

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 2000

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my bill, the Energy Independence Act, designed to ensure the energy self-sufficiency of the United States by the year 2010 through targeted investments in an emerging green energy technology called fuel cells.

We have before us, for the first time in human history, the technology to provide clean, reliable energy for every person, home, business, and vehicle in America. With this technology, we have the opportunity to end once and for all America's reliance on foreign energy sources while at the same time creating quality jobs for the next century in a new and expanding technological field.

The technology I refer to is called a fuel cell. This technology has been with us since it was first used to power the Gemini and Apollo spacecraft, and is still powering NASA's fleet of space shuttles. It has finally matured to a point where stationary power plants are providing reliable commercial power today and is prepared to demonstrate its advantages to the general public in clean, quiet, and efficient residential, bus, and car applications.

Current stationary fuel cell demonstrations within the Department of Defense have showed an energy cost savings of over \$3 million, and another unit in service at South County Hospital in Rhode Island is saving an estimated \$60,000 to \$90,000 in energy costs per year. Perhaps the most important attribute of stationary fuel cell power generators in the new, high tech economy is that they nearly eliminate brownouts and other power outages that disrupt the sophisticated and critical systems operating many businesses today. For example, at the First National Bank of Omaha in Nebraska, where milliseconds without power can mean millions of dollars in lost revenues, the stationary fuel cell installed as the major component of an integrated assured power system is helping to provide power at 99.9999 percent reliability, which is equal to a power interruption of one minute every six years.

The environmental benefits of this new technology are also astounding. For example, the PC25 stationary power plant, which is the only commercially available until today, has been installed at 29 Department of Defense facilities throughout the United States since 1995. These fuel cells are estimated to have eliminated 399 tons of SO_x, 159 tons of NO_x, and over 20,000 tons of CO₂. Compared to a typical combustion-based generator, each individual fuel cell unit eliminates more than 40,000 pounds of air pollutants, including NO_x and SO_x, as well as two million pounds of CO₂ emissions per year. Finally, fuel cells have the capability to cleanly process methane emissions from landfills and anaerobic digester

gases from wastewater treatment facilities into energy, thereby preventing these harmful emissions from degrading the environment.

This technology presents us with an extraordinary opportunity, at a critical time in this country's development. As you are aware, the United States imported an average of nearly 11 million barrels of oil per day last year from foreign countries to meet our domestic energy needs, totaling nearly 4 billion barrels during all of 1999. Even at last year's comparatively modest average price of \$15 per barrel, that adds up to more than \$60 billion spent on foreign oil. With the average price of crude oil at about \$24 per barrel for just the first 5 months of 2000, Americans have already spent more than \$48 billion on imported oil, roughly 80 percent of what Americans paid during all of 1999. We must break this cycle of dependency, and strengthen our economy by turning this level of spending back to domestic sources.

The current oil crisis has served to remind us, after nearly two decades of complacency, how fragile the relationship is between our energy sources, the vitality of our economy, and the livelihood of every man, woman, and child in this country. The price of a barrel of crude oil reaches into every corner of our society, from affecting the cost of transporting food from our farms and ranches to the dinner table, to affecting the cost of each one of us traveling to and from work, to affecting our very survival at home during cold winter and hot summer months.

We stand now on a fundamental crossroad in this country. We have the ability to provide for the economic and national security of the nation by integrating this new technology into our economy. The elimination of noxious chemical emissions into our environment and the freedom of not being bound to existing energy producing monopolies represent a potential impact on our society in the next century as profound as any of the achievements of the 20th century, from the elimination of small pox and polio, to the development of the Internet, to human's first flights in space through which this technology was born. However, bold action is needed, with courage and vision to lead the way.

Over the next five years, my legislation would invest approximately 1/60 of the nation's total yearly expenditures on foreign oil to develop and demonstrate fuel cell technology that can power our homes, businesses, and vehicles. My bill calls for a \$1 billion 5-year investment that should eliminate our reliance on foreign energy sources by 2010 and improve world environmental conditions by reducing overall consumption of fossil fuels and the harmful chemical emissions they produce. Specifically, the Energy Independence Act:

Directs the Secretary of Energy to transmit to Congress within one year a strategic plan to ensure the United States is energy self sufficient by the year 2010. Authorizes up to \$20 million for completion of this plan.

Authorizes a total of \$140 million over 3 years to establish a federal pilot program to

purchase up to 100 commercially available 200 kW fuel cell power plants or up to 20 mW of power generated from commercially available fuel cell power plants for use at federally owned or operated facilities.

Gives site selection priority to sites that (1) are classified as non-attainment areas under Title I of the Clean Air Act; (2) have computer or electronic operations that are sensitive to power supply disruptions; (3) need a reliable uninterrupted power supply; (4) are in a remote location or have other factors requiring off-grid power generation; or (5) need to maintain critical manufacturing or other activities that support national security efforts.

Authorizes a total of \$140 million over 3 years to establish a program for the demonstration of fuel cell proton exchange membrane (PEM) technology in commercial, residential, and transportation applications.

Authorizes a total of \$150 over 3 years to establish a comprehensive Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) Fuel Cell Bus Demonstration Program to address hydrogen production, storage, and use in transit bus applications.

Promotes the application of technology developments and improved manufacturing production and processes for proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cell technology.

Directs the various agencies of the federal government that maintain fleets of federal vehicles to develop plans to transition the fleets to incorporate fuel cell technology by 2010.

Directs that any life-cycle cost benefit analysis undertaken by a Federal agency with respect to investments in products, services, construction, and other projects shall include an analysis of environmental and power reliability factors.

Authorizes \$110 million per year for five years to establish a grant program for state and local governments (requiring a 10 percent non-federal funding match) to make investments for the use of fuel cell technology in meeting their energy requirements, including the fueling as a source of power for motor vehicles.

Just as steam power generated the first real industrial revolution in the 19th century, and power from fossil fuels generated the tremendous technological growth seen in the 20th century, fuel cells are ready to power the country and the world in the 21st century and beyond. This legislation is an important step in this process, and the government must play a role in this transition for several reasons. First and foremost, it will provide for the security of the country in both economic and military terms by eliminating our reliance on foreign energy sources. Second, we have a long-term responsibility to our seniors and to other people living on fixed incomes to see that they will one day have an opportunity to live within their means without being forced to choose between putting food on their tables, gas in their cars, or buying oil to heat their homes. Third, there is the opportunity within the government's infrastructure to most easily begin a widespread integration of this technology. Fourth, the spread and use of this technology

• 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.

has the opportunity to create a contribution in economic growth and in job creation every bit as significant as the development of the high tech industry during the last decade. Finally, as government regulations increasingly call for stricter clean air and other pollution limits, fuel cells can provide an effective way for states and communities to meet these new environmental challenges.

Specifically, the federal government can take a leadership role in transitioning and commercializing this technology by using the powerful leverage of large volume government purchases of fuel cells to power government facilities, including federal housing facilities, as well as its fleets of vehicles. Further, given the significant amount of federal assistance to states and local communities for public transportation, the federal government can play an important role in helping communities meet their transportation needs and meet clean air requirements at the same time. State and local governments and organizations can take the lead on this as well, by integrating this new technology in community planning efforts and municipal transportation programs, and I have included a significant grant program to help local governments interested in participating in this endeavor.

We have the opportunity to provide leadership, solutions, and opportunities at this critical juncture in our nation's history that can profoundly improve the security and independence of every American, providing a safer, more secure, more productive, and cleaner environment for generations to come. We must not allow this opportunity to be lost.

IN HONOR OF DR. PAUL
GREENGARD, 2000 NOBEL PRIZE
WINNER IN MEDICINE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I enthusiastically honor today Dr. Paul Greengard, the 2000 Nobel Prize winner in medicine, who resides and teaches in my district. Dr. Greengard received the Nobel Prize for his discovery of how dopamine—a human neurotransmitter that controls one's movements, emotional responses, and ability to experience pleasure and pain—affects the central nervous system. His advancements in the field of neuroscience have greatly increased our understanding of the relationships between neurobiological chemicals and some of the world's most widespread neurological disorders, such as Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease, and Schizophrenia. Such an achievement is one I hold in tremendous regard and I truly hope my colleagues recognize the importance of Dr. Greengard's groundbreaking discovery.

Neurological diseases touch most every human being in some way. As the founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease, I am especially spirited by Dr. Greengard's research. I sincerely hope that medical and academic professionals, buoyed by Dr. Greengard's achievements, continue their pursuit of uncovering the causes of the most pressing neurological disorders.

Dr. Greengard is a genuinely fascinating individual. He currently serves as the head of the Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience at The Rockefeller University in New York City and is the director of the Zachary and Elizabeth M. Fisher Center for Research on Alzheimer's Disease, also at Rockefeller. The Fisher Center, where I serve as a member of the Board of Trustees alongside Fisher CEO Michael Stern, is an extraordinarily valuable research center where Dr. Greengard has made pioneering discoveries in neuroscience which provide a more conceptual understanding of how the nervous system functions at the molecular level. His research into the abnormalities associated with Dopamine serves as a window through which scientists can examine the effects that Dopamine has on psychiatric disorders of human beings, such as substance abuse and Attention Deficit Disorder.

Dr. Greengard has dedicated his life to scientific exploration. Since 1953, when he received his Ph.D. in biophysics from Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Greengard has worked as a scientific professional in every sense of the word. From his days as a scholar at Cambridge University in London, and years as a professor of pharmacology at Yale University, Dr. Greengard has possessed a passion for knowledge into the scientific basis of human existence. His life is nothing short of an admirable testament to the joy of scholarship and the rewards of knowledge.

Mr. Speaker, I am immeasurably proud to have such an esteemed American living and working within my district. Dr. Greengard's Nobel Prize is a well-deserved honor and a tremendous reward for his dedication and tireless pursuit of scientific truth.

MYRTLE HILL CEMETERY AND
THE TOMB OF THE KNOWN SOLDIER,
ROME, GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the nation sits atop Myrtle Hill in Rome, Georgia, where the Etowah and Oostanaula rivers come together. The cemetery was opened in 1857 and is a National Register site. It is the resting place for more than 20,000 people who have shaped Georgia's history. The hill was purchased from Shorter College founder Alfred Shorter. The historic significance of the cemetery, combined with its beauty, makes it one of the most unique in the world.

In one corner of the cemetery is a monument to General John Sevier, a Revolutionary War hero. During the Civil War almost 400 men were buried in the cemetery. Their graves, at the base of the hill near the entrance, are a silent tribute to the men, both Union and Confederate, who made the ultimate sacrifice. In 1901, the Xavier Chapter of the Daughters of American Revolution erected a monument in honor of General Sevier, and the marker is located in the southwest corner of the cemetery. A Confederate monument atop Myrtle Hill was erected by the Women of Rome as a memorial to the soldiers from Floyd County who lost their lives in defense of

the Confederate States of America. A monument erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to the memory of General Nathan Forest for his bravery and valor in protecting the city from a siege by the Yankees also stands in the cemetery. There are 377 confederate soldiers, both from the north and south, who lost their lives while here or who were originally from Rome.

Ellen Axon Wilson, first wife of President Woodrow Wilson, and who was a native of Rome is buried at Myrtle Hill. She is the only First Lady to be buried in the State of Georgia.

After the First World War, Charles Graves, an infantryman from Rome, in the American Expeditionary Force, was killed near the French-German border. On October 15, 1918, he was given military honors and buried in France. In March 1922, his remains were returned to U.S. soil. The American people thought something should be done to prevent wars, and the notion of honoring an Unknown Soldier and a Known Soldier, was developed. An Unknown Soldier was selected in France, and his body was enshrined in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington in 1932.

It was decided that one of the bodies from the final troopship would be selected as the Known Soldier. A sailor was blindfolded, asked to run his hand down a long roster of names and when his finger stopped on one name, that one would become America's Known Soldier of the World War. The moving finger stopped on the name of Charles W. Graves of Rome, Georgia. However, his mother preferred to have his remains brought home to Rome, rather than be interred at Arlington. Charles Graves' coffin was taken from the troopship with special care, covered with the American flag, and carefully placed on a special carriage drawn by six white horses. An honor guard, made up of U.S. Army generals, accompanied his coffin down the streets of New York City. Admirals of the Navy, Generals of the Marines, Governors from various U.S. States, five U.S. Senators, four Representatives of Congress, the Secretary of War, and the Mayor of New York, all watched as thousands of soldiers, veterans, dignitaries, and Gold Star mothers descended upon the city. When the coffin finally stopped, President Warren G. Harding spoke about Charles Graves and all the others who had paid the ultimate price for freedom.

When the ceremonies were complete, the body of Charles Graves was loaded onto a southbound train and a day later it pulled into Rome. He was buried in a small cemetery outside of Rome. After his mother's death, the body was moved to Myrtle Hill Cemetery; where it has been to this day. Thirty-four magnolia trees were planted around the grave to represent the 34 Floyd County residents who died during World War I.

Every year since, the patriotic spirit of the citizens of Rome and Floyd County is displayed when families, loved ones, friends, and military veterans, make their ways to Myrtle Hill Cemetery on November 11th to honor America's fallen war heroes. This tradition has been passed from one generation to the next, and parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles are proud to bring young family members to Myrtle Hill, and to tell them the stories of the Known Soldier, Charles W. Graves, and those of others who fought for the freedom, and peace, we should cherish each and every day.

VILNIUS INTERNATIONAL FORUM
ON HOLOCAUST-ERA LOOTED
CULTURAL ASSETS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to call the attention of my colleagues to the four-day Vilnius International Forum on Holocaust-Era Looted Cultural Assets, which was held in Vilnius, Lithuania, earlier this month. Representatives of 37 countries, the Council of Europe, and 17 non-governmental organizations participated in this important conference. The United States was very ably represented by our Deputy Secretary of Treasury, Stuart E. Eizenstat, who is our Government's representative on Holocaust restitution issues.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Government of Lithuania for hosting this important conference. I also want to pay particular tribute to my dear friend Emanuelis Zingeris, a former member of the Lithuanian Seimas (Parliament), who conceived and organized this outstanding Vilnius Forum, and served as the Chairman of the Forum Organizing Committee. Zingeris' parents were among the few members of Lithuania's once-flourishing Jewish community who survived the Holocaust. An estimated 95 percent of Lithuania's Jewish community were killed by Nazi murderers during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the Vilnius Forum was the result of a resolution on "looted Jewish Cultural Property," which was prepared by Emanuelis Zingeris and adopted last year by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. It called for the organization of a European conference to follow up on the Washington Conference on Holocaust Era Assets and give special attention to the return of cultural property and relevant legislative reform.

In an outstanding address opening the gathering, Mr. Zingeris expressed the importance of the conference internationally and for Lithuania in particular: "As long as a society fails to perceive the need to seek justice, it may not be called a civic society. The moves taken here in Lithuania like the Vilnius International Forum, are a significant contribution to the development of our civic society. These processes, including the Forum, are our ticket back to Europe."

The purposes of the Vilnius Forum, which it admirably met, were to review progress on the implementation of the statement of principles that was adopted at the Washington Conference, to provide a forum for the discussion of the process of compiling an inventory of cultural assets looted during the Holocaust and their restitution to their rightful owners, and to establish legislative and other guidelines for the implementation of a process for the return of such Holocaust-Era assets. In particular, the Forum focused discussion on the legal, historical, archival, and museum-related problems related to the search, identification, and restitution of plundered cultural property. The declaration issued at the conclusion of the Forum called upon governments to work together to achieve these objectives.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that important progress was made at the Vilnius Forum. The Lithuanian Seimas (Parliament), on the eve of the opening of the conference, voted to turn

over 370 Torah scrolls to Jewish groups in a gesture consistent with the objectives of the Forum. These scrolls, which have been kept in the Lithuanian state library, will be turned over to Jewish organizations and Jewish synagogues within Lithuania.

A second important result of the conference, Mr. Speaker, was the breakthrough agreement reached by the governments of the United States and Russia on opening Russian archives to assist in the recovery of art and cultural treasures looted by the Nazis during the World War II. The agreement includes the establishment of a U.S.-based foundation which will help identify plundered cultural assets by creating a register of such cultural items. Christie's Auction House in the United States secured an initial \$500,000 contribution from my dear friends Ronald Lauder, the President of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, and Edgar Bronfman, President of the World Jewish Congress, to establish this register.

Mr. Speaker, access to Russian archives has long been a crucial concern of Jewish communities and others concerned about the restitution of art and other property stolen from Holocaust victims by the Nazis. This new agreement is an important step forward with the effort to catalogue seized property in Russian museums, and it follows the adoption of legislation by the Russian Duma last May establishing the legal right of Nazi victims to claim assets removed to the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude and appreciation to the Government of Lithuania for hosting the highly successful Vilnius Forum, to Stuart Eizenstat for his outstanding efforts in representing the position of the United States at this conference, and particularly to Emanuelis Zingeris for his enthusiastic leadership in bringing this important event together.

ALASKA LANDS EXCHANGE

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I wish to provide this clarification of legislative intent to Section 761 of H.R. 1000, the FAA Reauthorization bill, P.L. 106-181, enacted earlier this year.

Section 761 provides a process for land exchanges to facilitate a railroad track realignment and straightening project through Elmendorf AFB and Fort Richardson, Alaska. Track is to be relocated further away from the runway landing clear zone, ammunition storage areas, and other military facilities. It will also provide safety and operational benefits for the combined passenger and freight rail line. The small land parcel segments that need to be exchanged on a nearly acre-for-acre basis will be between the state-owned Alaska Railroad on the one part, and the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretaries of the Army, Air Force, or such other federal agencies as may be necessary, on the other part.

Of course, it is the intent of Section 761 that matters needed to facilitate these land exchanges between the federal agencies and the state railroad, as well as the overall pur-

poses of this project, are necessarily implied therein. For example, it will obviously be necessary on a temporary basis during surveying, preliminary engineering, and construction, for one or more of these entities to be present simultaneously on each others' parcels of land, regardless of the exact dates legal title may be transferred. The railroad may, by necessary implication, locate and construct its new track facility without the need for a separate fee or use permit being processed under the usual federal land management statutes. Section 761 already authorizes the applicable Secretary to impose additional terms on the railroad as appropriate to protect the U.S. interests.

Further, while Section 761 did not directly amend The Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982, under which the federally-owned railroad was sold to the state, once again, it is logically and necessarily implied that the reversionary provisions of the 1982 Act will not apply to land segments given up by the railroad to facilitate this project. Instead, the reversionary provisions will transfer and apply to the new land acquired by the railroad from the federal entities in the exchange.

Finally, Section 761 had no intent to imply any derogation of the permanent withdrawal and agreement under Section 1425 of ANILCA, P.L. 86-487, as to any of the lands being exchanged. It is the intent of Section 761 that the lands received by each grantee, either the railroad or the federal entities, shall have in its hands the same status with respect to Section 1425 of ANILCA and the agreement as did the lands granted in exchange by each such grantee. Further, it is intended that any land or interest reconveyed by the railroad to a federal agency will be automatically considered a part of the surrounding public land withdrawal without need for further administrative action respecting those lands.

ICCVAM AUTHORIZATION ACT OF
2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4281, the ICCVAM (Interagency Coordinating Committee for the Validation of Alternative Methods) Authorization Act. This commonsense piece of legislation has received overwhelming support from all interested parties, including endorsements from 72 bipartisan cosponsors, the animal rights community, a coalition of chemical and product manufacturers, and the administration.

ICCVAM was established by the director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in 1994 and is still in operation today. Thus, the bill does not create a new Federal bureaucracy. Rather, it improves upon an existing interagency committee and streamlines the regulatory process without eliminating discretion by any Federal agency. H.R. 4281 simply gives ICCVAM statutory authority to continue establishing guidelines and recommendations that promote the regulatory acceptance of scientifically valid, new, revised or alternative test methods, thereby eliminating duplicative, time-consuming and costly test

method validation at several other government agencies. In addition, because ICCVAM already exists, passage of H.R. 4281 will not require any additional budget expenditures.

In conclusion, I would like to say that H.R. 4281 provides a win-win situation for all groups and individuals involved with toxicology testing. For chemical and product manufacturers, who are required to test their products for safety before bringing them to the market, the bill offers them a centralized body to ensure that new test methods are scientifically valid and acceptable for regulatory use before they spend large sums of money on conducting the tests for government approval. For animal protection organizations, this legislation promotes an improved forum in which alternatives to animal testing can be scientifically validated for regulatory use. From a broader standpoint, the tests approved by ICCVAM will provide Federal agencies with adequate data to protect human and environmental health and safety, a development which benefits all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in supporting H.R. 4281. Let us ensure that ICCVAM continues its important work on behalf of the Federal Government, animal rights activists, and regulated industries across the United States.

SALUTE TO THE KANSAS CITY
WIZARDS

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Kansas City Wizards and owner Lamar Hunt for their 1-0 win over the Chicago Fire in Major League Soccer's 2000 championship game on Sunday, October 15. The Wizards are a testament to the perseverance of hard work and determination in athletics. Their drive and resolve produced the best season in the Kansas City Wizard's six year history.

Goalkeeper Tony Meola and veteran players Uche Okafor, Mo Johnston, and Preki capped their stellar season with Major League Soccer's ultimate glory, giving loyal Kansas City fans their first Major League Soccer title. The Wizards' fluid teamwork and appreciation for the game were best exemplified by the unselfish style of play that spearheaded their drive towards the trophy. By foregoing individual statistics, the players came together under one common goal and achieved it in championship fashion.

In addition to their Major League Soccer championship trophy, seven proud Wizards players were selected to join the U.S. National team for an October 25 exhibition match against Mexico Rookie defender Nick Garcia joined fellow defender Brandon Prideaux, midfielders Kerry Zavagnin, Matt McKeon, Chris Henderson and Chris Klein, and goalkeeper Tony Meola in Los Angeles to lead the United States to a 2-0 win over the Mexican national team. Congratulations to the Wizard Members and to the entire U.S. national team for an inspiring victory.

The MLS trophy has special meaning for Wizards' owner Lamar Hunt, who has long

been a champion of soccer in the United States. Major League Soccer is now the fastest growing American sport, and its popularity in Kansas City is a credit to Mr. Hunt and his commitment to its success. Mr. Hunt's great admiration for his players was noted after the game when he stated proudly that, "These are pages of a memory book that these players will never forget."

The Wizards weekly youth programs have given thousands of children in the Kansas City area the opportunity to meet and interact with the athletes they admire. Young athletes receive fundamental training by a member of the Wizards. These programs provide positive reinforcement for youth on and off the field. Since the inception of these programs in 1995, Kansas City youth soccer has doubled in player participation among our youth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the Kansas City Wizards for the winning example they've provided to the young athletes of Kansas City, and for their inspired Major League Soccer championship season and U.S. National Team success. The Wizards embody the principles of teamwork essential for success. I ask the House to join me in Congratulating the Kansas City Wizards, Major League Soccer's 2000 champions and their owner, Mr. Lamar Hunt.

CONGRATULATIONS, GLORIA JEAN
OLIVER A WOMAN OF INFLUENCE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives the accomplishments of a person who has truly made a difference in her community, Ms. Gloria Jean Oliver. Retired as a captain from the East Orange Police Department, Ms. Oliver has been selected as one of the recipients of the prestigious YWCA "Women of Influence" awards. She will be honored at a special luncheon in New Jersey on November 4, 2000.

Born in Glenridge and educated in the East Orange school system, Ms. Oliver attended Upsala College and received a bachelor of arts degree in Social Science.

In 1969, she distinguished herself by becoming the first female to be hired by the East Orange Police Department after placing first on the New Jersey Civil Service exam. After breaking this barrier, she spent her first decade as a detective in the Juvenile Aide Bureau while also taking on an assignment in the rape squad. She continued to be a pioneer in her field, becoming a founding member of the Afro-American police organization with the formation of the East Orange Kinsmen, Inc. She was the first recording secretary of the organization, which was dedicated to serving the local community.

After a promotion to sergeant in 1979, Ms. Oliver supervised the robbery squad. In 1986, while assigned to the Patrol Division, Gloria was promoted to lieutenant and was in charge of the "Safe Neighborhoods Division." She commanded the 4 p.m. until midnight tour of the Patrol Division, was the Record's Bureau supervisor and was in charge of the Commu-

nications Division. In 1998, she was promoted to acting captain, where she served ten months as the commander in charge of the 4 p.m. until midnight tour before her retirement in September of 1999.

Among the hobbies she enjoys are reading, traveling and writing poetry. A true family person, she is devoted to her eighty-eight year old father and takes great pride in her two nieces, Shelly and Krystal, and her great nieces and nephews. Ms. Oliver is now enjoying a well-deserved retirement where she continues to be active as a member of the Board of Directors of the North End Nursery.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in commending Ms. Oliver for her outstanding professional achievements and her service to the community. Let us extend our congratulations as she receives the Women of Influence Award and our very best wishes for continued health and happiness.

IN HONOR OF THE VASCULAR
ANOMALIES PROGRAM AT NEW
YORK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL
CENTER ON VASCULAR ANOMA-
LIES FAMILY DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the Vascular Anomalies Program at New York University Medical Center which will celebrate Vascular Anomalies Family Day on October 29, 2000. The Vascular Anomalies Program at NYU is an exceptional medical program that serves a notable role assisting my constituents with their medical needs.

The Vascular Anomalies Program began at NYU in the 1980s as a subsidiary of the Institute for Reconstructive Plastic Surgery at NYU Medical Center in order to better assist patients with vascular anomalies such as hemangiomas, lymphatic malformations, venous vascular malformations, and arteriovenous malformations. The medical team assembled to serve in the Vascular Anomalies Program consists of physicians specializing in plastic surgery dermatology, radiology, hematology, psychology, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, and gynecology.

With the skills and guidance of these medical professionals, the NYU Vascular Anomalies program addresses the numerous medical and psychological issues confronting its patients. The needs of its patients sometimes require the program to coordinate the participation of numerous physicians in order to implement a successful plan of care.

The physicians in the Vascular Anomalies Program meet twice every month with patients to discuss their concerns. The program which is funded by the National Foundation for Facial Reconstruction, recently met with federal elected officials involved in health care issues to discuss facial deformities in children.

This week, the Vascular Anomalies Program will celebrate Vascular Anomalies Family Day to salute the network for parents who support each other through the challenges of raising a child with a facial deformity. I congratulate the NYU Vascular Anomalies Program on this special day and applaud the valuable work of this exceptional program.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely pleased to know that the NYU Vascular Anomalies Program offers such as instrumental service to my constituents. The work of this program is greatly beneficial to the residents of my district and I wish the NYU Vascular Anomalies Program all the best in the continuation of its vital services.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS FOR
WORLD WAR II VETERANS

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. LARSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the World War II Veterans who will be receiving their High School Diplomas at the West Hartford Board of Education on the evening of November 8, 2000, more than 55 years after they originally were supposed to have graduated.

These men all left high school early in order to serve their country in the midst of World War II. They are graduating under the terms and conditions of a recently enacted Connecticut law that allows people who left high school to join the military to be given their official diplomas. As such they have now become certified high school graduates.

These Veterans represent what Tom Brokaw has called "America's Greatest Generation". Raised in the Great Depression, some the children of immigrants, they endured hardship at home but rallied to the causes of patriotism and helped the United States defeat the threat posed by the Axis nations. Upon coming home from the war, they led productive and useful lives. They became skilled workers and businessmen who worked hard in raising their children and providing support to their communities, churches and synagogues. They served their country both in time of war, as well as peace, and we are all better off because of their sacrifices.

Several of them will be joined by their wives, children and grandchildren and other family members and friends for this happy event. While more applications for diplomas are still being processed, the following people have already been certified as High School Graduates under the Connecticut program: Albert Lefkin, Herbert Anderson, Donald J. DesRoches, Robert Douglas Soule, Kenneth William Bassett, Anthony N. Cardillo, Otto D. Vincenzi, Joseph J. Viscounti, Edward H. Friedman, and John Robert Clutz.

Others will be honored posthumously and I know that their families will also take delight and comfort over the recognition of their achievements. They are: Agostino Guzzo and William A. Zambrello.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend the appreciation of the American people to the fine men who contributed so greatly to the preservation of our freedoms. They deserve our praise and honor. Many of them have participated in the high school and college graduations of their children and grandchildren over the years. However, their own accomplishments are unique and I hope that these self-effacing men will allow themselves and their loved ones to rejoice in the celebration of their own lives. I would like to urge my colleagues in the House to join me in saluting

and thanking the World War II Veterans and official high school graduates. The nation and community has learned and benefited much from you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be here yesterday due to my father's precarious health situation, and missed Recorded Votes #541 (Providing for the consideration of H.R. 4656, Lake Tahoe Basin School Site Land Conveyance Act), #542 (Motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 414: Relating to the Reestablishment of Representative Government in Afghanistan), and #543 (Motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4271: The National Science Education Act) on October 24, 2000, and Recorded Vote #545 (On ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 647: providing for consideration of H.R. 4811, the Foreign Operations Appropriations Conference Report, FY2001) on October 25, 2000.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all of the above motions.

DR. SPENCER FOREMAN AND
ANGELA HOUSE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Angela House is a small transitional residence providing homeless women and their young children with support and training in a supporting, home-like setting. A primary goal is to break the cycle of homelessness and to achieve self-sufficiency for these families.

This year Angela House is celebrating its first Award Dinner to raise money to buy permanent quarters for this fine organization. Dr. Spencer Foreman, the President of Montefiore Hospital, is being honored for his work in getting Angela House a building for use as a residence until Angela House can get its own building.

Dr. Foreman has been a health systems executive for nearly 30 years and I can personally attest to the good work he is doing in the Bronx as President of Montefiore Medical Center. Currently he is in the midst of building an up to the minute pediatric hospital to treat the children of the Bronx and nearby Westchester County.

He is a member and past Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Greater New York Hospital Association and the Board of Directors of the League of Voluntary Hospitals.

Under Dr. Foreman Montefiore generously donated a three-story building for use by Angela House in the work it is doing for young women in need. Angela House is one of the many organizations making a concerted effort to solve the problem of homelessness in New York City. It also makes a crucial difference in the future of the children it serves by strengthening the family unit.

Dr. Foreman and Angela House are well matched. Both are doing good work for the Bronx in helping people who are in need. They both contribute so much to making the Bronx a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

COLONEL THOMAS R. FRIERS TO
RETIRE FROM THE UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE ON 31 DE-
CEMBER 2000.

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Colonel Friers' twenty-eight years of service to our nation culminate with his assignment as Commander of the Department of Defense Manned Space Flight Support Office. Prior to entering the service, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Clarkson University, New York. He later received a Master of Science degree in Management from Central Missouri State University.

During the course of his Air Force Career, Colonel Friers rose to the level of command pilot accumulating more than 4000 hours of flying time in five fixed and rotary-winged aircraft. Colonel Friers served in a multitude of locations around the world from Vietnam to the Persian Gulf. He served at many levels: DOD Staff, Air Force Headquarters, and Major Command. Colonel Friers was awarded command a remarkable five times. He commanded a detachment, a squadron, a group, a DOD staff agency, and the Air Force's elite Combat Rescue School. He also served as flight examiner, aide to commander, director of command protocol, and chief of rescue division at the major command level.

The decorations from his 28 years of service include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Aerial Achievement Medal, and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Colonel Friers commanded troops during our nations' triumph in the Persian Gulf. He also commanded during the Khobar Tower bombing, when his 1st Rescue Group lost 19 brave airman.

During good times and bad, Colonel Friers has led with courage and distinction. Like our great national symbol, the eagles of a colonel are well suited to represent the character of this greater leader.

RIESTERER'S BAKERY 70TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Riesterer's Bake Shoppe & Cafe on their 70th Anniversary for their commitment and contributions to the Long Island community.

The Riesterer family embodies the spirit of small business with their dedication to service

and values. Their 70th Anniversary is a landmark achievement for this family-owned and operated establishment that has become an integral part of life in West Hempstead.

A celebration of the anniversary is planned for Friday, October 27, 2000. The Riesterer family will display a giant seven-foot, seven-tier picturesque Birthday cake commemorating each decade with a tier full of pictures of the Riesterer's legacy.

I would especially like to recognize Karl Riesterer, Sr., the father of the family, who has recently been installed to the position of President of the Bakers Association of America. Comprised of over three thousand members, the Bakers Association of America is the largest baking organization in the country. I salute Karl's dedication that has allowed him to reach the top of his profession.

The Riesterer family is a pillar of the Long Island small business community and the community as a whole. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Riesterer's Bake Shoppe & Cafe on their 70th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING CHESTER BROWN ON THE OPENING OF THE WEST WARD CULTURAL CENTER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chester Brown for the realization of his dream with the opening of the new location for the West Ward Cultural Center, Inc. in Newark, New Jersey. This Sunday, October 29, 2000, will mark the relocation of a community organization that was the realization of a great dream by a truly remarkable man. The West Ward Cultural Center has served the community for over 20 years, providing food, clothing and social services to everyone from babies to senior citizens.

Mr. Chester Brown, the founder and president of West Ward Cultural Center, was educated at Marywood College in Pennsylvania. A community leader and advocate for positive change, Mr. Brown has worked diligently over the past 20 years helping to make a difference in the lives of others. West War Cultural Center's new home stands as a tribute to his dedicated efforts.

Chester Brown is also a devoted family man. His wife, Mrs. Loucinda Brown, and their talented daughters, Christina and Crystal, share his community spirit. As such, Christina and Crystal inspired the concept for the "Children of Vision," whose aim is to encourage young people to aspire to academic excellence. Christina and Crystal are student instructors in Journalism, Computer Science and Cultural Arts at West War Cultural Center and participate as mentors for the young.

Chester Brown is the son of the late Mr. Willie Brown and his wife, Mrs. Mable Brown. Blessed with a unique family of 16 sons and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Brown successfully raised their family by working as a team. They also took pleasure in helping others, which earned them the respect and admiration of many. It also set a precedent for their children, especially Chester, to follow. Mr. and Mrs. Brown would be proud of the admirable accomplishments of their son, Chester. Mr.

Speaker, Mr. Chester Brown is more than worthy of receiving this honor and our praises, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing this truly remarkable man.

OUR NATIONAL ENERGY SUPPLY— RUNNING ON EMPTY

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, our Federal Government's approach to energy reminds me of the teenager that has a number of intense priorities—none of which involve filling the family car up with gas. As recent sharp increases in prices for gasoline, heating oil, natural gas, and electricity, and regional fuel shortages indicate, the United States is running on empty and no one wants to pull over and fill up the tank. In fact, running out of gas appears to be an affirmative policy of the regulatory and land-use agencies of this administration.

During the past decade, the Federal Government has actively discouraged exploration, production, transportation and use of conventional energy sources. The sudden increase in energy costs and reliability problems are symptomatic of a fundamentally flawed federal energy policy with serious adverse economic consequences that are only beginning to bubble to the surface. Although the Congress protected the public from their ill-conceived Clinton/Gore Btu-tax early in their administration, Clinton and Gore appear to have achieved their anti-people goals through restrictions on energy production and use through the back door. By using the regulatory powers of the Federal agencies, the Clinton/Gore administration has increased the price of energy to all Americans. How quickly some have forgotten the lessons of the recent past such as the Arab Oil Embargo of the 1970's.

My district in Michigan has many small and large businesses that support the automobile-manufacturing sector. I am very aware of how energy costs affect not just the economy, but the very prosperity so many working Americans have been enjoying.

Our prosperity, and particularly the driving force of our prosperity, the manufacturing sector, which generated almost 30 percent of growth of the gross domestic product and was pivotal in creating 22 million new jobs in the 1990's, is still dependent on adequate and reliable energy supplies at internationally competitive prices. And the current situation is not good. The loss of 133,000 net manufacturing jobs in a broad range of industries in August, and another 66,000 lost jobs in September, is primarily due to higher energy costs. Because firms cannot raise prices in this competitive environment, they must respond to higher energy costs by reducing costs elsewhere. Despite the high value that is placed on American workers, sometimes they become the victims of bad federal energy policy.

To maintain affordable energy supplies, all sources of energy need to be on the table. Unfortunately, the Clinton/Gore administration has been encouraging only the politically correct arrows in our energy supply quiver: conservation, non-hydro renewables and, as "transition" fuel, natural gas. This is an detri-

mental and dangerous energy strategy. Instead, in addition to continuing efforts to encourage energy efficient choices and develop alternative energy sources, increasing the supply of all conventional energy sources remains critical for sustained economic growth.

Currently, the most glaring policy disconnect is between the projections of natural gas demand over the next decade compared with supply realities. Some of the most promising energy efficiency technologies—combined cycle gas turbines and this generation of fuel cells—require natural gas. Several organizations, including the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration (EIA) and the National Petroleum Council, predict there will be approximately a 30 percent increase in the use of natural gas over the next 10 to 15 years. Yet U.S. natural gas production has remained stagnant for the past 6 years. Canada already has increased its exports to the U.S. by more than 130 percent over the past 10 years, but still the supply falls short of what experts predict we'll need. Where will the rest come from?

More importantly half of American households depend on natural gas for heating. The American Gas Association estimates that their bills this winter will increase at least 40 percent over last year, and that is if we have an average winter. In addition, our economic prosperity itself is also in jeopardy. The tens of millions of working Americans who depend on natural gas for space heating, process energy, and product feedstocks, are finding the spot prices for natural gas increasing 2 to 3 times over what it was in January of this year. For many energy intensive businesses, such as those that support America's automobile manufacturing sector, this is a very serious matter. And this pain, this crisis, is largely the result of the Clinton/Gore policies of the past eight years. The Clinton/Gore administration has systematically denied access to natural gas resources and discouraged adding natural gas infrastructure to bring natural gas to market.

The irony is that everyone knows where there is plenty of natural gas, but federal policies do not allow it to be developed. The Outer Continental Shelf and the multiple-use public lands on the Eastern Slope of the Rocky Mountains contain trillions of cubic feet of natural gas reserves that cannot be produced due to moratoria or numerous Clinton/Gore policies and regulatory actions that impede or prevent their development and production.

And natural gas is just one energy source that suffers from federal policies. Coal and oil resources are similarly being locked up by federal land use restrictions on multiple-use lands. Only one new base-load coal plant and two expansion units have been built since the late 1980's, and none since 1996. No new major oil refinery has been built in 25 years.

We haven't started construction on a nuclear plant in a decade, and no major hydroelectric dam has been built in memory. Moreover, federal policies have actively discouraged continued operation of even existing energy facilities. For example, the relicensing schedule for hydroelectric dams is an inexcusable eight years.

It seems that, for the current administration, atrophy and diminishment are the only energy policies they'll consider, as indicated by their support of the flawed Kyoto Protocol, which would use international pressure to coerce

Americans into massive cuts in fossil fuel use. Unconstitutionally, this treaty has never ever been submitted to the U.S. Senate for consent, and the Clinton/Gore administration has indicated no intention of ever submitting the resolution to the Senate. To negotiate a treaty against the advice of the U.S. Senate and to have no intention of ever submitting the treaty to the Senate for consent is blatantly and flagrantly unconstitutional.

Via the Kyoto Protocol, the Clinton/Gore administration would commit the United States to what amounts to a 31 percent reduction in fossil energy use over levels otherwise projected by 2010. I oppose the attempts by the federal agencies to implement the protocol without Senate ratification and without implementing legislation. I thank my colleagues who have continued to support reasonable limitations on the Federal agencies that have forgotten how fundamentally important an adequate supply of energy is to our economic and social well-being.

I would like to introduce into the RECORD a resolution by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers expressing their concern for current energy supply policies. This resolution, which the NAM Board adopted earlier this month, notes that in order to sustain economic growth, this country must have adequate supplies of energy at internationally competitive prices. I agree with their analysis that all energy options must be on the table for us to maintain and grow our economy, and that energy supply considerations must be part of the overall federal regulatory policy. I commend the attention of my colleagues to the NAM resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the NAM resolution be inserted in the RECORD at this point.

RESOLUTION OF CONCERN OVER ENERGY
SUPPLY POLICIES

An adequate and secure energy supply at globally competitive prices is necessary for the nation's economic growth. The NAM—and its more than 14,000 member companies and associations, including 10,000 small and mid-sized manufacturers—supports the development of markets and policies that provide adequate, reliable and competitively priced energy resources with minimal government intervention. The NAM understands the critical importance of an economically viable mix of energy sources, consistent with prudent environmental policies. The NAM is concerned that current federal policies are at odds with the fundamental need to maintain adequate future energy supplies for the economy and the welfare of the American people.

Overall, U.S. manufacturers continue to strive for improved efficiency in the competitive world marketplace, including increasing energy efficiency. The remarkable productivity gains of this past decade however, have tended to raise energy use. Simultaneously increasing productivity and energy efficiency in the face of foreign competitive pressures has required developing and installing innovative equipment and processes in all aspects of the manufacturing sector.

Despite manufacturers' ongoing investments to increase energy efficiency, and federal and private efforts to develop economically viable alternative sources, increasing the supply of traditional energy sources remains critical in order to sustain economic growth. For example, the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and the Outer Continental Shelf should be opened for environmentally responsible oil

and gas production. With respect to electricity, federal legislation should be enacted that would strengthen reliability and efficiency of supply, and facilitate wholesale and retail competition as soon as possible.

Energy warning signs are not just flashing because of this past summer's regional electricity disruptions. Also this year, the United States has been experiencing tight supplies of natural gas and transportation fuels, and the Department of Energy has even announced plans to dip into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve out of concern for heating oil prices this winter. The drastic step of withdrawing oil from the SPR is a wake-up call that current federal policies are jeopardizing economic growth and prosperity.

The current Administration has created an unbalanced national energy policy by focusing only on energy efficiency, natural gas and non-traditional energy sources, while limiting the development and use of other energy sources. There are limits to how much energy-efficiency measures and alternative energy sources—some of which remain of speculative economic viability—can contribute to meeting the energy requirements of our growing nation. Of particular concern is the policy disconnect between projections of increases in natural gas consumption to meet new energy demands, contrasted with current federal policies that discourage the production and delivery of new natural gas supplies. If federal policies will not allow more natural gas to be produced and delivered, then natural gas will not be able to fulfill its potential to sustain economic growth.

By undermining the development of domestic oil, gas, nuclear, coal and hydroelectric power, this Administration has created "supply-side" disincentives that add up to what is essentially a policy of planned energy dependence by the United States on foreign sources. Historically, the federal government has caused enormous economic waste when it tries to pick "winners" and "losers" in the energy marketplace. It has also caused waste when its energy policies are not coordinated with other policy objectives or considered in the context of economic growth.

Current federal policies that discourage energy supplies and distort energy consumption jeopardize economic growth. To meet the challenges of a growing population and increasing prosperity, while ensuring national security and environmental protection, America must fully utilize all of its energy options. The next Administration and Congress must make the availability of adequate supplies of reliable and competitively priced energy a national priority.

As adopted by the NAM Board of Directors—October 4, 2000.

HONORING MARILYN CULPEPPER

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Marilyn Culpepper for her dedication to the health and well being of Monroe County, Alabama, citizens.

Marilyn Culpepper was appointed to the Monroe County Hospital Board in July 1996 and elected its chairman by unanimous vote of the board a few months later. She served as chairman from 1997 to 2000. Mrs. Culpepper has since moved to Mobile, and I wish her well as she takes on new challenges.

A native of Grove Hill, Alabama, Mrs. Culpepper is a 1980 graduate of the University of West Alabama (formerly Livingston University) and was the recipient of that school's Alumni of the Year Award in 1996.

Over the years, she has had several successful careers and civic achievements. In 1986, at age 17, she was elected to the Sumter County Board of Education. She was elected a second time in 1988 and served with distinction until moving to Monroe County in 1991.

In Monroe County, Marilyn Culpepper served first as associate editor, then managing editor of the Award-winning weekly newspaper, The Monroe Journal. She also distinguished herself through community service in several capacities. To name a few, she was president and/or board member of the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce, the Monroe County Public Education Foundation, the Monroeville Kiwanis Club (where she was the first woman elected as "Kiwanian of the Year"). She also served as a volunteer for the Monroe County Heritage Museums, and for the Alabama Writers Symposium during their inaugural year. In addition, she served in Israel as the representative of the Monroe County Commission and the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce during performances of "To Kill a Mockingbird." Manifesting her talent, Mrs. Culpepper is a two-time recipient of the Alabama Medical Association's Douglas L. Cannon Recognition for Excellence in Medical Journalism.

As editor of the Monroe Journal and, later, economic developer for Monroe County from 1997–2000 and as chairman of the Monroe County Hospital Board, Mrs. Culpepper was an advocate for accessible health care for all citizens regardless of age, social or economic status. She was a driving force behind expansion of hospital services and creation of a rural health clinic in Monroe County.

Under Mrs. Culpepper's leadership, the hospital in Monroeville embarked on a major expansion and construction project, the creation of a cancer-treatment center and the development of a diabetes support program. She also oversaw the creation of Monroe Health Foundation and has been a contributor to the foundation.

Today, Mrs. Culpepper serves as executive director of the Historic Mobile Preservation Society. Her commitment to community development—preservation, education, and innovation in enriching the lives of all citizens continues. She is committed to developing a regional network of cultural, civic and humanitarian efforts to benefit all residents of south Alabama and continues to be a friend to Monroe County and Monroe County Hospital in this endeavor.

HONORING MONTE BLUM AND HIS
HEROIC SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a great man, a real American hero. My statement today is a formal "Thank You" to Mr. Monte Blum, a proud veteran from World War II. It is a thank you he has never expected or asked for from his country.

The middle son of Russian immigrants, 19-year old Monte Blum enlisted in the Army and volunteered for the hazardous duty of disarming underwater mines as a deep sea diver in the 106th Engineering Corps. Clearing the way for ally shipping lanes off the coast of France in 1944, Cpl. Blum's attempt to disarm an enemy mine was disastrous when the explosive detonated.

With little chance for survival, Cpl. Blum was transported to a military hospital in Wales. His oldest brother Herman Blum, who received medals for heroism in the Battle of the Bulge, traveled from his post in Germany to take his younger brother back to America to live out his last days.

Herman was determined not to let his brother Monte die overseas. After months of prayer, a miracle occurred—Monte Blum survived. He was subsequently awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star.

Monte Blum will be turning 75 on February 26. He has been married to Helene Englander for 49 years and raised a son, Murray and a daughter, Robin. His children say that affection for their father gave them strength as Mr. Blum was in and out of the hospital during their youth. After dozens upon dozens of operations, medical technology finally was able to stem the constant discomfort they saw him endure while they were growing up. Helene was a constant rock and loving companion in tough years that would have sent most weaker wives packing.

In spite of his disability, Monte Blum was a hard working and successful business man all his life. No one but his immediate family ever knew that he had health problems. He held his head high, and provided a happy home or a well-loved family. He not only sent his two children to college but was instrumental for the education of 2 neighborhood kids. When there wasn't a synagogue in Baltimore where he bought his family a home, he pitched in and built one.

He taught his children about sacrifice and his undying love of our country. He emphasized the values of family, Judaism and kindness. His wife and children watched him laugh when he should have cried and never, never ever to this day, did he once complain.

His family has endured many tragedies. His older brother Lt. Senior Grade, Murray Blum, at 22, was killed in action as he dove overboard from a Merchant Marine vessel to rescue a drowning Swedish sailor, the only man to have perished on the ship, the SS Leonardis Polk. Murray Blum is buried in Cambridge, England at the beautifully tendered U.S. Military Cemetery. His brother Simon who worked stateside in the service because of a disability, died of a heart attack, after the war.

Retired Major Herman Blum, who received a Bronze Star, died September 23, 2000 at age 82 and received a full military send-off befitting a retired Army Major and now rests with his parents and brothers.

At this point in his life, Monte Blum is a frail health, but still walks with dignity and the step of a man half his age. He is surrounded by those who adore him. Monte Blum and his youngest brother Calvin, who was in the 67th Flight Corps, remain the best of friends.

He is a living monument and the embodiment, the heart and soul of the greatest generation. With Veterans Day approaching, we would do well to recount the service and sacrifice of veterans like Monte Blum.

ON BEHALF OF PEIRCE COLLEGE

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Peirce College, a matchless institution of higher education located in my district of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Peirce College has taken great strides to bridge the digital divide and become an institution dedicated to providing graduates for the information age. In fact, Peirce recently took two significant steps towards this goal. First, with the opening of its state-of-the-art alumni Hall and second, through the recent approval of its online degree programs.

Despite its purely urban location, Peirce College is reaching out to provide competitive workforce and technology programs to individuals living in the more rural parts of Pennsylvania. Peirce College is well positioned to do this. In Fiscal Year 1999–2000 Peirce's off-site programs enrolled 408 students from rural and suburban areas across Pennsylvania. Through distance learning technologies, Peirce College intends to connect all of its students and programs including those in the rural areas of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania has one of the largest rural population of any state in the country. To this extent, the Peirce distance learning programs can offer a significant opportunity for students, many of whom are adult learner, to gain training an education programs that are technology oriented and needed in today's job market.

I support Peirce College in its effort to secure a federal partnership to expand its on line and distance learning programs. To that end, I have worked with Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR, ranking member for the House Appropriations subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Relocated Agencies. In this year's Fiscal Year 2001 House passed Agriculture Appropriation bill, report language was included to direct the Department of Agriculture to give consideration to the distance learning at Peirce College under the distance learning and telemedicine grant program.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program, as authorized by the Food Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 and amended by the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, aims to provide access to telecommunications services to improve rural educational opportunities. This program provided facilities and equipment to link rural education with more urban centers in order to increase educational opportunities for rural students. As such, I believe this program is well aligned with the goals and actions of Peirce College.

I strongly support Peirce college's proposal for a distant learning grant and look forward to working with the Department of Agriculture and the Committee to insure that Peirce College proposal receives full and fair consideration.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS COAL MINERS MEMORIAL

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Southern Illinois Coal Miners and the Memorial that has been dedicated in their honor. The memorial consists of a wall with the names of coal miners who currently work or have worked in the southern Illinois mines.

I would like to share with you this poem by Raymond D. Null of Herrin, IL. This work gives us an idea of the different kinds of struggles coal miners face.

"ILLINOIS BLACK GOLD"

In the early years, our MINERS lived in the "patch," in their little company houses, along the train tracks
 With their lunch bucket in hand, off to work they would go, most walking to work, through the summers and snows
 Many fathers and sons, have worked side by side, in areas not tall, and sometimes not wide
 They carved out their living, in walls of pure coal, as they worked hard and labored, to mine this "Black Gold"
 A ride down the deep shaft, a long walk through the mine, to this deep darkened land, where the sun never shines
 Where it's deep as a dungeon, and nearly as cold, and the MINERS were proud, to mine this "Black Gold"
 Deep in the ground, everyday these men toiled, as they spotted and blasted, through the layers of soil
 They were our MINERS, and they brought us our coal, with their shovels and picks they mined this "Black Gold"
 These pioneers of labor, with the coal black face, are the legends of mining, that time won't erase
 They worked dangerously hard, in their race against time, in this deep dark hole, that they call the mine
 In the early years, lives were taken at times, and the news spread quickly, to other towns and their mines
 There would be sounds of sorrow, and sounds of pain, like the quill from the whistle, of a slow passing train
 There are memorials that salute, those who answered their call, and prayers are said daily, for those who gave all
 And for all of the MINERS, who mined this "Black Gold," Let us give thanks, and may God bless their soul.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I commend the coal miners of Southern Illinois. Due to their hard work and dedication in the mining industry, it is clear that they are an asset to Southern Illinois and all of the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, because I was unavoidably detained, I was absent for rollcall vote No. 554. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF JUDITH WEST

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judy West, an outstanding New Yorker, on the occasion of her retirement from Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians.

Judy West has had a long and successful career serving as Director of Public Relations and Legislative Affairs for Local 802 since 1983. Her contributions to the Labor movement in particular, and to society as a whole, have been exemplary and set the standard to which we should all rise.

As an outspoken advocate for all working people, Judy has fought to ensure that Labor's agenda is always at the top of every elected official's list. From her work on exposing the abuses of farm labor in New York State to highlighting the particular concerns of musicians and other performing artists, her persistence and determination on behalf of these causes have become her trademarks.

In addition to her myriad endeavors on behalf of labor, Judy has also devoted her energies to the struggle for civil rights, affordable housing and decent health care for all. She has been so committed because she believes that as a citizen it is her duty to create a more just society for all. Through her unstinting devotion of time and generous use of talents, Judy West has become recognized as one of the most effective advocates of our time.

Mr. Speaker, Judy West may be officially retiring from her job, but I know that she will continue making outstanding contributions in the service of society. Her leadership will be missed, however, she and her family will have the opportunity to spend more time together. I join with all working people in thanking Judy for her tireless advocacy, personal commitment to our community and for her friendship.

IN HONOR OF NICK A. ANDRIOTIS,
PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SAINT
DEMETRIOS CATHEDRAL PARISH
COUNCIL AND CO-CHAIRMAN OF
THE ST. DEMETRIOS SCHOOL
BOARD

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Nick A. Andriotis, the former president of the Parish Council at the Saint Demetrios Cathedral and Co-Chairman of the St. Demetrios School Board in Astoria, Queens, New York. Mr. Andriotis will receive this year's Odyssey Award from the Cathedral in recognition of his long and distinguished service to the church. The award will be presented at the church's 73rd Anniversary celebration this month.

Mr. Andriotis has been a tireless activist for the entire Greek-American community of Astoria through his work with the Hellenic Cultural Center and the St. Demetrios School System. He has served as a strong advocate for the preservation of the Greek Orthodox

faith, as well as for Greek culture, traditions, and the Greek language. He is the founder of the St. Demetrios High School, which is the direct product of his vision, determination, and enthusiasm. In fact, the new high school building became a reality due to Mr. Andriotis's valiant efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I am immensely proud to have such a community-oriented leader and visionary working to improve the lives of the many Greek and Greek-American residents of New York. This year's Odyssey Award will honor a worthy man and a diligent and faithful member of the Greek-American community. I congratulate Mr. Andriotis on his award and his many years of community service and I am confident that the selfless dedication he has demonstrated toward his friends and neighbors will continue through the work of the Saint Demetrios Cathedral.

MOVIE MAKERS RESPOND WEAKLY

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member encourages his colleagues to read the following editorial, from the October 9, 2000, edition of the Norfolk Daily News. This editorial highlights the insufficient answers from the film industry about targeting younger audiences with inappropriate film content.

[From the Daily News, October 9, 2000]

MOVIE MAKERS RESPOND WEAKLY

CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN PRODUCES LESS THAN SATISFACTORY ANSWERS BY INDUSTRY

The movie industry's responses to congressional concern about targeting younger audiences with inappropriate film fare is unsatisfactory. The practice of using young test audiences is reprehensible.

While Jack Valenti, the veteran political operative who speaks for the Motion Picture Association of America, promised the industry would change the objectionable practice, it is not enough. Ratings ought to change and entertainment ought to be lifted from the gutter.

Mr. Valenti did say that "inappropriate" targeting of children for R-rated movies would stop. That practice has found some filmmakers attempting to appeal to youngsters whose age would disqualify them from viewing.

The Internet figures in this problem as well. For the industry's teen Web sites can be utilized, and there were no promises that marketing of R-rated films would be entirely barred from them.

The president of Sony, parent company of Columbia Pictures, termed the marketing of a violent PG-13 film to a younger audience "a judgment lapse." It would more properly be called a stupid error demanding far more prompt attention than it received. That company is far from alone, however.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, expressed the sentiment of many Americans when she responded to the recent testimony from film executives: If the industry doesn't take steps to keep violent films away from young children, she said, "you're going to see some kind of legislation." There are others who feel just as strongly about the portrayals of casual sex and use of obscene language as they do about gratuitous violence.

The legislative powers seem limited, however, even though the Supreme Court has in-

dictated "community standards" can be allowed to prevail in the contests between pornography and free expression, especially where young people are concerned.

In this situation, with movie complexes overbuilt and family movie nights rare, a rational reaction would find the industry doing all it could to tell interesting stories with at least a little less violence and graphic sex. It was possible in the earlier days of television and films.

The industry ought to find a way to reverse the trend toward coarseness and crudity. It could start by raising its standards, revising its inaccurate and unreliable ratings, and leaving more to the viewers' imaginations.

THE FIREARMS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SAFETY ACT OF 2000

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to discuss legislation I introduced just before the August recess, H.R. 5012, the Firearms Research and Development Safety Act of 2000. This legislation would enhance the research and development tax credits permitted to firearms businesses to accelerate and explore further what has been termed as Smart Gun Technology, or as some prefer to call it, "Firearm Personalization Technology." In fact, at a later date, I intend to amend the legislation in committee to reflect that terminology.

My proposal increases the research and development tax credit, determined under the applicable rules of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (which is usually 20%), to 30% for smart gun technology research and development. It also quantifies this benefit is only available to federal firearms licensees, and it is not available for use on monies received in the form of a grant. Additionally, the base used to determine allowable expenses for the credit is at 100% of a firm's, corporation's, or individual's expenditures for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, instead of the incremental increase as under current procedure.

These enhancements are intended to do exactly what ought to be done in terms of encouraging innovation and development in safety technology for firearms. That is, the marketplace ought to determine these innovations, and ultimately their acceptance by consumers, law enforcement, and, indeed, even the military in some cases.

The role of the government ought not be to mandate the use of this technology, but rather to encourage and foster its development. Regrettably, much has been said about "Smart Gun," or "Firearm Personalization," technology, and the panacea some claim it to be in preventing unauthorized access to firearms by felons, violent individuals, or other persons who should not have access to a firearm. The truth is, there are many different approaches to safe gun storage, any of which may be valid depending on the particular circumstances faced by the owner or authorized user.

Mandating the integration of an internal locking system in a firearm is simply not going to prevent determined individuals from gaining

access to a gun and misusing it. As in other approaches to safe gun use, training and education are paramount, so each individual owner can develop a strategy for the safe storage and use of their firearm. "Firearm Personalization Technology" assists in doing just this, and if the marketplace responds favorably to these innovations, gun technology will change.

My bill simply allows the gun industry an enhanced opportunity to accelerate work in this field, and to explore whether or not consumers will respond favorably to safe, reliable and practical innovations in gun technology.

Naturally this type of innovation research is not inexpensive. As Members are aware, the industry has been under enormous economic stress, due largely to the anti-gun policies of the current Administration and to frivolous law suits being filed against the industry by anti-gun interests. Precious resources the industry could be devoting to technological innovation have been used to defend its lawful and responsible businesses. Perhaps this credit will help the industry get back into the business of developing better products, instead of having to devote its resources to defending the lawful manufacture, sale, and use of its products.

In order to encourage this technology, my legislation has an additional provision which exempts that part of the firearm which is enhanced or added and devoted solely to the addition of Firearm Personalization Technology, from the federal excise tax on firearms. For example, if a firearm normally costs \$500, and \$500 worth of electronic components are added to the firearm for Firearm Personalization Technology, the \$500 enhancement would be exempt from the federal excise tax. A \$50 savings on a \$1,000 gun may not seem much at first glance, but as many in the industry will tell you, guns are very price-sensitive commodities, for which consumers make a decision to buy or not to buy, based on surprisingly small price differences.

In closing, let me say, Mr. Speaker, while there are certainly obvious sharp divisions in this Chamber on private firearms ownership in our country, I believe my colleagues on both sides of the aisle should be able to support improvements in gun technology which are voluntarily pursued by the manufacturing community, with little rather than more government involvement. Allowing market forces to determine innovation in the field, is the natural and correct way progress ought to occur.

DATABASE PROTECTION

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for an important issue that will require the full attention of Congress in the coming year—database protection. While I am disappointed that consensus could not be reached this year on legislation to protect the right of individuals and organizations to protect their databases from the outright theft of their products, I am hopeful that the 107th Congress will act expeditiously on this issue when it convenes in January. A database anti-piracy law is an imperative for an information society

that is growing ever more dependent on the Internet and on the information available in electronic databases.

Companies that compile the complex information for these databases put a tremendous amount of work into developing an accurate, understandable resource bank for private or public use. This is a lengthy, expensive, and ongoing process that deserves to be protected. Individuals, companies, and organizations that work hard to compile information for the benefit of their consumers should be protected under our laws. It is not acceptable to allow a "data pirate" to steal the product of someone else's hard work and profit from it, while causing the original compiler market harm. Our nation's intellectual property laws have long recognized the importance of rewarding work with legal protection, and this is one area where the law needs to be improved to keep up with advances in technology unforeseen by earlier generations of lawmakers.

In the district I represent, the consequences of inaction are very real. I have a background in small business and real estate, so I know that importance of this legislation. From the local realtor to the database company that employs thousands in my state, not acting to provide legal recourse to the victims of data piracy, significantly affects jobs and commerce in Central Ohio.

I am concerned that without legislation to protect their databases, there is no incentive to devote time, capital, and resources to the creation and maintenance of dependable and accurate databases. People from all walks of life utilize these databases everyday for information on medicine to information on real estate. Society will be severely affected if these information systems cease to exist. Without legislation to protect them, the lack of incentives for creating and maintaining databases of accurate information will eventually lead to the non-production of these important data compilations.

In the next Congress, we can develop legislation that will protect database producers and still allow consumers the same access to the free flow of information for legitimate purposes. Developing sound legislation on database anti-piracy will be a top priority for me in the 107th Congress. I look forward to working with Mr. COBLE, Chairman of the Judiciary Courts and Intellectual Property Subcommittee, the Commerce Committee, and the House Leadership on this important issue.

AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Chairman LEACH and Mr. LAZIO, and my colleagues on the House Banking Committee for their tireless work on moving legislation that brings some much-needed reforms to the overall housing industry. S. 1452 will enhance home ownership throughout the country.

Furthermore, I am pleased to see that many provisions of H.R. 1776, the Housing and Eco-

omic Opportunity Act, have been included in the S. 1452. As my colleagues may remember, H.R. 1776 passed our chamber earlier in the year by an overwhelming and bipartisan vote of 417 to 8. However, there is one particular omission that concerns me. Unfortunately, this omission may ultimately have an impact on the number of families who will realize the American Dream of homeownership.

The provision that has been omitted from S. 1452 is Section 102 of H.R. 1776. Section 102 requires that the Federal government perform a housing impact analysis before it issues new regulations. The impact analysis would determine if a significant negative impact on affordable housing would result from those new regulations. "Significant" would be defined as increasing consumers' cost of housing by more than \$100,000,000 per year.

Further, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1776 stipulates that the private sector would have an opportunity to submit an alternative to the proposed regulation if it would have less of a negative impact on the cost of homeownership. As with the other provisions in Title I of H.R. 1776, the goal of the housing impact analysis is to alert federal agencies and the general public of the impact of regulation on housing affordability.

Ultimately, the objective would be to help bring down the cost of a home by minimizing regulations that pose a barrier to homeownership. The housing impact analysis addresses this issue by requiring the Federal government to perform an "internal check" of sorts in a quest to see if the regulation might be constructed in a better way that would not lock some individuals out of homeownership.

I see this internal check as a positive action, Mr. Speaker, and I am concerned that this worthy provision, a provision 417 of my colleagues supported, was left out of the legislation that comes before us today. I hope that this concept does not die with the closing of the 106th Congress, but is reviewed again next year, with the commencement of the 107th.

RECENT VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of Congress a recent letter from United States military leaders regarding the recent violence in the Middle East. The letter follows:

We, the undersigned, believe that during the current upheavals in Israel, the Israel Defense Forces have exercised remarkable restraint in the face of lethal violence orchestrated by the leadership of a Palestinian Authority that deliberately pushes civilians and young people to the front lines.

We are appalled by the Palestinian political and military leadership that teaches children the mechanics of war while filling their heads with hate. We are appalled by Palestinian "military commanders" who place armed adults amid civilian rioters, including children, and then callously use the inevitable casualties as grist for their propaganda mill. The behavior of those Palestinians, who use civilians as soldiers in a war, is a perversion of military ethics.

What makes the US-Israel security relationship one of mutual benefit is the combination of military capabilities and shared

political values—freedom, democracy, personal liberty and the rule of law. Yitzhak Rabin said at the beginning of this peace effort with the Palestinians that one can only make peace with one's enemies. But the enemy must have decided to put down his weapons—rocks as well as rifles—and make peace in good faith. The Palestinian-initiated violence in Israel now strongly tells us that the necessary good faith is sorely lacking on the Palestinian side.

America's responsibility as a friend to Israel, the only country in the Middle East that shares our democratic and humanitarian values, should never yield to America's role as facilitator in this process. Friends don't leave friends on the battlefield.

Lt. Gen. Marcus Anderson, USAF (ret.), Inspector General, US Air Force.

Lt. Gen. Robert Baer, USA (ret.), Deputy Commander, Army Materiel Command.

Maj. Gen. Max Baratz, USAR (ret.), Commander, US Army Reserve.

Lt. Gen. Jared Bates, USA (ret.), Inspector General, US Army.

R. Adm. Charles Beers, USN (ret.), Commander, Submarine Group Ten.

Lt. Gen. Arthur C. Blades, USMC (ret.), Deputy for Plans, Policies, and Ops.

Lt. Gen. Anthony Burshnick, USAF (ret.), Commander, Military Airlift Command.

Adm. James Busey, USN (ret.), CINC, US Navy Europe.

Lt. Gen. Paul Cerjan, USA (ret.), Deputy Allied Commander, Europe.

Adm. Hank Chiles, USN (ret.), Commander in Chief, US Strategic Command.

Gen. J.B. Davis, USAF (ret.), CoS, Supreme HQ Allied Powers Europe.

Adm. Bruce DeMars, USN (ret.), Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion.

Maj. Gen. Lee Downer, USAF (ret.), Director of Operations, Air Combat Command.

Adm. Leon Edney, USN (ret.), Commander, US Atlantic Fleet.

Gen. John Foss, USA (ret.), Commanding General, Training and Doctrine Command.

Maj. Gen. Donald Gardner, USMC (ret.), Commander, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Maj. Gen. William Garrison, USA (ret.), Commander, Joint Special Operations Command.

Lt. Gen. Jay Garner, USA (ret.), Assistant Vice Chief of Staff.

Maj. Gen. David Grange, USA (ret.), Dir., Army Operations, Readiness & Mobilization.

Lt. Gen. Tom Griffin, USA (ret.), Chief of Staff, Allied Forces Southern Europe.

Gen. Alfred Hansen, USAF (ret.), Commander, USAF Logistics Command.

Adm. Jerome Johnson, USN (ret.), Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

V. Adm. Dennis Jones, USN (ret.), Deputy CINC, US Strategic Command.

V. Adm. Bernard Kauderer, USN (ret.), Commander, Submarine Forces, Atlantic Fleet.

R. Adm. Herbert C. Kaler, USN (ret.), Dir., Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense Org.

V. Adm. Anthony Less, USN (ret.), Commander, Naval Air Forces, US Atlantic Fleet.

Maj. Gen. Jarvis Lynch, USMC (ret.), Commander, Eastern Marine Recruiting Depot.

Lt. Gen. Charles May, USAF (ret.), Assistant Vice Chief of Staff, USAF.

Maj. Gen. James McCombs, USAF (ret.), Deputy CINC, US Special Operations Command.

R. Adm. William F. Merlin, USCG (ret.), Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.

Maj. Gen. William C. Moore, USA (ret.), Director, Operations, Readiness & Mobilization.

Maj. Gen. Robert Patterson, USAF (ret.), Commanding General, 23rd Air Force.

V. Adm. James Perkins, USN (ret.), Deputy CINC, US Southern Command.

Lt. Gen. Everett Pratt, USAF (ret.), Vice Commander, US Air Forces Europe.

Maj. Gen. Milnor Roberts, USA (ret.), Deputy Chief, US Army Reserve.

R. Adm. Norman Saunders, USCG (ret.), Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District.

Maj. Gen. Sidney Shachnow, USA (ret.), Commander, JFK Special Warfare School.

R. Adm. Sumner Shapiro, USN (ret.), Director, Naval Intelligence.

Adm. Leighton Smith, USN (ret.), Commander, US Forces, Southern Europe.

Maj. Gen. Larry Taylor, USMCR (ret.), Commander, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing.

Adm. Carlisle A.H. Trost, USN (ret.), Chief of Naval Operations.

V. Adm. Jerry Tuttle, USN (ret.), Director, Space and Electronic Warfare.

Brig. Gen. Thomas E. White, USA (ret.), Exec. to the Chairman of the JCS.

R. Adm. Guy Zeller, USN (ret.), Dir., Surface Warfare, OPNAV.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 782, to reauthorize the Older Americans Act.

I would like to begin by recognizing Chairman GOODLING and Ranking Member CLAY for all of their hard work in producing this legislation. Mr. CLAY will be missed in this chamber next year.

I also would like to extend my deep appreciation to Subcommittee Chairman MCKEON and Ranking Democrat TIERNEY for their dedication to our older Americans.

Although I believe that this legislation is flawed and still has several problems, it is an important bill and Congress can no longer allow the important programs served under the OAA to continue without authorization.

Unfortunately, this bill contains new formulas for funding which, in the coming years, could shift vitally needed resources away from Northeastern urban areas such as my home of New York City.

Like with the funding formulas used by the VA, the Government tries to allocate resources based on new population data, neglecting the needs of those who need the most care.

But while this bill has several problems—problems I hope will be worked out in a bipartisan way by the Congress next year, this bill also contains a number of important new programs as well.

This legislation establishes a \$125 million caregiver program. This creation will help thousands of New York families be able to provide for their loved ones in their later years. I salute this new program.

Additionally, the Committee included a hold harmless provision for nutrition programs such as the Meals and Wheels program, which benefits so many of my older constituents, particularly in such places like Mitchell-Linden in my District.

This legislation also toughens up the language on a top concern of mine—elder abuse. Although I did not have the opportunity to amend this legislation with provisions from my

bill, the Elderly Protection Act (H.R. 1984), to provide for Federal background checks of employed caregivers or assistance to train new caregivers to identify signs of domestic abuse, I am pleased at the new language.

This bill increases the severity of committing crimes such as fraud and exploitation of the elderly—an all too common occurrence in our country.

In my district, Father Coleman Costello of Walk the Walk is establishing a new and innovative center to provide for the abused elderly and provide treatment for their abusers. While this bill could have gone further to address this hidden crime, it does make positive steps.

I ask welcome the language regarding the senior jobs program in Title V of the OAA. Our senior need jobs, but we must ensure that these jobs are in their communities and serving their needs as well as the needs of the elderly in their neighborhoods.

All in all, with the problems notwithstanding, I will vote to support this legislation as it will provide some new funding streams to New York City as well as reauthorize a number of key programs under the Older Americans Act.

Stating that, it is my hope that Congress can revisit some of the questionable provisions of this bill in the 107th Congress so that all older Americans can fully benefit from the Older Americans Act.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 835, ESTUARIES AND CLEAN WATERS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of S. 835, the Estuaries and Clean Waters Act of 2000. This landmark legislation will enhance our ability to protect the nation's valuable shoreline habitats, extend the cooperative partnership to preserve the Chesapeake Bay and Long Island Sound, and expand the effort to improve water quality in our nation's lakes.

Estuaries are some of the most valuable natural resources of the nation, but they are also vulnerable and many are collapsing. This important measure promotes the restoration of one million acres of estuary habitat throughout the country by directing \$275 million in funding and other incentives to local estuary protection projects.

Estuaries are the bays, gulfs, sounds, and inlets where fresh water from rivers and streams meets and mixes with salt water from the ocean. These areas represent some of the most environmentally and economically productive habitats in the world.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, 75 percent of fish and shellfish caught in the United States by commercial fishing operations depend on estuaries for survival. Moreover, these habitats—river deltas, sea grass meadows, forest wetlands, shellfish beds, marshes, and beaches—support a large number of endangered or threatened species of plants and wildlife.

These areas are fragile and vulnerable to human and environmental pressures. Growing

populations along the coastlines have threatened the natural balance of these habitats. Dredging, draining, the construction of dams, sewage spills, and other forms of pollution have led to the degradation and destruction of many estuary habitats.

This measure exemplifies environmental policy based on partnership and cooperation, and not on governmental mandates and regulations. S. 835 encourages states, local governments, and community organizations to work together to identify estuary habitat restoration projects.

Estuaries are national treasures, and they deserve a national effort to protect and restore them. Responding to the growing threats to our bays, sounds, and other coastal waters presents a difficult challenge: federal resources are limited, the need is great, and the pressure on these areas is intensifying. The Estuaries and Clean Water Act takes the necessary steps to protect and restore these natural habitats.

The time to act is now. We are not doing enough to protect these valuable resources. Many estuaries are on the brink of extinction because of manmade pressures. We need to preserve these vitally important habitats. They are an integral part of this country's environmental balance. I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

TRIBUTE TO SID YATES

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to join my colleagues in paying special tribute to my good friend and colleague from Illinois, Mr. Sid Yates. Mr. Yates was a good friend. He was there to welcome me here on my first day in Congress and I was glad to have served with him for over a decade.

Mr. Yates and I worked on many bipartisan issues to improve our nation and home state of Illinois. I was always appreciative of his friendship and admired his work both within the Illinois delegation and on the House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Yates began his distinguished career as an attorney in Chicago. He was first elected to this House in 1948. As a member of this body, Mr. Yates was a quiet but strong voice.

Mr. Speaker, Sid Yates served this institution, his constituents and community well and he will be greatly missed. I extend my condolences to his wife and family.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE SIDNEY R. YATES

HON. JOE SKEEN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great regret and sadness that America has lost a dedicated public servant, the Honorable Sidney Yates.

I served with Sid on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior when he

chaired the Committee and when he was the ranking member. Even though we had our philosophical differences, Sid was a fair chairman and an effective member of the committee. He supported priorities for my district in New Mexico even though he may not have been completely in agreement. But he knew it was important to my constituents so he went along with my request.

Over the years, Sid and I developed a friendship that was characterized by mutual respect, humor and a common goal of public service. We understood each other's priorities and respected one another for the principles we stood for and our commitment to serve our country in the legislative branch of the federal government.

His passion for the arts, his firm resolve to preserve our natural resources and his devotion to Native Americans personify Sid's legacy.

When Sid retired from the House of Representatives nearly two ago, members of this House gave Sid the appropriate acknowledgment for the many years of service to our country. I'm pleased that Sid was present to witness the appreciation for his service.

We will miss Sid. His family remains in our thoughts and in our prayers.

PROVIDING RESOURCES AND EDUCATION FOR KIDS ACT (PRE-K)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today, kindergarten teachers estimate that one in three children enters the classroom unprepared to meet the challenges of school. Prekindergarten programs are key to helping these young people be ready to learn when they attend their first day of school. Many children, however, do not have access to pre-k programs. While several states, including Wisconsin, are expanding their prekindergarten programs, only one state in the country, Georgia, currently has a universal pre-k program.

To help states meet the challenge of providing quality prekindergarten programs, I introduced the Providing Resources and Education for Kids Act (Pre-K Act) on October 25, 2000. This legislation would provide grants to state education agencies to help establish or strengthen prekindergarten early learning programs that provide full day, full calendar year early learning services for children age five and under. To encourage states to participate and ensure their long-term investment, the bill creates a sliding scale over five years for the federal-state match.

Good quality early education helps children develop, enter school ready to succeed and improve their skills. In fact, studies of several state prekindergarten initiatives offer convincing evidence of the benefits of early education for children at risk of school failure such as higher mathematics and reading achievement, increased creativity, better school attendance, improved health and greater parental involvement. Further, prekindergarten programs have proven cost-effective over time. The Rand Corporation and a team of researchers at the University of Wisconsin estimate that the most effective prekindergarten

programs create savings to the government of \$13,000 to \$19,000 per child. This savings is realized in higher school achievement, less retention in a grade, a reduced need for special education, and less crime.

I hope that Congress would consider this important issue before we adjourn for the year. If, however, we are unable to debate the Pre-K Act, I will work to make it a top priority when the 107th Congress considers the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4811, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS AP- PROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss issues concerning the Republic of Macedonia. The largest population of Macedonian-Americans resides in my district. During the Kosovo Crisis, and throughout the wars in the Former Yugoslavia in the 1990's, Macedonia has shown remarkable strength and resilience which has allowed this democratic country to emerge as a point of stability in the Balkans as well as a strong ally of the United States. I believe we need to adhere to our financial commitments and reemphasize our support for Macedonia.

As many of you know, President Boris Trajkovski is engaged in a long-term economic development program following the aftermath of the Kosovo crisis. Also, I understand that the continued border instability is undermining the Republic of Macedonia's overall economic climate and risks future economic development.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment the managers of the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill for including language that strongly supports President Trajkovski's government's efforts to bring stability and economic prosperity to all Macedonians and to the Balkan region.

As a strong supporter of Macedonia, I support the manager's intent to encourage the Department of State to provide adequate resources to fund critical project components of President Trajkovski's Economic Stabilization and Development Plan.

RECOGNIZING DOLORES LARKIN, THE HOT DOG LADY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, recently the Contra Costa Times newspaper wrote an article about a person who has become a fixture in central Contra Costa County. Dolores Larkin has had an amazing career serving hot dogs at Caspers Famous Hot Dogs in Pleasant Hill, California.

For more than 45 years Dolores has done more than serve hot dogs. For all these years she has had to listen to people in our community who have had problems or are down on their luck. It is not unusual to go into Caspers and see Dolores counseling someone about their kids or talking to her own kids. Whenever you walk into Caspers, she always has a smile for you. That is why so many people go out of their way to get a dog at Caspers.

Mr. Speaker, I should know; I have eaten as many Caspers hot dogs as any person in the county. I started eating hot dogs at Caspers in Richmond. There was a rumor when we were young that the record number of dogs eaten in one sitting was 19. On a challenge I tried to break it and got to 14. Even today the debate goes on as to where the best hot dog was served. Was it Chris's in Oakland, Doggie Diner in Oakland and Richmond or Caspers with a "K"?

Mr. Speaker, time turned out to be the test; most of the others are gone now—they just could not compete with the great people at Caspers, especially Dolores who has been a great friend to so many in the community. It is wonderful to see her get this recognition. I submit the following article from the Contra Costa Times:

Hot Dog Lady's a Fixture at Pleasant Hill eatery
(By Katie Oyan)

PLEASANT HILL—Dolores Larkin rarely goes unnoticed.

People point and stare at her in the grocery store, at the doctor's office—even once when she was vacationing in Hawaii.

"Kids will say, 'Look mom, it's the hot dog lady!'" she said, "It used to embarrass me, but it doesn't anymore. I like it."

In November, the 68-year-old great-grandmother will celebrate her 45th anniversary as an employee at Casper's Famous Hot Dogs, a popular hang-out and fast-food joint on the corner of Vivian Drive and Contra Costa Boulevard.

The Concord resident doesn't sling dogs for the money. In fact, the only bad thing one of her managers, Ron Dorian, could say about Larkin is that she sometimes forgets to cash her paychecks.

Instead, the "hot dog lady" said she has stuck around for the company.

"I like my customers—that's why I'm here," said Larkin, wearing her long, dark hair in a pony-tail and bubble-gum pink earrings to match her Casper's apron.

Over the years, Larkin has made Casper's her second home. Of her five children, 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, seven of them have worked with her at the restaurant, and some still do. To family, she's known as "Grandma hot dog."

Before coming to Pleasant Hill, Larkin spent five years at the Casper's on First Avenue in Oakland. In 1960, her boss sent her to the Pleasant Hill Casper's to train employees before the restaurant's grand opening. She has been there ever since.

And so have many of her customers.

Bob Wescott, a retired military pilot and researcher, has been a regular for so long, Larkin gave him his own key. Five days a week, he opens the store and starts the coffee, getting a cup ready for Larkin when she comes in.

"Another gentleman and his wife did it for years, but they got too old and said they couldn't do it anymore. I guess I just happened to be there," Wescott said.

A couple of retired Pleasant Hill police officers also lend Larkin a little volunteer labor. They come in each morning and re-

stock the restaurant's paper cups and lids. If there are any light bulbs that need replacing, they do that, too.

"Everyone thinks the world of Dolores," Wescott said. "That's why we do it. She's just an awful nice person, that's all."

One of the first fast food chains in the Bay Area, Casper's migrated to the East Bay from Chicago in 1934. In addition to the one in Pleasant Hill, there are 10 Casper's restaurants—in Albany, Richmond, San Pablo, Walnut Creek, Dublin, Concord, two in Oakland and two in Hayward.

Among the other stores in the chain, the Pleasant Hill Casper's is known as "the country club" for its friendly, comfortable environment, Larkin said. Devoid of a playland or flashy banners, a couple of counters and a handful of wooden tables give the restaurant its old fashioned appeal. "Floy," the philodendron in the front window, is named after a coworker who died about five years ago. "We raised our kids together," Larkin said.

The Pleasant Hill Casper's is also the most successful in the chain, selling about 200,000 dogs a year.

People go out of their way to stop there for a \$2 or \$3 meal. Larkin said the most popular item is the Casper's dog, a natural-casing frankfurter that comes on a steamed bun with mustard, relish, tomatoes and onions. Employees also serve 10-inch spicy polish, smoked Cajun and turkey frankfurters.

Red Skelton is the most famous person Larkin can remember serving.

He came in two or three times, she said. Congressman George Miller stops in once in a while, too.

In her spare time, Larkin makes cakes for her friends' birthdays and weddings. Her other hobby is "kids."

"My last girl was born on my day off, she said. "I worked all nine months."

About 10 years ago, a mathematician who dropped in for a hot dog figured out that if someone were to line up end-to-end all the hot dogs that Larkin has served, they'd stretch from here to San Diego.

By now, they'd probably stretch halfway back again.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON S. 835, ESTUARIES AND
CLEAN WATERS ACT OF 2000

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I commend the House leadership for bringing this important legislation before us. The Estuary Habitat and Chesapeake Bay Restoration Act of 2000 clarifies Congress' commitment to restoring one million acres of estuaries over the next decade and promoting a partnership between federal, state, and local governments, and the private sector.

The conference report we consider today includes one area that is particularly important to Southern California and the residents of the district I am honored to represent. This area is the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Los Angeles County has lost more than 93 percent of its coastal wetlands. The Los Cerritos Wetlands are one of only three sizable areas of coastal wetlands remaining that could be restored to provide better habitat for fish and wildlife. Furthermore, these wetlands are among a limited number

nationwide existing in an urban environment. It will offer numerous benefits to school children, university researchers, and simply improving the quality of life in a major city such as Long Beach.

Thus far, state and community agencies have worked closely together in the spirit of cooperation and coordination called for in the Estuary Restoration Act. The Wetlands Recovery Project—a partnership of federal, state, and local government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector—has made acquisition of these wetlands its top priority. The restoration of the Los Cerritos Wetlands will provide an important addition to improving the environment in our region.

Again, I thanked the House leadership, my good friend Representative WAYNE GILCHREST, Chairman BUD SHUSTER, and the other members and staff who—through this legislation—have made an important contribution to the Nation and to Southern California.

DAIRY MARKET ENHANCEMENT
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. This is a bill to restore stability to America's dairy markets. I introduced the Dairy Market Enhancement Act of 2000, H.R. 5372 earlier this year. The bill establishes a fair and accurate reporting system for manufactured dairy products, requires independent verification for price reporting, and implements measures to ensure compliance with reporting and verification requirements. Senator RUSS FEINGOLD (D-WI) introduced the companion bill in the Senate. This bill S. 2773 now goes to the White House where the President is expected to sign it into law.

Recent reporting errors have highlighted the need to make reporting of dairy products mandatory, verifiable, and enforceable. While I recognize that this legislation will not solve the problem of low milk prices, it will go a long way toward assuring an accurate Federal order price and stabilizing month-to-month fluctuations for farmers.

The bill requires that the U.S. Department of Agriculture use the current survey format as a starting point for mandatory reporting. In order to ensure accuracy, the bill allows the Secretary of Agriculture to require that reporting companies make their records available for department audit. Any willful and intentional violation of requirements to make accurate and timely reports is punishable by a civil fine of up to \$20,000 under the terms of the bill. It also requires that USDA guard the confidentiality of information from each reporting company.

Because the determination of the federal order price is based on the price of components such as butter, cheese, and dry milk, it is important to have processors report price and inventories. This bill makes such reporting mandatory to assure that farmers are paid a price that reflects the current demand for milk and milk products. This is good legislation and I'm glad my colleagues in Congress join us in recognizing its merits.

BULLETPROOF VEST
PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I support S. 2413, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000. I would like to recognize over 260 of my colleagues who joined me as a cosponsor of H.R. 4033, an identical House version of this bipartisan legislation designed to save the lives of police officers, which my colleague from New Jersey, FRANK LOBIONDO, and I sponsored and which was approved overwhelmingly by the House earlier this year. Mr. LOBIONDO has once again proven that he is an indispensable leader on this vital issue. His commitment to police officers in his district and nationwide is absolutely unquestionable. Furthermore, he has repeatedly championed the cause of corrections officers, who are often the forgotten arm of the law enforcement community. In this age of expanding and increasingly violent prison populations, Mr. LOBIONDO has taken the lead in pushing for the development and use of stabproof vests to protect those who keep violent criminals behind bars. I am pleased to say that, largely due to his efforts, S. 2413 includes provisions which will make stabproof vests available under the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant program. Mr. LOBIONDO's staff, especially his Legislative Assistant, Bryan Cunningham, have been incredibly helpful in this process. Their work has been a worthy reflection of Mr. LOBIONDO's long-standing commitment to the protection of our nation's law enforcement officers. I would also like to extend my thanks to Senator CAMPBELL and Senator LEAHY, the Senate sponsors of this legislation. It has been my pleasure to work with them to see this bill passed before the conclusion of the 106th Congress.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to Crime Subcommittee Chairman BILL MCCOLLUM, whose dedication to this program has proven invaluable in securing a speedy floor vote on this reauthorization. I also owe a debt of gratitude to Carl Thorsen, a member of the Judiciary Committee staff. Formerly an assistant to Mr. LOBIONDO, Carl worked with us on the original authorization of this program and has been a valuable ally in our efforts to pass bulletproof vest legislation in the 106th Congress. The Crime Subcommittee's Ranking Democrat, BOBBY SCOTT, has also lent his powerful voice to this important cause. I commend his efforts in pushing this legislation forward, and thank him on behalf of the police and corrections officers who will benefit from its enactment. Bobby Vassar, on Mr. SCOTT's staff, also deserves praise for his dedication and support, which helped make an often long and difficult process fast and painless. All of these gentlemen recognize the importance of this legislation to law enforcement officers, who put their lives on the line every day for our safety.

As an appropriator, I would be remiss if I did not mention the considerable assistance we have received from the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary. Chairman HAROLD ROGERS and Ranking

Democrat JOSE SERRANO have been instrumental in ensuring that this program is consistently funded at its authorized level.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the law enforcement community who have worked with me and my staff to ensure that we crafted the best possible legislation to meet their needs. I am proud that the Fraternal Order of Police, National Sheriffs' Association, International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, National Troopers' Coalition, Police Executive Research Forum, and the Law Enforcement Alliance of America have placed their collective memberships of over 500,000 law enforcement professionals and community leaders squarely behind this legislation. In particular, I would like to express my gratitude to Tim Richardson of the Fraternal Order of Police and Dean Kueter of the National Sheriffs' Association, who's input was vital in shaping the important changes found in the legislation before us today.

The seed for the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant program was planted over six years ago, when I was told by local police officers that many gang members and drug dealers in Northwest Indiana had the protection of bulletproof vests, while many of the police officers who patrol the streets in my district did not. I was absolutely stunned by this. I believe that when police officers are issued guns and badges, they should be issued a bulletproof vest as well. If we are going to ask these men and women to risk their lives to keep our streets safe, we have a responsibility to ensure they have the equipment needed to do their job. Unfortunately, we often fall short of this obligation.

Each year, hundreds of police officers in this nation are killed in the line of duty. Studies show that, between 1980 and 1996, there were 1,182 felonious deaths of police officers due to firearms. Of those deaths, 924 of the officers were not wearing bulletproof vests. Wounds to the torso area killed 42 percent of those officers; wounds that could have been prevented had those officers been equipped with bulletproof vests. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has estimated that risk of fatality from a firearm for officers not wearing body armor is 14 times higher than for officers wearing body armor. In fact, modern bulletproof material has saved the lives of more than 2,500 police officers from gunfire since its introduction in the mid-1970's. However, bulletproof vests are not limited to stopping bullets. Police officers will attest to vests' roles in saving their lives from impact during car accidents, adding an extra layer of protection while subduing a violent suspect, and giving them the confidence they need to carry out dangerous assignments.

Despite these statistics, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers do not even have access to a vest. This problem is accentuated by our nation's commitment to beefing up our police forces. In May 1999, the Department of Justice announced that we had reached our goal of putting an additional 100,000 officers on the streets almost a year ahead of schedule. But what good is hiring new officers if we cannot give them the tools they need to do their jobs?

I was even more troubled to learn that many law enforcement agencies, especially in small towns or rural communities, simply found the costs of vests prohibitively expensive. During a visit to a local chapter of the Fraternal Order

of Police in Dyer, Indiana, officers explained that a good vest can cost over \$500, while heavier body armor can cost almost \$1,000. As a result, many agencies are simply unable to budget for vests, a fact which sometimes forces officers to purchase vests at their own expense. Despite the risk, many officers are unable to balance the cost of the vest with the cost of feeding their families, making car payments, or sending their children to school.

Statistics show that officers in small police departments are much less likely to have vests than their counterparts in larger departments with greater resources. Yet just because they do not have access to vests, it does not mean they are immune from the violent crime that plagues many of our communities. In this age of cross-country drug and illegal firearms trafficking, rural methamphetamine labs, and rapidly expanding suburban areas, even rural and small town police officers increasingly find themselves faced with dangerous, well-armed criminals. Without vests, these officers are at the mercy of these criminals.

Even in larger departments, officers may have vests purchase years earlier which are now either worn out or obsolete. The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center at the National Institutes of Justice has recommended that bulletproof vests be tested every 5 years for bullet resistance degradation. Even as we begin to provide vests for the estimated 25 percent of law enforcement and corrections officers without access to bulletproof and stabproof body armor, other officers are wearing vests that are losing their protective qualities due to constant wear and tear.

In order to alleviate this problem, in 1997, I, along with Mr. LoBiondo, introduced H.R. 2829, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act. With over 300 co-sponsors, the measure passed by an overwhelming margin. Ultimately, a similar measure introduced by Senators Ben Nighthorse Campbell and Patrick Leahy was enacted on June 16, 1998. The 1998 law created a program which authorized \$25 million per year to pay up to 50 percent of the costs of bulletproof vests for local and state law enforcement agencies. In order to ensure that smaller jurisdictions received a fair share of the funds, the money was to be distributed evenly, with half going to jurisdictions with under 100,000 residents and half going to larger jurisdictions.

In each of the first two years of this program, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant program has provided over 3,000 law enforcement agencies with funding to purchase over 90,000 bulletproof vests and body armor. The program is operated through the Office of Justice Programs' first Internet-based funding application process. The web site was developed within six months of the appropriation, and offers a one-stop application process. The site allows law enforcement agencies to log in, purchase vests from a choice of dozens of manufacturers and hundreds of styles, and automatically apply for the grant upon purchase. This effort garnered the prestigious 1999 Intergovernmental Open Systems Solutions Gold Award from the Federation of Government Information Processing Councils for the program.

Unfortunately, in the most recent year of the program, funding was insufficient to provide any law enforcement agency with the full matching grant requested under the program.

In fact, the average grant award represented only 30 percent of the cost of the vests, a 20 percent shortfall on the federal side. These agencies came to us in good faith and committed to providing vests to their officers if the federal government matched their funds. For many smaller agencies, this shortfall is devastating, and could end up taking away funding from other important departmental programs. Therefore, we must, in turn, honor our commitment to provide these agencies with the full 50 percent of the costs of these vests. In order to do so, S. 2413 doubles the yearly authorization of the program to \$50 million from Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 through FY 2004. This figure, based on demand from the first two years of the program, should be sufficient to fully fund all grant requests at the 50 percent matching level we promised in 1998.

The original authorization of this program also included a provision to allow the purchase of stabproof vests for corrections officers and sheriff's deputies who regularly face violent criminals in close quarters in our nation's jails. The primary threat to these officers comes from homemade knives. The ingenuity displayed in smuggling in and creating sharp weapons in prison is phenomenal. This combination of violent felons and deadly weapons often leads to explosive conflicts into which deputies and corrections officers must insert themselves to restore order. In order to do this, they must be confident that they have the best protection possible from the criminals they must subdue.

Unfortunately, the Department of Justice decided that requests for funding for stabproof vests under the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant program were not valid until a national standard for such vests is developed by the National Institutes of Justice (NIJ). After over two years of development, NIJ continues to delay the implementation of such a standard. In order to address this issue, we supported amendments to the measures, offered by Chairman McCOLLUM during subcommittee consideration of H.R. 4033 in the House and by Senator LEAHY during floor consideration of S. 2413 in the Senate, which will allow states to develop their own stabproof vest standards, independent of NIJ or the Department of Justice. These standards will then be used as a basis for agencies within each state to purchase stabproof vests through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant program and until NIJ makes good on their promise to complete a national standard.

Finally, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000 would take extra precautions to ensure that those small agencies, which are often in most need of additional funding for bulletproof vests, would receive the entire grant for which they apply. As I noted earlier, many smaller agencies find themselves unable to purchase vests for their officers due to limited funding. The program, to date, has not fulfilled their expectations, because it has fallen short of giving many of these agencies a full grant. Therefore, S. 2413 includes a provision which ensures that smaller jurisdictions, with under 100,000 residents, will receive all of the funding they request before money is allotted to larger jurisdictions. This is more of a safeguard than a limitation. Under statistics from the first two years of the program, less than \$15 million would be needed to fully fund these small jurisdictions. Under a \$50 million authorization, this would leave

well over half of the funding to larger jurisdictions. However, with an expected increase in demand due to the new treatment of stabproof vests, it is vital that we ensure smaller communities that their police officers will be cared for. We must protect the Crown Point, Indiana, officer who unknowingly pulls over an armed drug dealer on U.S. Highway 231 as much as the New York City officer involved in an orchestrated drug raid.

Our legislation is intended to reauthorize a highly successful program which provides a partnership between the federal government and state and local law enforcement agencies in order to make sure that every police and corrections officer who needs a bulletproof vest gets one. It is clear to us that every officer on the street should have a vest, and that the need to supply officers with vests is important enough to warrant direct federal assistance. Furthermore, the overwhelming positive response we have received from law enforcement agencies and officers to this program highlights the continued need for the program.

Mr. Speaker, at the heart of this effort is our desire to save the lives of police officers. When we make this commitment, we offer protection not just to the officers, but to every community in America. We prevent the suffering of families of fallen officers. We prevent the loss of leaders in our communities. Perhaps most importantly, we give those who protect us the ability to do their job better, more confidently, and with a knowledge that their entire nation is behind them every day, in even the most dangerous situations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up in support of our police and corrections officers, and vote for S. 2413.

RETIREMENT OF HON. TILLIE
FOWLER

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, for the past eight years, I have had the privilege of serving in the U.S. House of Representatives with the distinguished gentlelady from Jacksonville, Florida, Tillie Fowler. It has been my and my wife, Emilie's great pleasure to get to know Tillie and her husband Buck. They have become close friends of ours as we worked together to serve our constituents in Florida.

The residents of Florida's 4th Congressional District have been fortunate to be represented by a hard-working, dedicated Member of Congress. Tillie has served as the Vice-Chairman of the Republican Conference, making her the highest-ranking woman in the Congress and the only Floridian who is part of the leadership. While she has been involved in the leadership, she has not neglected the needs of her constituents.

Her service on the Armed Services and Transportation Committees has been exemplary. She worked very hard to ensure that Florida received its fair share of highway funding.

Tillie Fowler is a class-act and we need more individuals like her here. We will truly miss her. But we know that she will not stop serving the residents of Florida no matter what she does next.

RETIREMENT OF HON. TILLIE
FOWLER

SPEECH OF

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make my last address as an honored Member of this distinguished body. There is no doubt in my mind what I will miss the most about this job. It will not be the late nights—and it will not be the ever-changing schedule. I will miss my friends—and I have made so many.

This institution is filled with so many extraordinary people, who, in my time here, have done some extraordinary things.

I make it a point in every speech I give back home to talk about the people I serve with here in this great body. I want people to know that the portrayal they see of politicians in the press and on TV is far from accurate. While scandals and controversy may sell newspapers, they are certainly not the norm around here.

I never give a speech without talking about the dedication, the devotion and the selflessness with which nearly every Member of Congress serves this institution and his or her country.

I may not always agree with someone's politics or ideology, but I would never question the sincerity or the purpose with which they pursue their agendas. People serve here for the right reasons—I truly believe that.

Serving with all of you has been such an honor. And as I look back over the last eight years, I look with pride at what we were able to do in such a short time.

Together, we reformed Congress. We have made this institution more open, more accountable and more responsive to the people. When I first set foot on this House floor in 1993, Congress' approval rating was a dismal 17 percent. That number is much higher today.

Together, with the hard work of the American people, we turned around an economy saddled by high interest rates and high unemployment.

Together, we balanced the federal budget for the first time since I was a staffer on Capitol Hill back in the 1960's.

Together we ended welfare as we knew it, and created a new system that rewards work and responsibility.

If I have one wish as I leave this institution, it is that some progress can be made toward reducing the partisanship that has plagued us.

I have tried very hard over my eight years to focus on the task at hand and leave the partisanship on the Capitol steps. When you look back at some of our best accomplishments, you find that they were mostly gained with support from both sides of the aisle. That should be a lesson to future Congresses.

I was proud to serve on the planning committee for the two bi-partisan retreats, and I hope that those retreats will continue and their mission expand.

I was also proud to serve on Speaker Hastert's leadership team these past two years. When he was unexpectedly tapped for the speakership, I said then he was the right man for the right time. Working with him the last two years, I witnessed first hand how true that statement was.

Always the calm in the eye of the storm, the speaker's steady hand and sharp focus have resulted in an impressive list of accomplishments, despite our razor thin majority. Some in the body may not always share his priorities or his political philosophies, but I have never heard a cross word spoken about Speaker HASTERT as a person. In this era of personal attack and partisanship, that is a real testament to the Speaker, and it has been my privilege to serve on his team.

To my constituents, I want to say that representing you has been the greatest honor of my life. I have tried to be both an effective representative and an honest steward of the incredible trust you have placed in me.

I want to thank all my colleagues who have taken to the House floor the last few days to say such nice things about me. I am humbled by their words and touched by their sentiments. While I will retire from this institution, I am not retiring from life. If there is one thing I learned from my parents, it is that public service and service to your community is a lifetime obligation. There will be new opportunities and new challenges, and I look forward to those. But serving in this body, with all of you, will forever be one of the most cherished times of my life. God bless you, God bless this institution, and God bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 433
REGARDING BELARUS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to cosponsor House Concurrent Resolution 433, a resolution introduced on Monday by my colleague on the International Relations Committee, Mr. Gejdensen, concerning the recent parliamentary elections in Belarus.

The Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other European institutions, as well as the State Department, all concluded that these elections were not free, fair and transparent and that they failed to meet the international norms for democratic elections. Unfortunately, the Lukashenka regime did not meet the four conditions that the OSCE set back last spring—namely, a democratic election law, an end to human rights abuses, access by the opposition to the state media, and genuine powers be granted to the parliament. Instead, in the run-up to the elections, we witnessed the denial of registration to many opposition candidates; detentions and fines of individuals advocating a boycott of the elections; confiscation of 100,000 copies of an independent newspaper among other examples of harassment of the opposition; rampant governmental interference in the election process and extensive irregularities on election day itself. These elections represent a continuing pattern of violations of human rights and the erosion of democracy which has haunted Belarus throughout the last six years of Alexander Lukashenka's rule.

The Helsinki Commission, which I chair, has monitored and chronicled developments in Belarus, holding hearings which have included Belarusian democratic opposition leaders and leaders of the 13th Supreme Soviet, the legiti-

mate parliament which Lukashenka disbanded in 1996. In July, I led the US delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Bucharest where the deteriorating situation in Belarus was high on our agenda. Importantly, this resolution includes language reaffirming Congress' recognition of the 13th Supreme Soviet as the sole democratically elected and constitutionally legitimate legislative body in Belarus, which is also important, especially as the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly continues to recognize that to seat the 13th Supreme Soviet as well. In the last few years, I have made numerous direct and indirect intercessions, including through various OSCE institutions, to draw attention to the deplorable situation in Belarus and to encourage the establishment of democracy in Belarus and I assure you that the Helsinki Commission will continue its efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, and am eager for the House to go on record in support of the restoration of democracy in Belarus. I am especially pleased that the resolution urges the Lukashenka regime to provide a full accounting of the disappearances of several prominent opposition members and urges the release of those imprisoned in Belarus for their political views. I look forward to working with my colleagues to keep the spotlight on Belarus and to encourage the Belarusian government to comply with its freely undertaken OSCE and other international commitments.

ROFEH INTERNATIONAL HONORS
MR. ARNOLD ZALTAS AND DR.
TATSUO HIROSE

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it has been my distinct honor over the years to take note of the extraordinary valuable work done by Rofeh International, in conjunction with the New England Chassidic Center led by Grand Rabbi Levi Horowitz. Grand Rabbi Horowitz, the Bostoner Rebbe as he is known, is a very distinguished scholar in the field of medical ethics, in addition to his eminence as a scholar of Judaism. Rofeh facilitates making the superb medical treatment that is available in Boston to people from all over the world, and if it were not for Rofeh, a large number of people who have benefitted from this medical treatment would not have been able to do so.

As part of their effort, Rofeh and the New England Chassidic Center have an annual dinner, at which they honor people who have been particularly distinguished in their service to this wonderful cause. This year Rofeh will honor two men. Arnold Zaltas and Tatsuo Hirose.

Dr. Hirose was born in Japan, and graduated from Kanazawa University School of Medicine there in 1961. His initial visit to the United States was 1965 when he was awarded with the Fulbright Fellowship, which allowed him to study clinical electrophysiology in vision at the Department of Ophthalmology, Cornell Medical School in New York. This happened when he was in the third year in the Postdoctoral School in Medicine in Kanazawa University. After spending three years in Cor-

nell, he went back to Kanazawa and finished Postdoctoral School in Ophthalmology at Kanazawa University where he was awarded Doctor of Medical Science in 1969. He came to the Schepens Retina Associates, Retina Foundation (now called Schepens Eye Research Institute) and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary for training and studying the surgery of the retina in the spring of 1969. He became a member of Schepens Retina Associates in 1973 at the same time he continued conducting research in studying functions of the retina at the Schepens Eye Institute, Harvard Medical School. He has been specializing in difficult complex retinal detachments, such as surgical failures in adults and children. He is particularly interested in infant and children's retinal detachment particularly in premature born babies. He published more than 140 papers in scientific medical journals, edited two books, including the most recent one: Schepens Retinal detachment and allied diseases. He contributed 23 book chapters. He received a Research to Prevent Blindness award, honor award of American Academy of Ophthalmology, Senior Honor Award of American Academy of Ophthalmology, The Paul Kayser International Award of Merit in Retina Research. He has been selected in the Best Doctors in America 1996–1997, and Boston's Best Doctors in Boston Magazine, 1999. At present, he is a Clinical professor in ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School, senior Clinical Scientist as Schepens Eye Research Institutes, and Surgeon at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Arnold I. Zaltas is a partner in the Natick firm of Zaltas, Medoff & Raider, where he concentrates in estate planning, real estate and banking law.

He is a Trustee and General Counsel to the Middlesex Savings Bank, and serves as a Director of the Natick Visiting Nurse Association. He has served as Trustee of the Leonard Morse Hospital. Mr. Zaltas is a graduate of the Boston University School of Law, is past President of the Boston University Law School Alumni Association, and a recipient of the School of Law's Silver Shingle Award in recognition of outstanding service to the School. He is a Trustee of Temple Israel of Natick, where he was the recipient of the Maurice Geshelin Humanitarian Award.

Arnold is a long-time resident of Natick, where he resides with his wife, Brenda. They have three children: A. David Zaltas, an attorney, Mandi M. Kunen, an ophthalmologist, Marjorie Rubin, an attorney, and three grandchildren.

Arnold Zaltas and Tatsuo Hirose deserve hearty congratulations for the excellent work they do. Being recognized by Project Rofeh is a great honor, and I am pleased to take this opportunity to salute the work of this important organization of these two men.

A COWBOY'S LAST RIDE

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, family and friends recently said their final goodbyes to 101-year-old Paul T. Veluzat, one of the last

of the American cowboys. He leaves behind a great legacy.

Paul's travels as a cowboy and a shrewd businessman began on Dec. 6, 1898, when he was born in Summershade, KY. At age 17 he went to work in a shipyard, then made his way to Texas where he joined the Texas Rangers. Paul was one of the first people to board the German submarine that sank the Lusitania, an event that precipitated the United States' entry into World War I.

Paul's love of horses led him back and forth to Mexico, where he rode with the revolutionary, Francisco "Pancho" Villa. He eventually came to California where he worked as a bodyguard to industrialist J. Paul Getty and evangelist Aimee Semple MacPherson. He became a devout Christian—something his family and friends said was one of the most important aspects of his life. He purchased real estate throughout the Los Angeles area, including a ranch he called the "Diamond B" in Saugus where he ran cattle, and raised racehorses.

Paul's passion for horses was as strong as his passion for filmmaking. The Veluzat family owns Melody Ranch, home to over 750 "B" western movies as well as other notable films and television shows such as the beloved Gunsmoke. "Last Man Standing" starring Bruce Willis was recently filmed there.

Paul was very successful. He and his first wife, Opal, were simple and down to earth, they were astute in business and had unquestionable integrity. Paul's word was his bond. Ninety percent of his business was conducted by a handshake or over the phone. Paul's true success was measured by his deep spirituality and the love and respect he gained from his family and his many friends. He will be remembered as a generous man who was liked by all.

Paul Veluzat is survived by Rosa, his wife of 14 years, his sons, Rene, Andre and Renaud, four grandchildren, Shantel Hudson, Daniel, Paul and Marcel Veluzat, three great-grandchildren and many, many friends.

STATEMENT OF HIS ROYAL
HIGHNESS PRINCE SAYAVONG

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend to my colleagues the following letter and testimony sent by His Royal Highness Prince Sayavong to Philip Smith, of the Center for Public Policy Analysis, for the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos that was held on September 7, 2000. My foreign policy advisor, Mr. Al Santoli, was one of the keynote speakers at this event after returning from a research mission to Southeast Asia.

As a Member of the House International Relations Committee, I appreciate the important role of the Royal Family in Laos—past, present, and future. Laos is currently ruled by a one-party Communist regime. After 25 years of communism, its people want and need change. The Lao and Hmong people are rightfully demanding freedom, democracy, human rights and economic prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit for the RECORD the important statement of His Royal Highness.

Paris 4 September 2000

Hon. PHILIP SMITH,
Center for Public Policy Analysis, U.S. Congress—Capitol Hill, Washington, DC.

Subject: U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos—7 September 2000.

I should be most grateful if you could kindly distribute the attached paper—though unsolicited—to Distinguished Members of the Forum who are to examine the "challenges and opportunities surrounding the 25th Anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic". The views expressed herein are those of the Lao people as a whole whom I am privileged to represent during the last 4 years from our operating Bureau in Paris (40bis Rue Championnet 74018 Paris—France).

Thank you most sincerely for your kind assistance and understanding.

H.R.H. PRINCE SAYAVONG,

Brig. General, The Lao National Army—
Surviving son of King Sri Savangvong (1885–1959) and Half-brother of King Sri Savang Vatthana (1907–1980).

[U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos, U.S. Congress—Capitol Hill, Washington, DC 20510 Sept. 7, 2000]

THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (LPDR): AN APPRAISAL AFTER 25 YEARS OF COMMUNIST RULE.

[By Brig General Tiao Sayavong

The year 1975 should go down in Laos' history, indeed in Indochina's as the most tragic date in our common memory—where our beloved country suddenly sustained a horrible cataclysm of gigantic magnitude, plunging that part of the world in total darkness. That was the year where millions of peoples—young and old—had to leave behind their most cherished treasures in order to escape forced-labour camps and death, and to seek freedom in foreign lands.

For us free Laotians we consider December 2nd of each year as the time of mourning—of national mourning—of national mourning since it brings back to memory the death of our age-old traditions and way of life, of our fertile soils and rivers and mountains which we inherited from our forefathers. The Kingdom of Laos was one of the most ancient nations in Asia—the cradle of post-angkorian civilization. Of course, we will never forget that we were the victims of world politics, and we know too that we were the sacrificial lambs of the American foreign policy at that time. That the Pathet-Lao were able to overwhelm us so massive support—politically, militarily and logistically from the Soviet stooges who at the very moment run the show from Hanoi which incidentally will become the future capital of the Socialist Republic of Indochina by the year 2020!

DISASTROUS BALANCE SHEET

After 25 years behind the bamboo curtain what do we see today? Politically we see that the following inhumane abuses are daily occurrence: violation of basic human rights; non-respect of fundamental freedoms; brutal suppression of democratic dissent; imprisonment without due process of the law; arbitrary arrest upon simple denunciation and torture. Economically the LPDR ranked among the ten poorest countries in the world today according to the United Nations. Per capita income is less than \$300; foreign debt amounts to well over \$3 billion or more; local currency (the Kip) is almost worthless; inflation averaged 300 percent annually thus pushing the rate of the Kip up to almost 10,000 to a dollar. Without substantial external assistance the government will not be able to function normally. The inevitable consequence is that ordinary citizens find their daily existence totally unbearable—

fueling pervasive resentment against the dictatorship of the proletariat. It is obvious to everyone that the LPDR is actually on the brink of explosion at any moment! Socially peaceful Lao traditional society is turned upside down—forcing thousands of young men and girls to flee across the borders in order to escape misery and seek good fortune in neighboring Thailand. Meanwhile millions of foreigners, mostly from North Vietnam—keep pouring into the country to fill the void—thus bringing destruction and irreparable damage to our thick forests and wildlife and driving local inhabitants to abandon their lands with apparent impunity. Recently Hanoi promised to triple the Lao population—actually estimated at 5 million—by the year 2010!

PATH TO SALVATION

Since the Lao people are being prevented from changing their government for the better through democratic means external intervention—essentially from Western powers, the United States and Japan therefore become critical in order to bring about needed radical reforms in our country.

Even before S. Res. 240 and H. Res. 169 were officially adopted by the US Congress we have had numerous opportunities of submitting to The Honorable Senator R. Grams, Senator C. Thomas, US Representative B. Vento and Chairman J. Helms for consideration of a number of concrete proposals aimed at restoring social justice, liberty and democracy in our homeland. They still remain valid to these days, viz:

1. We humbly request that S. Res. 240 and H. Res. 169 be transmitted to the Executive Branch as soon as feasible together with ample budgetary appropriations necessary for their implementation;

2. We humbly request that the US government set up a Special Lao Task Force (SLTF) to be charged with the responsibility of translating the sense of the US Congress into practical reality without further delays; the SLTF should be required to work closely with all truly anti-communist groupings (such as the Lao Liberation Front led by Major-General Vang Pao and the Party of Vientiane Government—PGVT—under the chairmanship of Phagna Houmphan Saignasith) put in place by Lao refugees in the United States, Europe and elsewhere—excluding those openly or discreetly in favor of power-sharing with the communist Pathet-Lao;

3. We humbly request the US government to take the lead in choosing the future Lao political leaders from among the Lao anti-communist elite to all ethnic groups residing abroad; these selected intellectuals should form the backbone of the Kingdom's political, economic and administrative framework;

4. We humbly request the US government to solicit the concurrence, support and commitment of the countries signatory of the Geneva Accords of 1962 on Laos neutrality and of those which were party to the Paris Agreements of 1973;

5. We humbly request that the US government resolve in collaboration with ASEAN and the United Nations—to exert maximum diplomatic and military pressure upon the marxist authorities in Vientiane in order to compel them to relinquish power and be replaced by a new power structure freely elected by the Lao people; and

6. We humbly request that the US government, with the concurrence and support of its allied, announce a massive assistance programme designed to help the newly-elected government of the Kingdom of Laos to reconstruct the country anew on the basis of respect for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In the end it will prove to be necessary to convene an International Conference similar to the Geneva Conference of 1962 to tackle various abuses and problems confronting Laos today—in particular the non-respect of the neutrality, sovereignty and independence of our country by its immediate neighbours.

In view of the fact that a great number of political groupings set up by Lao refugees abroad are heavily infiltrated by communist elements and opportunist trouble-makers it will be difficult—if not impossible altogether for them alone to create a single anti-communist entity without American prodding. The success of the US pro-democracy crusade in Laos will undoubtedly trigger throughout the Asia region a genuine tidal wave carrying a powerful signal as well as an unmistakable warning to dictators and tyrants in other lands hence that the international community will no longer tolerate undemocratic practices and uncivilized and inhumane behavior by members of the United Nations.

The Lao people both inside the country and overseas hope and pray with us that the American people will understand and support their government's resolute action humanely intended to assist the Kingdom of Laos in regaining peace, independence and liberty essential ingredients for economic advancement and well-being in the years to come.

PARIS 1 SEPTEMBER 2000

THE HOME AMENDMENT, H.J. RES.
39

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring to your attention an amendment which I introduced the first session of the 106th Congress. H.J. Res. 39, The Home Amendment "would provide for a Constitutional amendment requiring that all citizens of the United States shall have a right to a home, which shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State."

Despite the economic growth that has brought unprecedented prosperity to the nation, we are still faced with shortages of housing and affordable rents, particularly in larger cities such as New York. Indeed, many people have not been included in the economic windfall of the 1990's.

I first introduced this amendment during the 104th Congress, and again in the 105th at the request of Reverend Dr. M. Moran Weston, who was actually the inspiration behind the development of this legislation.

Weston, who for many years served as pastor of St. Philip's Church in my 15th Congressional District of New York, is the Founder and long time President of the National Association for Affordable Housing. One of our community's greatest religious leaders, his genuine concern for people who lacked the most basic need, a decent place to live, inspired him to do more.

This renowned Harlem pastor responded as an example to others, by playing a leading role in renovating a block on Harlem's 135th Street. As a member of the original board of directors of Carver Federal Savings & Loan in my congressional district, he was the sponsor

of a federal government guaranteed renovation project, a 198-unit development, which he viewed as an early step in the creation of a "New Harlem." It was his inspiration and way of desire for a better life for all people, that led to my introduction of this amendment.

Though Reverend Weston no longer resides in my congressional district, his many contributions to our community over the years, have not gone unnoticed or have been forgotten by this Congressman or the people of New York.

Only last year that Dr. Weston was named with a Distinguished Lectureship in Urban and Public Policy established in his name by Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. The first two speakers in the lecture series were Chairman of Fannie Mae Franklin Raines and Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Andrew Cuomo.

It is my hope that on behalf of Reverend Dr. M. Moran Weston, and millions of people who would benefit from H.J. Res. 39, that we support this amendment, and look forward to its enactment.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST FOUR
DON LESLIE MICHAEL OF LEX-
INGTON, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Alabama's true heroes, Specialist Four Don Leslie Michael. Michael's life was one of service to his country and brave sacrifice. I honor him today on the occasion of his induction into the Alabama Military Hall of Honor.

Michael's family recently attended the induction ceremony at the Hall of Honor located in Marion, Alabama. Michael, 1 of 13 members asked to join this elite Hall, was born in Florence and soon moved to Lexington where he grew up with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy O. Michael, now deceased. The Alabama Military Hall of Honor is described as "a permanent and visible tribute to Alabamians who have distinguished themselves in the Armed Services of their country. It serves as a constant testimony to present and future generations that patriotism and heroism are not forgotten, but ever serve as challenges for those who are yet to come."

Michael's distinction with the Alabama Military Hall of Honor brings additional honor to his memory. In May of 1969, President Nixon handed the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to Michael to his family at a White House ceremony. While in the Army 173rd Airborne Brigade, Michael sacrificed his life in service of this nation. During a conflict in Vietnam on April 8, 1967, Michael put himself on the line to throw six grenades. He was successful in destroying the enemy positions, yet he was mortally wounded in the effort. Michael's award citation reads "His inspiring display of determination and courage saved the lives of many of his comrades and successfully eliminated a destructive enemy force.

Specialist four Michael's actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect the utmost credit upon himself and the U.S. Army."

Michael, the only Congressional Medal of Honor winner in northwest Alabama, has gone unrecognized long enough. I am pleased that his induction into the Alabama Military Hall of Honor will ensure that the example of his life and his unceasing dedication to the United States and its democracy can be an inspiration for our state for years to come. On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of North Alabama. I want to express my outstanding respect and admiration for Specialist Four Michael. I know that his family is deeply proud of his legacy and I share my joy with them that his life and memory are being properly recognized.

IN HONOR OF DR. ORLANDO
EDREIRA, FOR DEDICATING HIS
LIFE TO LANGUAGE AND TEACH-
ING

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Orlando Edreira for his life-long commitment to education.

Dr. Orlando Edreira has been a symbol of learning since his days as a student in Cuba during the 1950s and 1960s. It was then that he decided to make the study of language and the education of others his life's work. His decision was based on a true understanding of the value of language and the freedom it provides.

Dr. Edreira began his career as an educator in 1966, when he became an instructor in the Department of Spanish at Columbia University. In 1968, he joined the faculty of Kean College of New Jersey as an assistant professor in the Department of Foreign Languages, where he has been an integral part of the faculty ever since, and where he became as associate professor in 1972 and a full professor in 1977.

As a member of the faculty at Kean College, Dr. Edreira served as the Coordinator of the Bilingual Education Program from 1971-1972, and the Chairperson of the Department of Foreign Languages from 1974 to 1986. He has served as the Director of the Spanish Speaking program since 1972.

In addition, Dr. Edreira has made important contributions to program development, faculty development, and student development at Kean College. He is a member of the Committee on Academic Concerns of Hispanic Students; a member of the Language Laboratory Committee; and a member of the Committee on Academic Support for Hispanics. He also initiated and coordinated faculty training programs for faculty of the Spanish Speaking Program, and developed and directed In-Service Training Programs for Bilingual Teachers in the State of New Jersey.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Dr. Orlando Edreira for his lifetime commitment to education and for the support and guidance he has provided Hispanic students.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE
DAVID L. HOBSON

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Republic of China on Taiwan which celebrates its 89th anniversary as a nation this month. I join my colleagues to commend Taiwan's successful efforts towards developing a democratic nation as well as electing a new leader. Chen Shui-bian in a free and fair election.

Taiwan also is excelling in areas of economic growth and currently is ranked twenty-fifth in the world in per capita income and nineteenth in the world in terms of Gross National Product.

Taiwan's many accomplishments serve as a measure of its leaders' dedication to strengthening principles of freedom, democracy, and economic prosperity, values all Taiwanese citizens may enjoy.

Additionally, I would like to recognize Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China on Taiwan for diligently representing his nation in the United States. I look forward to a continued and prosperous relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

HONORING KEITH WOODS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Ms. WOOLSEY, and I rise today to recognize our good friend, Keith Woods, who is resigning as President and CEO of the Santa Rosa, California Chamber of Commerce after 13 years of dedicated service to his community.

During Mr. Woods' tenure, Santa Rosa, the 34th largest city in the state, developed the seventh largest chamber in the state. The Chamber boasts 1,600 members, 18 staff people, 48 committees and task forces, 650 active committee volunteers and a budget of \$1.4 million.

Some of Mr. Woods' innovative projects include Good Morning Santa Rosa breakfast meetings, the Business-Education Roundtable, Tomorrow's Leaders Today, Good Evening Santa Rosa, job fairs, training seminars and the Forum on the Future series that focused on issues affecting businesses, families and lifestyle in Sonoma County.

Through Mr. Woods efforts, the Chamber also provided staffing for the Sonoma County Technology and Manufacturers Group and managed the Downtown Market and the Santa Rosa Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Woods has spent 32 years in Chamber work with the San Francisco, San Antonio and San Jose Chambers and as an instructor for the U.S. Chamber at seven universities throughout the country.

In 1998, he traveled to Moscow to conduct training for 40 Russian Chamber executives.

He was recently elected Chairman of the Western Association of Chamber Executives for 2001 and last year was voted the "Top Business and Community Leader" in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County.

Although Mr. Woods is retiring from the Chamber, he is not leaving the business community or Sonoma County. His next assignment is as Chief Executive for the North Bay Builders Association.

Mr. Speaker, because of Keith Woods' many contributions to the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce and to Sonoma County, it is fitting and proper to honor him today for his many accomplishments and contributions.

VETERANS DAY HONOREES

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, November 11, 2000, marks the observance of Veterans Day, honoring all veterans who have pledged allegiance to their country and all of its endeavors. This day is set aside to recognize the boldness and bravery of those who have fought to uphold the standards of democracy.

Just prior to Veterans Day on Thursday, November 9, a special ceremony titled, "Salute 2000: An American Patriotic Celebration" will be held at the Radisson Star Plaza Theatre in Merrillville, Indiana, to celebrate patriotism and pride and to honor five local veterans for their dedicated military service. Those veterans that will be honored include: Joseph M. Dzieglowicz, John Gamez, David Hinshaw, Harry Kaczorowski and James J. Thiel.

Joseph M. Dzieglowicz, a United States Army veteran of World War II, served our country from October 12, 1942 to December 28, 1945 as a combat engineer with the 339th Engineer Construction Battalion. He stayed with the 339th Battalion for his entire 30 months of duty in the southwest Pacific theatre of operations. John Gamez is another fine example of one of our American heroes. As a member of the Armed Forces, John Gamez earned numerous medals during his tour of duty in Korea including the Silver Star Medal, two Purple Heart Medals, the Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, the Republic of Korea United Citation, the United Nations Service Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge. Additionally, David C. Hinshaw of Hammond, Indiana, is a veteran of the United States Army. He left the active Army in 1973 and joined the Indiana National Guard. While in the National Guard, Captain Hinshaw rose to Lieutenant Colonel and later Commander 2nd of the 151st Infantry in South Bend, Indiana. Hinshaw was a member of the Army Reserves until his retirement in 1998. As a member of the United States Army, Harry Kaczorowski served his country until he was discharged in December of 1944. During the Battle of Kasserine Pass, Kaczorowski was taken as a prisoner of war by General Rommel's Afrika Korps and was later liberated by the Soviets in 1945. A graduate of Dyer High School, James J. Thiel enrolled in the Army Air Corps at age 19 and served his country until 1945. Thiel earned the Presidential Unit Citation with Cluster, Aerial Gunner's Wings,

ETO Ribbon with four Battle Stars, Air Medal with Six Clusters, Good Conduct Medal and a WW-2 Victory Medal for his 50 aerial combat missions over northern Italy, Austria, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Germany, southern France and the Balkens.

The great sacrifice made by these five men and those who served our country has resulted in the freedom and prosperity of our country and in countries around the world. The responsibility rests within each of us to build upon the valiant efforts that these men and women who fought for this country have displayed, so that the United States and the world will be a more democratic and prosperous place. To properly honor the heroism of our troops, we must make the most of our freedom secured by their efforts.

In addition to the five veterans who are to be honored at this patriotic celebration, I would also like to commend all of those who served this country for their bravery, courage, and undying commitment to patriotism and democracy. May God bless them all.

We will forever be indebted to our veterans and their families for the sacrifices they made so that we can enjoy our freedom. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in saluting these five men and the other veterans who have fought for our great country.

TRIBUTE TO LT. GEN. ROBERT E.
HAILS (RET.)

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor a great American, retired Lieutenant General Robert E. Hails, who has recently been selected for induction into the State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame.

Lt. Gen. Hails graduated from Auburn University and received his wings and commission in 1944 at Moody Field in Valdosta, Georgia. During World War II, he completed 26 missions flying the B-24 Liberator bomber in the Pacific theater. After the war, Lt. Gen. Hails was instrumental in helping develop critical technology such as the first Heads Up Display (HUD), the use of an inertial gyroscope platform (IGP) for automatic navigation and guidance of aircraft and bomb launch, and the first use of a digital computer to control and integrate HUD and IGP systems. The Heads Up Display which Lt. Gen. Hails helped develop is essential to many of the newest and most important military aircraft in our force today, including the F-22, F-117, the F-14, and F-15.

These innovations greatly assisted American pilots in performing their missions to defend and protect American interests around the world and even now serve commercial aviation by providing increased safety during takeoffs and landings in poor weather conditions.

As the Director of Maintenance Engineering, Air Force Logistics Command, in 1968, Lt. Gen. Hails was responsible for engineering and developing of the pilotless reconnaissance aircraft used for missions over hostile territory during the Vietnam War. As Commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, he provided engineering and logistical support to a range of crucial weapons system upon which our military consistently relied, including

Air Force helicopters, C-130, C-141, F-15, and U-2 aircraft. His role as Vice Commander of Tactical Air Command and Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force have left a lasting legacy on our military which has most certainly contributed in developing the superior Air Force that continues to bravely and courageously serve our nation today.

Lt. Gen. Hails deserves our greatest recognition. I have had the honor and pleasure of knowing and working with Lt. Gen. Hails. His important contributions to American engineering and aviation are well known, and I offer my sincerest congratulations to him on his induction into the State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame. His character, patriotism, and values are an inspiration to each of us and I am proud to pay tribute to this great American who has given so much for his country.

HONORING MS. LAURA BERG

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the notable accomplishments of a young woman from the thirty-fourth district of California. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize achievements of young adults when they serve as outstanding role models for today's youth and bring credit to themselves and to this Nation. Such an outstanding young woman is Laura Berg.

At Santa Fe High, Ms. Berg was Co-Captain of the softball team. In college, she led Fresno State to a tie for third at the 1997 World Series and the 1998 NCAA Championships. And when the U.S. won gold at the 1998 World Championships, she led the team in runs scored.

Laura has brought honor and credit to the community and country as part of the U.S. team that won the gold medal in softball at both the Atlanta and the recently concluded Sydney Olympic games. Laura Berg's leadership and persistence not only helped the U.S. softball team rebound from losing three games in a row, she powered the game-winning run against Japan that gave the United States the gold medal in Softball at the 2000 Sydney Olympic games.

In returning to her roots at Lakeland Elementary School, Ms. Berg challenged students to never give up on their dreams and stressed the value of education.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to rise in support of Ms. Berg, not only for her accomplishments on the field but also to recognize her as an outstanding role model for the youth of this country.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to stand before the House today to honor the Fairfax County Park Authority's

50th anniversary on December 8, 2000. Fifty years ago, private citizens were the catalyst for the creation of the Fairfax County Park Authority. Looking to the future, they worked with the county's elected officials to establish the means to protect open space, historic sites, places for family recreation, and resource areas where wildlife could continue to thrive.

The wisdom of those farsighted activists is evident today. Islands of woodlands and playing fields, strips of stream valleys and trails, historic fragments of Old Fairfax, Virginia and centers for active recreation and leisure pursuits form a patchwork of parks across the county, accessible to everyone and offering something for every interest. Fairfax County has a park system recognized as among the best in the nation.

The Park Authority has over 386 parks on more than 19,326 acres. Park facilities include a horticulture center, a working farm, an activities and equestrian center, eight indoor RE-Centers, five nature and visitor centers, eight golf courses, on/off-leash dog park, three lakes, two campgrounds, an ice skating rink, a Water Park and a working mill. Recreational opportunities in the parks abound, with millions of people per year enjoying picnicking, hiking, fishing, tennis and golf. There are also carousels, miniature golf courses, amphitheaters and marinas.

Together, people of Fairfax and their Park Authority have kept trust with the ideals of those who founded the Park Authority. With the support of the people and volunteers, the agency has maintained its commitment to preservation, protection and play. With their support the agency has survived shifting attitudes towards land use, the ups and downs of budget, changes in government and shifts in demographics.

The Fairfax County Park Authority was created in 1950 to plan, acquire, develop, operate and maintain a park and recreation facility system that would contribute to the quality of life and environment for the citizens, visitors and tourists to Fairfax County. Over the past five decades, this system has evolved into a diversified mosaic of open space and recreation facilities, ranging from small neighborhood parks to an extensive network of county-wide parks which afford a variety of recreational opportunities for county residents. The park system also serves as the primary public mechanism for the preservation of environmentally sensitive land, water resources and areas of historic significance.

The Park Authority protects, manages and preserves thousands of natural and cultural resources located within its 19,326 acres. The cultural resources, bits and pieces of our history which allow us to understand our present and plan our future, include structures, roads, landscapes, folklore, artifacts, historic and prehistoric archaeological sites. These resources are preserved for our enjoyment and the education of our children.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, this December, the Park Authority will mark a half century of touching people's lives. Today, the children and the grandchildren of our original park patrons come to our parks for recreation, relaxation and respite. Together, people and parks will build on the past to shape the future. Like the couple at the golden wedding party, I toast a powerful union and an enduring relationship.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER DISTRICT DIRECTOR AND FRIEND JOHN J. MCGUIRE

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, October 16, 2000, John J. McGuire, my former District Director in Syracuse, New York, and close, personal friend, died after a long battle with brain cancer. John served as an integral part of my staff since my election to Congress in 1988. Prior to that time, he served as a compliance officer for 11 years with the Wage and Hour Division of the United States Department of Labor in Syracuse.

John McGuire, a former Marine, was a highly decorated disabled American veteran. He is a past recipient of the Veterans Service Award from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, four Special Achievement Awards and the Federal Distinguished Career Award. After serving as a sergeant in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, John taught English both here in the United States and in the Balkans.

With John's death early last week, his wife and children lost a terrific husband and father, and I lost a neighbor, a close advisor and loyal friend. The Central New York community lost a tireless worker and community advocate, and the entire nation lost a dedicated public servant and true American patriot.

I submit the attached column by Mr. Sean Kirst printed in the October 18th issue of the Syracuse Post-Standard, which so eloquently details John McGuire's motivation and career, be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to commemorate his distinguished life.

He certainly will be missed, but can never be forgotten.

VETERAN, AIDE, FAMILY MAN DIDN'T DIE FOR NOTHING

John McGuire was a neighbor. He lived on the dead-end block of Robineau Road in Syracuse. Years ago, he bought a big metal pole and set it into a deep hole. He got a backboard and a rim, and he hung them above the street.

His children, all the time, were out there playing basketball. Other kids often joined them in shooting hoops. Sometimes they were kids McGuire never saw before.

It became clear, over the years, that he was a true believer.

McGuire, 55 died Monday morning. His death was the second jolt in recent weeks on our small block, where Nick Rossi, a teacher, also died of cancer. In a sense, that is the cost of any strong neighborhood. With every loss, the fabric changes—much like a family.

Years ago, Representative JIM WALSH also lived on that same block. WALSH and McGuire, as neighbors, turned into good friends. When WALSH was elected to Congress, he asked McGuire to join his staff. McGuire was called "district director," but an awful lot of people knew him as WALSH's guy for vets.

WALSH will tell you he got lucky. He couldn't have made a better choice. There are countless stories of McGuire going to the wall to help someone receive benefits, or McGuire helping old veterans get the medals they deserved.

McGuire was an ex-Marine, a combat veteran of Vietnam. Sometimes he'd be sitting

outside on his porch, watching a crowd of kids playing basketball, and he'd talk a little about the war. He spoke in a soft voice, with an accent forged in Brooklyn, and he'd recall the time they split dozens of Marines into two groups. They put both groups on different planes, to fly to the same place.

One plane got hit. Everybody died. John McGuire was on the other plane.

He came home angry, he said, lacking faith in anything. He wondered at the senseless luck that sent him back alive, when good friends in Vietnam seemed to die for nothing. Over the next few years, he forged a hard logic. He dedicated himself to justifying those who died, and the best way to do it was by helping veterans. If that circle went unbroken, then their sacrifice made sense.

That is what he did, for the rest of his life. He married a strong woman, Joyce Kusak, and they had four terrific children. McGuire lived for two things—his family and his cause. Kusak-McGuire tells a story of standing exhausted at the door, a newborn baby in her arms, while her husband left in the middle of the night to take down a veteran threatening suicide.

The McGuires settled on the dead-end block of Robineau. Years later, my family moved in down the street. One night, McGuire sat on the porch and watched a crowd of kids shooting baskets. Some of them he knew. Some of them he'd never seen. As he watched, he explained why he lived in the city.

He expressed a great respect, almost a reverence, for elderly veterans. He spoke of how he admired his parents and their contemporaries, the way they dealt with the Great Depression, World War II, all the fears of the Cold War. But he also said that generation could not solve every problem, and one of the problems handed down was the polarization over race.

"We'll never solve anything," McGuire said, "unless we take it on." His wife felt the same way. They stayed in Syracuse.

A couple of years ago, McGuire returned to his hotel room at a business meeting. He kept trying to push his room key into the lock, upside down. His close friend, Harry Schultz, knew something was wrong. He got McGuire to a nurse, who examined him and then rushed him to a hospital. Brain tumor. They did surgery, but the tumor eventually came back.

McGuire, in the past few months, often took long walks. I saw him walking on a June morning with his son Aiden just after I returned from a conference in Washington. I think McGuire also had his toddler grandson with him, but maybe that is how I want to remember it.

I had visited the Wall, the Vietnam Memorial, for the first time. By coincidence, I had been there on Father's Day. As always happens on that day, there was a gathering for grown children of the soldiers whose names are on the wall. They brought sponges and buckets of water. They scrubbed their fathers' names to a shine.

I told McGuire the story. He started weeping, shoulders heaving, in the middle of the road. He said something—his voice cracking—about men who died for nothing.

That burden's gone. He's with them now. He spent his life shining the wall.

INTRODUCTION OF THE U.S.-
SINGAPORE FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement Act of 2000. It is a critical and timely piece of legislation.

Positioned strategically amid vital shipping lanes, Singapore is one of the United States' closest, most strategically important friends in Southeast Asia. Singapore is the tenth largest export market for the United States. Literally thousands of Americans depend on exports to Singapore for their jobs. The U.S. is also the number one foreign investor in Singapore—with a total of \$25 billion in 1999. There are more than 1,300 U.S. businesses with offices in Singapore and more than 13,000 U.S. citizens living in the multi-ethnic island nation.

Singapore has established itself as the business hub for Southeast Asia and it is quickly becoming a hub for much of the rest of Asia.

Not just in business, but also on vital national security issues, Singapore offers us a perspective on the region informed by kinship with its neighbors and its own history of development. It is a reliable source of stability in a region of the world undergoing generally positive, but sometimes wrenching political, economic, and societal change. The U.S. Western Pacific Logistics Command is based in Singapore, and Singapore and the U.S. conduct both joint air and joint naval exercises. Most recently, Singapore has undertaken to build a deep-water pier and naval base, entirely at their own expense, and offered its services to U.S. aircraft carriers.

Singapore's trading regime in goods and services is the freest in Asia. The environment for foreign investment is inviting and the government is a helpful hand for Americans looking to make investments. Having said that, however, there are sectors where American companies are eager to compete. I am hopeful that a U.S.-Singapore trade agreement can both recognize the very free trade and investments relationship that exists and at the same time provide even greater opportunities for American business.

A free trade agreement with Singapore is important for the international free trade agenda as well. The United States must continue to work to bring down barriers to trade throughout the world. Free traders in Congress have had some key victories this year with the Africa Free Trade Bill, the Caribbean Basin Initiative and PNTR for China. We all celebrated those victories, as well we should. However, an anti-trade element still exists in Congress that seeks to turn the political tide against free trade. It will take constant vigilance to build and sustain an active free trade constituency. It is my hope that progress on a Singapore agreement will lead to bi-lateral and multilateral agreements with other Pacific Rim countries that share our interest in opening markets.

A U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement serves several key U.S. national interest. It supports U.S. jobs. It supports U.S. worldwide investment. It solidifies a vital trans-Pacific U.S. relationship. It will serve as a model for

free trade agreements throughout the Pacific Rim, and encourage the opening of consultations to this end.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the U.S. Singapore Free Trade Act of 2000 and I urge its passage into law.

SPECIAL ORDER ON THE
HONORABLE JOHN KASICH

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, JOHN KASICH.

Mr. Speaker, when I was first elected to Congress in 1995, I joined an amazing group of men and women who made up the Ohio delegation. We had JOHN BOEHNER and DEBORAH PRYCE in Leadership; RALPH REGULA and DAVE HOBSON on Appropriations; MIKE OXLEY in Commerce; ROB PORTMAN on Ways and Means; the venerable Lou Stokes as Dean of our delegation; the very capable TONY HALL, PAUL GILLMOR, MARCY KAPTUR, SHERRON BROWN, JIM TRAFICANT and TOM SAWYER and, or course, JOHN KASICH as Budget Committee chairman.

I think all of us—no matter what our party affiliation—have come to truly respect JOHN KASICH for his Herculean effort to pass genuine welfare reform, and to reach a balanced budget agreement for the first time in a generation. I remember when I first came here I was a bit taken back by JOHN's intensity. He had such genuine enthusiasm for Congress, and it was a bit out of the ordinary. JOHN kinda reminds me of that Will Farrell character on "Saturday Night Live"—the Spartan cheerleader—just bouncing off the walls with team spirit.

There is something inherently appealing about JOHN KASICH's tenacity and enthusiasm, his Midwestern sensibility, and his irrepressible zest for life. People trust him, respect him, and they know they're getting the real thing. It's been said that all you really need to know about JOHN KASICH is that even his ex-wife's mother votes for him. We should all be so popular.

JOHN leaves an important legacy in the House: He proved that you can work in a bipartisan fashion, maintain friendships on both sides of the aisle, retain the respect of your peers, and still achieve very big things. The House needs more folks like JOHN KASICH who care so passionately, and refuse to give up.

JOHN KASICH stood his ground and truly changed the way Washington operates. I came here at a time when we spent recklessly and never gave much thought to the future, and now we've ushered in a new era of making government live within its means. Our children are going to inherit a federal government that is more fiscally responsible and more responsible, and no small thanks is due to JOHN KASICH.

I'm proud to have served with him, and for the opportunity to have had the last six years to witness him up close. I will miss his loud ties, his manic energy, how he often seemed less than serious but was always taken seriously, and how—despite being a Republican—he always got to hang around with cool people, like Bono (Bah-no) from U2.

I also will miss hearing JOHN speak on the House floor. He always commanded attention. In fact, I've always thought that when JOHN KASICH took to the floor to speak about anything, he was sort of like road kill—you just couldn't look away. Folks are drawn to his plain but spirited manner and his refreshing candor.

Mr. Speaker, most state delegations could never fill the oratory void left after the departure of a JOHN KASICH. Of course Ohio is a little different from most states. We've been blessed with an abundance of fine orators who command the public's attention. I just hope that in the 107th Congress my good friend, JIM TRAFICANT, will step up to the plate and shed that terrible shyness he has around the C-SPAN cameras.

JOHN KASICH, I thank you for your service to our country, to our fine state of Ohio, and for your years of friendship and guidance. Ohio is losing a great legislator, but I know our state and country have not heard the last of you.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HISPANIC HEALTH ACT OF 2000

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Hispanic Health Act of 2000, legislation to address disparities in access to health care, research, program funding, cultural competence, and representation of Latino health care professionals. This legislation aims to reduce these disparities in three specific disease areas that particularly impact the Hispanic community: diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and mental health in the Hispanic community.

As Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Task Force on Health, I am committed to fighting the health disparities that Hispanics face in this country. Last year, I and the members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus released a Report on Hispanic Health in the United States. The report was a direct result of testimony received from community leaders, health providers, and policy makers in a series of forums during the first ever Hispanic Health Awareness Week in September, 1999. The report summarizes the findings from the experts and outlines their recommendations to improve health care delivery to Hispanics.

Racial and ethnic minorities continue to experience serious disparities in health. The report's findings demonstrate the seriousness of the situation and the need for immediate action.

Type 2 diabetes accounts for 90 to 95 percent of diabetes cases, and it is the most common form seen in the Latino community. Among Hispanics, type 2 diabetes is twice as high compared to non-Hispanic whites. Six percent of Hispanics in the United States and Puerto Rico have been diagnosed and it is estimated that another six percent have undiagnosed diabetes. One out of every four Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans ages 45 and older have diabetes. One out of three elderly Hispanics have diabetes. Hispanics account for 20% of new AIDS cases, but only 11% of the population. In 1997, AIDS was the third leading cause of death among Hispanics

between the ages of 25 and 44, and 10th for Hispanics of all ages. Mexican American women are more likely to report severe depression than their non-Hispanic white, or African American female peers.

Substance abuse increased among Hispanic youth at the same time that it declined for non-Hispanic white and African American youth. Those at greatest risk appear to be Hispanic girls. Hispanic girls now lead girls nationwide in rates of suicide attempt, alcohol and drug abuse, and self-reported gun possession.

The Hispanic Health Act of 2000 reflects the recommendations outlined in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Report on Hispanic Health in the United States. One of the most important issues that this legislation addresses in data collection and research funding. If we do not address disparities in research, we are not going to develop cures that address the health disparities that exist in Hispanic and other minority communities. With a clearer understanding of what we face, we can then deliver culturally competent health services that meet the needs of these communities.

This legislation requests an annual report from the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the progress of Latino initiatives throughout the agency regarding diabetes, HIV infection, AIDS, substance abuse and mental health. This information will prove invaluable in monitoring the responsiveness of HHS to the health needs of the Hispanic community and will give us the tools to direct resources were effectively in the future.

The legislation authorizes two diabetes programs to reduce the devastating impact of this disease on Hispanic-Americans. To increase prevention activities, the bill authorizes \$100 million for the National diabetes Education Program of the Center for Disease Control. These activities include identifying and targeting geographic areas that experience a high incidence of diabetes and diabetes related deaths particularly in the Hispanic community with educational and screening programs.

In addition, this bill authorizes \$1 billion to the National Institute on Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to implement the recommendations of its Diabetes Research Working Group. This working group's plan was developed and delivered to Congress pursuant to the Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations Act of the Department of Health and Human Services.

On HIV and AIDS, the legislation requests a plan from the Centers for Disease Control to address the under-representation of Hispanics in Community Planning Programs. The legislation also calls for the establishment of AIDS education and training centers at eligible Hispanic Serving Institutions funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration. An emphasis shall be placed on providing culturally and linguistically appropriate training of health providers to deliver bilingual HIV treatment and education. In too many cases, the lack of appropriate information creates a barrier to prevention and treatment, costing countless lives and suffering.

In an effort to reverse the trends in Latina suicides, the legislation establishes a female adolescent suicide prevention program. The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with other agencies, would be empowered to fund programs that meet a set

of criteria designed to ensure that best practices are implemented to combat Latina suicides. The bill authorizes \$10 million for the implementation of these prevention programs.

The Hispanic Health Act of 2000 also provides for bilingual health professional training with respect to minority health conditions. The bill authorizes \$1 million for the development of culturally competent educational materials and technical assistance in carrying out programs that use such materials. In addition, it provides an additional \$5 million for a Center for Linguistic and Cultural Competence in Health Care through the Office of Minority Health.

A cultural competence demonstration project in the legislation would provide grants to two hospitals that have a history in the Medicare program. The hospitals shall receive a \$5 million grant for five years to enable them to implement standards for culturally competent services to address the needs of any population that is 5% or more of the total population they serve. An additional \$1 million is provided for the purpose of program evaluation. The bill allows for hospitals to use disproportionate share hospital funding to pay for translators for a population that is limited English proficient and makes up 10% or more of the population they serve.

Increasing the numbers of Hispanics who join the health professions is a necessary component of any plan to reverse the historical disparities faced by the community. The Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools provision authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give grants to Hispanic-serving health professions schools for the purpose of carrying out programs to recruit Hispanic individuals to enroll in and graduate from the schools. More Hispanic health professionals will assist greatly in providing culturally competent and linguistically appropriate care.

Finally, the Hispanic Health Act requires the Secretary to include data on race and ethnicity in health data collected under programs carried out by the Secretary. Outcome measures will be developed to evaluate, by race and ethnicity, the performance of health care programs and projects that provide care to individuals under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The Hispanic Health Act of 2000 fills an important gap in research, program implementation and evaluation, training, and facilitating cultural competence in health care institutions. I ask my colleagues to join us in taking the historic steps needed to reverse the trends that have left too many behind.

BRING THEM HOME ALIVE ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of the "Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000." This bill creates an extraordinary opportunity for nationals of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, China, and the independent states of the former Soviet Union to do a wonderful thing and be richly rewarded for it. If a national from any of these countries

personally delivers a living American Vietnam War POW/MIA into the custody of the U.S. Government, he or she will be granted United States refugee status.

I am deeply moved when I think of the grief that is being endured by so many Americans, the Americans who are living with the uncertainty of having family members who were missing in action or prisoners in Vietnam and have not been heard of since the end of the war. Certainly this bill will not help all of them. In fact it may only help a few of them. But I feel very strongly that the bill is worthwhile even if it only brings one soldier home to his family after all of these years.

I urge you to vote for the "Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000."

TRIBUTE TO SHAFEIK MOHAMMED

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Shafeik Mohammed, an outstanding individual who has devoted his life to his family and to serving the community. Mr. Mohammed retired from Phipps Community Development Corporation on September 1 and moved to California to be with his children.

Originally from Trinidad, Mr. Mohammed and his wife first came to this country in 1971 to seek medical help for their daughter who had been seriously injured in a car accident. The early years were rough: four young children, a foreign country, and few marketable skills. The whole family enrolled in school, worked, studied, and saved. His wife became a registered nurse and Shafeik, while working full time, made the Dean's List at Medger Evers College. Their daughter recovered, went to law school, and is now Assistant District Attorney in Los Angeles.

Mr. Mohammed has worked in impoverished communities in both Brooklyn and the Bronx helping residents learn skills, gain employment, and develop careers. For more than thirty years he has worked with a passion and commitment that has inspired thousands of individuals and been instrumental in lifting whole families out of poverty.

In 1996, after fifteen months of retirement, he came to work for Phipps Community Development Corporation in my congressional district and has been the guiding light behind our educational and employment services ever since. Phipps CDC is the human services affiliate of Phipps Houses, New York City's oldest and largest not-for-profit developer of affordable housing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing a happy retirement to Mr. Shafeik Mohammed.

HONORING MEREDITH J.
KHACHIGIAN

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to one of California's most remarkable women, Meredith J. Khachigian.

Ms. Khachigian has chaired the Board of Regents of the University of California (UC) for three terms. In this position she manages the leading public research university in the nation. With 97,000 employees and 167,000 students, the UC system includes nine university sites, a graduate health science campus in San Francisco, three law schools, five medical schools and five hospitals. The Regents oversee the University's \$43 billion annual budget and also manage the UC Retirement System, the largest in the United States, and a General Endowment Pool of \$5.3 billion.

Ms. Khachigian is a consultant in community and public affairs and is the former Executive Director of Vital Link-Orange, a program that matches high school students' educational backgrounds with the needs of future employers. She is currently serving as a member of the Governor's School-To-Work Advisory Council for the State of California. Additionally, she represents the University on business matters through her involvement with the Orange County Business Council's workforce preparation initiative.

She has served as President of Human Options, a shelter for battered women, and is the co-chair of the program's 20th anniversary celebration, which in 2001 will commemorate two decades of dedicated service in the field of domestic violence.

Ms. Khachigian has combined a career in public service with her dedication to the needs of others and is well-known in the United States for her achievements. She is recognized for her expertise and is regularly asked to speak on prestigious news programs. She has served as an advocate for the University in Washington, DC, meeting with legislators on issues important to the hospitals and medical schools as well as the people of California.

I ask my colleagues to please join with me in recognizing an extraordinary woman. Meredith J. Khachigian.

TRIBUTE TO LISE THIBAUT, NEWEST MEMBER OF THE WORLD COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of my colleagues the selection of Ms. Lise Thibault as a member of the World Committee on Disability. Ms. Thibault brings to her new position some thirty years of leadership in the disability movement in her native country, Canada.

When Lise Thibault was a teenager, she suffered a tobogganing accident that left her with a permanent disability; however, having to use a wheelchair has never slowed her down. She went on to become a wife, the mother of two, the grandmother of five, and a prominent public figure.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Thibault taught adult education and worked for the Canadian Broadcasting Company as a host and a researcher for programs about family and community issues. She was appointed to the Quebec Ministry of Education in 1977, became director-general of the Quebec Office for Persons

with Disabilities, and Vice President of the Quebec Occupational Health and Safety Board (1987-1993). Throughout her life, she has been an active leader in the disabled community, serving as president and director general of the Quebec Bureau for the Handicapped and board member of the Canadian Red Cross.

In 1994, Lise Thibault was given the YWCA's "Woman of Merit" award for her involvement in the community. That same year, she was named "Personality of the Year" by *Chatelaine Magazine*. On January 30, 1997, she was sworn in as Quebec's 27th Lieutenant Governor by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Ms. Thibault is the first woman and the first person with a disability to hold this office.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in welcoming this extraordinary warm-hearted woman who has dedicated herself to the well-being of others, Ms. Lise Thibault, as a member of the World Committee on Disability.

IN HONOR OF JOHN "JJ" JOHNSON, RECIPIENT OF THE NEW JERSEY AFL-CIO LABOR AWARD 2000

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NORTH JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John "JJ" Johnson, recipient of the New Jersey AFL-CIO Labor Award for the year 2000. The AFL-CIO Labor Award is given to extremely dedicated individuals, who have made enduring contributions to the labor movement.

John Johnson became active in the labor movement in 1960, when he organized the Peter Pan factory in East Newark, New Jersey. In 1975, Mr. Johnson co-founded Local 617 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), which elected him executive vice president, a position he held for 23 years.

Today, Local 617 represents approximately 3,500 employees, making it the largest public employees local of the Service Employees International Union in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Johnson's hard work and dedication have been a major factor in the growth and success of Local 617.

In 1996, Mr. Johnson was elected to the Executive Board of the Services Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC, becoming the Union's first African American official to serve in that capacity. The Service Employees Union is the third largest union in the AFL-CIO, with a membership of 1.3 million.

In addition, Mr. Johnson serves as a board member of the Public Sector Division and the Political Committee of SEIU; was elected president of the SEIU New Jersey State Council; was appointed to the board of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO, CLC; and was elected president of Local 617.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John "JJ" Johnson for his enduring contributions to the labor movement.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOHN KASICH ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow Ohioan and good friend, JOHN KASICH. I used to serve with my colleague from Ohio on the Budget Committee, and I know how difficult it is to put together a budget that moves the country forward in a positive direction and remains responsible to the American taxpayer.

I want to take a minute to go back a few years and look at where we have been, and how far we have come under the leadership of the Chairman of the Budget Committee. After 30 years of Congress recklessly spending more than we take in, American voters demanded a change. In 1995, the Republican majority came to Congress to restore discipline to the budget process.

But before he became Chairman in 1995, the Congressman from Ohio was writing his own balanced budget every year. Back then some of the people who had been in Washington for a while, called it tilting at windmills. But what really was going on was he was building a groundwork for the budget discipline the American people would demand, and Republicans would bring to Congress after we became the majority.

In 1991, Mr. KASICH's balanced budget received 114 votes, and the other 303 votes were for a budget that continued to raid Social Security and pile up debt for our children and grandchildren.

In 1993, he was able to win another 21 votes and his balanced budget received 135 votes, and the other 295 votes were for a budget that continued to raid Social Security and pile up debt for our children and grandchildren.

In 1994, he added 30 more votes, and his balanced budget received 165 votes, and the other 243 were for a budget that continued to raid Social Security and pile up debt for our children and grandchildren.

In 1995, the gentleman from Ohio as Budget Chairman passed a Republican budget by a vote of 238–193.

And in 1997, this Congress and the Administration came together in a bipartisan to write the Balanced Budget Act—which once and for all, ended the raid on Social Security, which ended once and for all, the reckless practice of spending more than we take in, and which finally balanced the budget, and put our country's books in order.

I want to thank the Budget Chairman, on behalf of myself and my colleagues and the constituents in my district and across the country for his service to his country. We are going to miss your expertise, your tenacity, your endless optimism, and your vision of a better America now that you have completed your final budget in the House.

As Ohio's Seventh District Representative to the Congress of the United States, I take this opportunity to join with members of the Ohio delegation and members of the Budget Committee to honor the efforts and the many outstanding achievements of Representative

JOHN KASICH. His many contributions as a member of the House of Representatives and leadership as a valued Committee Chairman will be remembered.

HONORING ROBERTO GARCIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Roberto Garcia, recipient of the Napa County Hispanic Network Lifetime Achievement Award, for his outstanding contributions to the youth of Napa County. He has devoted his life to promoting mutual understanding and respect in our community and is an excellent role model for us all.

Roberto Garcia has placed a high priority on providing much needed positive role models for Latino youth, as well as promoting the importance of learning English and pursuing higher education. Undoubtedly, he is a dedicated educator and community leader. Over the course of his highly successful career, he has worked as a Migrant Education Secondary School Advisor, an "English as a Second Language Instructor" at Napa Valley College and an Outreach Specialist for the Citizenship Project of the Napa County Council for Economic Opportunity. He cares deeply for the problems that face our nation's youth and has worked tirelessly to find long-lasting solutions in the community. To that end, he has helped mediate gang conflicts, including the organization of the largest gang forum in the Napa County.

Our community and our nation have benefited greatly from Roberto Garcia's time, effort, and dedication. He was a cofounder and past president of the Napa County Hispanic Network. Within this organization he founded the Napa County Hispanic Network Scholarship program. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Mexican Cultural Center for the Bay Area, was a past docent of the Napa Valley Museum Hispanic Trunk Presentations and an active member of the Napa County Chicano/Latino Democratic Caucus.

Roberto Garcia's past achievements in his quest to educate the community have been numerous. He has organized many cultural events including the annual "Christmas in Mexico Festival," Spanish Zarzuela Concerts and art exhibits of Yucatan Mexico. He was instrumental in bringing the Mexican Consul to the Napa Valley several times each year to issue documentation and address concerns of the local Mexican population. In addition, he was honored in 1998 by the Napa County Democratic Caucus as the Democrat of the Year.

Roberto Garcia is a devoted father and has been blessed with two daughters, Christina and Lourdes Xochitl, and one granddaughter, Susan Parks.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Roberto Garcia for his dedication and commitment to so many important and worthwhile causes. He has devoted his life to addressing the concerns of the community and specifically the problems facing Latino youth. He has helped foster awareness and understanding, working to bridge gaps between our diverse community. For these rea-

sons, it is necessary that we honor this leader and my good friend for his continuing distinguished service to the people of the Napa Valley and for receiving the NAPA County Hispanic Network Lifetime Achievement Award.

TRIBUTE TO MACON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE PRESIDENT PAUL R.
NAGLE

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a great American and Georgian, Paul R. Nagle, who recently retired as president of the Macon, Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Nagle has been an inspiration to all of us. Appointed as president in 1991, Mr. Nagle has been a leader and public servant that has always given 100 percent to the citizens of Macon.

Mr. Nagle was born in Hominy, Oklahoma, but serving his country and his professional career have taken him around the country. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a major in Marketing. Additionally, he has given his time and energy to many wonderful causes including Robins Air Force Base 21st Century Partnership, the Macon, Georgia 2000 Partnership and the NewTown Macon Board.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the distinct pleasure of working very closely with Mr. Nagle on many projects, including the very important Fall Line Freeway project. I am confident that his superior accomplishments and lasting legacy will continue to be felt in Macon and throughout Middle Georgia.

I will miss working with Mr. Nagle, at the Macon Chamber, but will continue to wish him the best in his new endeavors.

HONORING MR. JOE BARRERA

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today and honor Mr. Joe Barrera, an extraordinary American citizen who served our Nation with honor and bravery during World War II. On November 11, 2000, this Veterans Day, I will proudly present the Purple Heart Medal to Mr. Barrera for his acts of bravery during the War.

Mr. Joe Barrera was born on January 7, 1925 in Los Angeles. He graduated from Polytechnic High School in 1943 and soon after married Rosalie Barrera, his wife of 56 years. On August 9, 1943, he was inducted into the U.S. Army and began his military service.

After four months in basic training, Joe spent 14 months as a TEC 3 Surgical Technician and 14 months as a TEC 3 Medical Aidman receiving a Medical Combat Badge. On December 6, 1944, Mr. Barrera was sent to France for his first experience overseas and served with the Medical Detachment in the

276th Infantry Regiment in the European Theater of Operations for 16 months. During combat, he worked the front lines administering medical treatment to the wounded and performing emergency surgeries. Mr. Berrera carried out his many duties with exemplary courage.

On March 20, 1945, Mr. Barrera was injured and received 2nd degree burns to his eyes from a mine explosion. On April 15, 1946, Joe returned to the United States receiving his Honorable Discharge on May 8, 1946.

Upon return to civilian life, Mr. Barrera owned and operated the Metro Barbershop in Los Angeles near Cal State L.A. from 1948 to 1989, and he and his wife raised four wonderful children. His two daughters, Kathy and Carol, are both happily married and have successful lives. His son John is a Foreman in the Los Angeles County Fire Department. His other son, Joseph, who passed away in 1992, had been employed by Northrop Grumman constructing Stealth Bombers.

After 41 years of running his own business, Joe retired to enjoy a well-deserved leisure life. Today, he continues to be a happy and modest man surrounded by a wonderful family and many friends.

I would like to urge all my House colleagues to join me today in recognition of Mr. Joe Barrera's remarkable service and contribution to our Nation and to offer our personal congratulations as he receives his Purple Heart Medal this Veterans' Day.

FOR THE RELIEF OF PERSIAN
GULF EVACUEES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of a bill that unanimously passed the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims and our Full committee. This private relief bill on behalf of 54 families and individuals seeking permanent resident status in the United States has much merit.

These families, known as Persian Gulf evacuees, have lived and worked in this country being evacuated out of Kuwait, at the behest of the United States government, just prior to U.S. Military Intervention in the Iraqi invasion of that country.

Many of these individuals, by order of then President Bush, were evacuated to keep them out of harms way when the United States intervened militarily in Kuwait, and hid them in their homes against Iraqi retaliation. Once here, the majority of the 2,000 evacuees adjusted their own status, often through asylum procedures. These 54 families remained in limbo, facing deportation and loss of work permits in the United States.

The Persian Gulf evacuees, are well educated, English speaking, mostly professional individuals perfectly capable of working and supporting themselves here in the United States without becoming wards of any State in which they have settled.

This action is good for this Congress and for America, and I support its passage.

PUERTO RICO STATUS PLAN

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4475, the FY 2001 Department of Transportation appropriations bill, includes provisions which I support that will promote informed self-determination for Puerto Rico. It is historic that Congress has authorized the President to cooperate with the Elections Commission of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to develop a legally valid and politically realistic program to support political status resolution for Puerto Rico. However, it was necessary to ensure that Congress can review the program plan before funding can be expended. Given the powers vested in Congress to determine the ultimate status of Puerto Rico based on a legitimate process of self-determination, the process of Congressional review contemplated by this legislation is entirely fitting and critical to a successful status resolution program.

MR. LUIS P. VILLARREAL

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate Luis P. Villarreal, who received the 2000 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring for his work in developing science education and research programs to assist minority students at the high school and university level. Mr. Villarreal is a professor of molecular biology and biochemistry at the University of California, Irvin (UCI). He was selected as one of ten individual recipients to receive this prestigious award.

Mr. Villarreal began his academic career when he enrolled in a community college to become a medical technologist. Encouraged to continue his education, he went on to complete a four year degree in chemistry and then entered graduate school. As a researcher in biology, Mr. Villarreal is currently doing research on the connection between cervical cancer and viruses. He also manages a million-dollar annual budget for the minority science program at UCI.

One of his greatest accomplishments is to help struggling students achieve success in college, and to encourage them to become scientists. One of his students remarked that he is relaxed, but brilliant and very funny. Through his mentoring program, Mr. Villarreal has guided many under-represented students into the sciences. These students participate in a rigorous academic and research training program that is mentored by faculty members. The program includes paid internships, tutoring, academic advising, faculty seminars and participation at national conferences.

I ask my colleagues to please join with me as we honor Mr. Luis P. Villarreal for his outstanding academic and educational achievements.

HONORING MR. GARTH GARDNER

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today and honor Mr. Garth Gardner, an extraordinary American Citizen who served our Nation with honor and bravery during World War II. On November 11, 2000, this Veterans Day, I will proudly present the Purple Heart Medal to Mr. Gardner for his acts of bravery during WWII.

Mr. Garth Gardner was born on September 25, 1922 in Carbon County, Utah. He graduated from Carbon County High School in 1940 and attended Carbon County Jr. College for two years. At the age of 19, Mr. Gardner enlisted as a cadet in the U.S. Army Air Force. On March 27, 1945, Mr. Gardner departed to New Guinea, where he flew 29 missions against the enemy in a B-24 liberator with a crew of 10 servicemen.

Following his return to the United States, Mr. Gardner was married to Mary Ponti on December 30, 1945. In 1948, Garth graduated from USC, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Following his graduation, Garth bought a house in Pico Rivera where he and his wife raised their three sons. Mr. Gardner worked for the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District for 25 years and upon retiring from the County in 1976, became a California Probate Referee—a position he has held for the last 26 years.

In March 2001, he will retire from the Pico Rivera City Council after 29 years of service. He has served 8 terms, including his final term, as Mayor. One of his major accomplishments is completing the flood control project, which began in 1991 and will be completed in 2001. This important project begins at the Pacific Ocean and extends 26 miles to the Whittier Narrows Dam and costs \$250 million.

Mr. Gardner will always remain active in his community and continue a life of service. I would like to urge all my House colleagues to join me today in recognition of Mr. Garth Gardner's remarkable service and contribution to our Nation and to offer our personal congratulations as he receives his Purple Heart Medal this Veterans' Day.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. DOMINICK
CONDO AND DR. SALVATORE
LAPILUSA, "2000 MEN OF THE
YEAR"

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dominick Condo and Dr. Salvatore LaPilusa, who are being honored by the Sicilian Citizens Club as "2000 Men of the Year" at the 73rd annual dinner-dance celebration.

On Saturday, October 28th, two of New Jersey's most talented and dedicated physicians will be honored for their contributions to medicine, to the health of the residents of the City of Bayonne, and to philanthropic causes.

Dr. Dominick Condo, whose parents, Domenico and Rosa Condo immigrated from

Calabria, Italy, was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on August 13, 1954. Dr. Condo was raised in Bayonne, New Jersey, where he practices medicine today. In 1975, he received his B.A. from St. Peter's College; studied medicine at the Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico, graduating in 1980; and performed his medical internship and residency at St. Michael's Medical Center in Newark, New Jersey.

Dr. Condo is an attending physician of internal medicine at Bayonne Hospital in New Jersey. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, and the American College of Geriatrics. Dr. Condo was named the Hudson County Physician of the Year in 1994, and was recently named one of the 100 Best Doctors in the New York Metropolitan area in New York Magazine (7/99).

Dr. Salvatore LaPilusa, the son of Sicilian immigrants, was born in Bayonne, New Jersey. He received his B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and his medical degree from Loyola Medical School in Chicago. Dr. LaPilusa received his orthopedic training at New Jersey Medical Center and Iowa University. After serving in the Korean War, he returned to America to start his own practice, and was certified with the American Board of Orthopedics.

Dr. LaPilusa was married to Lorraine McNally, a nurse at the Jersey City Medical Center, with whom he had a son, Richard. When his wife lost her battle with cancer, Dr. LaPilusa founded the Lorraine McNally Pavilion, in order for cancer patients to remain close to home for treatment. In addition, he started a scholarship fund at the University of Notre Dame, which currently provides support for 15 students. Dr. LaPilusa also volunteers his time and skills in developing countries, such as Vietnam, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Bhutan.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Dominick Condo, and Dr. Salvatore LaPilusa, the Sicilian Citizens Club's "2000 Men of the Year." They are truly exceptional physicians and dedicated community leaders.

HONORING ROSAURA SEGURA-
LOPEZ

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Rosaura Segura-Lopez, the recipient of the Napa County Hispanic Network Lifetime Achievement Award. Ms. Segura-Lopez is an outstanding member of the community and has worked tirelessly to improve the conditions of low-income housing and public education for migrant farmworkers.

Recognizing a great need, Rosaura Segura-Lopez established the Immigration Services Office in St. Helena with a credit card in March, 1989. Since then, she has served as a board member of the St. Helena Public School Foundation from 1990 to 1993 and has worked on the County of Napa Grand Jury for the Fiscal Year 1991-1992. Also, since 1994, she has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors. In addition, Ms. Segura-Lopez acts as Vice-President and Sponsor for "Club Los Haro" which raises

funds for her birthplace, Los Haro in Zacatecas, Mexico.

As a child, Rosaura vividly remembers how tired her father, a farmworker, was when he arrived home in the evenings. This prompted her to become involved with the Migrant Farmworker Committee and she has served as its Chairperson since 1994. She has been selected to serve on the Napa County Housing Committee, which has the task of gathering data and making recommendations regarding the update of the County's Housing Element and has been named Vice-Chair of the newly formed Napa County Farmworker Housing Oversight Committee.

In April 1999, Rosaura Segura-Lopez was honored with an award from the California Human Development in recognition of Community Business for Excellent Service Provided to the Community.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Ms. Rosaura Segura-Lopez for her dedication and commitment to worthwhile causes, as she is an inspiration to everyone. For these reasons, it is necessary that we honor this woman for her continuing distinguished service to the people of Saint Helena and all of Napa County, California.

CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH WED-
DING ANNIVERSARY OF LOUIS
AND BERTHA WILLIAMS OF
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, Louis and Bertha Williams were married in Aiken County, South Carolina on October 27, 1950. Their marriage symbolizes commitment, tenacity, and a spiritual bond between them that fosters a deep and comfortable friendship and partnership. Mr. Louis Williams retired from the Granitville Company in Granitville, South Carolina after 35 years of dedicated service as a shift supervisor/Mrs. Bertha Williams retired from the Aiken County Public School System after 37 years of dedicated service as a math teacher and high school basketball coach. Faith in God and family means everything to the Williams'. Mr. & Mrs. Louis Williams have two adult daughters, Carolyn and Barbara who reside in Maryland.

HONORING JOE GARCIA III

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate a very good friend, Joe Garcia Sr., who celebrated his 75th birthday on October 21, 2000.

The Mexican revolution left Mexico devastated with little food and medication. Joe's father was deathly sick and a relative in El Paso, Texas wrote them to let Joe's parents know that they had the medication that would help Joe's father. Joe Garcia's parents packed up their belongings and came to Texas at the end of the Mexican Revolution. On October

21, 1925, Joe Garcia was born in El Paso, Texas.

At the age of nineteen, Joe joined the army and proudly served the United States of America during World War II as a paratrooper in the 503rd. After the war, Joe became a publisher and started one of the first bilingual magazines covering Latinos in politics, sports, education, and entertainment. Joe was not only on a mission to report and inform the public of the impact and influence of Latinos in this country, he was also instrumental in helping shape the political landscape. He was very active working with numerous campaigns ranging from Roybal to Rockefeller, and he helped to elect the Honorable Leo Sanchez, the first Mexican-American Municipal court judge in California.

Not satisfied with his numerous accomplishments, he turned his attention to starting El Rey, a Mexican food company in the late 70's producing one of the first pre-packaged chorizo (Mexican sausage). Ever the entrepreneur, Joe and his wife Virginia started Reynaldo's Mexican Food Company in 1993.

Today, Reynaldo's Mexican Food Company is a leader in Mexican food manufacturing. His products reach eleven states with warehouses in Los Angeles, San Diego, Texas, Arizona, Chicago, and Las Vegas. The company continues to set new standards for the manufacturing and processing of Mexican food and enjoys continued growth.

Mr. Speaker, I would like all my colleagues to join me in saluting Joe Garcia Sr. who at the age of 75 shows no signs of slowing down. Mr. Garcia, Sr. is truly a testament to the American Dream. Through his hard work, entrepreneurial spirit, enthusiasm and community service he continues to serve as a role model for Latinos and all Americans.

UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS
OF WRONGDOING INVOLVING
THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, submit the following letter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, "Response to Comments by Rep. Curt Weldon Regarding the Government Reform Committee, Minority Staff, report, Unsubstantiated Allegations of Wrongdoing Involving the Clinton Administration."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM,
Washington, DC, October 27, 2000.

Hon. CURT WELDON,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REP. WELDON: On September 28, I spoke on the House floor regarding a series of unsubstantiated allegations by members of Congress that have unfairly smeared the reputations of numerous individuals. I also entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD facts relevant to many of these sensational allegations.

As you know, one of the allegations I discussed was your claim in a 1998 floor statement that the President could have committed "treason," one of the most serious crimes an American can commit. You responded in a floor statement of October 2, 2000. You claim that I made "totally false"

statements relating to your "treason" remarks.

On September 28, I described your "treason" statement as follows:

In May 1998, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Weldon) made remarks on the House floor regarding allegations that the political contributions of the chief executive officer of Loral Corporation, Bernard Schwartz, had influenced the President's decision to authorize the transfer of certain technology to China. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Weldon) described this issue as a, "Scandal that is unfolding that I think will dwarf every scandal that we have seen talked about on this floor in the past 6 years." And said further, "This scandal involves potential treason."

You have not disputed this characterization of your remarks. You also did not dispute my statement that when a member of Congress makes such a sensational allegation, it can have tremendous impact. In your case, your "treason" remarks were not only part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, but were publicized in national media reports.

You have, however, taken issue with two sets of facts that I put into the record on September 28 after describing your "treason" remarks. First, I said:

The Department of Justice examined the allegations relating to whether campaign contribution influenced export control decisions and found them to be unfounded. In August 1998, Lee Radek, chief of the department's public integrity section, wrote that "there is not a scintilla of evidence or information that the President was corruptly influenced by Bernard Schwartz." Charles La Bella, then head of the department's campaign finance task force, agreed with Mr. Radek's assessment that "this was a matter which likely did not merit any investigation."

You said on October 2 that my statement was wrong, pointing to a passage in a July 16, 1998, memo by Mr. La Bella that discussed two documents potentially relevant to the Loral/Schwartz allegations. My statement, however, quoted two subsequent Department of Justice memos—an August 12, 1998, memo by Mr. La Bella and an August 5, 1998, memo by Mr. Radek.

Further, Mr. La Bella himself said that his July 16 memo took the view that the Loral/Schwartz matter "likely did not merit any investigation." Discussing his July 16 memo (the "Interim Report") and Mr. Radek's August 5 memo (the "Review"), Mr. La Bella stated on August 12, 1998:

The Review shares the view expressed in the Interim Report that this was a matter which likely did not merit any investigation.

In May 2000, Los Angeles Times investigative reporters examined the Justice Department's investigation of the Loral/Schwartz matter. In a May 23, 2000 article entitled Internal Justice Memo Excuses Loral, They wrote:

During a May 2 hearing, [Senator] Specter commented that LaBella has pushed, in his still sealed memo, to have an independent counsel investigate the Loral matter, suggesting that the case remained ripe for serious criminal inquiry. And Specter reinforced that impression, urging the Senate to subpoena Loral-related documents.

But the impression was wrong.

The LaBella report and related documents, which were obtained earlier this year by The Times, tell quite a different story. In fact, by the time LaBella delivered his report to Atty. Gen. Janet Reno in the summer of 1998, the task force had effectively excused Schwartz and Loral from the campaign finance investigation. . . .

"Poor Bernie [Schwartz] got a bad deal," one former task force investigator said in an

interview. "There was never a whiff of a scent of a case against him."

As you can see, therefore, I was entirely accurate in my summary of the Justice Department's investigation. It is your description of the evidence—not mine—that distorts the facts.

You also took issue with the second set of facts I put in the record relating to your "treason" remarks. In my September 28 statement, I said:

The House select committee investigated allegations relating to United States technology transfer to China and whether campaign contributions influenced export control decisions. In May 1999, the committee findings were made public. The committee's bipartisan findings also did not substantiate the suggestion of the gentleman from Pennsylvania of treason by the President.

In your October 2 remarks, you asserted, "Now, in fact, our Cox committee did not even look at this issue." This statement is remarkable, particularly since you were a member of the Cox Committee yourself.

As support for your claim, you cited language in the Cox Committee report which notes that the Committee did not end up looking at attempts by the People's Republic of China (PRC) to influence technology transfers through campaign contributions. Your "treason" remarks, however, centered on allegations relating to contributions by Bernard Schwartz, not the PRC. And, indeed, the Committee did examine these allegations.

As the Committee report notes, Mr. Schwartz was one of the individuals interviewed or deposed by the Committee. The Committee also interviewed or deposed Loral Vice President Thomas B. Ross. As noted in a May 24, 1998, New York Times article regarding the Loral/Schwartz allegations, Mr. Ross was the author of a February 13, 1998, letter to national security advisor Sandy Berger that urged a swift decision on the waiver issue. In fact, you drew attention to this very letter by Mr. Ross in your October 2 remarks.

Your assertion that the Cox Committee "did not even look at this issue" is therefore simply wrong.

The fact is, the Cox Committee report expressly mentions the Loral/Schwartz allegations, but does not confirm your conclusions in any way. This lack of findings in the report underscores the fact that your "treason" remarks remain unsubstantiated even though several investigative bodies have examined the Loral/Schwartz matter.

When a member of Congress makes a wild allegation, the burden should be on that member to support it. It is tremendously unfair—and contrary to our system of justice—to presume that the burden is on the target of the allegation or others to disprove unsubstantiated allegations. In this instance, the facts show that you made an inflammatory statement about the President in 1998 using the word "treason" and your statement remains unsubstantiated.

I hope this helps clarify the record.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN,
Member of Congress.

LIBERTY COMMON SCHOOL, A COLORADO CHARTER AND CORE KNOWLEDGE SCHOOL, LAUDED IN REPORT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, there is great change occurring in education today. Parents in the United States are frustrated with the results of their children's education, which largely is the result of government-owned schools' departure from teaching basic knowledge. The impressive results of Core Knowledge and charter schools are undeniable, and like all good ideas with conclusive results—people take notice.

Mr. Speaker, I submit excerpt from the Lexington Institute's September 2000, report by Robert Holland entitled, "Public Charter Schools and the Core Knowledge Movement." This report details the success of Core Knowledge schools. I am proud to say the report also references the success of Liberty Common School, located in Fort Collins, Colorado, in which my children are enrolled. Liberty Common is a Core Knowledge charter school which not only exceeds the State of Colorado's standards, but Liberty Common also leads its school district as well. Mr. Speaker, I submit the Lexington Institute's report for the record:

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS AND THE CORE KNOWLEDGE MOVEMENT

A battle raged throughout the 20th Century over the best way to teach children—by teacher-directed, content-rich approaches or through a "progressive" method by which children direct their own learning.

It rages still, with progressivism continuing to exert a strong hold, despite mounting evidence that teacher-directed instruction using a core curriculum works best for most children.

Core Knowledge schools have risen to meet the need and demand for schools that teach children facts in a sequential manner, so that they gain the vocabulary and knowledge base for further learning. Implementation of a Core Knowledge Sequence started in 1991 with one school in Florida; this fall, there will be 1,100 Core Knowledge schools operating in 46 states. The parallel charter school movement offers opportunities for parents and teachers to start Core Knowledge schools.

A basic purpose of Core Knowledge and its founder, Dr. E.D. Hirsch Jr., is to advance equity in education by ensuring a full education for all, including children from low-income and minority homes.

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS AND THE CORE KNOWLEDGE MOVEMENT

In the past 30 years ample research has made possible a definite conclusion: Tightly focused teacher-directed instruction is more effective for most children than is child-directed instruction in which the teacher acts purely as a coach, mentor, or facilitator. For instance, a 1999 American Institutes of Research look at two dozen models of "whole school" designs reaffirmed the superiority of largely teacher-directed approaches like Direct Instruction, Success For All, and Core Knowledge.

Yet despite repeated proof that this is so, large segments of the education world stubbornly ignore this reality. They remain wedded to the so-called progressive doctrine. In

her important new book, *Left Back: A Century of Failed School Reforms*, education historian Diane Ravitch documents how the progressive movement, championed most notably by philosopher John Dewey, has exerted a powerful hold on American education from the early days of the 20th Century to the present. Ms. Ravitch argues powerfully that American schools must return to their basic mission of teaching knowledge.

There can be little doubt that most parents prefer the traditional, structured approach over progressive ways. Public Agenda, a nonpartisan research organization, repeatedly asked parents during the 1990s what they expected from their children's schools. Invariably parents of all races and backgrounds wanted schools that taught the academic basics, with attention to children being able to speak and write standard English. Parents also wanted schools where children were expected to obey rules, such as being "neat, on time, and polite." But Public Agenda found quite different goals among professors in the teacher-training schools, where strains of progressivism still exert a powerful grip. True to the old-time gospel of John Dewey, most professional educators thought advancing "social justice" more important than teaching children knowledge. Unlike parents, these teachers of teachers wanted schooling that is less structured and more "learner-centered."

The Rise of Core Knowledge

In 1990, Dr. Hirsch and his allies convened a national conference at which 24 working groups finalized a draft Core Knowledge Sequence for use in elementary schools. The sequence was based on research into the content and structure of the highest-performing elementary schools around the world, as well as consultation with teachers, parents, scientists, curriculum specialists, and others.

In 1991, the Core Knowledge Sequence debuted in a year of implementation at Three Oaks Elementary in Ft. Meyers, Florida under the leadership of the principal, Dr. Constance Jones (who in 1999 became president of the Core Knowledge Foundation in Charlottesville, Virginia). The Core Knowledge schools were born. The interest in and spread of these schools devoted to content-rich direct teaching has been phenomenal. This fall, there will be more than 1,100 full-fledged Core Knowledge schools in 46 states. (Hundreds of additional schools use portions of the Core Knowledge program.)

Particularly in the very early stages, adoption of Core Knowledge depended on principals and teachers who had to make the case to an often-skeptical school administration for importing a curriculum that rubs against the grain of education progressivism. James Traub wrote about Jim Coady, a principal in liberal Cambridge, Massachusetts, who had to battle the administration's hostile curriculum supervisors to bring Core Knowledge to Morse Elementary School, which was a struggling school with a relatively high proportion of children from low-income and minority homes. The supervisors argued, among other things, that the Harvard Graduate School of Education was against the experiment. But Coady won the right to experiment and by 1998 all grades at Morse scored at or above the national norm in math and reading, and the first graders were third in the entire city in their reading scores.

With the emergence of the national charter school movement in 1992, Core Knowledge became a viable option for parents, teachers, and others seeking to secure charters to start their own schools. In Colorado, a state evaluation of the performance of 51 charter schools that have been in operation for at least two years found Core Knowledge distin-

guishing itself both in quantity and quality. Twenty-two of the public charter schools (or 42 percent) used the Core Knowledge curriculum. Among charter schools using a "whole-school" model Core Knowledge was clearly dominant—22 versus three for the next-most-used model. More important, Core Knowledge was delivering results. The evaluators concluded that 14 of the Core Knowledge schools "exceeded expectations set for their performance," and the remaining eight "generally met" expectations.

Furthermore, Core Knowledge schools were a significant part of the reason Colorado charter schools scored, on average, 10 to 16 percentage points higher on basic subjects than public schools with comparable demographics. There is considerable research indicating that Core Knowledge is bolstering academic success. But first let's look at what the program is all about.

The Core Knowledge Sequence

"Shared" is an important word in the Core Knowledge lexicon. In his 1996 book, *The Schools We Need And Why We Don't Have Them*, Dr. Hirsch emphasized the importance of shared knowledge. Citizens in a democracy need to share an extensive body of information in order to communicate and function fully in society. The same hold in the classroom: If students draw a blank at mention of the names "Lee" and "Grant" not to mention "Bull Run" and "Appomattox," how can they be expected to engage in critical thinking about the Civil War?

Educational progressives claim that knowledge is changing so rapidly that what children learn today will be outdated tomorrow; that schools therefore can at best only teach them "accessing skills," such as how to surf the Internet. But such a rationale does a grave disservice to children, because there is a body of bedrock knowledge—pivotal events in world history, the development of constitutional government, principles of writing and mathematics. And there are masterworks of art, music, and literature—with which they should be familiar in order to be fulfilled individuals.

The Core Knowledge idea, as summarized on its Website (www.coreknowledge.org), is "that for the sake of academic excellence, greater fairness, and higher literacy, elementary and middle schools need a solid, specific, shared core curriculum in order to help children establish strong foundations of knowledge, grade by grade." The Core Knowledge approach is not to throw tidbits of information helter-skelter at children. Rather the program specifies important knowledge in language arts, history and geography, mathematics, science, and the fine arts, and lays out a sequence for children to master what they need to know grade by grade.

Evidence of Core Knowledge Success

As cited earlier, the 1998-99 Colorado Charter Schools Evaluation Study showed that Core Knowledge schools were contributing in a big way to the success of charter schools in that state. Core Knowledge schools accounted for almost half the charter schools that were studied. And the charter schools outperformed their home districts and schools with comparable socioeconomic profiles.

From other states and researchers evidence of the positive effects of Core Knowledge has begun tumbling in. One of the most impressive studies was done by Gracy Taylor and George Kimball of the Oklahoma City Public Schools. Their study paired 300 Core Knowledge students with 300 students in other schools who had the same characteristics as the CK students on seven critical variables: grade level, pre-score, sex, race/ethnicity, eligibility for free lunch, Title I

services, and special education. The control students were randomly selected via computer according to those variables.

The researchers studied the effects of implementing one year of Core Knowledge in grade 3, 4, and 5. The well-validated Iowa Test of Basic Skills was the measuring stick. Given the almost identical backgrounds of the two groups of students, one might have expected one-year differences to be less than pronounced. However, the study found that Core Knowledge students made significantly greater gains in reading comprehension, vocabulary, science, math concepts, and social studies. Moreover, the greatest gains, which came in reading, vocabulary, and social studies, were judged to be "highly significant." The effect of raising vocabulary—the best predictor of academic success—was particularly noteworthy, because it shows hope for closing the socioeconomic gap in student achievement.

The researchers remarked that "according to the literature and personal conversations with Dr. Hirsch prior to the analyses, the impact on student achievement related to Core Knowledge instruction should be most pronounced in vocabulary and comprehension. The implementation of the Core Knowledge scope and sequence is intended to provide and develop a broad base of background knowledge that children utilize in their reading. According to Dr. Hirsch's cultural literacy theory, the more background knowledge a child has, the greater facility in reading the child will have. The initial results of this study do appear to support that notion."

In other words, the evidence so far is that the Core Knowledge approach accomplishes what it sets out to do. And if its adherents are right that knowledge builds on knowledge, the results should only grow more striking over the years.

Liberty School

Liberty Common School opened as a Core Knowledge school in Fort Collins, a pleasant community in the Rocky Mountain foothills of northern Colorado, three years ago. Today it enrolls more than 540 students in grades K-9, with a waiting list of close to 1,000. "It is our goal," says headmaster Kathryn Knox, "to equalize the playing field for all students through a common and rich foundation of content and skills, high expectations and good citizenship."

Liberty's Board of Directors is composed of seven elected parents. The board establishes and oversees the school's educational and operational policies. It meets twice a month in sessions open to the public.

Liberty Common is serious about meeting its academic goals. One of them was that the school would exceed state standards as well as the district's, which it did. In all of the reading and writing tests for grades 4 and 7, Liberty Common School ranked No. 1 in the local school district.

THE PAST YEAR IN INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, as we draw to the close of this legislative year, I wanted to highlight what has been perhaps the best year in U.S.-India relations. This first year of the new century has been a year of record setting in a wide range of categories, all highlighting the steadily improving relationship between two of the world's great democracies.

On September 14, 2000, Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee became the first, and only, foreign Head of Government to be invited to address a Joint Meeting of Congress in the 106th Congress. The fact that this unique invitation was extended to Prime Minister Vajpayee is evidence that the Congress recognizes that Indo-American ties will continue to emerge as one of our most urgent foreign policy priorities in the 21st century.

I'm proud that both Houses of Congress came together in a bipartisan manner to adopt Resolutions welcoming Prime Minister Vajpayee, and stating in strong terms the commitment on the part of the Legislative Branch to work for closer U.S.-India relations. I'm particularly encouraged that the House Resolution contained a provision urging that the U.S. Government "consider removing existing unilateral legislative and administrative measures imposed against India, which prevent the normalization of United States-India bilateral economic and trade relations."

The year 2000 witnessed the first State Visit by an American President to India in more than 20 years. This year actually marked the second time that India's Prime Minister and the United States President exchanged summit visits in the same year: President Jimmy Carter traveled to India in January of 1978, and Prime Minister Morarji Desai came to the U.S. in June of that year. With all the changes that have taken place in both nations during the past 22 years, the exchange of top-level visits between the U.S. and India was particularly momentous this year.

President Clinton's highly successful and productive visit to India in March helped to cement Indo-American relations as no other single act could have. Additionally, the joint statement that was signed by the two leaders also produced many substantive firsts. It establishes a framework for long-term, institutional cooperation in many areas, including a Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism, an Indo-American Financial and Economic Forum, a bilateral Commercial Dialogue, and an Indo-American Working Group on Trade. Agreements were signed on energy and environmental and scientific cooperation. Recognizing the unique similarities of both Indian and American security concerns for Asia, both countries pledged a new partnership on regional and global security issues. The Joint Indo-American Statement, which was issued during the Prime Minister's visit to Washington in September, reaffirmed all of these unprecedented agreements.

These unprecedented agreements were reaffirmed, and expanded by the Joint Indo-U.S. Statement issued on September 15, during the Prime Minister's visit to Washington. Indeed, during the five short months between summits, significant progress was made. We have seen regular foreign policy consultations at the ministerial and senior policy levels. Our two countries have played a major leadership role in the launch of the Community of Democracies. In the economic arena, three ministerial-level economic dialogues and the High-Level Coordinating Group are working to improve the bilateral trade environment, facilitate greater commercial cooperation, promote investment, and contribute to strengthening the global financial and trading systems.

In their September summit meeting, President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee welcomed the progress of the Joint Working

Group on Counter-Terrorism, and agreed that it would also examine linkages between terrorism and narcotics trafficking and other related issues. They noted the opening of a Legal Attache office in New Delhi designed to facilitate cooperation in counter-terrorism and law enforcement. The two leaders expressed satisfaction that the joint consultative group on clean energy and environment met in July and agreed to revitalize and expand energy cooperation, while discussing the full range of issues relating to environment and climate change. They welcomed the establishment of the Science and Technology forum in July and agreed that the forum should reinvigorate the traditionally strong scientific cooperation between the two countries. In that connection, they noted the contribution of the two science and technology related roundtable meetings held in March and September.

The two leaders also welcomed the recent initiatives in the health sector, including the joint statements of June 2000, as examples of deepening collaboration in improving health care and combating AIDS and other major diseases of our time. They pledged their strong commitment to addressing the global challenge of the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS through the close involvement and cooperation between the governments and civil society in the two countries. They expressed support for the collaborative program for research in various areas, including HIV/AIDS vaccine development, through the Joint Working Groups of scientists envisaged by the Joint Statement of June 2000. They agreed to encourage the formation of a business council to combat HIV/AIDS with the active involvement and participation of business and industry to raise awareness in the industrial workplace.

While relations between India and the United States have generally been cordial over the past half-century, the agreements signed this year in New Delhi and Washington represents a new chapter in bilateral cooperation.

During Prime Minister Vajpayee's visit to Washington, the Official Dinner hosted by President Clinton was the largest banquet at the White House during the eight years of the Clinton Presidency, with more than 700 guests in attendance. This number reflects the growing size and success of the Indian-American community, a community which finds itself at or near first place in terms of levels of education, income and professional attainment among ethnic groups in our country. The guest list also demonstrates the growing interest and support among Americans from all backgrounds of closer ties with India.

A final marker of the strong relationship that has been formed was seen with the dedication of a statue of Mahatma Gandhi across from the Indian Embassy on Washington's Embassy Row. The ceremony to dedicate the statue was led by President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee. For Americans, Gandhi's influence on the civil rights movement has a special place in our collective memory.

It is one of my most profound hopes that the relationship between the United States and India continues to deepen and expand as we move into the years to come. I have full confidence that our policies towards Asia will recognize the importance of India to our National economic and security well being.

HONORING CLIFF HARTLE ON
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Cliff Hartle, President/CEO of the Gasser Foundation. Mr. Hartle is retiring this year, at the age of 85, after serving the community in this organization since its creation in 1989.

Cliff Hartle is a remarkable, dedicated and vital community member of Napa County. He graduated from Napa High School in 1933. He worked diligently for Berglund Tractor, starting part-time in high school and then working his way up the ranks until he retired as vice-president after 36 years of loyalty and dedication.

When Vernice and Peter Gassar began the Gassar Foundation for the betterment of life for the residents of Napa County, they looked to Cliff Hartle to help shape this organization. They know him as a kind, generous, intelligent and hard-working businessman. He has exceeded expectation and has been instrumental in the foundation's success. His co-workers and associates have a deep respect and love for him.

Under Cliff Hartle's leadership and guidance, The Gassar Foundation has given \$9 million to 275 recipients and 150 schools. The two main beneficiaries have been Justin Siena High School and the Queen of the Valley Hospital Foundation. However, almost all of Napa County's non-profit organizations have been supported by the generosity of the Gassar Foundation with Cliff Hartle working diligently on its behalf.

Specifically, the Gassar Foundation has been instrumental in building an Emergency Room, a new maternity wing and a media center for students. It has helped in the acquisition and preservation of Napa-Solano County Wetlands for Ducks Unlimited. The Foundation has contributed greatly to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa, St. Helena and American Canyon, the Napa County Homeless Shelter, the Napa Valley Symphony, the American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts, Little League and countless other non-profit agencies that help the homeless, disabled, and underprivileged. Cliff Hartle and the Gassar Foundation have touched the lives of thousands in our community.

Cliff Hartle has received numerous awards and recognition from non-profit agencies, including last year's Queen of the Valley Hospital's President's Crystal Clock Award.

Cliff Hartle is a dedicated family man. He and his wife, Louetta, married for 64 years, are blessed with one daughter, Patty and two grandchildren, Sean and Sara.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to represent Mr. Cliff Hartle as his Congressman. His distinguished service to the community has been immense and his dedication and leadership is inspirational to all. For these reasons, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Cliff Hartle for his meritorious service to the people of Napa and Solano County, California.

JANE BRYANT QUINN DENOUNCES
MASSIVE TAX CUTS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, in this Congress and on the campaign trail, Republicans are amply demonstrating that they are the party of fiscal irresponsibility. The Republican congressional leadership and the Republican presidential candidate have cynically plied the slogan "its your money" to justify massive and wreckless tax cuts, most of which would go only to the wealthiest Americans. I submit for the record a recent column by the respected financial columnist Jane Bryant Quinn, which explains why it is so important to maintain budget surpluses and resist the political appeal of massive tax cuts.

DON'T BE TOO QUICK TO DEMAND A FEDERAL
TAX CUT

(Jane Bryant Quinn)

So you want a big tax cut because the government surplus is ours and we should get it back?

That's nice. But remember that the government's public debt belongs to us, too.

The debt grew over many decades, for spending we liked and spending we didn't like (lefties and righties, fill in the good and evil spending of your choice). Mostly, it grew during recessions and wars.

Today, there's a consensus that the total debt should be reduced. But how can we do that and get a big tax cut, too?

I have a modest proposal. It's inspired by those who argue for privatizing more of the government's functions. I propose that we privatize the debt.

We should all get big tax cuts. But each cut should be packaged with a proportionate piece of the public debt. That's the true libertarian way.

Do I hear you say that you don't want your piece of the debt on your personal balance sheet? You're for collective responsibility after all?

In that case, I have something else to say. It's in our collective interest that the government run surpluses today, rather than opt for big tax cuts or big new spending programs. These surpluses are our principal source of new investment capital for business modernization and growth.

To raise money to invest for the future, businesses have to draw on national savings. But on average, individual Americans aren't saving a dime. We're spending everything we earn (in some months, more than we earn).

So where are the new savings coming from, for business use? From the surplus. Few people understand that government surpluses create savings, too.

Here's how that happens, as explained by Nobel Prize-winning economist Robert Solow, in the Oct. 5 issue of the *New York Review of Books*:

In years when the government spends more than it collects in taxes, it borrows the extra money it needs from the investing public (U.S. and foreign individuals and institutions).

It borrows by selling us Treasury bills and bonds. When we buy them, money shifts from the private sector to the government sector, to finance public purchasing and programs.

Lately, the government has been collecting more in taxes than it needs to cover spending. The surplus reduces the need for debt. Some of those Treasury bills and bonds are being retired or redeemed.

When that happens, the institutions that own them have to replace them with something else. Often, they switch to corporate bonds (and perhaps some equities). So the money moves out of the government's hands, back into the private sector.

Running surpluses hurts an economy in recessionary times. But in prosperous times, it's a pro-growth, pro-investment choice.

Follow along with me here because this principle becomes central to financing Social Security and Medicare when the baby boomers retire.

Reducing the federal debt today—injecting more savings into the private economy—helps businesses buy more up-to-date equipment and take advantage of technological advances.

That makes workers more productive and raises their real incomes. As a result, they'll be able to cover more of the cost of supporting the older generation.

What's more, by working down the debt, the nation will have more room to borrow the money back, in the years when the boomers are straining the federal budget the most.

So we're choosing between using up this money now (in big tax cuts, higher spending and higher personal consumption) or investing it for the future. To me, that's a no-brainer. Invest, by paying down the debt.

NECHES RIVER SALTWATER
BARRIER

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the groundbreaking of a very important project based in Southeast Texas, the Neches River Saltwater Barrier. This barrier is critically important in protecting over 150 billion gallons of water per year from saltwater contamination.

Saltwater threatens the freshwater intakes of lower Neches cities, industries and farms by moving upstream from the Gulf of Mexico through the deepwater channel to Beaumont. If downstream flows are insufficient, saltwater moves upriver and the lower Neches Valley Authority (LNVA) must take measures to protect the intakes.

As part of the Greater Houston area, the lower Neches River and Neches-Trinity Coastal Basins are characterized by moderately dense populations; a heavy petroleum and petrochemical industry; a hub of highway, rail and deep-water transportation facilities; and a major rice-producing agricultural industry. The well-being and prosperity of all of these interests are dependent on an abundant supply of freshwater.

Mr. Speaker, the Neches River Permanent Saltwater Barrier Project has become a reality. The Project, authorized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Act of 1976, provides benefits for salinity control, water supply, navigation, fish and wildlife enhancement, and recreation. The Lower Neches Valley Authority has worked hand in hand with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, bringing the project to fruition, and I commend them both.

The waters of the Neches River are used extensively for municipal, industrial and irrigation purposes and other water supply needs.

These uses require an adequate supply of high quality water. During periods of low river flow, the saltwater travels up the river and if allowed to enter water intake structures, can cause damage to crops or contaminate water meant for consumption by humans or livestock. Traditionally, during these periods of low river flow, water has been released upstream from Sam Rayburn to "flush" the saltwater entering LNVA and City of Beaumont freshwater intakes.

The new barrier will permanently replace the temporary structures and be operated such that the gates will be open 99% of the time and closed only on those occasions when the saltwater wedge makes its way up the Neches River to the project vicinity.

At this time, I'd like to commend LNVA and the Corps. The Lower Neches Valley Authority has been an unusually committed, responsible, and cooperative local sponsor. They have worked tirelessly with the Corps of Engineers and Congress over the last several years towards completion of the saltwater barrier project and are deserving of much praise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on October 18 and October 19, 2000, I was not able to vote on roll call votes No. 531-540. Had I been present, on roll call No. 531, I would have voted "yea." On roll No. 532, I would have voted "yea." On roll No. 533, I would have voted "yea." On roll No. 534, I would have voted "yea." On roll No. 535, I would have voted "yea." On roll No. 536, I would have voted "yea." On roll No. 537, I would have voted "no." On roll No. 538, I would have voted "no." On roll No. 539, I would have voted "no." On roll No. 540, I would have voted "yea."

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO ILLINOIS
REPRESENTATIVE SIDNEY RICH-
ARD YATES

HON. DAVID MINGE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, serving a region as ethnically diverse as Illinois' Ninth Congressional District is no easy task, but it is one Representative Sidney Yates attacked with vigor, insight and dedication for close to 50 years. As an advocate for both the National Endowment for the Arts and the environment, I am particularly appreciative of Representative Yates for his work in those areas.

His part in the creation of national parks and protection of waterways were testaments to his leadership as Chairman of the Interior Subcommittee. Closer to home, Sidney worked continually to preserve the beauty of Chicago's lakeshore. He also worked, relentlessly, to preserve the NEA budget, an allocation which seems constantly under assault. I am grateful to him for his work and leadership to protect funding for the arts. His tireless efforts will not soon be forgotten.

Sidney Yates was an esteemed political leader, respected by both Democrats and Republicans. At the time of his retirement, colleagues from both parties stood up to acknowledge his mastery of government and public service. Representative Yates will remain favorable in the memories of those who knew him, and especially with those of us in Congress who wish to serve with the same depth and commitment he exemplified throughout his tenure.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MALCOLM M.
ELLISON

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Dr. Malcolm M. Ellison of New London, Connecticut. Dr. Ellison was a legend among surgeons who touched the lives of thousands of people from patients to nurses to doctors throughout his life.

Dr. Ellison served as the chief of surgery at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London. His career spanned 45 years at the hospital. A patient's ability to pay was never an issue for Dr. Ellison. He believed that his patients "came first, last and always," regardless of their financial status.

Dr. Ellison graduated from Hamilton College and the University of Rochester. He then went on to do his internship and residency at Yale New Haven Hospital.

People who knew Dr. Ellison have praised him for his skill, compassion, and commitment to excellence. Doctors at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital referred to him as Mr. Wonderful. Everyone who visited the hospital believed that the entire community was privileged to have Dr. Ellison.

In addition, Dr. Ellison worked tirelessly for the betterment of the hospital, serving as a corporator, manager and trustee. He also served as a member of the hospital's development and long term planning committees.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the entire New London community in mourning the passing of a tremendous human being, Dr. Malcolm M. Ellison.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SIDNEY
RICHARD YATES

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the honorable Sidney Richard Yates was a dedicated public servant with whom I was privileged to serve in the United States House of Representatives for 10 years.

When I came to Congress in 1989 he had already served his beloved Ninth Congressional District of Illinois for 38 years. He knew the House inside and out and had been a subcommittee chairman for many years. He bore the "distinguished gentleman from Illinois" title with dignity and grace and knew the art of compromise.

My most outstanding memory of working with Mr. Yates was when he and I debated funding for the National Endowment for the Arts on the floor of the House. Of course, we were looking at the issue from two different perspectives but there's no question that I was dealing with an experienced debater and legislator. I enjoyed the opportunity.

HONORING BOB AND JANET HENKE

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize two of my constituents Bob and Janet Henke of Whittier recipients of "Whittier 2000 Good Scout of the Year Awards" for over eighty years of combined service to our community.

Bob Henke was born in Peking to parents who had dedicated their lives as medical missionaries. The family stayed in China until the Communist Revolution. Upon returning to the United States, Bob found a similar people-oriented calling as an educator.

Bob met his future wife Janet at Oberlin College in Ohio, the first co-educational college in the country and married her in 1952. Moving to Whittier in 1955, Bob worked as a teacher for the Montebello Unified School District from 1955 until 1991 and with his wife raised five children. In 1980 he was named Montebello High School's favorite teacher.

Janet Henke, also an educator, has always found time for her community. She served sixteen years on the Whittier City School Board retiring in 1989. Three years later in 1992 she successfully ran for a vacant seat on the Whittier City Council. Janet served on the City Council until this year, including a term as Mayor of the City of Whittier from 1996 to 1997.

Bob and Janet Henke are now both retired and enjoying the rewards of a lifetime of hard work and service. They now spend much of their time with their seven grandchildren and are in the process of writing their memoirs. Janet says "I have written 120 pages and I'm not even ten years old yet."

Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues to join me and the Whittier Boy Scouts in honoring Bob and Janet Henke for their numerous accomplishments and civic pride. They are true public servants and the best of America.

HONORING THE HONORABLE SID
YATES

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our friend and colleague Sid Yates on October 5, 2000. I remember when I first met Sid when I was first elected to Congress in 1987. Sid was very helpful in my transition as a new member. He had a deep respect for the traditions of the House of Representatives and impressed upon all of us what a privilege it was to serve in the "People's House."

There was no greater fighter for the causes that he believed in than Sid Yates. He was the strongest supporter of the arts; he was always there in support of Israel; and he was a constant defender of our constitutional rights. Sid Yates was my mentor. I have the privilege to serve in an office of public trust. Each day I am confronted by many challenges. I know that I am better prepared to meet these challenges because of Sid.

Congress and the nation lost a patriot and a good person on the passing of Sid Yates. He will be missed by us all.

ON THE CANCER AWARENESS
WORKING GROUP'S HEARING ON
CHILDHOOD CANCER

HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to report on an important event that took place on Capitol Hill last month. September was Childhood Cancer Month and during this time the Cancer Awareness Working Group held a hearing on the subject. On September 15, 2000, Mr. HOBSON, Ms. CAPPS and I gathered to listen to medical experts, afflicted children, parents, survivors and advocates from all over the country, share with the working group their stories, their knowledge, and their ideas on how best to fight this terrible disease.

It was truly a privilege to have so many wonderful individuals here in Washington to speak on this most important of subjects. An estimated 12,400 children and young people will be diagnosed with cancer this year and 2,300 children will die from the disease. It is the number one cause of death by disease in children under 15, and for the children and families who experience the tragedy of affliction there can be no greater harm. Leukemia, chemotherapy, lymphoma, neuroblastoma—these are terms a small child should not have to pronounce. Yet the incidence of cancer among children has been rising steadily for the past 20 years and the resources devoted to research and treatment of pediatric cancers remain relatively small. For these reasons, the efforts provided by these individuals to increase the awareness of this devastating disease, are not only appreciated, but also truly needed.

Mr. Speaker, with this in mind, I would like to present to you the names of the individuals who gathered for this special event to provide testimony on their experiences with all aspects of childhood cancer. Unfortunately, I am unable to include in these remarks the full text of each individual's testimony. Instead, I have provided summarizations and excerpts from them. I would encourage all Members to review the full transcript from this important hearing that is available on my website at www.house.gov/pryce. In addition, a text copy of the transcript can be found in the collection at the Library of Congress.

Dr. Susan Weiner, Founder of the Children's Cause, Inc., Parent, Silver Spring, Maryland. Dr. Weiner spoke about her organization, the loss of her son to pediatric brain cancer, scientific advances in the field, the need for mandatory coverage of cancer trials, and the importance of childhood research for cancer drugs.

Dr. Michael LaQuaglia, M.D., Physician, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York. Dr. LaQuaglia spoke about the long battle ahead in the fight against childhood cancer, the devastating course a family goes through from diagnosis through treatment, the need for increased funding for research and coverage for childhood catastrophic illness.

G. Denman Hammond, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California. Dr. Hammond spoke about the history of pediatric treatments, the formation of the support groups such as the National Childhood Cancer Foundation and Children's Oncology Group (C.O.G.), and the need for increased awareness.

Nai-Kong Cheung, M.D., Ph.D., Physician and Researcher, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York. Dr. Cheung spoke about his first hand experience treating childhood cancer patients, the devastating effects the disease has on families and the process they go through, the cost barriers to treatments and the limited support available to help, the need for a bill of rights for individuals with serious illness, the need for increased funding for research and orphan drugs, and the need for more accurate data collection.

Mark A. Mozer, M.D., Pediatrician and Parent, Blue Springs, Missouri. Dr. Mozer spoke about his personal experience with his son Jacob's neuroblastoma, the need for more targeted funding for childhood cancer research, and the adversarial relationship between insurance companies and victims of pediatric cancer.

Robert Barton, Parent, Tehana, Texas. Mr. Barton spoke about his personal experience with his son Brady's osteosarcoma, and the need for increased funding for childhood cancer research.

Joan Bondareff, Parent, Alexandria, Virginia. Ms. Bondareff spoke about her personal experience with her daughter Lori's neuroblastoma, the need for increased awareness and funding for pediatric cancer, and she urged congressional support for H. Con. Res. 115, H. Res. 576, H.R. 2621 and S. 1091.

Beverly Circone, Founder and Director of Kids 'N Kamp, Columbus Ohio. Ms. Circone spoke eloquently about her experience running a summer camp for children with cancer and the need for private and public fundraising to support families.

Janet Hall, Parent, Dayton, Ohio. Mrs. Hall spoke about her personal experience with her son's cancer and the need for increased research in this area. Mrs. Hall is the spouse of Congressman Tony Hall.

Craig Lustig, Survivor, Washington, D.C. Mr. Lustig spoke of his personal experience as a pediatric brain tumor survivor, and the need to reduce barriers to clinical trials and for continued funding for research.

Andrea Martini, Parent, Everett, Washington. Ms. Martini spoke about her personal experience with her daughter Alexandria's AML, the significant costs involved in treatment, and the need for mandatory coverage of cancer trials.

Pat Tallungan, Parent and Administrator of an On-Line Support Group, Bloomingdale, Illinois. Ms. Tallungan spoke about her personal experience with her son Nick's neuroblastoma, her involvement with various childhood cancer foundations and organizations, and the need for expanded availability of cancer trials, better pain management, and increased funding for research.

Beth Westbrook, Parent and Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer, Children's Hospital, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Ms. Westbrook spoke about her personal experience with her daughter Katie's osteosarcoma and the need for increased funding for childhood cancer

research. Everyone present gave Katie a standing ovation.

Gina Peca, Parent, Balston Lake, New York. Ms. Peca spoke about her personal experience with her daughter Katie's neuroblastoma, the limited number of treatment options and facilities for afflicted children, and the need for mandatory coverage of cancer trials.

Robyn Raphael, Parent and Founder of Keaton Raphael Memorial Fund, California. Ms. Raphael spoke about her personal experience with her son Keaton's neuroblastoma.

Tom Dunbar, Parent, Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Dunbar spoke of his personal experience with his son's neuroblastoma, the need for increased federal funding for research, and the many difficulties surrounding clinical trials. He also addressed the shut down of a promising clinical trial at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital that he felt was caused by overzealous and irresponsible reporting on the part of the Washington Post.

Duane Parker, Uncle, Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Parker spoke about his personal experience with his nephew Evan's neuroblastoma and the need for increased funding.

Diane Moore, Parent and Founder of Houston's Hope Fund, Fairfax, Virginia. Ms. Moore presented a slide show containing pictures of children lost to pediatric cancer.

Cathy O'Connell, Parent, East Hampton, Massachusetts. Ms. O'Connell spoke of her personal experience with her daughter Asley's neuroblastoma, the financial devastation that often faces families with sick children, and the need for increased funding for research.

Judy Gelber, Parent, Miami Beach, Florida. Ms. Gelber spoke of her personal experience with her son Zach's lymphoma, her family's program for kids with cancer—Camp Fiesta, and the need for increased government oversight of the FDA and funding for research.

Nina Petrarca, Parent, Registered Pediatric Nurse, and Founder of Nonprofit Organization Samantha's Way, Exeter, Rhode Island. Ms. Petrarca spoke about her personal experience with her daughter Samantha's cancer known as mixed scleroma, the need for increased access to information in order to make informed decisions about treatment, the need for support groups within treatment centers and increased federal funding for research, and her organization Samantha's Way.

Meg Crossett, Parent, Centreville, Virginia. Ms. Crossett spoke of her personal experience with her daughter Rachel's neuroblastoma and the need for targeted funding for pediatric cancer research.

Jacob Shoval, Parent, Germantown, Maryland. Mr. Shovel spoke about his personal experience with his son Benjamin's neuroblastoma, the need for increased funding for research, and the significant barriers to receiving even covered care from insurance companies.

Nick Schiaffo, Parent, Richmond, Virginia. Mr. Schiaffo spoke of her personal experience with his son Danny's medulloblastoma and the need for more research in this area.

Rosalie Baumann, Parent, Merrick, New York. Ms. Baumann spoke about her personal experience with her son Gregory's brain cancer and the need for increased research and awareness in this area.

James F. Sexton, Parent and Founder of Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society, Hoffman Estates, Illinois. Mr. Sexton spoke of his personal experience with his son Michael's neuroblastoma, the need for increased funding in this area, his organization the Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society, and the devastating financial impact the disease has on families.

Kelly Salvatore, Parent, Maryland. Ms. Salvatore spoke about her personal experience with her son Mark's neuroblastoma, the adversarial relationship between victims and insurance companies, and the need for increased funding for pediatric cancer research.

Susan Roe, Parent, Henderson, Nevada. Ms. Roe spoke of her personal experience with her son Christopher's leukemia, the adversarial relationship between victims and insurance companies, and the need for a Patient's Bill of Rights.

Charmaine Coulter, Parent, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ms. Coulter spoke about her personal experience with her daughter Alise's osteosarcoma and the need for increased awareness and funding in this area.

Lise Yasui, Parent, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ms. Yasui spoke about her personal experience with her son Lucas's neuroblastoma and the need for increased funding and awareness in this area.

Bobby McQuinn, Survivor. Mr. McQuinn spoke on his personal battle with leukemia and the foundation his family started to support victims of pediatric cancer.

Paul Steinberg, Mr. Steinberg spoke on the need for increased funding for pediatric cancer and the role of the federal government.

Rebecca Howard, Parent. Ms. Howard offered written testimony on her personal experience with her daughter Elizabeth's lysosacroma, the adversarial relationship between victims and insurance companies.

Lisa Tignor, Parent. Ms. Tignor offered written testimony on her personal experience with leukemia, the disease that afflicted both her sons, Brian and Kevin. Her testimony also addressed the need for increased awareness, data collection, and funding for research as well as increased access to cancer trials.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS RETIREMENT RELIEF ACT

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing on behalf of the more than 41,000 federal law enforcement officers a bill to more fairly calculate the formula used for disability retirement. Federal law enforcement retirement is based on a terribly complex formula which is less than equitable to the brave officers who become disabled when they put their lives on the line. My bill amends the federal disability retirement laws to properly reflect their retirement contributions and their public service.

Our federal law enforcement officers, federal fire fighters, capitol police and their families are now often treated inequitably after suffering what amounts to a career ending disability. My bill will correct this situation.

In too many cases, an officer injured in the line of duty may not have met the minimum years of government service required for disability benefits and survivor annuity. Their annuity and survivor benefits would then be computed at a lower rate than normal for law enforcement officers. It would be computed at the lower general civil service rate, despite the fact that the law enforcement officer paid a higher rate into his retirement. My bill provides retirement benefits and survivor annuities on an equitable and fair basis.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in cosponsoring this legislation so that we can help provide fair and equitable treatment to the men and women who so courageously serve our country.

IN HONOR OF THE MAKE A WISH
FOUNDATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northeast, Central and Southern Ohio, an organization which succeeds in bringing hope to children who face the adversity of fatal illnesses.

The Foundation is a charity which grants the very special wishes of children, between the ages of 2½ and 18, who have been diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses. Any child that has been diagnosed appropriately by their doctor qualifies for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Following this, a team of Make-A-Wish volunteers visits the child and family to determine his or her wish. The organizations then works in conjunction with local contacts and businesses to transform the child's wish from fantasy into reality.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation offers children an opportunity to see their dreams come true. It recognizes the vital importance of hope to all human life. It seeks to extend a helping hand to all children in need. The Foundation granted the individual wishes of nearly 200 children in the fiscal year 1998. Each wish is limited only by the child's imagination. The organization helps all children irrespective of their families' financial need or status. It covers all expenses associated with a wish, including airfare and accommodation. It provides a ray of light for children in dark times.

I would also like to commend the tireless dedication of Rose Serraglio to the work of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In her capacity as chairwoman and organizer of the Foundation's Halloween Benefit, she has demonstrated the highest order of caring for children whose world has been shattered by the traumatic effect of fatal illnesses.

My fellow colleagues, please rise with me in honoring the valuable contribution of the Make-A-Wish Foundation to the lives of children afflicted by the serious illnesses. It is an example to us all of the importance of helping the less fortunate members of our community.

INDEPENDENT FILMS AND
TELEVISION PROGRAMMING

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Representatives MARK FOLEY, ROBERT MATSUI, and XAVIER BECERRA, I would like to express our continued interest in an issue designed to increase the production of independent films and television programming in the United States.

As the Members know, the 1990's have seen an accelerating departure of U.S. fi-

nanced films and television programs to Canada, Mexico and other foreign countries. The trend has become so pronounced that a new phrase has been coined to describe the impact—"runaway productions." Next year, we intend address this issue, look for reasonable and responsible legislative remedies and work with our trading partners to reverse the trend of filmings outside the U.S. solely for economic reasons. These efforts are supported by a diverse group of entertainment trade associations and guilds and would be targeted at productions costing between \$500,000 and \$10 million.

The impact of runaway productions has been profound. Runaway production means fewer employment opportunities for individuals directly employed in the U.S. film and television industry. Runaway productions also significantly reduce the business opportunities for the film and television service industries like hotels, restaurants and catering businesses, post production services providing editing and music scoring, equipment rental and transport companies, electrical contractors and many others who service or supply the entertainment industry.

Moreover, these job losses are not limited to Hollywood or Southern California. Many states have seen once thriving film and television industries depart, leaving behind unemployed technicians and craftspersons, business losses and reduced local tax receipts. States like Illinois, Texas and Florida have been particularly hard hit, but even the state of Minnesota, for example, has just experienced its worst year in the past eleven for film and television production. In addition, the individuals whose jobs are lost usually are highly skilled workers who cannot replace their income with work in another sector.

Where are the jobs going? A surprising number are going to Canada. According to Statistics Canada, for example, independent film and television and video production was up 16 percent in 1997-98, the most recent year for which Canadian statistics are available. In British Columbia, alone, film and television production has increased five-fold since the late 1980s to over \$700 million annually. Moreover, full-time Canadian employment in the film and television industry increased by 63 percent from the 1992-93 to 1997-98. The rising trend in Canadian film and television production exacerbates the runaway production problem because Canadian film and television crews and actors obtain the training necessary to accommodate even more productions.

More U.S. film and television production in Canada and elsewhere in the world means less production in the U.S. The U.S. production share of Movies of the Week broadcast on U.S. television declined from 62 to 41 percent between 1994-95 and 1999-2000 representing a loss of \$727 million in U.S. production expenditures. Estimates of overall job loss in the U.S. film and television industry run as high as 23,500 in 1998 alone. To select just one of many examples that demonstrate the impact of this disturbing trend on employment, aggregate wages for musicians performing on film scores in 1999 declined by more than 30 percent from the previous year.

Runaway production is due, in large part, to the concerted efforts of governments to attract U.S. film production. Canada has been particularly successful in this regard. For exam-

ple, the combination of federal and provincial tax credits in the provinces of British Columbia and Ontario exceed 30 percent of wages paid in connection with a production. The sheer size of these credits has increasingly attracted productions to Canada that might otherwise have stayed in the U.S.

We look forward to working with our colleagues next year in an effort to keep independent U.S. film and television production here at home in the United States.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
SIDNEY R. YATES

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I will never forget Sid Yates—ever. He loved the story of the Adams family. I could recite passages from the Adams Chronicles. He represented the finest this country has to offer.

Politics is not just serving. It's serving well and with high integrity. That was Sid Yates.

P.S.—He was lots of fun to be with!

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 1614, CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to touch on aspects of this bill that the Members of the Commerce Committee worked hard on this past year. Just last month, we marked up in full committee, HR 5291, the Medicare, Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Program Beneficiary and Improvement Protection Act of 2000.

I would like to mention several of the provisions in the Commerce package voice voted out of the Commerce Committee, that were included in the legislation we are voting on her today. I am hopeful that the President will support this package, which includes many bipartisan provisions.

We all know that one of the most pressing issues facing American senior citizens and persons with disabilities today is the need for coverage of prescription drugs under Medicare. While we continue to work to reach consensus on a Medicare prescription drug benefit, I want to thank Members from both sides of the aisle who supported a provision that would restore and preserve Medicare coverage for certain injectable drugs and biologicals that are crucial to seniors and persons with debilitating chronic illnesses. This legislation ensures that the sickest of our Medicare beneficiaries who suffer from life threatening illnesses such as cancer and multiple sclerosis, will receive life saving therapies by providing coverage for certain injectable medications.

In addition, we build on last year's step towards providing coverage of immunosuppressive drugs by eliminating the arbitrary 36 months cap currently in place.

We build upon Medicare's colonoscopy benefit by allowing average risk beneficiaries the option of a colon cancer screening every ten years. This policy comports with American Cancer Society guidelines, and will ensure that average risk beneficiaries have another tool at their disposal to detect colon cancer.

We provide relief for Medicaid disproportionate share hospitals. These hospitals provide uncompensated care to the poorest in our Nation. We should recognize the value of those services. I want to thank Ed Whitfield and Brian Bilbray from the Commerce Committee for their tireless effort on this piece of the legislation.

This bill does not just help the seniors and disabled in our country, but also our most vital resource: our children. I want to talk about the changes we made to SCHIP. We created the program in the BBA 97. As a result of this provision, over two and half million children have health insurance today who might not otherwise have it.

Unfortunately, more than half the states have been unable to spend the 1998 dollars we thought they would. This concerns me.

One of the reasons states have not been able to spend their money is because we restricted the way in which money could be used for outreach. We said you get money for outreach, once you start enrolling children. Many states told us they could not enroll the children unless they had the money to do outreach first.

This legislation gives states money up front for outreach and allows them more time to spend their money. At the same time, those states that have spent all of their money will be given additional sums in recognition of their early and successful implementation of their SCHIP programs.

I also want to talk about Medicare+Choice. Yes, we do provide relief for health plans participating in the Medicare+Choice program. Seniors have asked us for choice in selecting their Medicare coverage. Seniors across the country should have choice, not just those in large metropolitan areas. Our Medicare+Choice provisions are targeted at rural areas to allow seniors in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the same choices as seniors in New York City enjoy.

I also want to highlight the adoption tax credit provisions in this bill. My wife and I are adoptive parents. At the beginning of the 106th Congress, I sponsored the Hope for Children Act (H.R. 531) in order to allow more families and children to experience the happiness my family has been blessed with over the years. The Hope for Children Act enjoyed the co-sponsorship of 280 of our colleagues. I am gratified my bill enjoyed broad, bipartisan appeal and am very proud that major provisions of the Hope for Children Act are in this bill.

The adoption tax credit provisions increase the non-special needs tax credit to \$6,000 in 2001, \$7,000 in 2002, \$8,000 in 2003, \$9,000 in 2004, and \$10,000 in 2005. The tax credit for special needs is increased to \$8,000 in 2001, \$10,000 in 2002, and \$12,000 in 2003 and years thereafter. Also, the income eligibility for the tax credit is doubled from present law. For all taxable years after December 31, 2000, this bill provides a full credit for all adjusted gross incomes under \$150,000 and the credit is gradually phased out for incomes between \$150,000-\$190,000.

This legislation strengthens the American family by making adoption more affordable. Adoption is expensive and every penny spent helping these adopting families now will be returned tenfold in the future contributions of the children who ultimately benefit from the tax credit. These families are willing to put themselves on the line to give a child a chance for a real future.

Passage of this bill will unquestionably make a tremendous impact in the lives of adopting families, the least of which is to encourage those who are intimidated by the cost of adoption to move forward in opening their hearts and homes to a child in need of a loving home. We will make a meaningful difference in the lives of thousands of children upon passage of this bill.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN RON PACKARD UPON HIS RETIREMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague from California, Ron Packard. After 18 years of service and dedication to his constituents and his country, Ron is retiring. While I join my colleagues in wishing him all the best as he dedicates himself to some well deserved time with his family, I also know that the House is losing a valued and trusted Member.

Ron Packard's career has been marked by fairness and bipartisanship. In his various roles on the Appropriations Committee, Ron has always gotten the job done. That's not always an easy task when it comes to funding the government, but Ron has done it with integrity, dignity, and purpose.

Ron's career has been marked with distinction since the beginning. Even the method of his election was notable. Ron is one of only four Members of Congress ever to have won their first election as a write-in candidate, but that's not surprising. He had experience as a businessman, a school board member, a city councilman, and mayor. He knew then what he knows now citizens' needs are best met on the state and local level by people who understand them rather than by Washington bureaucrats.

This is the legacy Ron Packard will leave behind. It is characterized by hard work, honesty, bipartisanship, leadership, patriotism, and strength. It will serve as an example for future legislators as they do the people's business. I join my colleagues in wishing Ron a fond farewell and a happy retirement.

IN HONOR OF MUNAWAR HUSSAIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Munawar Hussain, a neighbor, an entrepreneur and a friend, who serves as a fine example of what a little ambition and hardwork can bring. This remarkable man

gives us all hope that the American dream is still alive and well.

Mr. Hussain's story begins in 1955 in Lalamusa, Pakistan where he was born and raised. After spending most of his young life in Pakistan, Hussain realized that he wanted more for himself. At the age of 26, Hussain made the decision to come to America. Bravely, with only one dollar in his pocket, he made the long trip to the U.S. alone, without the comfort of family and friends. All he carried with him were the hopes and dreams of capturing some of the opportunity and prosperity that he knew existed in the United States.

Hussain originally settled down in New York City, where he remained for 15 years. However, the expense of living in New York proved to be a heavy burden on Hussain. He worked as a mechanic, a taxi driver, and a limousine driver just to make ends meet. In 1996, Hussain and his brother, who had joined him in America in 1991, decided to move to Cleveland, Ohio. Together they agreed that a life in Cleveland held more promise for them than struggling to survive in the Big Apple. Shortly after arriving in Cleveland, Hussain made a choice that would permanently change his life for the better. With little money saved, Hussain used credit cards to purchase a 7-Eleven franchise. For four years, he worked diligently to save enough capital to buy the 7-Eleven store and bring it under his private ownership. Just last week, his goal became a reality, when the sale of the 7-Eleven became final. Hussain and his brother now independently own and operate the store, which Hussain has renamed "Zishan Food Store" after his son.

Today, Hussain still lives in Cleveland along with his wife of 15 years and their four children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring Mr. Munawar Hussain. This kind, hard-working man should be commended for his dedication and drive to succeed. He truly serves as an inspiration to us all.

OLDER AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in support of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000. It has taken a lot of hard work and a long time to reach this point. In fact, the last time this bill was authorized was in 1992.

First, I would like to take a moment and thank several of my colleagues who have worked many, many hours to reach a bipartisan agreement and to bring this bill to the Floor.

Since February of last year, Ranking Member Clay, Subcommittee Chairman MCKEON, Congressman MARTINEZ and Congressman BILL BARRETT have been hard at work crafting a bipartisan proposal, which provides for the needs of older Americans and which makes several overdue changes in the Older Americans Act.

The fruits of their labor were rewarded earlier this month, when we reached a bipartisan

“pre-conference agreement” with our colleagues in the other body.

It is this bipartisan House and Senate agreement that we will be voting on today.

The Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000 modernizes the Older Americans Act by streamlining services and ensuring flexibility at the local level. This program provides for better and faster delivery of services to seniors most in need.

Specifically, this legislation protects key programs like disease prevention, the state long-term ombudsman program, elder abuse prevention, “Meals on Wheels”, and legal assistance, and consolidates others.

For example, two existing programs are consolidated into a new Family Caregiver program which assists families who care for frail loved ones. This program will help frail older Americans remain in their own homes. It provides information, counseling, supportive services, and respite care to family members faced with the often daunting challenge of caring for their older family members on a daily basis.

As for nutrition services, we have increased the transfer authority between the in-home meals program and the congregate program from 30 percent to 40 percent, with a waiver provision that would permit the transfer of an additional 10 percent. This provision will provide states and local providers the ability to move funds around to better serve the nutritional needs of participating seniors.

We have also added language to ensure that the meals served under this Act are appealing to senior participants and take into account their unique dietary needs. We have encouraged states to ensure meals do not spend an inordinate amount of time in transit before they have been served.

Another major change involves the additional funds provided to states by the Department of Agriculture to supplement payments under Title III of the Older Americans Act. At the present time, states often do not know the amount of funding they will receive from USDA until the end of the year. This legislation modifies the formula for distributing USDA funds so that payments are made using prior year's data. This will speed the delivery of funds to states and improve their ability to provide important nutritional assistance to seniors.

As many here know, Title III is the very heart of the Older Americans Act and provides grants to states and area agencies on aging for a variety of programs benefiting the elderly—everything from “Meals on Wheels”, to disease prevention, to senior centers.

I am pleased to report that our bill ensures that no state will receive less than it received under the Title III funding formula in FY 2000. And, every state is guaranteed a certain percentage of any new money that is appropriated above the FY 2000 level. This means that states with large senior populations will begin to receive their fair share of future Title III funding.

This legislation also ensures that Older Americans Act funds are more equitably distributed between urban and rural areas. Not only must particular attention be paid to low-income minority individuals, it also must be paid to older individuals residing in rural areas.

Specifically, this bill requires that the state plan shall provide assurances that the special needs of older individuals residing in rural

areas will be taken into consideration and shall describe how those needs have been met and how funds have been allocated to meet those needs.

Finally, our bill reforms the Senior Community Service Employment Program (Title V) by instituting much-needed performance standards. And, when I say these standards are needed, I mean they are needed.

This business of Washington-based organizations receiving Title V funds year in and year out without even a small amount of accountability is over once this bill is signed into law.

For far too long ten national organizations have been receiving 78 percent of Title V funding with no questions asked because appropriations language has consistently superseded the authority statute.

This means that only a mere 22 percent goes to state agencies. It also means that states have very little authority to direct national organizations to serve seniors in certain parts of their states. In fact, states are often left to fill in the gaps with very few resources.

Our legislation begins to address this problem by ensuring that states will receive the bulk of any new money that is appropriated above what is needed to match the national organizations' and state agencies' FY 2000 “level of effort.”

Specifically, the first \$35 million in funds above the FY 2000 “level of effort” will be allocated 75 percent to the state agencies and 25 percent to the national organizations. New funding above the first \$35 million will be allocated 50% to state agencies and 50 percent to national organizations.

The bill also requires national organizations and states to work together to ensure the equitable distribution of employment positions within the state.

More importantly, and for the first time ever, we require all Title V grantees to meet strict performance standards. And before a grant applicant may be selected, the Secretary of Labor must conduct a records review to assess the applicant's qualifications for administering federal funds.

Specifically, the bill requires that the performance of all Title V grantees will be evaluated annually on a national basis and state basis. Performance of both types of grantees, national organizations and state agencies, will be judged regardless of whether the grantees operate the program directly, or through contracts or agreements with other agencies. And, grantees must agree to an evaluation of their performance as a condition of the grant.

When reviewing the applicant's overall responsibility to administer federal funds, the Secretary of Labor is also authorized to consider any information, including the organization's history in the management of other grants.

Our hope is that this will cut down on the number of troubling audit reports that have been piling up at the Department of Labor's Inspector General's Office. The quicker we can get the bad actors out of this program, the better off all the participants will be.

Let me just say that as a young-older American myself, if doesn't take much imagination to see a need for the programs of the Older Americans Act.

For millions of older Americans something as simple as a home delivered meal, a place to socialize, or a helping hand around the

house, can make all the difference in the world to the enjoyment of life in one's later years. Our legislation represents one small step in making this a reality.

I urge my colleagues to support the millions of older Americans that have contributed so much to our country and its greatness. Vote “yes” for America's seniors by voting “yes” on the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2000.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 2614, CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, the tax bill before us today is a mix of modest, but important policy changes, some unfortunate new directions in tax policy, and what can best be termed “housekeeping” items.

There is, however, one especially important provision in this bill, which is the Extraterritorial Income Exclusion, or EIE, also known as the Foreign Sales Corporation replacement. This provision, necessitated by actions taken by the European Union before the World Trade Organization, is essential to preserving the ability to compete effectively of U.S. companies and U.S. workers.

If we are to succeed and thrive in international commerce, we must not impose punitive taxes on our own competitors. Absent the EIE, our tax code would do just that.

We must be clear about this, however. While we believe our new system will be found to be WTO compliant, there are no assurances. And we will not know for some months.

I want to assure both our friends of the European Union, and our companies that are looking to the Congress to resolve this satisfactorily, that if our new system is found wanting, then the next Congress and the next Administration will work quickly to find another.

If the EIE regime is found wanting, there may be no alternative but to adopt a fully territorial tax regime. That means, in short, a U.S. tax system that only collects tax on income earned in the U.S. I, for one, would welcome this, as should all U.S. companies and their workers, because this would cause a dramatic improvement in their ability to compete internationally. It would be ironic, indeed, if the net result of the Europeans' complaint is to leave U.S. companies stronger internationally than they were before.

For now, however, I hope the Congress passes this bill, with its FSC replacement. I hope the President signs it. And I hope the WTO finds the new system satisfactory, so we can provide some certainty to our companies as to the tax law. We can then consider at a later date whether, when, or how to enact a territorial system.

BULLETPROOF VEST
PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF
HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 25, 2000

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to come before you today in support of S. 2413, the Bulletproof Vest Reauthorization Act of 2000. This very effective, bipartisan legislation, introduced by Senator CAMPBELL of Colorado, passed the Senate by unanimous consent and is identical to H.R. 4033, legislation which I sponsored.

As Members will recall, this chamber passed H.R. 4033, the House Bulletproof Vest Reauthorization bill, back in July of this year by an overwhelming majority vote of 413–3. At that time, I gave a more lengthy statement on the issue of bulletproof vests. Due to time constraints, I will abbreviate my remarks today.

As I have said before, I firmly believe that when a police officer is issued a badge and a gun, they should also be issued a bulletproof vest. When police officers put their lives on the line everyday protecting our neighborhoods—they deserve the highest level of protection and security, which only a bulletproof vest can provide.

I introduced the original Bulletproof Vest Authorization bill in the 105th Congress, which was signed into law by the President. This very successful and popular program authorized \$25 million each year through Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 to assist law enforcement officers in purchasing body armor. The program proved to be more popular than initially expected, and we soon found out that \$25 million each year was not adequate to fulfill the goal of providing every law enforcement officer with body armor.

The bill before us today makes three major improvements to the existing Bulletproof Vest Program. First, the authorization will be doubled from \$25 to \$50 million each year through Fiscal Year 2004. Extending the authorization is critical in enabling officers across the nation to participate in the Bulletproof Vest Program, which has been proven to save lives. Second, language was included in the bill which guarantees smaller jurisdictions a fair portion of federal funding. Finally, this legislation improves the stab-proof standard for corrections officers who depend on these vests to protect them while on the job.

The stab-proof issue is especially important to me and my District. A constituent of mine, Corrections Officer Fred Baker was stabbed to death while on duty at the Bayside State Prison. Officer Baker was not wearing a vest at the time. We can only speculate as to whether his life would have been spared had he been given an opportunity to wear a vest, but many of us believe that had he been given that opportunity, Officer Baker would be alive today and his wife and child would still have a husband and father to come home to. If Officer Baker had the chance to wear a vest, I am sure that he would not have hesitated to put that vest on.

The legislation before us today will help ensure law enforcement offices receive federal assistance in purchasing body armor. It is critical that Members again vote in favor of this legislation.

CONCERNING VIOLENCE IN
MIDDLE EAST

SPEECH OF
HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, my vote today on H. Con. Res. 426 is not a vote “against” anything. It is a vote “for” peace. I am convinced that a peaceful settlement of the long-standing differences between Israel and the Palestinian people can only be achieved through continuing the current dialogue between the parties. I also believe that the United States can play an important—and irreplaceable—role as an honest broker of peace.

Israel has been a good friend and ally to the U.S. and I support continuation of that special relationship and our long-standing commitment to her freedom and security.

However, I am also steadfast in my support of the United States’ commitment to be an honest broker of peace in the Middle East.

It is because of this position that I am so uncomfortable with the tone of this resolution. While it is understandable that the House may wish to express grave concerns about the violence currently taking place in the region, those concerns must be expressed in a way that does not cause either party to doubt the United States’ neutrality in the negotiations nor its commitment to achieving outcomes acceptable to both parties. This resolution does not do so.

I am equally concerned about the House’s persistent efforts to intrude into the peace process from a distance. Diplomacy is a delicate endeavor. For House Members to appear to take sides would seem to undermine—rather than further—our hopes for peace. A resolution such as this seems much too blunt an instrument to deliver the outcome we all profess to desire.

ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL
HERITAGE CORRIDOR ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, in 1995, Congressman JAMES WALSH and Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, directed the National Parks Service to study the merits of the Erie Canal System’s federal designation. In 1998, the study concluded that the system did in fact have great historical significance and recommended the canal for National Heritage Corridor status. Legislation was thus drafted and presented on the House floor on October 3, 2000. I support H.R. 5375 because I too, feel that the Erie Canal represents a key component of not only New York State’s history, but the history of the United States, as well.

The Erie Canal was originally built to provide a waterway that would link the Great Lakes with the eastern seaboard. Completed in 1825, the canal was the first of its kind and proved to be the working model used in future canal construction throughout the United States. This manmade waterway helped to

transform the economy of the Northeast and Midwest states along the Great Lakes. The construction of the canalway helped to accelerate shipping and trade in these areas, which in turn helped to establish flourishing metropolitan areas such as New York City, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo, not to mention the development and growth witnessed in Mid-western shipping centers, such as Cleveland, Detroit, and Chicago.

Recently the residents of Buffalo and Western New York have realized that our city can once again generate economic investment from its position as the western terminus of the Erie Canal. The Erie Canal as the centerpiece of the City’s Inner Harbor development. A major focus of the Inner Harbor project is to once again center the region’s transportation system at Buffalo’s waterfront. I have worked to bring over \$35 million in federal dollars to the Inner Harbor to fund transportation related infrastructure improvements. The designation of the Erie Canal is a National Heritage Corridor would further enhance the attraction of the Inner Harbor site both locally and nationally.

The significant National Heritage Corridor designation would allow Congress to provide federal resources and technical assistance for canalside communities from Buffalo to Albany to establish projects involving interpretive centers, historic preservation and economic development.

This is the perfect time to approve this legislation. The year 2000 marks the 175th Anniversary of New York State’s creation and stewardship of the Erie Canalway for commerce, transportation, and recreational purposes, establishing the network which made New York the “Empire State” and the nation’s premier commercial and financial center.

HONORING WILSON MICHAEL
SCOTT UPON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE HOUSE RECORDING
STUDIO

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, at the end of October the House of Representatives will lose a loyal, long time employee to a much deserved retirement. Wilson Michael Scott, known as Mike, will be retiring after more than thirty years of working at the House Recording Studio. Mike’s career with the House started in November of 1969 as a radio production technician. Mike was here when the House began televising its proceedings in March of 1979 and played an integral role in the launch of that project. Mike retires as the Technical Director of the House Recording Studio. His technical knowledge and expertise will be greatly missed by this institution.

Although Mike is one of the many staffers who work behind the scenes to ensure the smooth operations of the House, many may recognize him as the gentleman receiving extra portions of barbecued ribs and greens every Thursday in the Capitol Carry Out.

Mike has a colorful sense of humor which has helped keep his co-workers alert during late night sessions. Upon his departure, he will leave many fond and wonderful memories with

those who had the honor to work with him during his career.

Mike will return to his farm in Marion, Virginia to spend more time with his wife, Carol, daughters, Barit and Tracey, and his 1952 Ford tractor.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Mike Scott godspeed and much happiness for many years in his well-earned retirement.

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
MUSEUM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of S. 1438. As a cosponsor of H.R. 2710, the National Law Enforcement Museum Act, the House companion bill to S. 1438, I am extremely pleased that House of Representatives is considering S. 1438, legislation which authorizes the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund to construct a National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia.

Fittingly, this Museum will be built directly across the street from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Dedicated in 1991, the three-acre park is highlighted by the names of more than 15,000 federal, state and local law enforcement officers who have courageously and selflessly sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. They paid the ultimate price to protect us and enforce the laws which bind our society together.

I am glad that we are taking a step closer today to preserving the history of all of America's law enforcement officers' heroic service and sacrifice for future generations.

HONORING SERGEANT FRANKLIN
A. BIVIGHOUSE

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Franklin A. Bivighouse, who is retiring after 25 years from the Telford Borough Police Department in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Franklin Bivighouse began his law enforcement career in 1971 with the Franconia Township Police Department and continued his service with Lower Salford Township Police Department until 1975. He was hired by the Telford Borough Police Department on July 21, 1975 and served Telford into the 21st Century.

During his tenure with the Telford Borough Police Department, Sergeant Bivighouse received many accolades for his outstanding service. On December 24, 1976, he rescued a man who was trapped in a burning automobile and was honored by the Chapel of Four Chaplains as well as local civic groups. He also received the Silver Star for Bravery from the American Federation of Police.

Sergeant Bivighouse has been an active within the Montgomery County community as

a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, Montgomery County Lodge #14 and the Pennsylvania DUI Association. He also served as the Telford Borough Police Department Director.

It is an honor and privilege to recognize Franklin Bivighouse as he retires from the Telford Borough Police Department, and I congratulate him on 25 years of extraordinary service to the people of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
YUGOSLAVIA

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, the recent change in government in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been cited by some as a testament to the policy of the United States and NATO in ending the rule of Slobodan Milosevic. While I applaud the change, we must not forget the serious charges made by our government against Milosevic. Led by our country, NATO leveled charges against Milosevic as a war criminal, guilty of genocide and other atrocities, to justify military action and economic sanctions.

Milosevic must be brought to trial before an international court. The allegations of genocide are so serious they must be fully investigated, and if found to be true, he must be brought to justice. When this body passed the FY 01 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, we deliberately included language to make U.S. assistance to Serbia contingent on certification the Yugoslav government is cooperating with the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia including access for investigators, the provision of documents and the surrender and transfer of indictees or assistance in their apprehension.

Clearly, our intent is to see alleged war criminals prosecuted. Our willingness to provide assistance to the Republic of Serbia is based on that threshold, and should serve as a strong barometer for the new government of President Vojislav Kostunica. The true test of Kostunica's cooperation and reentry into the community of nations will be whether he fully cooperates.

I call upon the Congressional leadership and the Administration to urge that in our discussions with President Kostunica, we insist on the surrender of Milosevic for trial before an international body. Any action less than this will suggest our initial charges were without merit. If that is the case, those who made them should be asked to account for their statements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was in New York, and unable to be present for the following votes, had I been present I would have voted as follows:

October 24: rollcall No. 541, "no"; rollcall No. 542 "yes"; rollcall No. 543, "no".

October 25: rollcall No. 544, "yes"; rollcall No. 545, "no"; rollcall No. 546, "yes"; rollcall No. 547, "yes"; rollcall No. 548, "yes"; rollcall No. 549, "yes"; rollcall No. 550, "yes"; rollcall No. 551, "no"; rollcall No. 552, "yes".

October 26: rollcall No. 553, "no"; rollcall No. 554, "yes"; rollcall No. 555, "no"; rollcall No. 556, "no".

THE HERITAGE OF
NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the industrial and cultural coal-mining heritage of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

This Congress recently passed legislation to create the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna and Wayne counties in Pennsylvania, and the President signed it into law on October 6. Together with the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and the Schuylkill National Heritage Corridor, this designation honors the coal-mining heritage of the people of the region and their contribution to powering the industrial Revolution and helping the United States win two world wars.

For the benefit of other members of the House of Representatives who may not be familiar with this rich heritage and its legacy, I would now like to read into the RECORD a short statement composed by a friend of mine, Mr. Richard Morgan of Shamokin, Pennsylvania.

Northeastern Pennsylvania has been well blessed with quality people. Thousands of immigrants came to our section of Pennsylvania from the world over.

Our neighbors became blended together as one. We came to share our lives in a manner that was beyond the belief of outsiders, who had never experienced the unique joy we found in each other. The rich cultural fabric that resulted is second to none.

The severe economic conditions that have been present for generations in the hard coal regions, have caused most of our sons and daughters to spread themselves, their talents, and their deeply ingrained coal cracker lifestyles far and wide across America.

Other communities throughout America have benefited by our loss. Our young people were the greatest gifts we had to give our country, even greater than the Anthracite natural resource that was stripped from our region to provide fuel and energy for the Industrial Revolution.

We who remain in the region, are proud of the achievements of those who have left us for greener fields, green fields that are no longer to be found in the old hometowns, and around the half-doubles they reluctantly left behind, but which they have never forgotten.

The sound moral values that they learned from their immigrant families, will remain with them forever, wherever they may come to hang their hats.

Mr. Speaker, in the closing days of this Congress, I would like to call to the attention

of my colleagues not only the positive parts of the anthracite coal's legacy to Northeastern Pennsylvania, but also another part of the legacy that still be seen today: the need for a comprehensive reclamation of the mine-scarred land.

The federal Office of Surface Mining has estimated that the restoration of all the land and water in the anthracite region would cost more than \$2 billion, but until this year, the anthracite region has received only about \$10 million annually from the federal government to restore abandoned mine lands. At that level of funding, we will have a critical environmental problem in place for two centuries.

Let us not forget that this is fundamentally an issue of fairness. Pennsylvania anthracite coal fueled the Industrial Revolution that made America the superpower it is today. Unfortunately, the physical scars left by the Industrial Revolution of the 19th and 20th Centuries have decreased our competitiveness in the Information Age of the 21st Century. As Mr. Morgan eloquently points out, this has had the effect of forcing many of our young people to look elsewhere for opportunities.

In the same way that the federal government has made a commitment to restoring the Everglades in Florida, a similar comprehensive approach is needed to restore the anthracite region in Pennsylvania.

Restoring the anthracite region is also consistent with the growing consensus that it is better to clean up and reuse formerly polluted "brownfields" for industrial development than to wipe out more of America's disappearing "greenfields," the untouched open spaces that are so important to our quality of life.

For these reasons, joined by Congressmen SHERWOOD, HOLDEN and GEKAS, my three colleagues from Pennsylvania who represent the anthracite region, I have sponsored the Anthracite Region Redevelopment Act (H.R. 4314), to create a new bond program that would provide \$1.2 billion in 30-year tax-credit bonds to finance a comprehensive environmental cleanup of the region.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to hail from the hard-coal region of eastern Pennsylvania. As Mr. Morgan's statement illustrates well, in the richness of our cultural fabric, our work ethic and strong values, our love of country, in all these we are second to none.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during rollcall vote #551. Had I been present I would have voted "No."

Additionally, I was not present during rollcall vote #552. Had I been present I would have voted "yes."

THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM EVALUATION COMMISSION ACT

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, "We know from past experience how difficult it is to curb the

momentum of expanding government activity and we know that this portends the continuation of levels of taxation higher than we all want to bear. We are trying to get this message across: we want to pause in this headlong rush toward even bigger government."—Wilbur Mills

The former statement made 32 years ago by my predecessor in the Ways and Means Committee, Chairman Wilbur Mills, continues to hold as much truth today as it ever did in 1969. Our federal surplus, and ensuing spending frenzy, have created an even greater urgency that we recognize the importance of a restrained and focused government.

Bloated federal agencies have increasingly taken more American taxpayer dollars and spent those dollars not wisely, but wastefully. Despite the good intentions of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, misuse of taxpayers' money climbs ahead at an alarming pace. The Results Act was intended to help Congress in its oversight obligations by requiring federal agencies to set goals and use performance measures for management and budgeting.

Now, even the budget process is careening out of control. The annual congressional budget resolution has all but been cast aside. Congress spends with abandon. Not only is the surplus at risk, the entire process is at risk. On the other side of the coin, waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal government has never been greater. Recently, the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology found that \$65 billion has been wasted by the federal agencies of the executive branch, not to mention \$245 billion in overdue taxes owed to Washington. A recent IRS report showed an estimated \$7.8 billion in Earned Income Tax Credit claims for 1997 were erroneously paid.

It is for that reason I am reintroducing a bill put forth by my able predecessor, Chairman Wilbur Mills, which seeks to establish the Government Program Evaluation Commission. Such a Commission would be created on a bipartisan basis and composed of members from the private sector. The Commission would study and evaluate existing federal programs and activities for the purpose of determining three objectives: (1) To evaluate the effectiveness of each program or activity, relative to its costs; (2) to determine whether the program or activity should continue and at what level; and (3) to assign a relative priority level for the purpose of allocating Federal funds.

The Results Act has not met expectations partly because its task of self-analysis has effectively kept its potential low. The Government Program Evaluation Commission is unique in that it would create a truly independent commission on the outside looking in. I am introducing this bill at this late stage to highlight my concern in hopes that Congress will readdress this urgent problem in the future. A government with the most brilliant laws cannot be successful if it mismanages those laws. Chairman Mills' vision of a limited but highly effective government is a legacy I would like to impress upon my fellow Members as this Congress wraps up its business.

SUPPORT FOR THE NEW SERBIA

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, as a member and former Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I have followed Yugoslavia's violent demise this past decade very closely, by traveling there, by meeting officials from there here in Washington, by participating in dozens of Commission hearings on various aspects of the conflict.

Throughout this period, it has been obvious that, whatever ethnic animosities might have existed beforehand, the horrific aggression against innocent populations and, yes, genocide, was instigated by Slobodan Milosevic, deliberately, in order to maintain and enhance his power in Serbia. As his nationalist agenda was belatedly but forcefully rejected by the international community under U.S. leadership, Milosevic increasingly resorted to repression at home, against the people of Serbia. There has been opposition to Milosevic for a long time, but only this month did the people, the political opposition and independent forces join together and say "enough is enough." I congratulate those brave Serbs who stood up to a regime that has lied to them, cheated them and denied them their rights for over a decade.

The changes taking place in Serbia are, however, good not only for Serbs but for all people in the region. Other problems exist, but, with Milosevic out of the way, the stage is set for long-term stability an economic recovery in southeastern Europe. It is now possible to make the progress we all want so that our troops, doing critical work there, can come home with mission accomplished. Whatever we felt about the deployment in the first place, we should all be able to agree on that.

For this reason, I support the decision of the President to provide quick support to the new Yugoslav President, Vojislav Kostunica, and his colleagues. The Conference Report on Foreign Operations Appropriations for fiscal year 2001 similarly reflects the general consensus that assistance needs to be provided to Yugoslavia quickly in order to solidify the gains being made by the Democratic Opposition of Serbia. The country is in a state of transition, and there is no question about the need to send a positive message.

Such a message, however, does not preclude a cautionary message. I believe there is a need to place some conditionality on assistance. Cooperation with the Tribunal in The Hague prosecuting war crimes, ending the support for nationalists in neighboring Bosnia and promoting the rule of law and tolerance of minorities at home are all principles we must apply to the new leaders in Belgrade, as we have applied them to leaders of other countries in the region.

I agree that we should be flexible, and the conference report reflects a good compromise on the application of conditions. That said, I would like to make the following points. First, the large amount now allocated for Serbia should not come at the expense of ongoing funding for Croatia, Macedonia, Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria and others in the region who have worked with the international community all along, undertook major burdens themselves

and need this assistance. Second, the five month window which exists before the conditions are applied should not lead to throwing all of this money at Belgrade rapidly beforehand, because the conditions may not be met. I could see this happening next February, in the event that insufficient progress has been achieved by that time. Let's hope that progress will take place allowing for certification in accordance with this bill. Third, progress in the rule of law must include addressing the hundreds of ethnic Albanians currently in Serbian prisons and encouraging president Kostunica to continue to look for ways to resolve this issue.

In conclusion, I believe a case can be made that the reformists coming into power at this time may not be able to surrender Slobodan Milosevic to the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague. Sooner or later, however, they will need to do so. To do otherwise would not only be an injustice to the literally millions of victims in the former Yugoslavia. It would send the absolutely wrong message to Croatia, Bosnia and Montenegro all of whom are cooperating with the Tribunal. It would delay the time by which the people of Serbia will have to reckon with the hideous atrocities committed in their name this past decade, a reckoning which will be absolutely necessary for Serbia to make significant progress in building a society in which the rule of law is respected and tolerance of others is embedded.

It is important when discussing these issues to recall that there are also indictees beyond Milosevic living in Serbia. Let us recall exactly what these people are alleged to have done. Three individuals living now in Serbia were directly responsible for pulling over 200 people out of a hospital in Vukovar, Croatia, after the city had been surrendered and guarantees of safety were made, beating them severely and then executing them en masse in a field in late 1991. Another individual, the well known Ratko Mladic, was at the scene when as many as 7,000 Bosnians were similarly executed after being taken from the so-called "safe haven" of Srebrenica in 1995. Even if one could find some way to justify the conflicts surrounding these incidents—which I personally cannot do, but maybe some can—these acts were nevertheless heinous crimes, and we cannot put accountability for them at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to read the indictments issued by the Tribunal, particularly the indictments of those responsible for the massacres in Vukovar and Srebrenica. They are available at <www.un.org/icty/indictment>. It is too easy to put the issue of the Tribunal to the side in light of foreign policy objectives, but, if you read what happened, I believe you will agree that justice must remain a pillar of our policy in the Balkans.

RETIREMENT OF HON. TILLIE FOWLER

SPEECH OF

HON. NORMAN SISISKY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2000

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to take just a moment to express my appreciation for Congresswoman TILLIE FOWLER.

She has served her country and her Florida constituents remarkably during her time in Congress.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, we have worked together on projects and programs of particular benefit to the Navy.

This is to be expected: Both of us represent Navy towns and naval personnel.

But TILLIE FOWLER's dedication to American servicemen and women in whatever branch of the military is exemplary.

She has labored long and hard to ensure that every branch of service received the equipment they needed, the training they required and quality of life for themselves and families.

I don't know what she will do in the future. I do know I hope she continues in some form of public service. And if it happens to be in a defense related area, I will look forward to the opportunity to continue helping build a better, more secure future for this great nation. Mrs. Sisisky and I wish TILLIE and her family our very, very best in the days ahead. We will miss her.

HONORING ANN FORKIN

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise before you to congratulate Ann Forkin on her retirement after 22 years of service at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Ann has been an invaluable asset to the Stony Brook community. In 1981, she was appointed as the first and to this point, the only Director of the Office of Conferences and Special Events.

In her 18 years as Director, she managed and orchestrated over 20 commencement ceremonies. On the day of the first commencement she planned, Mother Nature did not cooperate, and it rained. The following year, she devised plans for a ceremony in the sun, rain or drizzle. Ann made sure that no weather condition hindered this commencement ceremony or any ceremony thereafter.

Ann will be truly missed by the faculty, staff and students of SUNY Stony Brook.

IN MEMORY OF AL HADLEY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Al Hadley, a person who was one of the most influential men in my life, and, I am positive, hundreds of other lives.

"Skipper" Al Hadley died this week at the age of 96 years young. As my Sea Scout, BSA, Scoutmaster, he bestowed upon me a lifelong love of the ocean and a respect for myself and all life. He taught me to challenge myself beyond my expectations and instilled in me the values of patriotism and public service.

Skipper was a lifelong friend and mentor who dedicated himself to our youth. He stayed involved in Sea Scouts long after his two sons

were grown, and even after he retired. When I was a Scout, we restored a 36-foot World War II surplus Navy boat, which we sailed to Catalina Island on many a weekend. We pitted our seamanship skills against other Scouts from across California at the annual Rendezvous.

Each year, we left the sea for a survival hike in the desert, living off only what we found on the land. Not surprisingly, the Boy Scouts of America awarded Skipper Hadley numerous awards and recognitions over the years.

Many of those Scouts with whom I sailed with many years ago remain friends today. Skipper came to visit me at the Capitol after I was elected to Congress. His oldest son Pete, who recently retired as a colonel in the Army, remained in contact throughout the years.

Skipper Hadley will remain a role model for me until the day I die. Mr. Speaker, Skipper Hadley is survived by his wife, Cecelia; sons, Pete and David; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. I know my colleagues will join me in sending condolences to Skipper's family, and in thanking Skipper for upholding the ideals of a Scout leader; for molding generations of strong, motivated men and women; and for being a guiding light on the sea of life.

HONORING REVEREND CARLETON GILES FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I today join the congregation of the First Baptist Church in Milford, Connecticut as they pay tribute to an outstanding member of the Milford community and my dear friend—Reverend Carleton Giles. Throughout this past month, which the First Baptist Church has designated as "Pastor's Anniversary Month," the congregation and Milford residents have gathered on several occasions to honor Reverend Giles' tenth anniversary as their pastor.

For many years, Reverend Giles has been an outstanding leader in the Milford community. As a pastor, teacher and police officer, he was shown unparalleled commitment and dedication to all members of the community. With his extensive record of service, Reverend Giles has led an impressive and unique career—one which has made a real difference in the lives of many.

The clergy has always played a vital role in our community and Reverend Giles is a sterling example. His commitment to the service of our community through religious leadership that has brought him to this day is admired by many and rivaled by few. His involvement, not only with the congregation of the First Baptist Church, but with the entire community, has produced a legacy that will last for years. For ten years, Reverend Giles has ministered to the spiritual needs of hundreds in the Milford community—strengthening our bonds of faith and helping to build stronger neighborhoods of which we can all be proud.

In addition to his duties at the First Baptist Church, Reverend Giles has served as a law enforcement officer for the City of Norwalk for

the past twenty years. Responsible for the implementation of drug and gang prevention programs such as D.A.R.E. and G.R.E.A.T., Reverend Giles has had a profound impact on Norwalk's young people. Because of his good work, our children are learning the dangers of drugs, gangs, and youth violence. Reverend Giles' efforts have gone a long way in opening the doors of communication between students and local law enforcement officials, a crucial link in the fight to end youth violence.

Even with the incredible responsibilities Reverend Giles takes on in his professional career, he has still found time to serve on several community organizations, including the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance of Greater Bridgeport and Vicinity, Milford's Board of Police Commissioners, and New Haven's Annual Yom Hashoah Community Observance in remembrance of the Holocaust. I have had the privilege of having him serve on my Military Advisory Committee where he has taken the time to interview students from around the Third Congressional District who are interested in attending our nation's military academies.

I am proud to stand today and join Reverend Giles' wife, Stephany, family, friends, and the First Baptist Church of Milford in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation for his outstanding leadership and invaluable contributions to our community. My sincere congratulations, Reverend Giles, on your tenth anniversary and best wishes for continued success.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 2614, CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition of H.R. 2614. I am deeply disturbed that this legislation was assembled by the Republican leadership without consultation with either the President or the Democrats in Congress. It is a partisan package of tax breaks for a variety of special interests. It ignores the needs of middle-class families and does not appropriately deal with the struggles of rural and teaching hospitals under the Medicare program.

This legislation does not contain the bipartisan school construction tax credit bond provision that would provide \$25 billion in interest-free school construction bonds to help our crumbling schools. Instead it provides far less help to school districts, while giving the greatest tax cuts to wealthy bondholders, not average taxpayers.

This bill also fails to address the marriage penalty and reform of the estate tax to protect small businesses and family farms. Both are tax cut priorities around which there is broad bipartisan agreement.

H.R. 2614 does not provide an adequate tax solution for people who lack health insurance. Instead, it offers a sham deduction that could lead to many families paying more for the health insurance that they already have. Ac-

ording to the Joint Tax Committee, the deduction for buying health insurance will only succeed in helping about 5 percent of the 43 million uninsured purchase health insurance. Furthermore, this provision could lead employers to either cut back their contribution to health insurance premiums or drop coverage completely for many employees. In short, this tax deduction is very costly at \$10 billion per year, yet has very little positive impact.

While this bill would increase the minimum wage 50 cents in 2001 and another 50 cents in 2002, all other provisions to help workers by altering overtime and other protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act have been dropped. Instead, the bill contains numerous small business and special interest tax breaks—such as \$25 billion for an increase in the business meals deduction, repeal of 4.3 cents of the diesel fuel excise tax for railroads at a cost of \$1.58 billion and a \$250 million tax break for timber companies.

Instead of providing relief for those health care providers who really suffered harm from the 1997 Balanced Budget cuts this legislation would pass along 41 percent of the increase in Medicare spending to HMOs. This money could otherwise be directed toward beneficiary and health care providers needs. There is not even a guarantee that HMOs will stay in the communities they now serve. Each dollar that goes to the HMO industry in this bill is a dollar that won't go to improve coverage for a Medicare beneficiary or go to help a rural hospital remain open.

I cannot support this inappropriate use of increased Medicare dollars. I support meaningful assistance to health care providers and targeted managed care payment increases to low-reimbursement counties, like many in Wisconsin, in exchange for their commitment to remain in the communities they serve for at least three years and not abandon seniors like so many have.

This Congress has failed to pass any meaningful health reform, such as the Patients' Bill of Rights or a Medicare prescription drug benefit, and instead has chosen to provide tax breaks for special interests and millions of dollars in Medicare spending to HMOs. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 2614, CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2614. While I believe that there are many good provisions in this bill, I must object to it because it does not restore Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) benefits to legal immigrant women and children. In 1995, Congress imposed a 5-year ban on providing Medicaid and CHIP coverage to recently qualified immigrants. In 1996, Congress passed an immigration bill that split families; threw out due process; and took away discretion. But, worst of all, Congress took away compassion.

So, I'm not here just as a Member of Congress or as the Chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Health Task Force. I'm here as an American upset with the laws that discriminate against my fellow human beings. Today we stand before you to defend the women and children who fled tyranny and poverty only to be denied the health care afforded other Americans. We are talking about people that came here legally, play by the rules, and pay taxes. I firmly believe that we should include a provision that give states the option to provide SCHIP and Medicaid benefits to lawfully present immigrant low-income pregnant women and children. Children and pregnant women who are denied coverage through the SCHIP and Medicaid 5-year ban usually can't get other vital health care coverage. As a matter of decency, as a matter of economics, as a matter of public health, legal immigrant children and pregnant women deserve the same access to essential health care coverage offered to citizens. For pregnant women and their children, regular prenatal care and early intervention saves lives and dollars.

Children who have routine office visits and immunizations grow to be healthy adults with less medical complications. Children monitored by pediatricians are less likely to be victimized by chronic and communicable diseases. Preventive care minimizes emergency room visits, a costly and inefficient way of providing health care. Remember, diseases do not ask to see a passport. The 5-year ban on providing Medicaid and CHIP coverage has been the greatest barrier to health care for legal immigrants. It's time to make the system fair for everyone.

IMPORTANCE OF THE ONGOING
U.S. CONGRESSIONAL FORUM ON
LAOS WITH THE APPROACHING
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
COMMUNIST REGIME

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned about the deteriorating political, economic and security situation in Laos which remains under the brutal control of one of the world's last remaining Stalinist regimes. More is needed to promote democracy, basic human liberties and human rights—and to stop the serious, ongoing intervention by Vietnam's military and security forces in the internal affairs of Laos. This is needed to serve the interests of the American people and the freedom-loving people of Laos, Vietnam and Thailand.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Center for Public Policy Analysis and its Executive Director, Mr. Philip Smith, as well as Colonel Wangyee Vang of the Lao Veterans of America for their leadership in helping to convene the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos. Many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have participated in this important forum series on Capitol Hill over the course of the 106th Congress. It has helped to develop enhanced awareness and understanding of the serious developments in Laos by policymakers. I am proud to have participated in a

number of these events, along with my staff assistant, Paul Berkowitz. In December of 1999, at one of the Congressional Forum sessions, I was pleased to participate along with Major General Vang Pao and other distinguished guests, and presented a joint report about our Congressional Staff Delegation research mission to Southeast Asia in the summer of 1999. In our report, issued jointly by the International Relations Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, we discussed the serious ongoing plight of the Hmong and Lao people still suffering in Laos. Other speakers and participants at the forum series on Laos included distinguished Members and staff from many offices including: Representatives DANA ROHRBACHER, GEORGE RADANOVICH and WILLIAM DELAHUNT, of the House International Relations Committee, on which I serve as Chairman, as well as Chairman JESSE HELMS, Senators BOB SMITH, RUSSELL FEINGOLD, PAUL WELLSTONE, Representatives MARK GREEN, PATRICK KENNEDY, CALVIN DOOLEY and the late Bruce Vento, who passed away earlier this month. Congressman Vento's leadership on human rights and with the forum series on Laos will, indeed, be sadly missed by so many in this Chamber and in the Laotian community.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Congressional Forum series on Laos is making a significant impact in helping to provide vital information and to formulating policy toward Laos. It has helped generate numerous breaking stories in news services around the world, including the Washington Post, Washington Times, Agence France, Associated Press, the South China Morning Post and others. Radio Free Asia, Lao Service, as well as the Voice of America have also provided coverage. Historic legislation on Laos has also been enacted with the important information that has come from these Forums in Congress including H. Con. Res. 169, condemning, for the first time, the Communist regime in Laos for its human rights violations and other matters. I was proud to have worked with Representatives GEORGE RADANOVICH, MARK GREEN and former Congressman Bruce Vento to help pass this important legislation in the International Relations Committee.

Mr. Speaker, thus far, distinguished panelists and participants in the Congressional Forum on Laos have also included important Laotian and Hmong leaders as well as Lao experts from around the world, including: T. Kumar, Asia Director for Amnesty International; Markram Ouais, The National Democratic Institute's (NDI) Senior Program Officer for Asia; Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Noble Prize nominee and distinguished Lao and Hmong scholar; Dr. Chou Norinh, of the United League for Democracy in Laos, and distinguished professor at Assumption University, Bangkok, Thailand; Dr. Bounchaloune Phouthakany, of the University of Quebec, and Secretary General, United Lao Association of Canada; Dr. Khamphay Abbai of Australia; Dr. Bounthone Chanthavixay, with the World Wide Coordinating Committee on Laos, Hagen, Germany, and former Lao student protest leader in Eastern Europe; His Royal Highness Prince Sayavong, of the Lao Royal Family, in France; Major General Vang Pao, Hmong leader; Colonel Wangyee Vang, President of the Lao Veterans of America; Thongsavanh Phongsavanh, of the Lao Representatives Abroad Council; General Thonglit

Chokhbenbun of France; Thongkhoun Phathana, President, The Laos Institute For Democracy; Ms. Sothida Bounthapanya Lao Progressive Party; The Lan Xang Foundation, of Atlanta, Georgia; Col. Ngeunsamith Sasorith, France, President, of the Paris-based, Association of Deportees and Escapees of Communist Concentration Camps in Laos; Mr. Vanida Sananikone Thephsouvanh, President, of the Paris-based, Lao Movement for Human Rights, France; Stephen Vang, of the United Lao Congress for Democracy; Chao Opat NaChampassak, of the Royal Lao Family; Princess Moune Souvanna-Phouma, of the Royal Lao Family; Mrs. Houa Ly and Ms. Yer Ly, wife and daughter of a Hmong-American from Wisconsin who disappeared in Laos in 1999; Mrs. Suzie Vang, wife of Mr. Michael Vang of Fresno, California who disappeared in Laos in 1999; Reverend Shongchai Hang, of Philadelphia who testified on behalf of Hmong and Lao Christians persecuted in Laos.

Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to thank all of the Members of Congress, staff and participants from around the United States and the world who have made the U.S. Congressional Forum on Laos such an important success in the 106th Congress. The winds of intense turmoil and change are now blowing in Laos. The United States, with the help of the U.S. Congress, needs to do more to support democracy and free and fair elections in Laos during the upcoming vote in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, toward this end, on December 1st, while the Communist Regime in Laos celebrates its dark anniversary of totalitarian dictatorship, it is important to note that a major installment of the Congressional Forum on Laos will be held in the U.S. House of Representatives with witnesses and participants from around the world, including the slated testimony of a group of student demonstrators who escaped from Vientiane, Laos recently and were just granted political asylum several days ago in America. A special ceremony will follow in Congress, during the evening, to mark the grim oppression of the Laotian people after 25 years of Communism. Laotian victims of communist oppression will share their testimony. I encourage my colleagues to continue to aggressively support these important activities and the efforts of Laotian people in their struggle to bring freedom, democracy and human rights to Laos.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN BURMA

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, ethnic and religious minorities around the world suffer because many governments fail to protect fundamental human freedoms such as freedom of conscience, freedom of speech, and freedom of assembly. Or, a government fails to concede to the will of the people and imposes its will upon the people. When a government fails to uphold international human rights standards, to respect the wishes of the people expressed through voting or other legitimate mechanisms, or to protect people's basic freedoms from violations, individuals and groups often are harassed, imprisoned, tortured, and

even killed. Serious violence and human rights abuses have occurred in Burma through the actions of the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC). On September 26, 2000, I chaired the Congressional Human Rights Caucus Briefing on Human Rights Concerns in Burma. I would like to submit for the RECORD the testimony of Mr. David Eubank, Saw Htoo Htoo Lay, Pastor Edmund Htokut, Saw Ka Law Lah, Mr. Stephen Dun, and Major Larry J. Redmon.

TESTIMONY OF DAVID EUBANK BEFORE THE CONGRESSIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS, SEPTEMBER 26, 2000

Thank you for this opportunity to share with you about the situation in Burma, and for the opportunity to ask for action to restore democracy in Burma, protect minority rights, and provide immediate humanitarian assistance for the Internally Displaced People (IDP).

CURRENT SITUATION IN BURMA

The dictators of Burma, the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), continue to oppress the people of Burma, reject the 1990 democratic elections, hold over 1,300 political prisoners (55 of whom are members-elect of parliament), and brutally violate the human rights of ethnic minority peoples as well as ethnic Burmans. This has resulted in over 1 million refugees that have fled Burma since 1990, and 2 million Internally Displaced People (1 million ethnic Burmans are displaced for government projects, 1 million are ethnic minority peoples displaced by the attacks of the Burma Army and SPDC forced relocation programs.) The ethnic minority IDPs in particular are in immediate need of help. They face starvation, disease and the constant threat of attack by the Burma Army. Those who have been able to escape the SPDC forced relocation sites, are scattered in jungle hiding places, living in fear. If discovered they are brutally attacked by the Burma Army. Their home villages have been plundered and burned and the Burma Army has scattered land mines in and around their villages to strike terror and discourage their return. (In last year alone there were over 1,500 new landmine victims.) The IDPs live in fear with very little hope. HIV infection is on the rise with over 440,000 infected and little State response.

Narcotics production and export has increased with profits from the heroin and amphetamine traffic being shared with the SPDC. In 1999, over 500 million amphetamine tablets were smuggled into Thailand. Most of these were produced in the 55 amphetamine laboratories across the border in eastern Burma. 1.750 tons of opium was also produced making Burma the worlds number two producer of opium and heroin. The SPDC has been closely involved with groups that produce and traffic narcotics, helping in 2000 alone, to move over 100,000 form one group to a area adjacent to the Thai border, thus creating a major increase of narcotic traffic into Thailand.

The U.S. Department of State 1999 Country Report on Human Rights, the 2000 Annual Report on Religious Freedom, as well as current Amnesty International and International Labor Organization reports all condemn the human rights record of Burma and appeal for change.

RATIONALE FOR ACTION

(1) The people of Burma are oppressed, tortured, and murdered by the dictator's army, and this is wrong.

(2) There was a free and fair election in 1990 and the results should be recognized and democracy restored.

(3) The dictatorship allows narcotics production and prospers from its sale.

(4) Burma is a client state of China and in return for weapons and other military hardware, allows China to establish SIGINT facilities and naval installations in Burma. This is not good for the people of Burma or for regional security.

(5) The people of Burma, in particular the Kachin, Karen, Shan and Karenni, helped the allies drive the Japanese Army out of Burma during WWII. They deserve our friendship and help.

ACTIONS RECOMMENDED

(1) Immediate humanitarian assistance to the 1 million ethnic minority Internally Displaced Persons of Burma (IDP). Assistance includes medicine, food, clothing, shelter, and education supplies.

(2) Immediate security for these IDPs. This requires support of the pro-democracy resistance force who make aid delivery and security possible, or international intervention to protect the IDPs or both, international military intervention to protect the IDPs, or both.

(3) Call for tripartite dialogue between the SPDC, the Ethnic Groups and the Burma Democracy groups.

(4) Implement increased political, economic, and if necessary, military (indirect by support of resistance forces, or direct by international intervention) pressure until the dictators restore democracy, human rights, and minority political rights.

(5) Bring those guilty of war crimes in Burma to justice.

TESTIMONY OF SAW HTOO HTOO LAY

Mr. Chairman, I am honored and grateful for this opportunity to present the current human rights situation in Burma to the congressional human rights caucus.

I. THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

Most of the recent attention on Burma's human rights situation has only looked at the SPDC military junta's persecution of the National League for Democracy. While this is bad, the human rights situation of ordinary villagers is much worse. In our Karen areas and also in Karenni and Shan areas of eastern Burma, the SPDC is doing everything it can to gain complete control by subjugating the entire civilian population. They use what they call the Four Cuts policy—to cut off supplies of food, funds, recruits and intelligence to resistance forces by destroying villages, farms and food supplies until the civilians are so destitute and starving that they could not possibly support any opposition group. As far as the junta is concerned, the suffering and death which this inflicts on millions of villagers is not a problem, because they would really like to see the end of the Karen, Karenni and Shan peoples.

Since 1996, the junta has systematically destroyed at least 1,500 villages in Shan State, displacing over 300,000 people; 200 villages in Karenni (Kayah) State, displacing at least 50,000 people; and at least 300 or 400 villages in our Karen areas stretching from Pegu Division and Karen State in the north to Tenasserim Division in the far south of Burma. Hundreds of thousands of our Karen people have been displaced by these operations since 1997, and they remain displaced today.

II. THE POLITICAL SITUATION

The political situation between the SPDC and the National League for Democracy (NLD) in Rangoon remains at a stalemate, with the junta refusing to reform or to participate in any meaningful dialogue with any democracy advocates and vowing to crush all opposition. The KNU and most other groups in the country are calling for tripartite dia-

logue involving the SPDC, the NLD, and the non-Burman ethnic leadership which represents the non-Burman half of the country's population. However, the SPDC has shown no willingness to engage in any such dialogue.

The junta claims falsely that it has already brought peace and unity to the country by signing military ceasefires with many of the ethnic-based armed opposition groups. Firstly, it is important to point out that none of the 'ceasefire deals' are peace treaties. They are simply temporary deals whereby the two military forces agree not to shoot at each other. No political issues have been addressed in any of these ceasefire deals, and most of the opposition groups who have signed them are not happy with the results. In most of the ceasefire areas, SPDC human rights abuses have continued.

The SPDC now claims that the Karen are the only group left fighting the junta, but this is also not true; in addition to the KNU, the Karenni National Progressive Party, the Shan State Army, the Chin National Front, and several other groups continue to fight actively against the military regime. At present, the junta is refusing to negotiate at all unless opposition groups agree to surrender unconditionally beforehand.

The KNU recognizes the suffering brought on the villagers by the current state of civil war and is determined to resolve this conflict by means of negotiation. However, we are not prepared to surrender unconditionally as demanded by the SPDC, because the result would only be endless suffering for the Karen people

TESTIMONY OF EDMOND HTOOKUT

My name is Edmond Htookut. I am a pastor, I am working and living together with displaced person.

We know that only very few people in the USA know about Burma and what is happening in Burma now. As for us Karen people who have been suffering from all kinds of atrocities under the Burmese military regime which is being recognized as one of the most brutal and most oppressive regime in the world we received very little international attention, interest and awareness. Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to give you some information about our people, our life and situation.

The church in Burma Christians from every group face forced persecution, destroying houses, schools, bibles and churches. It is not only Christians who are persecuted but Muslims and even Buddhists if they protest of the dictators actions. As a Christian pastor I will focus on the persecution my people face. It is important to remember our brothers and sisters of all faiths and ethnic groups who suffer under the SPDC.

Consequently many civilians were forced to leave their villages and resettle in places totally under military control. Due to the atrocities committed by the military group, the villagers dare not go back to rebuild their homes, schools and churches. But were forced to flee into neighboring country for survival and some are scattered in every corner and being separated from their churches. Those are the ones who do not live in the refugee camps. They are living in the jungle and do plantation. Some places are they lived two or three families and some are seven to ten families. They are living quietly in fear and anxiously.

They have not protection, no healthcare and no churches and no schools. They lost all their rights. When we tried to meet them we went to very difficult because land mines are around the area and the way we tried to go carefully to meet the people hiding in the jungle. When they meet us they are very afraid because they believe nobody. At the

time I told them "I am not a soldier. I am not a political man. I am a servant of Christ and God send me for help you. What can I do for you." They told me "we need medicine, we need some clothes, some food, we need security. We want to go back home, go back to our own land". I answered them "I don't know but don't be anxious. Believe God. God can do every things. Now over 56 countries pray for you. I hope we can go back home soon."

We are attempting to bring love and relief assistance to all internally Displaced Persons regardless of religion, ethnicity or political bias. But there are still many needs to be met and most of all the need for help of international community to change the political situation in Burma. For this is the real cause or the real source of all the problems.

We need the help of the international community, please for our people, our country. Help us in ways and means as you can. Please pray that God will intervene and change the situation in Burma so we will have peace and return to our own land. In God we trust.

Thank you so much.

TESTIMONY OF SAW KA LAW LAH REFUGEES

For Decades, wave after wave of Burmese refugees have fled war and oppression in their native land to seek uncertain exile in neighboring countries. The toll in human suffering is incalculable, and the continual mass migrations have created serious regional disruptions and tensions.

Around 300,000 Burmese are now refugees in Thailand, Bangladesh, and India. As many as one million Burmese people have become internally displaced because of the Burmese army attacks and forced relocations aimed at cutting local links to armed resistance groups or seizing their lands for state-run farming and logging.

After the bloody suppression of the 1988 pro-democracy movement, thousands of students and political activists evaded army round-ups and escaped to Thailand and India. Ethnic minority peoples, comprising about 40% of Burma's population, are special targets for abuse. Their indigenous lands along Burma's frontiers have for decades been consumed by rebellions that have flared and simmered in a quest for autonomy or independence.

Many villagers have been forced to move to new "satellite towns" that often lack services or communications and are sometimes located on disease-prone and infertile lands. Localized protests against such actions have been reported, but Burma's civilian population is basically defenseless against the regime's well-armed and fast-growing army.

Mr. Chairman:

1. My earnest request is to consider the above mentioned refugee problems and extend your protection for all the refugees along the Burma border and for all internally displaced people.

2. The Government of Burma may be considered guilty of a crime against humanity, punishable under international law.

EDUCATION

In Burma the law is what the generals say it is. It can and does change from day to day. There is no freedom of expression. Nearly all Burma's universities and colleges have been closed since student protests in Dec. 1996. There are two types of schools in Burma; one is for the children of the military members and is well funded. The other is for civilians and is poorly supported. Civilian schools have insufficient teachers and lack funds.

All curriculums, both civilian and military, must be approved by the military and

student activities are very closely monitored by military intelligence. Ethnic people are not allowed to teach in their own language in schools. In some rural areas even primary schools are not allowed to open. The Burmese soldiers come regularly to burn down all villages, schools, and churches. They even told villagers not to open any schools if they want to live in peace. But most of the internally displaced people build schools whenever they have a chance.

In refugee camps there are schools from nursery school through high school. We do not have qualified teachers and lack teaching materials, but most of the students are very keen to learn. In Karen and Karen camps there are nearly thirty thousand students and one thousand teachers.

To upgrade our education some further study programs are needed for students who have finished high school. They need to have an education so that they can help to fill the gaps and rebuild their country in the coming future.

What we need for IDP schools in Karen and Karenni areas:

1. Basic school supplies and text books.
2. Salaries for teachers.
3. Scholarship programs.
4. Travel passes.
5. Good communications programs.

TESTIMONY OF STEPHEN DUN

Mr. Chairman, Thank you for giving me a chance to again represent to you the situation in Burma.

My colleagues have vividly described the different problematic situations leaving no doubt that the military regime has, and continues to, systematically oppress all minorities in Burma, whether ethnic or religious using its military force.

I am a Karen who was born in Rangoon and had to flee with my parents to the border because of this type of oppression. I grew up on the mountains bordering Thailand & Burma and witnessed and experienced the seasonal military attacks of the then called State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), the ruling military junta. I have had close friends and relatives killed and as well as my home destroyed on three occasions.

The reason that this military regime is able to continue their hold on to power is because external interests focused on the region. A few of these instances are as follows. Jane's Intelligence review has been the main source for all of the following information.

CHINA

While Burma remains shunned by the West, the country's two giant neighbors, India and China, are jockeying for influence in Rangoon. Since the beginning of the year, India's army chief, General Ved Prakash Malik, has made two trips to Burma and his Burma counterpart, General Maung Aye, has visited both India and China.

These top-level exchanges have highlighted Burma's importance in the strategic competition between Beijing and New Delhi. China enjoys a considerable head start in the race to woo Rangoon's military leaders.

Since 1988, Burma has become China's closest ally in South-east Asia, a major recipient of Chinese military hardware and a potential springboard for projecting Chinese military power in the region.

During General Maung Aye's trip to Beijing in June to mark 50 years of diplomatic ties, has host, Chinese Vice-President Hu Jintao, noted that strengthening Sino-Burma relations was "an important part of China's diplomacy concerning its surrounding areas".

Burma emerged as a key Chinese ally on August 6, 1988, when the two countries signed

an agreement establishing official trade across the common border—hitherto—isolated Burma's first such agreement with a neighbor. Significantly, the signing took place while Burma was in turmoil.

China was eager to find a trading outlet to the Indian Ocean for its landlocked inland provinces of Yunnan and Sichuan, via Burma. The Burma rail-heads of Myitkyina and Lashio in north-eastern Burma, as well as the Irrawaddy River, were potential conduits.

By 1990, trade between the two countries was flourishing and Burma had become China's principal political and military ally in South-east Asia. China poured arms into Burma to shore up the military government.

The isolation and condemnation experienced by both countries in the wake of the Rangoon massacre of 1988 and the violent suppression of the Tiananmen Square protests the following year helped to draw them closer together.

But China's calculations were also strategic. Close to the key shipping lands of the Indian Ocean and South-east Asia, Burma could help China to extend its military reach into a region of vital importance to Asian economics. The bulk of Japan's Middle East oil imports, for example, pass through the area. China also wanted to check India's growing strategic influence.

By late 1991, Chinese experts were helping to upgrade Burma's infrastructure, including its badly-maintained roads and railways. Chinese military advisers also arrived that year, the first foreign military personnel to be stationed in Burma since the 1950s.

In August 1993, Indian coastguards caught three boats "fishing" close to the Andamans, where last year the Indian navy established a new Far Eastern Naval Command in a move viewed as an attempt to counter Chinese influence in Burma. The trawlers were flying Burma flags, but the crew of 55 was Chinese. There was no fishing equipment on board—only radio-communication and depth-sounding equipment. The Chinese embassy in New Delhi intervened and the crew was released.

Burma was becoming a de facto Chinese client state.

One of China's motives for arming Burma was to help safeguard the new trade routes through its potentially volatile neighbor.

Intelligence sources estimate the total value of Chinese arms deliveries in Burma in the 1990s at \$1 billion to 2 billion, with most of them acquired at a discount or through barter deals or interest-free loans.

Chinese support for the upgrading of Burma's naval facilities included at least four electronic listening posts along the Bay of Bengal and in the Andaman Sea: Man-aung, Hainggyi, Zadetkyi island and the strategically-important Coco Islands just north of India's Andaman Islands.

Although China's presence in the Bay of Bengal is limited currently to instructors and technicians, the new radar equipment is Chinese-made and operated probably, at least in part, by Chinese technicians, enabling Beijing's intelligence agencies to monitor this sensitive maritime region. China and Burma have pledged to share intelligence of potential use to both countries.

ISRAEL, PAKISTAN AND SINGAPORE

Over the past 12 years Burma has been branded a pariah state by the West and made to endure a range of political, economic and military sanctions. The Burma armed forces (or Tatmadaw) have lost their access to the arms, training and military technology of most of their traditional suppliers.

Three countries were quick to come to the SLORC's assistance. The first was Singapore. Two shiploads of arms and ammunition were

sent to Rangoon in October 1988 to fill an urgent order for mortars, small arms ammunition, recoilless rifle rounds and raw materials for Burma's arms factories. Israel too seemed prepared (through a Singaporean intermediary) to provide weapons to its old friend and ally (See JIR March 2000, pp 35-38). A shipment of captured Palestinian weapons and ammunition (mainly grenade launchers and recoilless guns) arrived in Burma in August 1989. Before the Israeli arms arrived, however, the SLORC received at least one shipment of arms and ammunition from Pakistan.

Pakistan seems also to have provided Burma with a wide range of military training. In the early 1990s there were reports that Pakistan had helped members of the Tatmadaw learn to operate and maintain those Chinese weapon systems and items of equipment also held in Pakistan's inventory. There were also reports that Pakistan Army instructors were based in Burma for a period to help train Burma special forces and airborne personnel.

While these reports remain unconfirmed, they are given greater credence as a number of Burma Army officers are currently in Pakistan undergoing artillery and armour training, and attending Pakistan's Staff Colleges. The BAF and Burma Navy also have officers undergoing training in Pakistan. It is possible that Pakistani military personnel have also been sent to Burma to help the Tatmadaw learn to operate and maintain its new K-8 jet trainers, and possibly even the 155mm artillery pieces that the SPDC acquired from Israel last year.

STATEMENT OF LARRY J. REDMON

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to appear before this panel of the US Congress today. My name is Larry Redmon, I am also a Major in the U.S. Army Special Forces currently serving with the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Insurgencies form for many reasons. One common reason is when a government fails to meet the social, political, economic, military or psychological needs of the people. Based upon my study and observations, I have concluded that some of the following help explain the insurgency in Burma: the government is unresponsive to the aspirations of the people; the government is tyrannical, repressive, and corrupt; the government has inefficient leadership; and the government is unwilling to tolerate responsible opposition. The widespread economic poverty; and failure of the inept, ultra-nationalistic leaders to develop a viable economy are also leading causes for these movements.

The Burmese military has largely disassociated itself from the people and is feared and looked upon as more of a weapon of tyranny. Psychologically, there is a lack of faith in the current government and widespread belief in injustice of the current system and its leaders. So these groups are in fact insurgent organizations that are fighting a war against the Government of Burma. However, it is my understanding that these insurgent organizations do not advocate an overthrow but rather a change to democracy with limited autonomy by the various groups. One hundred and eleven delegates from fourteen ethnic groups signed the Mae Raw Tha Agreement in Jan 1997. These delegates all agreed to a type of federation with shared power based upon the Swiss model. No one group wants sole power, they simply want a better way of life and change to democracy.

I am reminded that over 200 years ago a group of insurgents who sought change for in fairness for more participation in their own

governmental affairs were also labeled rebels and insurgents, the American Colonists. The colonists fought a very bloody and brutal war because they too wanted change and a voice in government. The ethnic minority groups of Burma seek the same.

While some of these groups do traffic in drugs, some, such as the Karen, are not involved with drug production. Some groups rely on legitimate means such as logging or taxing goods that travel through their areas to develop income. The income generated is used to finance the war, but it is also used to pay for education, roads, schools and temples. In short, the money is used to build a better way of life for their people, a way of life that the Burmese Government has thus far been unable or unwilling to provide. Based on my discussion with a leader of the Shan State Army these groups believe they have no real choice, but to rely on income from the drug trade. The Shan leader I spoke with candidly stated that if he could get income by another means he would gladly switch. He realizes that drug production is not good for his cause and he also knows that it keeps his cause from being legitimized by the international community, but so far he has not received financial assistance from any source.

These groups are fighting a war of survival. Some of these groups are at the very point of extinction. Based upon my study and observation, the SPDC is winning this war through its mass terror and massive human rights abuses. The SPDC practices mass terror by employing SS-type death squads called the "Saa Tho Lo" or Guerrilla Retaliation Units. These units often appear in the villages during the night and spread mass terror by abducting those who are suspected of associating with the KNLA or KNU. Often those abducted are killed very brutally, often beheaded or otherwise mutilated. The Karen Human Rights organization has eyewitness proof that since these death squads first appeared in Sept 1998 and up to May 1999, they have committed over 100 murders among the Karen people.

The Tatmadaw itself has systematically raped and tortured villagers for not being able to pay cash or provide their rice quotas. They use forced labor for porters and labor for their army. They demand quotas in labor from villages, often small boys and even old men. If these individuals refuse or are unable to keep up with the Army; are killed or left to rot, on the trail.

I learned that the SPDC will enter the homes of their own citizens and take young boys at night and force their induction into the Army. This January, I interviewed one such 15-year-old Burmese boy. He recently had defected to the Karen and was being helped in a Karen reeducation center. He told me that when he was 13, he had been taken during the night from his parents in Rangoon. He has not seen them since. During my interview, this boy never smiled or laughed, instead projecting only a solemn look of despair reflecting the loss of his childhood.

My observations and study confirm the findings of the Department of State that the SPDC engages in a variety of human rights abuses, such as forced relocation, religious and ethnic persecution, extra-judicial killings, heavy crop quotas, cash extortion, arrest and detention, rape and murder. The SPDC has attacked and burned villages of the ethnic minorities. The displaced persons are forced into the jungle or driven by force across the border into Thailand where they become refugees. Approximately one million refugees of various ethnic groups currently reside in Thailand. Some live in government refugee camps, others live in the jungles and mountains along the border, and still others live in Thailand's cities and rural areas.

His Majesty, the King of Thailand, and the Royal Thai Government have shown a tremendous amount of charity, love and generosity to these refugees, but given the current economic crisis and severity of the situation they can hardly do more. Once these ethnic groups are forced across the border by the SPDC, they are not left alone, the SPDC continues to terrorize these people by attacking them across the border, thereby violating Thailand's sovereignty. The Thai Army has lost many soldiers trying to protect these people. In 1998, the Thai Army had over twenty soldiers killed while trying to protect the Mae La refugee camp.

Human Rights abuses by the SPDC on the ethnic peoples are just a small part of a much larger problem. The SPDC has realized that they cannot gain international aid or support by their brutal tactics so they have turned to drug production to finance their army and country. The SPDC is producing heroin and methamphetamine, which is being sent to Southeast Asia and to the rest of the world. Thailand has been forced to direct many of the Army's already thin resources to fight this trafficking.

I believe that more humanitarian aid, assistance, and support to the Thai Government, a proven ally and friend to the United States, is urgently needed. We can try to influence and become more involved in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The United States and other members of ASEAN should pressure Burma for dialogue and raise these issues through all available international forums. We could possibly re-evaluate our recognition of the Government of Burma. We could also support the formation of an international investigative body, sanctioned by the UN and ASEAN, that would investigate and document human rights violations by the Burmese Regime and use it as evidence in an International Tribunal.

I finally believe it is in our best national interest for the United States to use all reasonable means to restore democracy to the people of Burma. As long as the brutal regime continues to hold power in Burma, the region will remain unstable thus causing tensions with the Kingdom of Thailand and the rest of Southeast Asia. In my view, we simply can't allow this to continue. Rather, we have a moral responsibility to the people of Burma, to the displaced ethnic minorities, and to the country of Thailand to take appropriate action now.

On January 6, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt said, "Freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere. Our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights and to keep them. Our strength is our unity to that purpose. To that high concept there can be no end save victory."

Recommended Actions, September 26, 2000, Burma Ethnic Delegation (Karen National Union, Karenni National Progressive Party

1. Provide immediate relief (medical, food, shelter, clothing) to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP). Relief can be coordinated and sent through ethnic IDP relief organizations.

2. Provide security for the IDP's from the attacks of the SPDC army.

3. Continue the assistance to refugees in camps and provide assistance to all refugees not yet in camps or with no access to camps.

4. Increase assistance for education programs for IDP and refugees schools and provide for schooling and education abroad.

5. Implement a counter narcotics program in Burma that in return for cessation of narcotics production and trafficking will provide for the following;

a. Provide for a crop substitution and economic development program for the opium

growing and amphetamine producing groups such as the Shan, Kokang and Wa. This should be done directly with these groups and not through the SPDC.

b. Provide relief and educational support for these groups.

c. Provide for training and supply of ethnic counter narcotics forces to enforce the counter narcotic program.

6. Establish a tri-partite dialogue between the SPDC, Burma democracy groups and ethnic groups. Through the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar of 1997 and the National Solidarity Seminar of 1998, the Burman and ethnic democracy groups have agreed on a framework for a democratic Burma. Their appeals for dialogue with the SPDC so far have been rejected.

7. Take the necessary economic, political and military actions to restore democracy and all human rights in Burma. This can be done indirectly by fully supporting the democratic resistance or directly by international intervention or both. The 10 ethnic democratic groups still resisting the SPDC (KNU, KNPP, NUPA, ALP, SSA, CNF, LDF, WNO, PHLO, PSLO), field between 14,000 and 15,000 groups. They are motivated and with support could easily increase in number, helping to provide security for the IDP's and helping to bring the SPDC to dialogue. Cease fire groups such as the KIO and the USWP have over 40,000 troops. And with support could be reunited with the pro democracy groups. With more support Burman pro democracy forces and ethnic forces could better unite.

8. Help establish a safe area for defectors from the Burma army and implement a program to receive these soldiers. There are thousands of Burma army soldiers who would leave their commands if there was a safe place for them.

9. Establish a war crimes tribunal for Burma to bring the perpetrators of war crimes and other human rights violations to justice. With the consent of Congress, this administration and the next, should setup a task force to monitor the crimes against humanity that the military regime in Burma is committing. What, Where When, to whom, by whom and under whose command atrocities were committed. Also posting the results of the findings on a .gov website will further establish credibility to the SPDC's part in the crime. This will be the building blocks for either prosecution by the international war crimes tribunal or a human rights commission so justice can be served.

10. That Congress request that the next Administration appoint an interagency task force to:

a. Assess the implications of China's actions in Burma.

b. Develop a plan for bringing about democracy in Burma.

c. Present the assessment and plan to the appropriate Congressional intelligence committee(s) before the end of 2001.

11. With the urging of Congress, the current and next Administration should actively discourage Pakistan, Israel, Singapore and China from providing military assistance to Burma.

12. Increase Sanctions against SPDC and continue to encourage other countries to do the same. Make all investment in Burma by US companies illegal. For example bring a close to UNOCAL's operations in Burma. Over 40% of foreign investment goes to the military a military whose only enemy is its own people.

13. Continue to recognize the dedication and courage of Burma democracy leaders such as Aung San Su Kyi.

SALUTING TEXAS ROSE FESTIVAL
QUEEN AND DUCHESS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute to the queen of the 2000 Texas Rose Festival, Caroline Malone Key, and to Tiffany Love Mea, who served as duchess of the rose growers during the festival which was held October 19–22 in Tyler, TX—the “Rose Capital of the Nation.”

Miss Key is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William O. Key of Tyler. Her family has been actively involved in the Rose Festival for many years and in service to the community, and Caroline has participated in the Rose Festival in various capacities in previous years. She is a freshman at Millsaps College in Jackson, MS. A native of Tyler, she attended All Saints Episcopal School, where she was active in student affairs. Her community services activities include St. Louis School, Habitat for Humanity, Bellwood Lake Clean-Up, Young Life, Tyler Rose Museum, Discovery Science Place and Tyler Day Nursery.

Miss Mea is the daughter of Pamela Jenkins of Tyler and Joseph C. Mea of Lindale. Her father is owner of Mea Nursery of Lindale, where Tiffany grew up learning about the industry and developing a special appreciation for roses. She attended All Saints Episcopal School in Tyler and is a 1999 graduate of San Marcos Baptist Academy. She is an honor student at St. Edward's University in Austin, where she is majoring in communications production, and is involved in Hunger Awareness and Habitat for Humanity. As duchess, Tiffany also will serve as an ambassador to Tyler, representing the area and its rose industry throughout the year.

Inspired by the Tyler Garden Club and begun in 1933, the Texas Rose Festival represents the spirit that brings Tyler together as a community. Tyler is home to the Nation's largest municipal rose garden and museum. Approximately one-fifth of all commercial rose bushes produced in the United States are grown in Smith County, while over one-half of the Nation's rose bushes are packaged and shipped from this area. Each year more than 100,000 people from around the world visit the Tyler Rose Garden and Museum. The Rose Garden blooms from late April until frost with over 30,000 rose bushes exhibiting approximately 450 varieties of roses. The Museum features memorabilia of past festivals, including hand-sewn, jeweled costumes dating as far back as 1935. James W. Arnold is the 2000 festival president.

The Texas Rose Festival attracts local citizens and visitors from throughout the country and is a showcase for Tyler's hospitality as well as its vibrant rose industry. The success of the Rose Festival is a reflection of the dedication, hard work and community spirit of hundreds of citizens and local businesses in Tyler. It is a source of tremendous civic pride for Tyler and East Texas, and it has evolved into a premiere event that is known throughout the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have participated in the Rose Festival for many years, and I would like to take this opportunity to commend all those whose efforts have made it possible and to congratulate Caroline Key, Rose Festival Queen for 2000, and Tiffany Mea, Duchess of the Rose Growers.

IN HONOR OF NANCY DODD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life of a woman who was a pioneer and an activist in many ways. Nancy W. Dodd was a woman who devoted her life to helping individuals and families cope with alcoholism and abuse, and has touched more lives than we can count. On September 5, 2000, Nancy passed away in her home after a long illness.

Nancy was born in Dallas, TX, in 1935 and 1965, she moved to Salinas, CA. It was here that she founded, with her husband, the Sun Street Centers. At Sun Street Centers, which still thrives today, Nancy began a new approach to alcohol recovery where, within the context of a residential treatment facility, she worked with the families of those she cared for in order to overcome alcoholism. This treatment model continues to be used on a state and national level in helping the individuals and families that are affected by alcoholism. The Sun Street Centers have served more than 60,000 people in Monterey County, to date. Ms. Dodd was also active in Al-Anon for 36 years, and served as the Alcohol Program Administrator for San Benito County, California. It was in this role that she created the Community Recovery Center for that county, serving similar needs as her Sun Street Centers.

Recently, as a tribute to her impact on the Monterey County community, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors named a currently developing community center The Nancy Dodd Community Center. In the resolution for this act, they praised her as “* * * A leader in the alcohol family recovery field” and proclaimed the new center's name “* * * In recognition of her dedication and service to the community”.

As an educator on the subject of treatment, Nancy lectured at colleges and universities throughout California, and was a frequent participant in the Episcopal Cursillo. As a member of the Good Shepard Episcopal Church she served as a junior warden, among other roles. She was a member and former president of the Democratic Women's Club of Monterey County, and a former board member and officer of the Women's Crisis Center and the Family Resource Center.

Nancy W. Dodd was a vibrant and energetic voice in the community. She will be sorely missed by her husband, Martin; her two sons, Martin Dodd III of Berkeley, CA, and Wesley Dodd of Clovis, CA.; two daughters, Elaine Dodd and Cheryl Merrill, of Salinas, CA; two sisters, Janice Seldomridge of Savannah, GA., and Penny Sieg of Jacksonville, FL; nine grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALPENA
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ON THE
OCCASION OF THE COUNCIL'S
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, the Knights of Columbus, an organization that has been called “the strong right arm of the Catholic Church,” was founded in 1882 in the basement of a church in New Haven, CT.

The importance of this unique fellowship of men, gathered together to do good works in their community, was quickly recognized, and men came together in other communities to form their own local groups. In 1900 a council of 30 members was formed in Alpena, MI, in my congressional district.

I recently had an opportunity to join the members of the Alpena Knights of Columbus Council 529 for their 100th anniversary. Now 500 members strong, this council personifies the strength and viability of the Knights of Columbus, which has grown to more than 1.6 million members worldwide.

I said, Mr. Speaker, that the Alpena council personifies other councils. This is most true in the good works the council does. It sponsors activities for both boys and girls, buying jerseys for teams in such sports as baseball, hockey and soccer teams. It supports Boysville, a camp in Clinton, MI, and it provides assistance to the families of its members, a hallmark of Knights of Columbus councils everywhere.

Where this council differs from others, Mr. Speaker, is in the nature of its single biggest fundraiser, its annual Wild Game Dinner, which is held the last Friday in January. The council puts its best northern Michigan culinary foot forward with a game feast of salmon and trout, of deer, moose and elk, of rabbit and muskrat. Approximately 500 diners are expected each year, and the council can expand its charitable fund by about \$50,000 annually from this event alone.

I had the pleasure of addressing members of the Alpena council recently, and I spoke of our own efforts here in Congress to bring a sense of religious commitment to our public service through the Congressional Prayer Breakfast. We, too, are a body brought together to do good works on behalf of others. It remains my fervent hope that, despite the widely divergent views on every issue that are brought to the House floor, we will be kept humble, ever conscious of our commitment to service, and ever focused on working together, even when we disagree.

I pray the next 100 years of the Alpena Knights of Columbus will find their membership ranks filled, their good works expanded, and their example of fellowship and public service a bright beacon for individuals, the private sector and public servants like us.

WOLCOTT FIRE COMPANY NO. 3
CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, over the past fifty years there have been many significant events in the Town of Wolcott, a community in my Connecticut congressional district, but this October 27th will be a date that will be especially noted for what it means in the lives of so many past and present residents of the Town. On that day, Friday, October 27, 2000, Wolcott Volunteer Fire Department Company No. 3 celebrates its golden anniversary—50 years of dedicated service to the Town of Wolcott and surrounding communities.

Fifty years ago, the Town fire department foresaw Wolcott's potential for growth that has ultimately been realized. Despite very limited resources, dedicated volunteers moved ahead to create a third fire company within the department. Indeed, resources could not have been more limited, with the only equipment available being an old ambulance converted to an emergency truck, and \$1.38 in the treasury, much of that raised from a penny collection. The members of the Company however, were extremely dedicated to their task. A year later the company acquired its first real fire truck, a well used 1919 American LaFrance, purchased from the neighboring city of Waterbury for \$300.00. The fire station was a converted local garage.

As the years passed, and as the community grew, so did the role of Company No. 3. The members continued to pull together, some literally mortgaging their homes to raise funds for their efforts. A new station was built by members of the Company and other townspeople, with much of the labor and materials being donated. Other emergency vehicles were added to the company. Training and equipment maintenance took not only a lot of time, but also a lot of money. Fundraisers of every kind were held to help offset the costs of the equipment. After just ten years, the Company purchased its first new truck for \$16,700, obtained through local fundraising efforts as well as a mortgage on the fire house.

In the ensuing years, other trucks and emergency vehicles were purchased, additions to the station were made, and the company endured numerous challenges that only served to make it a stronger and more cohesive organization. The outcome is an organization whose character is steeped in dedication, loyalty and commitment to serve the Wolcott community.

The members of the Company, past and present, have made sacrifices above and beyond the call of duty that have set an example for all firefighters to follow.

Mr. Speaker, Wolcott Volunteer Fire Department Company No. 3 deserves wide recognition, and I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in congratulating all past and present members of Company No. 3, and thanking them for a job well done!

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES A. GARNEY

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Ms. McCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor an exceptional leader and friend to our Kansas City community and our country. This year the Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries of Greater Kansas City will recognize Charles A. Garney as a Friends in Deed 2000. Charles Garney has an extensive history of civic pride and investment into our community. He has shown outstanding dedication as a business leader, philanthropist and advocate for the poor and disadvantaged of metropolitan Kansas City.

Charles Garney is the founder, Chairman of the Board, and Chief Executive Officer of Garney Companies, Inc., a heavy utility construction company with its headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. He is also the founder, Chairman of the Board, and Chief Executive Officer of Briarcliff Development Company, headquartered in Kansas City as well. Charles Garney and his companies have played an integral role in shaping the Kansas City skyline. He is responsible for preserving and promoting one of Kansas City's most notable neighborhoods in the historic Northeast area where he has made his home and been recognized as the Northlander of the Year by his neighbors.

Outside of his burgeoning businesses, Charles Garney has played an active role in Kansas City's civic, social, and philanthropic communities. Mr. Garney has consistently dedicated his time and efforts to countless organizations such as Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries, which improve the lives of others and make Kansas City a better place to live. He is the past President of the Kansas City Area Economic Development Council, past President of the Kansas City Crime Commission, and Director of the City of Fountains Foundation to name only a few. Mr. Garney is a member of several distinguished charitable and professional boards and committees as well. Charles Garney's commitment has been recognized as the Missourian of the Year, he has received the Citizen of the Year Award from Baker University, the Distinguished Citizen of the Kansas City Community Award by Park College, and he is listed in "Ingram's Magazine" as one of Kansas City's hundred most influential people from 1990 to 1997.

Throughout his professional and personal career Charles Garney has been a great friend to his neighbors in the Kansas City community. He has shared his success with the city which raised him, and his devotion as an example to us all. Charles exemplifies the core values that we all strive for: commitment to the community, to family and to making a difference in the lives of others. I am honored to acknowledge Charles A. Garney for his successful efforts and service to Kansas City. I know that he is joined in receiving this award by his wife Patty, his six daughters, and their extended family. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries Friends In Deed 2000, Charles A. Garney.

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
MUSEUM

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on October 24, 2000, S. 1438, a bill to establish a National Law Enforcement Museum in the District of Columbia was passed in the House.

H.R. 2710 and its companion legislation, S. 1438, would establish a National Law Enforcement Museum next to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in the District of Columbia. I believe that this museum will be a fitting tribute to those who serve and protect our communities and nation on a daily basis. Currently, there are about 74,000 federal, state and law enforcement officers who risk their lives to ensure that citizens are safe and protected. In fact, members of my own family have served and I feel especially proud to be a cosponsor and ardent supporter of this museum.

The museum will help to educate the public about the law enforcement profession and the great personal risks many officers encounter daily. An integral part of the success of law enforcement is public support; support that will grow as the public gains a better understanding of the law enforcement profession through information provided at the museum. The museum will have an accompanying research facility that will be instrumental in creating a safer and more stable environment for all, as research conducted there will be utilized by policy makers as well as officers themselves to improve both the effectiveness of legislation and law enforcement techniques.

RETIREMENT OF NEW MEXICO
STATE HISTORIAN ROBERT J.
TORREZ

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Robert J. Torrez, the New Mexico State Historian and one of New Mexico's most recognized, respected and honored historians, recently announced his retirement to be effective December 22, 2000. Mr. Torrez has served in his official position with New Mexico's state government since 1987.

During his years as State Historian, Mr. Torrez has made many noteworthy contributions to support greater awareness of the richness and depth of the more than four and a half centuries of New Mexico history—a written record of history in the United States that has few, if any, direct parallels. And a record that continues to grow as New Mexico continues to make its unique contributions to our country.

One of the areas in which Mr. Torrez has focused his scholarship is the history of New Mexico's judicial institutions and how those institutions responded to crime, punishment and other legal dilemmas under the Spanish, Mexican and American governments. He has written many articles on the subject and has pointed out the effectiveness of the Spanish

and Mexican systems in dealing with crimes in the context of not only providing justice, but also community-wide resolution and acceptance of the application of justice through those systems in ways that also preserved the integrity of the individuals and families involved in progressive ways. He has long-running regular column that is published in the monthly public employee-oriented newspaper, *Round the Roundhouse*, that has pointed out many little-known aspect of New Mexico's history.

Mr. Torrez is a recognized expert on one of New Mexico's—and the Southwest's—most challenging issues. And it is an issue that is not only close to my heart but touches on the soul of every traditional Hispanic community in New Mexico: the question of New Mexico's land grants. Those grants made by Spanish and Mexican governments were ostensibly protected by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo that ended the United States' war with Mexico in 1848. Mr. Torrez has presented countless lectures and discussions concerning this matter and he served as a member of the Guadalupe Hidalgo Task Force created under the auspices of the New Mexico Attorney General's Office in order to assist the United States General Accounting Office conduct their ongoing study of New Mexico's grants.

Mr. Torrez has also contributed significantly to the preservation of New Mexico's historical documents and cultural properties. As only one notable example, in 1988, he worked with the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board to obtain a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. He then ensured that the grant funds were applied to a much-needed project for locating and identifying historical records throughout New Mexico and then assessing their condition and making recommendations for maintaining and preserving them for posterity. The result was a report, *New Mexico's Historical Records—An Assessment*, that was published and circulated throughout the State in 1990.

Despite his widespread recognition and his scholarly position, Mr. Torrez has also deliberately chosen to remain accessible to the many citizens struggling to understand their family, cultural and state history. It is part of his commitment to promoting the understanding and dissemination of the history that he clearly so deeply loves. And as a consequence, he is not only widely recognized and warmly received wherever he travels in the state, but is also deeply appreciated as a living, breathing cultural treasure in our State. I, my wife, Jill, and countless other New Mexicans join in extending our sincere thanks and congratulations to Mr. Robert Torrez for his years and dedication and commitment to the history of our Land of Enchantment. We know and are glad that he will be able to continue his work from the comfort of his well-deserved and more leisurely state of retired public servant. One who has exemplified the highest standards of public service. We wish him continued rewards in the years to come.

MAINE WOMEN'S FUND

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday evening, October 2, the Maine Women's Fund

held its annual "Evening to Honor Maine Women and Girls" and celebrated the Fund's tenth anniversary year.

At this year's dinner, the Maine Women's Fund honored four women for their extraordinary efforts to eliminate gender barriers.

Odelle Bowman, of Portland, uses theater to teach life and social skills and strengthen self-esteem for at-risk young girls through "A Company of Girls," sponsored by the East End Children's Workshop. Many of the girls are from low-income single parent families, many have survived a traumatic past, almost half are young women of color, and many are refugees. The productions are different and challenging. They range from *Romeo and Juliet* to a play deconstructing the Cinderella myth. Odelle produces all productions for "A Company of Girls," from lighting and costumes to directing and coaching.

Elise Brown, of Liberty, is a firefighter with the Portland Fire Department, as well as a Captain and training officer with the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department. Elise taught a carpentry course for Women Unlimited, where women learned carpentry, and also were encouraged to challenge traditional gender barriers in employment. She has been the positive role model many women long for as they explore areas outside the realm of presumed acceptability. Elise has built wooden boats, a post and beam barn and managed a vegetable farm. As assistant to the Director of the Maine Women's Development Institute, she designed and developed a database system, was responsible for the bookkeeping, correspondence and grant requests.

As Co-Director of Portland Adult Education, Larinda Meade of Portland has changed the lives of thousands of women, many among the state's poorest citizens. She has been a classroom teacher, an educational counselor, an administrator of a statewide literacy program, a Dean of Women, and since 1990, co-director of Maine's largest and most diverse public school education program. She has worked to establish a "first-of-its-kind" Family Workshop on Munjoy Hill. Larinda has served on the board and as President of Women Unlimited, on the Advisory Council for the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community and is a founding member of the Coalition for Women in Trades and Technology.

Dancer, dramatist, poet, athlete, artist, and feminist activist Caitlin Schick of Mount Desert Island has accomplished a great deal in her eighteen years. As a poet, her work often deals with subject of eating disorders, loving oneself, speaking up. As an artist, her paintings are striking. One painting is of a woman's face with phrases behind it such as "we can never be beautiful enough * * * we can never be enough * * * we can never be good enough." Caitlin wrote and starred in a skit for National AIDS Day, which dealt with sexual issues facing young people.

I salute the contributions of this year's honorees and appreciate the work of the Maine Women's Fund in advancing the cause of gender equality.

TRIBUTE TO DAN MOODY, JR.

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Dan Moody, Junior of Austin, Texas who died on Friday, the 27th of October. His death was an enormous loss, not just to me as his close friend, but also to all of humanity.

Dan Moody was a man of the highest intellect and integrity of any person I've known in my life. He graduated from the University of Texas Law School with the highest grade point average of anyone in the history of the school in 1951. Yet he never had the characteristics of a bookworm, rather he was always a down to earth, fun loving, rounded human being. He was almost always right, yet never overbearing or arrogant in his position. He walked through life with respect for every human being.

He was the son of Texas' youngest Governor, Dan Moody, a man who had the courage to fight and defeat the Ku Klux Klan in a court of law. He clearly passed on his courage and integrity to his son, Dan Moody, Jr. To all of his friends, his loyalty was exceeded only by his care and compassion. His word was sanctified bond and he was always prepared to give of himself to others wherever there was a need. I extolled him in life as I do now in death. His country and I will miss him greatly and I'm sure that all of my colleagues join me in extending our sympathies to his marvelous wife, Ann, his daughter Martha, and his son Charles.

TRIBUTE TO OLA MAE FORD

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Ola Mae Ford, a native of Macon who lives in Fort Hill in what is affectionately referred to as "the house by the side of the road." Her house has this designation because she cooks incredibly delicious food every day, and people travel from all parts of the state to sit at her table and share her hospitality. She has been cooking all of her life, but her training at Albany State University and Atlanta University helped sharpen those skills that she used for 36 years as a Home Economics Teacher at Ballard Hudson Senior High School.

Ms. Ford served as Advisor to the Future Teachers of America and was a member of the National Education and Professional Standards Commission. She has been actively involved with the American Red Cross, both locally and nationally, as well as the March of Dimes, the Central Georgia Health Agency, the Georgia State Health Planning Council, the American Legion's Auxiliary Girls' State Program, and the Southwest Optimist Club. She was appointed by two of Georgia's governors to serve on the Council of Maternal and Infant Health for twelve years.

Presently, she continues to enthusiastically work to improve the lives of the people of Georgia by staying involved with many boards,

such as the Board of Directors for Meals on Wheels, Bibb County Home Makers, Friends of the Ocmulgee Monument, Advisory Council for Neighborhood Health Care and President of the Fort Hill Neighborhood Association.

Her life and work are centered around providing the generous gift of hospitality. I congratulate her on all of her life long efforts to build better communities and help others. I want to recognize the positive impact she has made on the lives of so many people. Her work and her contributions are important, and I want to salute her as an outstanding citizen of Georgia's Eighth District.

OMNIBUS INDIAN ADVANCEMENT
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I strongly object to H.R. 5528, The Omnibus Indian Advancement Act, because this bill does not protect Marin and Sonoma Counties in California from casino development.

Section XIV of the bill, which discusses the restoration of the Coast Miwok tribe in the Sixth Congressional District of California, rightfully restores the Miwoks' tribal status but does not protect Marin and Sonoma Counties from gambling. That is not acceptable.

In June, H.R. 946, The Graton Rancheria Restoration Act, my bill to restore the Miwoks' status and protect the community from casino development unanimously passed the House.

Now, in the last days of the session in the dark of night this hastily written omnibus bill that undoes the work of this House and does not protect my constituents is brought to the floor. In their effort to finish up their work for the year, the authors of this bill have hung Marin and Sonoma Counties out to dry and undone my work.

An act of Congress took away the Miwoks' status nearly 40 years ago. Now the Miwoks' need an act of Congress to restore their status and to provide them the health and education benefits they deserve.

By working with the tribe, the community and the House Resources Committee, I passed H.R. 946 that carefully balanced the needs of the Miwoks and the needs of the community. Under the bill I wrote and this House passed, everyone would have come out a winner.

Now, without notice, the other body has undone this House's strongly supported efforts on behalf of the Coast Miwoks.

If this bill becomes law, there will be nothing stopping the Coast Miwoks from building a Vegas-style casino in the rolling hills of Marin and Sonoma counties—no matter how much the community objects.

Under current federal law, Indian gaming is prohibited except in states, like California, that allow gambling. In those states, governors are obligated under federal law to negotiate a compact with any recognized tribe that wants to start gaming.

As everyone knows, federal law has precedence over state law in all circumstances. Therefore, without a specific federal prohibition against Miwok gaming, like the one contained

in my bill, H.R. 946, the Graton Rancheria Restoration Act, at any point the Miwok could set up gaming in the North Bay; all they would have to do is ask and the governor would be obligated to negotiate a gambling compact with them.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents strongly oppose gaming. As their representative, I strongly oppose this bill. The pressure to wrap up work for the session is no reason to ignore my communities' needs.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
POLLUTION

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD an article written by former Senator Robert W. Kasten, Jr. The Honorable Bob Kasten served in both the House of Representatives (1975–81) and the Senate (1981–93).

Mr. Kasten writes to remind us of the fact that the Federal Government is the largest polluter in the United States. He brings to our attention anecdotes from the states, which illustrate the states' difficulties enforcing local environmental laws on the federal government. He writes about the federal government's lack of accountability in cleaning up its own toxic waste sites and its attempts to push cleanup responsibility and costs to local levels of government and to private landowners.

According to a Boston Globe article last year, "federal agencies have contaminated more than 60,000 sites across the country and the cost of cleaning up the worst sites is officially expected to approach \$300 billion, nearly five times the price of similar destruction caused by private companies." In contrast, private Superfund site clean up is estimated at a fraction of the federal government at \$57 billion. The article goes on to say that the EPA Inspector General has found that, federal agencies are increasingly violating the law, with 27 percent of all government facilities out of compliance in 1996, the latest year figures available, compared to 10 percent in 1992.

Department of Energy and Department of Defense environmental clean up budgets are routinely last priorities in the appropriations processes. For example, this year I worked to cut construction funding in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for the DOE's National Ignition Facility (NIF)—a bottomless money pit that the GAO has determined to be mired in waste and technological difficulties—and suggested that this funding be transferred to the DOE's waste management account, where I believe the money could be put to better use.

The final appropriations bill increased the Defense Environmental Restoration and Waste Management fund by \$490 million dollars. In comparison, the NIF project, which is 100 percent over budget and 6 years behind schedule, was appropriated \$130 million for FY 2001. The NIF boondoggle was granted nearly one-third of the total increase of the environmental clean up budget. Clearly the federal government has other agendas than the environment.

We need to look more closely at Federal Government's own environmental problems.

The State and Federal Government can work together to modernize environmental laws, streamline the bureaucratic process, and focus less on punishment and more on figuring out the best way to reach high environmental standards and compliance.

AMERICA'S LARGEST POLLUTER—GUESS WHO

(By Sen. Robert W. Kasten, Jr.)

Here is a question that really ought to be put to both the presidential candidates, but especially Vice President Gore, in the final weeks of the campaign: Can you tell us who the largest polluter in the country is? And—important follow-up—if you are elected president, what would you plan to do about this defiler of our planet's future?

The answer, as market environmentalist Becky Norton Dunlop notes in her forthcoming book, *Clearing the Air*, will surprise many Americans. It isn't Exxon, duPont, or even, with respectful apologies to Ronald Reagan, trees—although trees are, as Reagan said, a major source of certain "pollutants."

Rather, as Dunlop notes, the largest polluter in the United States is: the United States government. Federal vehicles are not only numerous, but, in many cases, don't meet federal clean air standards. Temporary bureaucrats who commute to major federal centers, especially in Washington, D.C., often do so in vehicles that aren't locally registered, and thus don't meet area pollution requirements.

There are even a large number of federally-protected toxic waste sites. And of course, the federal government's sorry effort to blame land-owners who didn't pollute for the chemicals put on their property by others is a major reason why the vast majority of Superfund sites around the country haven't been cleaned up.

Dunlop knows about federal pollution firsthand. As Secretary of Natural Resources for the state of Virginia from 1994 to 1998, she had to go to court against the Gore-Clinton Environmental Protection Agency to stop some federal agencies from polluting, or protecting polluters being harbored because they were federal contractors. For this, she won the ire of some extremists for whom environmentalism means not making the air, water, and soil cleaner, but expanding the federal government's ability to strong-arm states, cities, companies, and private citizens.

Even some environmentalists are starting to realize the irony, as Scott Harper of the *Virginian-Pilot* put it recently, that if you're looking for the biggest polluter of all, "it's government—the same authority that's supposed to protect the environment." The Boston Globe did a whole series on the issue of government pollution in 1999. This summer, USA Today did an expose on federal agency pollution dating back to the 1940s, a series that has led to Senate hearings this fall. But you don't have to go back to the history books to find federal polluting. It's going on right now, under the man supposed to be the environmental vice president, Al Gore.

Now, to be sure, one reason the federal government is the largest polluter is its sheer size. The federal government owns more vehicles, buys more products, employs more commuters, and does a lot of other things in much greater volume than any company. (That the federal government is so vast is, in itself, a comment on the state of our society; but that is a subject for separate discussion.)

But size isn't the only reason government pollutes so much. Far from it. A major contributing reason is that federal authorities frequently attempt to shift the expense for cleaning up their pollution to other levels of government, or to private landowners—allowing federal agencies themselves to continue polluting while blaming others.

As Dunlop recounts, for instance, in the mid 1990s, the EPA, run by former Gore aide Carol Browner, tried to prevent the state of Virginia from making the federal government clean up one of the worst toxic waste sites in the country. Avtex fibers. The plant had been kept open thanks to Colin Powell and the Bush administration because it was producing valuable products for the federal government. That's understandable.

What was wrong was the effort by the Clinton Administration to avoid making the party responsible for the pollution, namely Uncle Sam, from paying for the cleanup. "Can you imagine," as Dunlop notes, "if the guilty party had been a major corporation?"

EPA ultimately paid a huge fine to Virginia in the Avtex case but only after a legal struggle. Today, Browner brazenly takes credit for having cleaned up the site.

The government as a polluter is a vital issue all by itself. But in an election where trust, character, and taking responsibility have become part of the debate, it may be especially important.

Wasn't it Al Gore who was led an exhaustive review of everything the federal bureaucracy does, the ill-starred "re-inventing government" crusade? How does Gore square this effort and mission, and his vaunted attention to detail, with the fact that he apparently paid little attention to the polluting activities and policies of governmental itself?

Here we see the intersection of something Al Gore claims to revere, namely clean air and water, with the place where he and Bill Clinton have had the most direct control, the federal executive branch. And instead of a record to be proud of, the story of EPA in the 1990s is one of political vendettas, bad science, and "the buck stops over there."

I'm no Jim Lehrer or Larry King, but if I were, I know that I would point this out. It isn't a nit-picking question, and it isn't a personal attack—instead it goes to policy and the future. And it would sure be interesting what Al Gore has to say.

Mr. Kasten served Wisconsin in the House of Representatives (1975-81) and U.S. Senate (1981-93) and is an advisor to the Alexis de Tocqueville Institution.

HONORING RON HASKINS

HON. JIM McCRERY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. McCRERY. Mr. Speaker, as the 106th Congress draws to a close, I would like to join my colleagues in paying tribute to Mr. Ron Haskins, the Staff Director of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources. Much to my regret, Ron will be leaving the Subcommittee at the end of the year. I know he will be sorely missed by this Member, and by the many other Members and staff who have had the opportunity to work with him during his time on Capitol Hill.

Over the years, Ron has been a key asset on the Ways and Means Committee. As a member of the Human Resources Subcommittee, I have had the honor of working closely with Ron on some of the major social policy issues affecting our country. His in-depth understanding of the issues, combined with his keen ability to digest the diverse perspectives of Committee Members, have allowed him to help identify areas of compromise and agreement on difficult issues.

As the Subcommittee's new Staff Director in 1995, Ron immediately employed his strong grasp of the nation's welfare system by working with then-Chairman CLAY SHAW, and other Members of the Committee, to craft the 1996 Welfare Reform Act—the most significant change in social policy in this country in the last 60 years. Thanks to Ron's tireless efforts, millions of American families are breaking a cycle of dependency and are working and gaining independence in our nation's economy.

As Ron moves on to other opportunities in his life, I join my colleagues in thanking Ron for his service to the Committee and to the country, for his good counsel, and for his energetic presence. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

SUPPORT FOR LIBERTY DAY CELEBRATION IN KANSAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the celebration of Liberty Day in my home state of Kansas.

Liberty Day is a non-partisan statewide celebration of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. It is celebrated annually on March 16th, the birthday of James Madison, the "father of our Constitution." On this day, and throughout the year, elected and previously elected officials volunteer their time to speak to students about how our country was established, how our system of government operates, what it means to be an American, and what our rights and responsibilities are as citizens of this great country. This year, Liberty Day was observed in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio and Wyoming. In Kansas, March 16, 2000, was proclaimed as Liberty Day by Governor Bill Graves, who urged all Kansans to join in the observance.

On October 10th of this year, I was pleased to join with my colleagues in voting in favor of H. Con. Res. 376, expressing the sense of Congress regarding support of the recognition of a Liberty Day. This resolution was approved by a voice vote of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the House of Representatives for the 106th Congress, it has been my honor to have the opportunity to distribute hundreds of copies of the Constitution to constituents who have visited my office, Kansans who have attended my regularly-scheduled community office hours in the Third District, and secondary school teachers, study group leaders, and ministers who have contacted me asking for copies of the Constitution for distribution. I welcome this opportunity to share with you my support for this worthy endeavor, which will bring the living words of our Constitution closer to the minds and hearts of Kansans who, as I do, revere its meaning in our lives today.

HONORING GIL CORONADO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I honor the achievements of a fellow Texan who has been serving as a key appointee in the Clinton Administration for the past six years. Gil Coronado is one of San Antonio's favorite sons, and is currently serving as the ninth Director of the Selective Service System. He is also the first Hispanic Director in the Agency's 60-year history.

Since his nomination by President Clinton and Senate confirmation in October 1994, Director Coronado has been leading this small but vital Federal agency into the 21st Century with unprecedented modernization and innovation, through the institution of on-line registration and registration by telephone. Nearly three-quarters of a million men have registered on-line to date.

More than half of all registrations today are electronic and the ratio of electronic registrations vs. paper registrations increases monthly, making it faster and easier for America's young men to comply with the registration requirement. These improvements also make it less costly to administer, something for which this body has a great appreciation.

Gil Coronado's influence as Director extends beyond Texas and Washington, D.C. Through his tireless advocacy in encouraging state and local government support of the Federal registration program, the number of states enacting laws that directly support the Military Selective Service Act has risen from 18 to 28 since 1994. This year two states—Oklahoma and Delaware—became the first states to link Selective Service registration with application for state drivers' licenses.

Gil Coronado is dedicated to making sure that our nation's young men are reminded about their civic and legal obligation to register.

Gil Coronado is a tremendous role model. He was born in Corpus Christi and grew up in the barrios of San Antonio. Orphaned at the age of five, his youthful years sometimes found him on the wrong side of the law. He dropped out of high school and was a member of Hispanic gangs. But he soon followed a more productive path in life, leading to great personal achievement and dedicated public service.

He enlisted in the military when he was only 16 by being more patriotic than honest about his age, earned a GED diploma, a college degree, and devoted a total of 30 years to a distinguished Air Force career, retiring as a Colonel with over 35 awards and decorations including the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star. A long-time crusader for Hispanic issues, he advocated creating National Hispanic Heritage Month, designated by the Congress in 1988.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the service and accomplishments of one of its most effective appointees, Selective Service System Director Gil Coronado. His selfless contributions to our great nation, from his years as a very young airman to the approaching conclusion of his current assignment as the longest serving SSS Director since General Lewis B. Hershey, are inspirational to us all. In every respect, Gil Coronado

is a patriot, a good friend, and a great American.

A TRIBUTE HONORING MR. JOSEPH ACOSTA ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special American citizen, Mr. Joseph Acosta of San Gabriel California who celebrates his 90th Birthday today. Mr. Acosta is the quintessential example of a devoted American family man, who has led an exemplary life of service to God, family and country, and who is deserving of our highest commendation and gratitude.

Joe Acosta is a simple man, a quiet man, a man of great character. Born on October 28, 1910 in Sonora, Mexico, he moved at the tender age of three, along with his beloved parents Joseph and Teresa Acosta, and his siblings to the United States, where the family settled in Tucson, Arizona.

Like many new immigrant families working the great agricultural fields of the southwest, Joe had to leave school early in life in order to help the family survive. He took upon his shoulders the hard and grueling work, without complaint, in order that he and his seven brothers and sisters could have a better opportunity to seek the American dream.

Perhaps his greatest achievement, but certainly most fortuitous happenstance was meeting, courting and marrying the lovely and charming Cecelia Palomares, scion of one of California's proud pioneer families. United in Holy Matrimony on September 26, 1936, Joe and Cecelia Acosta recently celebrated their 64th Wedding Anniversary, a milestone reached by few couples. Together they raised a fine family consisting of two sons, Robert and Vincent Acosta, and a daughter Patricia Acosta Williams. They enjoy six grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren, with two more on the way!

Attaining American citizenship in 1937, Joe Acosta was part of the "Greatest Generation" that contributed to the triumph of freedom over tyranny during World War II. While he did not serve in the military, he worked sixteen-hour days in the rubber industry to provide materiel for the war effort. Later, the great skills he exhibited in his work brought his company profits exceeding seventy thousand dollars per month that helped usher in a period of unprecedented prosperity for the United States and created the great middle class of Americans.

Through their courage, effort and devotion, Joe and Cecelia, Acosta achieved the American dream for their family. They are proud homeowners and citizens of San Gabriel, California, and devoted parishioners of San Gabriel Mission Catholic Church. Along with the multitudes of simple, quiet unsung heroes, who contributed so enormously to the collective greatness of American society, Joe Acosta has done his part. In the warm embrace of his loving family, he has earned the pleasures of a long retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in paying tribute to Joseph Acosta, faithful servant of God, honorable citizen of the United States, proud and devoted husband

and father. From the hallowed halls of Congress we say to you Joe, "Well Done! God bless you and your family. And God bless America!"

COMMENDING THE BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA LIONS CLUB FOR 46 YEARS OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITY NEEDS

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I proudly salute a remarkable organization in my district which has been working hard for nearly half a century to raise badly needed resources to fund countless community efforts and held people in need.

For 46 years, the Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Lions Club has always been there to help with a wide variety of critical needs. There are no words to adequately convey my admiration and thanks for all that the Brooklyn Center Lions have accomplished through their inspiring public service.

Mr. Speaker, it is organizations like the Brooklyn Center Lions Club which keep our country strong. As a fellow Lion, I want to salute the Brooklyn Center Lions who quietly volunteer their time, energy and talent to meet pressing demands in their community. I also applaud the Brooklyn Center Rotary Club for honoring the Brooklyn Center Lions last week.

Mr. Speaker, the great city of Brooklyn Center is greater because of the many important contributions of the Brooklyn Center Lions over the last four decades. The Lions live by the motto "We Serve," and the Brooklyn Center Lions personify community service.

In 1999 alone, Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center Lions donated \$30,203 to the city to provide extra special help wherever and whenever needed. Over the years, the size and scope of the Lions' generosity paints a vivid picture of public service. Through the years, the Lions have donated \$160,000 to the city, \$125,000 to the schools and \$110,000 to youth sports.

Since I was first elected to Congress, I have made expanded opportunities for people with disabilities one of my highest priorities. The Lions of Brooklyn Center share that passion and know that our nation is underutilizing a very talented and hard-working population by not offering more people with disabilities the opportunity to contribute. That's why the Brooklyn Center Lions built ramps for people in wheelchairs so they can lead more independent, fulfilling lives.

Mr. Speaker, the Lions Club in Brooklyn Center each and every year comes through with funds to get civic projects off the ground. The Lions Club lifts spirits by supporting the hometown Earle Brown Days, concerts, special festivals and the Park and Recreation Department's annual Halloween party.

The Brooklyn Center Lions have donated money for a training tower for the Brooklyn Center Fire Department, bikes for the Brooklyn Center Police Department's bike patrol, fitness equipment for police officers and the picnic shelter in Lions Park.

Mr. Speaker, the needs of children are always foremost in the minds of Brooklyn Cen-

ter Lions Club members. Memories will last a lifetime for all the elementary school students who were able to travel to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum because of the generosity of the Lions. The club gives to the Brooklyn Center Charitable Foundation to help children get coats, gloves and school supplies.

Clubs like the Lions of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, are the lifeblood of our communities. That is literally the case with the Lions of Brooklyn Center when they support events like the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life." The Brooklyn Center Lions for almost half a century have rung bells with the Salvation Army, gathered food for the hungry and helped clean up the city parks.

Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center Lions truly represent the best in public service, and I am very proud to represent them in Congress. The Brooklyn Center Lions are a model for the nation and a great community resource.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the tremendous public service performed by the Brooklyn Center Lions for 46 years! Thank you, Lions, for all you have done and will continue to do in the years ahead.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4942, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of section 1012 of the Launching Our Communities Access to Local Television Act of 2000, title X of the Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary and related agencies appropriations conference report. Section 1012 provides for independent testing of terrestrial technologies in the 12 GHz band. My support for this section is conditioned on the understanding that this provision will not add any delay to any current FCC proceeding.

The Satellite Home Viewer's Improvement Act ("SHVIA"), which we passed a year ago, required the FCC to act on applications to provide local television service in unserved and underserved areas. We gave the FCC one year to make its determinations regarding these applications, which at that time had already been pending before the FCC for nearly one year. I am highly aware of the need for local television and broadband services that can be provided by new terrestrial wireless technologies. The deadline for FCC action under SHVIA is fast approaching and I expect the FCC to act on the applications by November 29, 2000 as required. The residents of my rural district have waited too long for service that matches that which is available in our nation's more populated area.

VICTIMS OF TERRORISM CLAIMS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, following enactment of the Justice for Victims of Terrorism

Act, to provide payment by the U.S. Government to persons holding final judgments pursuant to the 1996 Anti-Terrorism Act against the governments of Iran and Cuba for complicity in terrorist acts, many questions have been raised about the impact of this legislation on other pending claims, especially those of the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 against Libya.

In this regard, I wish to reaffirm the statement contained in the Conference Report to the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Act of 2000, which provides that "The Committee intends that this legislation will similarly help other pending and future Antiterrorism Act plaintiffs as and when U.S. courts issue judgments against the foreign state sponsors of specific terrorist acts. The Committee shares the particular interest of the sponsors of this legislation in ensuring that the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 should be able to collect damages promptly if they can demonstrate to the satisfaction of a U.S. court that Libya is indeed responsible for that heinous bombing."

The families of the victims of Pam Am Flight 103 were instrumental in their pursuit of justice in supporting enactment of the 1996 Anti-Terrorism Act. Because of this law, U.S. courts are now empowered to take jurisdiction over claims against foreign governments accused of state sponsored terrorism. We continuously have these families in our minds, as well as their loved ones who died in what President Clinton justly called a "direct attack on America".

It was the intention of the 106th Congress, in enacting The Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act that these same enforcement of judgment opportunities should apply equally to any final judgments that may be obtained by the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103 in pending or future litigation, if they so desire to pursue that civil course of action, along with our nation's own efforts to bring all those responsible to justice.

IN HONOR OF CARL REINER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the comedic legend, Carl Reiner, and in recognition of his remarkable achievement of being awarded the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. A writer, performer, humorist, producer and director, his range of talent and contributions to American television are without bounds.

Reiner, now 78, has had a lengthy and multi-faceted career. In 1950 Reiner joined Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows," the precursor to sketch-comedies such as the "Carol Burnette Show" and "Saturday Night Live." There he honed his comedic talents with other giants of laughter, like the legendary Mel Brooks, and began the writing for which he gained his unique reputation. After the show left the air in 1954, Reiner went to work writing TV pilots. Seven years later, CBS bought the "Dick Van Dyke Show," one of televisions first and best sitcoms. Reiner went on to win 11 Emmy awards for the show.

Throughout the sixties, Reiner wrote semi-autobiographical comic novels, as well as

short stories; his current collection is titled, "How Paul Robeson Saved My Life." He has produced comic television shows and movies, and most recently, he created the hysterical comedy album, "The Two-Thousand-Year-Old Man," with Mel Brooks.

Despite Carl Reiner's unmistakable gift for comedy, he remains a man of family, and a "normal" one, at that. He is married to Estelle Reiner, and is a loving father of three. Carl Reiner's universal appeal can, at least in part, be attributed to his straight sense of humor, unmarred by the vulgar and raunchy comedy too often presented just to make a buck. Of course, Reiner has said, "If it's funnier than it is dirty, then let's have it."

Let us recognize and honor the man who has shaped so much of our shared American culture since the early fifties. A television and comic pioneer, Carl Reiner has become a legend in his own time. I congratulate his distinct genius and commend him on receiving the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4942,
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, today I will vote against the fiscal year 2001 Commerce, Justice, State appropriations bill because language has been included in the conference report which, instead of solving the problem of the sale of Social Security numbers over the Internet, actually shields those who sell Social Security numbers. As the original sponsor of H.R. 4311, The Identity Theft Prevention Act, I well know the opportunity that the sale of Social Security Numbers gives to identify theft criminals.

The move to outlaw the sale of Social Security Numbers gained momentum when a New Hampshire woman, Amy Boyer, was stalked and killed by a man who purchased her Social Security number over the Internet. But, instead of incorporating language into the conference report that would outlaw the purchase or sale of Social Security Numbers, the leadership has done just the opposite.

In the provision that I voted against today, for the first time ever in law, banks, hospitals, and credit bureaus are explicitly allowed to sell our Social Security numbers.

The bill does nothing to restrict the purchase of Social Security numbers or restrict the use of it by people who obtain it over the Internet. Members of Amy Boyer's family are angry at what has happened to their original proposal, and have asked that Amy's name not be associated with it.

The proposal is opposed by numerous consumer, civil liberties and privacy organizations, including Consumer Action, the Consumer Federation of America, the Consumers Union, the ACLU, Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, the Electronic Privacy Information Center, the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, and the U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

For this reason, I was unable to support the 2001 Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations bill.

CURRENT SHORTAGE OF
INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise because of the current shortage of influenza vaccinations available to the general public for the upcoming flu season. I am very concerned about not only the availability of vaccinations, but about possible price manipulations regarding their availability.

Health care officials state that vaccinations are most effective, if received in early October, yet because of shortages many people must now wait until the end of November. I am extremely concerned for our nation's at-risk populations, in particular the elderly and chronically ill who rely on these immunizations. These individuals will be receiving their flu shots almost two months later than the recommended time frame. This is unacceptable.

While most states have a limited supply of vaccines for state and local health care agencies, some private health care providers—assuming they are capable of paying a premium price—seem to be experiencing no trouble receiving supplies. This has been raising questions among my constituents, many of whom rely on discounted flu shots offered by public health providers.

I have requested that Federal Trade Commission Chairman Robert Pitofsky investigate cases where companies may be selling to the highest bidder. One such example is the contrast between California and Maine. California contracted in February with a company called General Injectable Vaccines for \$17.99 per vial—and has received only one-third of their shipment. Maine contracted in June and July with the same company at \$39.00 per vial and received both shipments within two months.

In addition I have called on Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, to provide answers as to when this vaccine shortage was first realized by the government, why we were not better prepared, and what steps are being taken to ensure this shortage is never repeated.

We must do all we can to ensure on time delivery of vaccines for all in need, not just the privileged few. We cannot allow the availability and distribution problems we are experiencing this year to be repeated on an annual basis. Congress should take an active role in ensuring timely and affordable delivery of these vital vaccinations. The health and well being of our country depends on it.

TRIBUTE TO DON HARE, MICHIGAN
DIRECTOR FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to both a public program and a state administrator of that program, a man who has put a warm, human face on a grant process that has been of vast importance to my northern Michigan congressional district.

Donald Hare, Michigan Director for Rural Development, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was appointed to his post by President Clinton in 1993. Working out of Lansing, Don could well have focused his attention on Detroit and the other major metropolitan areas of the state. He understood from the outset, however, that the first word of the name of his agency, "rural," meant that his focus should be on the many, many small communities that dot both the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan.

Don Hare will be retiring at year's end. After almost a decade of working so closely with this dedicated public servant, I wanted to take a few minutes to tell you and our House colleagues about his work on behalf of the people of Michigan.

Let me give you a picture of my district, Mr. Speaker. Sprawling over roughly 24,000 square miles, it has many cities, towns and villages that organized and built their community infrastructure more than 100 years ago. Many of these communities built and still use water systems utilizing wooden piping! After 100 years, they must be re-built. These communities need financial assistance to renew these basic services, which maintain a community's quality of life and enable it to flourish and grow.

Prior to his Rural Development appointment, Don had served 18 years as chief of staff to Congressman Bob Traxler. He brought to the Rural Development job a clear understanding of the role of government in assisting people in basic yet profound ways. There is little glamour in providing grants to build a new sewer system, yet there is little future for a community that is unable to meet current standards in providing this service. Don understood this and has been of the greatest service to Michigan residents in meeting such challenges.

Don has always gone the extra mile to assist my constituents. In a figurative sense, he has always made himself available to me, my staff and community leaders to answer questions and resolve problems on grant issues. In a very literal sense, however, Don has often traveled many hours to come up to my northern Michigan district to take part in closing ceremonies and to make clear to grant recipients that the agency he has represented was more than a faceless bureaucracy.

In fiscal year 1999, Rural Development provided \$95 million to my district in grants and loans for housing, community facilities, guaranteed loans for businesses, and water and sewer projects. For an area devastated economically by the closing of K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base and the shutdown of a major copper mine with the loss of 1,200 good-paying jobs, these grants and loans have been essential to build industrial parks, maintain fire services, upgrade housing and help pull up by the bootstraps our small business. Don Hare has recognized that this federal funding allows the communities of northern Michigan to help themselves to rebuild, recover and grow.

Don has built a great staff. I look forward to a continued positive working relationship with them after Don retires, but I and my own staff will certainly miss him and his great under-

standing of our concerns and needs in northern Michigan. I wish Don and his wife Rita all the best in the coming years.

IN HONOR OF DONALD CHAPIN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the life of Donald "Dudley" Chapin Sr., who passed away September 25, 2000. Mr. Chapin was a veteran, volunteer, and builder who will be fondly remembered by many on the Central Coast of California.

Born on June 5, 1925, in Salinas, California, Mr. Chapin co-founded Chapin & Clark with his partner Bob Clark in 1963. He later went on to co-found Don Chapin Inc., a general engineering contracting company, with his son Don Chapin Jr. in 1978. Don Chapin Inc. has performed work on thousands of jobs in the past two decades, including major work at the Salinas and Watsonville airports, and currently employs about 200 people.

Mr. Chapin served in the Army Air Corps, during World War II in the Pacific Theater. Deeply moved by his experiences in the Army, he was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and served as commander of the American Legion in Watsonville. In addition to his service to veterans, he also volunteered for the Salsipuedes Fire Board and the Santa Cruz County Fair.

Donald Chapin was a man whose building projects will leave a lasting imprint on the layout of cities such as Salinas and Watsonville, and whose life will leave an equal imprint on those who knew him. He will be sorely missed by his wife of 49 years, Grace; is son, Don Jr. of Salinas; his daughters, Marilyn Valentine of Denver, Janet Snoddlery of Porterville, Carol Howard of Salinas and Sharon Holmes of Aromas; three brothers, Ben Chapin of Santa Clara, Rap Chapin of Santa Rosa and Richard Chapin of Payson, Arizona; three sisters, Marge Cerletti and Mary Pedrone of Santa Clara, and Betty Shaeffer of Paso Robles; 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

4TH ANNUAL WESTFIELD WORKS WONDERS

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives an event in my state of Connecticut that benefits so many, many people.

On Sunday, November 19, 2000, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., the Westfields Shoppingtowns, a group of regional shopping malls, will hold its fourth annual Westfield Works Wonders. This event has raised nearly

\$825,000 in the last three years. The proceeds are donated to Connecticut's schools, hospitals and charities across the state. The goal for next month's event is to raise an additional \$400,000, for a four year total of about \$1.2 million.

This is a tremendous effort on the part of the member malls in Meriden, Enfield, Trumbull and Milford. The management of Westfields Shoppingtowns are to be commended for taking up this cause and providing the leadership necessary to achieve it. Of course, it is the more than 6,000 retail and food service employees at the malls and the estimated 138,000 shoppers who will attend the event that deserve at least as much of the credit. In addition, a force of thousands of volunteers from over 375 participating non-profit organizations have worked for months to sell the tickets for this special evening of giving.

For the small price of \$5.00 per ticket, shoppers enjoy special discounts, in-store promotions, prize giveaways, entertainment, celebrity appearances, refreshments, free gift wrapping and other benefits. All ticket proceeds are then donated to the nonprofit organizations.

Mr. Speaker, in the hectic, day to day activities that occupy so many of us today, it is refreshing to know that so many of our fellow citizens are devoted to helping others in their communities. I ask that you and all Members of Congress join with me in congratulating everyone involved with Westfield Works Wonders, and express our hope for a most successful event.

IN MEMORY OF ELVIN RILEY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 28, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege today to pay tribute to the life of an outstanding citizen of the Fourth District of Texas, the late Elvin E. Riley Jr., of Winona, who died on September 21 at the age of 76.

Elvin was born in Houston and lived in Winona most of his life. He served as a corporal in the U.S. Army during World War II and received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He was a salesman for American Hospital Supply for twenty years and was a member of First United Methodist Church in Winona.

Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Minnie "Mick" Riley of Winona; daughter, Kathleen Riley of Dallas; daughter and son-in-law, Jeanelle and Dave Maland of Tyler; three granddaughters; two grandsons; two stepgrandsons; and two great-granddaughters.

I knew Elvin as a dear friend, a supporter and a great patriot. He received the Purple Heart—an honor launched by George Washington to recognize those who gave above and beyond and wore the scar of battle. Elvin will be missed by his family and many friends in Winona. He was devoted to his family, his community and to his country, and as we adjourn today, let us do so in his memory.