

furthering their own education, parents are more inclined to become more involved in their child's education. The LIFT bill builds on the success of the Even Start program, improves the quality of the program, and holds states accountable for the progress of local literacy programs.

This Congress is fortunate to have members like Congressman BILL GOODLING to shepherd this bill to the floor. Bill has worked diligently to improve the quality of education programs, whether it is improving elementary school programs, helping disabled children, or working on adult education programs. Since my time in Congress, BILL and I have worked closely together to stress the importance of scientifically based reading research and to get that information in the hands of teachers and parents. He is a fine leader on education and we will miss him when he retires after this year. With the LIFT bill, our families can lift themselves up and achieve their dreams.

ENSURE EQUAL WAGES AND DUE
PROCESS FOR DAY LABORERS

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Day Laborer Fairness and Protection Act," a bill to ensure equal wages and due process for day laborers. Twenty-five representatives have joined me as original co-sponsors of this important legislation.

Day laborers are individuals who are hired by agencies to work on a day-to-day basis for employers who pay for the services of temporary laborers. Day labor is not of a clerical or professional nature. Most day laborers perform construction, warehouse, restaurant, janitorial, landscaping or light industrial work—usually for the minimum wage.

In the absence of federal guidelines, day laborers are often subjected to long, unpaid wait-periods before being assigned to a job. Commonly, these workers also face dangerous working conditions and are paid lower wages than full-time workers performing the same or similar jobs. Further, day laborers are frequently charged high (often undisclosed) fees for on-the-job meals, transportation to and from job sites and special attire and safety equipment necessary for jobs.

Partially due to these unfair labor conditions, many day laborers are caught in a cycle of poverty. A recent study by the University of Illinois Center for Urban Economic Development found that 65 percent of 510 surveyed day laborers receive \$5.15 per hour. Taking into consideration the number of hours spent waiting to be assigned to work (of-ten between 1.5 and three hours), the real value per hour of work is reduced to less than about four dollars per hour. This low figure does not reflect transportation and food and equipment fees, which are often deducted from day laborers' wages.

To address these problems, this Act includes the following definitions and requirements:

Day laborer is defined as an individual who contracts for employment with a day labor service agency.

Day labor service agency is defined as any person or entity engaged in the business of

employing day laborers to provide services for any third party employer.

Day laborer wages that are equal to those paid to permanent employees who are performing substantially equivalent work, with consideration given to seniority, experience, skills & qualifications.

Wages for job assignment wait-times lasting more than thirty minutes. Such wages shall be at a rate that is not less than federal or state minimum wages.

Itemized statements showing deductions made from day laborers' wages.

When a day laborer is hurt on the job, coverage of health care costs by the employer who has requested the services of the day laborer.

Enforcement of the "Day Laborer Fairness and Protection Act" by the U.S. Department of Labor.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BOY
SCOUT TROOP 224 OF OTTAWA,
OHIO ON THE DEDICATION OF
ITS NEW BOY SCOUT HOUSE

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pleasure today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding organization from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. This Sunday, September 17, Boy Scout Troop 224 of Ottawa, Ohio will celebrate an historic and remarkable event. They dedicate the new Boy Scout House, which will serve as the new headquarters for Troop 224.

Boy Scouting in Ottawa, Ohio has a long and rich tradition. Sponsored by the Ottawa Kiwanis Club for some sixty-eight years, Boy Scout Troop 224 and Cub Scout Pack 224 have become staples of the community and have served the area with great pride and distinction. Currently, there are 89 Boy Scouts in Troop 224 and 150 Cub Scouts. These fine young men are part of the family of more than 900 boys who have participated in Scouting in Ottawa.

Known not only as the largest Boy Scout Troop in the Black Swamp area, Troop 224 has turned out 109 Eagle Scouts over the years. In fact, three Boy Scouts from Troop 224 have achieved the National Court of Honor Award for Lifesaving. Troop 224 undertakes a myriad community service projects including the Scouting for Food campaign, landscaping projects for the village of Ottawa and local churches and schools, safety programs, and nature activities.

Now, Boy Scout Troop 224 prepares for one of its biggest celebrations—the opening of its new Boy Scout House. The new facility will replace the current home, which was built in the mid 1930's and has served Troop 224, for decades. The old facility, once shared by the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, will give way to the new 2,400 square foot facility. The new home for Troop 224 includes several separate rooms, storage space for supplies and equipments, and space for Troop and Pack meetings, Blue and Gold banquets, and Courts of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, Boy Scouting is truly one of America's longest-standing traditions. It instills

in our young people the values of hard work, honesty, discipline, safety, honor, and much more. Clearly, Boy Scout Troop 224 has worked diligently toward the new Boy Scout House and each member should be very proud of the facility and all that they have achieved. I congratulate Troop 224 on the occasion of their new home and challenge the Troop to continue to strive for excellence in Scouting and in the community. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to stand and join me in celebrating the dedication of the new Boy Scout Home for Boy Scout Troop 224 of Ottawa. We wish them the very best now and in the future.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE HERBERT H. BATE-
MAN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF
VIRGINIA

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, Evelyn and I wish to offer our condolences to Mrs. Laura Bateman and the entire Bateman family on the passing of our colleague and friend, Congressman Herbert Bateman.

It is appropriate that Congressman Bateman represented the historical First District, because he was not only an exemplary representative on behalf of his constituents, but a leader who has served both his colleagues in the Congress and the American people with great distinction. Herb and I were freshmen congressmen in the class of 1983. It is a testament to Congressman Bateman's longevity, and the bipartisan respect he was able to garner, that he served so effectively in this body for eighteen years.

Herb Bateman was an integral part of the restoration of America's armed forces after years of decline. His commitment to the military began with his service in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, and later, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Military readiness, his efforts were key to restoring the ability of our men and women in uniform to perform their duty and reestablish their position as the pre-eminent military force in the world today. I was able to see Herb's commitment to the military first hand as we traveled together to meet with our men and women in uniform serving with NATO as they defended freedom and democracy in Europe. His commitment and concern for the young people in the armed forces was unparalleled, and it was clearly visible to anyone who spoke with him.

His distinguished record was not limited to a focus on the military. Congressman Bateman's support of NASA and the United States' commitment to space helped advance and ensure our leadership in science and technology. His commitment to the environment led to the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay, allowing its beauty to be preserved for the enjoyment of future generations. And these are but a few of his legislative achievements.

On a personal note, I had the pleasure of spending time with Herb and his wife Laura