

significant barriers to delivering mental health to the Asian American community. CHC has a 27 year history of providing bilingual and bicultural outpatient primary cares services and it contributes to the Bridge Program by conducting educational outreach activities in the community about mental health, substance abuse, and providing concrete services to patients who may need financial assistance or social services.

As you can see, the recognition made to the Bridge Program by the Department of Health and Human Services is indeed well deserved. I commend the Chinatown Health Clinic for its hard work and continuous commitment with the Asian community and would like to personally congratulate them on this significant achievement.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY TO  
DANIEL AND BERNITA O'CONNOR

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2000*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, throughout our lives we receive countless blessings and among these, the greatest gift is that of love. Today, I am proud to be able to pay tribute to two people who have cherished this gift and demonstrated their love and devotion to one another each and every day over the past fifty years.

On June 24th, two extraordinary people, Daniel and Bernita O'Conner are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. Together with their children Patrick, Daniel and Erin, their grandchildren Danielle, Caitlin and Meaghan, and a number of friends that their years of work and community involvement have brought them, they will celebrate this most special of days.

After meeting at Sacred Heart Church in Kawkawlin, Michigan, these two young people soon fell in love. They were married on June 24, 1950 in Essexville, Michigan, and ever since that day, Daniel and Bernita have shared a wonderful life together. They have found happiness as lifelong companions. As nurturing parents, tireless workers, selfless community leaders and lifelong Democrats, the O'Connors truly represent all that is right in this country.

Daniel and Bernita are not only dedicated to each other and their family, but they are also dedicated to their church. They have always been active in the Catholic Church, including several parishes in my district. Holy Trinity in Bay City, St. John the Evangelist in Essexville and Sacred Heart in Kawkawlin, have been fortunate to have the O'Connors as members. Their commitment to their faith and strong family values makes them excellent role models for everyone who crosses their paths.

Mr. Speaker, in these days of disintegrating families, it is reassuring to see a strong, stable marriage built on love, respect and trust. Their lives together have been a blessing to each other, and an inspiration for those of us fortunate enough to know them. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Daniel and Bernita O'Conner the happiest of anniversaries, on this their fiftieth, and many more to come. May God's continued blessing be upon them and their beautiful family.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR  
ROBERT LAMUTT'S WORK ON E-  
SIGNATURE LEGISLATION

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor a leader from the Seventh District of Georgia State Senator Robert Lamutt. Senator Lamutt is a true leader in providing state regulations on electronic commerce, commonly known as "e-commerce."

The Internet has experienced phenomenal growth since its inception. It has become a tool with which millions daily access more information than in any single library, communicate with friends, or purchase goods from retailers located all over the world. As e-commerce continues to boom, it has become imperative to enact federal and state legislation that will enable, enhance, and protect future Internet users.

The greatest barrier to regulating electronic transactions has been the lack of consistent rules governing the use of electronic signatures ("e-signatures"). For the past two years, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Law, an organization comprised of e-commerce experts, has been working to develop a uniform system for the use of e-signatures for all 50 states. Their product, the Uniform Electronic Transaction Act, is in the final stages of review. When the UETA is completed, it will be used by state legislatures to enact the legislation and establish the uniformity necessary for the interstate use of e-signatures.

As a Georgian, I am proud these new standards were in part crafted from Georgia Senate Bill 62, signed into law by our Governor on April 19, 2000. This legislation grants "e-transactions" the legitimacy of traditional, paper-based transactions. Senator Robert Lamutt, R-Marietta, was the bill's primary sponsor. Senator Lamutt's insight and understanding helped define one of the more difficult aspects of the bill. Instead of focusing on limiting the scope of competitive solutions, the Georgia bill looked at defining e-signatures from a minimalist perspective. The language clarifies that just because something is done electronically, it is still legally binding. It was this "real" solution to a complex issue that enabled the UETA drafting committee to move toward its final draft.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Georgia Senator Lamutt's pioneering work on this issue. He is a tremendous asset to Marietta, the State of Georgia and indeed, the nation. I am most proud of his approach in creating greater uniformity in electronic transactions, electronic records and electronic signatures. This insight will inevitably lead to greater, legally binding e-commerce, and will help us in the Congress as we endeavor to develop federal legislation regarding this important aspect of interstate commerce, and as H.R. 1714, the e-signature bill passed by the House on June 14, 2000, moves forward.

REAL SOLUTIONS TO VIOLENT  
CRIME

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2000*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the immediate reaction of the advocates of additional gun control to violence we see in our communities is to call for new, more restrictive gun controls on law-abiding Americans. The American people are smarter than that. In fact recent survey's have shown that the American people don't believe additional gun control laws passed by the Congress will reduce crime. The American people know that criminals, by definition, are not law abiding citizens. Criminals are law-breakers and if they are not willing to abide by laws against murder and robbery, they are not going to comply with a new law that would require that they go down to the local police station and register their firearms. To believe that they would do such a thing is lunacy.

Mr. Speaker, the solution to our problems is two part. To address the near-term problem of violent crime we need to lock up criminals, including those who use guns in the commission of a crime. Examples of where this has been initiated in various states shows that this works. Second, we need to emphasize in our society that life has value, that life is not expendable.

Many Americans may recall just a few months ago, the stand-off between police and Joseph C. Palczynski, the Maryland man who killed four people and held three others hostage in Baltimore this past March. Let's take a look at this guy's criminal record, and ask whether or not this man should have been out on the streets. (According to Wash Times)

In 1988 he was convicted of battery and sentenced to two years probation. In 1989, he assaulted a 16 year-old girl and was subsequently sentenced to four years in jail. However, he was somehow let out and in 1991 he beat up his girlfriend, while she attended high school. In 1992, following another domestic violence complaint by a girlfriend, and after holding police at bay for 16 hours, he was arrested on two outstanding warrants including a weapons violation charge. In 1995 he received a 10 year suspended sentence for the battery of another girlfriend's father.

On March 4, 2000, he was arrested on assault charges in a domestic-violence incident and released the next day on a \$7,500 bond. Just 2 days later, on March 7, he murdered three people with a gun bought by a friend and on March 8 murdered another person. On March 17-21, he held police at bay while holding a family hostage.

AL GORE and his liberal friends in Congress have a solution to prevent this crime in the future: gun registration.

The American people are not stupid. They recognize this as an opportunist's attempt to exploit this situation to advance their anti-Second Amendment agenda. Their solution has no relation to the crime and is no solution.

Common sense says this guy should never have been out on the streets. The real solution is to ensure that these types of criminals are kept behind bars, not impose new restrictions on the Second Amendment rights of law abiding citizens.