

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO STEVE OSBORNE—2000 SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Steve Osborne on being selected as the 2000 Small Business Person of the Year for the Colorado District of the U.S. Small Business Administration. His hard work, dedication and business savvy have propelled Steve and his business—Building Specialities—to new heights.

Steve and his organization have not had an easy road to success. After a very promising and profitable inception, the company began losing money. An external audit was performed and it was revealed to Steve that an employee was embezzling money. Amid this adversity, Steve never put his head down in defeat. Rather, he put his shoulder to the plow and revamped his company.

Today, that turn-around is complete as Building Specialities is expected to reach nearly \$5 million in gross sales this year. Much of this renewed success is attributable to Steve's efforts and energies. Steve has taken a proactive approach to his business philosophy and continues to draw from his experience of hard knocks. He is a model citizen and a firm believer in never giving up.

I am encouraged by Steve's accomplishments and his success story. He is the embodiment of the entrepreneurial spirit that makes America's economy the strongest in the world. Because of entrepreneurs of Steve's caliber, America can look forward to many decades of continued prosperity.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Steve on winning this prestigious award. We are all very proud of you.

HONORING FINER WOMANHOOD AWARDEES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., located in Pontiac, Michigan. For many years, the sisters of Zeta Phi Beta have emphasized family leadership and civic pride. Each year, at their Finer Womanhood Scholarship Luncheon, they award scholarships to college bound students, and also recognize those who have made a significant impact on the City of Pontiac. On June 10, the Chapter will gather for their seventeenth annual luncheon, where they will honor Ms. Cynthia Thomas Walker as Woman of the Year, and Mrs. Dorothy Jones Herron and her family as Family of the Year.

Cynthia Thomas Walker has truly shown herself to be more than deserving of the distinction of Woman of the Year. She is currently the Administrator of 50th District Court in Pontiac. She is the first African-American and the first female to hold this position. Originally from Chicago, Cynthia came to Pontiac in 1985, where she worked for UAW-GM Legal Services and was an instructor for the American Institute for Paralegal Studies before becoming a Deputy City Attorney in 1993. The following year, she became City Attorney and continued that role until last year, when she was promoted to her current position. Cynthia is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Southeast Michigan Court Administrators Association, and the NAACP. She is also the proud mother of a twelve-year-old son, Clifton.

This year's Family of the Year is the family of Dorothy Herron Jones of Pontiac. A product of the Pontiac School District, Mrs. Herron graduated from Pontiac Central High School, and went on to the Jones School of Nursing in Ann Arbor, and St. Joseph Mercy School of Nursing in Detroit. She began her medical career at Pontiac General Hospital as an LPN and later an RN. In 1971, she became a staff nurse at General Motors Truck and Coach. She rose through the ranks to her current position as Associate Administrator for GM Corporate Health Services, working with facilities in eight states, including Michigan. She is a member of several nurses' associations, the American Occupational Health Association, and the NAACP. Mrs. Herron has raised two wonderful sons. Dr. Michael Herron is an emergency room physician at Chesatee Hospital in Dahlonega, GA and Georgia Baptist Hospital in Warm Springs, GA. Darryl Herron has recently completed a two-year assignment in the Asian Pacific as Regional Manager of the Audit Staff for General Motors. He is currently the Manager of Capital Appropriations at GM Powertrain Global Headquarters in Pontiac. Mrs. Herron is also proud of her grandchildren, David and Destiny.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of several civic and fraternal organizations, I understand how important these groups can be to improve the community climate. I am proud of the hard work the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority has done for the City of Pontiac, and I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in applauding them and their award recipients.

HONORING DAVID S. THOMPSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I honor David S. Thompson, the past President of Northern California Small Business Financial Development Corporation.

Mr. Thompson has made a major contribution to hundreds of economically disadvan-

tagged small business enterprises throughout the greater San Francisco Bay Area. This contribution has resulted in over \$19 million of loan capital provided to this important segment of our regional economy that otherwise would not have occurred without his leadership and oversight.

In addition to providing solid direction and guidance to this non-profit public benefit corporation, Mr. Thompson has excelled in forging genuine strategic alliances with community-based organizations and financial institutions in a positive effort to maintain the flow of capital to minorities, women and the truly economic-disadvantaged of our local small business population.

As Executive Director of the City of Richmond's Redevelopment Agency, Mr. Thompson has contributed substantially to the economic revival of his own community for nearly twenty years.

Additional positions he has held with the City of Richmond over the years include Project Manager for the Marina Bay Development and the City's Business Assistance Officer. The Redevelopment Agency is a department within the Community and Economic Development Division which administers the City's community, economic and housing development programs including Redevelopment, Community Development Block Grants, HOME and Youth Build.

Mr. Thompson is active with a variety of nonprofit organizations in the Bay Area, involved in small business development financial and management assistance including the Northern California Community Loan Fund, Bay Area Small Business Development Corporation and West Contra Costa Business Development Center.

It is with great pride and honor to recognize the overall contributions made by David S. Thompson to the State of California's Small Business Loan Guaranty Program and to the hundreds of small business persons who have benefitted from this commitment of time and energy.

RSS BOMBS CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S PRAYER MEETING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on May 31 Newsroom.org reported that a May 21 bomb blast that injured 30 Christians during a prayer meeting was apparently carried out by the RSS, the pro-Fascist, militant Hindu fundamentalist organization that is the parent organization of the BJP, the party that leads India's government.

According to the Newsroom report, which was brought to me by the President of the Council of Khalistan, Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, the bomb exploded during a meeting of the Women's Club, a Christian group. An extensive investigation by the All-India Christian

• 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.

Conference showed that the Sangh Parivar, a branch of the RSS, was responsible for the incident despite police claims that it came about as a result of strife within the Christian community. The Catholic Bishops' Conference has written to the Indian government demanding action.

This bombing is the latest in a string of violent attacks on Christians and other religious minorities. According to the article, "the community is being threatened with anonymous letters and telephone calls ordering citizens to stop Christian prayers." Anti-Christian slogans have been painted on walls all over town.

In the light of incidents like this against Christians, Sikhs, Muslims, and other minorities, the United States must act. Our aid to India, one of the largest recipients of American aid, must be stopped until all people's rights are respected. India should be declared a terrorist state and punished accordingly. Congress should call for a free and fair plebiscite under international supervision to allow the Christians, Sikhs, and other minority nations under Indian rule to enjoy self-determination, as a democracy should.

I would like to place the article from Newsroom into the RECORD. I urge my colleagues to read it and see the reality of religious freedom in India.

CHRISTIANS IN INDIA CLAIM BOMBING IS PART OF HATE CAMPAIGN

NEW DELHI, India, 30 May 2000 (Newsroom)—A bomb blast that injured 30 people in the coastal state of Andhra Pradesh last week was part of a campaign of hate by Hindu extremists, leaders of a Christian organization claim.

The blast at a prayer meeting in the Women's Club at Machilipatnam on May 24 was not the result of strife within the community as police first said, according to a team assembled by the All India Christian Council (AICC). The AICC has presented its report to Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, who said in a press release that he has directed police to review the investigation.

"We have already written to Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee about this," Father Dominic of the Catholic Bishop's Conference of India (CBCI) said. "With the report we hope the government will take it seriously."

The incident follows a series of attacks against Christian institutions, priests, and nuns in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Madhya Pradesh.

The AICC team—composed of an advocate, a pastor, and a community representative—said it found disturbing elements of a deliberate hate campaign by the Sangh Parivar, the extended family of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), a Hindu nationalist organization that is the ideological parent of India's governing Bharatiya Janata Party. Provocative statements and signs have been painted on the walls in the town, the AICC said.

The community is being threatened with anonymous letters and telephone calls ordering citizens to stop Christian prayers in the schools or face dire consequences, according to the AICC.

Police previously attributed the bombing to rivalry between two local pastors. After interviewing Christians belonging to both congregations, the AICC concluded that police were incorrect. Local police have since said that senior officers who made the earlier statements did so in haste.

"Going by the facts, evidence, and circumstances, in our opinion the cause of the

blast is a handiwork of fundamentalists who conspired and executed a meticulous precision blast without leaving any evidence to the site," the AICC report said. The bomb was not an "ordinary (crude) one but it appears to be either a time bomb or a remote bomb," according to the report.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY GROSWOLD—
DENVER & COLORADO TRAVEL
INDUSTRY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Jerry Grosword on being inducted into the Denver & Colorado Travel Industry Hall of Fame. He is one of only seven members to receive this distinction. He was inducted on April 1, 2000 at the Second Annual Denver's Salute to Tourism, an event which raised over \$25,000 last year for Colorado students entering the hospitality and tourism field.

Mr. Grosword's roots have a long-standing history with tourism in Colorado. He got his feet wet as a water boy for early ski pioneers, building the first trails on the slopes in Winter Park, Colorado. In 1959, he joined the Winter Park Recreational Association and eventually served as chairman. After his tenure as chairman, he became Chief Executive Officer for the resort and held it for 22 years. Currently, Jerry is serving as Chairman of the Board for Club 20 in western Colorado.

Without Jerry's contribution, Winter Park would not be the ski community that it is today. His dedication and commitment helped to complete one of the largest ski expansions in Colorado's tourism history. I am proud to honor Jerry and thank him for his efforts to make Colorado's tourism industry a model for other states.

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT
OF 1999, H.R. 1082

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999.

Why is it that we sit here in Congress and profess how far America has come? Why is it that we continuously stress how we have grown economically and socially? Is now not the time for America to grow morally? For those who fear to answer this question, I will answer for them. The time is now.

Over a year ago, the bipartisan Hate Crimes Prevention Act was introduced. This legislation will make it easier for federal authorities to assist in the prosecution of racial, religious and ethnic violence. This legislation has since been referred to the Subcommittee on Crime. My colleagues, why have we not done more? Instead of doing more to strengthen hate crimes legislation, members of society with no sense of remorse are killing those who they believe to be inferior to them.

I should not have to stand here and remind you of the brutal death of James Byrd, Jr.

from my home state of Texas. But just to persuade those of you who continue to dismiss the ongoing atrocities of hate crimes that occur, I will. James Byrd, Jr. was beaten shamelessly by two white supremacists and then chained to a pickup truck. These two men then dragged him to his death. You have all heard this before and still action by Congress remains to be seen.

My colleagues, I come to you today urging that we take action now. Has the prosperity of America become so great for some that we simply dismiss senseless acts of hate crime? The answer is no. We cannot allow another minute to pass before we enact the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. As Members of Congress and leaders, we must realize that now is the time to take action.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MONROE E. WALL
AND DR. MANSUKH C. WANI

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, two men who have devoted their lives to finding safer, more efficacious treatments for one of the world's most deadly diseases are being honored tonight.

Dr. Monroe E. Wall and Dr. Mansukh C. Wani of the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina will receive the prestigious Charles F. Kettering Prize, an award given by the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation to the scientists who have made the most outstanding recent contribution to the diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

Drs. Wall and Wani, who have collaborated for more than 38 years in their work, discovered two vital chemotherapeutic compounds, Taxol and Camptothecin, which serve as prototypes for a variety of new therapies that effectively treat cancer.

The findings are rare discoveries. Taxol, which has been heralded as one of the most important anti-cancer compounds of the past thirty years, was one of only two compounds out of 100,000 which were approved for clinical use by the National Cancer Institute between 1960–1981. Because of the work by Drs. Wall and Wani, Taxol now serves as one of the most productive treatments for breast, ovarian, and lung cancer and even Kaposi's sarcoma, a cancer associated with AIDS.

Drs. Wall and Wani have long been regarded as two of the premier members of their field. Dr. Wall, who earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. from Rutgers University, has been the recipient of two honorary doctorates and has been recognized for his work by the American Society of Pharmacognosy, the American Association of Cancer Research, and the American Chemical Society.

Dr. Wani, a native of India, has also received awards on numerous occasions for his contributions, including being honored with the Bruce F. Cain Memorial Award from the American Association for Cancer Research, the City of Medicine Award, and the NC1 Award of Recognition. He earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Bombay and Ph.D. in chemistry from Indiana University.

Drs. Wall and Wani, aged 83 and 75 respectively, still work actively in the fight

against cancer. According to Dr. Wani, they continue their work because "there is always a need to find something better and less toxic." They truly embody the spirit of inventiveness that is required for finding the cure for cancer. North Carolinians take great pride in the contributions of these outstanding scientists and in their richly deserved recognition.

TRIBUTE TO THE MISSOURI STATE
HIGHWAY PATROL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to pay tribute to the troopers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. These men and women, who are directed by the Governor and Superintendent Weldon L. Wilhoit, deserve our gratitude for their contributions to the citizens of Missouri.

You see the Missouri State Highway Patrol's distinctive blue uniforms throughout the state on a daily basis. The men and women of the Patrol can be found tirelessly working on behalf of the residents of the State of Missouri. You may see them testifying in courtrooms throughout the state or working with county sheriffs and local police departments. You may witness their lecturing students on the benefits of highway safety and other important matters. On Missouri's highways, you may see troopers deliver new babies or change motorists' tires, and elsewhere in the state, members of the Patrol may be combating the trade and production of illegal narcotics.

In addition to these very important responsibilities to the citizens of the "Show Me State," the Missouri State Highway Patrol specializes in providing protection for Missouri's governor and managing the law enforcement needs of Missouri's gaming industry. The Patrol also maintains Drivers Examination Stations throughout the state and provides detailed analysis of crime and accident scenes through the use of their Crime Laboratory Unit, Aircraft Unit, and Traffic Division.

Although the troopers prefer calm and peaceful experiences while on duty, their jobs as law enforcement officers sometimes turn deadly when confrontation occurs with the violent criminal element. Each trooper is fully aware that her/his life may be on the line as 21 troopers have died defending the values of Missouri society. Vigilance is always a prerequisite for a trooper initiating a car stop or interrupting a crime in progress. So that no one will forget the supreme sacrifice that troopers have paid, a large picture of each trooper killed in the line of duty hangs in the Missouri State Highway Patrol General Headquarters Building in Jefferson City. These pictures are a solemn reminder that the law enforcement profession is fraught with danger.

Mr. Speaker, the troopers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol exemplify the highest tradition of duty and service to the protection of the citizens of Missouri. I am certain that all Members of the House will join me in expressing appreciation for their dedication.

HONORING REVEREND W.G. AND
MARY TERRY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to rise before you today to speak on the behalf of two people who have made Christian Education their life's work. Each year, the Wolverine State Congress of Christian Education honors individuals for their commitment to Christian Education. On June 7, they will recognize the efforts of Reverend Dr. W.G. Terry, and his wife Mary.

W.G. Terry was born in Linden, Texas, and later moved to Henderson, Texas, early in his childhood. After graduating from high school in Henderson, Reverend Terry went on to obtain degrees from American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, TN; Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock, AK; and Bishop College in Marshall, TX. It was in Little Rock that Reverend Terry also received his Doctorate of Divinity. Over the years, he has been directed by the Lord to pastorates in Little Rock; Mineola, TX; Dyersburg, TN; Jackson, TN; and finally New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Flint, MI, where he has been the Pastor for the last 39 years. As Pastor, Reverend Terry operates as a spiritual leader, counselor, confidant, and community leader, among many other roles. He helped build the First Baptist Church in Jackson, Tennessee, and helped organize the Mississippi Valley Association School of Ministers. He purchased the New Zion building and added educational facilities. He has been recognized for distinction by American Baptist Theological Seminary, and by the Jackson NAACP as Father of the Year.

Reverend Terry has held many leadership positions in groups such as the Mississippi Valley District Congress, the Interracial Ministers' Alliance, and the Wolverine Baptist State Convention. After serving as the President of the Great Lakes Baptist Conference for 26 years, he was granted Emeritus status. He also serves as an instructor for the Flint Baptist Ministers' Alliance and the National Baptist Congress.

On November 2, 1945, W.G. Terry married Mary Hollins in Henderson, Texas. Mrs. Terry was born in Longview, Texas, and completed her schooling in Henderson. She attended Fisk University and Tennessee State College in Nashville, before receiving a degree from Arkansas Baptist College. Mary became a teacher in Texas and Tennessee, and was also a Vacation Bible School instructor for the East Texas District Baptist Congress. Along with her husband, she helped found the Tennessee Baptist Youth Encampment.

Mrs. Terry currently serves as Co-Director of Christian Education at New Zion Missionary Baptist Church. She also serves as an Instructor of Minister's Wives for the Great Lakes Baptist Congress and the Wolverine State Baptist Congress. She has been Program Director of the National Baptist Minister's Wives for more than 40 years. In addition, she and her husband have raised a wonderful daughter, and have two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as a former teacher and seminarian, I am very proud of the work that Reverend W.G. and Mrs. Mary Terry have done to improve our academic and spiritual well being.

It is because of people like them that the Flint community is a better place in which to live. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating their achievements.

CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF LA PENA CUL-
TURAL CENTER, BERKELEY,
CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, we celebrate the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the establishment of La Pena a Cultural Center in Berkeley, California.

La Pena Cultural Center is a nationally and internationally respected multi-cultural community arts institution working for social change while presenting culturally specific art from diverse sectors of the community.

For the past quarter century, La Pena has raised the social and cultural consciousness of our community through projects that bring people together to work on transforming our future. La Pena mission is the belief that artists and cultural workers contribute to positive social change by creating understanding among people, by stimulating discussion and by presenting a powerful vision of the future.

Throughout the year, La Pena presents many educational programs that increase understanding of different cultures and encourages the development of all disciplines that keep alive our cultural roots and diverse heritages. La Pena also operates a multi-purpose center that serves as a gathering place to support the Center's mission, as well as support the work of community organizations that are active in social justice.

To ensure La Pena's long term continuity and growth, the Center is launching an Endowment Campaign to raise \$500,000 over the next three years. This capital base will generate an unencumbered income of \$30,000 annually to support the Center's needs. As this capital base grows, funds generated by The Endowment will enable La Pena's many programs to thrive.

I proudly join people throughout the Bay Area in recognizing this momentous occasion of celebrating 25 years of extraordinary service by La Pena Cultural Center.

FREEDOM FOR THE SIKHS OF
KHALISTAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan recently issued an open letter about the deplorable situation in Punjab, the Sikh homeland which declared its independence on October 7, 1987, as Khalistan.

The Sikhs are under attack from a militant Hindu organization called the RSS. The RSS was formed during World War II in support of the Fascists. It is the parent organization of the ruling BJP and many other organizations also come under its umbrella. Its agenda is to

promote fundamentalist Hindu nationalism. Two members of the ruling BJP, which is a part of the RSS, were quoted in the newspapers as saying that everyone who lives in India should be Hindu or subservient to Hinduism.

Now the RSS is trying to form a satellite organization called the Rashtriya Sikh Sangat which is designed to subsume Sikhs under Hinduism and wipe out their religion. Since the ruling party is part of the RSS, it is implicitly part of this effort to eliminate the Sikh religion. As people who believe in freedom of religion, this assault on anyone's freedom of religion ought to concern all of us.

The recent massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chhatti Singhpora is just another chapter in this campaign. Two recent investigations have proven that the Indian government was responsible for that massacre. There are still 50,000 Sikhs political prisoners rotting in Indian jails without charge or trial. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs. Punjab is a police state. The only way to end this campaign against the Sikhs is to support self-determination and freedom for Punjab, Khalistan.

Mr. Speaker, there are measures the United States can take to promote freedom for Khalistan and throughout South Asia. I urge the President to declare India a terrorist nation. We can cut off American aid and trade to India until all people there enjoy their basic human rights. And in accord with American principles, we must declare our support for self-determination for the people of Khalistan, the people of Kashmir, the people of Nagaland, and the other peoples and nations of South Asia. This can be achieved by allowing the people to vote in a free and fair plebiscite under international supervision on the question of independence. Such a plebiscite is similar to the periodic votes in Puerto Rico and Quebec on their political futures. This is how democratic nations do it and it is how great powers do it. If India wants to be taken seriously as a member of the family of democratic nations, it must allow self-determination and human rights for all peoples and nations within its artificial borders.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's open letter on the situation in Punjab into the RECORD.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN, GURU
GOBIND SINGH, THE TENTH MAS-
TER,

Washington, DC, May 12, 2000.

A SOVEREIGN KHALISTAN IS THE ONLY
SOLUTION

ALL SIKH INSTITUTIONS AND PRESENT LEADERSHIP IN PUNJAB ARE UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Khalisa Ji: The militant Hindu fundamentalists of the RSS are now attacking the Sikh Nation. They are trying to insinuate themselves into the Sikh Nation by forming the "Rashtriya Sikh Sangat." They are trying to bring Sikhs under the Hindu umbrella by any means necessary. The Sikh Nation must stay alert and fight back against these efforts.

The only way to stop these efforts is political power. Without political power, nations perish. If we cannot reclaim our lost sovereignty, the RSS will succeed in its efforts to wipe out the Sikh Nation and the Sikh religion. Every day, we pray "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa." Do we mean it? A true Sikh cannot lie to Guru. If we mean what we say, we must do everything we can to establish Khalsa Raj.

The turmoil of the Akal Takht and the SGPC, and the other problems of the Sikh Nation are the result of the fact that we have lost the sovereignty that the Guru gave us. These problems have come about because the entire Sikh leadership and the Sikh institutions in Punjab are under Indian government control. We can only solve these problems by liberating our homeland, Khalistan.

Why are there still 50,000 Sikhs rotting in Indian jails without charge or trial? Why have the Sikh leaders in Punjab been silent about the murders of over 250,000 Sikhs at the hands of the Indian government? There is an Akali government and there are other Akali parties like Mann's Akali Dal. Why can't they start a Shantmai Morcha to free those political prisoners? Why can't they demand that Amnesty International be allowed into Punjab to conduct an independent human-rights investigation?

The government previously sent Professor Manjit Singh to destroy the Khalistan movement abroad. Now it has sent Simranjit Singh Mann. No Sikh leader who speaks for Khalistan will be allowed to leave the country and come here. There is moral degeneration of the Sikh character due to the lack of political power.

Four years ago, the Sikh leadership passed the Amritsar Declaration. It said that if India did not grant Punjab complete autonomy within six months, they would start a peaceful agitation for Khalistan. Four years later, Mann still supports the Amritsar Declaration. He still says that there should be a federation with India controlling defense, foreign affairs, and finances. These are the things that define your political status. The other Sikh leaders in Punjab have backed away from even that position. On February 12 at the celebration of Sant Bhindranwale's birthday, Mann opposed the speakers who spoke for Khalistan, saying that they spoke only for themselves and that Bhindranwale supported secularism.

The proposal for a federated India still keeps Hindustan in control. That is why Mann made it. At the Sikh Day parade, U.S. Congressman Major Owens raised slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad," yet Mann would not even use the word Khalistan. He has long posed as a Khalistani. Even last year at the 300th anniversary celebration, he raised slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad" but now he has changed his stand. He, too, is clearly under government control. There is only one solution: a sovereign, free, and independent Khalistan, as declared on October 7, 1987. Only in a free Khalistan can Sikhs live in freedom, dignity, prosperity, and peace.

The Sikh Nation will not achieve its legitimate aspirations with any of the current political parties in Punjab. None of these parties will bring us a free Khalistan. Whether the Akalis, Congress, or the Akali Dal Mann is elected, elections under the Indian constitution will not free Khalistan and they will not end the slavery of the Sikh Nation and the corruption in the Punjab government. Badal made three promises to get elected: that he would release all political prisoners, that he would punish guilty police officers, and that he would appoint a commission to look into the excesses by the Indian government against the Sikh Nation. He could not even keep these modest promises. Instead, he put the heat on the People's Commission and shut it down.

The massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chhatti Singhpora shows that without sovereignty, the Indian oppression of the Sikh Nation will continue. An investigation by the Ludhiana-based International Human Rights Organization, led by D.S. Gill, showed that the Indian government was responsible for the massacre. A recent report by the Justice Ajit

Singh Bains, chairman of the Punjab Human Rights Organization, Sardar Inderjit Singh Jaijee, convener of the Movement Against State Repression, and General Kartar Singh Gill, also found that the government counterinsurgency forces were responsible. This atrocity underlines the need for a sovereign, independent Khalistan.

Punjab is a police state. None of the political parties will bring us Khalistan. The Sikh Nation needs new leadership and a new party that are committed to liberating Khalistan. We need a Khalsa Raj Party. The Khalsa Raj Party should be committed to self-determination. It should demand freedom for Khalistan and any peaceful, democratic, non-violent means should be used to achieve this goal, whether it is a plebiscite or any other democratic means.

The only way to escape Indian slavery is to liberate Khalistan. New Sikh leadership emerge to free the Sikh Nation. They should raise the slogan "India Quit Khalistan" and start a Shantmai Morcha until we achieve freedom. We have now seen how the Indian government controls Sikh institutions and the entire Sikh leadership in Punjab.

Unless the Sikh Nation brings back the Sikh spirit and fight for truth and justice, the Khalsa Panth will not prosper. Remember the Guru Ka Bag Morcha and the Jaito Morcha. We did it then and we can do it now. Only in a free Khalistan can the Sikh religion flourish. Only in a free Khalistan will Sikhs be able to live in freedom and dignity. Only then can the Sikh Nation finally enjoy the glow of freedom that was promised to us so many years ago.

Khalisa Ji, the onus is on us. The time is now. We must start a Khalsa Raj Party and begin a Shantmai Morcha to liberate Khalistan. We must reclaim our lost sovereignty. New, young leadership which has dedication and the spirit of sacrifice must emerge. Support only these new leaders who are honest, dedicated, fearless, and committed to freedom for Khalistan. India is on the verge of disintegration. Kashmir is going to be free from Indian control. Let us make use of this opportunity to free Khalistan.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

TELEPHONE EXCISE TAX REPEAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support today of H.R. 3916, the Telephone Excise Tax Repeal Act. This tax is a regressive tax that now collects over \$5 billion each year from local and long distance phone calls. The working families of this country deserve lower taxes and this tax repeal will benefit them the most. This tax cut is also an issue that people care about. I wish to express my appreciation to Robert Fuchs, a constituent from the 10th District of Ohio, for bringing this issue to my attention. This tax cut is fair and is long overdue.

The taxation of Americans is necessary to pay for the service of our government. The difficult question is how to structure these taxes. Regressive taxes, which levy taxes regardless of one's ability to pay, are not fair. The telephone tax is a regressive and unfair tax. Progressive taxes, which levy taxes proportional

to one's ability to pay, are much fairer. The income tax is a type of progressive tax. I believe that the current budget surplus is large enough to consider repealing other regressive taxes that harm lower-income Americans. As such, I remain committed to creating a more fair tax system.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY WILKINSON—
EXTRAORDINARY LIBRARY AD-
VOCATE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize Larry Wilkinson for receiving the Extraordinary Library Advocate of the 20th Century award that is presented by the ALA/ALTA National Advocacy Honor Role. This award recognizes individuals who encourage and promote library services at both the state and national levels. Larry was one of five individuals chosen for this award.

Some of Larry's accomplishments, with regards to his library service, include initiating the inception of two public libraries in the State of Colorado. Perhaps his greatest achievement was the restoration of a former jailhouse into the current library in the town of Telluride. Today, Larry volunteers one day a week to continue his public passion and also serves on the Colorado Council of Library Development.

The many contributions that Larry has made have markedly improved the publics' access to information, especially in the Telluride area. Before Larry's involvement and the creation of the library, residents would have to travel to the city of Montrose in order to obtain access to literary materials. Thanks to Larry, that is no longer the case.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Larry's efforts and to thank him for his work to provide access to information that is only available in public libraries. Larry is exceedingly worthy of this prestigious award and deserves the praise of this body.

WELLTON-MOHAWK TRANSFER
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today at the end of this long journey to fully support this legislation which transfers the title of the Gila Project/Wellton Mohawk Division facilities from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District.

I want to thank the Gentleman from Alaska, Chairman YOUNG, the Gentleman from California, Mr. MILLER, the Chairman of the Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power, Chairman DOOLITTLE, and the Ranking Member of that Subcommittee, Mr. DOOLEY, for their help in getting this legislation through the Subcommittee, through the full Resources Committee, and now on the Floor of the House.

I also want to thank my colleagues from Arizona for their help. Congressmen STUMP, HAYWORTH, and KOLBE joined me in introducing the legislation, and Congressman SHADEGG quickly joined them in seeing the wisdom of co-sponsorship. And in the other body, both Senators from Arizona joined to introduce the bill we are considering today.

The Gila project in Western Arizona was originally authorized for construction by President Roosevelt in June, 1937. Construction for the Wellton-Mohawk Division was started in August, 1949, and water from the Colorado River was turned onto the Wellton-Mohawk fields for the first time in May, 1952. The project was completed by June, 1957 and the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District fully repaid its project costs and was given its certificate of discharge on November 27, 1991. In 1998, the District and the Bureau of Reclamation signed a Memorandum of Agreement that covers the details of the transfer of title.

This bill, S. 356, which is virtually identical to the bill I introduced, H.R. 841, simply authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to carry out all provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement covering the transfer of title, including the authority to convey lands as required. It also requires the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Energy to continue to provide water and power as provided under existing contracts.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned, this has been a long road, but we are finally ending the legislative journey. This is simple legislation which will help shrink the role of the Federal government and shift the responsibilities for ownership into the hands of local entities. In short, passage of this legislation will ensure a smoother and more efficient operation, which in turn will better serve the American taxpayer and the citizens of Southwest Arizona.

I ask that my colleagues support passage of S. 356 and I look forward to watching the President sign it into law.

TEXAS' CHILD HEALTH
INSURANCE PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on Texas' Child Health Insurance Program.

Today, our children should not have to fight to get the health care coverage they deserve. I am sad to say, in Texas they do. A child born in the year 2000 is far more likely to grow up healthy and to reach adulthood than a child born in 1900 was. Over the past 100 years, our nation's scientific, technological, and financial resources have built the most advanced health care system in the world. But the doors of the health care system are not open to everyone.

Millions of children have inadequate medical care. Ensuring that every child in our nation receives the best possible health care must be a top priority for the nation. Unfortunately, not all children have benefited equally from the medical, public health, and public policy achievements of the 20th century. To a large extent, health status is still determined by race, language, culture, geography, and eco-

nomics. In general, children in low-income communities get sick more often from preventable acute and infectious illnesses such as measles, conjunctivitis, and ear infections. Low-income children and teens are also more likely to suffer from chronic medical conditions such as diabetes and asthma, the leading cause of school absences. In fact, the sharpest increases in asthma rates are among urban minority children.

Despite the tremendous advances in medical technology and public health, millions of children have less of a chance to grow up healthy and strong because of unequal access to health care. Children without health insurance or a regular source of health care are most likely to seek care from emergency rooms and clinics, which have long waits to see a provider, limited follow-up, and little or no health education about preventive strategies or ways to manage chronic illness. Compared with insured children, uninsured children are up to eight times less likely to have a regular source of care, four times more likely to delay seeking care, nearly three times less likely to have seen a provider in the past year, and five times more likely to use the emergency room as a regular place of care. There is no question that insurance is key to maintaining health.

Imagine one hundred children from Texas standing in front of you. Fifty-four of these children are insured through Private/Employer-based programs. Twenty-two are covered through Medicaid. Twenty-four are uninsured. This equals to about 1.4 million of the 6 million children in Texas without health insurance.

Now imagine one hundred children from all over the country standing in front of you. Sixty-four of these children are insured through Private/Employer-based programs. Twenty-one are covered through Medicaid. Fifteen are uninsured.

Why is it that Texas' percentage of uninsured children is higher than the national's average? The reason is due to a Texas government that chooses not to take advantage of government funding that will allow many children to be insured. As a matter of fact, Texas can expand its Medicaid coverage to the age of eighteen and cover those whose income is up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. Presently, Texas only covers children up to the age of eighteen and to those whose income is 100% of the Federal Poverty Level with Title XXI funds. If Texas expands Title XXI eligibility to only 200% Federal Poverty Level, like it has the choice to, then an additional 483,000 uninsured children would be eligible for insurance coverage. Over half of all states have expanded coverage to 200% or beyond.

Most states have expanded health insurance coverage to children using Title XXI funds. This coverage is provided through Medicaid expansions and/or separate insurance programs. Ten states offer Medicaid to those with an income up to 150% Federal Poverty Level. Texas falls within this category. Texas falls at the bottom. Our children fall at the bottom.

This should simply not be the case. The Texas government must not only strive to improve its average compared to the national average, but it must also strive to ensure all of its children adequate health care. The opportunity for Texas to make change is now. The

Texas leadership must now show compassion to its future and provide a means for them to live healthy lives.

HONORING GAIL NOLIN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as a former teacher, it gives me great pleasure to rise before you today on the behalf of the Waterford, Michigan School District, who will be honoring one of their own. On June 14, members of the school district, as well as family and friends, will gather to honor the career of Ms. Gail Nolin, who is retiring after 34 glorious years.

In 1966, Gail Nolin began her career with Waterford Schools, teaching third, fourth, and fifth grades at Cooley Elementary School. Gail's tenure at Cooley lasted 18 years. Gail brought with her many unique and creative opportunities for her students to learn, including painting a large map of Michigan in the school parking lot, and constructing a large rocket ship. Many times, she incorporated art and music in her lessons, giving her students early exposure to fine arts and a well-rounded curriculum. She later moved up to teach upper elementary, where she involved parents in presenting technology to students, and helped pilot the district's first elementary computer network, acting as systems operator with Gladys Baker.

In 1991, Gail began a new role within the District, that of Technology Consultant. She diligently worked along with Dick Elsholz and Randy Gross to implement a program that would allow third grade to fifth grade teachers to integrate computer technology into their curriculum. She served as a member of the Institutional Technology Planning Committee, and co-chaired the first elementary technology plan.

Gail not only had an accomplished academic career, but a political career that has spanned nearly three decades.

A member of the Waterford Education Association, Michigan Education Association, and National Education Association, Gail has always remained a member in good standing and a role model for her peers. She has served the WEA as a member of its Human Rights Commission and Negotiations Committee, as well as other leadership roles with the union. As a member of the MEA, Gail has been an executive officer since 1985, and also sits on the Staff Retirement Board and Legislative Committee. She has operated as the MEA representative to the NEA on several occasions.

Gail's strong belief in our democratic system has allowed her an audience with not only members of Congress, but senators, Cabinet members, and several presidents, on issues such as Title I and equal rights. Gail was invited to the White House by President Carter to participate in discussions regarding the drafting of women into the military.

These experiences also led her to a stint as an assistant to Congressman Bob Carr, and the opportunity in 1993, where President Clinton met and bowled with her eighth grade students.

Mr. Speaker, Gail Nolin is my educational colleague and my friend. For many years, I

have benefitted from her insight, as has the entire Waterford community over the course of the last 34 years. She has always been a fighter for education, for she believes that a strong educational background is the basis toward improving the quality of life. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating Gail Nolin on her retirement, and wishing her the very best in her future endeavors.

HONORING MR. MICHAEL HARVEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an exceptional man, Michael Harvey. In May, Mr. Harvey traveled to Washington D.C. to receive the "Star of Life" award, the highest honor presented to paramedics. Mr. Harvey received the award because of his dedicated service to his community and his fellow man as a paramedic. Mr. Harvey embodies the goals that this award stands for and we all can learn from the proud example he has set.

As you know Mr. Speaker, paramedics work tirelessly and selflessly to serve their fellow man. Mr. Harvey and his fellow paramedics are expected to perform in difficult—even perilous—situations on a daily basis. Mr. Harvey's service and sacrifice in his field clearly merit both the "Star of Life" award and the respect and admiration of this great body.

It is obvious why Mr. Harvey was chosen as the recipient of the "Star of Life" award. I think that we all owe him a debt of gratitude for his service to the State of Colorado. Due to Mr. Harvey's dedication, it is clear that Colorado is a better and safer place in which to live.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you and congratulations to Mike Harvey on this outstanding accomplishment. Your community, state and nation are all very proud of you, Mike. Keep up the good work.

SALUTE TO URSULA SHERMAN
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I salute, congratulate, and honor Ursula Sherman.

Ms. Sherman has been a founding and active Board member of Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) for more than 29 years.

Ms. Sherman came to California in 1938 after her family spent five years in Paris as refugees from Nazi Germany. She learned the importance of volunteerism as an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin and during her year as a researcher at the Nuremberg trials, where she fully grasped the concept that there but for the grace of God go I.

Ms. Sherman became an advocate for youth as a children's librarian and University of California at Berkeley visiting lecturer. In her "other" vocation as a community activist organizer, she worked hard at integrating Berkeley schools in the late sixties. She and members

of the Jewish Community organized the Hillel Streetwork project, which later became Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency or BOSS. This organization continues to serve the homeless and mentally-disabled populations in the East Bay, thanks to her leadership 29 years ago.

In addition to her work in BOSS, Ms. Sherman is also a past or current board member of such organizations as The Jewish Music Festival, The Traveling Jewish Theater, the American Jewish Congress of Northern California and the Berkeley Public Library Foundation.

In honor of Ms. Sherman's many contributions to our community, BOSS is hosting a Tea Ceremony in her honor at the Rose Garden Inn in Berkeley, California. Proceeds from this event will benefit BOSS's 21st Century Charitable Fund which is dedicated to ending poverty and homelessness in our community.

I proudly join the friends and colleagues of Ursula Sherman in recognizing her community leadership and activism, as well as celebrating her many years of extraordinary service to the people and organizations of the East Bay.

TRIBUTE TO LOIS FERNANDEZ

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lois Fernandez, president and co-founder of Odunde, a cultural organization that for 25 years has sponsored the Odunde Festival, one of Philadelphia's brightest cultural attractions and one of the largest African American festivals in the United States.

Odunde, which among the Yoruba of Nigeria means Happy New Year, is the greeting that first meets the more than 300,000 people who attend the Odunde festival. The festival transforms a 10-block area in the First Congressional District into a veritable West African marketplace complete with African, African American and Caribbean vendors selling crafts, clothing and food.

Those attending the festival can also take part in a traditional Yoruba ceremony that pays respect to Oshun, a Yoruba deity. The festival also offers a broad assortment of performances by musicians, dancers, singers and poets.

Ms. Fernandez has enriched our community by providing sorely needed education regarding the rich culture and history of Africa and the Africans of the diaspora.

For a quarter of a century Ms. Fernandez has been a formidable force for social change in our city and she has provided us with an invaluable cultural legacy.

HATE CRIMES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, sitting on a bench, riding on a bus, or even walking down the street, a hate crime can occur anytime or any place. Hate crimes are acts of

pure unadulterated evil, wronging someone because they are different. People should not and cannot live in fear because of their race, color, religion or sexual orientation; it is time that we take the strongest course of action to prevent these crimes.

Over the past decade the number of hate crimes has risen rapidly, consummating with 1999's "summer of hate." If taking anything positive from this infamous period is possible it is, that we have not done enough to prevent such crimes. Committing a hate crime is the most serious of offenses. It is our duty to make the punishment severe enough to deter even the most prejudicial person from considering a crime of this size. We in Congress have the ability and the opportunity to prevent the possible consequences of bias from occurring.

Today, as we commemorate the second anniversary of James Byrd's tragic death, we must pledge upon ourselves to do everything in our power to reduce the number of hate crimes. No one should ever fall victim to a hate crime, or any other crime for that matter, and we must renew and maintain our focus of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (H.R. 1082), to ensure that crimes cease.

IN HONOR OF UPSTANDING CITIZENS PHIL VARGAS, JOE VARGAS, KEN VARGAS, LUCY VARGAS PROUSE, JOSE VARGAS, LETICIA VARGAS ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a family of upstanding citizens. These men and women are being recognized for giving their lives in service to their country and their communities. Each one of them has demonstrated excellence in their fields and they continue to accumulate awards of merit and outstanding performance. These remarkable members of the Vargas family make their homes in Orange County, California.

Officer Phil Vargas, 31, was born and graduated from high school in Anaheim, California. He joined the U.S. Marines and participated in Desert Storm. As a result of his actions, he received many awards and recognitions, including the Good Conduct Medal and the Kuwait Liberation Medal. Later, he joined the Anaheim Police Department where he has received various commendations in his role as a police officer including "Rookie of the Year."

Ken Vargas, 39, has lived in Orange County most of his life. He initially joined the Orange County Probation Department as a juvenile counselor. Today he is the manager of the Santa Ana Detention Facility, which has been recognized nationally for its efficient, humane, economical and practical methods of incarceration. In addition to his exemplary administrative skills, Mr. Vargas has served as an instructor at the Correctional Basic Academy and speaks at seminars all over the nation.

Sgt. Joe Vargas, 43, has served as a police officer for many years in Orange County. His career began at age 14 when he joined the Stanton Police Department Explorer Program.

Today he is a Sergeant with the Anaheim Police Department and its Public Information Officer. Among his numerous merits are Police Officer of the Year and founder of several police organizations. He teaches a karate class to children every Friday.

Sgt. Lucy Vargas Prouse, 53, came to the United States as a child and has since become a proud U.S. citizen. She first joined the Riverside Sheriff's Department as a Correctional Deputy. She later was promoted to Correctional Sergeant and currently is a Supervisor at the Banning Correctional Facility. Her accolades include the Gold Star Award and recognition from the California Board of Corrections.

Officer Jose Vargas, 64, was born in Mexico and came to the United States as a teenager. As a young man he worked as a garbage truck driver while studying English at night. At age 30 he received his high school diploma. Three years later he became an American citizen and a police officer. He is now the Hispanic Affairs Officer for the Santa Ana Police Department. His hard work and dedication have earned him hundreds of commendations, including being selected as "One of the 10 Best Cops in the USA" by Parade Magazine.

Leticia Vargas, also born in Mexico, is a dynamic community activist who advocates for women, minorities and low-income residents. Her broad range of service includes seats on the Sheriff's Advisory Council and the District Attorney Hispanic Commission. In addition, she teaches young women about the rights and responsibilities of citizens and has worked with the Mexican American Arts Council developing programs to extend access of the arts to low income residents. She has served on several boards of directors such as the Legal Aid Society of Orange County, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Homeless Issues Task Force.

Each of these members of the Vargas family has answered the call of civic duty in a manner that is inspirational and worthy of recognition. They have achieved extraordinary feats even though many of them came from humble and modest beginnings. The Vargas family serves as a role model of dedication to community and country. I ask you to join with me today in commemorating this deserving family for the service which they have unselfishly given and continue to give.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ARMED SERVICES YMCA NATIONAL VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR DR. VIRGINIA M. MAHAN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, recently Dr. Virginia M. Mahan of Waynesville, Missouri, was named Armed Services YMCA National Volunteer of the Year during the Thirteenth Annual Recognition Luncheon held on Thursday, May 11, 2000.

Dr. Mahan has been a volunteer for the Fort Leonard Wood Armed Services YMCA, where she is on the Board of Management and is a past Chairperson, since 1984. Among her many contributions, Dr. Mahan created a spin-off of Uncle Sam in the character of "Aunt

Samantha." She is recognized in the Fort Leonard Wood area by her patriotic red, white and blue outfit. She appears frequently at community events, grand openings, birthday parties, and other events to raise money for the Armed Services YMCA.

Prior to her present involvement with the military, Dr. Mahan served as an officer in the United States Air Force. She also was the Deputy Public Affairs Officer and Community Relations Officer at Fort Leonard Wood for thirteen years. Additionally, she has been a teacher, civil servant and special education consultant. Dr. Mahan earned her doctorate in education from the University of Cincinnati in 1980. Currently, she is co-owner of a retail antique store and serves as an adjunct instructor at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Mahan is dedicated to the Pulaski County Armed Services YMCA and generously volunteers her time to ensure that members of our nation's Armed Forces—especially young enlisted members—enjoy a better quality of life. I know that all the Members of the House will join me in showing our appreciation for her commitment to our troops.

CONGRESSWOMAN LOIS CAPPS HONORED AS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to my very distinguished colleague, the Honorable LOIS CAPPS, on her recognition as the Distinguished Alumni Award recipient this year at the University of California, Santa Barbara. LOIS CAPPS represents a large Congressional district that includes Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties.

Lois received a Master's Degree from UCSB in 1990, at a time when the prospects ever serving in Congress would have seemed very remote. A loving wife of a University Professor, our beloved former colleague Walter Capps, and mother of three wonderful children, LOIS earned her Master's degree from the School of Education in early childhood behavior. This degree improved her skills and leadership as a nurse in the Santa Barbara School District, as an instructor in early childhood development at the Santa Barbara Community College, and as the Director of Santa Barbara County's Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting Project and the Parent and Child Enrichment Center.

The past ten years since she received her Master's Degree at UCSB have seen many changes in her life. LOIS has earned the respect of her constituents and her colleagues here in Congress with her hard work, dedication to the family and childhood issues that are so important to her, and strength in times of unfathomable tragedy.

As a member of the House, LOIS has served as a member of the Science and International Relations Committees before assuming her current position on the Commerce Committee, where she serves on the Health and the Environment and Finance and Hazardous Material Subcommittees. LOIS has made her mark in

legislation where she is a vigorous advocate for the Patient's Bill of Rights, Medicare reform, mental health, environment, high technology, and telecommunications issues.

LOIS' recognition by the UCSB Alumni Association is altogether appropriate. She was a member of the University community as a spouse, student, and now as a distinguished alumnus and Congressional representative. She loves the UCSB campus, and the campus community of faculty, administrators, and students return that affection many thousand-fold.

Mr. Speaker, we should all be proud of this recognition LOIS CAPPAS has received in her district. She continues to bring distinction to our institution and our state, and is an inspiration to all whose lives she has touched.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BART GORDON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the 100th year of existence of the Greater First Baptist Church of Lewisburg, Tennessee. The congregation will celebrate the church's 100th anniversary on Sunday, June 25, 2000.

The church was first erected in 1900 as a one-room building heated with wood and coal. In 1959 the church underwent a much-needed expansion and renovation project under the guidance of the Rev. W.P. Johnson, who was called to pastor the church in September 1941. Johnson's son, the Rev. Herbert Johnson, took over as pastor of Greater First Baptist Church in September 1997. The elder Johnson now serves as the church's pastor emeritus.

The church has served its community and congregation well for an entire century, a time during which our nation struggled through much change and innovation. Through those many years, though, Greater First Baptist Church never faltered in its commitment to bring the Lord's word to the people.

Lewisburg is a much stronger community because of the work of the church and its congregation. I congratulate the congregation's perseverance and am sure the church will be just as strong during its next 100 years of service.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE ELMER W. ROGOZINSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Elmer W. Rogozinski, who passed away on June 5, 2000.

Elmer Rogozinski was born on May 14, 1918 to James and Martha Rogozinski and was the oldest of their five children. Elmer Rogozinski graduated from East Tech High School, and then studied at the Cooper School of Art. During World War II, Elmer Rogozinski served for four years with the 9th Air Force as a radio operator. He married Kay

Sot in 1947, and together they had two daughters, Diane and Janice.

Elmer Rogozinski was an active member of St. John Cantius church since 1947. He was a Mass server and committeeman, as well as a member of the St. John Cantius Mom's & Dad's Club. In 1958 he joined the 4th Degree Bishop O'Reilly of the Knights of Columbus as a member of the Color Corp. Since 1961, he served as the scribe for the Knights of Columbus Trinity Council paper, the Recorder. In 1963, Elmer Rogozinski was the Trinity Council Knight of the Year, and in 1984 he was the 4th Degree Bishop O'Reilly Knight of the Year.

Elmer Rogozinski was a man who enjoyed the little things in life. He bowled in the Trinity Council bowling league since the 1960s. Elmer loved to go bike riding and play baseball with his four grandchildren. He enjoyed packing food bags at the Tremont Hunger Center and teaching art classes during the summer to young children at St. John Cantius.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Elmer W. Rogozinski, a great man whose loving and giving nature are an example to us all.

SECURITY INTERESTS IN COPYRIGHTS FINANCING ACT

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, this statement was to be included in the Congressional Record with the introduction of H.R. 4351, the "Security Interests in Copyrights Financing Act" which was introduced on the floor on May 2, 2000.

I was pleased to introduce the "Security Interests in Copyrights Financing Act" with the distinguished representative from Virginia, Mr. Boucher.

This simple bill is focusing on curing a major source of legal uncertainty regarding the ability of owners of valuable copyrights to leverage that value as a source of working capital. Resolving this in a timely manner is becoming very important, and should not wait on years of further court decisions—at the end of which Congressional clarification would probably still be required.

Intellectual Property (IP), including copyrights, is becoming an ever-larger portion of the Nation's total wealth, and new methodologies for objectively valuing these assets are coming into the marketplace. Once it can be valued in a standardized manner, IP can secure a loan as well as any tangible property.

At the same time, other trends make resolving this uncertainty a pressing issue.

First, most bankruptcy experts expect a coming wave of "dot-com" filings as some Internet related firms find that their business model is terminally flawed. The only valuable asset that most of these firms have is intellectual property, and it would be best for all parties in interest if the issue of whether or not their copyrighted or copyrightable IP had been secured under a UCC filing was clearly resolved, and not a matter of litigation in a variety of circuits. The value of these assets can wither quickly if they are not being utilized in the fast-moving technology sector, but that is just what will happen if ownership is contested

through long court battles. That will be to the detriment of all parties in interest to these insolvency proceedings.

Second, some of these firms can avoid insolvency, even in an emerging era of tightened equity financing, if they can borrow against their copyright assets: but their ability to do so is clouded by the current legal uncertainty.

Finally, many firms may find that a developing market for IP-secured loans offers an attractive alternative to equity financing, both in regards to total borrowing costs as well as to retention of ownership in valuable assets.

Until a decade ago, it was the general legal view that copyrights, like other intellectual property, were within the general intangibles category under the Uniform Commercial Code, and could be secured as loan collateral through a UCC-1 filing with the Secretary of State in which a borrower resided. However, several 9th Circuit bankruptcy court decisions have put this whole area under a cloud. The 1990 Peregrine Entertainment decision held that the Copyright Act preempts all state law, including the UCC. Then, in 1997, the Avalon Software decision held that a security interest in copyrightable material, even if it had not been registered with the Copyright Office, could only be secured by a Copyright Office filing. Even within the 9th Circuit, the law has become more unsettled with the 1999 World Power decision, in which a different bankruptcy judge held that a loan could be secured in copyrightable but unregistered material through a UCC filing, directly contradicting the Avalon decision. However, even the World Power decision offers little comfort to lenders, since their lien would be lost if the material's owner registered it with the Copyright Office.

There are many reasons why utilizing the copyright registration system is inappropriate and ill suited to the perfection of a security interest. The fundamental reason, of course, is that the UCC and the Copyright Act address disparate and largely incompatible goals. But there are many other practical reasons, including:

- A UCC filing quickly provides notice to other parties that a security interest has been taken in the material, whereas it can take months before the Copyright Office provides such public notice to third parties.

- A UCC filing is easy for others to locate, as it filed under the debtor's name in their state of doing business; whereas copyright filings are listed under the name or number of the registered work and are consequently difficult for lenders to locate.

- Commercial law has long incorporated the concept of a "blanket lien" so that, for example, a lender that, through a single UCC filing, has secured a lien on version 1.0 of software will see that lien carry over to a subsequent version that enjoys marketplace success. Copyright law, however, requires a separate registration for each version and, consequently, a separate filing by a lender on each separate copyright.

- Borrowers may wish to obtain credit against material so that it can be developed to a state in which it is ready to be copyrighted and then marketed. Or they may wish to avoid registration so that, for example, they do not have to reveal a significant portion of software source code. Yet, since a lender can only register a lien with the Copyright Office against material that has already been copyrighted,

their access to debt financing will be cut off in these scenarios.

Mr. Speaker, last year my esteemed colleague, Rep. Coble, held a hearing in his Courts and Intellectual Property Subcommittee on a predecessor, draft version of the bill that I have introduced. Certain objections were raised against that earlier version, primarily on the grounds that it could have been interpreted to allow state law to prevail over the Copyright Act in certain instances. This new proposal has been narrowed and perfected to avoid such a result. Under H.R. 4351, the UCC will only govern a priority contest between a UCC security interest and a lien creditor. That is, creditors who have perfected a security interest in copyright material via a UCC filing will prevail over lien creditors or a trustee in bankruptcy, but will remain subordinate to the rights of other transferees of interests in copyrights under the Copyright Act. This will return the system to its pre-Peregrine state and provide the same means of securing interests in copyrights that currently exists for patents and trademarks.

The wisdom of this carefully targeted approach was attested to at last year's hearing. For example, Marybeth Peters, the Register of Copyrights, testified that "It may make sense to recognize perfection of security interests in copyrights at the state level for the limited purpose of allocating rights among lien creditors." Mr. Speaker, while this is a simple bill, it addresses the complex intersection of Federal copyright and bankruptcy law, as well as state commercial law. It also affects both the entire secured lending industry, both bank and nonbank, as well as those industries with substantial copyright interests, including the software and motion picture industries. My purpose in introducing this bill is to stimulate a productive dialogue that, hopefully, will lead to a near-term resolution of this matter.

I know that other groups, including a task force of the American Bar Association, have proposed to address this issue in the context of far more complex, comprehensive, and controversial legislation that would substantially revamp the Federal intellectual property laws and alter their relationship to state commercial law. I do not know if such an ambitious project is required, but I certainly know that it is not the kind of undertaking that can be accomplished in this Congress, and perhaps not even in the next.

My goal is simple: To avoid years of needless litigation while resolving a problem that prevents owners of copyright material from leveraging its value as a source of financing. It is my hope that, working with my colleagues and all the affected industries, we can reach quick agreement on a means of achieving that goal.

HONORING THE FAST PITCHING
GIRL'S SOFTBALL TEAM, THE
GAINESVILLE GATORS FROM
NORTH CENTRAL, FLORIDA

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of the House a great achievement by the Gainesville Gators, a girls fast

pitch softball team from North Central Florida. The weekend of May 27th and 28th, the Gainesville Gators won the "Commotion by the Ocean" National Softball Association Tournament. This victory qualifies the Gainesville Gators for this year's National Softball Association National Tournament. I would like to congratulate the Gators and all of the other teams that provided such fierce competition in this tournament.

Mr. Speaker, a constituent of mine, Barry Adams, wrote an article describing the Gainesville Gators' win, which I will make part of the record at this point.

THE GAINESVILLE GATORS RIDE THE WAVE TO
A WIN IN THE COMMOTION BY THE OCEAN
NSA TOURNAMENT.

The weekend of May 27 and 28th saw the start of the summers first fastpitch softball tournaments. The winner from this tournament would qualify for this years National Softball Association National tournament. The day started out at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, with the first game between the Gainesville Gators traveling Softball Team and the North Florida Beach All-Stars. The game was won by the Gainesville Gators 3-2. The next game would pit the Gainesville Gators against the Noreasters, the local host for this tournament, and started at 12:00 p.m. This game was won by the Noreasters 4-3.

This now had the Gainesville Gators at 1-1 for the tournament. The third game started at 4:30 p.m. between the Gainesville Gators and Tsumani, who the previous week won their first tournament. The Gainesville Gators would prevail with the score being 5-2. The Gainesville Gators record was now 2-1 and would seed them as number 3 for the Sunday tournament Championship games. Sunday started early for the Gainesville Gators, the first game would be at 9:00 a.m. and would pit the team against the NF Beach All-stars, whom the Gainesville Gators had defeated in their first game. In this action the Gainesville Gators again prevailed by defeating the All-stars and would advance to the second game of the day. In this type of tournament if you lose you go home, so the mood of the team was to win one game at a time. Their toughest competition would be the next game. This would pit the Gainesville Gators against the undefeated Jax Attack team and the number one seed in the tournament, based on the previous days performance. This would be the second game of the day for the Gainesville Gators and the first for Jax Attack. In getting to the number one seed the Jax Attack had allowed less than 4 total runs in their previous 3 games.

This would be a challenge for the Gainesville Gators. They accepted the challenge in defeating the Jax Attack 5-2 and would advance to the Championship Game between them and the Noreasters, the home team and the only team to defeat the Gainesville Gators during the tournament. The game was played with the results being in favor of the Gainesville Gators who would win 6-5 and in doing so assure themselves the Tournament Champions and an automatic bid to the NSA National Tournament. The Gainesville Gators had outstanding pitching by, Cassandra Sparks, Miranda Lovvorn, Annie Voyles and Kerri Stroh. The infield was stingy in giving up hits, with third base being covered by Jessica Howell and Shanna Gearner, Shortstop by Dana Osborne, and Montie Adams, Second base was bolstered by Jena Rowland and Cassandra Sparks, with First base being covered by Annie Voyles and Rekeesha Duncan. The outfielders provided many great plays and kept the Gainesville Gators in most of the games with their

fielding. Right field was staffed by Alicia Gray, Melissa Fairbrother, Center field was covered by Melissa Fairbrother and Tiffany Goode, Left Field was covered by Montie Adams and Shanna Gearner. Catching was handled by Tiffany Goode, Alicia Gray and Annie Voyles. The coaching Staff, Head Coach Teresa Kraus, Assistant Coach David Sparks and Kelly Stroh were proud of the accomplishments of the team with the playing, hitting and overall skills displayed over the weekend.

Rekeesha Duncan became the power during two of the games, with a fence clearing home run that sealed the victory over the number 1 seed, Jax Attack and a hit to the fence in the Championship game.

All the players were successful in getting hits at critical times and stealing bases. Overall the team provided the hitting and fielding at the critical times. The Gainesville Gators finished the tournament with a record of 5-1. The team consists of girls from all over the surrounding areas of Gainesville. They run from Lawtey, Lulu, Starke, Gainesville, Bronson, Inglis, Williston, Archer, Providence and Lake Butler, Florida.

The team Coaches: Head Coach, Teresa Kraus; Asst Coach, David Sparks; and Asst Coach, Kelly Stroh.

Players:

Montie Adams, Rekeesha Duncan, Melissa Fairbrother, Alicia Gray, Shanna Gearner, Tiffany Goode, Jessica Howell, Miranda Lovvorn, Dana Osborne, Jena Rowland, Cassandra Sparks, Kerry Stroh, and Annie Voyles

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM G. MOLL

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to William G. Moll, a good friend, who will receive the 2000 Silver Medal Award from the American Advertising Federation on June 13, 2000. Bill has been selected for this prestigious award for his outstanding contributions to the advertising industry. Bill's accomplishments have advanced the standards for creative excellence and social concern.

Bill graduated from Southeast Missouri State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Education. He went on to earn his Master of Arts from the University of Texas at Austin, where he studied Communications and Education.

Since 1992, Bill has been President and General Manager of W-KRC-TV, Cincinnati. I've had the opportunity to work with him through the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati, where he has been a leader in developing one of the most aggressive anti-drug local media campaigns in the country. From 1989-1992, Bill was the President and General Manager at WINBC-TV, New York. From 1987-1989, he was President and Chief Executive Officer at the Television Bureau of Advertising, the television industry's marketing trade association. Bill also served at Harte-Hanks Communication, Inc. as President and CEO; State Mutual Broadcasting Co., Inc. as Vice President and General Manager; and as Station Manager at Southwest Texas Educational Television Corporation. He began his broadcast work as a radio announcer in 1954. From 1958-1961, he worked as a television news anchor and morning show host.

Bill is very active in the community. In addition to his work with the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati, he continues to dedicate time as Chairman of the Board of the Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America; as a Member of the Board of Directors for the National Conference for Community and Justice; as Chair of the Advisory Panel for the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, Electronic Media Division; as President of the Board for the Neediest Kids of All; and as a Member of the Board for the Cincinnati Arts Association. Bill has also helped to support Big Brothers and Big Sisters; Scouting for Food and Clothing; Family Cancer Care; and the United Negro College Fund, among others.

Bill and his wife, Marilyn Lewis Moll, have two sons and two grandchildren. All of us in the Cincinnati area appreciate Bill's contributions to our community, and we congratulate him on receiving the 2000 Silver Medal Award.

HONORING THE MAKE-A-WISH
FOUNDATION

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, in today I salute an organization that has been making wishes come true for two decades. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization that fulfills the wishes of children fighting life-threatening illnesses. This organization's sole purpose is to bring happiness to children who confront harsh realities.

Eighty-thousand children worldwide have had their wishes fulfilled by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In Maryland alone, more than 1,200 children have had wishes fulfilled. This organization understands the fragility of life, and the wishes they grant are a true gesture of humanity.

I think fondly of the way they helped one of my own constituents. Chris Palmer of Cheverly, Maryland was diagnosed with Sickle Cell Anemia as a baby. The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic, fulfilled a wish for Chris in November, 1998. I, along with Chris and his family are very grateful to the Make-A-Wish Foundation for all they have given him.

I am proud of Chris Palmer's courageous fight with his illness. I commend the Make-A-Wish Foundation's devotion in bringing happiness to children like him. I also salute the many volunteers and donors who support and make up the backbone of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

I invite those interested in learning more about the Foundation to contact them at 1-800-722-9474 or on the internet at www.wish.org.

DAY OF PORTUGAL

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a very important community in the 18th Con-

gressional District. On Saturday, June 9, 2000, the Portuguese community will celebrate the Day of Portugal in Hilmar, California.

The Central Valley of California has long been a home for many from the Azores region of Portugal. Our communities have been enriched by the contributions of the Portuguese community. In honor of this distinguished celebration, three mayors from Portugal will be in attendance to participate in honor of the Portuguese culture. The mayors—Jorge Manuel Perira Rodrigues, President-Camara Municipal da Madalena; Manuel Joaquim Neves da Costa, President-Camara Municipal das Roque do Pico; and Eng. Claudio Gomes Lopes, President-Camara Municipal das Lajes do Pico—have traveled to the Central Valley of California for this celebration.

Many families have immigrated from Pico to the Merced County area over the years. Many have achieved prominent status in the areas of business, education, and politics. These families have maintained close ties to Pico and the Azores.

I consider it an honor and privilege to recognize the Day of Portugal and the special guests who have traveled so far to share it with our community.

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in calling for the prompt scheduling of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

It is unconscionable that two years to the day since the shocking murder of James Byrd, Jr., we still have not been able to consider legislation that will help us better prosecute and, more importantly, help prevent the commission of hate crimes. Sadly, since the senseless murder of Mr. Byrd, the news has continued to be filled with stories of terrible crimes being committed against people just because of who they are—the murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, the murder of a Filipino-American postal worker, Joseph Illeto, and the wounding of children and others at a Los Angeles Jewish community center, and less than two months ago in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania the murder of five people including an African American man, a Jewish woman, two Asian Americans and an Indian man. And these are just the incidents that made the headlines. We never even hear about the thousands of other hate crimes that, for whatever reason, go uncovered by the media or are not reported to law enforcement officials.

As elected leaders, it is incumbent upon us to set an example not just in expressing our outrage about these crimes, but by putting new teeth into our anti-hate crime law enforcement activities. The Hate Crimes Prevention Act would ensure that hate crime protections are extended to all Americans and would provide resources to local law enforcement agencies who must investigate and prosecute hate crimes in their communities. We must take this important step to send the message that no one should have to live in fear simply for being who they are.

In fact, we came very close the past two years to getting the Hate Crimes Protection

Act enacted but could not in the face of Republican Leadership opposition. So, once again, I call upon them to drop their opposition and allow Hate Crimes Protection Act supporters to have the opportunity to make their case on the House floor and pass this critical legislation. Continued inaction is a disgrace to the memory of all hate crimes victims and to their families. It is also a disgrace upon us and who we are as a people.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEST
POINT LAKE AND DAM IN TROUP
COUNTY, GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor today to recognize the West Point Dam and Lake Project in West Point, Georgia. On June 17, 2000, the U.S. Corps of Engineers will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the West Point Dam and Lake Project.

Construction of the West Point Dam and Lake Project was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1962, for the purposes of flood control, hydroelectric power, recreation, fish and wildlife development and downstream navigation. Later, water quality was added as an authorized project purpose. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began construction of the project in December 1965. Impoundment of the lake began in October of 1974, and the project was dedicated with a formal ceremony held at the dam on June 7, 1975.

West Point Project continues to provide substantial benefits to the region. It protects residences and businesses along the Chattahoochee River downstream from flooding, and provides low-cost electric power during periods of peak demand. It also provides a water source for downstream navigation along the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, Flint Rivers Waterway.

There are over 10,000 acres of intensively managed wildlife habitat on the lake, as well as 38 public recreational areas for the outdoor enthusiast. The lake hosts an average of over 2 million visitors each year who come to enjoy multiple recreational opportunities such as camping, boating, picnicking, fishing, hunting, and more. It provides an enhanced quality of life to those who live on or near its shoreline.

West Point Project's 25-year history of public service is worthy of commemoration. It has been a pleasure to work closely with the citizens and authorities who keep West Point Lake and Dam Project in excellent condition.

The true spirit of public service and cooperation at West Point Lake is exemplified by the West Point Lake Task Force, chaired by Ken Manning and co-chaired by Dr. Art Holbrook and Dr. Harry McGinnis. The Task Force provides a vital, credible, and active avenue for constituents of the Seventh District to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Corps of Engineers. This group has also served our community by providing beneficial information to help as we strive to understand the complexities of this most valuable natural resource.

The cooperative spirit in which the Corps of Engineers works with our Task Force and with the local government, is exemplified by Eddie

Sosebee in LaGrange, Colonel David Norwood in Mobile, Alabama, and Dr. Joseph Westphal, Assistant Secretary of the Army, in Washington, D.C.

HONORING THEODORE AND
MAXINE ALBERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor Theodore and Maxine Albers for being recognized by the Mesa County Civic Forum for their lifetime of contributions to Mesa County. The Civic Forum's mission is to promote citizen influence regarding the important issues affecting Mesa County's quality of life through better understanding, objective, non-partisan dialogue, and support for citizen action. Without question, Theodore and Maxine have upheld this mission to its fullest extent and are distinguished role models that every citizen should seek to emulate.

Theodore and Maxine have a longstanding record of reaching out to the Grand Junction community. They have played an active role in numerous community organizations throughout their years as residents in the area. Together, they have worked in both the public and private sectors of the local economy and, most notably, have been extremely influential in the field of education, particularly at Mesa State College. In 1992, Mesa State College honored the couple by giving them the Distinguished Service Award, naming Albers Hall in their honor and forming the Albers Scholarship Fund as part of the Mesa State College Foundation.

The former President of Mesa State College from 1970–74, Theodore currently sits on the Mesa State College Board of Trustees and is an active member in such organizations as Club 20 and the Lions Club. Maxine served with great distinction as a Mesa County Commissioner from 1974–1988 and today is a member of the Women's Foundation of the Colorado Advisory Council and the Mesa County Republican Women. These are but a hand-full of the literally dozens of community causes to which the Albers have dedicated their time and energies.

Mr. Speaker, the active role that the Albers have played in Grand Junction has contributed immeasurably to the betterment of our community. The Civic Forum plays a crucial role in the community and Theodore and Maxine Albers embody the ideals of service and sacrifice that this distinguished organization promotes.

For all these reasons, Mr. Speaker, the Albers eminently deserve the thanks and praise of this body. Colorado is clearly a better place for having known these outstanding Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOUGLAS
ISCOVITZ

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of Mr. Douglas Iscovitz, of Weston, Florida. I am very pleased to say that Douglas was recently named the Florida Principal of the Year by the Florida Association of Secondary Administrators and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

The selection process for this distinction is an arduous one. After having been nominated for the award, the first-round finalists must submit paper-work detailing school accomplishments; the principal's track record of dealing with students, staff, and the school; the principal's ability to solve academic and social problems; community involvement; and positive school climate. After closely examining his work, it is clear that Douglas' accomplishments exemplify the tenets espoused by the Florida Principal of the Year award.

As the Principal of Indian Ridge Middle School, Douglas has founded new programs and encouraged students to excel in existing growth fostering programs. In this sense he has taken a very active role in his school. His most meritorious program is the "Write On America!" project, a project in which students write to prominent people who have made significant contributions to the greatness of our nation. Requesting an autographed photo, inspiring messages, and words of advice, the "Write on America!" program has proven itself to be a wonderful way to teach Indian Ridge Middle School students about history and writing. It is clear that Douglas' efforts have made a lasting impression on those in the school and in the community as well.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Douglas Iscovitz for his extraordinary achievements and exemplary effort in bettering the Indian Ridge Middle School. It is truly an honor to be named the Florida Principal of the Year, and it is an honor for the residents of South Florida to be able to call him one of our own. Indeed, Douglas has made a remarkable impact on the students at Indian Ridge Middle School. His accomplishments are something that both he and the entire state of Florida can be proud of.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF SONAM
ZOKSANG SEEK TO PRESERVE
TIBETAN CULTURE AND IDENTITY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago in the Cannon Rotunda, we had the pleasure of viewing a magnificent exhibit of the photographs of Sonam Zoksang, a Tibetan photographer who has sought to use his photographic art and his considerable skill to preserve Tibetan culture and identity.

Sonam Zoksang was born in the small Tibetan village of Kyirong, but his parents fled to

India just a month after he was born. He made the first visit to the country of his birth in 1993 when he was 33 years old. As a result of that visit, he made it his goal to capture the devastation that his people have experienced on film for all the world to see. Since that first visit to Tibet in 1993, he has been compelled to return each year.

Mr. Speaker, over the last seven years, Mr. Zoksang has seen the situation in Tibet worsen dramatically. The Chinese government has given incentives to non-Tibetan Han Chinese to encourage them to move into Tibet, and increasingly this has made Tibetans a minority in their own land. The growth in Chinese immigrants has increased Sonam's greatest concern for the future of Tibet—the children. He states that in "addition to all the problems they have in common with Tibetans in general, there is little or no educational opportunity for them in Tibet. Every year hundreds of Tibetan children risk their lives to escape to India, crossing the Himalayas on foot in the frigid winter to taste the air of freedom."

In explaining his photographs, Sonam Zoksang said: "I feel very strongly that many young Tibetans have no hope, no dreams, and no future to live for. No Tibetans seem to be truly happy with their situation, and moreover, they feel threatened with their very extinction." In an effort to preserve the culture of the Tibetan people, Sonam Zoksang has risked his life to document the changes taking place inside Tibet. The Chinese would refuse him a visa to enter the Country, so he has had to risk his life and his freedom in order to record through his photographs the traditional culture and the rapid and systematic way in which it is being destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Sonam Zoksang for his outstanding photographs and the great contribution which his work has made to preserve Tibetan culture and to strengthen the identity of the Tibetan people.

TRIBUTE TO HILLTOP—50 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Hilltop Community Resources Inc., an organization that provides a range of invaluable services to the residents of Mesa County who are in need of special assistance and care, as they celebrate their 50th birthday. In recognition of this tremendous landmark and Hilltop's considerable efforts to improve life for those who are less fortunate, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this tremendous organization.

Hilltop originated as the Mesa County Society for Crippled Children and Adults in 1950, offering outpatient services for people with disabilities. In the time since, Hilltop has incorporated a number of helpful services to assist its patients with their ailments and needs. Hilltop creates independent living communities that provide care and comfort for their citizens and offer the Elder Care/Assisted Living program that ensures elderly residents the opportunity to stay active in their daily lifestyle with

the assistance of the Hilltop staff. In all, Hilltop can be credited with helping over 12,000 Mesa County residents a year.

One notable person who has had a dramatic impact on the success of Hilltop is its current Chief Executive Officer, Sally Schaefer. Sally has been the driving force behind Hilltop's dedicated effort to put forth a helping hand to needy citizens in the Grand Valley for nearly two decades. She has initiated numerous outreach programs and, most notably, created a 158-unit retirement and assisted living facility. Ms. Schaefer's care and compassion for those in need of assistance is evident in the effort she has put forth during her career at Hilltop. Her hard work and dedication are emblematic of the role that Hilltop plays in the Grand Junction community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a wonderful privilege and honor to salute the 50th anniversary of Hilltop Community Resources Inc. I am proud to represent a district that has an organization of this stature within its boundaries. The invaluable services that Hilltop provides bring joy and dignity to the lives of the less fortunate, offering them hope and putting a smile on their face.

TRIBUTE TO DUSTY BUSS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to commend Dusty Buss for his efforts that helped save the life of 7-year-old Tia Creasy. Dusty, a 16-year-old sophomore at Brown County High School in Mt. Sterling, IL, was dropping his sister off at school as Cathy Creasy was dropping off her daughter, Tia, in front of him.

As Cathy drove away she was unaware that Tia's jacket was caught in the door causing her to begin dragging her daughter alongside the car. On seeing this Dusty got out of his car and was able to get in front of Cathy's car before serious injuries could occur.

Dusty did a very honorable and courageous act. I am very proud of his Good Samaritan attitude, which makes him a hero to us all.

IN HONOR OF THE WOOD FAMILY, THE TOWN OF HARRISON, NJ FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great family—a great American family. The Wood family is being honored as the family of the year by the Town of Harrison, New Jersey, and I am very proud to honor them for their contribution to their community.

The Harrison Family of the year has its roots in the Martin family originally from Brooklyn, NY and the Wood family originally from Newark. Robert and Rachel Martin's family has lived in the Town of Harrison since 1910, and William and Esther Wood's family since 1919.

After Robert and Rachel's daughter, Margaret, met William and Esther's son, Harold, in 1938, they were married, and began a family.

Harold and Margaret Wood had eight girls and four boys. Of their twelve children, five still live in Harrison. Harrison is currently home to five of Margaret's children, seven grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren. In all, Margaret has thirty-two grandchildren and forty great grandchildren.

The Wood children have an enduring love for this country, a love instilled in them by their father, Harold Wood who, having served in the Navy in WWII, understood the power and value of community and patriotism. He lived in Harrison all his life until his death in 1996.

For the pride they show in America, and for the contributions they have made to the Town of Harrison, New Jersey, I honor and praise the Wood family.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the Wood family for being the Town of Harrison's family of the year.

RECOGNIZING GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT'S POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR AND CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to recognize Guam Police Department's Police Officer of the Year and Civilian of the Year. These awards are presented annually to the top employees of the Guam Police Department (GPD). Police Officer III John A. Bagaforo was named Police Officer of the Year while Ms. Karen Guerrero was honored as Civilian of the Year.

Officer John A. Bagaforo is a 1980 graduate of Pearl City High School in Hawaii. He moved to Guam in 1989 with the intention of joining the Guam Police Department. He commenced service as a police recruit in October 1990, and graduated in May 1991. He was initially assigned as a patrol officer with the Northern Precinct Command—later being selected to be part of the Northern Precinct task force to counteract gang activity. This is in addition to his duties with the precinct's patrol operations.

John was moved to the Central Precinct Command in 1992, where he was assigned to the task force on robbery suppression. Later that year, he was transferred to the Juvenile Investigation Section with a collateral assignment to the Department of Education Task Force. He was reassigned to patrol duty in 1994 and served in this capacity until 1996, when he was transferred to the GPD Drug Task Force which operated under the auspices of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). As a member of this task force, John facilitated contact with confidential informants, identified drug targets, formulated operational plans, authored search warrants, conducted drug buys, secured evidence, effectuated arrests and testified as an expert witness in both federal and local courts. In 1997, he was deputized and received his DEA credentials as a sworn Task Force Agent. John currently serves as a shift supervisor for the Tamuning/Tumon Precinct Command, a position he has held since November 1999.

GPD's Civilian of the Year, Karen E. Guerrero. Karen has worked in different capacities within GPD's administrative divisions since March 1985.

Initially assigned to the general maintenance section of the department's Support Division, she was placed in charge of building, equipment and vehicle maintenance. In 1992, she was transferred to the Operations Division. As a secretary for the division, Karen took on further administrative and record keeping responsibilities. She provided assistance with office correspondence, reports, training and budget matters. From April 1992, until March 1999, Karen worked for the legal section under the Chiefs Office. During the seven years she worked in this section, she performed a host of clerical and administrative duties. She also played a crucial role in office support, procurement and record keeping.

Karen, on different occasions, also worked at the payroll section and the Records & ID section of GPD's Administration Division. While with these sections, she worked with payroll and personnel matters. Having been with the Records & ID section since March, 1999, she has been involved in procedural development, staffing and the facilitation of public services on a supervisory level.

Karen is a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Tumon, Guam. She took part in the business administration program while attending the Western Pacific Business College and was a recipient of the Pedro "Doc" Sanchez Scholarship at the University of Guam where she majored in Public Administration.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate John and Karen for having been named as GPD's Police Officer and Civilian of the Year. Through their diligence and dedication to their duties at the Guam Police Department, John and Karen have made great contributions towards the safety and protection of our island's residents. I urge them to keep up the good work!

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE: THE ALZHEIMER'S CLINICAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING PROGRAM

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my appreciation for the language contained in the Committee Report accompanying this bill which addresses Alzheimer's Disease.

Furthermore, I would like to commend Chairman PORTER and Ranking Member OBEY for considering my April 12th testimony before the Subcommittee where I spoke on behalf of the 126 members of the Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease along with my co-chair Rep. CHRIS SMITH (R-NJ). Together we encouraged the Subcommittee to urge the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to increase its research for Alzheimer's by \$100 million and to implement and fully fund a new program, originally adopted into the House Budget Resolution, the Alzheimer's Clinical Research and Training Awards Program.

This worthy program will train physician-scientists to focus on clinical research and to

translate the excellent basic research in Alzheimer's Disease to the clinic. Ultimately this program provides an opportunity for the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to "enhance efforts to train, and educate health care professionals to improve diagnosis, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's Disease" as the House Report language accompanying this bill urges.

I would note that the Senate Committee report accompanying the Labor-HHS Education Appropriations bill provides additional clarification of the intent of Congress with respect to how the NIA should improve the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's Disease. The Senate Committee Report states the following with respect to the specific steps we expect to be taken to educate and train physician/scientists:

"The Committee believes that an important step in fighting Alzheimer's Disease is the encouragement of clinical research and training, which will complement the many excellent research efforts currently funded through the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and in the private sector. The creation of Alzheimer's Clinical Research and Training Awards program to train physicians to recognize and treat Alzheimer's Disease, and to dedicate their careers to improving care for Alzheimer's patients by bridging the gap that exists between basic and clinical research is critical. The awards program will foster physician dedication to a career in research, diagnosis, and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease by awarding junior and midlevel physicians who have demonstrated the potential for a lifelong commitment to researching and treating Alzheimer's, with a 1 year stipend to train as an Alzheimer's physician/scientist. The awards program will be administered through the NIA, and should provide support for institutions focused primarily on Alzheimer's research but linked to a clinical treatment facility. The awards program will complement the Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers (currently funded through NIA) or similar institutions that are State or privately funded. The awards program will encourage institutions implementing the program to specialize in training physician/scientists, ultimately becoming physician training centers."

Alzheimer's disease is on track to become the epidemic of the 21st Century, currently 4 million Americans are afflicted and by 2050 it is estimated that this number will increase to 14 million. With these astonishing statistics we must act today to head off the health care crisis of tomorrow. The Alzheimer's Clinical Research and Training Awards envisioned by both the House and Senate bills represent an important step in meeting the challenge.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, on June 6, 2000, I was unable to be present and to cast votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 234, "yea" on rollcall vote 235, "yea" on rollcall 236, and "yea" on rollcall vote 237.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM (BILL) H.
HAMANN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Bill Hamann, former resident of Lexington, Missouri. He was 87.

Bill, a son of the late William G. and Mary Curtis Hamann, was born in Henrietta, Missouri, on October 12, 1912. His dedication to football began on the Richmond High School football team and continued at Graceland Junior College in Lamoni, Iowa, where he also lettered in basketball. His greatest satisfaction as a player was playing center for the Missouri University Tigers under coach Don Faurot, A special influence in his life.

After graduation, Bill coached football at Odessa High School for two years before joining the United States Navy during World War II. He served in the Navy until November 1945, making lieutenant before he returned to Missouri University to complete his master's degree.

In 1946, Bill moved to Lexington and began coaching football in earnest at Lexington High School. In his first year, he led the team to their first undefeated season in Lexington history. He was head football coach for 22 years, winning four more Missouri River Valley Conference (MRVC) championships. Bill also served as Athletic Director, basketball coach and track coach during this time. He was head basketball coach for six years and assistant basketball coach for ten years, winning one MRVC championship. Bill also had great success as a track coach, winning State meets twice and numerous District and MRVC championships. He was one of a select few Missouri coaches who won championships in three major sports for one school. Bill retired from coaching football in 1968, but continued to coach track until 1972. In addition to coaching, he taught driver's education, physical education and history. He retired from teaching in 1979 after 32 years at Lexington High School.

Bill was one of the first coaches named to the Missouri High School Hall of Fame in 1992, and as Hall of Fame Coach for Track in 1993. He is one of only two coaches named in more than one Hall of Fame in all of Missouri.

Bill also served as President of the MRVC, was twice honored as Coach of the Year at the Kansas City Area Night of Sports, and was named a life member of the West Central Coaches Association. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Missouri Athletic Administration. Bill was President of the Lafayette County Teachers and a member of Phi Delta Kappa at Central Missouri State University. He was a former president and member of the Lexington Retired Teachers. Additionally, Bill was a member of the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, and very active in the Lexington Historical Society. He was a member of the United Methodist Church of Lexington and served as Chairman of the Church Board.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Hamann will be greatly missed by all who knew him. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife of 58 years, Betty; his daughter, Sally; his two

sons, James and John; his two brothers, Herbert and Charles, and four grandchildren.

CELEBRATION OF LOU TREBAR ON
HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate Mr. Lou Trebar. On Wednesday May 3, 2000, this Cleveland polka legend celebrated his 80th birthday with 1,500 of his closest friends. Gathered at the Slovenian National Home, thousands of polka fans and eighteen polka bands payed tribute to this local artist by giving him "the greatest day of [his] life."

Throughout Lou's life, he has made significant contributions to Cleveland's culturally diverse community. This Slovenian neighborhood native has enhanced Northeast Ohio's culture, and has added to the quality that makes Cleveland a polka city. Lou has a lifetime of dedication to promoting Cleveland-Style polkas and waltzes and to preserving the rich Slovenian heritage from which Cleveland evolved.

This "Waltz King" is a true dean of Cleveland-style music. He was a pioneer in adapting Slovenian folk music into America's musical mainstream as the first Cleveland-style bandleader to create a multi-part harmony with all types of instruments. His vision and talent have greatly decorated the heritage of the Cleveland area.

I salute Lou for these many artistic accomplishments, and I join in with his many fans who wish him a happy 80th birthday.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, since the President asked Congress to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) to China, the members of this body—indeed, all of the American people—have been forced to consider broad questions about our relationship with China, about our values as a free people and about our fundamental best interests as they relate to the economy and to national security. These are very serious questions; and I—like many of my colleagues, I am sure—have invested a great deal of time in study, discussions and prayer about them.

Make no mistake—I understand the value of international trade, and I am a believer in developing trade opportunities to enhance our economic future. I recognize the realities of the global economy that exist today; and there is no doubt in my mind that trade is the key to the future for the United States, for China and for every other nation as well. My record reflects my belief in free and fair trade policies, including trade with China. I supported

NAFTA, GATT, fast track and the Africa Trade bill this body just recently passed. Opening markets benefits both countries—the U.S. gains new destinations to export goods, and China gains investment from foreign companies.

But what I cannot support is relinquishing our annual review of China's progress towards free market reform and a democratic society. I cannot, in good conscience, award China PNTR when there are serious national security concerns involving China and Taiwan's volatile relationship as well as China's role in producing and disseminating weapons of mass destruction. When China's record of compliance with past agreements leaves much to be desired. And when China's progress in economic power and technological development has overlooked progress on human rights and religious freedom. Therefore, I am not convinced that the best interests of this nation and of the people of my state are served by rewarding China with unconditional permanent normal trade relations. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to extending PNTR to China at this time.

Rather than granting PNTR, I believe a more prudent and responsible approach is to continue an annual review of China's trade status. In the past, as a supporter of free trade, I have favored granting normal trade relations to China on an annual basis. In this way, we have better opportunities to move that country toward a more democratic, free market system, while maintaining a trade relationship that certainly can be beneficial to the people of both nations. I see this annual review as an effective way to influence the Chinese government to reform its policies toward religious minorities, workers, and proponents of democracy.

But granting permanent status to China is a significantly different issue. Such a move would, in a sense, take China "off probation" and remove the incentive to make progress on those issues of particular concern to the United States. In my opinion, the question this PNTR vote poses is not on the merits of free trade but rather whether the U.S. should relinquish our influence on trade with China permanently.

NATIONAL SECURITY

My first concern about our relationship with China relates to national security. The prospects for peace and prosperity in Asia depend heavily on China's role as a responsible member of the international community. Perhaps our country's most important national security challenge is to build a constructive and stable bilateral relationship with China. The prospects for peace and prosperity in Asia depend heavily on China's role as a responsible member of the international community. In my opinion, a policy of engagement must be built on a foundation of strength and resolve that rewards responsible Chinese behavior and confronts provocative activities that undermine U.S. interests and promote greater risks of military and diplomatic confrontation.

Should we reward China with PNTR status given recent highly provocative actions on the part of the Chinese government? Our country would be sending exactly the wrong message if we were to support China's WTO membership with PNTR at a time when the Chinese have chosen to adopt a far more aggressive stance toward Taiwan, a stance that they know could lead to a serious military confrontation with the U.S.

China's recent provocative actions and continued demand for Taiwan to acknowledge its "one China" policy or expect military actions is troubling. Should we reward China for these actions? I believe we would be sending exactly the wrong message if we were to grant China PNTR at a time when the Chinese have chosen to adopt a far more aggressive stance toward Taiwan. I was pleased to see Mr. Chen's presidential inauguration in Taipei take place without incident this past weekend. However, Beijing's silent response leaves much to the imagination.

This comes on top of growing skepticism expressed by our intelligence community—skepticism about whether the Chinese intend to live up to their international commitments to stem the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, especially in the areas of short- and medium-range missiles and chemical weapons technology. Despite Chinese promises to abide by various arms control pacts, including the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Director of Central Intelligence recently reported that China remains a "key supplier" of technology inconsistent with proliferation goals—particularly missile and chemical technology to Pakistan, Iran and North Korea.

We must make it clear to the Chinese that we will extend a hand of friendship in good faith, but we will not turn a blind eye to its irresponsible or dangerous actions. It is not in our national security interest to condone and reward grossly irresponsible conduct by a country that wishes to become a leader in the international community.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

As a member of the House International Relations Committee, I am keenly interested in and aware of our role in international affairs. I have traveled to China and am amazed at what is going on there. China is clearly on the move and I have no doubt that they will eventually rival only the United States as a world superpower. However, the most recent State Department report on human rights practices in China reveals that the situation continues to grow worse. We cannot, and should not, overlook what our own government recognizes as abhorrent conditions in China.

As China progresses rapidly in terms of economic power, technological development and international affairs, its progress on human rights is sorely lacking. In terms of political freedom, democratic institutions and the guarantee of basic rights, China simply does not meet any reasonable standard that the United States or any nation with a mature, democratic heritage would consider acceptable. If America stands for anything, it stands for personal freedom and inalienable rights for all people. Our values cannot be divorced from any votes or from any considerations, including those related to trade. I am afraid that granting PNTR sends China the message that we approve of their political system as it stands today. And that is simply not the case.

The number of documented cases of religious persecution in China alarms me. As a firm believer in supporting religious freedom and author of the International Religious Freedom Act, I believe we must take a stand against human rights violations and persecution of people for simply expressing their religious beliefs. The Commission on Religious Freedom, established by the International Religious Freedom Act, released earlier this month a report which notes a marked deterior-

ation in China's religious freedom during this past year. Make no mistake, the crackdown on religious expression in China has reached alarming and brutal proportions. China has enacted laws which have been used to persecute many religious groups of differing faiths. Unregistered groups, including home churches, have been raided and buildings destroyed. Individuals have been fined, arrested, tortured and some even killed. China continues to harass, detain, beat and torture members of religious groups, including Catholics, Protestants and Tibetan Buddhists. Tens of thousands of members of the spiritual movement Falun Gong have been detained and forced to sign statements disavowing their beliefs. An unknown number of those who refused remain detained; others are in prison or serving "re-education through labor" sentences. To torture and persecute people for simply expressing their personal beliefs is unconscionable.

Although I believe that economic reform can lead to political reform and a greater respect for individual freedoms, there is a distinct risk that China may choose to abide by the WTO's rules while continuing to flagrantly ignore human rights standards. It's true that the WTO could be a catalyst for creating a modern legal system. However, there's no guarantee that the system will protect basic rights. For that to happen, there has to be a sustained effort to press for creation of a truly independent judiciary. Such sustained pressure can be most effective through an annual renewal process of trade agreements.

WORKER RIGHTS AND LABOR CONCERNS

The right for workers to organize and bargain collectively is not only discouraged in China, it is punished by imprisonment or worse. Forced labor camps continue to exist in China; and these camps provide no compensation for work under deplorable conditions. Since it is well established that China's labor practices do not meet U.S. or international standards for protecting worker rights, how can we, in good conscience, reward China for its abysmal labor practices by granting PNTR?

One of my particular concerns is the effect granting PNTR and opening China to U.S. companies will have on industries such as the textile industry. Without real labor standards and protections in place, PNTR could cripple our own apparel and textile markets, placing American jobs at risk and endangering American workers and their families. China is a formidable player in the world apparel and textile market. As of 1999, it was the world's largest producer of cotton, manmade fibers and silk as well as of apparel products. It has the largest production capacity for textile products in the world and has, in recent years, improved the efficiency of its textile industry and increased the quality and value of its apparel output. China has the potential to be a major threat to the apparel and textile industries in the U.S. and the workers in those industries. I reject the option of granting PNTR status to China today and see dedicated employees out of work tomorrow because of an influx of cheap Chinese textiles.

China's lack of PNTR status allows us annual reviews of the human rights and labor record in China. Granting PNTR to China will mean losing this annual review and any subsequent leverage to force China's compliance with international standards. An annual review

will retain the ability of Congress to examine China's willingness and ability to keep its commitments. It will give China incentive to improve its record with regard to workers' rights and human rights and give it an opportunity to demonstrate its adherence to fair trade and environmental protection.

A RECORD OF NONCOMPLIANCE

To some degree, the Chinese government has avoided full compliance with many of the trade agreements it has made with the United States. While our trade deficit with China continues to grow, China has broken its agreements with us on opening markets, stopping the piracy of intellectual property, and ending the export of goods produced in the forced labor camps. The statements of China's negotiators on PNTR lead me to believe that we cannot count on a total, good-faith compliance with this agreement, either.

This pattern of non-compliance, or of only partial compliance, bolsters significantly the argument against PNTR and in favor of the annual renewals that have been granted in the past. Just as ending our trade relationship with China altogether would be a foolish and self-destructive for the United States, losing our annual review and any subsequent leverage to move

In any number of areas—agricultural commodities, meat and poultry, telecommunications, petroleum, insurance-related services, and others—American interests are best served when we can revisit compliance issues regularly. With PNTR, our opportunities to monitor and influence compliance are severely limited, if not eliminated, while an annual review will retain the ability of Congress to examine China's willingness and ability to keep its commitments.

CONCLUSION

A "no" vote on PNTR will not mean an end to America's trade relationship with China. The U.S. and China will continue to have a binding trade relationship under international law, governed by the 1979 trade agreement between our two countries and several subsequent bilateral deals. The "most favored nation" provisions of those agreements require that China afford to the United States any trade and non-trade economic benefits that China grants to our competitors. It is true that the U.S. would not be able to file complaints against China through the WTO dispute resolution process. However, we will retain the right to use our own laws to sanction China—by withholding or limiting access to the U.S. market—for unfair trade practices.

Furthermore, if the U.S. and China are not tied through the WTO, we will be able to use our trade laws to redress abuses of human rights and worker rights. The U.S. would be prohibited from taking such actions if China and the U.S. have a WTO relationship. So China's lack of PNTR status allows us annual reviews of China's progress, thus giving China an incentive to improve its record with regard to workers' rights and human rights and give that nation an opportunity to demonstrate its adherence to fair trade and environmental protection.

There is no doubt in my mind that trade is the key to the future. Opening markets benefit everyone—the U.S. gains new destinations to export goods and China gains investment from foreign companies. In my opinion, the question this PNTR vote poses is not on the merits of free trade but rather whether the U.S. should

relinquish our influence on trade with China permanently. International trade—and the benefits it affords—are a fact. Likewise, it should also not be disputed as to whether the United States should attempt to influence Chinese behavior in areas of human and workers' rights, weapons proliferation and compliance with international commitments. Clearly we should. Thus, my concern lies with whether we should take China off the one-year renewal process. Given current conditions in China and recent actions by the Chinese government, I am not convinced that relinquishing this leveraging tool is in our best national interest at this time.

It is for all of these reasons that I must oppose permanent normal trade relations at this time. I am not convinced that it is in the best interest of Tennesseans and our country to reward China with unconditional permanent normal trade relations when it is clear they do not meet our standards for human and worker rights and could threaten our national security. Clearly trade must continue and we must pledge ourselves to work with the Chinese reformers to move their country towards free market democracy. However, until significant improvements are made in these areas, I cannot in good faith vote to grant PNTR.

I look forward to the day when China fully joins the international community in a commitment to democratic values, human rights, and trade that is truly free and fair. Until that time, we have a duty to use whatever tools we have available to us to influence China to take that path. My vote against PNTR for China is one such tool, and I utilize it in good conscience and with a conviction that it will benefit both the Chinese and American people.

 TRIBUTE TO THE PARTICIPANTS
OF THE S.P.H.E.R.E.S. PROJECT

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend John Link, Amy Rahe, Carmen Reiner, and Adam Wieties. These four middle school students from Carlinville Middle School in Carlinville, IL, are tackling tough community issues as participants in the Bayer/NSF Award for Community Innovation.

Their project is Saving Prairies and Helping Environmental Regions Expand Successfully—S.P.H.E.R.E.S. Through this project they have successfully strengthened local support to create a preserve where native prairie grasses and indigenous creatures could flourish and students could study and experience the prairie habitat.

I want to take this opportunity to thank these students who at such a young age have made it their responsibility to preserve our environment. I am proud of them and look forward to all else they may accomplish.

IN HONOR OF HELEN STEINEL'S
RETIREMENT AFTER 30 YEARS
IN EDUCATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Helen Steinel on her retirement after 30 years in education.

Helen Steinel began her illustrious career in education as a teacher. She taught at Holy Family, St. Joseph's, St. Joseph and Michael, and Mother Seton elementary schools, all schools in Union City, NJ. For the last several years, Helen has been the principal of Mother Seton School, where she is a mentor to her faculty, and where she has educated teachers as well as children in her work with student teachers.

For 30 years, Helen has dedicated herself to the education of children, and for 30 years, she has touched the lives of students and teachers in a way that her years of dedication cannot measure. Helen understands and imparts to others the knowledge that education is a profound tool for understanding the world and a necessary instrument in realizing one's full potential as a human being.

It is said that teaching another something of value takes compassion, understanding, and patience; and absent these virtues, the simple process of imparting knowledge can become strained and cumbersome, leaving both teacher and pupil estranged, unable to truly learn from each other. In honoring Helen today, I honor the virtues that allow teachers to become great educators.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me as I honor Helen Steinel, a great woman and educator I respect and admire.

 TRIBUTE TO AKIRA INOUE
HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Each year, the Guam Chamber of Commerce selects the "Small Business Person of the Year" from a pool of individuals and business partners who either own and operate or bear principal responsibility for small business establishments on Guam. The chamber takes into account staying power, sales growth, growth in payroll, innovativeness in product or service, response to adversity, and civic contributions. This year the honor was bestowed upon local businessman, Akira Inoue.

Having held assignments in Australia, New Guinea, Saipan and other neighboring islands, Akira chose to settle on Guam, an island he deemed to be the ideal hub for Japanese oriented businesses. On September 1, 1968, he established Nanbo Guam, Ltd. Initially engaged in the importation and wholesale of general merchandise from Japan, Nanbo Guam started underwriting insurance in June of 1969.

With neither experience nor training in the insurance business, Akira assumed the function of general agent for The Tokio Marine and Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., of Japan. The company enjoyed a steady growth and, with it, the

trust and support of the Guam community. When Typhoon Pamela devastated the island of Guam in 1976, Nanbo Guam's efforts to provide prompt settlements did not go unnoticed. Along with their good reputation came new applicants and increased premium sales. Akira credits this as the basis of Nanbo Guam's success.

Through the years, Nanbo Guam has developed and grown steadily. In 1977, the company began handling life insurance as the general agent for Pacific Guardian Life, Honolulu. In 1978, they established the Sun Rise, Inc., and opened the Japan Food Supermarket. In the 1980's, Nanbo Guam engaged in real estate ventures and revived their import business by establishing the Nanbo Trading Company. In the 1990's, they broadened the scope of their insurance business by concluding another general agency agreement property and casualty insurance with the Nippon Fire and Marine Insurance Co., Ltd., of Japan and by securing a claims agency agreement from the United Services Automobile Association. Akira Inoue's business acumen, innovations and his capable direction is undoubtedly the driving force behind Nanbo Guam's success.

Outside of his business ventures, Akira additionally devotes personal time and resources to civic and community activities. As one of the founding members of the Japan Club of Guam, he served as its first vice-president in 1972. From 1973 through 1977, he served as the club's president. During his tenure, he was instrumental in raising donations for the Christmas Seal Fund Drive. He was also actively involved with the Vietnam Refugees Relief Drive in addition to serving on the Board of Governors of St. John's Episcopal School. Between 1987 and 1989, he was a member of the committee to establish a Japanese school on Guam. Serving once again as president of the Japan Club of Guam from 1992 through 1995, he worked towards the full payment of the construction loan for the Japanese school and organized a relief fund drive for the victims of the 1995 Kobe earthquake. Akira is also a distinguished member of the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay.

For over three decades, Guam's business community has reaped great benefits from Akira Inoue's efforts and dedication. I join his proud family—his wife, Machiko, his sons, Naoyuki and Tetsuji, and daughters, Sachiko and Yoshiko—who, together with the Guam Chamber of Commerce and the people of Guam, celebrate Akira Inoue's contributions and success. I commend and congratulate him for being chosen as this year's "Small Business Person of the Year."

TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRADE,
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation requiring the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) study the issue of alleged potential health risks associated with wireless phones. This legislation builds upon a provision that I offered to legislation then-pending in the House Commerce Committee

during the previous Congress. That underlying legislation ultimately was not enacted in the previous Congress and today I offer the wireless health study amendment as a standalone piece of legislation, entitled the "Wireless Phone Health Risk Assessment Act of 2000."

Mr. Speaker, when I first raised the issue of cellular phone safety at a House Telecommunications and Finance Subcommittee briefing I chaired in 1993, there were roughly 15 million people using such phones—today there are over 70 million users of wireless phones. In addition, the FDA, which coordinates Federal oversight of the wireless phone health issue, has previously indicated that a significant research effort over a sustained period of time is needed to provide the greater body of scientific information that scientists and regulators will need to more adequately assess any potential health risks.

It is my belief that because wireless phone companies receive their licenses to operate from the Federal Government, that the government has a responsibility to step up its efforts to address this issue. Indeed, having helped create the wireless revolution over the years by freeing up federally administered airwaves for these new services, I have simultaneously advocated that the government must also have a serious commitment to additional research in order to reassure consumers that any lingering concerns about whether these wireless devices pose a health risk are addressed.

This legislation authorizes \$25 million over a 5-year period for the FDA to analyze health risks associated from radiofrequency emissions from wireless phones. I believe it is a modest but important allocation of a portion of total Federal research funds, an authorization that is specifically dedicated to scientifically assess wireless phone health risks.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE OKEFENOKEE HERITAGE CENTER

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to honor the 25th Anniversary of the outstanding Okefenokee Heritage Center. It is an honor for the community to be gifted with this great facility for teaching and learning.

The Okefenokee Heritage Center has been an institution serving South Georgia for 25 great years. When the building was finished in 1975, it added a world of learning for all ages in the community. This is why I pay tribute to the silver anniversary of this vital facility for Waycross and Ware County. I praise the tireless efforts that the people of Waycross have contributed for this great museum. I hope for continued success in the future and I thank them for their dedication and hard work.

I believe that the following editorial from the Waycross Journal Herald clearly depicts how important this Heritage Center is. I sincerely appreciate the hard work and support of people like Catherine Larkens, Current Director of the Center, Sonya Craven, President of the Board, to all the Board Members, Ware County Commissioner Chairman Roger Strickland, Mayor John Fluker, Dr. William Clark, III and

Gus Karle. Most importantly, I want to recognize Mrs. Sue Clark. As a result of her determination and perseverance, today we celebrate 25 years of the Okefenokee Heritage Center and its significant contributions to our county.

[From the Waycross Journal-Herald, June 1, 2000]

OKEFENOKEE HERITAGE CENTER OBSERVES
25TH

Friends and supporters of the Okefenokee Heritage Center gathered yesterday at the center's Augusta Avenue site to commemorate 25 years of service to this community. It was a memorable, sun-splashed afternoon of short speeches and renewed acquaintances.

Mrs. Sue Clark, wife of well-known Waycross eye surgeon Dr. S. William Clark Jr., is credited with being the primary community figure who conceptualized, promoted and implemented the idea of building a heritage-themed museum in Waycross. It was her perseverance and organizational drive, together with the resources of the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad and several other key players, which helped to make today's heritage center a reality.

In his prepared remarks, former Rice Yard Superintendent A.A. "Gus" Karle commented Wednesday that he located the center's "Okefenokee Chief" steam engine at a South Carolina rock quarry and told Mrs. Clark about his find. He said she contacted the quarry's owners that same day and within days had marched into the Seaboard Coast Line's corporate offices at Jacksonville and arranged to have the locomotive transported to Waycross.

"I got a call from Seaboard CEO Prime Osborne. He mentioned this locomotive and said Sue Clark had just left his office," said Karle. Together with Seaboard's Henry Pigge, plans were soon put into motion to transport the 1912 vintage locomotive from South Carolina to Waycross in December 1973.

The locomotive is the showpiece among the Heritage Center's exhibits. It's a wonderful example of early 20th century technology spared from the salvager's torch and preserved for future generations by Sue Clark's vision.

The locomotive's steam whistle was operating Wednesday, harkening back to a day when the telegraph key was the fastest means of communication and belching, noisy steam locomotives rolled into Waycross from all directions, disgorging passengers and welcoming new ones on those "magic carpets made of steel."

It was America's "Age of Innocence," a time before the horrors of World War II and national ascendancy to superpower status. It was a time when this newspaper was located at the corner of Plant Avenue and Isabella Street (now Jack Williams Park), enabling the late Editor & Publisher Jack Williams Sr. to gaze out his office window at locomotive engineers and their passengers as they rounded the crossing enroute to the Waycross Rail Depot.

His son, the late Jack Williams Jr., said the building's glass windows would actually shake in their frames as these steel behemoths passed outside.

The old building is gone now, but a scaled-down reproduction rests beside the railroad track at the Heritage Center for future generations to enjoy.

What a wonderful facility our Heritage Center has truly become. The entire community owes a debt of gratitude to Sue Clark for her hard work and vision. Her ancestor, the late Dr. Daniel Lott (one of four founders of Waycross in 1871) would be justly proud of what she has accomplished.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT DR. TOM F. LUTHY, JR.

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptional career in education is nearing an end. Dr. Tom F. Luthy, Jr., of Lebanon, Missouri, is retiring after more than 40 years of service to Lebanon Public Schools.

Tom began his teaching career as an 18-year-old college student in 1958 at the Blackfoot School. After that, he taught grades five through eight for two years at the two-room Bolles School before teaching for two years at the Lebanon High School. After a year of teaching at the newly built Glendale High School in Springfield, Tom returned to Lebanon as the school's first-ever department chair in charge of the social studies program. He continued to teach history for 15 more years at the high school.

When the high school moved to its present location in 1976, Tom stayed as the assistant principal of Lebanon Junior High. Two years later, he became the principal and spent the next 17 years guiding the lives of the young people who attended his school. After that, he became the Lebanon R-111 Schools assistant superintendent for personnel and instruction. As an assistant superintendent for the past eight years, Tom has hired more teachers than are currently on the entire district staff. He also guided the district through its highly successful review under the Missouri School Improvement Plan in 1998.

Tom has had a great impact on education in the Lebanon area. Early in his career, he created the American Heritage program at the high school. He also was involved in the formation of the C-5 school and was instrumental in naming that school after Joel E. Barber, who was president of the school board at the Blackfoot School where he began his career. After retirement, Tom will still impact education by continuing his work with the statewide Goals 2000 project, which is developing a new physical education model for Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Luthy's passion for excellence in education has made a difference in the lives of students and teachers. I know all Members of Congress will join me in paying tribute to his outstanding service to the Lebanon education community.

HONORING THE LAKE ERIE NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate the Golden anniversary of the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center. For 50 years, this asset of Greater Cleveland has provided the community with invaluable educational opportunities, wildlife resources, and a natural preservation of a beautiful environment.

Among the many accomplishments the Center is responsible for are wildlife rehabilitation,

education for youth and teens, wildlife gardens, a preserved nature facility, and a planetarium. By providing the community with these assets the Center continues to encourage a living connection between people, science, and wildlife in order to create a better commitment to the welfare of our natural world.

As the Center has grown throughout the years, the community it serves has benefitted greatly from its existence. Thousands of children have been exposed to the world of science through observing living displays and participating in hands-on experiences. Today, the museum has become a tool for the old and young, as families utilize its programs all year round.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in thanking and honoring the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center for the 50 years of contribution it has made to science and wildlife and for the 50 years it has been a service to its community.

TENNESSEE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 720

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a copy of Tennessee Senate Joint Resolution 720 which urges the U.S. Congress to vote against Permanent Normal Trade Relations. The Joint Resolution was introduced by the late Senator Pete Springer and Senator Roscoe Dixon.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 720

A Resolution to urge Congress to vote against any proposal to grant permanent normal trade relations status to the People's Republic of China and to urge the President and Congress to oppose China's membership in the World Trade Organization.

Whereas, the People's Republic of China has taken steps to become a member of the World Trade Organization, a position that would give China recognition and status as an equal, legitimate partner with other countries in world trade; and

Whereas, since 1992, China has entered into four bilateral trade agreements with the United States in which China has agreed to give U.S. businesses better access to its markets and not to discriminate against U.S. products; and

Whereas, China has violated the provisions of each of these agreements including the 1992 Memoranda of Understanding on Prison Labor and Market Access, the 1994 Bilateral Agreement on Textiles, and the 1996 Bilateral Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights; and

Whereas, China's record on human rights is poor; those who attempt to engage in legitimate political opposition are often imprisoned or harassed, and those holding political views that differ from those of the regime or profess religious views are oppressed; and

Whereas, China ignores the rights of its workers and imprisons those who seek to improve labor conditions in the country; and

Whereas, China's enormous military establishment and its injudicious use of threats and provocation make it a threat in the eyes of its neighbors; and

Whereas, advocates of China's membership in the World Trade Organization promote the view that China's vast potential market would be further opened to trade; the more

likely scenario is that China's exports of cheap textiles, pirated technology and other products produced by grossly underpaid labor will flood our markets at the expense of American wages, jobs and trade balance; and

Whereas, the record of the People's Republic of China in human rights and in failing to live up to trade agreements should not be validated by supporting its admission into the World Trade Organization; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate of the one hundred first general assembly of the State of Tennessee, the House of Representatives concurring, That the General Assembly respectfully requests that Congress vote against any proposal to grant permanent normal trade relations status to the The People's Republic of China, which is a precursor to the granting of World Trade Organization membership, and take all other actions within their power to deny membership in the World Trade Organization to the People's Republic of China. Be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States; to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States; and to each member of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDEN INSTITUTE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Eden Institute's 25th Anniversary. Over the last quarter of a century, the Eden Institute has made tremendous contributions to our community through its commitment to meeting the needs of individuals with autism.

Eden is a New Jersey-based nonprofit organization founded in 1975 to address the needs of the autistic community. Eden brought both parents and professionals together to assist in the development of a family-oriented, multi-faceted program driven by a well trained, dedicated and nurturing staff. Eden was founded on the commitment to provide a cost-effective, community-based alternative to institutionalization and to offering training that would meet the changing needs of children and adults with autism.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that severely affects social behavior, communication and one's ability to learn, is the result of a neurological disorder that interferes with the functioning of the brain. Autism affects 15 of every 10,000 births and typically appears during the first three years of development.

Some of the services offered by Eden include the Eden Institute, a year-round educational program for children ages 3-21; Eden A.C.R.E.s, nine community-based group homes and three supported living apartments for adults; an employment center; year-round retreat opportunities, an early intervention program for infants and toddlers, and many, many more.

Although much has changed over the years, Eden's mission is the same—to provide a

comprehensive continuum of services designed to enable children and adults with autism to lead fulfilling, productive and independent lives.

And they have been extremely successful. Through the work of Eden, parents are now able to more effectively engage their children at home; they have assisted hundreds of children and adults with autism to interact with their communities to the best of their abilities; and Eden has worked very hard to promote community awareness of the challenges associated with autism.

The Eden Institute is a great asset to both Central New Jersey and our nation. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Eden's dedication to assisting citizens with autism achieve their full potential.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2559,
AGRICULTURAL RISK PROTECTION
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1504, as amended was included in the Conference Report accompanying H.R. 2559, the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 2000 as title IV of this Act. As introduced, H.R. 1504 was referred primarily to the House Committee on Agriculture, and in addition, to the Committees on Judiciary, Resources, and Ways and Means for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker. To expedite consideration of H.R. 1504, and to allow it to be included in this conference report, the following letters were exchanged between the Committee on Agriculture and the other committees of jurisdiction waiving further consideration of the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2000.

Hon. BILL ARCHER,
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Longworth House Office Building, Wash-
ington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, a bill that was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally to the Committee on Ways and Means. This bill modernizes and enhances the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine.

Please find the enclosed copy of H.R. 1504, as amended, along with a side-by-side comparison showing current law. In order to allow the timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives during the remaining period in the 106th Congress, I am requesting that you waive your Committee's referral of H.R. 1504.

I understand that such an action is not intended to waive your Committee's jurisdiction over this subject matter or any similar legislation now or in the future and look forward to working with you on matters of shared interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2000.

Hon. LARRY COMBEST,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of
Representatives, Longworth Building,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN COMBEST: I am writing concerning the Conference Report to H.R. 2559 (Report), the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 1999, which includes an amendment to H.R. 1504, the Plant Protection Act, offered by Mr. Canady. Section 413 of the Report contains an item of jurisdictional interest to the Committee on Ways and Means. This Act is intended to consolidate existing laws relating to plant safety.

Specifically, section 413 of the Report, "Notification and Holding Requirements Upon Arrival," would require the Secretary of the Treasury to notify promptly the Secretary of Agriculture of the arrival of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, plant pest, or noxious weed at a port of entry. This provision also requires the Secretary of the Treasury to hold those products until they are inspected and authorized for entry into or transit movement through the United States, or otherwise released by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Current section 156 of title 7 of the United States Code requires the Secretary of the Treasury to notify the Secretary of Agriculture of the arrival of any nursery stock at a port of entry. Section 413 repeals current section 156, and instead, requires such notification for all of the above referenced products, including nursery stock. The statutory requirement that the Secretary of the Treasury hold such shipments until released by the Secretary of Agriculture and the authority for the Secretary of Treasury to release a shipment from the port of entry without necessarily requiring an inspection are new. The U.S. Customs Service already follows similar procedures, and it is our understanding that section 413 does not change current law, with respect to such imports, but only enhances enforcement of the current laws relating to those imports.

Normally, the Committee on Ways and Means would meet to consider such legislation. In order to expedite consideration of H.R. 2559, I will not object to the inclusion of section 413 of the amendment, and, for this reason, it will not be necessary for the Committee on Ways and Means to meet to consider the legislation.

However, this action is being done with the understanding that it will not prejudice the jurisdictional prerogatives of the Committee on Ways and Means on these provisions or any other similar legislation and will not be considered as precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to my Committee in the future.

Finally, I would ask that you include a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter in the Record. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter. With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

BILL ARCHER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2000.

Hon. HENRY HYDE,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Ray-
burn House Office Building, Washington,
DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, a bill that was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally to the Committee on the Judiciary. This bill modernizes and enhances

the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine.

Please find the enclosed copy of H.R. 1504, as amended, along with a side-by-side comparison showing current law. In order to allow the timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives during the remaining period in the 106th Congress, I am requesting that you waive your Committee's referral of H.R. 1504.

I understand that such an action is not intended to waive your Committee's jurisdiction over this subject matter or any similar legislation now or in the future and look forward to working with you on matters of shared interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, May 24, 2000.

Hon. LARRY COMBEST,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Long-
worth House Office Building, Washington,
DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, "The Plant Protection Act", which was referred to your committee and to this committee for such matters within our respective Rule X jurisdictions.

Since the bill was referred to this committee, there is no question that there are provisions of the bill which fall within our jurisdiction. It is my understanding that due to the exigencies of time, and the leadership's desire to process this legislation in the near future you are requesting this committee waive its consideration of the bill.

Pursuant to your request, I am willing to waive this committee's further consideration of the bill, recognizing that this will not affect our subject matter jurisdiction over this matter, and that I will insist on Members of our committee being named conferees should this bill go to conference.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, May 23, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources, Longworth
House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing with regard to H.R. 1504, a bill that was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally to the Committee on Resources. This bill modernizes and enhances the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture relating to plant protection and quarantine.

Please find the enclosed copy of H.R. 1504, as amended, along with a side-by-side comparison showing current law. In order to allow the timely consideration by the entire House of Representatives during the remaining period in the 106th Congress, I am requesting that you waive your Committee's referral of H.R. 1504.

I understand that such an action is not intended to waive your Committee's jurisdiction over this subject matter or any similar legislation now or in the future and look forward to working with you on matters of shared interest.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, May 15, 2000.

Hon. LARRY COMBEST,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1504, the Plant Protection Act, authored by our colleague Congressman Canady. This bill was primarily referred to the Committee on Agriculture and additionally referred to the Committee on Resources, among others.

After reviewing the amendments to the bill, I have no objection to it going forward and will not object to the Committee on Resources being discharged from further consideration of the measure. As you note in your letter, this action is not intended to waive jurisdiction over this or similar provisions. I would also ask you to support the Committee on Resources request to be represented on any conference on this bill, or a similar measure, if one should become necessary. Finally, I ask that you include our exchange of letters on H.R. 1504 in the Committee on Agriculture's report on the bill or in the official file on the bill.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to help expedite consideration of this bill. I appreciate your cooperation and that of John Goldberg of your staff, and look forward to working together on other matters of mutual interest in the future.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

GARRETT A. MORGAN TECHNOLOGY AND TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM POETRY CONTEST

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the eight Regional winners from my Congressional district of the Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program Poetry Contest. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the following talented students for their exceptional submissions—Emily Erkkinen, Kerri McCarthy, Jack Bavaro, Krista Duchnowski, Caroline Flannagan, and Luke Nickerson of Clinton, Massachusetts; Mackenzie Bernier of E.S. Brown School in Swansea Massachusetts; and Timothy Leger of Thacher Elementary School in Attleboro Massachusetts.

The Futures Program is named for Garrett Augustus Morgan, one of the country's finest innovators in public protection and public safety. In 1923 he patented the nation's first traffic signal, which was used throughout North America before being replaced by our current system. Seven years earlier Mr. Morgan had made national news for using a gas mask that he had developed to enable him to go into a tunnel under Lake Erie to rescue several trapped men. In his honor, the Program was created to better prepare America's students—with math, science, and technology skills—for entering the transportation workforce in the 21st century.

Following are the winning poems. I'm sure all of my colleagues join me in congratulating all of this year's participants.

Region 1: ME, MA, NH, RI, CT, VT

1st Place: Emily Erkkinen Clinton Middle School Clinton, MA

An Airplane can fly very high. I would like to fly an airplane. Right through the clouds I would go. Pilots drive the airplane. Lots of birds fly along. A great way of transportation. Now the airplane has landed. End of the ride, let's go home.

2nd Place: Kerri McCarthy Clinton Middle School Clinton, MA 01510

How that hot air balloon floats up in the sky Oh look, there's another and another and one more oh my That one has purple all over the tie And Look! I see a purple line I think I see a blue one too Round and round the higher it floats Balloons float up in the air And all of them spread everywhere Look at the purple one Look at the blue Oh how pretty they look don't you think they do? Oh no one just popped what are we going to do! Now I'm off bye, bye, I do miss you too!

3rd Place: Jack Bavaro Clinton Middle School Clinton, MA 01510

Hot Air balloons don't go very far They're even slower than a car. But they can glide in the sky. Just like a bird flying high.

Region 1: ME, MA, NH, RI, CT, VT (Grades 4-6)

1st Place: Mackenzie Bernier E. S. Brown School Swansea, MA 02777

"TRANSPORTATION"

What makes transportation really neat, Is that we no longer have to use our feet. We can ride a bike, or drive a car, We can take a plane to go very far. We can hop on a bus to get out of the rain, We can catch a subway, or take a train. There are ferry boats and cruise lines too, And trolley cars for me and you. There are great big trucks for moving freight, And limos for that special date. Who knows, someday very soon, There might be transportation to the moon!!

2nd Place: Timothy Leger, Thacher Elementary School Attleboro, MA 02703

"TRANSPORT"

Trains transfer trucks to Turkey. Cars carry crackers to Colorado. Submarines ship snowboards somewhere. Dump-trucks deliver dirt to Denver. Helicopters haul huge hats. Canoes carry cats to California. Boats bring bicycles back.

3rd Place: Krista Duchnowski Clinton Middle School Clinton, MA 01510

No boats, planes, cars? Walking on your own two feet? Not in this day and age. Walk to school? Carry my books? Take the bus I say. Dream of crossing the ocean? Never see France? Let's fly my friend. Paddle to the islands? Take a raft? Hey dude, fire up the motor! Run across the country? Get tired and SWEAT? Chugga, chugga, take the train! Walk, run, paddle, WORK? Do it yourself? Transportation does it for me!

Region 1: ME, MA, NH, RI, CT, VT (Grades 7-8)

1st Place: Caroline Flannagan Clinton Middle School Clinton, MA 01510

Cavemen used the feet they had Until the idea of a wheel we had Ships allowed us to sail the seas Making men's dreams realities The car was invented as time went by Orville and Wilbur soon did fly Rockets and space-ships were shot into space Bringing man to a whole new place Transportation keeps us on the go In the future we don't know.

3rd Place: Luke Nickerson Clinton Middle School Clinton, MA 01510

Henry Ford, and the Wright Brothers were men with vision, Just like the man who invented the television. This Country uses modes of transportation like planes, autos, and trains To go to work so that we can in-

vent more, and use our brains. Now that we have reached a destination, Aren't you proud of this great nation? For the resources and modes of transportation, Just think, in 1969 of Armstrong and space exploration. We need to stop, and think of where we are going. If flight is in your plans, try a 747 Boeing.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MEIER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Charles Meier of Okawville, IL. Charles was recently inducted into the Illinois Jaycees Recruiters Hall of Fame.

He was inducted for his successful efforts to recruit many new members into the club during his 21 years as a Jaycee. His recruitment efforts have brought in new members from an area that extends from Steeleville and Waterloo to Interstate 64.

I want to congratulate Charles on receiving such a prestigious honor. I wish him the best as he continues to serve.

IN HONOR OF THE CONCERNED CITIZENS OF BAYONNE ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Concerned Citizens of Bayonne (CCB) on its 30th anniversary.

Founded in 1970 by Frank P. Perrucci, CCB was established as an instrument for concerned citizens to take action on a variety of national and state issues. CCB is a perfect example of the influence that a civic organization can have on our political system. This organization levels the playing field, providing ordinary citizens with the opportunity to affect the political process, reducing the disproportionate influence of special interest groups.

The CCB supports several community organizations and charities: the Bayonne Hospital Cancer Treatment Center; the Windmill Alliance; Deborah Hospital, the Bayonne PAL; Bayonne Little League; Bayonne Babe Ruth Baseball; the Bayonne Family YMCA Day Care Center; and Bayonne for the Battleship New Jersey, Inc.

CCB actively supports fines and jail terms for ocean dumping, opposes self service gas stations in New Jersey, and has opposed extreme wrestling exhibitions in Bayonne.

Committed to helping its community, CCB is a strong advocate for senior citizens, conducts activities for the veterans at the East Orange V.A. Hospital, and has been a participant in Toys for Tots for the past thirty years.

In 1990, on its 20th anniversary, CCB established the Frank P. Perrucci Scholarship Award, and in 1995, on its 25th anniversary, established the Frank P. Perrucci Civic Achievement Award to recognize extraordinary individuals who have volunteered their time and efforts for important causes.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the Concerned Citizens of Bayonne

for its commitment and active participation in our political system and for its contributions to our community. I especially want to thank Frank Perrucci, his wife Jean Perrucci, and CCB President Joanne Kosakowski.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF
GUAM WATER AND ENVIRON-
MENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC
(WERI)

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the University of Guam Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific (WERI) on their twenty-fifth anniversary. WERI is the only regional water research institute dedicated to the needs of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

Formally established in June of 1975, WERI has since sought solutions to technical problems associated with the location, production, distribution, and management of freshwater resources—an extremely essential function for the island communities it serves. One of fifty-five water research institutes authorized by Congress in the U.S. through the Water Research Act of 1964, WERI has expanded from a one-person operation in 1975 to a staff today of fifteen people conducting research, training, and information dissemination for Guam and the Western Pacific. They have continually strived to foster and promote research, training, technical assistance, outreach, awareness, information sharing and dissemination.

Partially funded by the federal government, WERI provides a wide array of services to the University of Guam and the people of the Pacific insular region for a fraction of what independent consultants would charge. Their research program covers all the costs for materials, equipment, supplies, computers, audio visual, and field trip expenses required by 17 graduate and 4 undergraduate courses at the University of Guam. In addition, WERI conducts a number of professional training workshops throughout the region each year. During the past three years, their faculty has published over 65 reviewed journal articles, abstracts, and technical reports while carrying on 33 separate funded research and training projects. This is in addition to their regular university teaching and service commitments.

Constructed through a matching federal grant, the WERI analytical laboratory is totally self-sustaining. As the knowledge base created by WERI is actively sought by various government agencies and offices on Guam, it generates a significant portion of its operating expenses. The governor's office, the Guam Legislature, various local commissions, the private sector, the media and the local community constantly rely on WERI's technological expertise. Consequently, the 24th and 25th Guam Legislatures set up two annual special appropriations for them to manage long term water monitoring and data collection on the island. Their reputation is such that the United States Geological Survey continues to rate

WERI as one of the top water institutes among the state and Territorial institute programs.

I extend my congratulations to the individuals who have contributed to the valuable progress and success of WERI. The dedicated people who deserve credit include WERI director, Dr. Galt Siegrist; faculty members Drs. Shahram Khosrowpanah, Leroy Heitz, Gary Denton John Jenson, and Mark Lander; Charles Guard of the research faculty; laboratory manager Harold Wood; laboratory assistants Crispina Herreria and Lucrina Concepcion; staff hydrogeologist John Jocson; and staff members Norma Blas and Dolores Santos.

WERI has made valuable contributions to the people of Guam and the Pacific region. Their work for the past twenty five years, has led to better planning, more efficient allocation and protection of our valuable water resources. On behalf of the people of Guam, I commend and congratulate the faculty and staff of the University of Guam Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific for their excellence and join in celebrating their 25th anniversary.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
PROTECTION ACT OF 2000

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce a legislative proposal by Vice President GORE that would outlaw the practice of purchasing or selling Social Security numbers.

Last year, a man named Liam Youens was stalking a 21-year old New Hampshire woman named Amy Boyer. Youens reportedly purchased Amy Boyer's Social Security number from an Internet Web site for \$45. Using this information, he was able to track her down, a process that he chillingly detailed on an Internet Web site that he named after his target. Finally, last October; this demented stalker fatally shot Amy Boyer in front of the dental office where she worked. Afterwards, he turned the gun on himself.

This terrible tragedy underscores the fact that while the Social Security number was originally intended to be used only for the purposes of collecting Social Security taxes and administering the program's benefits, it has over the years evolved into a ubiquitous national personal identification number which is subject to misuse and abuse. The unregulated sale and purchase of these numbers is a significant factor in a growing range of illegal activities, including fraud, identity theft, and tragically, stalkings and now, even murders.

Today, if you open up a bank account, apply for a loan, buy insurance, get a credit card, sign up for telephone service or electric or gas utility service, you are almost invariably asked to provide a merchant with your Social Security number. Over the years, this number has become a key to verifying a person's identity. As a result, it has become increasingly clear that there are growing and serious privacy risks are being created by unrestricted commerce in Social Security numbers, and resulting abuses of this number, that require immediate legislative action.

The risks and abuses associated with misuse of the Social Security number are only being magnified by the rapid growth of electronic commerce. Right now, only \$5 billion of the \$860 billion in annual retail sales currently occur over the Internet. But that figure will continue to grow exponentially in the future. So, the question we must ask is how are we going to adjust our laws to deal with this new medium? How will we animate the New Economy with our old values—such as our cherished right to privacy?

Today, the real privacy challenge we are facing isn't Big Brother; it's Big Browser. When it comes to your financial records, there are very few protections against a financial services firm from disclosing every check you've ever written, every credit card charge you've ever made, the medical exam you got before you received insurance. And as you surf the Web, there are no rules in place to prevent various web sites from collecting information about what sites you are viewing and how long you are viewing them. If you buy anything over the Internet, that information can be linked up to other personal identifiers to create disturbingly detailed digital dossiers that can profile your lifestyle, your interests, your hobbies, or your habits. I have sponsored or co-sponsored separate legislation, H.R. 1057, H.R. 3320, H.R. 3321, and H.R. 4380, which are aimed at addressing these broader privacy problems.

But we also know that the Social Security number is an critically important personal identifier that many online and offline businesses wish to obtain about consumers. Consumers who value their family's privacy, however, have a compelling interest in not allowing this number to be used to tie together bits and pieces of information in various databases into an integrated electronic profile of their interests and behavior that can be zapped around the world in a nanosecond to anyone who is willing to pay the price.

If you do a simple Internet search in which you enter the words "Social Security Numbers," you will turn up links to dozens of web sites that offer to provide you, for a fee, with social security numbers for other citizens, or to link a social security number that you might have with a name, address and telephone number. Where are the data-mining firms and private detective agencies that offer these services obtaining these numbers? In all likelihood, they are accessing information from the databases of credit bureaus, financial services companies or other commercial firms.

If someone actually obtains a Social Security number from one of these sites, they have a critically important piece of information that can be used to locate the individual, get access to information about the individual's personal finances, or engage in a variety of illegal activities. By bringing a halt to unregulated commerce in Social Security numbers, the bill I am introducing today will help reduce the incidence of pretexting crimes, identity thefts and other frauds or crimes involving misuse of a person's Social Security number.

We need to take this action now if we are going to fully protect the public's right to privacy by preventing sales of Social Security numbers. That is why I am pleased today to be joining with the Senator from California (Ms. FEINSTEIN) in introducing Vice President GORE's legislative proposal to outlaw this practice. Our bill would make it a civil and

criminal offense for a person to sell or purchase Social Security numbers. Under the bill, the FTC would be given rulemaking authority to restrict the sale of Social Security numbers, determine appropriate exemptions, and to enforce civil compliance with the bill's restrictions. The bill would also authorize the states to enforce compliance, and provide for appropriate criminal penalties.

I look forward to working with the Vice President, who has been a leader in pressing for tougher privacy protections, as well as Senator FEINSTEIN, and my House colleagues to enact this important privacy protection proposal into law.

CONCERN REGARDING THIRTEEN
IRANIAN JEWS ON TRIAL

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, today I express my grave concern regarding the thirteen Iranian Jews currently on trial in Iran.

These individuals were arrested over a year ago for spying on behalf of Israel and the United States. During that time, the suspects were held without access to lawyers or their relatives. There was no credible evidence to support the allegation, much less their continued incarceration while awaiting trial. This treatment is unacceptable.

The trial is now underway, but closed to all individuals who may help exonerate the defendants. The trial judge serves as investigator, prosecutor and judge with no accountability for his actions. The evidence consists of confessions that were coerced and taped by the Iranian government, as well as a few telephone calls to friends and relatives alleged to be members of Israel's secret police. Like the McCarthy witch hunts of the 1950's, these individuals have been deemed guilty simply by virtue of their associations. This trial flies in the face of international standards ensuring fair, impartial, and even-handed judicial decisions.

Today, I have joined a number of my colleagues to shine light on this undemocratic process by cosponsoring H. Con. Res. 307. This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that the Administration should condemn the arrest and prosecution of the thirteen Iranian Jews. The resolution reminds Iran that the treatment of these individuals will serve as a benchmark in determining future U.S. and Iranian relations.

I am pleased to see Iran has made progress to moderate its society over the last two years. We need to encourage an open dialog between our people. However, this trial serves as an important reminder that Iran still has a long way to go before it is accepted back into the international community.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES GARRETT YOUNG FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a young scientist, Garrett Young, a 17 year-old homeschooled student from Branchburg. Garrett has achieved success on the state, national, and international levels. He has recently been recognized as a top winner at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) sponsored by Intel Corporation. This is the world's largest pre-college science competition that recognizes the world's brightest high school students coming from 40 countries for their scientific achievements.

At the international level, he took first place in the category of physics at the ISEF. He also won the Glenn T. Seaborg Nobel Prize Visit Award. The Nobel Prize Visit Award was awarded to the top two individual winners at the Fair and whom they believe will be future Nobel Prize Winners. His project was "Isolating Plasma Species Initiating Internal Electrostatic Fields for Plasma Heating," where Garrett found a way to increase the temperature of plasma in an efficient way.

At the national level, he won "Operation Cherry Blossom." This is a trip to Japan that is awarded by the U.S. Army to the top two individual projects of the entire ISEF competition. Garrett was awarded first place by the U.S. Naval Research Labs and the U.S. Air Force. He also received the second place Vacuum Technology Award awarded by the American Vacuum Society.

At the state level, Garrett won the Senior Division ISEF trip. He also received the Space Science Award, presented by NASA for his project studying space science, and the Metric Award given by the U.S. Metric Society for the best use of the metric system. In addition, he was awarded a medallion by Yale University as the most outstanding junior student in Science and Engineering.

All of his specialized contributions to science are a result of his creative ability and meticulous thought. Mr. Young is truly a remarkable student with a prosperous future ahead of him. Today I honor Garrett's extraordinary accomplishments.

FY2001 DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS
BILL

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, last night the House of Representatives passed the Fiscal Year 2001 Defense Appropriations Bill. I voted in favor of that legislation because I largely support the priorities reflected in the bill by Chairman LEWIS, Ranking Member MURTHA and the Defense Appropriations subcommittee.

Today, the Budget Committee is conducting a hearing on my legislation, H.R. 3221, the Corporate Welfare Commission Act. Under the bill, a Commission would be created to root

out unnecessary and wasteful subsidies, and report their recommendations to the House and Senate. Their recommendations would receive expedited floor consideration to ensure that members of Congress were put on record on these wasteful programs.

One program which is often mentioned as one of the most egregious examples of wasteful spending, and which was mentioned today by the witnesses, is the subsidy the government gives to encourage defense mergers. The program was created in 1993 and was intended to save taxpayers billions of dollars by allowing defense contractors to charge the costs of mergers to government contracts. A recent study by the Department of Defense reflects significant cost savings for the government under this program but an independent study by the General Accounting Office could not verify DoD's claims. According to the GAO study, the government spent approximately \$850 million on just the seven largest defense contractor mergers.

I think this program deserves closer scrutiny. While I don't question the nature of these mergers which have to be approved by the Department of Defense; I do question the policy of having the U.S. taxpayers pay at least a portion of the cost for such mergers. I urge the eventual conferees on the Department of Defense Authorization and Appropriations bills to consider a change in this policy.

THE NICARAGUAN "PROPERTY
PROTECTION ACT OF 2000"

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the "Property Protection Act of 2000" with a notable list of co-sponsors. This bill will have the effect of removing the waiver for Nicaragua contained under section 527(g) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995. Under current law, the President may waive mandatory sanctions prescribed to castigate a government that has not resolved outstanding property claims made by American citizens. In the case of Nicaragua, the President has every year since enactment chosen to exercise this waiver.

I have been reluctant to seek this change to our law. It is the inaction of the Nicaraguan government in resolving a number of longstanding property claims by American citizens that compels us to take this action.

The Sandinista regime, which ruled Nicaragua from 1979 to 1990, confiscated the property of thousands of Nicaraguan families and a number of American citizens. That was wrong. The United States Congress has long been on record pressing for the rights of U.S. citizens who were expropriated to be fairly compensated.

The Nicaraguan government points out that it settled over 400 property cases last year. But these numbers do not tell the whole story. In fact, many of these cases involve individuals who have simply given up hope of recovering their properties and resigned themselves to accepting Nicaraguan government bonds worth a fraction of their face value on world bond markets.

There are also a number of cases that have languished unresolved for years. These include cases where the government of Nicaragua has been ordered by its own court system to make payments to Americans who had their property illegally confiscated. Another group of cases that have languished involve Public Sector National Corporations (CORNAP). The missing ingredient in resolving these cases is political will. In both instances, the rule of law can only be served if the government of Nicaragua lives up to its obligations.

This bill will bring real pressure to bear by restricting U.S. bilateral assistance and U.S. support for multilateral assistance to the government of Nicaragua. The bill contains important exemptions for humanitarian and disaster relief assistance to avoid penalizing the people of Nicaragua. The bill also would allow vital counter-narcotics assistance to continue to flow to protect our nation from illicit drugs.

The Property Protection Act of 2000, when enacted, will require the President to identify the 50 most urgent pending property claims by American citizens against the government of Nicaragua and to suspend assistance to the government of Nicaragua until these cases are resolved. This is not too much to ask. Our government has been very patient, but, regrettably, our patience seems to have been misinterpreted by the government of Nicaragua as a lack of interest.

This bill will insure that the government of Nicaragua, and other states around the world, will understand that our citizens cannot have their property stolen with impunity.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I ask that the full text of H.R. 4602 be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

H.R. 4602

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 "Property Protection Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS AGAINST EXPROPRIATIONS OF PROPERTY BY NICARAGUA.

(a) BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 527(g) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995, assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or the Arms Export Control Act for fiscal year 2001 or 2002 may only be provided to the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua if the President first makes a certification under subsection (d) for the fiscal year involved.

(2) EXCEPTION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term "assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961" shall not include—

(A) assistance under chapter 1 or chapter 10 of part I of such Act for child survival, basic education, assistance to combat tropical and other diseases, and related activities;

(B) assistance under section 481 of such Act (relating to international narcotics control assistance); and

(C) assistance under chapter 9 of part I of such Act (relating to international disaster assistance).

(b) MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall instruct the United States Executive Director at each multilateral development bank and international financial institution to which the United States is a member to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to oppose any loan or other utiliza-

tion of the funds of such bank or institution for the benefit of the Republic of Nicaragua for fiscal year 2001 or 2002 unless the President first makes a certification under subsection (d) for the fiscal year involved.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to assistance that is directed specifically to programs which serve the basic human needs of the citizens of Nicaragua.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than September 1, 2000, or the date of the enactment of this Act (whichever occurs later), and not later than September 1, 2001, the President shall prepare and transmit to Congress a detailed report listing the 50 most urgent property claims by United States citizens against the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua which shall include, but not be limited to, all property claims in which Nicaraguan courts have ruled in favor of United States citizens, and property claims by United States citizens involving Public Sector National Corporations (CORNAP).

(d) CERTIFICATION.—A certification under this subsection is a certification to the Congress that the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua has returned the nationalized or expropriated property of each United States citizen who has a formally-documented claim against the Government of Nicaragua listed in the report under subsection (c), or has provided adequate and effective compensation in convertible foreign exchange or other mutually acceptable compensation equivalent to the full value of the nationalized or expropriated property of each United States citizen who has a formally-documented claim against the Government of Nicaragua listed in the report under subsection (c).

HONORING BALL STATE PRESIDENT JOHN E. WORTHEN—A GREAT EDUCATOR

HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the House of Representatives to honor a leader in education in Indiana and the nation. In the heart of my district in East Central Indiana lies Ball State University, one of the premier institutions of higher education in the Midwest. For the last sixteen years Ball State has been under the capable guidance of University President John E. Worthen. Sadly, he is leaving the university this year.

Mr. Speaker, greatness is setting bold goals and then having the will to accomplish them. John Worthen brought vision and greatness when he came to the university in 1984 and has spent the last sixteen years putting his vision into practice. Ball State, Indiana, and the nation are the better for his efforts. At the start of his administration, President Worthen focused on broad goals. He aimed for excellence in all things. The university has reached beyond its grasp to accomplish his vision. His plan was anchored in the premise that learning should be a lifelong pursuit. Under his leadership, Ball State's central mission has been to arm students with the skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm to continue learning after they leave the university.

John Worthen always looked to the future of education, not its past. He viewed technology as a fundamental component of that mission,

and he directed Ball State's resources toward acquiring that technology. Ball State established courses and workshops to train faculty aid staff to use the new technologies and started the Center for Teaching Technology to help faculty use this new tool to enhance their instruction. During the past ten years, Ball State has spent eighty million dollars on renovations that have added computer labs, put Internet access in every residence hall room, and wired every classroom to an interactive fiberoptic multimedia network. The university now has a student-to-computer ratio of thirteen-to-one, one of the lowest in the country. This year Yahoo! Internet Life magazine ranked Ball State among the top twenty in its annual survey of "most wired" universities. These technological capabilities have also made Ball State a national leader in distance education.

President Worthen's education and training gave him a solid background for the challenge of running a university. A Midwesterner, he earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology at Northwestern University in 1954 and received his master's degree in student personnel administration from Columbia University in 1955. He served four years in the Navy as a carrier pilot and education and legal officer. He attained the rank of lieutenant. He earned an Ed. D. at Harvard University in 1964 in counseling psychology and administration in higher education. John Worthen began his career in education as the dean of men at American University in Washington, D.C., then moved to the University of Delaware where he taught education courses and accepted various administrative responsibilities. In 1979, he became president of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Ball State University invited him to become its eleventh president in 1984.

Mr. Speaker, I know all of my colleagues join me in saluting a real educator, John E. Worthen. Under his leadership, Ball State has flourished. In almost the most important fields of education—social sciences, science, and technology—President Worthen has made Ball State a leader in Indiana and across the nation and both are better off for his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I have been honored to work along side John Worthen. I will miss the benefit of his counsel and wisdom. I wish he and his wife Sandra much happiness as they move on to new challenges.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 241. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 241.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 242. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 242.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 243. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 243.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 244. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 244.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and unable to record a vote by electronic device on Roll Number 245. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on Roll Number 245.

TRIBUTE TO KENZAL THOMAS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to commend young Kenzal Thomas, a Casey Middle School student in Mt. Vernon, IL, for his honesty. Recently after finding a dollar in the bathroom of a Mt. Vernon restaurant, Kenzal began asking everyone in the restaurant if they had lost the bill—including City Councilman Dave Keen.

As a result, Councilman Keen, along with other city officials, honored Kenzal with a framed certificate touting his integrity.

It is a pleasure for me to join in recognizing Kenzal. His honesty is a trait for which we can all be proud of and look to as an example of doing what is right.

IN HONOR OF MONUMENTAL BAPTIST CHURCH, CELEBRATING ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Monumental Baptist Church. For 100 years, Monumental has been a sanctuary for fostering Christian ideals and values.

Monumental Baptist Church was established in 1900, in a store front in New Jersey. From its humble beginnings as a small congregation, Monumental has experienced significant growth, establishing a foundation for a prosperous future.

Reverend William Edwards was Monumental's first pastor, followed by Reverend C.H. Garelick, and Reverend William S. Smith, who, in 1905, was able to secure a new site for the church, at 116 Lafayette Street.

Reverend Smith served his church and community with dedication. After forty years as pastor and community leader, he passed away. Under Monumental's next pastor, Reverend William Fitzgerald, a mortgage was liquidated and the church received a new roof.

On the first Sunday of December 1944, Reverend Ercel F. Webb came to serve as pastor of Monumental Baptist Church. For 42 years, Reverend Webb dedicated himself to providing his congregation with spiritual guidance as well as strong leadership. During Reverend Webb's service, financial support to local and national organizations increased significantly. The United Negro College fund received substantial contributions, allowing the church to realize its goal of helping to provide

young African-Americans access to a quality education.

Following Reverend Webb's retirement in 1986, Reverend Willard W.C. Ashley served until 1996. The current pastor is Reverend Joseph L. Jones.

Today, Monumental Baptist Church is 100 years old. I ask my colleagues to honor the church and its congregation for their century of dedication to God.

ELIMINATE THE DEATH TAX

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, today I express my strong support for the elimination of the death tax. When a person dies in this country, an outrageous tax of 37 to 55 percent is levied against the deceased's estate. The last thing that a family in mourning should have to worry about is losing the family business or farm—a life's work—to satisfy the IRS.

Only in America can one be given a certificate at birth, a license at marriage, and a bill at death. This tax is contrary to the freedom and free-market principles on which this nation was founded.

There is no question that Americans deserve to keep more of their hard-earned dollars. It is our duty to provide responsible, targeted tax relief in this time of budgetary surplus. Since my first day in Congress, we have debated what to do with the surplus. Some said tax cuts. I have strongly supported paying down the debt by 2013 or earlier. But if we pass responsible, targeted tax cuts, we can accomplish both. It is essential for Congress to repeal the unfair death tax so that family businesses and family farms can be passed down from generation to generation.

Owning a family business is the culmination of the American Dream. Let's restore the dream and repeal the death tax. We owe it to America's families, small business owners and farmers.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4576) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Defense Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2001. This legislation has placed great emphasis on expanding quality of life initiatives, addressing readiness shortfalls, and enhancing modernization programs. I am particularly supportive of the procurement budget in this legislation for the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) or Hummer.

The Congress and especially the Appropriations Committee have strongly supported sus-

tained Hummer production. The hard-working people of Indiana's Third Congressional district have responded by providing a vehicle that has met, and in many cases, exceeded the needs of our brave troops in the field. The Hummer's superior quality allowed three U.S. Army soldiers to walk away unharmed from their vehicle after it drove over and exploded an antitank mine in Bosnia.

Moreover, both the Army and the Marine Corps have identified the Hummer among their unfunded modernization priorities. This defense appropriations bill meets those priorities by increasing the budget by \$40 million, thereby allowing the Army and the Marines to buy 3,400 Hummers to replace their aging fleet and provide technology insertion. This will go a long way toward protecting our brave men and women in uniform deployed in Kosovo and Bosnia.

I am enthused by the growing capabilities of the Hummer. Earlier this year, I visited the Hummer plant and saw a prototype of the commercial "Hummer 11" which is being developed by a joint effort between AM General and General Motors. The Hummer's expansion into the commercial marketplace will result in the sharing of leading technologies for commercial and military vehicles while maintaining a highly skilled technological workforce in Indiana who I am very proud to represent.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to express my gratitude to the members of the Appropriations Committee who have reported a defense appropriations bill that will ensure continued Hummer production. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4444, the PNTR (Permanent Normal Trade Relations) for China Bill, which will open up new markets for our businesses here in the United States. This bill is about breaking down trade barriers abroad and expanding opportunities for American workers. This legislation recognizes the reality of today's global economy and equips our country with the tools necessary to maintain America's leadership throughout the world.

International trade is critical to our nation's continued economic expansion. Over 11 million jobs in the United States can be attributed to exports. The simple fact that 96% of the world's consumers live outside of our borders is irrefutable evidence that in order to grow our economy, we must grow our exports.

In the WTO agreement, the U.S. has won unprecedented concessions from the Chinese that break down barriers to our goods, services, technology products, automobiles and financial services. Our farmers, who have been economically hurting, will be able to sell their agricultural products in China like never before. In Florida, our citrus and fertilizer industry will benefit immensely.

In terms of forcing changes in China, this is also a matter of national security. Once China is admitted into the WTO, they will be subject to the rule of law, which will be enforced by more than 130 countries. As we enter the 21st Century, China is on the verge of expanding its regional dominance. I believe it is apparent that the world's most populous nation is simply too influential to ignore. Thus, I believe that our engagement, rather than disengagement, is essential. I think we have a better chance of encouraging reforms with more U.S. citizens bringing our culture, ideas, and freedoms to China rather than isolating them from the rest of the world.

With regard to China's cross straits relations, the Taiwan question continues to heighten tensions in the region. Passage of PNTR would allow our country to continue to play a constructive role in diffusing that potentially destabilizing situation. Even Taiwan's leaders recognize the importance of passing PNTR and China's accession to the WTO. Recently, the newly elected President of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian, stated that, "We would welcome the normalization of U.S.-China trade relations . . . We look forward to both the People's Republic of China's and Taiwan's accession to the WTO."

We must respect and address many of the opposing arguments. Opponents argue that we as a nation must send a strong message to China and in many respects I agree. Let there be no mistake about it, forcing China to comply with their commitments will not be an easy task. China must know that we will be vigilant in our efforts to combat human rights abuses, that we will not tolerate acts of aggression towards its neighbors. That is why I commend my colleagues Sandy Levin and Doug Bereuter for all their hard work crafting legislation that will enable our country to closely monitor China's human rights record and compliance with its WTO commitments.

In addition, opponents of PNTR argue that only big business will benefit. I disagree. Today more than ever, U.S. businesses are functioning in a global economy, and thanks to the Information Age and the growth of e-commerce, even the smallest of America's businesses are engaging in and thriving from their interactions in international markets. In fact, a rapidly growing number of small and medium sized companies have already expanded their business to take advantage of the opportunities available in China's marketplace.

In 1997, 82 percent of all U.S. exporters to China were small and medium sized businesses. That same year, in my home state of Florida, companies with less than 100 employees accounted for 52 percent of all businesses exporting from Florida to China. Furthermore, small and medium sized companies combined accounted for 67 percent of all firms exporting from Florida to China. These figures continue.

China's business cannot begin to keep up with the rapidly growing demand of one-fifth of the world's population, leaving international companies an amazing economic opportunity should China open its trade gates. America's strong economy and its wealth of innovative and motivated small and medium sized businesses poises us to be a leader in meeting the product demand of the Chinese.

The benefits of increased trade with China both for our nation and the State of Florida are tremendous. Unless we pass PNTR, our businesses and workers will be forced to sit on the

sideline and watch our global competitors take advantage of the agreement we negotiated. The effect would be to exclude many of Florida's farmers, insurers, and manufacturers of microchips, chemicals, computers, and software who would benefit from this entirely new level of access. These industries employ thousands of Floridians and have the potential to employ thousands more, but only if we can continue our strong export growth.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that increased global competition will put some industries at risk and that with the overwhelming number of winners there will be some losers. We will have to work hard to ensure every American worker can participate in our global economy.

A vote against PNTR will not create a single new job in America, clean up the environment in China, release a single prisoner, nor improve the standard of living for Chinese workers. It will only signal a retreat from the global economy and a surrendering of our nation's leadership in the international arena.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is critical for the United States. Refusal to pass PNTR would put American workers at a disadvantage. Furthermore, this legislation represents our nation's commitment to remaining engaged, and a rededication to ensuring expanded economic opportunities for American workers.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on PNTR.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4576) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, today I rise for women across the country as Co-Vice Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues and for the women of California and Los Angeles, in particular, to praise the work of Chairman LEWIS and Ranking Member MURTHA for ensuring critical funding is provided for the Department of Defense Peer-Reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program.

California, as one of the most populous states has a corresponding high degree of breast cancer deaths and in 1990, over 25 percent of these deaths occurred in the Los Angeles area alone. Nationally, an estimated 2.6 million women—one in eight women—are currently living with breast cancer.

As the leading cause of cancer deaths among women aged 40-59, it is second only to lung cancer in the number of cancer deaths. It is estimated that 40,800 women will die of breast cancer this year. African American women currently have the shortest life expectancy. The need for research to reduce the number of deaths among all women and stop this disparity in life expectancy between Caucasian women and women of color is unequivocal.

The most significant risk factors for breast cancer are simply being female and growing

older. The majority of women with breast cancer have no known significant family history or other known risk factors. In fact, only 5–10% of breast cancers are due to heredity. Therefore, research that is conducted by the Defense Department as well as by the National Institutes of Health is imperative for all women.

Thanks to the bipartisan leadership and dedication of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, the breast cancer research program continues to grow and provide innovative ways of fighting this disease. On behalf of the women of California and women across the country, I thank Chairman Lewis and Ranking Member MURTHA for their commitment to this issue.

SEEING FIRSTHAND NEW JERSEY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to report on a visit I made in April of this year to two of the U.S. Army's installations, one in California and the other in Arizona.

Mr. Speaker, the upper Mojave Desert is a long way from Morristown. Frankly, when you think of southern California and the desert, you conjure up thoughts of oppressive heat, scorching sun and scorpions underfoot.

During the Congressional Easter "recess," I spent several days visiting Fort Irwin, home of the National Training Center and the U.S. Army's premier field combat training facility. There is nothing like it anywhere in the world, according to what I heard and saw during my visit.

For almost two years now, I have had added to my assignment on the House Appropriations Committee, a seat on the Subcommittee on Defense, which includes budget jurisdiction over all of our nation's branches of the Armed Services and our national intelligence agencies.

Whenever possible, I try to visit military installations, bases and especially our young troops in the field. After all, these young men and women need to know that Members of Congress appreciate what they do and that we are committed to their safety, proper training, and the acquisition of the best equipment and technology available.

I saw firsthand the battlefield realism that the National Training Center provides. That location in the desert combines the scope, scale, and intensity of effort that past and future wars have provided.

Take for example, the Persian Gulf War. On the morning of February 24, 1991, combat-ready U.S. military forces launched the land phase of the Persian Gulf War with the objective of removing Iraqi forces from the Republic of Kuwait. One hundred hours later, they accomplished their objective.

The majority of U.S. soldiers contributing to this victory received their combat field training at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin. Their success on the battlefields of Iraq and Kuwait confirmed that authentic, real-time combat training leads to decisive victory.

It is also at Fort Irwin that our New Jersey National Guard units, as well as active duty Army battalions from all across the world, train to be soldiers, improving their fighting skills without actual loss of life or loss of equipment.

As fate would have it, I did meet with some members of the New Jersey National Guard's 1-114th Infantry Battalion as they got ready to fight in a mock battle with the regular stationed force. It was very cold out there and I even got caught in a blinding sandstorm as the temperatures dropped down below freezing.

About 5500 U.S. soldiers are deployed to the National Training Center to engage in a strenuous 28 day training event called a "rotation" twelve times a year—you really have to admire these young men and women.

From the sands of the Mojave and the arduous training at Ft. Irwin, I visited the Yuma Proving Grounds in Yuma, Arizona. At this facility, the Army tests weapons and munitions. Much of the technology tested at Yuma, near the Mexican border, is researched and developed in our own backyard at Picatinny Arsenal in Rockaway Township.

I had the good fortune of witnessing a test of the Crusader, an advanced tank artillery system that, as I mentioned, is designed at Picatinny Arsenal. In fact, the Crusader is one of Picatinny's major projects.

The Crusader is the Army's future heavy artillery system and it will provide more reliable, more lethal firepower on the battlefield. The Crusader can fire faster, and more accurately than any existing tank or fighting vehicle in the Army's inventory. During tests at Yuma, the Crusader showed its stuff by successfully firing a round nearly 40 km!

I look forward to showing Defense Secretary William Cohen where Crusader research and development takes place when he visits Picatinny on May 26. I have pursued his visit for several years because I believe it is important for the Defense Secretary to see firsthand the amazing work being done by the talented men and women of Picatinny—work that is critical to America's national security. I am glad Secretary Cohen has accepted my invitation to visit Picatinny; it's the first time in Picatinny's long history that a Secretary of Defense will have visited.

Finally, back in Washington, last week my committee, the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, gave its approval to our nation's military and intelligence programs for fiscal year 2001, including those critical programs at Picatinny and New Jersey's other military installations. You can be sure that I will continue working to strengthen our military.

Most especially, I will continue working to see to it that our young soldiers are properly paid, have decent housing, and child care, remembering that 65 percent of our all-volunteer force is married, many with children. After all, these young men and women and their sense of self-sacrifice and duty, continue to serve as an inspiration for all Americans.

BUILD IT RIGHT, AND THEY WILL
COME

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, we have often heard the phrase "if you build it, they will

come" from the movie *Field of Dreams*. We have learned, however, that when it comes to baseball parks, we need to get it right—that delicate balance between the old and new. The new ballpark in the City of Detroit was a vision of the Ilitch Family and John McHale, the owners and president of the Detroit Tigers respectively—and I am pleased to say they got it right. From the statues of Tiger greats in the outfield to the tiger gargoyles on the outside, the new Comerica Park is a gem. Mr. Speaker, I had the fortunate opportunity to attend the dedication of the new park and was deeply touched by President McHale's comments. I now submit his remarks for the RECORD.

MCHALE REMARKS FOR APRIL 8, 2000 RIBBON
CUTTING CEREMONY

Reverend Clergy, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends of our City, Friends of the Detroit Tigers, Good Morning.

Today marks for me a little more than five years since I first came to you, unknown, uncredentialed, clad only in the good will of the Ilitch family and your own charity to ask for your help for the Detroit Tigers.

Who knows what you must have thought and how many promises for how many projects that came to little had been put to you before. I look back then on my own impudence with humility and the improbability of our success with laughter. But it seemed to me then that the success of this adventure was possible only if built upon the rock which is the spirit of the people of the City of Detroit. However naively or imperfectly I tried to express this, you already knew if better than I.

(In my middle years, I came upon a wood. . . .) You welcomed us. You guided us. From validating our agreement and financial partnership with the City, to providing us with public fora, to assisting us in reaching the voters of the City and then Wayne County, this project was nurtured in the temples, mosques and churches of our community. And, as would a parent, you gently and firmly gave us to understand how we should do justice to the people of our community who helped us give life to this dream. I want to pause to remember my friend Morris Hood and to speak his name here with gratitude and affection. With me, Morris was not so gentle but was extremely firm concerning his expectations for this project. He loved the Tigers and I hope he is proud of his city today. From planning and hosting outreach meetings to recruiting skilled tradeswomen and tradesmen to commending to our attention new and established businesses, your communities of faith have helped us at every step.

Because our achievement has been so great, both symbolically and in terms of steel, bricks and concrete, it is tempting to consider today's celebration a conclusion. That would be a profound mistake. It is a point of passage, appropriate for brief rest, reflection and an occasion for celebration, but just a stop on the long journey for all of us toward our greater goals. It is not normally fashionable in the business of professional sports to concede, much less insist as we do today, that the partnerships of public and private support required to produce such beautiful buildings as Comerica Park ought to serve greater goods than our success in the standings and on the balance sheet. But of course this is so and this proposition has been joyfully embraced by the Ilitch family since the establishment of their entrepreneurial headquarters in this city in 1987 and at the Detroit Tigers since its acquisition by Mike Ilitch in 1992. And, as surely as we have been guided and inspired by a determination

to restore our city to the material greatness known by our parents and grandparents, so must we work to make it St. Matthew's "city on a mountain" as renowned for its goodness, economic opportunity and economic justice as for the beauty of its buildings and the glory of its sports clubs. So do we work, with an eye and an ear toward the judgment of history.

What do we wish men and women to say of our efforts a hundred years from today? I hope that they will say we can know three things about the people who built this building.

First, that they loved their children. All ballparks are, by definition, places of communal recreation and celebration (subject to the occasional vagaries of on-field performance). Bart Giamatti told us:

"The gods are brought back when the people gather. . . . The acts of physical toil—lifting, throwing, bending, jumping, pushing, grasping, stretching, running, hoisting, the constantly repeated acts that for millennia have meant work and to bound them in time or by rules or boundaries in a green enclosure surrounded by an amphitheater or at least a gallery (thus combining garden and city, a place removed from care but in the real world) is to replicate the arena of humankind's highest aspiration. . . . 'Winning' for player or spectator is not simply outscoring. It is a way of talking about betterment, about making oneself, one's fellows, one's city, one's adherents, more noble because of a temporary engagement of a higher human plane of existence."

This may be what grips a city as this one was gripped in 1968 and 1984 and will be again. This engagement is what stamps in our mind the characteristics of human spirit revealed in the heat of competition by our athletic heroes like Greenberg, Kaline and Horton. The certainty that in these metaphors we can teach important lessons of life: the need for patience, the need to struggle, the need to bear defeat without conceding to it and the need to view victory as a transitory gift, is what led our parents and grandparents to bring us to Navin Field, Briggs Stadium and Tiger Stadium and is what will lead us to bring our children and grandchildren to Comerica Park. Never has there been a sporting field built to echo the joy of children and adults at play. The stories and lessons of our shared history abound. In one sense, Comerica Park is literally the most magnificent playground ever built. In another, it is the illustrated story of one hundred years of a part of Detroit's history. In a third, its steel, concrete and bricks and its focus on the skyline will reinforce in young minds their parents' lessons of economic opportunity, the appropriate role of professional sports in a larger civic context and the importance of our city to our region, state and country.

Second, I hope that they will say that these builders loved their city.

All of us, together, began a quest to breath new life into the City of Detroit by building a ballpark, that is in ways subtle and obvious is of the City of Detroit. It is here, of course, bounded by the old city streets of Montcalm, Witherell, Adams and Brush, physically connected to Grand Circus Park, Harmonie Park and Brush Park. It represents over \$300 million worth of affirmation in the future and vitality of downtown Detroit. It is made of materials that are almost sacramental to our City, brick, steel, glass and concrete. Its forms are echoes of the most beautiful in Detroit design from the last century. Its exterior is graced by bands and plaques of tile from the Pewabic Pottery on East Jefferson Avenue. Comerica Park has been planned to nurture the surrounding neighborhoods and to stimulate

new growth. Already, complimentary projects have begun and more announced. Buildings unused for decades are being renovated and that most precious sign of urban vitality, new residential construction, is rising just to the north of us in Brush Park. Very soon we will be joined by our even larger neighbor, Ford Field, which will bring many hundreds of thousands more of our metropolitan citizens downtown. This, in turn, will stimulate even more of the desirable development activity which we now see. Is all of this happening because of Comerica Park? Of course not, but much of it is. The good that we hoped for our city is coming to pass because of the commitments we made to each other and the work we began in 1995.

Third, I hope that 100 years from now the citizens of Detroit will look back upon us and say, "They kept their word." We came to you in 1995 and 1996 and promised that if you would help us, we would ensure that at least 30% of the estimated \$245 million price of this project would represent goods and services provided by minority, women-owned, small and local businesses. At last report, the total percentage of work performed by these businesses represented, 56%, nearly double our promise. This has meant over \$133 million in work for these businesses who have performed so well in helping us complete this project on schedule and on budget. It is worth mentioning today that the first contract excavation work on this project performed on September 4, 1997 was done by Ferguson Enterprises, a minority business enterprise and the final Tiger statue swung into place was manufactured by Showmotion, Inc., a woman-owned business enterprise, appropriate bookends for the good work of the City the County, the City Council New Stadia Development Monitoring Task Force (chaired for 4 years by Reverend Wendell Anthony), the MMBDC, A3BC, the Minority Business Initiative, our project team IFG, the Smith Group, HOK and H-T-W and hundreds of individuals, without the work of each, these exemplary results could never have been possible. We are confident that beyond being sound construction decisions, these contractual relationships will provide a basis for future prosperity, contract capacity and public and industry recognition of these businesses and will help continue cycles of prosperity for these firms for many, many years.

They loved their children, they loved their city, they kept their word. It is to this judgment by the men and women of the year 2100 that we rededicate ourselves and our organization today and that we pledge as the tests of our judgments and actions for as long as we are given to continue the work of God and man that we began together at the birth of the dream which is today Comerica Park. Thank you.

CONGRATULATING BRENDA
BUTLER HAMLETT

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to Brenda Butler Hamlett, who was recently selected as a 2000 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader. Ms. Hamlett is one of only ten individuals from around the country to be recognized with this most distinguished award for community health leadership.

As a community development coordinator for the New England Organ Bank, Ms. Hamlett

works tirelessly to raise awareness of the need for increased organ and tissue donations, especially among minority populations. Her programs work to educate minority families about the risk factors and lifestyle choices that can lead to the need for a transplant. She also works to encourage residents in the community to consider organ donation as a contribution they can make to save the lives of others.

Ms. Hamlett comes to her work from a very unique perspective. After battling heart disease for a number of years, she was forced to undergo a heart transplant in 1993. After her successful procedure, she agreed to be featured in the organ bank's advertising campaign on posters and public service announcements. In 1995 she joined the organ bank's staff full-time, putting her former experience as a community relations specialist and teacher to work.

Ms. Hamlett currently conducts much of her outreach in Boston-area schools, using poetry and workbooks that she has developed herself to teach young people about organ donation and end-of-life issues. She also offers programs in community health centers and area churches. She often fields calls in the middle of the night from area hospitals to counsel families about donating organs and loved ones.

As a further recognition of her tremendous work, she was also recently elected president of the American Society of Minority Health Transplant Professionals, whose mission is to promote organ and tissue donation among minorities.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly my honor today to congratulate Brenda Butler Hamlett for this well deserved award. As extraordinary people do, Ms. Hamlett was able to transform an undoubtedly traumatic experience in her life into a tremendous dedication to improve the lives of those around her.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
RETIREMENT OF DAVE WILDMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Mr. Dave Wildman in honor of his retirement from thirty years of work as an educator. For the past 18 years, Mr. Wildman has been the Principal of Silverado Middle School in Napa County, California where he has dutifully served the students of our community.

Mr. Wildman was born in Hazelwood, Indiana and later moved to California. He received his teaching credential from California State University, Hayward in Biology, Chemistry and the Physical Sciences. He began his teaching career in 1968 teaching Science at Silverado Middle School. In 1972, Mr. Wildman was promoted to the Dean of Boys—Vice Principal of the School. He served in this post until 1980 when he became the Principal of Ridgeview Junior High School in Napa County. In 1982, he returned to Silverado Middle School to become Principal, where he has served until his retirement this month.

Under the guidance of Mr. Wildman, Silverado Middle School has been the recipient

of numerous academic merits and awards. In 1986, Silverado was granted its first Napa Distinguished Middle School award. In 1988, Silverado was selected as a Foundation School and as one of 100 network partnership schools by the California State Department of Education. Silverado later received a second Distinguished Middle School award by the California Department of Education in 1996.

As an individual Mr. Wildman has been recognized as an outstanding academic leader. In 1988, he was given a California Department of Education Commendation for middle school grade reform. In 1988, Mr. Wildman was also granted the Napa Valley Unified School District leadership award for distinguished management performance. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Leadership award from the California State Department of Education in 1991. And, in 1996, Mr. Wildman was awarded a California Distinguished Middle School Principal's award.

Dave Wildman is a dedicated family man. He and his wife Nancy have three children: Christine, Jeremy and Sarah.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Dave Wildman has been an exemplary educator and leader in the Napa Valley. As Mr. Wildman's Representative, I am both honored and pleased to know that there are dedicated people, such as he, who are leading our public schools. Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, it is proper that we honor Principal Dave Wildman for all of his achievements and his contribution to our community.

APPALACHIA TOUR

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share another story from my recent tour of Appalachia. I heard many stories of people who are hungry in the midst of our record-breaking economy. I wish that I didn't hear these stories and I wish they weren't true, but they are. One family told me of their trouble simply putting meals on the table.

Darryl and Martha are two ordinary people who find themselves requiring assistance from a local food pantry. Darryl just turned 70 and receives about \$ 1,000 each month for his retirement. Martha has cancer and lost her parents and her brothers to the disease. She had surgery eight times in the past 10 years. In order to get to her medical appointments, Darryl and Martha must drive eighty miles round-trip. Even with Medicaid, their gas and \$10 co-payments add up, so they swallowed their pride and applied for food stamps. After filling out an application that asked 700 questions, Darryl and Martha were congratulated on being entitled to \$5 each in monthly benefits.

When an outreach worker spoke with Darryl and Martha, neither of them had eaten for three days. Three days. There was not a single can or box of food in their cupboards, after months of trying to stretch everything they had. Martha had watered down a can of tomato juice to last two weeks. She had added extra water to cans of soup to try and make it last a second day. They once had chicken noodle soup with no chicken and noodles

made from one egg and a little flour. Martha would often lie to her husband and say that she wasn't hungry so that he could eat. "We never asked for help," they said, until the doctor gave her two days to live if she did not start eating again. The food pantry helped them with a few bags of groceries, and for now, they say, "we don't have to add water to everything because we can eat again."

Mr. Speaker, people should rejoice for the big things in life, not just because they can eat a whole can of soup. We need to end the scourge of hunger in America. We have the solutions, all we need is the political and spiritual will to do it.

200TH BIRTHDAY OF THE
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD

HON. JOHN E. SUNUNU

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to pay tribute to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the first publicly owned shipyard in our Nation, on the occasion of its 200th birthday. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard was established on June 12, 1800, on the Piscataqua River between New Hampshire and Maine as our first permanent shipyard devoted exclusively to the construction and repair of vessels for the United States Navy.

In 1814, the *Washington*, the first naval vessel to bear the name of our first president was built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. By 1818, the Shipyard's work force had grown to 50 workers. Portsmouth constructed another 12 vessels for the United States Navy prior to the beginning of the Civil War earning recognition as the "Cradle of American Shipbuilding."

Although new ship construction slowed at Portsmouth after the end of the Civil War, the Shipyard continued to play an important role in our Nation's history. The U.S.S. *Constitution* was berthed at the Shipyard for some time, and during and after the Spanish-American War, over 1600 Spanish prisoners were quartered on its grounds. In 1905, the Treaty of Portsmouth, ending the Russo-Japanese War and earning President Theodore Roosevelt the Nobel Peace Prize, was signed at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

With the onset of World War I, the workforce was expanded to almost 5,000 and the Shipyard began its long and illustrious history of submarine construction, launching the first U.S. submarine built in a naval shipyard in 1917.

During World War II, the ranks of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard jumped to 24,000. Over 70 submarines were constructed at the Shipyard during the Second World War, with three launched on a single day, a record that no other public or private shipyard has ever equaled. In 1944, Portsmouth held the record for constructing the greatest number of submarines in one year, turning out 31.

After World War II, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard became the Navy's center for submarine design and development. The Shipyard built the research submarine, the U.S.S. *Albacore*, with its revolutionary 'tear-drop' shaped hull, which set the standard for all subsequent submarine designs world-wide. Today the U.S.S. *Albacore* rests at a site close to the

Shipyard in Portsmouth, NH, as an historical and educational exhibit open to the public.

Another in a long line of "firsts" for the Shipyard occurred in 1968 when Portsmouth constructed the first full size very deep diving non-combatant submarine built in a naval shipyard. The Portsmouth Shipyard also launched the last submarine built in a public shipyard, the nuclear powered U.S.S. *Sand Lance*, in 1969.

As a tribute to its historical significance and its place in our heritage, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today the civilian work force at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard stands at 3601, and it takes pride in its continuing role as the Navy's leading shipyard for submarine overhaul and repair. The Shipyard encompasses nearly 300 acres and over 300 buildings, has three dry docks, and capacity to berth six submarines.

As we embark on a new century and millennium, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has positioned itself to meet the demands of today's competitive business environment and offer its customer, the United States taxpayer, the best product for the best price. Responding to the challenges of the marketplace, the Shipyard is forging joint ventures with the private sector—leasing out unutilized or underutilized facilities and equipment—and partnering with Electric Boat. Today Portsmouth Naval Shipyard workers and Electric Boat employees work side by side in the best interests of the Nation.

For two hundred years the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has served in the defense of our country, the Cradle of American Shipbuilding set in New England's Cradle of Democracy. Ever adapting to the changes that have taken our Nation from sails to atoms, the Shipyard continues to play a critical role in strengthening and maintaining our national security.

Mr. Speaker, this historic institution, a hallmark of our country's mighty naval strength, deserves the recognition of all Americans as it marks the occasion of its two hundredth birthday. I ask you to join me in thanking generations of Shipyard workers for their dedication and service to protecting our Nation's security interests at home and on the seas.

CONDEMNING LTTE TERRORISM

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as Co-chair of the Sri Lanka Caucus, I am increasingly concerned about the situation in that South Asian nation.

The democratic government of Sri Lanka has been under attack for more than 25 years, the subject of an especially vicious campaign by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The LTTE purports to represent the interests of the minority Tamils and seeks an independent homeland in the north of the country. The Tigers have appropriately been identified by the State Department as a terrorist organization.

The LTTE's tactic of indiscriminate suicide terrorist bombings have succeeded mostly in killing and maiming dozens of innocent civilians at a time, occasionally succeeding in taking out their target.

Yesterday, such an attack, attributed to the Tamil Tigers, killed the Minister for Industrial Development, C.V. Gooneratne, and at least 20 other people. At least 60 people were injured, including Mr. Gooneratne's wife, who was critically hurt. I strongly condemn this terrorist act; I express my condolences to all who suffered losses.

And regrettably this was only the most recent such attack. Last year President Kumaratunga was wounded in a suicide bomber terrorist attack at a campaign rally; that bombing and one at another rally left 22 people dead and more than 100 wounded.

In a statement yesterday, the State Department stated, "The LTTE's legacy of bombing, assassinations, massacres and torture has alienated the people of Sri Lanka and the international community, and has done nothing to promote the legitimate needs and aspirations of the Sri Lankan Tamils. The LTTE must abandon these methods if it hopes to play a constructive role in ending the conflict." I am pleased by the strength of this condemnation, and I am in full agreement with it.

I hope that my colleagues will join me and Congressman PALLONE, my fellow Sri Lanka Caucus co-chair, and other Members of the Caucus in condemning LTTE terrorism and supporting the people of Sri Lanka in their effort to combat terrorism and maintain a united democratic nation.

TRIBUTE TO AN EDUCATOR: IN
THANKS TO DAVID GROSS OF
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a friend of education and a dedicated public servant to the people of San Diego: Mr. David Gross, the budget supervisor to San Diego City Schools, who has retired from the schools after 23 years of service this past April.

As budget supervisor, David exercised particular interest and expertise in ensuring that children with disabilities had the educational resources they needed to succeed in school. He had responsibility for special education, gifted and talented programs, the Health Services Billing System and major categorical programs. With this responsibility, he worked closely with teachers, administrators and families to develop budget plans that met students' needs.

In fact, David was a statewide leader in this important field. He was a member of the State Special Education Fiscal Task Force and the Department of Education's Financial Reporting Oversight Committee. He assisted in the development of the California Association of School Business Officials' Training Manual, and piloted the system established by the State of California for school districts to bill MediCal and private insurance companies for health services provided in school.

David served on several other state and local leadership boards important to the improvement of special education. These included service on the Special Education Task Force (1986–88), the Local Education Area Health and Social Services Advisory Committee (1994–98), Advisory Committee on

Special Education (1996–99), and the AB 602 Special Disabilities Working Group.

This important work is no less important to excellent education than is the day-to-day dedication of parents, teachers and other administrators; for if the school system lacked the administration of resources to do its job, school literally could not open. Even so, David took this critical financial stewardship task to a higher level by continually taking great care to ensure that his work in school system budgets was related to the real, day-to-day educational needs of students, and professional needs of teachers and administrators. For many years, he served hour upon hour as a volunteer tutor in a local San Diego area elementary school.

Let the permanent RECORD of the Congress of the United States show that Mr. David Gross is a friend of education and a friend to America, and a dedicated and gifted public servant whose hard work and great talent will be honored and missed by his friends and colleagues.

HELSINKI FINAL ACT 25TH
ANNIVERSARY RESOLUTION

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, an international accord whose signing represents a milestone in European history. As Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission, I have been privileged to be associated with the Helsinki process and its seminal role in advancing human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe. I am pleased to be joined by my fellow Helsinki Commissioners Representatives HOYER, WOLF, CARDIN, SALMON, SLAUGHTER, GREENWOOD, FORBES and PITTS as original co-sponsors. A companion resolution is being introduced today in the Senate by Helsinki Commission CoChair Sen. BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL.

The Helsinki Final Act and the process it spawned has been instrumental in consigning the Communist Soviet Empire—responsible for untold violations of human rights—into the dustbin of history. With its language on human rights, the Helsinki Final Act, for the first time in the history of international agreements, granted human rights the status of a fundamental principle in regulating international relations. The Final Act's emphasis on respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is rooted in the recognition that the declaration of such rights affirm the inherent dignity of men and women and are not privileges bestowed at the whim of the state.

Equally important, Mr. Speaker, the standards of Helsinki which served as a valuable lever in pressing human rights issues also provided encouragement and sustenance to courageous individuals who dared to challenge repressive communist regimes. Many of these brave men and women—members of the Helsinki Monitoring Groups in Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Georgia, Armenia, and similar groups in Poland and Czechoslovakia, Soviet Jewish emigration activists, members of re-

pressed Christian denominations and others—paid a high price in the loss of personal freedom and, in some instances, their lives, for their active support of principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

Western pressure through the Helsinki process—now advanced in the forum of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe—greatly contributed to the freeing of the peoples of the Captive Nations, thus bringing an end to the Cold War. The Helsinki Commission, on which I have served since 1983, played a significant role in promoting human rights and human contacts. The congressional initiatives such as hearings, resolutions, letters and face-to-face meetings with representatives of Helsinki signatories which violated human rights commitments, encouraged our own government to raise these issues consistently and persistently. The Commission's approach at various Helsinki meetings has always been to encourage a thorough and detailed review of compliance with Helsinki agreements. Specific cases and issues are cited, rather than engaging in broad, philosophical discussions about human rights. With the passage of time—and with the leadership of the United States—this more direct approach in pressing human rights concerns has become the norm. In fact, by 1991 the Helsinki signatory states accepted that human dimension commitments “are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the state concerned.”

With the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, the OSCE region has changed dramatically. In many States, we have witnessed dramatic transformation and a consolidation of the core OSCE values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. In others, there has been little if any progress, and in some, armed conflicts have resulted in hundreds of thousands having been killed and in the grotesque violation of human rights. The OSCE, which now includes 54 participating States, has changed to reflect the changed international environment, undertaking a variety of initiatives designed to prevent, manage, and resolve conflict and emphasizing respect for rule of law and the fight against organized crime and corruption, which constitute a threat to economic reform and prosperity. The Helsinki process is still dynamic and active, and the importance of a vigorous review in which countries are called to account for violations of their freely undertaken Helsinki commitments has not diminished.

This resolution calls on the President to issue a proclamation reaffirming the United States' commitment to full implementation of the Helsinki Final Act. All signatory states would be asked to clarify that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic principles as well as economic liberty, and the implementation of related commitments continue to be vital elements in promoting a new era of democracy, peace and unity in the OSCE region. In the twenty-five years since this historic process was initiated in Helsinki, there have been many successes. Mr. Speaker, the task is still far from complete, and we must continue to do our part in championing the values that Helsinki espouses.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACADEMY
WINS 1ST PLACE IN NATIONAL
COMPETITION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate Our Lady of Lourdes Academy for winning first place at the National Finals of the “We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution.”

The group was invited to Washington D.C. as the finalist representing all of Florida and went on to win the first place trophy. There were over 50 groups in the competition.

I want to congratulate Giannina Berrocal, Erika Bloch, Carolina Bolado, Gabriela Chamorro, Natalie Dela Maza, Elizabeth Herald, Stephanie Hew, Ana Manrara, Carmen Manrara, Jennifer McNally, Kellie Montoya, Alexandra Mora, Cn'stina Moreno, Carmen Ruiz-Castaneda, Jennifer Smith and Olga Urbietta for their hard work, and especially Ms. Rosalie Heffernon, their teacher, who helped give them direction in this important endeavor.

Congratulations to these Lourdes students for taking such an active interest in the history of our nation, and I am sure that this bright group of high school students will be the voices echoing in the national debate of the years to come.

HATE CRIMES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, sitting on a bench, riding on a bus, or even walking down the street, a hate crime can occur anytime or any place. Hate crimes are acts of pure unadulterated evil, wronging someone because they are different. People should not and cannot live in fear because of their race, color, religion or sexual orientation; it is time that we take the strongest course of action to prevent these crimes.

Over the past decade the number of hate crimes has risen rapidly, consummating with 1999's “summer of hate.” If taking anything positive from this infamous period is possible it is, that we have not done enough to prevent such crimes. Committing a hate crime is the most serious of offenses. It is our duty to make the punishment severe enough to deter even the most prejudicial person from considering a crime of this size. We in Congress have the ability and the opportunity to prevent the possible consequences of bias from occurring.

Today, as we commemorate the second anniversary of James Byrd's tragic death, we must pledge upon ourselves to do everything in our power to reduce the number of hate crimes. No one should ever fall victim to a hate crime, or any other crime for that matter, and we must renew and maintain our focus of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (H.R. 1082), to ensure that crimes cease.

THE WISEWOMAN EXPANSION ACT
OF 2000

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the "WISEWOMAN (Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for Women Across the Nation) Expansion Act of 2000" with my colleague, Congressman JAMES LEACH, the Co-Chair of the Congressional Prevention Coalition.

This legislation would allow the highly successful WISEWOMAN demonstration project, currently operating in four states, to expand to other states that qualify. The "WISEWOMAN Expansion Act" would authorize the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to make competitive grants to states to carry out further preventive health services, in addition to the breast and cervical cancer screenings that the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Programs (NBCCEDP) currently provide. Examples of these additional vital services include screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, and osteoporosis; health education and counseling; lifestyle interventions to change behavioral risk factors such as smoking, lack of exercise, poor nutrition, and sedentary lifestyle; and appropriate referrals for medical treatment and follow-up services.

The need for this program is clear. Each year, nearly half a million women lose their lives as a result of heart disease and stroke. Many of us associate cardiovascular disease with men, but the American Heart Association estimates that nearly one in two women will die of heart disease or stroke. In fact, cardiovascular diseases kills nearly 50,000 more women each year than men. Sadly, many of these deaths could have been prevented. Had these women known they were at risk for cardiovascular disease, they could have taken preventive measures to lower their risk factors and perhaps prevent heart disease and stroke. Osteoporosis, affecting half of all women over the age of 50, is also a preventable disease. Fortunately, some of the preventive measures women can take to reduce their risk for cardiovascular diseases, such as eating more nutritious foods and exercising, can also reduce their risk for osteoporosis.

The bill would also add flexibility to the program language that would allow screenings and other preventive measures for diseases in addition to cardiovascular diseases, such as osteoporosis, as more preventive technology becomes available. It would allow flexibility for the WISEWOMAN program to grow and adapt with the needs of individual states and would ensure full collaboration of the WISEWOMAN program with the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP).

States would be eligible for this program only if they already participate in the NBCCEDP and agree to operate their WISEWOMAN program in strong collaboration with the NBCCEDP. The bill would authorize funding to carry out this program at a level of \$20 million for fiscal year 2001, \$25 million for fiscal year 2002, for \$30 million for fiscal year 2003, and "such sums" as necessary for each subsequent year.

Early prevention of cardiovascular disease stroke and osteoporosis would result in a sub-

stantial cost-savings for our health care system, but more importantly, it would improve the quality of life for our mothers, our sisters, our daughters and our friends. If we can reach women who are at high risk early in their lives, assist them in altering their behavior to live healthier lifestyles, we could prevent countless diseases and injuries and ultimately, we would save lives. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL JUNE
SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I have named South Side High School in Rockville Centre as the Fourth Congressional District School of the Month for June 2000. Mr. Robin Calitri is the Principal, with Mrs. Carol Burris to assume that post on July 1. Dr. William H. Johnson is the Rockville Centre School District Superintendent of Schools.

South Side High School students have it all—a well-rounded education, an ability to excel in academics and in sports, and what they give of themselves to the school and the community.

High academic standards and results, coupled with winning extra-curricular activities lead to an award-winning high school. A description of the school reads, "The staff at South Side understands that excellence must be inclusive; thus the pursuit of equity is a priority among its educational goals."

One of the top-performing schools in the country—with awards too numerous to mention—South Side was named a Blue Ribbon School in May 1998. South Side is an All Regents High School, and students excel academically, as seen in the fact 19 percent of the school's graduates earned Regents diplomas with honors. Furthermore, South Side offers its honors students the opportunity of International Baccalaureates, allowing college credit as well as admission to overseas and national universities. South Side is one of four schools in New York state to offer the program.

South Side's students are incredibly energized. They participate in the Congressional Arts Competition year after year, and have an active Model Congress and Student Government Association.

One of South Side's numerous clubs is the Inter-generational Committee. Students spend time with Long Island seniors, volunteer at senior centers and help them with grocery shopping and other errands in an effort to promote and foster understanding between seniors and high school students.

I am proud to name South Side High School in Rockville Centre School of the Month for June in the Fourth Congressional District of New York.

HONORING THE GREENSBORO DAY
SCHOOL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL
SOCCER CHAMPIONS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, with the 2000 Major League Soccer season in full swing, I would like to recognize a school from the Sixth District of North Carolina that captured a state soccer championship recently. Greensboro Day School has been crowned the 2000 North Carolina girls' high school soccer champions among our state's independent schools.

Greensboro Day School captured the girls' soccer 3-A NCISAA state title. In their sixth championship in the past six years, the Bengals claimed the title with a decisive 5-0 victory over Charlotte Christian High School. Greensboro Day school also claimed the PACIS conference championship with a 7-0-1 record in conference.

We congratulate Carley Allen, Elizabeth Lancaster, Mary Dickinson, Emily Crowe, Suzanne Cole, Nancy Calhoun, Shannon Burbine, Jenny Gilrain, Jen Pool, Blair DeGraw, Kirsten Paul, Sarah Cantrell, Dana Murphy, Clarence Mills, Merrill McCarty, Rachel Wolff, Michelle Kuzma, Ashley Bergin, Jessica McComb, Rebecca Barger, Meredith McAdams, and Angela Berry. They were led by Head Coach Michael Burroughs and his assistants Mike Johnston, Lynn Pantousco, and Patra Glavin.

The Sixth District of North Carolina is proud of this team from Guilford County for their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to the girls from Greensboro Day School for a job well done.

HONORING FAYETTE COUNTY
SCHOLARS

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize three young scholars from Fayette County High School in Fayetteville, Georgia: Ms. Crystal Bradley, Ms. Kim Dempsey, and Ms. Lauren Stoll.

Their project, a five minute news story for the Aeronautics and Space Science Journalism competition sponsored by the NASA Student Involvement Program, focused on the F-22 Raptor Fighter, and the debate surrounding its funding. The report explained how the F-22 will be the backbone of American air dominance well into the 21st century. I was honored to play a very limited role in their project by participating in an interview.

Their entry was selected a national winner. They were flown to Washington, DC for the National Symposium where they shared their project with the nation. I am pleased to acknowledge such excellence among our young people, and to recognize the outstanding leadership provided to them by Warren Bernard of Fayette County High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, on June 6th and part of June 7, 2000, due to a death in my family, I missed the following votes:

Had I been present on June 6th, on Rollcall votes 234, 235, 236, and 237, I would have voted "aye" on all four votes.

Had I been present on June 7th, on Rollcall votes 238, 239, and 240, I would have voted "aye" on all three votes.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO DOCTOR DENNIS ALAN VIDMAR ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding member of our armed forces. Tomorrow, Friday, June 9, 2000, Dr. Dennis Alan Vidmar will conclude his illustrious twenty-eight year career of service in the United States Navy.

Mr. Speaker, Dennis Vidmar was born in Cleveland, Ohio in August of 1950. He attended Case Western Reserve University and received his Bachelor of Science and MD degrees from the Ohio State University. In 1972, Dr. Vidmar began his military service as a First Division Officer aboard the U.S.S. *Detroit*. For the next twenty-eight years, Dr. Vidmar would devote his energy and talents to the field of medicine and to the service of his nation.

Currently, Dr. Vidmar serves as a Captain in the United States Navy Medical Corps in the Dermatology Department at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. In addition, Dr. Vidmar is a Professor of Military Medicine and Dermatology in the Department of Military and Emergency Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Dennis Vidmar has truly been an asset to the profession of medicine and to the United States Navy. His excellent care and unselfish dedication in directing the Dermatology Department have proven invaluable in the treatment of his patients. Dr. Vidmar has been published more than thirty times in various military and medical journals. Clearly, Dr. Vidmar's work has been outstanding and his efforts admirable. To honor his service, he has been awarded the Navy Achievement Medal and the Navy Commendation Medal.

Mr. Speaker, it is often said that success of America is due in part to the dedicated efforts of her sons and daughters. Dr. Dennis Vidmar has spent a large part of his life furthering the profession of medicine and honorably serving his nation in the United States Navy. While his work will be sorely missed, we wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors. At this

time, I would urge my colleagues of the 106th Congress to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Dr. Dennis Vidmar—an outstanding doctor, a dedicated Naval officer, and a true American hero.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY PETRO

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary Petro as she is honored by the Jefferson Democratic Club of Flushing for her many years of dedicated service as a District Leader.

The Jefferson Club is one of the oldest Democratic clubs in Queens County, New York. Mary Petro served valiantly and with great distinction as a District Leader from 1976 until she stepped down last year. In this capacity, Mary played an instrumental role in local New York City politics for nearly a quarter of a century, through devoted service to her community, to the Borough of Queens, to the Jefferson Club and to the Queens County Democratic Organization. Mary's service to her community and her involvement in civic affairs are legendary in the Borough of Queens.

In 1968, Mary moved to Flushing, and immediately became an active member of the community. Mary has volunteered her time and her energies to countless community organizations and charitable endeavors, pre-eminently among them the Police Athletic League. For her work as the chief PAL fundraiser for the 109th Precinct, and as an officer of the 109th Precinct's Community Council, Mary was named a "Civilian Patrolman of the Month."

Despite her tireless community service, Mary Petro has been a faithful employee of Con Edison for more than four decades, and a caring and devoted wife to her husband, Jimmy, for more than 30 years.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of knowing Mary Petro for a quarter of a century. I have been constantly amazed by her boundless energy, and her innumerable good works done on behalf of her community and her party.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in extending our thanks and appreciation to Mary Petro as she is honored by the Jefferson Democratic Club of Flushing for her many years of service to the people of Queens County.

REPRESENTATIVE LEE: POLITICIAN WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. It aptly describes my good friend and colleague, Representative BARBARA LEE, as someone who makes a difference because she thinks globally and acts locally. Her

compassion for those who are less fortunate is matched by her legislative skill. We are most fortunate to have her as part of the Bay Area delegation.

[From the Oakland Tribune]

REP. LEE: POLITICIAN WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE

(By Paul Cobb)

Congresswoman Barbara Lee is one woman who does make a difference because she acts and thinks globally and locally simultaneously.

During her young career in the United States Congress as a member of the powerful Banking and International Relations committees, she has often stood alone with her "votes of conscience" on Kosovo, Cuba, Colombia and Banking legislation.

CONNECT THE DOTS

She has often disagreed with President Clinton, her own party and members of the Republican Party. Yet, she has won their respect by making them realize they need her because she knows how to meld pressing social and moral issues with practical, vital, economic and security interests.

Schooled by the likes of Ron Dellums, former Oakland mayor Lionel J. Wilson, Willie Brown, John George, Gus Newport, Maudelle Shirek, Hazaiah Williams and Bishop Will Herzfeld, Congresswoman Lee knows how to "connect the dots."

She matches money to needs.

Knowing that money, economic and financial interests are the mother's milk of politics, Lee has managed to stand alone in the fiery furnace of opposition to votes on the White House's agenda and still bring home the bread and bacon to her district. Oakland's port, schools, housing community development and health programs, such as AIDS funding have increased during her tenure.

Even though she doesn't sound her own trumpet or spend excessive time raising funds for her own campaign coffers, she's not about to allow the vital concerns of her constituents to be drowned out by the noisy symbolism of political rhetoric.

Last week the Leach/Lee World Bank AIDS Marshall Plan Trust Fund Act (H.R. 3519) passed the House by a unanimous voice vote.

Lee has surprised and floored her fellow congresspersons and watchers with the passage of H.R. 3519 because she put together a bi-partisan effort around an explosive and contentious issue. And, what is more, she astounded legislative leaders on both sides of the aisle by expanding the understanding of the global AIDS crisis. By skillfully demonstrating that the AIDS scourge threatens our national security and financial institutions, she connected needs to resources.

Lee garnered the support of Republican committee chair James Leach and thanked and acknowledged the leadership of former Congressman Dellums, now serving as chair of the President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) and a leader of the Constituency of Africa, for being "my mentor and inspiration."

SECURITY INTERESTS

Lee utilized her membership on the Domestic and International Monetary Policy Subcommittee to talk with the President, Secretary of Treasury, United Nations officials, World Bank, International Monetary Fund and other financial institutions to develop her plan to commit the U.S. to \$500 million in seed money. The funds would then be leveraged 9:1 from funds donated by other G-7 nations and the private sector.

"If the moral and health arguments don't work, then the economic and security interests will," said Lee as she pointed to photos

taken while she was a member of the California Assembly and Senate where she managed to get more than 60 legislative bills signed by then-Gov. Pete Wilson.

With the support of Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, Lee says she will monitor the progress of her bill in the U.S. Senate.

Lee confidently pointed to the portion of Oakland seen from her 10th floor office in the Dellums Federal Building and said, "I know that the legislative process from bill to law and then to funding is dynamic. But I will be vigilant. No stone will go unturned because this disease knows no boundaries. The whole world is at risk to this AIDS pandemic of biblical proportion."

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass. introduced S2033 as a companion bill and its language has been included in the Helms/Biden Foreign Affairs Technical Assistance Act. Lee's proposed trust fund, housed at the World Bank, would use its leveraging capacity to increase the resources for the fund. Lee envisions esteemed world leaders such as Nelson Mandela and Ron Dellums as part of the fund's governance structure to assure that the monies go to needy regions.

GIANTS' SHOULDERS

How did a newly elected congresswoman who represents the most left-of-center constituency in the country manage to get arch-conservative Republican Sen. Jesse Helms to support the intent of her legislation while simultaneously coordinating grassroots organizations and AIDS service organizations?

"With a lot of hard work," Lee said. "I can stand up to the legislative leaders in both parties because I stand on the shoulders of giants who preceded me."

With an earnestness and conviction she pointed to the photos depicting some of the causes, neighborhoods and political leaders she's worked for or with and said "every time I walk past the Lionel Wilson Building, Elihu Harris Building, Judge Don McCull statue and into the Dellums Federal building, I'm humbled by the awesome responsibility. And, because I have been blessed to have been connected to all those giants, I won't lose my focus."

Lee's office is encouraging the public to join the African American Walking Tour of Downtown Oakland Sunday, July 16, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. She praised the African American Museum and Library (AAMLO), the Oakland Heritage Alliance (OHA), the Oakland Tours Program, and the Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey for collaborating on the tours.

"I want all children and families, especially African Americans, to tour these places because it reminds me of my childhood in El Paso, Texas when I first started seeking answers to the questions of who I was and where I came from," said Lee.

She said she will invite her congressional colleagues, who will be in Oakland August 12 seeking solutions to issues of housing affordability, redlining, neighborhood reinvestment and undercapitalization, to also participate in the walking tours as well as Oakland's Chabot Science Center. Lee, a Mills College and University of California, Berkeley graduate, is also helping to find funding to make the Chabot Center a magnet for math, science and astronomy for children. "I want the first astronauts to Mars to come from my district," she says.

Eleven million of the world's 14 million AIDS deaths are in Africa.

"Africa is the epicenter of this epidemic. We need to declare a global state-of-emergency, like we pioneered in Alameda County, and provide the money to fund strategies to address the AIDS deaths," Lee said.

"This disease has plagued us like the Bubonic Plague once did and it knows no

boundaries. It is not just found in Africa. It is moving swiftly in India, Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean as well," Lee said.

And here in Alameda County, she warns of a corresponding calamity facing African Americans because she says the statistical profile of AIDS incidence shows a reversal of infection rates that once were 70 to 30 percent white to non-white that are now the exact opposite.

IN HONOR OF THE 40 JOURNALISTS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES PURSUING THE NEWS IN 1999

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, the commemoration of World Press Freedom Day was held in May, when the names of journalists who have died covering the news were added to The Freedom Forum Journalists Memorial located in Arlington, Virginia. There were 40 people who died in 1999 in their efforts to bring us the news from around the world.

We owe a debt of gratitude to these journalists who risked their lives to bring us the news about many dangerous places in the world, from Sierra Leone to Chechnya to Bosnia to Kosovo. Were it not for their courage and bravery, perhaps the world would never have known about the horrors and the atrocities that have been and are now taking place there.

The deadliest country from which to report last year was the nation of Sierra Leone, as 10 journalists died there in 1999—the most in any one country. Sierra Leone has been a battlefield that has taken the lives of many of the world's finest journalists, including the most recent casualties that are still fresh in many of our minds—Reuters correspondent Kurt Schork and Associated Press cameraman Miguel Gil Moreno de Mora, who, along with four Sierra Leone soldiers, were shot to death there just two weeks ago in a rebel ambush.

Mr. Speaker, I am sharing with our colleagues a news release from the Newseum and also a list of the names of the 40 journalists who died in 1999.

THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO JOURNALISTS WHO DIED COVERING THE NEWS SINCE 1812 TO BE ADDED TO JOURNALISTS MEMORIAL

CEREMONY TO TAKE PLACE ON WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY, MAY 3, AT 11 A.M.

ARLINGTON, VA.—The names of 332 journalists who died covering the news since 1812, including 40 journalists killed in 1999, will be added May 3 to The Freedom Forum Journalists Memorial. The memorial, located in Freedom Park, now pays tribute to 1,369 reporters, editors, photographers and broadcasters killed as a result of covering the news. May 3 also marks World Press Freedom Day.

Thomas Johnson, chairman and chief executive officer of the CNN News, will speak at the 11 a.m. ceremony in Freedom Park, following readings by journalists of names on the memorial. The ceremony will be attended by friends, family members and colleagues of journalists honored on the memorial, as well as representatives of the news organizations for which the slain journalists worked.

Two hundred and ninety-two of the names to be added are of journalists who died be-

tween 1812 and the end of 1998. These deaths were discovered or verified during ongoing research conducted by The Freedom Forum since the memorial was originally dedicated in May 1996. The remaining 40 names are those journalists killed last year.

"Sadly, we have learned that by this time next year, it is likely that another 30 to 40 journalists will have died pursuing the truth," said Charles L. Overby, chairman and chief executive officer of The Freedom Forum. "We must never forget them, and we hope this memorial will be a part of their legacy."

Myles Tierney of Associated Press Television News is one of the names being added to the memorial. The 34-year-old American producer was covering Sierra Leone's civil war when a rebel fighter opened fire with a semiautomatic rifle on the car Tierney was traveling in, killing him instantly.

Sierra Leone was the deadliest country for journalists in 1999, with ten deaths occurring there. Latin America, particularly Colombia, remains a dangerous place for those covering stories about politics, drug trafficking and organized crime.

Popular political satirist Jaime Garzon was shot five times in the head and chest while driving to his Bogota radio station. He had been threatened repeatedly by Carlos Castano, leader of the United Self Defense Forces of Colombia, a right-wing paramilitary organization fighting against leftist guerrillas. Garzon had scheduled a meeting with Castano Aug. 14, the day after he was killed.

"In an age of information overload, it is easy to forget that there are people still willing to die for journalism," said Peter S. Prichard, president of The Free Forum and Newseum. "The memorial reminds us what sacrifices journalists are willing to make for a free press."

Journalists' names are added each year to the glass panels of the monument, which stands at the apex of Freedom Park, adjacent to the Newseum and The Freedom Forum World Center in Arlington, VA.

Research by Freedom Forum staff and the Committee to Protect Journalists documents incidents where journalists were killed or died while covering the news. Some were killed reporting on wars, natural disasters or violent crimes, some were injured or fell ill while on assignment, and some were murdered to silence their reporting. Journalists who died as a result of accidents unrelated to an assignment are not listed, nor are those who instigated the violence that caused their deaths. An independent panel of journalists and journalism historians reviews difficult cases.

A list of the names of the 40 journalists who died in 1999 is attached. To view a database listing the 1,369 memorialized journalists, their affiliations and the circumstances of their death, visit the Newseum online at www.freedomforum.org/newseumnews/memorial.asp or www.newseum.org/newseum/aboutthenewseum/freedompark.htm#memorial.

The Newseum, the only interactive museum of news, takes visitors behind the scenes to see and experience how and why news is made. The 72,000-square-foot Newseum is funded by The Freedom Forum, a nonpartisan, international foundation dedicated to free press, free speech and free spirit for all people. The Newseum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days. Freedom Park is open daily from dawn to dusk. Admission is free.

1999

Ricardo Gangeme—El Informador Chubutense (Argentina) in Argentina.

Jaime Garzon—Radionet (Colombia) in Colombia.

Pablo Emilio Medina Motta—TV Garzon (Colombia) in Colombia.

Guzman Quintero Torres—El Pilon (Colombia) in Colombia.

Hernando Rangel Moreno—Freelance, in Colombia.

Luis Alberto Rincon Solano—Freelance, in Colombia.

Alberto Sanchez Tovar—Producciones Colombia (Colombia) in Colombia.

Roberto Julio Torres—Emisora Fuentes de Cartagena (Colombia) in Colombia.

Agus Muliawan—Asia Press International (Japan) in Indonesia.

Supriadi—Medan Pos (Indonesia) in Indonesia.

Sander Thoenes—Financial Times (United Kingdom) in Indonesia.

Ilan Roeh—Israel Radio (Israel) in Lebanon.

Samuel Boyi—The Scope (Nigeria) in Nigeria.

Fidelis Ikwuebe—Freelance, in Nigeria.

Sam Nimfa-Jan—Details (Nigeria) in Nigeria.

Oleg Chervonyuk—Metropress Agency (Russia) in Russia.

Supian Ependiyev—Groznsky Rabochiy (Russia) in Russia.

Shamil Gigayev—Nokh Cho TV (Russia) in Russia.

Ramzan Mezhidov—TV Tsent (Russia) in Russia.

Valentina Neverova—Pravo (Russia) in Russia.

Lyubov Sloboda—Vesti (Russia) in Russia.

Alpha Amadu Bah Bah—Independent Observer (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Jenner Cole—SKY-FM (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Abdulai Jumah Jalloh—African Champion (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Mabay Kamara—Freelance, in Sierra Leone.

Mohammed Kamara—SKY-FM (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Paul Mansaray—Standard Times (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

James Ogogo—Concord Times (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Conrad Roy—Expo Times (Sierra Leone) in Sierra Leone.

Myles Tierney—Associated Press Television News (USA) in Sierra Leone.

Munir Turay—Freelance, in Sierra Leone.

Anura Priyantha Cooray—Independent Television Network (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Rohana Kumara—Satana (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Vasthian Anthony Mariyadas—Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Indika Pathinivasan—Maharaja Television Network (Sri Lanka) in Sri Lanka.

Michelle Lima—KSAT-TV (USA) in Texas.

Ahmet Taner Kislali—Cumhuriyet (Turkey) in Turkey.

Slavko Curuvija—Dnevni Telegraf (Yugoslavia) in Yugoslavia.

Gabriel Gruener—Stern (Germany) in Yugoslavia.

Volker Kraemer—Stern (Germany) in Yugoslavia.

who passed away Thursday, June 1, 2000. Viola Adams, known affectionately by all who knew her as Vi, was a woman of grace and elegance.

She was also a woman of intelligence and character. After graduating from high school in 1924 at the age of 16, she continued her education at The University of Texas at Austin. She graduated in 1929 with a double major in English and psychology and went on to teach high school.

Vi met Gilbert T. Adams during her time in Austin, and in 1932 they were married during the Great Depression on "a borrowed fifty dollars and a dime store ring." Vi and Gilbert subsequently moved to Gilbert's hometown of Beaumont, and she became a vital part of the civic life of her new community.

Mrs. Adams championed the issue of safety and received national recognition for her effort to see that every home in the country had first aid training. President Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized the value of Mrs. Adams' work and mandated that first aid be taught in public schools. An active Democrat, and a proud supporter of her husband's professional and political endeavors, Gilbert and Vi Adams were recognized by the Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson administrations for their contributions to our democratic process.

A woman strongly devoted to her family, Mrs. Adams had four children: Gilbert Timbrell Adams, Jr., John D'Estang Adams, Elizabeth Vi Adams, and Patricia Ann Adams. She also was graced during her lifetime with eight grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Viola Adams was a remarkable woman who was committed to her community, her country, and above all, her family. She was generous in spirit and was of deep religious conviction. She was of the utmost character, and her attributes of selflessness and commitment to others are rare gifts that this nation was lucky to have. With her passing, a great loss will be felt in the spirit and the heart of Beaumont.

COMMENDING THE MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP FOR ADDRESSING OVER FOUR DECADES OF INJUSTICE AND EXTENDING TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, along with Congressman ROTHMAN, commending the member countries of the United Nations' Western European and Others Group (WEOG) for addressing four decades of discrimination in the UN and admitting Israel as a temporary, conditional member to that regional bloc.

For those of my colleagues who are unfamiliar with this issue, this is an important milestone for Israel because it places them firmly on the road to becoming a fully participating member of the United Nations. In order to be a fully participating member of the United Nations, countries must serve in a regional group.

Members of regional groups select member states on a rotating basis to serve on important United Nations bodies such as the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. Because of anti-Israeli sentiment, Israel has been denied the opportunity to serve in the Asian States Group at the United Nations, even though it geographically belongs in that bloc.

Until such time as Israel can be an effective member of the Asian States Group, Israel has expressed a strong desire to serve on WEOG. WEOG consists of Western Europe, the United States, Canada, Turkey, New Zealand and Australia.

The struggle to gain Israel membership in WEOG has been a long and difficult one. And, until last week, one thought to be impossible by some. But, with Congressional support, dedicated individuals in the Clinton Administration, such as Vice President AL GORE and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Richard Holbrooke, were able to raise this issue with the highest levels of WEOG member governments and make it a clear priority. I thank them for all of their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Congressional support for Israel's acceptance into WEOG is very strong. Last October, I led a letter to Ambassador Richard Holbrooke signed by over 60 members, requesting that he make Israel's membership in WEOG a high priority. Additionally, legislation introduced by Congressman ROTHMAN calling for full equality at the United Nations for Israel has 63 cosponsors. I am proud to be an original sponsor of this legislation.

So Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate, for we have achieved something truly notable. However, the struggle for Israeli acceptance continues.

Israel's membership in WEOG is only temporary and must be reevaluated in four years. Additionally, Israel cannot participate as a WEOG member in meetings in Geneva, or on the Human Rights Committee at the United Nations. Although I have a great deal of respect for the human rights efforts of the U.N., they have been particularly unkind to Israel and it is a bitter pill to swallow to have them excluded from this committee.

This legislation, "Commending the member states of the United Nations Western European and Others Group for addressing over four decades of injustice and extending temporary membership to the state of Israel," also mentions the new hurdles that must be overcome to finally gain Israel status as a full member of the United Nations. It urges the WEOG member countries to admit Israel as permanent member, without conditions, until such time as she can play an effective part as a member of the Asian group.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask all of my colleagues to give strong consideration to co-sponsoring this legislation. It took four decades to get Israel this far; it must not take as long to reach the final goal of full membership for Israel.

I would again like to thank my friend and colleague, STEVEN ROTHMAN, for his help and leadership on this issue. I would also like to thank Vice President GORE, along with Ambassador Holbrooke, for working so hard and keeping the pressure on the WEOG member countries. A copy of the legislation follows.

Commending the member states of the United Nations Western European and Others

IN HONOR OF MRS. GILBERT T. ADAMS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today with great sadness I honor Viola Mae Joss Adams,

Group for addressing over four decades of injustice and extending temporary membership in that regional bloc to the state of Israel.

Whereas Israel has played an active role in the international community and within the United Nations;

Whereas in order to be a fully participating member of the United Nations countries must serve in a regional group;

Whereas members of regional groups select member states on a rotating basis to serve on important United Nations bodies such as the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council;

Whereas Israel has been denied an opportunity to serve in the Asian States Group at the United Nations, even though it geographically belongs in that block;

Whereas the Western European And Others Group (WEOG) at the United Nations consists of Western European nations, the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Turkey, and Australia and is the only group at the United Nations that is not geographically based;

Whereas Israel was offered membership in the WEOG regional bloc at the United Nations on Friday, May 26, 2000, by the chairman of WEOG at the time, Ambassador Peter van Walsum of the Netherlands;

Whereas that offer was officially accepted by Israeli officials on Sunday, May 28, 2000; and

Whereas Israel is a democracy and an ally and friend of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commends the Western European and Others Group (WEOG) members for extending temporary membership to Israel;

(2) congratulates Israel on its new-found role in the United Nations;

(3) reaffirms Israel's right to be a full participating member and equal partner in the United Nations; and

(4) urges the members of WEOG to extend full and permanent membership to Israel, without conditions, until such time as Israel can serve as an effective member of the Asian States Group.

INTRODUCTION OF MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG ACT OF 2000

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, when Medicare was created in 1965, seniors were more likely to undergo surgery than to use prescription drugs. Today, prescription drugs are often the preferred, and sometimes the only method of treatment for many diseases. In fact, 77 percent of all seniors take a prescription drug on a regular basis.

And yet, nearly 15 million Medicare beneficiaries don't have access to the lifesaving drugs you produce because Medicare doesn't cover them. Countless others are forced to spend an enormous portion of their modest monthly incomes on prescription drugs with 18 percent of seniors spending over \$100 a month on prescriptions.

Seniors want and need prescription drug coverage. Hence, the question before Con-

gress is not whether we should provide a Medicare drug benefit but how to do it?

There are some in Congress who think that the way to do this is to turn the problem over to the private insurance market, but the private insurance market is pulling out from under seniors in the Medigap and Medicare+Choice markets. Others believe that we should limit how much drug companies can charge. I disagree. I understand the investment required for R&D and I believe that price controls will ultimately limit access.

I've devised what I believe is a common-sense approach that incorporates a generous, defined benefit that's easy for seniors to understand with provisions that reduce administrative inefficiencies and increase competition. The result will be a more affordable drug benefit for both beneficiaries and the Federal Government.

The bill is simple. Available to all Medicare beneficiaries, the Federal government will pay half of an individual's drug costs up to \$5,000 a year (when fully phased in). There are no deductibles and a modest premium of approximately \$44 a year. For seniors who exceed \$5,000 in drug expenditures or \$2,500 in out-of-pocket costs—the Federal Government picks up the whole tab.

What about drug costs? By allowing multiple PBM's to participate, my bill will, for the first time, introduce open competition into Medicare and drive down prices. We know from the private marketplace that simply purchasing a large quantity of drugs does not drive down prices. Drug companies grant discounts when a PBM can show that it will increase its market share. By allowing multiple PBMs, my bill increases competition, lowers prices and provides greater consumer choice.

We also removed administration of the program from HCFA. The healthcare system has evolved rapidly, and regrettably HCFA has not kept pace. HCFA lacks the expertise to run a benefit that relies on private sector competition to control costs. Fortunately, there is another agency that has expertise interacting with private sector health plans, and has proven that it can administer benefits effectively and efficiently with a minimum of bureaucracy. It's the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) which runs the widely acclaimed Federal Employee Health Benefit (FEHB) program. Under OPM's leadership, I'm confident that an efficient and effective competitive benefit can be integrated successfully into the Medicare program.

Congress must enact a Medicare drug benefit this year. For our Nation's seniors, prescription drugs are not a luxury. During these times of historic prosperity and strength, there is absolutely no reason that we should force seniors to make between buying prescription drugs or groceries. In introduction today I urge all of my colleagues to give careful consideration to my bill. It provides a real answer for seniors without price controls and without threatening innovation.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER STEPHEN PATRICK (PAT) WISNESKE ON THE OCCASION OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF HIS ORDINATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a most remarkable individual—a dear friend, a counselor, a shepherd, a man of the people and a man of God. I pay personal and heartfelt tribute to Father Stephen Patrick Wisneske, the pastor of Holy Spirit Church of Menominee, MI, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination, his golden jubilee.

Father Pat came to Menominee 28 years ago. He came to town at a particularly difficult time for the local Catholic faithful, who were being reorganized from the five traditional congregations—including the old settlement alignments of the French church, the Irish church, the Polish church, and the German Church—to three new congregations, based on neighborhood and proximity. The restructuring made sense in terms of reducing the infrastructure that church members needed to support, but it presented real challenges in forging new congregational bonds and establishing new ministries. Father Pat became pastor of the newly structured Holy Spirit Church.

He brought years of service in other northern Michigan communities to his new task. Born in 1922, Father Pat was raised in a Catholic home, attended Catholic school for 12 years, served as an altar boy, and was interested in Church affairs even before he was called to his religious vocation. Father Pat was ordained on June 3, 1950 by Bishop Francis J. Hass at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Grand Rapids, and within the month he was assigned as assistant at Holy Trinity in Ironwood. In 1951 he became an assistant at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Escanaba, and in 1953 became an assistant at St. Mary and St. Joseph in Iron Mountain, where he also served as chaplain to veterans in the hospital there.

Like his religious predecessor Bishop Baraga, Father Pat spent time in several small parishes in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan—Dollar Bay, Loretto, Quinnesec, White Pine, and Bergland, before his posting to Menominee.

Perhaps because of his own Catholic schooling, Father Pat has always shown that his commitment to his parish—to all local families—lies outside the walls of his beautiful and more than 100-year-old Gothic church. He regularly visits Menominee Catholic Central School, meeting and greeting parents, teachers and children in this more informal setting.

Father Pat has become well-known for his homily—his brief moment of addressing the congregation during each Mass. A quick sense of humor has always served him well in helping to drive home the important lesson he wished to teach each week.

I have always admired Father Pat for his positive outlook and his concern for his congregation. But it was when tragedy struck my own family that the depth of his wisdom, love, and advice, to me, to my wife Laurie and my son Ken was truly revealed. He counseled, sheltered, and guided us through our darkest hours, and his homily to my son BJ captured

the essence of this vital young man for friend and stranger alike. For these kind acts in our greatest time of need, I and my family will always be grateful to Father Pat.

Mr. Speaker, moments of crisis often bring brief flashes of insight so brilliant that we are forever changed in our view of the world. In a moment of darkness, I was given an opportunity to truly understand the mission of a parish priest as an agent of divine compassion and strength. I and my family were held in Mighty Hands and bathed in a river of sublime love. Father Pat, a man of the people and a man of God, has spent 50 years shaping himself to be a funnel of that great Power. There can be no greater calling.

DEBATE ON DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I voted against the Defense Appropriations bill last night because of its pricetag that is unprecedented in peacetime and unjustified by the threat, and the misplaced priorities within the bill.

Representative DEFAZIO'S amendment was a step in a more rational direction. It would have reduced the next two years' purchases of F-22 fighter aircraft, as recommended by the General Accounting Office, and redirected the savings to readiness and quality of life accounts.

It was a modest amendment, and it did not cut money from the defense budget. It just spent it on higher-priority issues at a time when the F-22 continues to experience technical problems and we already have the world's most advanced fighter, the F-15.

The \$930 million saved would have been spent instead on items that were not funded at the level requested by the Department of Defense, or were included on the Pentagon's unfunded "wish list." Those items include additional funding for troops on food stamps, nuclear threat reduction, bonus payments to sailors on sea duty, facilities maintenance, spare parts, and recruiting.

I want to also speak to the larger issues of the bill. We made some gains this year on the issue of military retirees' health care. Most important is this bill's provision of \$94 million for a pharmacy benefit for all Medicare-eligible military retirees and eligible family members. This set an important precedent for us to eventually provide prescription drug coverage to all Medicare recipients. Those who have served in our military are a well-deserving group with which to start.

This bill continues various health care demonstration projects—including Medicare subvention and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan. Another important aspect of military retiree health care included in this bill is the Uniformed Services Family Health Plan. These are locally-run, community-based HMOs that provide military retirees another choice. I look forward to the findings of the independent oversight panel funded in this bill which will present recommendations to Congress on a permanent military health care program for the Medicare-eligible.

Unfortunately, there continue to be unmet needs. The Department of Defense Comptroller has just done a study that shows that the military health care system for active-duty and retirees up to age 65 as currently structured is underfunded over the next 6 years by \$9 billion.

In addition to taking care of its people, our military has an important role to play in taking care of the environment. Congress needs to make clear that cleaning up after itself is a cost of doing business for our military just as it is for any other polluter.

DOD is responsible for environmental clean-up at thousands of what are known as Formerly-Used Defense Sites. At many of these properties, owned by private parties and state, local, and tribal governments, the public may come into contact with residual contamination. The cost of completing this cleanup is estimated at over \$7 billion by the Army Corps of Engineers, yet funding in this bill is less than \$200 million.

Another danger to communities is unexploded ordnance, old bombs and shells that could kill or injure people who encounter them. The cost of clearing these bombs is estimated at \$15 billion by the Defense Science Board. The consistent underfunding of this challenge could begin to be addressed if it had its own line item in the defense budget. I call upon the Administration to create this line item in the request it is preparing now for submission to Congress for FY02 funding.

More than a decade after the Soviet Union collapsed, our investment in national defense has returned to cold-war levels. During the cold war, the United States spent an average of \$325 billion in current year dollars on the military. This year's budget resolution gave the Pentagon \$310 billion—95 percent of cold-war levels and 52 percent of discretionary spending.

And now Monday's Washington Post has a front-page story stating that, starting now, the Joint Chiefs of Staff plan to submit budget requests that call for additional spending of more than \$30 billion a year through most of this decade.

There is no reason to continue our reliance on a cold-war economy. Our massive investments in weapons and bases could be replaced with massive investments in education and health care and the other things that make for livable communities. While we are first in military expenditures among industrialized countries, we are 17th in low-birth-weight rates, 21st in eighth-grade math scores and 22nd in infant mortality.

The defense budget is large, certainly large enough to fund the programs that are needed for the people who serve and have served us and for the environment. Instead, it spends too much on duplicative weapons systems and questionable technologies at a time when we lead the world many times over in military might. We need to get our priorities right.

DEBATE ON THE FUTURE OF THE
F-22

HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, during the debate on the fiscal year 2001 Department of

Defense appropriations bill, there was a rather rancorous debate about the future of the F-22. I submit for the record a devastating critique of the F-22 written by retired Colonel Everest Riccioni as well as a letter he wrote correcting misstatements made during the House floor debate.

Colonel Riccioni is not just any critic of the F-22. His credentials are impeccable. He was one of three legendary "Fighter Mafia" mavericks who forced the Pentagon to produce the F-16 to improve U.S. air superiority. He served in the Air Force for 30 years, flew 55 different types of military aircraft, and worked in the defense industry for 17 years managing aircraft programs, including the B-2 bomber.

We should heed his warning that the F-22 will not work as advertised.

JUNE 8, 2000.

Representative RANDY CUNNINGHAM,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CUNNINGHAM: Your comments during yesterday's floor debate require response. The comment about the F-15 not keeping up with the F-22 does not establish the existence of supercruise, and reflects your lack of insight into supersonic cruise. Cruise means the ability to cover distance and it is not a speed. Proof of supercruise is established by a number, specifically the number of miles that can be covered while at a supersonic Mach like 1.6. This number is never forthcoming because few know the definition of supercruise or are unwilling to reveal it.

The fact that the F-16 flown by General Ryan could not keep up with the F-22 is again an irrelevant speed statement on the relative speed of the two aircraft. The requirements for the F-16 specifically stated that there was no requirement that it fly faster than Mach 1.6, a fact probably unknown to the general. Had the general been flying a 40 year old F104A-19, he could have flown formation with the F-22.

Pragmatic supersonic cruise is the ability to sustain significant supersonic speeds (like 1.6-1.8) for combat relevant distances. For perspective, the original design mission for the Advanced Tactical Fighter, cum F-22 was a 100 mile subsonic cruise-out to the Russian border, 400 NM supersonic penetration at 1.6 Mach, consumption of the combat fuel, a 400 nautical mile supersonic return to the border at Mach 1.6, with a 100 NM return to land with normal reserves.

A true measure of the super cruise potential of the F-22 is—the penetration supersonic distance that can be flown at 1.6 Mach out and back, with the same 100 nautical mile legs and the same fuel reserved for combat and landing reserves. The supersonic penetration distance is the validation of supercruise. This number has not been established. The supercruise potential of the F-22 remains unknown.

If that number is 50 NM it is a fruitless achievement that the F-104 can easily fulfill using its afterburner. A 100 NM penetration can also be accomplished by the F-104A-19. A 200 NM penetration is not a great achievement; 300 NM means the F-22 is a pragmatic supercruiser, 400 NM will remain a dream. The distance number validates whether the F-22 has it, nothing else.

Retention of the wrong definition will forever retain confusion.

Sincerely,

COL. EVEREST RICCIONI,
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.

THE F-22 PROGRAM—FACT VERSUS FICTION
(By Everest E. Riccioni, Col. USAF, Ret.)

THE DREAM

To provide the USAF Air Superiority for the period following 2005.

To Conduct—Offensive Counter Air Operation deep in Russia—Its Primary Mission (300 Nautical Mile (NM) Combat Mission—100 NM cruise to the point of penetration—200 NM supersonic ingress and egress plus combat and fuel reserves).

To provide a 750-800 Aircraft Fleet to replace the aging F-15 Fleet.

To be designed to a Unit Flyaway Cost Limit in 1986 dollars—\$35 Million.

To control cost by conforming to a Weight Limit—50,000 lbs (Cost and Weight comparable to the extant F-15—clearly the imagined F-22 would have been a bargain).

Dominant Characteristics: High Stealth; Effective Supersonic Cruise; Ultra-High Performance and Maneuverability; and Superior Avionics for Battle Awareness and Effectiveness.

Additional Aims: To Rejuvenate the Fleet (Reduce the average age); Design for Low Maintenance (3 man-hours per sortie); and Form a High-Low Mix with the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) fleet.

THE REALIZATION SUMMARY

Unrealized Dreams

The dreams for Stealth, Supercruise, Ultra-High Climb, Acceleration, and Maneuvering Performance have not been realized. The Outstanding Avionics will not be properly tested before purchase and possibly not even before combat.

High Cost, Low Numbers

The number of F-22s purchased will not provide a critical mass of fighters.

The "Dream" of 800 fighters for \$70 Billion fell to 648 for \$64.2B (after a 1992 Selected Acquisition Report), to 442 for \$64.2B (after the Bottom-Up Review of defense strategy), and to 339 for \$64.2B (after a Quadrennial Defense Review).² Study groups and the Congressional Budget Office seeking responsible funding are considering options of 175 and even 100 F-22s. This is a total program cost of more than \$200M per aircraft—one-third the cost of the B-1! This cost (predicted in 1976) is worse than obscene.³

Despite high funding levels—the future size of the Air Combat Command will soon be greatly reduced.

The low number of F-22s will not rejuvenate an aging F-15, F-16 fleet. (Algebraic averaging)

A mix of F-22s and JSFs cannot be a High-Low Mix. It will be an Ultra-High—High Mix. There is no low element. The complementary F-15 and F-16 do both the air superiority and air-to-surface missions. The F-22 mainly does air superiority missions. Both have deserted our US Army.

The few F-22s possessing quasi-F-15 performance will degrade the air superiority capability of the Air Combat Command, composed of 1600 fighters.

Our decision-makers have (again) opted for unilateral disarmament in the face of their perceived threats.⁴

VALIDATION *Stealth*

The F-22 is not a Stealthy Aircraft.

Stealth means the proper suppression of all its important "signatures"—Visual Signature, Radar Signature, Infrared Signature, Electromagnetic Emissions, and Sound.

Visually—The F-22, one of the world's largest, most identifiable fighters, cannot hide in daylight. Its role is in daylight. Stealth operations are night operations. Unfortunately stealth against radar invariably increases the size of a fighter making it more visible.

The radar signature is utterly inadequately reported. Only a single data number is provided to congressional committees and

the GAO—the average radar signature in the level forward direction within 20 degrees of the nose, presumably to enemy fighter radars. In the B-1B reporting fiasco, the 100/1 signature advantage over the B-52 became a real 1.8/1. One cannot design an aircraft to simultaneously hide from low and medium frequency ground radars and from high frequency airborne fighter radars. Properly, all the data should be portrayed and reported—for all azimuths, for all "latitudes," and for all radar frequencies. Single data points constitute lying by omission and gross incompleteness.

The temperature increases of supersonic cruising flights make the F-22s beacons in the sky to infrared sensors.

Fighters, with radar to search for and find the enemy autonomously, at long ranges, cannot hide their high powered electric emissions to modern, sophisticated, Russian equipment. The Russians excel at this art and export their equipment to many nations. Further, F-22 detection of enemies by radar is an inverse fourth power phenomenon, while detection of the F-22's radar is an inverse square phenomenon, giving the advantage to the enemy. In other words, the F-22's radar will be detected by an enemy plane before the F-22 detects the enemy.

It appears that designing air superiority aircraft primarily for radar stealth is an error.

Supersonic Cruise—"Supercruise"

The F-22 has not yet demonstrated effective supersonic cruise.

The USAF has never appreciated that speed without persistence is meaningless. Proof—Six USAF aircraft capable of Mach 2.2 never exceeded 1.4 Mach in combat over North Vietnam in 10 years of war, in hundreds of thousands of sorties. The F-15 has never demonstrated its performance guarantee of Mach 2.5 flight in a combat configuration on a realistic combat mission profile.

The USAF has the wrong definition of supercruise—(supersonic flight in turbojet thrust, i.e. without using an afterburner.) Cruise means covering distance efficiently. Fighters with wings properly sized for subsonic maneuver achieve efficient supersonic flight at altitudes of 60,000 feet requiring partial afterburning thrust. This may be unknown to the testers since the test program limits testing to below 50,000. The proper cruise condition may remain unknown. All supercruisers cruise at very high altitudes using some afterburning (i.e. ramjet) thrust—MiG-31, SR-71, as did the many designs that I have studied, generated, or supervised. (Detailed aerodynamic-thermodynamic analysis is available upon request.)

The GAO report that the F-22 has demonstrated supercruise is specious and misleading. The reports have merely stated that the F-22 has demonstrated 1.6 Mach flight speeds in pure turbojet (dry) thrust. No report of distance traveled or persistence at those speeds was made. Supersonic speeds in dry thrust bode well, but this capability is not sufficient to achieve supercruise. Proper data are global radius of action and global persistence plots as functions of speed and altitude, for rational missions.

These data must be then compared to those of the F-15 and the ancient F-104-19 to establish progress. For example—the 40 year old F-104A-19 has twice the supersonic radius of the 20 year old F-15C at 1.7 Mach, and out-accelerates it at Mach 2.2. Compare! In comparison lies the proof of progress.

The Fuel Fraction of the F-22 is insufficient for pragmatic supersonic cruise missions. Fuel Fraction, the weight of the fuel divided by the weight of the aircraft at take-off, impacts cruise-range, be it super- or subsonic. At today's state of the art, fuel frac-

tions of 29 percent and below yield sub-cruisers; 33 percent provides a quasi-supercruiser; and 35 percent and above provides useful missions. The F-22's fuel fraction is 29 percent, equal to those of the subcruising F-4s, F-15s and the Russian MiG29 Flanker. The Russian medium range supersonic interceptor, the MiG-31 Foxhound, has a fuel fraction of over 45 percent. Supersonic cruise fighters require higher fuel fractions since they must have excessive wing for supersonic cruise. Breguet's range equation establishes the dependence of aircraft radius on speed, lift-to-drag ratio, specific fuel consumption and the part of the total fuel fraction available for cruise.

The "dream" design mission was continually redefined and degraded to—a) conform to physical reality, and—b) to reduce the uncontrolled cost and weight. (Flexible (rubber) Requirements.)

Ultra-High Performance

The F-22 does not provide a Great Leap Forward in performance relative to the F-15C or MiG-29. At 65,000 lbs, with 18,500-18,750 lbs of fuel, with two nominal 35,000 lb thrust engines—it has the thrust to weight ratio of the F-15C, the fuel fraction of the F-15C, and a wing loading that is only slightly inferior to that of the F-15C, so it will accelerate, climb, and maneuver much like the F-15C for reasons of basic physics.

There are two differences from the F-15—thrust vectoring and supersonic speeds in dry thrust. Thrust vectoring allows the F-22 to maneuver controllably at sub-stall speeds, which other aircraft cannot. This, in the helicopter speed domain, is in seeming contradiction to an aircraft designed for supersonic engagement with slashing attacks using its beyond visual range missiles.

The flight test program to validate maneuverability is utterly inadequate. Using a single number—the maximum steady-state G at 30,000 ft at 0.9 Mach—on an aircraft that operates from 40 knots to beyond Mach 2, from sea level to above 60,000 ft is a throwback to the Dark Ages of aircraft evaluation. Proper presentations are global, all-altitude all-speed plots at the two major power settings. They must be compared to friendly and enemy aircraft. Comparison reveals progress, the whole truth, and even allows the formulation of battle tactics.

Superior Avionics

The expectations for the avionics are to provide great battle awareness and effective weapons management. The F-22 is to autonomously identify (ID) the enemy from friend, from neutral, regardless of the country that produced the aircraft.

But, testing will not be fully completed before going into production! The pressure is on to meet production schedules and to do incomplete testing to save time and money. Incomplete testing is fatal and extremely wasteful. B-1 avionics, similarly treated, still do not function in the aircraft after two decades, despite large transfusions of funds.

Such refined identification capability has never been achieved though frequently promised. Given failure and dependence on visual identification, the F-22 will be at the level of the F-15 and F-16. The requirement for visual ID made the AIM-7D/E, the Talos, the complex long-range Phoenix missile and the Aegis missile cruiser relatively worthless. The avionics are to be treated as "guilty" until tested and proven to be innocent.

The software is more extensive and complex than that of the Aegis missile cruiser. Dependence on the integrated, complex system belies the dream of a low maintenance requirement.

Most likely result—The F-22 will be declared combat ready much before it is.

Relevance of Air Superiority

The relevance of air superiority in the modern world is vastly overstated. The USAF has faced no air superiority force since the Korean War. Nor have our ground troops faced an enemy air-to-surface threat.

US air superiority fighters are aimed at enemy fighters—the irrelevant half (of the problem. Our foreseeable enemies achieve air superiority with competent, relatively affordable, highly mobile Russian vehicles carrying surface-to-air missiles (IR radar, and optically guided), and two 30mm cannon (the Tangkuska). These are armed with SA-6, SA-8 and SA-10 missiles. The F-22 only counters non-existent enemy fighters. Hence air-to-surface F-16s, A-10s, and F-15s become the de facto air superiority aircraft. Attempts to equip the F-22 to suppress enemy defenses are easily defeated by enemy tactics used in Vietnam and Serbia.

The USAF is already over-equipped to handle any imaginable air superiority problem. Today, Air Combat Command is capable of handling any coalition of air superiority threats. Air Combat Command has the most important factor—competent pilots, the second most important factor—large numbers (1,600-2,400 fighters), and the least important advantage—the best aircraft. In Germany during World War II US numbers, not quality, reigned supreme.⁵ The USAF has always had and has always depended upon superior numbers to win. Numbers guarantee victory. Numbers develop intensity and allow multiple attacks.

The US has no realistic future air superiority problem facing it. A sane US will not war with India, China, or Russia. Nor will we war with France, England, Japan, and Germany. None of these nations will attack the US. Other countries are not threats. Nor will we war with our friends to whom we sold US aircraft.⁶ The US must minimize its enemies, not create them artificially to sustain the arms industry. Even Canada has been listed as a possible threat! Yet, the US continues to seek foreign sales before our modern aircraft see service in the USAF and US Navy. (Examples—the US Navy's F-14, F-18E, and the F-22.)

The conjured need to cope with our weapons places our country in a self-perpetuating arms race with itself.

CONCLUSION

Money expended on the program will weaken Air Combat Command and the USAF in two ways—

By getting involved with an aircraft that has no function, and no relevance to modern wars.

By denying themselves funds they really need—for training and for new aircraft to support a US Army, completely shipped of supporting airpower.

Approximately 90 percent of the program funding can still be saved, and reprogrammed to relevant Air Force programs.

ARTICLE BY JAMES L. HECHT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as we go forward with the budget process, I'd like to bring the attention of my colleagues to an article published in the Baltimore Sun. The author is a senior fellow at the Center for Public Policy and Contemporary Issues at the University of Denver. Although I don't necessarily agree with all the points he makes, I think the article is valuable for purposes of informed debate.

[The Sun: Tuesday, March 21, 2000]

SPECIAL INTEREST DEFENSE

(By James L. Hecht)

For a while, it looked as if Congress might do the right thing: kill an unneeded weapons program, saving \$60 billion and increasing security. But in the end, Congress gave a higher priority to the interests of Lockheed Martin, providing \$1 billion in this year's budget to buy up to six F-22 fighters—and keeping alive the possibility of buying more than 300 more at a cost of at least \$187 million each.

The F-22 is an example of how the military budget is driven more by the desire of members of Congress to get re-elected than by security. The public interest is no match for lobbyists for the military-industrial complex who in 1996 contributed an average of \$18,065 to every member of Congress, almost three times the level of tobacco-industry influence peddling.

Why is the F-22 an unneeded weapon? The American F-15 and F-16 fighters are the best in the world and, if more fighters are needed, these can be built for less than one-quarter the cost of an F-22. Moreover, the F-22 may be outdated soon by the Joint Strike Fighter, an even better plane on which the Pentagon is spending billions for development.

We spend more than \$30 billion a year to maintain more than 10,000 nuclear warheads. A 1,000-warhead force with the destructive force of 40,000 Hiroshima explosions would be more than enough—and save about \$17 billion a year.

How political pork supersedes military needs is demonstrated by the appropriation in last year's budget of \$435 million for seven C-130 cargo transport planes. The Pentagon requested only one. They got seven because manufacture of these planes provided jobs in Newt Gingrich's district.

Huge expenditures for unneeded weapons is one reason that U.S. military spending is more than twice as much as all potential adversaries combined, including Russia, China, Iraq, Iran and North Korea. While polls indicate that 72 percent of Americans believe it better to have too much defense than too little, 83 percent think that spending should be no greater than that of all potential adversaries combined.

America's unreasonable military spending also results from the policy that the United States be able to simultaneously fight and win two major regional wars without the help of allies. This two-war doctrine is rooted in the idea that the United States should be able to exercise unilaterally its "global responsibilities."

But having this capability and then using it to act alone or with little military support from allies—as we did in Kosovo and continue to do in the skies over Iraq—decreases our security. We make bitter enemies of people that are no threat to us militarily, but can be a serious threat if in anger and frustration they resort to terrorism.

Our security also is decreased because our huge military spending consumes money that otherwise could be spent on education. With the economic success of nations becoming increasingly more dependent on a well-educated work force, shortchanging educational needs is a threat to the economic security of Americans in the 21st century.

Security is the most important function of government. But we should not—in the name of security—needlessly spend tens of billions of dollars a year for the benefit of politically connected interests.

ISSUES IN CYPRUS AND KOSOVO

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Harry Moskos is the highly-respected editor of the Knoxville News-Sentinel, the major daily newspaper for East Tennessee. More importantly, everyone who gets to know Mr. Moskos soon realizes he is one of the finest men they have ever known.

Over the years, he has developed a real expertise in foreign policy. He writes honest, sincere thoughtful editorials, without undue prejudices or special axes to grind. He is certainly not beholden to or controlled by any special interests.

Within the last few days, he has written two very important pieces which I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

The first is an insightful editorial on the history, current situation, and what needs to be done now to settle the thorny Cyprus issue. He points out that the Turkish invasion in 1974 resulted in 200,000 Greek Cypriots being expelled from their homes and almost that many Turks and Turkish Cypriots living illegally on land and in homes that are not theirs.

The second article is one that was distributed by the Scripps-Howard News-Service and reprinted in the Washington Times and other newspapers. It deals with the situation in Kosovo and the continuing cycle of violence, ethnic cleansing and retribution.

I hope that those in the State Department and in the Congress who deal most directly with these issues will give serious consideration to these editorials by Harry Moskos.

[From The Knoxville News-Sentinel, June 4, 2000]

TWO SIDES MUST TALK—OPPORTUNITIES MORE FAVORABLE THAN IN PAST FOR SETTLEMENT OF CYPRUS ISSUE

The eastern Mediterranean sovereign state of Cyprus has been forcibly divided in two since the invasion of the island republic in 1974 by Turkey. Now, 26 years later, the issue of Cyprus remains one of the world's thorniest international problems awaiting resolution.

Reflecting the position of President Clinton, Secretary of Defense William Cohen has stressed that the status quo in Cyprus is not acceptable. Since the invasion, the Cypriot government controls the south of the island while the north is under Turkish occupation with more than 35,000 troops from mainland Turkey stationed there in violation of numerous United Nations Security Council resolutions. In fact, most of the Turks now living in the occupied areas of the island are not Turkish Cypriots but are Turkish settlers.

About 200,000 Greek Cypriots, expelled from their homes in the north, are still prevented from returning.

Historically, Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots lived in comparative harmony until recent time. The Turkish invasion further increased the tension—an invasion in which some believe then-American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger played a direct role by working behind the scenes with Greece's then-military junta to successfully oust Archbishop Makarios as Cypriot president. Turkey used the coup against Makarios as a pretext to invade Cyprus.

Of the 780,000 people currently living in Cyprus, there are about 65,000 to 80,000 Turkish Cypriots and about 100,000 Turks who have moved illegally to the island from Anatolia.

A solution to the Cyprus problem has been elusive for more than a quarter-of-century with President Clinton raising the Cyprus issue in his State of the Union Address this year, terming it one of his highest priorities. It was the first time in 20 years that a president had mentioned the Cyprus question in that annual speech.

Clinton, who has actively immersed himself in other international issues including Ireland and the Middle East, still has seven months remaining in office to push for a Cyprus settlement.

There are hopeful signs that the situation is improving.

Devastating earthquakes that hit both Greece and Turkey last year resulted in both countries coming to the aid of victims. In Cyprus itself, Turkish and Greek Cypriots worked together to solve common issues, such as in the divided city of Nicosia when officials resolved sewage problems and other municipal issues. And hundreds of Turkish Cypriots volunteered to have their blood tested to see if they could provide a bone marrow transplant for a six-year-old Greek Cypriot boy fighting for his life.

Another round of U.N.-sponsored talks aimed at reunifying the island will get underway July 5 in Geneva.

U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan hopes the pace of the talks will accelerate but stresses it is difficult to anticipate what progress will be made. He urges both parties to discuss key issues.

The European Union and the United States are pushing for a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation, the framework for a solution that has repeatedly been endorsed by the U.N. Security Council.

Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides fully supports the actions of the international community for a solution along the U.N. guidelines. Turkey, however, has remained intransigent in seeking an island with two separate states, which is a wholly unacceptable solution.

While Clerides is recognized internationally as the head of Cyprus, only Turkey has recognized the self-proclaimed "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" in the occupied area of the island headed by Rauf Denktash, who to date has refused to budge from his hard line.

Compromise is needed. The U.N. plan is the framework to follow since it is a carefully constructed outline that both communities previously accepted, but the Turkish side keeps changing its position.

An eventual solution needs to include a complete demilitarization of the island, with the Turkish troops leaving and the illegal settlers returning to where they came from.

Reunification also will allow both communities to enjoy the benefits of EU membership since Cyprus is expected to join the organization within a few years.

Lellos Demetriades, the Greek Cypriot mayor of Nicosia, points out that "you can't live next to each other and not talk."

This is what is needed most at this time—constructive and substantive talks that will lead to a settlement of the Cyprus issue. As Defense Secretary Cohen points out, a resolution is needed sooner rather than later. Active leadership from the United States is needed now more than ever to solve this issue.

[From the Washington Times, June 6, 2000]
KOSOVO'S ONGOING AGONIES
(HARRY MOSKOS)

Nato Secretary-General Lord Robertson took a walking tour this week to see for

himself what it is like in Pristina after the allied war in Kosovo.

Where he didn't walk illustrates that nearly one year after NATO's 78-day bombing of the province that all is not well—or safe.

Lord Robertson's stroll took him down a central shopping street where he was met with cheers from ethnic Albanians. He also toured parts of Kosovska but bypassed the northern, predominantly Serbian, part of the city.

Tensions between Serbians and Albanians remain high. Lord Robertson stressed that the violence has to be reduced or there is danger that ethnic Albanians could lose the sympathy of the international community.

His comments came a few days after an attacker opened fire on a group of Serbs gathered in a store in Cernica, killing a 4-year-old boy, his 60-year-old grandfather and another man. Cernica, 28 miles southeast of Pristina, is patrolled by U.S. peacekeepers who were only 200 yards away when the gunman, an ethnic Albanian, opened fire and escaped.

In another unsolved case, a 25-year-old Serbian U.N. translator was found stabbed to death. The translator was murdered after a newspaper closely tied to Kosovo Albanian leader Hashim Thaci accused the translator of membership in a Serbian paramilitary unit—a rash accusation made without any formal charge or much less even an investigation.

As the Canonical Conference of Orthodox Christian Bishops in America rightly observed recently, the international community must not allow the cycle of violence, ethnic cleansing and retribution to continue in Kosovo.

NATO's troubles are not limited to continuing atrocities in Kosovo.

Three teachers at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point have raised the issue of whether NATO violated the rules of land warfare by using tactics that protected combatants by placing civilian bystanders at greater risk, resulting in a corrosion of the professional military ethic. And another military study has shown that NATO had overstated—roughly by a factor of 10—the effectiveness of its attacks against Serbian forces during last year's conflict.

The 78-day bombing campaign did accomplish its goal to end Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic's dictatorial grip on Kosovo, but this has not brought the promise of better times.

NATO entered this fray to help the ethnic Albanians, but unless they are now kept from taking the law into their own hands, the aftermath of Kosovo will only see more 4-year-old boys dying at the hands of assassins.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR.
DAVID JEFFERSON, SR.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person, Reverend Dr. David Jefferson, Sr., who has earned an outstanding reputation as a teacher, preacher, civic leader, community servant, attorney, and visionary. He has excelled spiritually, academically, and professionally and has made valuable contributions to his community.

Reverend Jefferson has provided vital leadership to his church in creating formidable

ministries, outreach evangelism to the surrounding communities, and leadership training seminars. He has orchestrated a Mens and Boys Breakfast with over three hundred people in attendance. The church has formed a Mass Choir, a Bible Study of over eight hundred people, and car pooling for college students who wish to attend services.

Reverend Jefferson has built a strong and diverse graduate level of education. Upon leaving Grambling State, Reverend Jefferson immediately enrolled in the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. Here he earned a Master of Business Administration degree in Marketing and Finance. He then received a Juris Doctorate of Law from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio and a Master of Divinity from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. In 1988 he was awarded a fellowship to the prestigious "Sloan Fellows Program" at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Here Dr. Jefferson completed his Master of Science in Management in 1989.

Reverend Jefferson is happily married to the former Linda Mouton of Jennings, LA. They are the proud parents of four beautiful children; Kimberly, David Jr., Lou Ella, and Jasmine. He is a member of the New Jersey Bar and American Bar Associations, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to join me on June 11th, in congratulating Reverend Dr. David Jefferson, Sr. on his outstanding accomplishments in expressing our appreciation for his dedicated community service. Let us extend our best wishes to Dr. Jefferson for continued success and fulfillment.

FURTHER EVIDENCE OF NEED TO
CREATE INDEPENDENT FEDERAL
AGENCY TO INVESTIGATE THE
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I introduced legislation, H.R. 4105, to establish an independent federal agency to investigate allegations of wrongdoing on the part of Justice Department personnel. As part of my ongoing efforts to have this important legislation enacted into law, I have been investigating allegations of wrongdoing within the Justice Department that have not been appropriately and completed investigated and prosecuted.

One of the incidents I uncovered occurred in my own Congressional District, and it involves serious allegations of misconduct on the part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in Youngstown, Ohio. The attached sworn affidavit makes serious allegations that should be aggressively investigated by the Justice Department and Congress.

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF TRUMBULL—
AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES A. KERCHUM

After having been duly sworn in accordance with law, I, James A. Kerchum, hereby depose and say:

(1) I, James A. Kerchum, was an active participant of the Mahoning Valley Corruption Task Force during the approximate period of February 1998 thru April 23, 1999.

(2) During the period of February 1998 thru April 23, 1999, I primarily planned and

worked with the following people: Louis Slay, Director Supervisor U.S. Dept. of Justice; Anthony Sporanza, Special Agent FBI; Mike Cizmar, Special Agent FBI; Pete Proach, Special Agent FBI; Wally Sines, Special Agent FBI; and Dennis Drenzo, Agent BCI & I

(3) During the hereinabove written time period I was primarily a paid informant for the FBI and my FBI Code Name was Cheeze 1. My main FBI contact was Special Agent Mike Cizmar.

(4) During the hereinabove written time period, FBI Special Agent Mike Cizmar related the following to me:

(a) Congressman Jim Traficant was the FBI's number one target across the United States because he beat them in a Federal Court in Cleveland, Ohio in 1983 and that he was an embarrassment to the FBI.

(b) The FBI investigated Jim Traficant from the time he was the Mahoning County Sheriff and that the FBI was going to get him one way or another.

(c) When you go to Quantico, Virginia there is one special class you take and that's on getting Jim Traficant.

(d) If I got Jim Traficant, they would build a monument for me in Washington, D.C.

FBI Special Agent Anthony Sporanza also made statements in support of the hereinabove written.

(5) Within the hereinabove written time period FBI Special Agent Mike Cizmar asked me to kill Girard, Ohio Police Detective Anthony Zuppo.

Further Affiant Sayeth Naught.

TRIBUTE TO WESLEY RHODES

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Wesley Rhodes of Pineview, GA. Wesley, a student at Fullington Academy, was named a National Award Winner in Science. This special award recognizes fewer than ten percent of all American high school students. Wesley was recommended for the award by teachers and school staff for his outstanding academic performance in science, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, and dependability.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Wesley for his achievements in science and for his exemplary leadership at Fullington Academy. He is an exceptional student and has made the people of my district and myself proud.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4577) making ap-

propriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Service, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes,

Mr. STARK. Mr. Chairman, reducing fraud and abuse in Medicare has been identified by the Majority Leader as a major initiative. The Budget Committee has a Medicare Fraud Task Force to look into ways to reduce Medicare fraud. The Ways and Means and Commerce Committee has held hearings on reducing Medicare fraud.

And yet, this bill would actually reduce already appropriated funds for fighting fraud and abuse in Medicare by \$50 million. These funds were appropriated in advance when the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was enacted in 1996 and intended to fight Medicare fraud. This program has returned \$17 for every dollar invested in it. Because of our fraud-fighting efforts, we have experienced the lowest growth in Medicare spending ever.

Obviously, the Appropriations Committee disagrees with the Majority Leader and other Committee Chairmen who want to reduce Medicare fraud. Instead, the Committee would reduce our anti-fraud efforts. Evidently, the Committee feels that there is not enough fraud in Medicare, so we should let it grow.

Second, Mr. Chairman, the General Accounting Office and others have issued numerous reports recently about the alarming abuses and poor quality of care of senior citizens in nursing homes—the care of our mothers and fathers and our constituents. GAO said that one in four nursing homes actually harm our senior citizens or place them in danger of being harmed. The GAO recommended stronger enforcement of quality standards.

In Northern California, only 6 percent of nursing homes were found by State inspectors to be in full or substantial compliance with requirements.

The President proposed additional funding to support a Nursing Home Initiative for enforcing nursing home standards more strictly.

Yet this bill would eliminate the funding for this Nursing Home Initiative.

Obviously, the Appropriations Committee simply does not care what happens to our senior citizens in nursing homes.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support the DeLauro amendment to restore funds for fighting Medicare fraud and for the Nursing Home Initiative.

Mr. Chairman, I submit into the RECORD a letter sent to me by the National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform.

NATIONAL CITIZENS' COALITION
FOR NURSING HOME REFORM,

Washington, DC, June 1, 2000.

Hon. FORTNEY "PETE" STARK,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE STARK: The National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform (NCCNHR) urges you to vote no on the Labor/HHS/Education bill because it fails to provide funding for the Nursing Home Initiative.

The Nursing Home Initiative was established to increase funding for improvement in nursing home quality nationwide. As part of the Nursing Home Initiative, new survey protocols were put in place such as improved federal oversight over state survey efforts, staggered inspections, and expedited investigation of resident complaints.

For FY 2001, the Administration proposed a major funding increase that would invest \$70.1 million in improving oversight of nursing homes. It would include (1) training surveyors in effective inspection of nursing homes; (2) surveying nursing homes during evenings and weekends; and (3) surveying substandard facilities more frequently than other facilities. However, in Subcommittee, the discretionary funding was virtually eliminated for the Initiative.

By passing an appropriations bill without funding for the Nursing Home Initiative, the House would be ignoring overwhelming evidence of harm to residents that is occurring because of lack of adequate enforcement. The 1998 GAO report on California nursing homes showed that one in three facilities has violations that cause either actual harm to residents or place them at risk for serious injury or death. This report launched the Nursing Home Initiative to address the poor care in nursing homes. We cannot abandon these efforts, which are now beginning to have an effect. Otherwise, we are abandoning the most vulnerable and frail population in this country who need protection from a strengthened enforcement system.

Sincerely,

SARAH GREENE BURGER,
Executive Director.

STATEMENT ON A BILL TO AMEND
TITLE II OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY
ACT TO IMPROVE THE SOCIAL
SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S
PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR
REPRESENTATION OF CLAIMANTS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with Congressman CLAY SHAW, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security, to introduce legislation regarding fees owed to attorneys who represent Social Security disability claimants. This bill would require the Social Security Administration to pay the attorney fees it owes in a timely fashion or else grant those attorneys an exemption from the administrative assessment that SSA charges in exchange for handling such fees.

Under current law, when an attorney successfully represents a Social Security disability claimant and that claimant is entitled to past-due benefits, SSA retains a portion of those past-due benefits in order to pay the attorney for the services he or she provided. Specifically, SSA withholds and certifies for direct payment to the claimant's attorney an amount equal to the lesser of 25 percent of the past-due benefits or the fee that SSA had previously authorized the attorney to charge his or her client. (Fees authorized by SSA may not exceed 25 percent of past-due benefits or \$4,000, whichever is lower).

As a result of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-170), SSA is now required to impose an administrative assessment of 6.3 percent on all such fee payments to attorneys. Some maintain that this 6.3 percent assessment is necessary to cover the costs that SSA incurs in withholding and processing fee payments to attorneys. If this is indeed the case and the 6.3 percent assessment is simply compensation for services rendered, then it is not unreasonable to expect

that SSA will process fee payments to attorneys in a timely fashion.

The legislation we are introducing today simply seeks to put that reasonable expectation into law. H.R. xxxx would prohibit the Social Security Administration from charging an attorney the 6.3 percent assessment unless the agency certifies his or her fee for payment within 30 days of the award of past-due benefits to his or her client. Without this common-sense legislation, SSA would be permitted to charge the 6.3 percent assessment without regard to how long the agency takes to process attorneys' fee payments.

As necessary as this legislation may be, it is not all that is required of this and future Congresses. We in Congress must also remain vigilant and ensure that the new administrative assessment imposed by the Work Incentives Improvement Act does not deter attorneys from representing disability claimants. Given the complexities of the disability determination process, if claimants are unable to secure professional legal representation, the results could be disastrous.

Claimants without professional legal representation appear to be far less likely to receive the benefits to which they are entitled. For example, in 1998, 57.6 percent of claimants represented by an attorney, but only 35.7 percent of those without one, were awarded benefits at the hearing level.

As mandated by the Work Incentives Improvement Act, the General Accounting Office will examine the impact of this new administrative assessment upon claimants' access to legal representation. If the GAO finds that the assessment does impair claimants' access, I fully expect that, consistent with the conference agreement on the Work Incentives Improvement Act, Congress will revisit this issue once more.

In closing, I look forward to working with Chairman SHAW on this piece of legislation in the same bipartisan manner that characterized our successful efforts last fall on the Work Incentives Improvement Act and again this spring on the repeal of the Social Security retirement earnings test. With this sort of collaboration, I am certain that we can pass this bill as well, thereby creating incentives for SSA to improve its procedures for making payments to attorneys and ensuring that disability claimants have qualified and reliable attorneys to whom they can turn for assistance.

MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and join in the celebration of the Make-A-Wish Foundation's 20th Anniversary. In its twentieth year, the Make-A-Wish Foundation is a non-profit organization that fulfills the wishes of children fighting life-threatening illnesses. This organization provides once in a lifetime experiences to children, under the age of 18, who may not have the rest of their lives to seek opportunity. Born out of a wish made by a seven-year-old fighting Leukemia in Arizona, the Make-A-Wish Foundation has grown to 80 chapters in the United

States and 20 international affiliates on five continents and is the largest wish granting foundation in the world. In its twenty years of existence, the Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted wishes to over 66,000 children worldwide. The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc., in particular, helps to serve children in my district as well as other children throughout the entire state of Maryland.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted wishes to children as simple as trips to Disney World and other amusement parks to meeting their favorite entertainer or role model. One young man from my district had his wish fulfilled when he met South African leader and political figure Nelson Mandela. He remarked that there was no better way to learn about blacks and whites living together in peace than to learn firsthand about the life of someone so oppressed yet as unbroken as Mr. Mandela.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation gives children that are fighting life-threatening illnesses a positive break from a world of doctors, hospitals and medicine. I salute the Make-A-Wish Foundation's volunteers and supporters who work to make wishes come true not only in Baltimore City and Baltimore County, but literally all over the world. Congratulations on 20 years of making wishes come true.

HONORING ANITA HINOJOSA

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a South Texas educator, Anita Hinojosa, who will retire in July after 31 years in vocational and adult education. Anita helped make Corpus Christi a better place by virtue of her lifetime commitment to education.

After working as a home economics teacher after graduating from Texas A&I University at Kingsville, and as a consultant, Anita became the Vocational Education Coordinator while also working as an adjunct Professor of Occupational Education at Corpus Christi State University.

In 1990, she became the Career and Technology Education Director for the Corpus Christi Independent School District, the position she will soon leave to enjoy retirement. During the course of her work here, she has supervised some of the most important programs available at CCISD, those programs that work with those who need special training because of their age or special circumstances.

Anita currently oversees the following programs: Adult Basic Education; Alternative High School Center; Summer Training and Education Program (STEP); Pregnancy, Education, and Parenting; Guidance and Counseling; Instructional Technology; and several at-risk programs.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending a special patriot, one who spent a lifetime in pursuit of education and teaching, Anita Hinojosa.

HONORING EDWARD WEISS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, public service, when performed wisely and well, is the most noble of callings. Today I honor a man who has been in public service and who performed in just those ways. Edward Weiss is retiring from the United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, after 30 years of service.

In his many capacities with the Department, Ed has received outstanding performance ratings from every United States Attorney General under whom he has served since 1981. He is well known for his ability to prepare and litigate cases. He also coordinated the Criminal Alien Program for the New Jersey District.

Ed received his BA degree from Syracuse University and graduated from Brooklyn Law School. He and his wife Susan have two daughters; Robyn, in a pre-doctorate program in Religion at Hebrew University, and Karen, studying law at George Washington University.

Ed is retiring to follow his other passions, hiking and traveling. He is a dedicated professional of who we can all be proud. I join his many friends in wishing him and his family many happy years in his retirement.

HONORING JUSTIN "JAY" CAUFIELD

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a very special man. He is a friend, a community leader, and an exceptional educator. His dedication, competence and responsible attitude exemplify all that is right with America's public school system.

For more than twenty-five years, Justin "Jay" Caufield has served as a Principal in the Saugus Union School District. He has been a very active member in the community and in the school district.

Prior to entering the field of education, Mr. Caufield served four years in the U.S. Army in Special Forces. Mr. Caufield is highly respected by his peers, teaching staff and parents. As a teacher and principal in the Saugus School District, Jay Caufield has touched the lives and made a difference for thousands of students.

For the past 17 years, Mr. Caufield has served as the Principal at Emblem Elementary School. As a result of his fine leadership and commitment to excellence, Emblem has earned both State and National recognition. In 1995, Emblem achieved the status as a California Distinguished School. In 1996, the school received recognition from the California School Board Association by earning the Golden Bell award for its highly regarded TEAMS program. In 1997, Emblem Elementary School received the highest possible recognition by being named a National Blue Ribbon School. Under Mr. Caufield's direction, Emblem has continued to excel and uphold its high academic standards.

I want to commend Mr. Jay Caufield for his selfless commitment to the students and to the entire educational community. His distinguished career has been a shining example for all.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 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. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Defense Appropriations bill for fiscal 2001. I believe that a strong and effective defense system is vital to the future of this country. I believe that we must do all we can to identify potential threats in this new post-Cold War environment and to prepare for the possibility that these threats might require a military response. But I question the price that this bill is asking us to pay to achieve these goals.

My concerns about this bill have to do with priorities. By that, I mean I think the priorities among the programs funded in the bill are wrong. But, even more importantly, I think the sheer size of the bill reflects an imbalance between military spending and other important priorities.

First, the big picture: At \$15.8 billion over FY2000 appropriated levels, the President's budget request for defense programs in FY2001 indicates the importance of defense spending for this Administration. But—not content with a bill to meet the President's request for \$60 billion in weapons procurement as well as to fully fund missile defense and other major weapons systems—the Republicans want more.

The bill we will vote on today appropriates \$4 billion more than the budget request, and \$22.4 billion more than last year's appropriated levels. Along with defense funds provided in the recently passed Military Construction Appropriations bill and funds expected to be provided in the FY2001 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, total defense appropriations this year come to about \$310 billion—more than \$4.5 billion over this year's budget request.

With this defense bill alone appropriating more than half of the discretionary funds available to Congress, it is clear to me that something is wrong with our priorities. The President's budget balanced increases in defense with increases in funding for education, health care, national parks, science, environmental protection, and other non-defense programs. What the Republicans have done is to increase defense spending even more, all at the expense of domestic programs that are so important to the citizen of this country.

Second, there are the bill's own priorities: Not only would this bill provide too much, but

it also would provide too much of the wrong thing.

I can't support funding F-22 production when the Appropriations Committee's own Survey and Investigations staff reported that a December 2000 date for beginning production is premature, and when the GAO recommended that six, not ten, planes be built, which could save as much as \$828 million.

Nor can I support funding for national missile defense procurement until the technology has been proven and until we've come to some agreement with our allies as to how to proceed. We must not view national missile defense as a substitute for arms control efforts. I believe Congress should primarily be encouraging further reductions in global nuclear weapons, while examining the need for, timing of, and feasibility of national missile defense within a global arms-control context. I don't believe that we should be doing anything more than examining these questions at this time.

There are some good things about the bill. For example, I'm pleased that the measure provides a 3.7 percent pay increase for military personnel, and that the bill includes important provisions to revamp the military health care system, including restoring access for all Medicare-eligible military retirees and creating a plan to implement a permanent health care program for military retirees over 65.

But Mr. Speaker, this bill does not provide a balance between our domestic and international responsibilities. We may be more secure than ever before, but I question whether the country wouldn't be better off if we were to invest more in education, health care, and the needs of our children. We must remember that this nation's strength comes not just from military preparedness, but also from its citizens. Adequate investments in them are just as important as protection for them.

HONORING COMMANDER WILLIAM ROBERT ANDERSON

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor retired Commander William Robert Anderson for his service to his Country in both the military and the House of representatives.

Commander Anderson distinguished himself in combat and scientific accomplishment during his long career in the submarine service. During World War II, he completed a total of 11 submarine war patrols and earned a Bronze Star for his assistance in the sinking of 17 cargo-carrying crafts and the rescue of a downed aviator.

In May of 1953, Captain Anderson was granted his first command, the submarine U.S.S. *Wahoo*, and saw even more action during the Korean War. Two years later he would be chosen for another type of command, as head of the Tactical Department at the U.S. Submarine School in New London, Connecticut.

This would not be the end of his sea duty, though. In fact, his most important command and date with history was yet to come. It was actually while Anderson was at the U.S. Sub-

marine School that the United States commissioned its first nuclear submarine, the U.S.S. *Nautilus* on January 17, 1955.

The potential of this new type of submarine brought a need for more officers trained in nuclear operations. And so, Commander Anderson found himself being called into Rear-Admiral H.G. Rickover's office to interview for the program in January of 1956.

He soon found himself recruiting and awaiting a new command. During this time Rickover asked Anderson to devise a method of study for new officers entering the program. This project eventually evolved into the core study program for all nuclear submarine commanders.

It was on April 30, 1957, that Captain Anderson was ordered to assume command of the U.S.S. *Nautilus*. His classified mission was to be ready to take his submarine and crew under the Arctic polar ice cap whenever he received the order.

Known as "Operation Sunshine" by the Navy, this project would challenge both Captain Anderson's leadership skills and his nautical training.

No one had ever succeeded in finding a northern sea passage before, and the lack of information and charts on the pack ice, the inability of normal navigational instruments to operate so near to the magnetic North Pole and other instrumentation problems had to be sorted out and solved—all in the deepest of secrecy.

With the summer of 1957 ending, the crew of the *Nautilus* made its first attempt to traverse the ice pack while submerged. Using special ice detecting sonar, the *Nautilus* started maneuvering around the icebergs. It would not succeed on this attempt or the next one in June of 1958.

The same cannot be said for the third attempt, and on August 3, 1958, Captain Anderson and the crew of the *Nautilus* finally crossed under the North Pole. Upon return to the United States, the entire crew was honored with a ticker tape parade in New York City and Anderson was personally awarded the Legion of Merit by President Eisenhower.

Commander Anderson's career continued to flourish—from his serving as an aide to the Secretary of the Navy, Fred Korth, to his appointment as the Director of the National Service Corps, which would be renamed the Peace Corps in later years by President Kennedy.

In 1960, Anderson was even considered as a possible gubernatorial candidate in Tennessee, but he decided to fulfill his 20 year commitment to the Navy. Upon retirement from the Navy, Anderson was elected as the Representative from the Sixth District of Tennessee in 1965, and he continued to serve his constituents for four successive terms in office before retiring to Virginia.

I, for one, am proud of the accomplishments of my fellow Tennessean, William Robert Anderson. For his diligent and long-standing service to this great Country and the State of Tennessee, I would like to return the honor by paying him this tribute to his great accomplishments.

While Commander Anderson now resides in the great state of Virginia, we Tennesseans still choose to claim him as one of our native sons.

HONORING ROBERT A. CHAPMAN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a South Texas educator, Bob Chapman, who will retire on July 1, 2000, after 29 years in vocational and adult education. Bob helped make Corpus Christi a better place by virtue of his lifetime commitment to education.

After completing his military experience, his education and a stint in business, Bob worked as a training instructor at a Texas high school, then went to work for the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in 1983.

He served there as an area specialist, providing assistance to teachers, schools and administrators in a 26-county area in South Texas. From there, he went to Austin as a specialist in vocational education. In 1986, he came to Corpus Christi as a vocational education consultant in the Corpus Christi Independent School District (CCISD).

It was at CCISD that Bob spent the better part of his professional life and in 1993 he became coordinator of the Adult Learning Center for CCISD, the position he will soon leave to seek another career in private industry.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending a special patriot, one who spent a lifetime in pursuit of education and teaching, Bob Chapman.

A WAY TO SAVE MEDICARE, BENEFICIARIES AND TAXPAYERS BILLIONS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STAARK

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, even in an era of unprecedented budget surpluses, wasting Medicare dollars is unacceptable.

The same procedures, carried out in a physician's office, an ambulatory surgical center or in a hospital outpatient department are re-

imbursed at widely different rates. These differences exist across medical specialties and do not consistently relate to the setting in which the service is provided and may vary up to 179%. (Table 1).

The disparity in payments for equivalent services, regardless of setting, needs to be eliminated and payments reduced to the lowest levels.

Mr. Speaker, there is simply no reason in the world for us to pay \$1001 for glaucoma surgery in a hospital outpatient setting, when we can provide the same service for \$415 in an ambulatory surgical center.

The taxpayers, beneficiaries and Medicare can save billions of dollars in the years to come if we simply pay at the lowest of the hospital outpatient, ambulatory surgical center or doctor's office rate. We should pay at the lowest rate a service can be safely provided, regardless of setting. I have proposed this in H.R. 2115, and I urge the Members to consider this legislation as a way both save money and help beneficiaries.

TABLE 1.—COMPARISON OF PAYMENT RATES ACROSS SETTINGS FOR SELECTED HIGH VOLUME AMBULATORY CARE SERVICES, 2000.

Type of service	Code	Description	ASC rate	OPD rate	Practice expense rate
Gastroenterology	45380	Colonoscopy and biopsy	\$425	\$387	\$260
	45378	Diagnostic colonoscopy	425	387	192
Ophthalmology	66170	Glaucoma surgery	415	1001	.....
	68720	Create tear sac drain	491	1149	.....
Orthopedics	23420	Repair of shoulder	1110	1753	.....
	29880	Knee arthroscopy/surgery	680	1191	.....
Otolaryngology	30520	Repair nasal septum	537	1232	.....
	69436	Create ear drum opening	233	583	.....
Dermatology/Reconstructive Surgery	19120	Removal breast lesion	411	623	.....
	13131	Repair of wound or lesion	383	181	.....
Diagnostic	93880	Duplex scan, extracranial arteries	132	.....	150
	93307	Echo exam of heart	213	.....	171
Radiology	70450	CAT scan of brain/head	237	.....	188

Source: Federal Register 1999, Federal Register 2000a, Federal Register 2000b.
Note: OPD (outpatient department), ASC (ambulatory surgical center), Practice Expense Rate (physician's office), CAT (computerized axial tomography).

BIOGRAPHY OF MR. IRVING KWASMAN OF SHERERVILLE, INDIANA

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Irving Kwasman was born on March 15, 1925, and died on June 8, 2000 at age 75. Mr. Kwasman was a loving husband for over 50 years, and father of two sons. He was also grandfather of two grandchildren.

Mr. Kwasman served in the United States Army behind enemy lines in WWII, and received 3 bronze stars for bravery. Only four soldiers earned 3 bronze stars in WWII, and Colin Powell only earned 2 for Vietnam. He fought in the battle of the Bulge and of a unit 314, only 7 survived.

Irving Kwasman is a Hero in every sense of the word. He was a successful furniture salesman, and had his own business. He was a practicing Jew of very strong religious stature, and proud grandfather of Adam Kwasman, U.S. House Page. My most sincere sympathies go out to Adam Kwasman and family. Rest in peace, and God bless.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD R. LUONGO

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to a special person who will be honored at a recognition ceremony in Belleville, New Jersey this week, Mr. Richard R. Luongo, who has given twenty-seven years of dedicated service to the Newark Police Department.

Lieutenant Luongo has earned a fine reputation as an outstanding law enforcement officer who is strongly dedicated to his work and to the community he serves. He ascended in his career first to Sergeant and later to Lieutenant. He first started as a police officer for Newark on October 15, 1973 and retired on June 1, 2000. In addition, he is currently serving in the capacity of President of the Superior Officers' Association of the Newark Police Department.

Mr. Luongo and his wife Gilda have two wonderful daughters, Nicole and Erica. The Luongos currently reside in the township of Bloomfield.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Lieutenant Luongo for a job well done and in wishing him continued success as he begins a new phase of his life.

HONORING SEYMOUR NAIDICH

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I warmly congratulate Seymour Naidich who is celebrating his eighty-first birthday. This is a double commemoration for a wonderful man who recently celebrated his Golden Wedding anniversary of a half century of love, warmth and affection with his wife, Blanche. Seymour and Blanche have two daughters, Donna and Michelle who are joining with the extended family, of which I am happily a member, to wish Seymour the happiest of birthdays as he enters his ninth decade.

Seymour and Blanche met in 1947 after he returned from serving in World War II in the African and Asian theaters. It is emblematic of the closeness of Seymour and his friends that he met Blanche through a friend who had dated her. They spent the day at the friend's house and on the way home he impulsively asked if they could meet again the following day. The rest is a story for everyone who believes in love.

Seymour's celebration of his eightieth birthday was deferred for a year because of illness. But now he is well and we all look forward to celebrating this wondrous event with the promise of more golden years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MELVA JONES, ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to congratulate a remarkable woman, Melva Jones, who was recently chosen as one of only ten people nationally to receive the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Community Health Leader award. The award is considered the nation's highest honor for community health leadership and includes a \$100,000 grant to help further her work.

Ms. Jones is the director of the Mattie B. Uzzle Outreach Center in Baltimore, which provides street outreach to help people with substance abuse problems get treatment, counseling, food, clothing, and emergency funds. The center, which is located in a neighborhood with one of the state's highest substance abuse rates, also offers housing, job referrals, free testing for HIV, and community education programs on drug-related issues.

Ms. Jones, who is a native of my district in Baltimore, gave up a lucrative nursing administration career to help found the center in 1994 after watching drug abuse transform a once-thriving neighborhood into streets of boarded up houses. The center is a "neighbor" to residents in this community and has steered more than 2,500 people into drug treatment programs since its inception. It also boasts a forty-five percent recovery rate, which is 10 percent higher than the national average.

With her hands-on approach, Ms. Jones has been instrumental to the success of the program. A visible force in the neighborhood every day, she serves as a welcome sight to a community that is all too familiar with the horrors of drug addiction up close. With a reputation for persistence and tough love, she makes regular rounds to find people in need and coax them into treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Melva Jones has demonstrated true leadership by addressing one of the most difficult problems in our community and it comes as no surprise that she was selected for this distinguished award. Although much more needs to be accomplished in the fight against substance abuse, in Baltimore and across the United States, it is a comfort to know that there are people like Ms. Jones on the street, working every day.

STAR WARS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

STAR WARS II

HERE WE GO AGAIN

(By William D. Hartung and Michelle Ciarrocca)

If you stopped worrying about the bomb when the cold war ended, you were probably surprised to learn that two of the hot-button issues of the eighties—arms control and mis-

sile defense—will top the agenda at the Clinton/Putin summit on June 4-5. A central issue in Moscow will be how to reconcile Russian President Vladimir Putin's proposal for deep cuts in US Russian nuclear arsenals with the Clinton Administration's fixation on developing a National Missile Defense (NMD) system.

Clinton has pledged to make a deployment decision this fall, after the Pentagon and the White House analyze the results of the next "hit to kill" test of the missile defense system, slated for late June or early July. The system failed its most recent test, conducted in January, while an allegedly successful test conducted last October was made possible only by the fact that the kill vehicle was guided to the right spot by a large, easy-to-find decoy balloon.

The Clinton/Gore proposal is a far cry from Ronald Reagan's Star Wars scheme, which was designed to fend off thousands of Soviet warheads at a cost estimated by former Wisconsin Senator William Proxmire at up to \$1 trillion. In contrast, this missile defense plan is meant to deal with a few dozen incoming warheads launched by a "rouge state" like North Korea, at a projected cost of \$60 billion. But despite the NMD's seemingly more modest goals, it is every bit as dangerous and misguided as the Reagan scheme, threatening to unravel thirty years of arms-control agreements and heighten the danger of nuclear war.

NMD's surprising political revival is rooted in the three Cs of contemporary US politics: conservative ideology, Clintonian cowardice and corporate influence. These short-term pressures are in turn reinforced by an ambitious long-range military objective: the misguided quest for a state of absolute military superiority.

The strongest push for missile defense has come from Reaganite true believers in conservative think tanks, especially the small but highly effective Center for Security Policy. On Capitol Hill, the NMD lobby is spearheaded by new-look conservatives like Senator Jon Kyl of Arizona, who led last fall's successful Republican effort to defeat the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Fresh from that victory, the NMD lobby is now seeking to destroy the Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty as the next target in its campaign to promote "peace through strength rather than peace through paper," as Kyl put it in a recent speech.

The right-wing crusade for missile defense has received aid and comfort from Bill Clinton and Al Gore, who have decided that looking "tough" on defense is more important than protecting the world from weapons of mass destruction. Support has also come from the lumbering behemoths of the military-industrial complex: Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and Boeing, which are desperately seeking a new infusion of taxpayer funds to help them recover from a string of technical failures and management fiascoes that have cut their stock prices and drastically reduced their profit margins.

NMD's military boosters see the system primarily as a way to enhance the offensive capabilities of US forces, not as a defensive measure. In its revealing "Vision for 2020" report, the US Space Command—a unified military command that coordinates the space activities and assets of the Army, Navy and Air Force—sings the praises of outer space as the ideal platform for projecting US military dominance "across the full spectrum of conflict." Pentagon hard-liners have a more immediate military goal: using NMD as a shield to protect US forces in interventions against states like North Korea (whose missile development effort, it is worth noting, has been on hold for almost two years).

A growing number of moderate-to-conservative Democrats are also supportive of a limited NMD system. Whether or not missile defense is an effective response to alleged threats, it seems to offer a sense of security to some members of Congress, who lack the expertise and inclination to question the fevered threat projections of the US military and intelligence establishments.

While at least some of the motives of NMD advocates may be understandable, they are also disastrously misguided: Even Clinton and Gore's "limited" system is unnecessary, unworkable and unaffordable. The mere pursuit of an NMD system could pose the most serious threat to international peace and stability since the height of the cold war. Russian President Putin has emphatically stated that any US move to withdraw from the ABM treaty will lead Moscow to treat all existing US/Russian arms agreements as null and void. And China's chief arms negotiator, Sha Zukang, has warned that if Washington goes ahead with an NMD deployment designed to intercept "tens of warheads"—a figure suspiciously close to the eighteen to twenty single-warhead ballistic missiles that represent China's entire nuclear deterrent capability—Beijing will not "sit on its hands."

In short, the official Clinton/Gore Administration position on NMD is that we should jeopardize the best change in a generation to reduce the world's nuclear arsenals in order to preserve the option to deploy a costly, technically dubious scheme designed to defend against a Third World missile threat that does not currently exist and may not ever materialize. To understand how we got into this mess, we need to take a look at the genesis, "death" and resurrection of Reagan's Star Wars dream.

A SMILE AND A SHOESHINE

When Reagan gave his March 1983 Star Wars speech, in which he pledged to launch a program designed to render nuclear weapons "impotent and obsolete," he was acting primarily on the advice of Edward Teller, the infamous "father of the H-bomb." In closed-door meetings organized by the conservative businessmen in Reagan's kitchen Cabinet, Teller sold Reagan on a new nuclear doctrine of "assured survival" based on the alleged technical wonders of his latest brainchild, the X-ray laser. As New York Times science writer William Broad pointed out in his 1992 book, *Teller's War*, the X-ray laser was largely a figment of Teller's imagination, composed of scientific speculation, wishful thinking and outright deception. But Reagan was buying into the concept of missile defense, not the details, so he forged ahead unaware of these inconvenient facts, his enthusiasm reinforced by his desire to counter the nuclear freeze movement.

But, as Frances FitzGerald shows in her new book, *Way Out There in the Blue* (the title derives from Arthur Miller's line in *Death of a Salesman* in which he describes Willy Loman as "a man way out there in the blue, riding on a smile and a shoeshine"), Reagan's Star Wars proposal was more than just a political con game; it was also a potent symbol that served radically different purposes for the different factions within his Administration. For hard-liners like Caspar Weinberger, Richard Perle and Frank Gaffney—a Perle protege who went on to found his own pro-Star Wars think tank, the Center for Security Policy—Reagan's missile defense plan offered a chance to promote their two main goals: sustaining the Reagan military buildup and thwarting progress on US/Soviet arms control. For White House political strategists, the Star Wars plan was a way to boost Reagan's flagging popularity ratings, which had plummeted in the face of

the deepest recession since the thirties and a growing fear that the President's aggressive anti-Soviet stance was moving the world to the brink of a nuclear confrontation.

The most constructive response to the Star Wars speech within Reagan's inner circle came from his Secretary of State, George Shultz. Rather than trying to convince Reagan of the manifold flaws in his pet project, Shultz treated the Star Wars speech as an opportunity to press Reagan to engage in his first serious discussions with Soviet leaders on nuclear weapons issues. Shultz found an unlikely ally in Paul Nitze, the old cold warrior who was appointed as a special envoy to the US/Russian nuclear talks at Shultz's request. Nitze honed in on the fatal flaw that has plagued all missile defense schemes to date, which is that it is much cheaper to overwhelm a defensive system with additional warheads or decoys than it is to expand the defensive capability to meet these new threats. As a result, Shultz and Nitze were able to prevail over the Weinberger/Perle faction and persuade Reagan to endorse historic agreements to eliminate medium-range nuclear weapons from Europe and implement substantial cuts in long-range weapons under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). Star Wars was a security blanket that allowed Reagan to engage in serious negotiations with the "evil empire" without being perceived as some sort of weak-kneed liberal arms controller among the conservatives who formed his core constituency.

When George Bush took office in January 1989, Reagan's Star Wars fantasy was rapidly overtaken by the reality of sharp reductions in the US and Soviet nuclear forces. Both sides ratified the START I arms reduction pact and followed up with a START II deal that called for cutting US and Soviet strategic arsenals to one-third their Reagan-era levels. On a broader front, the demise of the Warsaw Pact and the dissolution of the Soviet Union between 1989 and 1991 made spending billions on a high-tech scheme to defend against Soviet missiles seem irrelevant and absurd. Despite the decline of the Soviet "threat," however, the Bush Administration and Congress continued to cough up \$3-\$4 billion per year for missile defense. The project's new focus was protection against an accidental nuclear attack.

Soon yet another rationale appeared in the form of the "rouge state" strategy, developed by Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Gen. Colin Powell, and based on the notion that the United States should be prepared to fight two heavily armed regional powers like Iraq and North Korea simultaneously. In the 1991 Gulf War Saddam Hussein came to personify the rogue-state threat; Iraqi missile attacks on Tel Aviv and a devastating direct hit on a U.S. military barracks in Saudi Arabia prompted calls for more effective defenses against medium-range ballistic missiles.

But even that was not enough to sustain enthusiasm for a major new program. A few months after Clinton took office in January 1993, Defense Secretary Les Aspin proclaimed the Star Wars program dead (though the Pentagon continued to spend \$3-\$4 billion per year on missile defense research).

ENTER NEWT

Newt Gingrich is gone from the political scene, but the most dangerous plank of his 1994 Contract With America remains: the section that calls for "requiring the Defense Department to deploy antiballistic missile systems capable of defending the United States against ballistic missile attacks." That plan was added to the contract by Gingrich and his fellow Republican co-author Dick Arney at the urging of Frank Gaffney of the Center for Security Policy.

Efforts to turn the contract's rhetoric into viable legislation proved unsuccessful in the short run, but in mid-1996 the Clinton Administration decided to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory by offering a missile defense compromise known as the "3+3" plan—three years of research and testing followed by a three-year crash program to deploy a system—if the President decided it was necessary, feasible and affordable. The "3+3" gambit allowed Clinton to push off a politically controversial decision on missile defense until a later date that fell well past the 1996 presidential election. Unfortunately for Al Gore, that "later date" is now smack in the middle of his second run for the White House. As John Pike of the Federation of American Scientists put it, "This is a political decision driven by the need to defend Al Gore from Republicans rather than defend America against missiles."

While Clinton was yielding ground, Capitol Hill Republicans were regrouping for their next offensive—one result of which was an amendment in the fiscal year 1997 defense authorization bill calling for the establishment of a blue-ribbon panel to "assess the nature and magnitude of existing and emerging ballistic missile threats to the United States." The Republicans wanted their new commission to be viewed as an authoritative and objective body, not just a partisan project. Bearing that in mind, House Speaker Gingrich and Senate majority leader Trent Lott, who were empowered to nominate the majority of the panel's members, chose former Ford Administration Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to head the commission, in the hopes that they could capitalize on his reputation as a moderate Republican with pragmatic views on military matters. Rumsfeld proved worthy of Gingrich's and Lott's confidence when he hammered out a unanimous final report with the appropriate aura of bipartisanship, complete with signatures from Democratic appointees such as former Carter Administration arms-control official Barry Blechman of the Henry L. Stimson Center and eminent physicist and longtime missile defense critic Richard Garwin. Just two weeks after the report came out, Garwin placed an Op-Ed in the New York Times denouncing the misuse of the report by missile defense boosters, asserting, "I am alarmed that some have interpreted our findings as providing support for a new national defense system."

The Rumsfeld Commission report was unveiled in July 1998 amid hysterical cries from Gingrich that it was the "most important warning about our national security system since the end of the cold war." Hysteria aside, the report's primary finding was that given enough foreign help, a rogue state like North Korea could acquire a missile capable of reaching the United States within five years of making a decision to do so—one-third to one-half the warning time projected in the CIA's official estimates. The Star Wars lobby finally got what it needed: an official, government-approved statement that could be interpreted as endorsing its own exaggerated view of the Third World missile threat. While the Rumsfeld report drew heavy editorial fire in papers like the Chicago Tribune and the Milwaukee Sentinel, the Wall Street Journal applauded it as a long-overdue clarion call for missile defense, and Washington's newspaper of record, the Post, published a measured response that endorsed the panel's findings as "useful and plausible."

INSIDE THE MISSILE DEFENSE LOBBY

Upon reflection, it is clear that the Rumsfeld report's Republican backers had always intended to use the panel as a tool to advance their pro-missile defense agenda. All

the report actually says is that if a country like North Korea gets major foreign assistance—including the extremely unlikely possibility that a country like China would simply give Pyongyang a fully operational ballistic missile—it will achieve the capability to hit the United States much more quickly than if it had to build the missile without outside help. As Joseph Cirincione of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace demonstrated in Congressional testimony delivered this past February, the Rumsfeld Commission's conservative backers have used the report as a vehicle for changing the intelligence community's traditional means of assessing the ballistic missile threat, from one that attempts to predict the likely pace of missile proliferation in a given nation in the light of political, economic and military factors, to a "worst-case scenario" approach that asks how quickly a given nation could achieve a threatening missile capability if it had no economic or political impediments. As Cirincione also demonstrated, the "sky is falling" approach has been used to obscure the underlying reality that the ballistic missile threat to

Just as the Rumsfeld Commission turned out to be less objective than it first appeared to be, so did its chairman. Far from being a moderate, Donald Rumsfeld is a card-carrying member of the missile defense lobby. Prior to his appointment to head the commission that bears his name, he was publicly singled out as a special friend in the annual report of the pro-Star Wars think tank, the Center for Security Policy. As a further sign of his commitment to the missile defense cause, Rumsfeld has also given money to Frank Gaffney's group. If Gaffney's organization were just an abstract "study group," that would be one thing. But it is a highly partisan advocacy organization that serves as the de facto nerve center of the NMD lobby.

Gaffney's center, which now has an annual budget of \$1.2 million, was started in 1988 with support from New Right funders like Richard Mellon Scaife and Joseph Coors. Since that time, Gaffney has turned it into a sort of working executive committee for the missile defense lobby. The center's advisory board includes representatives of larger conservative organizations, including Ed Feulner, president of the Heritage Foundation; William Bennett, co-director of Empower America; and Henry Cooper of High Frontier, the original Star Wars think tank, which was launched during the early years of the Reagan Administration. Other CSP advisory board members include Charles Kupperman and Bruce Jackson, who serve as vice president for Washington operations and director of planning and analysis, respectively, at Lockheed Martin; key members of Congress like Republicans Curt Weldon, Christopher Cox, and Jon Kyl; and a who's who of Reagan-era Star Warriors like Edward Teller and former Reagan science adviser George Keyworth.

Unlike most think tanks concerned with military issues, the Center for Security Policy receives a substantial portion of its funding from weapons manufacturers. Three out of the top four missile defense contractors—Boeing, Lockheed Martin and TRW—are all major corporate contributors to CSP, which has received more than \$2 million in corporate donations since its founding, accounting for roughly one-quarter of its total budget.

Rumsfeld's link to CSP is not his only affiliation with the Star Wars lobby. He's also on the board of Empower America, which ran deceptive ads against anti-NMD Senator Harry Reid of Nevada in the run-up to the November 1998 elections. In recognition of

his service to the missile defense lobby, in October 1998—just three months after his “objective” assessment of the missile threat was released—CSP awarded Rumsfeld its “Keeper of the Flame” award for 1998 at a gala dinner attended by several hundred Star Wars boosters. In accepting the award, Rumsfeld joined the company of Reagan, Gingrich and several Congressional NMD boosters.

NMD RESURGENT: FAST TRACK TO OBLIVION?

In a reprise of the political two-step that preceded the 1996 presidential elections (Republicans lead, Clintonites follow), the Clinton Administration moved closer to the Republican position on missile defense with a January 1999 announcement that the President would seek a six-year, \$112 billion increase in Pentagon spending. The proposal included \$6.6 billion in new funding for procurement of missile defense equipment before 2005, the new target date for NMD deployment established by Defense Secretary William Cohen.

Clinton's decision to accelerate NMD funding was propelled in part by the furor caused by North Korea's August 1998 test of a two-stage ballistic missile, but the trump card in the Republican-led effort to jack up both overall military spending and NMD “deployment readiness” funding was the backlash from the Monica Lewinsky affair.

Long before the Lewinsky scandal, Clinton decided that throwing money at the Pentagon was the best way to shore up his credentials as Commander in Chief and divert attention from allegations that he had dodged the draft during the Vietnam War. By the fall of 1998, the combination of a growing federal budget surplus and the President's perceived political weakness resulting from the Lewinsky matter emboldened Congressional Republicans and Clinton's own Joint Chiefs of Staff to press him for billions of dollars in additional military funds.

In mid-September, the Joint Chiefs invited the President to a closed-door briefing where they read Clinton their wish lists on everything from boosting military pay and weapons procurement to applying fresh coats of paint to underutilized military bases. Within a week's time Clinton sent the Chief a letter pledging a Pentagon budget increase that would insure that “the men and women of our armed forces will have the resources they need to do their jobs.” In October, Congressional Republicans did the Joint Chiefs one better, loading up Clinton's \$1 billion Pentagon supplemental appropriations bill aimed at addressing the military's newfound “readiness crisis” with what analyst John Isaacs of the Council for a Livable World has described as “a \$9 billion grab bag of pet projects” that included an additional \$1 billion for National Missile Defense.

Clinton's apparent embrace of NMD prompted Helle Bering of the conservative Washington Times to complain bitterly that “Clinton has appropriated yet another set of Republican issues.” In mid-January Cohen took the Administration's NMD commitment one step further when he made the highly provocative statement that if the United States deemed it necessary to withdraw from the ABM treaty in order to field an effective defense against rogue-state missiles, it would do so regardless of Russia's reaction.

Meanwhile, back on Capitol Hill, NMD advocates were rallying around Senator Thad Cochran's National Missile Defense Act. In March 1999, aided by the votes of moderate and conservative Democrats who had been persuaded in part by the Rumsfeld Commission's official (albeit misleading) depiction of the North Korean missile threat, the House and Senate both passed bills calling

for the deployment of a national missile defense system “as soon as it is technologically feasible.”

Clinton signed the bill into law that July. Although his signing message made it clear that the Administration will consider economic, technical and arms-control factors before deciding whether to deploy an NMD system, Star Wars boosters in Congress have been portraying the legislation as a firm national commitment come hell or high water.

THE NMD DECEPTION

From its inception in the Reagan White House to its resurrection in the Clinton era, the marketing of missile defense has been accompanied at every step by exaggerated technical claims, misleading cost estimates and outright lies. If experience is any guide, the missile defense test scheduled for late June or early July will almost be certainly be rigged. (In 1984, in an instance of fraud that only came to light nine years later, a test of Lockheed's Homing Overlay Experiment was rigged by placing a beacon in the target missile so that it could literally signal its location to the interceptor missile.)

But even if the next test misfires, the Pentagon's Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) has already put forward a rationale that Clinton could use to give the green light for deployment, namely that two more “hit to test” tests could be squeezed in between now and next spring, when construction will begin on the critical NMD radar site in Shemya, Alaska, if Clinton decides to go full speed ahead on deployment. Even one successful “hit” in any of these next three tests—which will occur before BMDO contractors actually break ground on the Alaska radar project but after the Administration has committed funds to long-lead-time materials and services that will be needed to meet the starting date for construction—will be offered as proof of the dubious proposition that the system will work under real-world conditions.

Unfortunately, fraudulent testing of missile defense components is far from ancient history. Nira Schwartz, a computer software expert who worked on tests of the NMD interceptor for TRW, filed a civil suit against the company in April 1996 charging that it forced her to misreport her findings on the critical question of whether the interceptor missile can tell the difference between a real warhead and a decoy. The documents in the case were unsealed earlier this year and featured in a March 7 front-page *New York Times* story. The company has denied Schwartz's allegations, but another engineer who worked on the tests has backed her up.

Since Schwartz' claims became public earlier this year, MIT missile defense expert Theodore Postol had conducted an independent analysis of the data generated by the test in question, and he has concluded that the results raise fundamental questions about the ability of any currently available technology to discriminate between warheads and decoys. Since this capability is essential for even a modest NMD system to have any chance of intercepting a handful of incoming warheads, TRW and the Pentagon have gone to great lengths to cover up this embarrassing fact. When Postol sent a letter to the White House outlining his findings, the Pentagon responded by ruling that the contents of Postol's letter should be classified on the grounds that they contained top-secret material. On May 25 the BMDO released a cursory letter charging that Postol's findings were “incomplete” and his conclusions “wrong” because “Dr. Postol is not considering all the capabilities of our system of systems.” Postol fired back the same day at a DC press conference organized by the Global Research/Action Center on the

Environment, presenting his technical critique of the NMD system in detail and slamming the Administration for “foot-dragging and playing politics with an important decision that directly affects the security of the nation” rather than appointing an impartial panel to investigate seriously his charges of fraud in the test program.

In addition to the evidence of outright fraud, the NMD program has recently been subjected to a flurry of questions from critics within the Pentagon and the U.S. intelligence community. On May 19, a few days after Postol sent his letter to the White House, the *Los Angeles Times* published an interview with a high-level U.S. intelligence official who flatly contradicted the Clinton Administration's contention that China has nothing to fear from a limited U.S. NMD system. The official also noted that the North Korean and Iranian missile threats have not been moving along as rapidly as expected, and he asserted that the concept of the “rogue state” was in itself an impediment to objective analysis of the missile threat.

Meanwhile, a blue-ribbon panel chaired by former Reagan Administration Secretary of the Air Force Gen. Larry Welch has issued two scathing critiques of NMD program management, the first of which pointed out that the NMD system was on a far tighter testing schedule than any recent weapons development program of comparable scale. It went on to charge that the program was on a headlong “rush to failure.” The second Welch report, released this past November, strongly encouraged the Administration to push back its NMD deployment decision to avoid “regressing to a very high risk schedule.” In February a report by Philip Coyle, the Pentagon's director of operational test and evaluation, charged that the Pentagon was facing heavy pressure to “meet an artificial decision point in the development process.”

There is one final element distorting the NMD testing program: corporate greed. The major corporate players in the NMD testing program—Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon—all have serious and direct conflicts of interest, since the results of the tests they are helping to carry out will determine whether they start reaping multibillion-dollar missile defense contracts over the next few years. Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon has tried to wave off charges of fraud involving TRW's NMD “hit to kill” vehicle by arguing that TRW's version has not been chosen for inclusion in the final NMD system. However, Bacon fails to mention that Boeing, which is now in charge of overall systems integration for the entire NMD project, designed the interceptor vehicle that has been the subject of the fraud allegations. Whether Boeing colluded with TRW's manipulation of test results or merely overlooked them, it doesn't bode well for its role as the principal monitoring agent for subcontractors. The fox is guarding the chicken coop: If Boeing is able to orchestrate a series of seemingly credible tests, it stands to make billions of dollars in production contracts for decades to come. This inherent conflict of interest at the heart of the NMD testing programs is one of the factors that have led missile defense experts at MIT and the Union of Concerned Scientists to call for the appointment of an independent panel to assess the feasibility of missile defense before the President makes a deployment decision.

Boeing is not the only company with an interest in helping the Pentagon put the best face on the NMD program. Lockheed Martin, whose “legacy” company, Lockheed Aircraft, was in charge of the 1984 Homing Overlay Experiment, which was later exposed as fraudulent, brags in a recent edition of its

company newsletter, *Lockheed Martin Today*, that it produces the rockets used to propel both the mock warhead and the "kill vehicle" involved in NMD "hit to kill" tests. This is certainly a convenient setup if the company and the BMDO are thinking of stacking the deck on the next intercept test to insure a successful result.

Of the four largest NMD contractors (the others are Boeing, Raytheon and TRW), Lockheed Martin has the most to gain. If US/Russian arms-reduction talks are stymied by US stubbornness on NMD, Lockheed Martin will be able to sustain its key nuclear weapons programs. And if NMD deployment moves forward, Lockheed Martin will receive billions in additional funding for production of numerous components and subcomponents of the national missile defense system.

Given what's at stake, the companies have decided to leave nothing to chance. Since Republicans took control of both houses of Congress in January 1995, weapons industry PAC's have given twice as much to Republican Congressional candidates as they have to Democrats, a far higher margin than prevailed when the Democrats ruled Capitol Hill, when they receive about 55 percent of defense industry PAC funds, compared with 45 percent for Republicans. Hard-line Star Warriors have gotten the bulk of this industry largesse. A World Policy Institute analysis of two recent pro-Star Wars letters to President Clinton—one from twenty-five senators organized by Jesse Helms stating that they would kill any arms-control deal with the Russians that attempted to put any limits on the scope of future NMD deployments, the other from thirty-one Republican senators pushing the Center for Security Policy's pet project, a sea-based missile defense system—reveals that the signatories of these pro-Star Wars missives have received a total of nearly \$2 million in PAC contributions from missile defense contractors in this election cycle.

Lockheed Martin has not neglected the presidential candidates. On the Republican side Lockheed Martin vice president Bruce Jackson, who served as chairman of the US Committee to Expand NATO, was overheard by one of the authors at an industry gathering last year bragging about how the industry's troubles will be over if George W. Bush is elected, since Jackson would be personally writing the defense plank of the Republican platform. And Loral CEO Bernard Schwartz, who has longstanding ties to Lockheed Martin dating from when Lockheed absorbed Loral's defense unit in 1996, was the top individual donor of soft money to the Democratic Party in the 1996 presidential cycle; Loral employees gave \$601,000 to Democratic Party committees. Schwartz has nearly doubled that amount in the run-up to the November 2000 elections, with \$1.1 million in soft-money contributions to Democratic committees to date. He was briefly in the spotlight last year when he was accused of lobbying the Clinton Administration to ease the standards for the export of satellite technology to China.

NMD AND BEYOND

The continued pursuit of NMD will have far-reaching consequences for the future of arms control and goal of nuclear abolition. It will mean a false sense of security for Americans and an increased threat of nuclear war for the world.

Instead of going down the road, the US government should focus its energy and resources on preventative measures. When Clinton meets with Putin on June 4, he could pledge to get US/Russian nuclear reductions back on track through steps that include

seeking increased funding for the Cooperative Threat Reduction program—which has helped finance the destruction of thousands of Russian nuclear warhead and weapons facilities—and working toward continued reductions in US and Russian nuclear forces under START agreements. Clinton could also pledge to work for ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which was defeated last fall by the Senate despite overwhelming public support. Above all, Clinton could assure Russia that the United States has no intention of withdrawing from the ABM treaty. That would put Al Gore in a much stronger position to criticize George W. Bush's misleading proposal to pursue unilateral cuts in US nuclear forces in combination with an ambitious NMD plan that would usher in an era of instability by demolishing what's left of the global nuclear arms control regime.

The newly resurgent peace and arms-control movement, led by organizations like Peace Action, the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Global Network Against Nuclear Weapons and Power in Space, and the Fourth Freedom Forum, is trying to generate a large-enough outcry for "arms reductions, not missile defense" over this summer to beat back missile defense hysteria. But stopping NMD is just one step toward a sane nuclear policy; ultimately only the abolition of all nuclear weapons can provide the safety and security that Reagan and his latter-day disciples have pledged to provide through the false promise of missile defense.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERNEST J. ISTOOK, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I was unable to vote on H.R. 8, the Death Tax Elimination Act of 2000. Had I been in Washington, I would have voted yes. I regret that I was not able to vote on this very important bill to help reduce the enormous tax burden on the American public.

I was also unable to vote on the amendment to remove the prohibition on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) proposed ergonomics regulations. I would have voted to keep the prohibition.

TRIBUTE ON THE CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on June 19th, thousands of African Americans in Galveston, Texas, the birthplace of Juneteenth, and around the Nation will celebrate this holiday of freedom and justice.

Juneteenth, as this holiday is known, is a celebration of emancipation from slavery. On June 19, 1865, 30 months after President Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation, General Gordon Granger, who had been placed in command of the Federal occupation troops, arrived at Galveston Bay. He issued

General Order No. 3—Emancipation. This was the birth of Juneteenth in Texas. Juneteenth celebrations were held informally for 115 years.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Texas State Representative Al Edwards. In 1978, Mr. Edwards envisioned that blacks could have a formal celebration of emancipation from slavery. During his first year as a legislator he wrote and lobbied to get passed into law the bill making June 19th a legal State holiday. Overcoming numerous setbacks, Representative Edwards pushed the bill through successful votes of the Texas House of Representatives and Senate within the last 24 hours of Texas' 66th Legislative Session. At a memorable and historical ceremony on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol in Austin, hundreds of supporters witnessed the bill's signing into law by Governor William P. Clements on June 13, 1979. As a result of Representative Edwards' efforts, Texans now witness the "New Celebration of Juneteenth," an official State holiday.

Mr. Speaker, freedom is a cherished word to all humanity, particularly to those in bondage. I challenge all of us to take this opportunity while we celebrate our rich history of freedom to rededicate ourselves to equal opportunity for all Americans, because that is at the heart of Juneteenth and the American ideal.

ROBERT P. CASEY: LIBERAL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the June 5, 2000 Washington Post contained an excellent column by Mark Shields concerning Robert P. Casey, entitled "A Conservative in Name Only."

The column points out the progressive nature of Bob Casey's reign as Governor of Pennsylvania from 1987–1995. During this time, Shields writes, Governor Casey enacted a Children's Health Insurance Program which mandated early intervention and coverage for every child until age 5, rebuilt the state water supply system, chose more women cabinet members than any other Governor at the time, appointed the nation's first African American woman to a state Supreme Court, and brought family and parental leave to the state.

So with this record, why is he considered a conservative? Because he happened to be strongly anti-abortion in a party that is strongly pro-choice. Thankfully, our party has come a long way since those days in terms of tolerance for other views on this and other issues, and therefore it should no longer be the case that one issue should entirely overwhelm a public official's lifetime public record.

Robert P. Casey was an effective public servant and improved the lives of thousands of families in his state. He is survived by his wife and children, and many, many of us who will think of him fondly, and with great respect for what he stood for.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 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. SANFORD. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of a strong national defense, but in reluctant opposition to the FY 2001 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (H.R. 4576). A strong defense is not simply a function of how much we spend, but also of how intelligently we spend it. Depending on who's counting, the United States spends as much on defense as the next six or seven highest countries combined. The 281 billion that the United States spent on defense in 1998 was more than all of our NATO allies combined and accounted for more than a third of all world military spending. Yet today, our military faces serious problems in training, recruiting, retention, and readiness.

One reason for this situation is the lack of a coherent national strategy. Our men and women in uniform have been dispatched across the globe in operations that are not in the national interest. This wears out our soldiers and equipment, and leaves the military less prepared to defend real national interests. The common lament I hear is that we are "spreading ourselves too thin". The lion's share of responsibility for this problem lies with the Administration.

But we're spreading ourselves too thin in the defense budget process as well, and responsibility for that falls on Congress. Congress continues to spend critical defense dollars on items that the Pentagon does not want or need.

For example:

1. F-15 aircraft—The Air Force requested no funds for additional F-15 aircraft, but the House passed \$400 million for 5 addition F-15E's. The Air Force has difficulty getting spare parts for the planes it already has. Building more unrequested planes only aggravates that problem.

2. Cold Weather Equipment—Congress added \$24 million for Gore-Tex cold weather gear that the Pentagon did not request, at the request of a Congressman whose constituents manufacture the gear. With the recruiting problems the military has, it has difficulty getting enough soldiers just to fill out the gear it already has.

3. Wolverine Heavy Assault Bridge—The Army requested no funds for the Wolverine heavy assault bridge. In fact, although the Army received \$82 million for the Wolverine for FY 2000, it did not intend to spend it on the bridge. H.R. 4576 commands the Army to spend the \$82 million on the Wolverine, as well as an additional \$15 million. In short, Congress is forcing the Army to spend \$97 million on a bridge that it doesn't need.

4. Medical Research—The Administration requested \$16.5 million for medical research

in the defense bill. The Appropriations Committee reported out \$252.2 million in H.R. 4576, including: \$6 million for laser vision correction research, \$3.7 million for nutrition research, \$10 million for ovarian cancer research, \$15 million for HIV research, \$3 million for chronic fatigue research, and \$7 million for alcoholism research.

Now, some of these programs may be valid, but they are non-defense items. We have a Labor/Health and Human Services Appropriations bill that is more suitable for these programs. Hiding these items within H.R. 4576 is unfair to our taxpayers.

In addition, H.R. 4576 skirted two important issues with profound budget and readiness implications:

Base Realignment and Closure Commission—H.R. 4576 does not include funding for two new BRAC rounds, despite the fact that the Pentagon has estimated it has an excess base capacity of 23%. CBO estimates that two new BRAC rounds would save the Defense Department \$4.7 billion by 2010, and that after completion in 2012, DOD could realize recurring savings of about \$4 billion per year. Congress' inaction means that the Pentagon must continue to waste billions of taxpayer dollars maintaining obsolete bases.

Aircraft—H.R. 4576 includes billions for research, development and procurement of three different fighter planes (the Navy's F-18 E/F, The Air Force F-22, and the Navy & Air Force Joint Strike Fighter) when there is not a strong consensus that all three fighters are necessary. Some defense experts say the military needs the F-18 & F-22. Some say it needs the JSF instead. Congress' answer is simply to fund all of the fighter planes in question. Now, Congress is forging ahead with funding the production of 10 F-22 Aircraft when there are indications that the program is not ready for production. In doing so, Congress takes away from aircraft (specifically bombers and unmanned aerial aircraft [UAVs]) that, while less glamorous, are a more pressing need for the military.

I agree that the Congress should fund a military that is second to none. And H.R. 4576 does include several important items I support, like funding for domestic terrorism response, more decent enlisted pay, and missile defense. But it is also weighed down with too many items that are unnecessary for, and in fact, counterproductive to, our national defense. Therefore, I reluctantly oppose the bill.

HONORING STEPHEN CHEN OF THE TAIWAN ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE [TECRO]

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I express our deepest appreciation to Representative Stephen Chen of the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Representative Office [TECRO] for his service as his country's senior diplomat here in Washington since 1997. Stephen has served the people of Taiwan with distinction for over 47 years as a member of Taiwan's diplomatic corps. He has served abroad in the Philippines, Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia and as

Vice Foreign Minister and Deputy Secretary General to President Lee in Taiwan. Stephen has been a staunch supporter of bilateral relations between the United States and Taiwan and has earned the respect and friendship of many Members of Congress. I invite my colleagues to join in wishing Stephen and his family best wishes on the occasion of his return to Taiwan and his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO ANGELICA MILTON

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to honor Angelica Milton of Folkston, GA. Anglica was named a National Award Winner for honor roll. This prestigious award is offered to fewer than 10% of American high school students. Angelica was selected by her teachers and school staff members for her excellent academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, and dependability.

Angelica is an exceptional young lady, who exemplifies the qualities of a true leader, and I am proud to recognize her as an outstanding citizen of my district.

RECOGNIZING THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION AND POSTAL SERVICE EFFORTS IN PROMOTING CONSUMER AWARENESS OF UNSAFE PRODUCTS

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, defective products can have devastating effects on American lives. One of the strongest safeguards we have in protecting the safety and health of our citizens is the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The CPSC is working with manufacturers and retailers to keep harmful or dangerous products off of store shelves and away from Americans.

The U.S. Postal Service has made an innovative attempt at remedying this problem by giving defective products more exposure in its offices. Over 33,000 post offices nationwide are displaying posters containing color pictures of products recalled by the CPSC. Since almost 7 million people visit those post offices everyday to mail letters and ship packages, this should be highly effective in disseminating to consumers the names of those products that have been recalled by the CPSC.

I would like to share with my colleagues an editorial that recently appeared in the Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel regarding this issue. I applaud the CPSC and the Postal Service for their initiative in protecting the public.

[From the Sun-Sentinel, Apr. 24, 2000]

PRODUCT RECALLS—POSTERS IN POST OFFICES WILL HELP

The U.S. Postal Service, which for years has been helping to get defective product off

the streets by displaying the FBI's "most wanted" list, now wants to do the same with defective products.

Posters containing color pictures of products recalled by the Consumer Product Safety Commission are going up in 33,000 post offices nationwide. Every day, about 7 million people will visit those post offices to mail letters and ship packages. Now they'll be able to get potentially life-saving information while they're there.

"We can get dangerous products off store shelves, but the real challenge is to get them out of families' homes," commission Chairwoman Ann Brown said.

That's the crux of it. As more and more products are recalled, a smaller and smaller percentage of them rate a mention in news reports. For the rest, it's left to consumers to determine whether products they own have been recalled. That's a bad system, and as the Sun-Sentinel reported in its product recall series last year, several proposals have been put forth to fix it.

Ralph Nader, for example, has suggested using computers to notify consumers immediately if products they own have been recalled. Others want to repeal or modify section 6b of the Consumer Product Safety Act, which requires that recalls be kept secret until the companies involved can review the information, a process that can take years.

Those are good ideas, but unless and until they are implemented, displaying posters in post offices will help. It's another way in which the post office can serve as "the one hand that binds this nation together," as one postal official put it.

And hey, if you see any wanted criminals on your way to return a defective product, call the police and tell them you want to report a defective person.

NATIVE NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR
LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT,
AND POLICY ACT OF 2000

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to establish the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy (NNI). I am pleased to be joined by the Chairman of the Resources Committee Mr. Young and a number of our colleagues.

The Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management and Policy will provide an essential and comprehensive training program for American Indian leaders so that present and future generations of tribal leaders will have access to necessary management and policy decision making skills.

The Native Nations Institute will be based at the University of Arizona and be under the leadership and guidance of the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy. The Udall Center will take on primary responsibility for the implementation of NNI's programs while the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation (established by Public Law 102-259) will approve NNI's annual budget and manage any federal appropriations. The governing committee of NNI will be comprised of individuals from the Morris K. Udall Foundation, the Udall Center, representatives from Indian Nations, and representa-

tives from other academic groups directly involved in NNI's projects.

The Native Nations Institute will empower Native American leaders by providing a comprehensive program that focuses on (1) leadership and management training and (2) policy analysis. The leadership and management training program has six components that will (a) provide for the current educational needs of the senior leaders and managers of Indian Nations, (b) provide a distance learning program that reaches a broad reservation audience, and (c) provide a Master's degree in Public Administration focused on tribal governance and designed for mid-career individuals and students who are seeking careers in tribal government. In addition, the leadership and management program will (d) create an alliance with tribal colleges that provide curricular materials, program cooperation, and assistance in meeting the educational needs of Indian reservations, (e) provide a nine month Washington DC internship program focusing on federal government, and (f) create a curriculum development program designed for NNI and for other educational institutions working in Indian country. All of the components in the leadership and management program will share a common focus—they will enable skills such as nation-building, strategic planning and policy making, administration and management, and external relations to be developed and strengthened. As policy makers ourselves, we can do no greater service to Indian tribes than to provide them with opportunities to help strengthen their governments.

Policy analysis, the second program at the NNI, will address contemporary issues facing tribal governments including economic development, solving intricate social problems, interacting with other governments, and managing natural resources. NNI will perform policy research grounded in Indian country to address these issues and will use this research in the leadership and management training program by providing data, case studies, and analysis for the program's students.

By providing indigenous people customized educational experiences in policy and management, we will continue to move toward the policy goal of self-determination for Indian tribes. I urge my colleagues to recognize and to continue to fulfill our obligation to Indian Nations by supporting the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy Act of 2000.

HONORING AFRICAN AMERICAN
MUSIC AND KANSAS CITY JAZZ

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the House gave unanimous support to House Resolution 509 offered by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania's 2nd district, Representative CHAKA FATTAH. This resolution recognizes the importance of the United States to study, reflect on, and celebrate African American music. Artists have used and continue to use the African American experience as an important source of inspiration for various musical genres including jazz, gospel, blues, rhythm

and blues, rap, and hip-hop. It is especially important to recognize this in June, which President Clinton designated three years ago as African American Music Month. In 1997, the President noted that ". . . America's musical heritage music is the voice that proclaims who we are as a people, then African Americans have helped to give this voice its content, its tone, its volume, and its power. . . . This music continues to grow and change, continuously adding depth and richness to America's cultural heritage."

African American music, more specifically jazz, has played an important role in the cultural development of Missouri's Fifth District. In the 1920's and 1930's, Kansas City was the birthplace of swing and a major center in the maturation of bebop style jazz. Several jazz greats including Charlie "Bird" Parker, Count Basie, Big Joe Turner, and Jay McShann have called Kansas City their home, and their legacy is alive and well in the community today.

To recognize Kansas City's role in jazz history and to further the appreciation of the art form, Kansas City has revitalized the district where jazz once played non-stop through the night. In 1997, the American Jazz Museum opened at the historic 18th and Vine address immortalized in Lieber and Stoller's song "Kansas City." This 50,000-square-foot complex features interactive exhibits and sound samples chronicling the music and the musicians who made jazz great. Dedicated to the unknown African Americans who fought for self-sufficiency, the American Jazz Museum also remembers the plight of Africans in America from slavery to freedom. The Parker Memorial adjacent to the museum is a 17-foot sculpture of Charlie Parker in honor of his vast contributions to American culture. More than 350,000 visitors from the inner city, suburbs, and around the country experienced the museum last year alone.

Kansas City showcases African American music through its annual Blues and Jazz festival which takes place near the historic WWI Liberty Memorial. More than 50,000 people come from all parts of the city and the region to enjoy some of the best music America has to offer.

This resolution also comes in conjunction with the Jazz Conference sponsored by BET on Jazz and Billboard Magazine June 7-9 in Washington, DC to discuss new strategies for taking jazz into the new millennium. I hope many of my distinguished colleagues join me at this historic event to study the past and anticipate the future of jazz.

By recognizing the influence and importance of African American music, we have called on Americans to learn the history of blues, jazz, and other genres. Hopefully, other cities will follow Kansas City's lead to promote and study the musicians and their music. Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending the gentleman from Pennsylvania and supporting adoption of this historic resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was home in my district this Tuesday, June 6, to vote

and participate in my state's primary election. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes Nos. 234, 235, 236, and 237.

EDUCATION IN MINNESOTA

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation of the House Education and the Workforce Committee conducted an oversight field hearing last Monday in the State of Minnesota.

Among the most informative presentations made before the member participants was one delivered by Mr. John H. Scribante, a Minnesota businessman and honorable American.

Mr. Scribante's passion for children and their need for first-rate learning opportunity was most impressive and we hereby submit for the RECORD the remarks of Mr. Scribante regarding the important topic of school reform.

Mr. Speaker, we commend the excellent observations and conclusions made by Mr. Scribante to our colleagues.

EDUCATIONAL FASCISM IN MINNESOTA

(A statement submitted by John H. Scribante—Entrepreneur)

(Respectfully submitted to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations Committee on Education and the Workforce, June 6, 2000)

STATEMENT

We're gathered here this morning at a very interesting time . . . 56 years ago today, D-Day, 2,500 Allied soldiers died in Normandy fighting Fascist Germany for the freedom for Americans to pursue liberty. This offers us a unique perspective on this monumental issue of educational change. We're poised at the beginning of the 21st century, and while the rest of the world is abandoning central labor planning, Minnesota is driving through School-to-Work programs for central control of its economy against the will of the people.

Consider that in just over 200 years, this country became the Greatest Nation on Earth. We've had more Nobel Prize recipients than any other industrialized nation. We've sent men into outer space and brought them back alive; we've pioneered open-heart surgery, and our science and technologies are copied worldwide. Those who accomplished these incredible feats were the product of an education system that emphasized academics, not life-long job training.

I've been to Eastern Europe, I've seen the life destroying results of governments trying to plan the economy and control education, and I've spoken to people who have been subject to their central controls. This is not what America was founded on . . . and besides; it has been proven not to work. Those of you who have sworn to uphold the United States Constitution will be hard pressed to support such a system of tyranny.

Today in Minnesota, the best interests of children have become secondary to the interests of bureaucrats, un-elected non-profits, and economic forecasts. In many districts,

The world is open-ended. We don't know what we will learn tomorrow. We can be sure that at any particular time, we are overlooking valuable information and opportunities. Our knowledge is incomplete and resources are, undoubtedly being misdirected.

However, we have a 225-year proven method for discovering and correcting these errors called Capitalism. Entrepreneurs search out instances where resources are being under-utilized and redirect them to those that produce profits . . . nothing else approaches its power to stimulate discovery. The application of this principal in education should be obvious. Since we don't know today what we may learn tomorrow about educational methods and knowledge, we need entrepreneurship in education. Government is not equipped for the task.

History has proven, time and time again, that where competition does not exist, mediocrity ensues. Nowhere is this truer than in many of America's public schools.

If you must have government-funded education, at least leave the private schools and home schools alone to compete for ideas and innovation.

BUSINESSES HAVE BEEN DUPED

Businessmen and women are being told that they can and should become partners in the education of our children. With tax funded incentives, subsidies, reimbursements, and free training . . . how can these businesses resist?

According to the Minnesota School to Work publication called Making Connections, page 11: the SCANS report instructs business to "look outside your company and change your view of your responsibilities for human resource development. Your old responsibilities were to select the best available applicants and to retain those you hired. Your new responsibilities must be to improve the way you organize work and to develop the human resources in your community, your firm, and your nation."

The Minnesota STW program seeks 100% employer compliance and further provides a "Work-Based Learning Coordinator" to "help" me in my "responsibilities" of complying with this lunacy. Who is running my business anyway? I've got all the capital at risk . . . Just leave me out of this mess.

This experiment may be very attractive in the short run . . . but business will pay in the long run in higher taxes to fund these programs, in less educated people and a loss of economic freedom. Productive labor is their goal, not an educated populace. This will be the end of a free America.

My company needs entrepreneurial minds and intellectual capital. People who can think, read, write, and add. I interview many young people who are products of Minnesota schools, and they cannot solve simple conversion equations. Who is training students for what I need? What is wrong with teaching people how to think? I don't need work skills . . . I need people who can think of great ideas and be willing to put their knowledge to the test!

Why is it that government vigilantly looks for predatory pricing, anticompetitive, and monopolistic behavior in the private sector, and yet it is the greatest offender?

To quote Ralph Moore "The REAL credit in life should go to those who get into the ARENA—if they fail, they at least fail while DARING TO BE GREAT. Their place in life will never be with those COLD AND TIMID SOULS who know neither victory nor defeat."

In a free market economy, consumers ultimately determine what is produced. What school or government bureaucrat could have predicted ten years ago how many webmasters we would need today? From the information I've seen from the Department of Labor's SCANS reports, they're planning on teaching manure spreading, car washing, working the fryer at the diner and how to take a message off an answering machine.

In St. Cloud, MN, the STW program has already put a company out of business and severed off the arm of a 17-year-old student running a machine on a STW assignment.

School-to-work is a dangerous shift in education policy in America. It moves public education's mission from the transfer of academic knowledge to simply training children for specific jobs. And most tragically, the job for which it will train will have little or nothing to do with that child's dreams, goals, or ambitions.

Parents, however, in this three way partnership with business and the State may be troubled knowing that their children are the pawns that the educational system trains to meet the needs of industry.

The economic goals of education should never be promoted over the virtue and importance of knowledge itself. School to work transition issues would disappear if schools focused on strengthening core curricula, setting high expectations, and improving discipline and forgetting about retrying failed ideas.

THE RESULT

The sad truth is, in exchange for federal chump change, the state of Minnesota sold out its commitment to high academic standards and agreed to follow national standards based on moral relativism, politically correct group thinking, and getting kids out of the classroom to work in local businesses, beginning in kindergarten.

Our state threw out a system of education that worked brilliantly for most all Minnesota youngsters. It worked brilliantly, that is, until approximately 35 years ago when Minnesota public education started flirting with the progressive, trendy movement away from high academic standards. Under the Profile of Learning, high academic standards are practically banned from the classroom.

In 1993, the Minnesota legislature repealed 230 education statutes, thus creating a structural vacuum to make way for the new federal Goals 2000 system already in the works. This left Minnesota without tried and true standards.

There are no longer any course requirements for any child in Minnesota. No 4 years of English, no 4 years of history, no 3 years of math, or a year of geography, or years of science. Most public schools don't have a copy of the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution and few even mention them in classes.

This system is really nothing new. Tyranny has always waited in the wings, ready to step to center stage at the first hint of apathy towards freedom.

For over 230 years we've enjoyed the finest freedom and prosperity the world has ever known. Yet we were warned by Edmund Burke that, "The eternal price of liberty is vigilance." As a people we've been asleep at the switch, and now our entire nation, not just Minnesota, has signed on to this crazy new system of totalitarianism, where everyone is under government's control, from cradle to grave.

This system has been tried around the world, across the centuries. But it is radically new for those of us used to freedom. This new system has more to do with fascism than freedom.

Now we need to work to eliminate the entire STW & Goals 2000 system, while there is time. As Sir Winston Churchill wrote to convince the British to join in the fight against Nazi Germany: "If you will not fight for the right—when you can easily win without bloodshed, if you will not fight when your

victory will be sure—and not too costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight—with all the odds against you—and only a precarious chance of survival. There may be even a worst case. You may have to fight—when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves.”

CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY IN TAIWAN: INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIEN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the peaceful and democratic transition of executive power in the Republic of China on Taiwan. On May 20, 2000, the presidential inauguration of Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) leader Chen Shui-Bien marked the culmination of decades of political, social, and economic reform. Chen's ascent to power—the first President not a member of the long dominant Kuomintang (KMT) party—is only the latest illustration of the democratic culture that characterizes Taiwan in the twenty-first century.

Today, Mr. Speaker, Taiwan reflects the principles envisioned by Dr. Sun Yat-sen when he led the successful movement to overthrow the Chinese emperor and the undemocratic imperial system nearly ninety years ago. While the times after Dr. Sun's victory initially were tumultuous—civil wars, World War II, the establishment of the People's Republic of China, and the establishment of the Republic of China on Taiwan—they strengthened the Taiwanese people and forced them to overcome obstacles that stood in the way of their freedom and prosperity. By the 1970's, Taiwan had become a thriving marketplace of industry, ideas, and culture. It exported products to all corners of the globe and won the respect of the largest and most vibrant free market economies.

In recent years, economic justice has been mirrored by the flourishing of social justice, human rights, and democracy. During the 1980's Taiwan's leaders lifted restrictions on freedom of expression and freedom of the press. As these constraints were eased, the openness of political debate grew exponentially. Competitive local and regional elections were first held in 1980, followed by the development of opposition parties and Taiwan's first competitive presidential election in 1996. The victor of that campaign, President Lee Teng-hui, received a mandate to continue his principled efforts to liberalize Taiwanese society.

Mr. Speaker, these progressive reforms seem likely to thrive under the leadership of President Chen Shui-Bien. The son of a farm laborer, he excelled in his studies and became a prominent defense attorney. During the early 1980's, Chen began providing legal assistance to opposition leaders, and this eventually led him to enter politics in a more active capacity. This was not a simple calling during the pre-reform years. Chen, the editor of a dissident magazine, Formosa, served time in jail on a trumped up libel charge brought by a government politician. He persisted, however, and he eventually served as a DPP member in the

Legislative Yuan and later as the mayor of the capital city of Taipei. His success in the latter role prompted Time Magazine to name him as one of the 100 most promising young leaders of the 21st century.

President Chen's inaugural address offered more evidence of his commitment to freedom and political openness. He proclaimed his devotion to human rights with a passion that demands respect: “We are also willing to promise a more active contribution in safeguarding international human rights. The Republic of China cannot and will not remain outside global human rights trends. We will abide by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention for Civil and Political Rights, and the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action. We will bring the Republic of China back into the international human rights system. . . . We hope to set up an independent national human rights commission in Taiwan, thereby realizing an action long advocated by the United Nations. We will also invite two outstanding non-governmental organizations, the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International, to assist us in our measures to protect human rights and make the Republic of China into a new indicator for human rights in the 21st Century.”

Mr. Speaker, as the founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I applaud President Chen's determination to stand up for justice and civil liberties.

I am also confident, Mr. Speaker, that Taiwan under the leadership of President Chen Shui-Bien will continue to work for peace with the Mainland in the years to come. Chen has pledged to continue negotiations with China and increase economic and social cooperation across the Taiwan Straits. He realizes that understanding—not violence and conflict—offers the promise of ending the tension between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China. As Chen explained to an Asian Wall Street Journal reporter last April, “Pursuing lasting peace in the region is not only our highest goal, it is also the moral responsibility of the leadership.”

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in offering wholehearted congratulations to President Chen and Vice President Annette Lu on their inaugurations, and in commending the people of Taiwan for their commitment to peace, democracy, and human rights.

FAREWELL TO PAGES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal gratitude to all of the pages who have served so diligently in the House of Representatives during the 106th Congress.

We all recognize the important role that congressional pages play in helping the House of Representatives operate. This group of young people, who come from all across our Nation, represent what is good about our country. To become a page, these young people have proven themselves to be academically qualified. They have ventured away from the security of their homes and families to spend time in an unfamiliar city. Through this experience,

they have witnessed a new culture, made new friends, and learned the details of how our Government operates.

As we all know, the job of a congressional page is not an easy one. Along with being away from home, the pages must possess the maturity to balance competing demands for their time and energy. In addition, they must have the dedication to work long hours and the ability to interact with people at a personal level. At the same time, they face challenging academic schedule of classes in the House Page School. I am sure they will consider their time spent in Washington, D.C. to be one of the most valuable and exciting experiences of their lives, and that with this experience they will all move ahead to lead successful and productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, as the Democratic Member on the House Page Board, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this group of distinguished young Americans. They certainly will be missed:

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TRIBUTE TO EVELYN BANKS NEELY ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished American and proud Californian, Evelyn Banks Neely, on the occasion of her retirement as director of the In- come Maintenance Division of the County of San Mateo, CA, Human Services Agency.

Evelyn Banks Neely has served San Mateo County honorably and with distinction for more than 32 years. She has been instrumental in developing and implementing innovative social services, programs, including the homeless General Assistance Program, the Greater Avenues for Independence [GAIN] Program, and the SUCCESS Program, which she piloted in Redwood City. She successfully negotiated San Mateo County's first In-Home Supportive Services contract and has served with distinc- tion as the past president of the County Ad- ministrators' Association and the San Mateo County Women in Management organization.

Evelyn Banks Neely has provided great leadership in forming Black Women in County Government, co-chairing the development of a symposium highlighting issues and strategies for preserving black families and serving as a member of the first Affirmative Action Advisory Committee in San Mateo County.

Evelyn Banks Neely has dedicated her lead- ership skills to many volunteer activities, in- cluding serving as past president of Delta Sigma Theta, serving as past president of Links, Inc., a volunteer service organization, serving as fundraising co-chair to provide scholastic benefits to high school graduates, and she has maintained active membership in the National Association of Black Social Work- ers.

Evelyn Banks Neely's accomplishments have been previously honored by the Cali-

fornia State Senate, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Evelyn Banks Neely has earned the respect, admiration, and dedication of the hundreds of Human Services staff who have served with her during her progressively responsible lead- ership positions with the County of San Mateo.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Evelyn Banks Neely for her more than 32 years of ex- emplary service to the people of County of San Mateo, the State of California and our Na- tion. Her life of leadership and community in- volvement is instructive to us all. Her dedica- tion to the ideals of democracy and public service stand tall and it is fitting that she is being honored on the occasion of her retire- ment. Therefore I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in honoring a great and good woman and someone I'm privileged to call my friend and colleague. We are indeed a better county, a better country, and a better people because of Evelyn Banks Neely.

THE DEDICATION OF THE JOHN D. ONG LIBRARY

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 10, Western Reserve Academy in Hud- son, OH, will dedicate a new building, the John D. Ong Library. I am pleased to note, that it is not a memorial service, but one of celebration. For John Ong, when he is not tending to his Pennsylvania farm, continues to contribute his time, wisdom, and service to our community and to our Nation.

John Ong has described himself as "the World's Most Flexible Man." But that flexibility does not mean inconsistency. Since his col- lege days, John Ong has recognized that a knowledge of history and the humanities is es- sential for well-rounded citizenship. So, while John embraces change, he values the prin- ciples that guide and strengthen our Nation. He understands that committed corporate ac- tivism strengthen communities as much as it does corporate ledgers and the national econ- omy. He is a reminder of the good things that come about when businesses and their lead- ers see themselves as part of the community rather than as self-interested, self-contained entities.

John Ong's career in business is a well doc- umented story of accomplishment and service. A graduate of the Ohio State University and the Harvard Law School, John spent 36 years at the BFGoodrich Company, rising from as- sistant counsel in 1961 to chairman and CEO from 1979 to 1997. At a time when the tire and rubber industry was buffeted by global change, John Ong demonstrated remarkable vision and leadership as he guided and trans- formed his company from a tire manufacturer into a leading provider of aircraft systems and specialty chemicals.

Today, as chairman emeritus, John has not rested on his laurels, but looks to the future, most notably through his work with New Amer- ican Schools, a non-profit corporation dedi- cated to raising student achievement through comprehensive school reform.

That devotion to the highest values in education also abides in his long relationship with Western Reserve Academy, one of the Nation's oldest and most respected independent schools. The school, like John Ong, reveres and respects the past, while keeping pace with educational innovation. Both John Ong and Western Reserve Academy are committed to excellence and high personal standards.

The founders of Western Reserve Academy hoped to create "the best institution for learning in the world." John Ong has done his part to make that vision a reality. John's service to the academy includes 20 years as a board member and 18 years as board president, directing renovations and chairing capital campaigns. During his tenure as president the school's endowment more than tripled.

For all of his business and civic good works, I think it is especially appropriate to honor John Ong by affixing his name to a library. Libraries preserve the past, the record of our Nation, the fundamentals of our culture and our society. Libraries enable us to share ideas over time and distance with great minds from the past and the present.

Most important, libraries are concrete manifestations of a commitment to our fellow citizens, to learn from the past and to look to the future. We cannot know where we are going as individuals, communities, or as a nation, if we do not first know where we have been.

Libraries today face growing challenges as they continue their honored role as guardians of free speech and inquiry, and as providers of information. The new John Ong Library at Western Reserve Academy answers that challenge—built with an appreciation of the past, but incorporating the digital technology that is daily challenging and changing how we gather and manage information.

No name could be more appropriate for such a library than that of John Ong.

Mr. Speaker, John's own words drawn from a commencement address he delivered at the Ohio State University a few years ago serve well on an occasion like this. Towards the end of his speech, he echoed the timeless words of an earlier age: "My message is . . . ask not what your rights and freedoms are in society, ask rather what duties and obligations you have toward society. Focus not on your rights but on your responsibilities. As graduates of a great university you will have plenty of opportunities for rewarding and fulfilling careers. As you pursue those careers, however, please keep in mind the larger social context in which you will be operating."

Mr. Speaker, John Ong not only spoke those words, he has lived them. His leadership has extended across the nation, but his legacy endures at home. I am proud to call him a friend, and I can think of no more fitting tribute to him than a library, dedicated to learning, dedicated to the community, and grounded in the past but dedicated to the future.

GASTONIA, AN ALL AMERICAN
CITY

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Gastonia, North Carolina for being named one of 10 All American Cities.

Gastonia has a unique history, but it won the award because it has some great plans to fight illiteracy, enhance the arts, and provide a safe environment for our kids.

The West Gastonia Boys and Girls Club has created a great mentoring program. College students mentor high school students who then mentor younger kids.

To help the arts, St. Stephen's AME Zion Church has teamed up with the United Arts Council to move into a Historic Baptist church. The church hosts shows and—on Sundays—St. Stephen's holds services.

And, Gastonia has done great things to fight illiteracy. No one demonstrates the impact of the Gaston Literacy Council better than Gary Avery, who says: "Now I can read the Bible at church, I can read with my children and I can even write my wife a love letter."

There is no doubt that Gastonia is a city of hard workers. Now Gastonia has proven to the country that no problem is too big, as long as we work together.

I commend Mayor Jennie Stutz for her pledge to create "City Pride."

As the All-American City logo is placed around town, everyone will know: Gastonia can be proud of its past, but its greatest days are ahead.

HONORING REVEREND RUTH
SMITH OF ADDISON, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding contribution of love, caring and message, that members of Congress join with her many friends and family in honoring the Reverend Ruth Smith. Ruth Smith have served for twenty years as an active minister and approaching twenty years as a retired minister of the East Liberty Church Universalist-Unitarian.

Ruth and Donald Smith have been community leaders. In addition to their church, they have made significant contributions to education through their involvement with Addison Public Schools. Ruth and Donald have contributed time and effort to improve their community, their state, and their country. They have raised four wonderful children and have seven grandchildren.

Reverend Ruth Smith's knowledge, experience and dedication to the church as well as her understanding of humanism and its abiding worth has helped and guided many.

This tribute is made to Ruth for demonstrating her success and caring in helping others along their life's journeys. Ruth Smith's leadership in improving the church in such ways as renovation, being a catalyst for harmony, and developing successful church groups such as the Kupples Klub and an active youth group is recognized.

Therefore, we are proud to join with her many admirers in extending highest praise and congratulations to Ruth Smith for her dedication and devotion to her family, her community and her forty years of association with the Universalist-Unitarian Church of East Liberty. This honor is also a testament to the family members, friends, and others whose

personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2000

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my support for H.R. 4444, a bill to extend normal trade relations to the People's Republic of China. As you know, the congressional district I represent is located in Northwest Iowa. It is one of the most productive agriculture areas in the country and I am very proud of the fact that we export our products all around the world.

We are in the process of debating probably the most important issue facing this Congress this session. This is a debate that challenges us to engage the international marketplace, or to hide behind our borders.

I believe that trade is an integral part of our foreign policy. The more our two nations interact in the marketplace, the greater potential there is for our two peoples to communicate on other issues that will foster democracy and promote values that honor and respect the basic freedoms that we take for granted here in the United States.

In addition, China's \$1.2 billion people represent a huge market for American agriculture and manufactured goods and services. Already, China is the sixth-largest market in the world for American agricultural products. The USDA projects that China will account for over one-third of the growth in U.S. agricultural exports over the next decade.

It is my opinion, and those of many of my constituents, that Iowa is better off with a Chinese market economy that plays by WTO rules and is subject to a binding WTO dispute settlement process.

We need to work with the Chinese to end export subsidies and quotas that harm Iowa farmers and those throughout the country. Under the WTO agreement, China will lower its tariffs on beef, and pork by 2004. Furthermore, these tariff reductions will enable Iowa's corn growers and over 18,000 hog producers greater access to this important market.

In the end, this debate is not about how much product we sell to China. It is about how we interact with the global community and how we shape the future. Trade will no doubt help both our great countries prosper, but in the end it will have a much more profound effect by forging a relationship that will ensure cooperation and open up Chinese society to new ideas. That is an investment worth making.

TRIBUTE TO LEON BRACHMAN

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Leon Brachman, one of Fort Worth, Texas' finest sons, in honor of his upcoming 80th birthday.

While he was born and raised in Marietta, OH, Mr. Brachman moved to Forth Worth in 1938. He married a Fort Worth girl from an old Forth Worth family and never left.

Mr. Brachman has served his adopted city in almost every civic capacity imaginable. In his service as a founder of the Fort Worth Symphony and the Fort Worth Chamber Music Society, an original board member of the Van Cliburn Quadrennial Piano Competition, and president of Casa Manana, he has shown his profound love of culture and his belief that all should be able to share in its beauty. By his decades long service as the treasurer, president, and chairman of the board of All Saints Hospital, as well as his chairmanship of the Steering Committee of the Public Health School of the University of North Texas, Health Science Center, Fort Worth, he has shown his devotion to the provision of quality health care to all citizens of our community. As the chairman of the Tarrant County Appraisal District, he devoted countless hours ensuring that Fort Worth and Tarrant County raised their required revenues in a way that was fair to all of its citizens.

To the Jewish community of our city and our entire country, Mr. Brachman has served in virtually every possible leadership role, giving of his time and his resources to keep their institutions strong, their communal needs met, their self-reliance vital. Having served as a vice chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, the president of Ahavath Sholom Synagogue, founder and president of the Hebrew Day School of Fort Worth, and countless other Jewish communal roles, each institution has been positively influenced by his involvement.

Whenever the community has called upon him, Mr. Brachman has never hesitated to take on the most thankless tasks. Wherever there has been an institution in a seemingly hopeless situation, Mr. Brachman has accepted the challenge to nurse it back to health. Our community is incredibly stronger for his presence. We are very lucky that he chose to adopt Fort Worth as his home.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Brachman, his wife of 58 years, Fay, his three children, nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren and wish them all continued health and success.

It is important that the House of Representatives acknowledge and be thankful for the spirit of community responsibility embodied by Mr. Brachman. His life's work to make our world a better place demonstrates the best our country has to offer.

SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE
RESERVE OFFICERS**HON. MIKE McINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my thoughts on an issue that has been brought to my attention by a constituent of mine in southeastern North Carolina.

My constituent and his colleagues were Senior Foreign Service Reserve Officers, until they were involuntarily converted out of the Foreign Service by the Foreign Service Act of 1980. These officers were, in general, specialists in professional fields other than those commonly associated with overseas assignments.

When Congress wrote the law that was to become known as the Foreign Service Act of 1980 ("FSA"), Members of Congress spent many hours debating the question of providing safeguards for the careers of the Foreign Service Reserve Officers whose personnel status would be most affected by the newly drafted legislation. Therefore, the FSA guaranteed the permanent preservation of the grade and benefits of the employees.

Please allow me to read an excerpt from the Report of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, regarding the Foreign Service Act of 1980:

Converting employees from their present positions to new pay schedules and different personnel systems, including the Senior Service, cannot be accomplished without some difficulties. The policy governing this chapter is to minimize the disruption to the individual employees and to preserve the rights and benefits of employees subject to conversion. The Committee recognizes that minimizing disruption and saving rights and benefits entail cost to the Government. These costs are justified in view of the fact that by forcing conversions the Government, as the employer, is altering the legitimate expectations of the employees. Fairness requires that the Government cushion these employees against the hardships which will come in wake of forced conversion . . . Employees converted are provided with permanent saved grade and tenure rights comparable to what they had.

The Department of State did fulfill their obligation to protect the earned rights of these senior officers from the date of the Act until early 1990. Executive Order 12698 increased the salary of the Senior Foreign Service Officers ("SFS"). However, the Department of State did not adjust the salary of my constituent and his fellow SFS-4 officers. No explanation was given to the affected officers for this arbitrary action of the Department of State.

At about the same time, the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act ("FEPBA") became law. This law eliminated all Civil Service grades above GS-15, substituting the designation of Senior Level ("SL"), and authorized the agencies to pay SL's a salary as high as SFS-6.

Initially the Department of State proposed to designate these former SFS-4 officers as Senior Level 8, at a salary equal to that of SFS-4. Without explanation and contradictory to the intent of Congress in the Foreign Service Act, the Department of State issued personnel actions designating these long-time,

professional and dedicated officers as SL-00, at a salary \$13,000 below that of SFS-4. This was, and is in my opinion, a distorted interpretation of the Foreign Service Act as passed by Congress and signed into law.

These officers then followed prescribed procedures to effect an administrative correction. The ruling of the Agency's Foreign Service Grievance Board stated that it lacked jurisdiction to interpret Section 2106 of the law, but they then denied the officer's claim, without a hearing.

These officers, frustrated by the Department of State's refusal to uphold the law that protected what they had earned as senior officers of the Department of State, filed an action in the Federal Court for the District of Columbia. The Department of State attorneys with the assistance of lawyers from the Department of Justice resisted to a de novo hearing of the facts. After months of delays, the presiding judge dismissed the case without granting a hearing.

I am equally concerned that the Department of State did not provide a copy of a June 25, 1991, Memorandum from the Office of the Legal Advisor of the Office of the Director General when responding to a request for production of documents by the attorney representing these officers. That document had a direct and dire effect on the status of these officers. The document was kept secret from these officers, and an attempt was made to suppress the document in court. The document, contrary to the clear intent of the law, stated, "Owing to their conversion to the Civil Service, their rights are governed by the Civil Service statutes and regulations." This appears to be the authority used to justify the improper personnel actions that deprived these former Senior Foreign Service officers their guarantees as stated in the Foreign Service Act of 1980.

I seek the support of my fellow colleagues, especially those who also have former Foreign Service Reserve Officers living in their districts, to assist me in putting forth an effort to bring about the restoration of the rank and benefits to which officers are entitled.

I hope that Secretary Albright, in keeping with her May 21, 1996 Department Notice to All Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Ambassadors, Principal Officers dealing with long term employees disputes, will take a direct interest in resolving this matter and avoid the necessity of remedial legislation.

**IMPROVING SOCIAL SECURITY'S
PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR CLAIM-
ANT REPRESENTATIVES****HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that if enacted would update and improve Social Security's payment systems for claimant representatives.

Currently, many would-be beneficiaries hire attorneys to help them file applications for Social Security retirement and, most commonly, disability benefits. That this process is so complex people feel obligated to hire an attorney to help them is in itself a serious problem. It is especially troubling given the expected rapid

growth in the number of applicants and beneficiaries with the aging and eventual retirement of the Baby Boomers. So much work remains in the area of simplifying the application process, which will benefit applicants, SSA, and ultimately taxpayers. For now, though, a good start would be finding a better way to pay claimants' representatives and to have SSA process this workload as quickly and efficiently as possible.

First some background. Some Members may be aware that attorneys can choose to have SSA directly pay their fees for representing claimants for Social Security disability benefits. In such cases, when the claimant is awarded past-due benefits SSA withholds the appropriate attorney's fee from the benefits that are owned the claimant, and sends the fee directly to the attorney. Prior to this year, no charge was made for SSA costs in processing, withholding, and forwarding this fee.

This was changed under a proposal originally made by the Clinton Administration that was incorporated in the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Law, which is designed to help disabled individuals enter or return to the workforce. This law provides new medical and employment services to help individuals with disabilities find and keep jobs without fear of losing important benefits once they leave the disability rolls. That's a critical goal, and one that requires additional resources. In determining ways to pay for the added benefits in the "Ticket" law, many people on both sides of the aisle thought that having lawyers—rather than the Social Security trust funds—pick up the tab for Social Security's costs in processing their paychecks was appropriate. Thus a version of the original Administration proposal on attorney fees was included in the final conference agreement on the Ticket bill approved by the House of Representatives 418-2 on November 18, 1999.

As this legislation progressed, several changes were made that improved the original proposal. For example, the General Accounting Office is required to study whether the assessment should be linked to how quickly SSA processes fees and whether the assessment will reduce the number of claimant representatives available to assist these claimants, among other issues.

The legislation I am introducing addresses this issue and thus can serve as the basis for further discussion and possible legislation on this point. In short, my legislation would specify that Social Security could impose an assessment on an attorney's fee only if the fee was processed and approved for payments within 30 days after the Commissioner certifies the payment of the claimant's benefits. This will encourage Social Security to handle this work promptly. If they don't SSA will lose money and attorneys will not be charged their assessment. Hopefully it will not come to that, but in the past SSA has not had a stellar record in terms of processing this workload in a timely fashion.

Introducing this legislation now will serve to further discussion on this topic, especially in anticipation of an upcoming hearing I plan to hold in the Social Security Subcommittee on additional process reforms. Suggested reforms include: the consideration of a flat fee as opposed to a percentage of past-due benefits, the extension of the attorney's fee direct payment provisions to the Supplemental Security

Income program, the issuance of past-due benefits and the attorney's fee in a joint check made payable to the beneficiary and the attorney and the application of Prompt Payment Act provisions to past-due benefits and attorney fee payments. These suggested reforms follow this statement in legislative form.

I would appreciate any comments or suggestions for additional provisions my colleagues or other informed individuals may have on this issue, and of course would welcome cosponsors to this legislation. Already we have heard from many claimant representatives, and I would expect to hear from many more as we move on with this issue.

SUGGESTED PROVISIONS FOR ATTORNEY FEE
PAYMENT LEGISLATION
STREAMLINING OF ATTORNEY FEE PAYMENT
SYSTEM

(a) MAXIMUM LIMIT ON ASSESSMENTS.—Section 206(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 406(d)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "equal to" and inserting "equal to the lesser of—";

(2) by striking "the product obtained" and inserting the following: "(i) the product obtained";

(3) by striking "subparagraph (B)." and inserting "subparagraph (B), or"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new clause: "(ii) \$25.00."

(b) ISSUANCE OF JOINT CHECKS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 206 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 406) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) ISSUANCE OF JOINT CHECKS.—In any case in which a claimant is determined to be entitled to past-due benefits, and such claimant is represented by an attorney for whom a fee for services is required to be certified under this section in connection with such benefits, the payment of such past-due benefits shall be in the form of a joint check made payable to both the claimant and the attorney in an amount equal to the total amount of such past due benefits, which shall be sent to the claimant's attorney. Receipt by the claimant's attorney of the proceeds of such check in an amount equal to the fee for services certified for payment by the Commissioner pursuant to subsection (a)(4)(A) or (b)(1)(A) in connection with such past-due benefits shall constitute receipt by the attorney of such fee."

(2) ASSESSMENT ON ATTORNEY CONTINGENT UPON TIMELY RECEIPT OF PAYMENT.—Section 206(d)(3) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 406(d)(3)) is amended—Section 206(d)(3) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 406(d)(3)) is amended—

(1) by striking "The Commissioner" and inserting the following:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(B) IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENT CONTINGENT UPON TIMELY RECEIPT OF CHECK.—The Commissioner may impose and collect the assessment under this subsection in connection with any past-due benefits only if the joint check required under subsection (e) in connection with such benefits is received by the attorney within 45 days after the certification by the Commissioner for payment of such benefits."

EXTENSION OF ATTORNEY FEE PAYMENT
SYSTEM TO TITLE XVI CLAIMS

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1631(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1383(d)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking "paragraph (2)" and inserting "subsections (a)(2) and (b)(1)(B)";

(2) by striking "section 406(a) (other than in paragraph (4) thereof)" and inserting "section 406";

(3) in clause (i), by striking "subparagraphs (A)(ii)(I) and (C)(i)" and inserting "subsections (a)(2)(A)(ii)(I), (a)(2)(D)(i), and (b)(1)(B)", by striking "as determined", by striking "1127(a)" and inserting "1127(a)", and by striking "the parenthetical phrase contained therein" and inserting "the phrase 'before any applicable reduction under section 1127(a)'; and

(4) in clause (ii), by inserting ", in subsections (a)(2)(B) and (b)(1)(A)(i), the phrase" after "substituting", and by inserting "the phrase" after "for".

EXTENSION OF THE PROMPT PAYMENT ACT TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S CLAIMS AND ATTORNEY FEE PAYMENT SYSTEMS

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3901 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e)(1) This chapter applies to the Social Security Administration with regard to delays in the payment of claims under Title II and Title XVI of the Social Security Act and to the certification for the payment of fees to attorneys under sections 206 and 1631(d)(2) of the Social Security Act (treating, for purposes of this chapter, the required certification by the Commissioner of Social Security for payment of any fees as a required payment by the Commissioner of such fees).

"(2) In applying this chapter to the Social Security Administration pursuant to paragraph (1)—

"(A) the date of issuance of the award certificate by the Social Security Administration shall be deemed to start the payment period under 5 CFR 1315.4(f); and

"(B) the documentation required by the Social Security Administration to certify a claim or fee payment under title 42, United States Code shall be deemed to satisfy the documentation requirement of 5 CFR 1315.9".

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4577) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the amendment on 21st century community learning centers.

I have been involved with education issues for almost 30 years. This experience has strongly reinforced for me that all children, regardless of income level or race have the same potential for high achievement and healthy development when provided appropriate opportunities.

Thus, our goal must be to support the development of quality afterschool programs for all children, but especially those in low-income communities.

Our goal should also be to see the expanded-day programs linked to the core school day.

After-school programs are the best structures for the development of such programs, as well as other services needed in low-income communities. They can serve as pathways to developing strong, sustainable community schools.

We definitely are not utilizing them enough.

More than 77 percent of the 21st century community learning center funding goes to low-income youth. And with the changing new mix of technologies and competitive markets, our economy is increasing its demand for skilled labor and decreasing demand for unskilled or semi-skilled labor. This means we can use these centers to focus on expectations for the core school day and its relation to the changes.

This is important because for the first time in history, the Nation's economic and social well-being requires that all children be prepared for post-secondary education and career attainment.

Although our public education system was never designed to prepare our students for higher education, after school programs seek to provide vital opportunities for children and youth to learn and to prepare for college and careers in the new economy.

After-school programs achieve these goals by providing access to information technology and related learning services for children. This is especially critical because we have an opportunity to support an initiative that is really about local impact and local opportunity.

We must bring balance to our communities! Afterschool programs keep students occupied with productive activities during the hours they are most likely to get into trouble, from 2 to 8 pm.

We can support local and state efforts to sustain a much larger national community school movement than has ever been possible before. New research indicates that after-school programs can make a positive difference in student development and academic performance.

This is especially true for our low-income students. This initiative may be the greatest opportunity to help children at a critical point in their young lives.

I'm particularly supportive of this initiative because it means that children who need extra help will be able to receive more attention. For these reasons, Mr. Chairman, I urge members to support this amendment.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BERT M.
CONCKLIN

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 9, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I and my colleague rise to bring to your attention the contribution of a distinguished individual who is returning to government service.

Last month, Mr. Bert M. Concklin announced he was stepping down as president of the Professional Services Council, a national trade association that represents a very large number of our constituents, to return to federal government service. Bert will soon as-

sume the post of Business Systems Modernization Executive at the Internal Revenue Service.

We both know Bert well and are confident that he will be a tremendous asset to the agency. Bert has been a leader in the government-wide reform efforts over the past decade where he has brought his keen insights, strong determination, and balanced judgment to bear on one of the federal government's most difficult undertakings. It is because of this background, as well as his substantial achievements in the private sector, that we feel secure in our prediction that he will positively impact the agency's goals.

Aside from his service as a key advisor to federal agencies and Congress on tough issues, such as contracting reform and government-wide business process re-engineering, and in addition to his having held a number of high-level government positions. Bert has an impressive track record with some of our country's best-known corporate names, including PRC, McKinsey and Company, Computer Sciences Corporation, and General Electric. He also served as chairman of the Governor's Council on Information Management of Virginia. He served in the United States Air Force and graduated from the United States Naval Academy.

We are pleased to take this opportunity to recognize the valuable contributions of someone who has clearly demonstrated his passion for reform, government services, and bipartisan cooperation.