HON. LARRY COMBEST, Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Agriculture, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 5040, 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 me as an interested party as well to working together on other matters.

Sincerely,

Hon. Larry Combest
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MIER
HON. JOHN SHIKMUS
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 8, 2000

Mr. SHIKMUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Charles Meier of Oakville, Ill. 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.

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

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, 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. Planes use the air. 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 one more oh my That one has purple all over the tie And the 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 bike, 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 transport in the air!
2nd Place: Timothy Leger, Thacher Elementary School Attleboro, MA 02703
“TRANSPORT”
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 the bike could drive us to the ocean? Never seen France? Let’s fly my friend. Paddle it 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 7-12)
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 go to the sea Making men’s dreams realities The car was invented and treated by Orville and Wilbur soon did fly Rockets and spacecraft 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 telephone. The Country uses modes of transportation like planes, autos, and trains To go to work so that we can in-