANIAN
JEW CURRENTLY ON TRIAL IN
THAT COUNTRY

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my grave concern over the ongoing trial in Iran of 13 Iranian Jews on questionable charges of spying. The world should know that we are watching this case closely. If Iran truly wants to join the community of nations it should ensure an open and fair trial. The Jews facing trial in Iran have been held without due process for over one year. The Clinton administration has rightly put Iran on notice that we are watching these proceedings closely and we will hold the Iranian regime responsible for their actions.

Mr. Speaker, we are seeing reports in the press that describe the social isolation of many in Iran's 25,000-strong Jewish community in the wake of this trial. Several shops owned by Iranian Jews have reportedly been attacked in Tehran. Other reports out of Iran claim that school children are treating Jewish classmates with contempt, and some adults have stopped going to work out of fear or shame. There was some hope that the overwhelming election of President Khatemi would mean a more moderate Iranian government, but so far this has not been the case. The regime's record of closing 19 newspapers over

the last month is another reminder of the failure of Iran's ruling class in this regard. There is no better way to regain this promise than to ensure freedom and justice for the 13 Iranian Jews on trial in Shiraz. We here in the U.S. and around the world must be vigilant in pressing for this outcome.

A TRIBUTE TO JANE SMITH

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the most important and valuable resource we have in this country is our children. Providing a safe environment to grow and learn has always been this country's number one priority. Today, I rise to recognize Jane Smith of Bay City, Michigan, a wonderful woman who has dedicated her life to protecting and nurturing children. She is retiring from the Bay County Family Independence Agency after 24 years of service.

A graduate of Michigan State University, Jane began her renowned career as a child care worker in Saginaw, Michigan. Assisting families with their child care needs and making home calls to help families with their physical and emotional needs was natural for her and laid the foundation for what would become a distinguished professional career dedicated to protecting children who were being physically abused.

After working in both Genesee and Wayne County as a foster care worker, Jane transferred to the Bay County Department, as a Children's Protective Services worker. It was here, in Bay County, where her contributions and efforts on behalf of Michigan's children and families are legendary. Her tireless efforts investigating cases of child sexual abuse undoubtedly saved thousands of children from being further victims of violence and abuse. She established the procedures for what has become the Bay County Child Sexual Abuse Procedural Manual. She has worked closely with Lutheran Child and Family Services to develop child sexual abuse counseling and the Parents United Program. She enjoys an excellent relationship with school administrators, the Courts in Bay County, area police departments and the Prosecutor's office. Among her peers, Jane is often solicited for her expert opinion and suggestions for handling sensitive cases.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen first-hand Jane's selfless efforts on behalf of Michigan's children. As a member of the State Senate, I worked closely with Jane to author an amendment to the Child Abuse law, that makes it mandatory for Children's Protective Services workers to notify the police of all cases relating to child sexual abuse. Her expansive knowledge, testimony in front of the committee and constant advocacy were key to the amendment being passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by the Governor James Blanchard on December 27, 1984.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Jane Smith on the occasion of her retirement from the Bay County Family Independent Agency and thanking her for her years of exemplary service to the community, especially the children

of Bay County. She has truly been an advocate for those who could not speak up for themselves. Our community is certainly a better place because of Jane's hard work. I wish her well and hope that the days ahead are filled with the good fruits of a well deserved retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO CALVIN BROCK,
MEMBER OF THE SUMMER 2000
UNITED STATES OLYMPIC BOXING
TEAM SUPER HEAVYWEIGHT
CATEGORY

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's finest, twenty-five year old Calvin Brock, member of the Summer 2000 United States Olympic Boxing Team. Over the years, Mr. Speaker, Calvin has shown remarkable progress in his determination to get to the point for which he will be honored by local officials, family and friends on Sunday, May 28, 2000 at Clem's Grand Ballroom in Weldon, North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, Calvin began his boxing career at age 12. He was defeated his first six matches and as a result, was told by many that he should choose another sport because it was unlikely that he would excel in boxing. Mr. Speaker, this kind of story, which in no way is a fairy tale, but is true to life, tells us a lot about Calvin's dedication, determination and commitment.

There has been a lot of talk in my office about Calvin Brock, Mr. Speaker, but what impresses me most is what is said about his relationship with God. The combination of Calvin's faith in God and his persistence will go the length in ensuring his return from Sidney Australia with an Olympic Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker, Calvin has certainly invested a tremendous amount of time and has made many sacrifices over the years preparing himself for the Olympics. Among the major tournaments, Calvin has won are the: 1993 National Junior Championships while ages 16 through 18; National Police Athletic League Championships in 1993, 1996, and 1998; Eastern Trials that qualified him to compete in the 1996 Olympic Trials for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia, however, at that time, Calvin was defeated in the Semi-finals of the 1996 Trials; 1998 National Golden Gloves Champion at heavyweight division 201 pounds; Silver Medalist in 1997 at Heavyweight Division; ranked number two in 1998 at the National U.S. Championship; 1999 National U.S. Champion at super heavyweight division, 201 plus category where he ranked number one in the country; 1999 U.S. Challenge Champion at super heavyweight which qualified Calvin for the 2000 Olympic Trials, a tournament in which only eight boxers in each of the 12 weight classes qualify to compete; 2000 U.S. Olympic Trials Champion at super heavyweight where Calvin won 3 consecutive matches to become champion; the Olympic Trials win qualified Calvin for the Olympic Box-offs; 2000 U.S. Olympic Box-off Champion; this box-off win qualified Calvin to participate on the 2000 U.S. Olympic Boxing Team. This championship was televised on NBC. Calvin is

the 2000 American Qualifier Champion. His success at this tournament qualified him to compete in the Summer Olympic Games in Sidney, Australia. Although Calvin made the Olympic Team, he still had to win the American Qualifier Tournament to go to the Olympics. The American Qualifier Tournament consisted of all the countries in North, South, and Central America. Calvin defeated opponents from Brazil, Puerto Rico and Canada Olympians to win the American Qualifier. Calvin is undefeated in international competition with an international record of 10 wins and 0 losses. These 10 were against: England, Algeria, Mexico, Russia, New Zealand, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Brazil, and Canada. Calvin has competed in 183 amateur boxing matches. His record is 147 wins and 36 losses.

Mr. Speaker, Calvin is a 1993 graduate of West Charlotte High School and 1999 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where he has been awarded a Degree in Finance. Calvin is presently employed with the Bank of America in Charlotte, North Carolina as a Call Analyst in the Operations Department.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the occasion to meet Calvin and his delightful parents. It is understandable that they are quite proud. Although Calvin grew up and attended Undergraduate School in Charlotte, North Carolina, he has substantial roots in my Congressional District through his mother, Alean Brock who was born in a very small town in my Congressional District called Weldon, and his grandparents, Rebecca and Clinton Arderton who have lived there all of their lives. Calvin's mother and his father, Calvance Brock met during the time that they attended Elizabeth City State University.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my Colleague, Congressman MELVIN WATT is just as proud as I am about Calvin's participation in the 2000 U.S. Summer Olympics. One reason is because Congressman WATT's better half, Eulada provided encouragement and guidance to Calvin during the time that he attended Devonshire Elementary School where she was the principal.

Mr. Speaker, I am absolutely delighted for the opportunity to share with my Colleagues the incredible and tremendous achievements of North Carolina's own Olympian Calvin Brock. I wish Calvin the very best at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sidney Australia and have every confidence that he will return to the United States with an Olympic Gold Medal.

HONORING STANLEY M. CRUSE

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to celebrate the contributions that Mr. Stanley M. Cruse, of Covina, California, has made to his community.

Mr. Cruse was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. In 1964, he moved with his family to California, where they settled in Glendora. He attended High School at Charter Oak in Covina and Mt. San Antonio Community College in Walnut. Presently he lives in Covina with

his wife of 23 years, Paula. The Cruses are the proud parents of three children and have two grandchildren.

A strong business leader in our community, Mr. Cruse has worked in the banking industry for over 27 years. During this past year, Mr. Cruse joined the Business Bank of California, where he serves as the Regional Vice President/Manager.

For the past four years, Mr. Cruse has served on the Ontario Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He has held the prestigious positions of Vice President of Fund Development, President-Elect, and President.

The Chamber's accomplishments under Mr. Cruse's tenure as President have been numerous and impressive: an Airport Awareness committee was developed to focus on the marketing of Ontario International Airport, the Latino Business Council, which continues to grow in attendance each month, was established, and he encouraged the Chamber to model its Education Committee in a more effective manner. As a result of Mr. Cruse's forward-thinking and leadership, Chamber membership is growing and stronger relations with the City Council have been cultivated.

In addition to his duties as President of the Chamber, Mr. Cruse is a member of the Ontario Host Lions Club, a past President of his club and Region Chairman for the District 4L-4 of Lions International. He serves as the Board Chair for the Ontario-Montclair YMCA and is a member of West End Metro YMCA. He is also chairman of the Inland Empire Loan Committee for the Southern California Small Business Development Corporation.

Mr. Cruse has exemplified the Ontario Chamber's mission statement, "To Help Develop, Enhance, and Promote Commerce in the City of Ontario and its Trade Area," and he is deserving of the accolades of this Congress.

CERVICAL CANCER RESEARCH

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the problem of cervical cancer for women in America and around the world. Cervical cancer is the most common cause of cancer-related deaths among women worldwide. Over a half million women in the world are affected annually by cervical cancer and, after breast cancer, it is the second most common malignancy found in women. Right here in the United States, more than 15,000 women are diagnosed each year with cervical cancer and more than a third of them die of this horrible disease. Cancers that affect women continue to spread while researchers struggle to find cures that many of these women may never see.

Research has confirmed that the primary cause of cervical cancer is the human papillomavirus, or HPV. In order to develop a vaccine, large quantities of HPV protein fragments are required. Until now, researchers have struggled with ways to mass produce this protein so a vaccine can then be mass-produced and distributed in order to prevent cervical cancer. Recently, it has become possible to biologically engineer tobacco plants to

produce this protein. Through a joint project between North Carolina State University and Georgetown University, researchers will further study how to best produce this protein in order to develop this vitally important vaccine. In light of this, I am pleased that I could secure \$3 million in order to fund this important project. It is my sincere hope that this research will result in millions of saved lives for generations to come.

FAIRNESS AND EQUITY FOR FEDERAL RETIREES WITH PART-TIME SERVICE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to correct a longstanding inequity that affects a great number of federal retirees in my district and throughout the nation who have served for a portion of their careers in a part-time capacity. I am pleased that Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. WYNN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MORELLA, and Mr. WOLF have joined me as original cosponsors of this important legislation.

The current retirement formula for federal workers with part time service was enacted by Congress in 1986 as a provision of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) (P.L. 99-272). For the most part, the reforms contained in COBRA were fair. They ensured an equitable calculation for all employees hired after 1986 and prevented part-time employees from gaming the system in order to receive a disproportionately higher benefit. The 1986 reforms were based on a procedure developed and recommended to the Congress by the Government Accounting Office (GAO). In a nutshell, the new methodology determines the proportion of a full time career that a part-time employee works and scales annuities accordingly. Under the formula, a part-time worker's salary is calculated on a full time equivalent basis (FTE) for retirement purposes. Thus, a worker's "high-three salary" could occur during a period of part-time service. This often happens when a senior-level worker cuts back on his or her hours to care for an ill spouse or deal with other personal matters. Many of the people in this situation are women.

The problem is that the 1986 law had unintended and often unfair consequences for workers hired before 1986 who have some part-time service after 1986. Specifically, according to the way the law has been implemented by OPM, some part time workers are not able to apply their full-time equivalent (FTE) salary to pre-1986 employment. This effectively limits their ability to receive the advantage of their "high-three average" salary for their entire careers. The reason for this inequity can be traced to subsection (c) of Section 15204 of Cobra. It provides that the new formula shall be effective with respect to service performed "on or after the date of the enactment of this Act."

Whether this was a drafting error, or whether OPM has taken an unnecessarily restrictive reading of the statute is hard to determine. What is clear is that the current practice is plainly contrary to the intent of the Congress,

which was to grandfather existing employees into the new system and to ensure that no federal workers would be harmed by changes in the retirement formula.

In a letter dated February 19, 1987 to then OPM Director Constance Horner, the Chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, the Honorable William D. Ford, objected to this anomalous and unfair result. He wrote:

As in many other instances involving benefits, Congress chose to protect or to "grandfather" past service—to apply the new benefit formula only to future service rather than previously performed service under the older, more generous formula. This policy is often adopted to avoid penalizing individuals through the retroactive application of changes not anticipated by them. (As a measure of fairness, the policy of prospectivity is often applied to benefit improvements as well).

Notwithstanding Chairman Ford's efforts to clarify congressional intent, this inequity has continued for 14 years. OPM has publicly acknowledged that there is a problem with COBRA. Director Lachance stated publicly in a letter to Chairman Fred Thompson of the Senate Committee on Government Affairs: "I agree that an end-of-career change to a part time work schedule can have an unanticipated adverse effect on the amount of the retirement benefit." She also acknowledges in that same letter that a comparable bill in the other body, S. 772 introduced by Senator ROBB, "would eliminate the potential for anomalous computations by providing that the full time salary would be applicable to all service regardless of when it was performed while the proration of service credit would apply only to service after April 6, 1986 [the date of enactment]."

This is precisely what the bill we are offering today does. It allows the retirees affected by this inequity to have their fill-time equivalent salary for their high three years to apply to their entire careers, not just the portion after 1986. My bill differs from S. 772 in that it places the burden on affected retirees to request a recalculation of benefits. This is coupled with a requirement that OPM conduct a good faith effort to notify annuitants of their right to obtain a recalculation. To all future retirees, benefits will be calculated in accordance with the new formula.

Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of great consequence to many Americans who devoted their most productive years to public service. Some of my constituents have annuities that are thousands of dollars less than they would be under my bill. As I indicated, a disproportionate share of these retirees appears to be women, who left the federal service to care for others.

It is particularly appropriate that we address this issue now, as changing work-force needs and lifestyles make part-time service more popular, both from the standpoint of the worker and the employee. Many of the anticipated work-force shortages that are anticipated in the federal civil service can and should be met with part-time workers. I am concerned that they will not be so long as the anomalous and unfair provisions of P.L. 99-272 are allowed to stand. I urge my colleague to join me in cosponsoring this important legislation.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH F. SMITH

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill that would rename a United States Post Office in Philadelphia, PA, to honor the late U.S. Congressman, Joseph F. Smith.

Joe Smith started his career of service to this Nation as a sergeant in the United States Army, receiving a Purple Heart for his actions during World War II. From 1970-1981, he served in the Pennsylvania State Senate. As you are aware, Joe was elected to the Ninety-seventh Congress in 1981 and served until 1983. He worked at the forefront of the Democratic Party as the Democratic city chairman in Philadelphia from 1983-1986. Joe also served as the 31st ward leader for more than 3 decades. He remained devoted to the people of his community until May 1999, when he passed away.

Throughout his career, the people of Philadelphia looked to him for leadership, and he immersed himself in understanding their needs. Joe understood that public service is most effective when one understands and closely reflects the convictions and beliefs of one's constituents. No matter what body he was serving in, his heart was always with the people who resided in the communities of Kensington, Port Richmond, and Fishtown. After his retirement, Joe could still be found sharing wisdom and insight from his stoop to those who sought advice and kinship.

Joe Smith was an outstanding legislator, a great human being, and a distinguished American. We ask that you join us in honoring his legacy in the community that he so diligently served throughout his life. To learn more about Joe Smith, or to cosponsor this legislation, please contact Karen Bloom with Congressman BORSKI, at 5-8251.

HONORING LONG BEACH'S BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two outstanding middle schools in my district, Charles Evans Hughes Middle School and Will Rogers Middle School of Long Beach. Both have been recognized by the California Department of Education as California Blue Ribbon Schools, for their demonstrated excellence in student achievement, teacher quality, and community and family involvement. These schools are now eligible to be named as National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education.

Both Hughes and Rogers Middle Schools have overcome a number of challenges. Both are urban schools with a significant number of low-income and limited English proficient students. Even with these challenges, both schools have demonstrated remarkable progress. Ten years ago, Rogers had some of the lowest test scores in the Long Beach Unified School District. Today, it is consistently among the top five middle schools in the dis-

trict. At Hughes, 10 percent of the student body earns straight A's, and 75 percent have GPA's of 2.0 or above.

At both schools, teachers undergo regular professional training and both host a number of events designed to bring the community and the students together.

These two schools demonstrate all that is right with public education. They show the remarkable successes that happen when teachers, parents and students are committed to a superior standard of education. I congratulate the faculty, teachers, parents and students of Hughes and Rogers Middle Schools on this remarkable achievement, and wish them well in their continued pursuit of educational excellence.

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL CHAPLIN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our military community. After two years of exemplary service as the Superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School, Admiral Robert C. Chaplin's new assignment is in Yokosuka, Japan, where he will become the commander of U.S. Naval Forces Japan (CNFJ).

As a former graduate of the NPS, Admiral Chaplin has offered a unique and insightful perspective as the Superintendent of his alma mater by ensuring that we have well-prepared and well-educated Navy officers to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Admiral Chaplin has tirelessly promoted NPS graduates as an existing and available resource for the Navy. He has pushed to create these stronger ties by establishing meetings between the school deans and Navy commanders, as well as between his students and the fleets. This "technical to tactical" bridge, as Admiral Chaplin has titled it, has proven highly successful, and will benefit the Navy long after his departure.

The imprint that this extraordinary leader has left on academics at the NPS is equally commendable. Not only has Admiral Chaplin established two new programs—the Information System Operations and System Engineering Programs—but also he has governed the creation of three additional new curricula scheduled for implementation in September. Pushing the school to be on the cutting edge of distance learning, NPS recently graduated over a dozen students who have never been on the NPS campus. Admiral Chaplin has ably used technology and the Internet to ensure that Navy officers around the world are not denied a postgraduate degree simply by geography. Many of his accomplishments at NPS have been driven from his desire to foster stronger partnerships with many of the region's universities and the nation's top technology schools, as well as bringing together the high tech companies in the Silicon Valley with students at the school.

As a valued member of the greater Monterey Peninsula Community, Admiral Chaplin will be missed by many. Our regret is tempered by recognition of the opportunity that lies before him. Admiral Chaplin is well suited

by education and experience to be the Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Japan. So, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contribution Admiral Chaplin has made to our national security at Naval Postgraduate School and throughout his long and distinguished Navy career and to wish him many years of continued success.

OHIO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a student class from the First District of Kentucky representing the Ohio County High School located in Hartford, Kentucky. Following their victory in the Kentucky State competition, this class was selected to represent the State in the national We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution competition which was held in Washington, DC, on May 6–8, 2000.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate students about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and principles of democratic government. The program provides curricular materials for upper elementary, middle, and high school students nationwide. Students who are involved in the We the People program have a greater understanding of democratic processes and institutions, participate or plan to participate more in politics, have a greater confidence in government officials, and are more interested in current events and politics in general.

The Ohio County class demonstrated their extensive knowledge of the Constitution while participating in the national event through their skillful application of democratic principles to contemporary issues. The format of the competition was a simulated congressional hearing. Thus the students were required to offer testimony as a witness and answer questions posed by a panel of judges as committee members would.

I am extremely proud of the achievements of the Ohio County High School class. The knowledge and experience gained through their participation in the We the People program will be invaluable throughout life.

AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of wonderful students from a high school in my district, Amador Valley High School. Twenty-one students from this school, along with their teacher, Matt Campbell, recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete in a national civics competition called "We the People. . ."

This competition is designed to promote civic competence and responsibility. This program is not about textbooks and tests, but

rather a process through which students learn to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.

I am proud that in my district, we have students who care not only about the social sciences, but also about being involved. The established tradition of excellence in this competition is a testament to the administrators and faculty at Amador Valley High School. It reflects the dedication of inspiring and enthusiastic teachers.

In a time when we decry the state of our public schools, Amador Valley High School shines as a light of hope for the future of our nation. The vision of a first-year teacher, coupled with the determination of these bright students, brought them beyond the district and state finals to our nation's capital. I am proud of this Mr. Campbell and his students for their remarkable journey and their example of excellence.

I would like to thank these students and their teacher for taking an interest in American government; I would like to thank the supportive communities in my district who made this trip possible; and, most of all, I would like to thank the parents of these wonderful students, who have set a standard of excellence for their communities. Congratulations to the students from Amador Valley High School, you are an attribute to our nation!

SUPPORTING DAY OF HONOR FOR
MINORITY WORLD WAR II VET-
ERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to join my colleagues on the House floor today, but wanted to join them in showing my support for the resolution recognizing the Day of Honor 2000 Project, which gives long overdue recognition to the millions of invisible minority World War II veterans.

During the Second World War these valiant soldiers were waging a war on two fronts. They fought gallantly beside their comrades in the most trying conditions, while battling the bigotry and racism that was still prevalent in the United States military. These same minority war veterans continued their fight against racism at home by forming the grassroots of the civil rights movement.

In my State of Florida, we have the oldest veterans population in the nation. Unfortunately for these veterans and veterans all across the country, the VA budget continues to be underfunded, causing them to be denied the health care and services they need and deserve. As our aging veterans population declines, we will need programs like the Day of Honor 2000 to remind us of the sacrifices minorities made to protect the freedom that we all now enjoy.

I look forward to the passage of this resolution and want to wish Dr. Smith and the other leaders of the Day of Honor 2000 Project the greatest success in portraying the honor and dignity displayed by our Minority World War II veterans. Their efforts and accomplishments have been ignored for far too long and I look forward to sharing their achievements with people today and for generations to come.

WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN
AND THE CONSTITUTION

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce for the RECORD the names of outstanding students and teachers of Clay County High School in Clay, West Virginia. These constituents participated in "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution", a national contest concerning fundamental values and ideals of the American government. These students competed against 50 other classes from around the nation and were able to reach the national finals by demonstrating a remarkable understanding and knowledge of our constitutional government. Following is a list of those students and teachers involved.

Students: Brandi Brown, Rachel Douglas, Jeremy Duffield, Josh Ferrebee, Angela Fitzwater, Robin Fitzwater, Casie Frame, Deanna Holcomb, Leslie Lanham, Matt Legg, Rebecca Legg, Eli Litton, Charles McCumbers, Justin Salisbury, Jacob Samples, Angela Shamblin, Autumn Tanner, Jacqueline Taylor, Jada Taylor, Jason Tucker, Evan Updegrave, Bryan Walker, John Ward, Rebecca Workman, and Teacher: Phillip Dobbins.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL E. SCHATZ

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my close friend, Carol E. Schatz, who will be recognized tonight at this year's Deborah Awards Women of Achievement Dinner. The Anti-Defamation League has chosen this night to honor Carol for her exceptional professional achievements and her outstanding dedication to community and civic activities.

I have known Carol for many years, from her days in state government in Sacramento. She has always impressed me with her dynamism, intelligence and integrity. When she was named by the Los Angeles magazine as one of the ten most powerful business leaders in Los Angeles, I was not surprised. Her passion for her work is second only to her devotion to her husband Fred and her son Jacob.

Carol crashed through the "glass ceiling" when she served as the first woman President and CEO of the Central City Association of Los Angeles. She led that organization to new heights and made it a powerhouse among business advocacy organizations in Los Angeles. Under her leadership, CCA helped transform Downtown Los Angeles by resurrecting the Civic Center Authority, planning for a revitalization of the Figueroa Corridor and advocating for the Staples Center. In addition to her extensive responsibilities at CCA, Carol has tackled many civic roles and public responsibilities. She served as Mayor Riordan's appointee to the Convention and Exhibition Center Authority and as his appointee to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Carol, who holds a B.A. from the University of California Berkeley and a J.D. from Loyola

University School of Law, is exceptionally bright and extraordinarily accomplished. However, she stands out not just because of her intelligence, but because she has chosen to focus her energy and vision on improving all of our lives in the greater Los Angeles community.

It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Carol Schatz for her outstanding achievements, and to congratulate her for receiving this prestigious recognition from the Anti-Defamation league.

RECOGNIZING THE RIVERSIDE
VETERANS CENTER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend a group of individuals who have dedicated their lives to the Inland Empire's veterans in need. There is no more appropriate time than Memorial Day to recognize the men and women who serve at the Riverside Veterans Center in Riverside, California.

The Riverside Vets Center was established in 1981 and has served over 6500 veterans and their families. At the Riverside Vets Center, veterans receive needed counseling, are involved in outreach programs with local schools and community-oriented volunteer programs, work with homeless veterans and participate in social activities. Recently, a writing group established at the Center by Leonard Reims and several other veterans, created and published a moving and inspiring collection of poems entitled "Windows to our Souls."

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the fine staff whose dedication, passion and commitment ensure that the necessary services are available to these veterans. The current and former members of the staff who have made a major impact on these veterans include: head counselor Thomas "Buddy" Hawkins, Max Greenwald, Eleanor Parham, Marion Wilson and Rosendo Reyes.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to give special recognition to Bill Densmore with the Riverside County Vets Service Office, VFW Post 9223 and the Vietnam Vets of America Chapter 47 for their active involvement and support of the Riverside Vets Center.

On behalf of the veterans in California's 43rd District, thank you!

SALUTE TO COMMANDER AL
BERNARD

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a man of outstanding accomplishment, Commander Al Bernard.

Commander Bernard is retiring from the United States Coast Guard this week, and I would like to call attention to his extraordinary and meritorious service to his country.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the Coast Guard is an invaluable branch of the United States military. The men and women of our Coast Guard keep our waters free of narcotics and illegal aliens, perform almost all of the search and rescue missions for the United States and provide security and safety in our waterways.

This is just a small sampling of the duties performed by the Coast Guard. We all owe them a huge debt of gratitude for the services they provide.

For 24 years, Commander Bernard has faithfully performed these and other duties in service to our great country. Prior to donning the Coast Guard uniform, Commander Bernard was also a proud U.S. Marine, where he served as an infantryman in Southeast Asia. He has spent more than half of his life in service to this nation and today, we are a grateful nation for his sacrifice.

From his humble beginnings operating small boats as a coxswain to his assignment as liaison officer to the House of Representatives in Washington, Commander Bernard has performed each and every job as a true patriot.

He quickly rose through the ranks of the Coast Guard and in 1979, he was accepted to Officer Candidate School. After receiving his commission, Al's first assignment was as a security officer at Training Center New York, Governors Island. Just a year later, he was promoted to First Lieutenant and deck watch officer on the USCGC *Courageous*, in Cape Canaveral, Florida. He was then chosen to be executive officer of USCGC *Shearwater* in Key West, Florida. In addition, was made the senior controller at the Pacific Area/Twelfth USCG District Rescue Coordination Center.

From there, Al Bernard's military career skyrocketed. He received command of his first ship, the USCGC *Nantucket*, in Roosevelt roads, Puerto Rico. It should be noted that Al is the first American of Puerto Rican descent to command his own ship.

Due to his exceptional abilities, Commander Bernard was relocated to Washington to serve his country at USCG Headquarters. He later received command of another cutter, the USCGC *Citrus*, which was homeported in Coos Bay, OR. After finishing another productive tour, he was made chief, Cutter Management Branch, Coast Guard Pacific Area in Alameda, California.

While on duty in California, he was selected to attend the U.S. Naval War College, where he graduated with distinction, earning a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Upon graduation, Commander Bernard was given his third command, the USCGC *Decisive* in St. Petersburg, Florida; he later crossdecked to USCGC *Resolute*.

Most recently, he was selected in 1998 to become the liaison officer to the House of Representatives in Washington, where I can personally attest he has served every man and woman who wears the Coast Guard uniform with great distinction.

Over the course of his 24 years of service to the United States, Commander Bernard has demonstrated his versatility by serving brilliantly in both the military and legislative arenas. Al Bernard has been recognized for his achievements with numerous awards, such as the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor, the Purple Heart, and Meritorious Service Medal with an "O" device. He has also received seven Coast Guard Commendation Medals

with "O" device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon and various other awards.

He was also selected as the 1989 recipient of the U.S. Navy League's Captain David Jarvis award for professional competence and inspirational leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Command Al Bernard on an illustrious military career. Likewise, we salute his wonderful wife, Ann, and their two children, Jason and Bernadelle, who made the many sacrifices military families make in supporting their husband and father all these years. We wish Al the best of luck in all of his future endeavors, for he is truly a fine example for all Americans.

HONORING MAKIA EPIE

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special young man, Makia Epie, of Cedar Hill, Texas, who is proving to be an outstanding addition to the Air Force Academy. Makia, who entered the Academy in the fall of 1997, has been named Flight Commander for the upcoming academic session. I know the entire 24th Congressional District joins me in celebrating this accomplishment.

As Flight Commander, Makia will assist the Cadet Squadron Commander in developing and training the basic cadets. Makia will work to ensure that cadets develop the right military attitude and attention to duty. He will do this by setting an appropriate example in leading his flight drills.

Makia's performance in the Air Force Academy deserves the highest praise, and I extend my sincerest appreciation for his service to his country. I wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE CITY OF
TORRANCE

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Torrance. For the last 41 years, the City of Torrance has honored and acknowledged the men and women of our military during its annual Armed Forces Day Parade.

The Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade is an important event for the residents of the South Bay. Torrance boasts one of the oldest and most noteworthy Armed Forces Day parades in the country. Thousands of people, many waving American flags, lined the streets last Saturday to honor our Armed Forces. Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen was also on hand to participate in the celebration.

The parade has persevered during the last 41 years. It has been protested, glorified, and even scaled back at times. But despite the circumstances of the day, the City of Torrance has held the parade to pay tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces. This is a

valued tradition in the South Bay, one that will continue for years to come.

I congratulate Torrance Mayor Dee Hardison on the success this year's parade. I also commend the citizens of Torrance for they are the ones who have helped keep this tradition alive. We live in a great country. It is our Armed Forces who are responsible for protecting and defending our freedom throughout the world.

COMMENDING ISRAEL'S REDEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in commending Israel for its courageous withdrawal from Lebanon. The Israeli action sends a strong signal that Israel is very serious about pursuing a comprehensive peace with all its neighbors. At the same time, it is critical for this Congress to demand a cessation of all terrorist activities in southern Lebanon and to strongly encourage the government of Syria to remove its troops from Lebanon as well.

GRANTING PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TO CHINA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased with the passage of yesterday's legislation to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) to China. Passage of PNTR is the first step in reforming China and advancing religious freedom and human rights for the Chinese people. Of course, change will not occur overnight in China. However, it will occur gradually through policies of normal trade, exchange and engagement, through peoples of faith, scholars, the workforce, and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD a powerful statement signed by a broad spectrum of religious leaders in support of PNTR. These individuals and their organizations have worked, and will continue to work, for the advancement of religious liberty and human rights.

STATEMENT BY RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN SUPPORT OF PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHINA (EXPANDED LIST OF SIGNATORIES)

MAY 23, 2000.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: Soon you will be asked to vote on an issue that will set the course for U.S.-China relations for years to come: enacting Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with China. Your vote will also have an impact on how human rights and religious freedom will advance for the people of China in the years ahead. We are writing to urge you to vote for PNTR for China because we believe that this is the best way to advance these concerns over the long term.

We share your concern for advancing human rights and religious freedom for the

people of China. The findings of the recent report from the U.S. International Religious Freedom Committee are disturbing to us. Clearly, the Chinese government still has a long way to go.

The question for us all is: What can the U.S. government do that will best advance human rights and religious freedom for the people of China? Are conditions more likely to improve through isolation and containment or through opening trade, investment, and exchange between peoples?

Let us look first at what has already occurred within China over the past twenty years. The gradual opening of trade, investment, travel, and exchange between China and the rest of the world has led to significant, positive changes for human rights and religious freedom in China. We observe the following:

The number of international religious missions operating openly in China has grown rapidly in recent years. Today these groups provide educational, humanitarian, medical, and development assistance in communities across China.

Despite continued, documented acts of government oppression, people in China nonetheless can worship, participate in communities of faith, and move about the country much more freely today than was even imaginable twenty years ago.

Today, people can communicate with each other and the outside world much more easily and with much less governmental interference through the tools of business and trade: telephones, cell phones, faxes, and e-mail.

On balance, foreign investment has introduced positive new labor practices into the Chinese workplace, stimulating growing aspirations for labor and human rights among Chinese workers.

These positive developments have come about gradually in large part as a result of economic reforms by the Chinese government and the accompanying normalization of trade, investment, and exchange with the outside world. The developing relationships between Chinese government officials, business managers, workers, professors, students, and people of faith and their foreign counterparts are reflected in the development of new laws, government policies, business and labor practices, personal freedom, and spiritual seeking. Further, the Chinese government is much more likely to develop the rule of law and observe international norms of behavior if it is recognized by the U.S. government as an equal, responsible partner within the community of nations.

The U.S. government and governments around the world have a continuing, important role to play in challenging one another through international forums to fully observe standards for human rights and religious freedom. However, we do not believe that the annual debate in the U.S. Congress, linking justifiable concern for human rights and religious freedom in China to the threat of unilateral U.S. trade sanctions, has been productive toward that end.

Change will not occur overnight in China. Nor can it be imposed from outside. Rather, change will occur gradually, and it will be inspired and shaped by the aspirations, culture, and history of the Chinese people. We on the outside can help advance religious freedom and human rights best through policies of normal trade, exchange and engagement for the mutual benefit of peoples of faith, scholars, workers, and businesses. Enacting permanent normal trade relations with China is the next, most important legislative step that Congress can take to help in this process.

Sincerely,

Dr. Donald Argue, (Former President, National Association of Evangelicals, rep-

resenting 27 million Christians in the United States of America); John A. Buehrens, (Unitarian Universalist Association); Bruce Birchard, (Friends General Conference); Myrrl Byler, (China Education Exchange, Mennonite Church); Reverend Richard W. Cain, ((Emeritus) President, Claremont School of Theology); Ralph Covell, (Senior Professor of World Christianity, Denver Seminary); Charles A. Davis, PhD, (The Evangelical Alliance Missions); Father Robert F. Drinan, (Professor, Georgetown University Law Center; Member of Congress, 1971-1981); Samuel E. Ericsson, (President, Advocates International, a faith-based global network of lawyers, judges, clergy, and national leaders reaching over 100 nations for justice, reconciliation, and ethics with offices on five continents); Nancy Finneran, (Sisters of Loretto Community); Brent Fulton, (President, ChinaSource, a non-profit, Christian Evangelical organization connecting knowledge and leaders in service to China); Dr. Richard L. Hamm, (Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)); Kevin M. Hardin, (University Language Services); J. Daniel Harrison, (President, Leadership Development International); Bob Heimbürger, (Professor (Ret.) Indiana University); Rev. Ernest W. Hummer, (President, China Outreach Ministries); John Jamison, (Intercultural Exchange Network); Rodolf Mak, Ph.D., (Director of Chinese Church Mobilization, OMF International); Jim Nickel, (ChinaSource, a non-profit, Christian Evangelical organization connecting knowledge and leaders in serve to China); Don Reeves, (General Secretary (Interim) American Friends Service Committee); Rabbi Arthur Schneier, D.D., (President, Appeal of Conscience Foundation); Phil Schwab, (ChinaTeam International Services, Ltd.); Dr. Stephen Steele, (Dawn Ministries); Rev. Daniel B. Su, (Special Assistant to the President, China Outreach Ministries); Bishop Melvin G. Talbert, (The United Methodist Church); Dr. James H. Taylor III, (President, MSI Professional Services International); Finn Torjessen, (Executive Director, Evergreen Family Friendship Service, a Christian, non-profit benefit organization working in China); Joe Volk, (Executive Secretary, Friends Committee on National Legislation); Rev. Dr. Daniel E. Weiss, (American Baptist Churches, USA); Dr. Hans M. Wilhelm, (China Partner, an organization serving Church of China by training emerging young leaders); Rev. Dr. Andrew Young, (President, National Council of Churches, former ambassador to the United Nations and member of Congress); Danny Yu, (Christian Leadership Exchange).

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL BARRY BATES

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Army leader in my District, Major General Barry Bates, as he relinquishes command of the Army & Air Force Exchanges Service, headquartered in Dallas, Texas.

Under his strong visionary leadership, AAFES has served the military community better than at any time in its history. General Bates exercised astute management which led to annual sales of \$7.3 billion and earnings of over \$351 million. This produced the highest per capita dividend (\$284 per service member) for Morale, Welfare & Recreation programs of

our Armed Services. He improved the overseas school feeding program, the military family program, and encouraged youth by establishing a coupon program and Savings Bond drawing to recognize those achieving good grades.

General Bates has expanded business partnerships, improved cooperation among DOD resale activities, and partnered with other services to develop exchange-wide credit card services. He has also advanced AAFES significantly in the application of technology. Internet sales have grown by leaps and bounds to \$24.2 million in 1999. AAFES' Information Systems Directorate has won 13 major national awards and opened a state of the art Enterprise Technology Center.

General Bates has made customer service a priority, positioning AAFES as a "customer driven company." At the same time, he has focused on developing, training and caring for AAFES employees. The results tell the story: customer service has improved 25%, and associate satisfaction has increased by 14%.

I've been impressed with the work of General Bates on two vastly different fronts. On a recent trip to Bosnia I shopped at a great PX at Eagle Base in Tuzla. This kind of operation is what AAFES has become known for—they go wherever our soldiers go. General Bates has inspired his team to provide great service on all the U.S. contingency missions. His commitment to be there for the troops was most evident when AAFES established a presence in Albania just five days after our forces arrived there.

At the request of AAFES retirees, I worked personally with General Bates to guarantee the security of the AAFES retirement plan. He was courageous and unyielding in his fight to ensure that the retirement plan was protected for all AAFES retirees and associates.

General Bates has positioned AAFES solidly for the future. His extraordinary leadership and business acumen have set a standard in Texas for quality operations that will ensure quality morale, welfare, and recreation programs for our Army and Air Force for years to come.

A soldier's soldier, General Bates is now returning to Korea to command Army troops in that volatile part of the world. On the occasion of his departure, I want to thank him for helping Congress take care of the troops and their families, for caring for many of my constituents—the wonderful employees of AAFES, and for serving his Army so effectively as the Commander of AAFES. I ask all Members to join me in wishing General Bates success in his new position.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MICHAEL R.
OBLEMAN

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, on 9 February, 2000 Chief Master Sergeant Michael R. Obleman retired as the Chief of the Munitions Element for the 174th Fighter Wing, Hancock Field, New York Air National Guard in Syracuse NY. He assumed leadership of the Munitions Element as a Master Sergeant in January of 1982. Previously he worked as a Supervisor for the Weapons Loading Section.

Chief Obleman was born on 1 April, 1948 in Pulaski, New York where he still resides. He graduated from North Syracuse Central High School in June of 1967. In August 1967 he joined the United States Marine Corp where he was an Aviation Ordnance Man. He served in Vietnam from 18 June, 1969 through 9 June, 1970. He was discharged from the Marines in August of 1971. In the Marine Corp he attained the rank of E-5. In the Marines he received the following awards and decorations: National Defense Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/palm, the Vietnamese Service Medal with 1 device, the Purple heart, the Good Conduct Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with device.

After his discharge from the Marines he worked a civilian job at Rumsey Distributing from October 1971 to December of 1974. In April 1973 he joined the 174th Fighter Wing as a traditional guardsman. On 22 December, 1974 he became a full time technician in the Weapons Loading Section. He worked in Weapons Loading until June of 1982 when he assumed leadership of the Munitions element as a Master Sergeant. He achieved the rank of Senior Master Sergeant on 15 November, 1987. On 31 August, 1990 he was awarded the rank of Chief Master Sergeant.

As Chief of the Munitions element he recognized that the current procedure for uploading 30-millimeter ammo onto the A-10 aircraft could be accomplished in a safer and more efficient manner. He initiated a design change to the GFU-7 loading system for use with the 30-millimeter GPU-5 gun pods. This design change allowed the GPU-5 gun pod to be loaded in the Munitions Storage Area instead of the flight line resulting in less people and aircraft being exposed to a potentially dangerous explosive operation. High levels of Command visited the 174th Fighter Wing to observe the new method he developed. The GPU-5 30-millimeter gun pod was combat tested during Operation Desert Storm.

Under his leadership the Munitions Element received excellent ratings on all major inspections. Chief Obleman was instrumental in the planning of the initial setup and the successful ongoing operation of the Forward Operating Location at Wheeler-Sack Air Field for the A-10 and F-16 aircraft, part of the only live fire range in the Northeast.

Chief Master Sergeant Michael R. Obleman has 32 years, 6 months and 1 day of dedicated military service. Four years of this service was with the Marines and the remainder of service was with the 174th Fighter Wing, Hancock Field. His Air Force Awards and Decorations include the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Medal with 6 devices, the Air Force Longevity Service Award with 6 devices, the National Defense Service Medal with 1 device, the South West Asia Service Medal with 2 devices, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 1 Device, the Kuwait Liberation Medal Saudi Arabia, the Kuwait Liberation Medal Kuwait, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 4 devices and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Chief Obleman married Nancy Condon on 10 May, 1969. He has three children Michael, Lorianne, and John. Lorianne is married to Trevor Quig, and are the parents of his granddaughter, Adrianna.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MINE PRESERVATIONIST BURTON BOYUM

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding volunteer for his work in preserving the grand history of mining in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Burton Boyum is a shining example of how giving to one's community brightens the lot for many. Mr. Boyum has selflessly given his time and served in various capacities designed to better the lives of residents and improve their understanding of the area's economic and cultural history.

For decades, the Upper Peninsula was dotted with mines that drew iron ore and copper from the tree-covered hills. The resources, however, were exhausted and now the area is witness to little mining. All that remains of this former economic mainstay, which provided thousands of jobs to hardworking citizens, are the stories of former miners and some dilapidated structures. Gratefully, communities in the Upper Peninsula have been graced by the energy and dedication of Burton Boyum. He has been determined to preserve the historic structures of Michigan's mining past and retain the anecdotes that illustrated miners' lives.

Following his graduation from the University of Minnesota in 1941, Mr. Boyum moved to the Upper Peninsula, where he worked as a Mining Engineer for Cleveland Cliffs International until his retirement in 1984. During that period and beyond, Mr. Boyum worked diligently to capture the history of mining. In 1961, he founded the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, a non-profit organization, and served as President of the Board of Directors from 1973 to 1998. Most notably, in 1998, the Quincy Mine Hoist Association honored this distinguished community member by creating the Burton H. Boyum Award.

Mr. Boyum has contributed to the community in many other laudable ways. He served as a member of the Marquette County Historical Society, where he wrote and published two books: *Saga of Iron Mining in Michigan's Upper Peninsula* and *The Mather Mine*. He worked tirelessly to create the United States National Ski Hall of Fame in Ishpeming, Michigan, which is housed in an award-winning structure that beautifully enhances the interpretation of skiing in our country. Finally, Mr. Boyum played a large role in creating the Great Lakes Olympic Education Training Center, which trains athletes for various events in the world's athletic showcase. I have worked on matters concerning the National Ski Hall of Fame and the Great Lakes Olympic Education Training Center and can appreciate the initiative and devotion displayed by Mr. Boyum toward both creating and strengthening these facilities.

Although Mr. Boyum recently suffered a stroke, I am sure that his passion for civic involvement and his appreciation for mining history in the Upper Peninsula will remain steadfast. I ask you Mr. Speaker to join me in this salute to Burton Boyum.

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT (NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TREATMENT) TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations for China. I have come to this conclusion after intensely listening to arguments for some period of time from many supporters and opponents of the PNTR, and weighing the pros and cons of this extremely important trade bill.

I want to thank Chairman ARCHER and Ranking Member RANGEL for their important work on this legislation. They should be commended for their hard work.

It is my hope that everyone's views on this bill will be respected on this vote, and that we will find a constructive way to unify after this vote for the good of all Americans. This is truly a vote of conscience that each and every member has wrestled with.

For several years, I have recognized that trade with China has value for Americans and the people of China, yet I have reservations. My record on trade measures since coming to Congress demonstrates my willingness to evaluate each vote on its own merits. Each year that I have voted for most-favored-nation status for China, I have likewise raised my voice against the "undemocratic" ways of that nation.

It is imperative that we recognize that American companies must reinvest in rural and urban America as a result of PNTR. Unlike during the Cold War, we have unparalleled opportunities to bring the people of China and America much closer together. America has a responsibility to invest and to establish a rapid response for companies that are affected as a result of job loss.

I have been working very closely with the Administration to secure a commitment to designate the Department of Labor to study job losses and to provide added relief to American workers adversely affected by the PNTR agreement.

I have also worked to establish a Task Force on small businesses from a range of agencies within the United States government to facilitate and negotiate doing business in China. This Task Force would be responsible for specifically encouraging trade between United States small businesses and these newly established small businesses in China.

We are not here to discuss whether China will gain access to the WTO. We recognize it will do so and that the unconditional most-favored nation (MFN) principle requires that trade concessions be granted "immediately and unconditionally" to all 135 WTO Members. More importantly, the World Trade Organization is not nor should it be a human rights policy toward China. Nothing about this vote should reflect our nation's views about current or past human rights practices in China. This is about how to bring about change over the long-term.

The World Trade Organization would strengthen against surges in imports from

China and open Chinese markets to more U.S. exports. The November 1999 Agreement between the United States and China contains a product-specific safeguard, which will be included in China's protocol of accession to the WTO. A provision was recently added to this legislation that spells out procedures for effectively invoking that safeguard.

H.R. 4444 presently before the House enables the United States to grant PNTR to China once it has completed its accession, provided that it is on terms at least as good as those in our 1999 bilateral agreement. By granting permanent trade relations to China, it will open its markets to an unprecedented degree, while in return the United States simply maintains its current market access policies. The enhanced trade and services for American and Chinese companies could be dramatic for Texans and Americans as a whole.

Texas alone has export sales to China of more than \$580 million in 1998—nearly 50 percent above its sales in 1993. Shipments through the Port of Houston with China including Hong Kong totaled \$444 million in 1998. In 1999, air cargo trade between Houston and China including Hong Kong totaled 1.5 million kilograms and was valued at \$56 million. In short, China has come a long way since we established relations in 1971, and develop further relations through PNTR.

Through the PNTR deal, we gain even more significant concessions regarding PNTR. U.S. companies would be able to take advantage of several provisions of the U.S.-China Trade deal after China accedes to the WTO, but only if Congress permanently normalizes China's trade status. For example, tariffs on industrial products on coming into China would fall to an average of 9.4 percent by 2005 from 24 percent. Agricultural tariffs will fall to 17.5 percent from 31 percent.

In addition, the technology industry in my district would benefit from PNTR. For example, foreign companies would be able to own up to 49 percent of Chinese telecommunications ventures upon China's entry into the WTO, and up to 50 percent in the second year. And China will import some 40 foreign films in the first year of the agreement, up from 10, and allow foreign films and musical companies to share in distribution revenues on 20 of these films. The benefits are clearly advantageous to our industries as we support democratization in China.

PNTR is more than a matter of economics for so many of us—including those that have worked on the promotion of democracy and the rule of law around the world. I happen to have been one who with great trepidation voted for the MFN status, based upon the many strong arguments that have been made that if you continue to expose a nation to opportunity, to democracy, to the respect of human rights, would see gradually those parts of the world. I am hoping and would hope most of us would like to believe that we have that kind of trend moving forward in China.

I have had discussions with Former President Jimmy Carter, who strongly voiced his support for granting PNTR to China. Clearly, religious oppression is a continuous concern as a general matter in China. Nevertheless, President Carter eloquently emphasized that villages outside large cities in China are having free elections and that the freedom to practice one's religion has been growing. This is a very positive development. The Chinese

people must be counted on to relish these rights and to fight for opportunities at the table of democracy.

Former President Jimmy Carter has worked relentlessly since leaving the oval office to press for open, free, and fair elections all over the world. He has been advocating a powerful human rights agenda within our foreign policy and I salute him for his efforts.

PNTR could help many of these villagers find ways to improve their economic and social well being. For example, some companies are simply showing the Chinese how to improve fertilizers to improve agricultural growth. The people of China certainly should be empowered with the ability to feed their people. That should be a basic right.

At the same time, Americans should understand that granting PNTR should not remove the responsibility from Congress, this Administration, or any future Administration in assessing and responding to any drastic negative impact on Americans as a result of this legislation. For this reason, I expect to develop specific proposals with the Administration that will help small businesses under PNTR. This is vital to small businesses, especially minority and women-owned entities.

In the 18th Congressional District in Houston, Texas, which has a per capita income of \$11,091, many of the constituents have not prospered as much as others throughout the Nation. PNTR will spur capital investments, and investment opportunities that would come from international trade.

There will be more appropriate opportunities for expressing dissatisfaction with China's human rights record. I strongly share the view that we must keep pressure on China. A congressional-executive commission within this legislation would help monitor human rights and labor rights while placing safeguards against import surges could play a pivotal role regarding our concerns in China. By addressing human rights matters when they arise, the United States can continue to play a crucial role in demanding that the Chinese leadership live up to WTO commitments.

We must also recognize that the United States has held a vote on renewal of PNTR status for China every year since 1990, never once actually withdrawing NTR status. Unfortunately, the annual NTR vote has been less than effective in promoting the protection of human rights standards in China.

Some argue that granting PNTR means the United States loses leverage over China by surrendering annual reviews. I have considered the gravity of this question for some time. In my work in Congress on numerous human rights matters, whether domestic or internationally oriented, I have focused much of my attention, as a Representative of the 18th Congressional District, on the promotion of economic, civil, and political rights. I have never hesitated to expressly address basic human rights violations wherever they may occur and specifically in the context of the annual review process for normal trade relations (NTR) with China.

Under the proposed legislation, U.S. industries or workers claiming injury due to import surges from China would have legal recourse to the International Trade Commission and in other venues. This would protect our workers or U.S. industries that suffer job losses as a result of the agreement with China.

The vote on PNTR provides a unique opportunity to support the democratization of China.

We should be honest that it will not happen overnight. It will only happen over time.

Mr. Speaker, a "no" vote would damage our Sino-American relations—both economic and strategic—for years to come. By denying permanent normal trade relations status, we would irreparably damage our relationship with China, a country of 1.2 billion. I do not think we can afford to follow such a perilous course.

As I review our options today, I am simply unconvinced that constraining China in our trade relations within the WTO will help advance human rights in China. To the contrary, I have become increasingly convinced that changes resulting from the deal, including greater foreign investment and trade, will benefit ordinary Chinese workers and businessmen with the outside world.

Finally, I have deliberated very carefully about the magnitude of this decision. I recognize that trade with China and trade generally is good for our economy and the American people. At the same time, I look forward to opportunities through the WTO to enhance the protection of human rights as I and other lawmakers have advocated.

Mr. Speaker, a vote for PNTR will not leave any American worker behind. We must export democracy to China and not ignore this momentous opportunity. For these reasons, I will vote to give opportunities to the American worker, I will vote to give opportunities to American businesses, and I will vote to give opportunities to the people of China. We must seize the opportunity to export American values of peace, security, democracy, and a better way of life.

MEMORIAL DAY AND THE KOREAN WAR

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, America could have rejected the role of world leadership thrust upon her after the destruction and loss of human lives in World War II.

But she accepted that role, and in so doing gave Americans an even stronger motive to celebrate Memorial Day this year.

The special significance of this Memorial Day is its proximity to the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War on June 25th. More than a million Americans have died defending their country. Memorial Day is the day we honor them. This particular year, on this particular Memorial Day, with memories of those million dead heroes in formation before us, we might justly order "front and center" to the 55,000 Americans who died in the Korean War.

I've never understood why such a long and brutal war should be known as the "Forgotten War." Perhaps it's the timing. It fell between World War II, a war that mobilized a nation, and the Vietnam War, a war that divided a nation and ended tragically. Perhaps it was the mood of a nation anxious to return to the peacetime pursuits of families and careers after World War II. But whatever the reason, Korea never loomed as large in our historical

consciousness as World War II and Vietnam. What better time than the 50th anniversary to give that war and its veterans the recognition due them?

In so doing, we take away nothing from America's other heroes or from the families who still grieve for them. This Memorial Day will still remind us of every sacrifice ever made on every battlefield, and not just to secure our own freedom.

Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago international communism seemed to be the irresistible force of the future. It was a system geared for war and conquest. While the West greeted the end of World War II with relief and dreams of peace, the Soviet and Chinese masters saw it as the signal for the next wave of expansion. Who in the peace-loving West could stop them? In theory, only the United Nations. In reality, that meant the United States.

When North Korean divisions poured across the 38th parallel into South Korea, America was not prepared. We responded anyhow. The first American units thrown into battle hung or until reinforcements arrived and the enemy eventually was forced to negotiate. South Korea is now free because 50 years ago America kept faith with an ally. Let us now keep faith with the guardians of Korea's freedom and our own.

At first glance, America had no stake whatsoever in the freedom of Korea, so different from us culturally and halfway around the world. But a second, longer glance reminds us of our commitment to freedom around the world. That commitment is no mere theory, but a reality backed up by the blood of our citizen soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines.

Mr. Speaker, many of us knew someone who shed that blood and never came home. It will be a somber day for us, because we can remember that person on our hometown streets or playgrounds, sitting next to us in class, delivering our newspaper or groceries, or pushing a lawn mower on his front lawn. We might remember his laughter, his voice over a telephone, and perhaps even our own shock at reading the news of his death in battle. We may even have tried to comfort a grieving family.

But he isn't really dead. It can be said that no one is truly dead until the last person who remembers him is dead. We can honor our dead heroes by remembering them, every day but especially on Memorial Day.

Again this year the President or someone representing him will place a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery. But the most heart-felt Memorial Day celebrations will take place at cities, towns and villages all over America. There will be parades, speeches, and decorated grave-stones. For some Americans, Memorial Day will inspire them to write such heart-felt poetry as the following:

"WAR'S GLOW"

(By Steven R. Schutt, Prescott, Arizona)

The old ones; they know
the pain of war's glow.
While the youthful dead strive,
to keep illusions alive.
Those who survived learned,
how truth has been burned,
with a history of heroes
and reality spurned.

All who came back, mellowed and aged.
Time made from forget just how they had
raged.

But the old ones; they know,
the pain of war's glow.

Mr. Speaker, as long as such sentiments are alive in the hearts of private citizens, America will remain a great country and Memorial Day will remain an annual monument to our greatest heroes. This particular Memorial Day, I ask you and all Members to join me in a special salute to the casualties of the Korean War. Let us make the Korean War, the first challenge to communist expansion, a forgotten war no longer.

HONORING JOSEPH THOMAS BRADY, JR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to rise before you today on behalf of Petty Officer Joseph Thomas Brady, Jr., who on May 31, will receive an Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy after 20 years of service to our country.

Joseph Brady attended St. Matthews Catholic School and Flint Powers Catholic High School, graduating in 1976. While in school, he was an altar boy, a member of Junior Achievement, and several community service committees. He was also a standout athlete, excelling in basketball and football. After graduation, Joseph attended the University of Michigan-Flint, and Jackson State University. After two years at Jackson State, Joseph decided on a different adventure, and joined the United States Navy. He attended the Great Lakes Academy, and graduated in 1980. He was assigned to various vessels, including the U.S.S. *Schofield*, U.S.S. *Jack Williams*, and U.S.S. *Arleigh Burke*, among others. Since May 1997, Petty Officer Brady has served as Transportation Petty Officer and Collateral Duty Supply, as well as Petty Officer for Customer Service.

Petty Officer Brady has been recognized many times for his hard work and dedication. He has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three Gold Stars, the "E" Good Conduct Medal with six Bronze Stars, an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, and many ribbons and commendations.

I would also like to acknowledge perhaps Petty Officer Brady's wonderful family, including his wife, Lyvonne, and their children, Joey and Jovanna. I am sure they are very proud.

Mr. Speaker, as the father of two sons who have served in our Armed Forces, I have much respect and admiration for the commitment of these fine men and women. We are all very grateful for their decision to work to protect our nation's borders, and to protect and defend human dignity. I congratulate Petty Officer Joseph Thomas Brady, Jr. on completing his tour of duty, and I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in wishing him the best in his future endeavors.