

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DR. PATRICIA L.
MCGEEHAN

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan for her exceptional contributions to the education of New Jersey's children. For 30 years, she has provided for their educational needs as a teacher, principal, and superintendent.

Dr. McGeehan received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the College of Saint Elizabeth, and her Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University, where, in 1997, she went on to complete her Doctorate in Education/Administration.

As Principal of the Midtown Community School from 1992 to 2000, Dr. McGeehan helped develop the school's curriculum, and provided meaningful guidance and support to enhance every student's educational experience. In 1995, she developed the Stevens Institute Partnership to provide students with the technological skills required to succeed in the new economy.

For her dedication, vision, and hard work, Dr. McGeehan has received numerous awards, including the New Jersey Star School Award, the National Blue Ribbon Award, the National Elementary School Principals Honor Council Excellence Award, and the New Jersey Principals' Harvard Project Case Writing Award.

Dr. McGeehan's commitment to community does not stop at the end of the school day. She generously serves on the Board of Trustees for the Bayonne Hospital, the St. Barnabas Burn Center, and the Simpson-Baber Foundation for the Autistic. In her spare time, she participates in Ireland 32's, the Friends of the Bayonne Community Orchestra, and the activities of the Holy Family Academy.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan for her hard work and dedication on behalf of our community, and for her extraordinary contributions in the field of education.

A TRIBUTE TO LEEROY CLARK

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in praising the work and life of Tuscola County Human Development Commission Chairman LeeRoy Clark upon the occasion of the dedication of the LeeRoy Clark Center to serve the everyday needs of senior citizens.

For more than 35 years, LeeRoy has quietly applied his keen intellect and loving heart to improving the lives of friends, neighbors and

strangers, while simultaneously overcoming the intolerance of less-enlightened minds. The breadth of LeeRoy's involvement and influence on his community cannot be underestimated or overvalued. In fact, a simple list of the many civic, educational and labor organizations that have benefitted from his leadership would take up several newspaper columns. No work log or time sheet is large enough to reflect his humanitarian commitment.

His work on the Human Development Commission and the community action movement has spanned four decades, beginning in 1965. LeeRoy has served as Commission Chairman for 31 of those years. He is also a board member of the Michigan Community Action Agency Association and is in the 40th year as an elected member of his township board.

Those who know LeeRoy have long praised him for his quiet and thoughtful lead-by-example approach. His efforts have immeasurably enhanced many lives by feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, finding work for the jobless at a fair and just wage, easing the burden of the impaired and leveling the playing field for minorities and the disadvantaged.

Although LeeRoy, who resides in Millington, Michigan, has received many accolades for his volunteer work, he has never sought such recognition. His wife, Billie, says he prefers "the appreciation that someone shows him by a handshake, a smile, sending a note or taking the time to say thank-you."

I hope my colleagues will join me today in publicly honoring LeeRoy Clark with the official gratitude of the United States House of Representatives for a lifetime of compassionate endeavors that have earned the handshakes and appreciative smiles of an entire community.

IN HONOR OF JEFF HORTON

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize Mr. Jeff Horton, a leader in educational reform and an outstanding educator from Los Angeles, California. His efforts on behalf of the children of Los Angeles and the State of California will be remembered and appreciated for generations to come.

A native of California and graduate of La Habra High School, Mr. Horton's commitment to education began over 30 years ago. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1970, Mr. Horton embarked on his journey as an educator by teaching English in Florence, Italy. He went on to teach English, Speech, and Reading at Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles from 1975 to 1989. Mr. Horton's dedication to the Los Angeles community has not been limited to the classroom; he has championed efforts to desegregate our

schools, establish an independent civilian police review board, and expand adult literacy programs. Eventually, Mr. Horton's drive to improve the quality of education for all children inspired him to run for elected office.

Jeff Horton was first elected to the Los Angeles Unified School District's Board of Education in 1991 and was reelected in 1995. Students in his district hailed from some of the most diverse urban areas of Los Angeles—from Hollywood, Koreatown, Silver Lake and Echo Park to West Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley.

As a board member of the largest school district in California, Mr. Horton served as Chairman of the Board's curriculum standards for six years. He initiated the practice of publicly recognizing schools for academic achievement and attendance. In addition, Mr. Horton was intimately involved in the development of district-wide learning standards for all academic subjects. These learning standards were adopted by the school district in June of 1996 and are currently under consideration by the State of California.

As a passionate advocate for disenfranchised children, Mr. Horton actively fought to protect the special needs of child abuse victims. During his tenure as a board member, he was instrumental in securing funds for the school district's child abuse office. In doing so, Mr. Horton made it possible for children with special needs to always have a place to turn for safe and confidential assistance.

In 1999, Mr. Horton was appointed to the Los Angeles County Board of Education and currently serves as the President of the California School Board's Association. As a board member he has brought with him 30 years of outstanding experience, educational commitment and compassion. Jeff Horton's legacy is one that we should all praise and celebrate. He is a living reminder to us of the powerful changes one person can make in society.

Mr. Speaker, along with family and friends of Jeff Horton who gathered at the Westin Hotel in Long Beach, California on Wednesday, November 29, 2000 to celebrate 30 years of educational commitment and professionalism, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting this exceptional man and good friend.

PNTR HAS PASSED, BUT WHERE IS
THE FREEDOM IN CHINA?

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, "Protestant dies in Chinese jail" was the headline of a recent article in the Washington Times. According to the article, a Chinese protestant man was arrested on September 4 while worshipping at an underground church service then later died after being beaten and denied medical care while in

• 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.

prison. Liu Haitong was his name. He is one person who will never reap the so-called "rewards" of the United States giving China permanent normal trade relations (PNTR).

It has been several months now since the House and Senate passed legislation giving PNTR to China and the president signed it into law. During the debate, we heard the arguments that PNTR will bring changes to China, that PNTR would open China, improve human rights, and reduce the national security threat that China poses to the U.S. However, while the signing ceremonies have taken place and the parties celebrating its passage have occurred, people like Liu Haitong continue to be persecuted, imprisoned, and in some cases killed, because of their faith.

Many Members said that they voted in favor of PNTR because they thought it would bring about positive change in China's horrible human rights record, and that giving China PNTR would ultimately increase U.S. national security.

According to the Cardinal Kung Foundation, at least 13 underground Roman Catholic bishops are locked away in Chinese jails, under house arrest, in prison through labor camps, under strict surveillance, or in hiding because of their faith. At least 12 Roman Catholic priests are in prison as are numerous other laity, many of whose whereabouts are unknown. PNTR has passed, but where is freedom for these people of faith?

On the cusp of the vote on PNTR in the Senate on September 14, the Chinese government re-imprisoned Roman Catholic Bishop Zeng Jingmu, Bishop Zeng has spent much of the past 30 years in Chinese prisons and prison labor camps because of his faith. Imagine having to perform forced labor and having to spend most of your life in prison because of your faith.

PNTR has passed, but where is freedom for Bishop Zeng?

Practitioners of Falun Gong continue to be persecuted, beaten, and imprisoned because of their beliefs.

PNTR has passed, but where is freedom for the Falun Gong?

The Chinese government is pillaging Tibet. Thousands of Tibetan Buddhist monks, nuns, and believers are in Chinese prisons because of their faith.

PNTR has passed, but where is freedom for the people of Tibet?

There are hundreds of Protestant House Church leaders in prison and prison through labor camps because of their faith. PNTR has passed, but where is freedom for the Protestants house church?

Thousands of Muslim Uighurs are imprisoned because of their faith.

PNTR has passed, but where is freedom for the Muslim Uighurs?

PNTR has passed, but religious persecution continues unabated in China to this day, over two months after passage.

PNTR has passed, but a November 7 British Broadcasting Company (BBC) report says that the Chinese government is clamping down on the freedom of the Internet by asserting that websites that host chatrooms "will be held responsible for ensuring that users do not post messages that could be interpreted by the government as 'illegal.'" The BBC report says that the new rules also require "websites not run by state media to seek approval from the Information Office of the State Council, or

cabinet, before they may publish news" and that "to publish news from foreign sources, websites must seek special permission."

PNTR has passed, but the United States is routinely portrayed as Enemy No. 1 by the Chinese military. According to an article in the November 15 Washington Post, the Chinese military is openly grappling with the likelihood that the United States and China could go to war, quoting Liu Jiangjia, an officer in the People's Liberation Army, as saying "a new arms race has started to develop * * * war is not far from us now."

PNTR has passed, but there are numerous reports about China's increased presence and role in Africa. The Chinese National Petroleum Company's multibillion dollar investment and operations in the newly exploited oilfields in Sudan are very troubling. The Khartoum regime has one of the worst human rights record on the planet. And yet, the pumping of oil that is now occurring because of China's help is providing the Sudanese government with unprecedented revenue to conduct what many have described as genocide against the southern Sudanese population.

It is clear to me that mere passage of PNTR is not enough to bring about positive change in China. In fact, in my opinion, PNTR has passed, but there is only business as usual in Beijing. There are many people in China who have not benefited from passage of PNTR and who may never benefit, unless those Members who voted for PNTR speak out on behalf of human rights in China.

With permanent normal trade relations now in place, Congress will no longer annually review trade with China. That makes it even more vital that Members be more vocal and assertive in speaking out about human rights abuses in China, and about the national security concerns that continue to develop regarding Beijing.

Those Members who vocally opposed PNTR must continue to speak out as well. But it is even more important for Members who supported PNTR to speak out as their voice, as a supporter of this legislation, may be more powerful and persuasive with the regime in China. And bringing about change in China is what needs to happen now.

I urge all those Members who voted for PNTR to challenge the regime in Beijing. Speak out because the people who are suffering, who are imprisoned, or who are serving brutal prison through labor sentences need the concerted voice of Congress to bring about real and positive change in China.

IN HONOR OF RAFAEL TORO, THE
PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION'S
MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rafael Toro on being recognized by the Puerto Rican Association as the Outstanding Community Leader of the Year.

Rafael Toro, whose parents immigrated from Puerto Rico, is a native of New York City. He graduated from Northeastern University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications and from Cambridge College with a Master's Degree in Education.

Shortly after graduation, Mr. Toro was selected to serve as the Special Assistant to the Mayor of Boston, the Honorable Kevin White, where he led the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Board in a coordinated effort with local organizations to empower Boston's Hispanic community. For his work with the Advisory Board, Mr. Toro received the Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Contribution to the Hispanic Community from Governor Michael Dukakis and an award for outstanding achievement from Senator EDWARD KENNEDY.

In 1985, Rafael Toro was hired as the Director of Public Relations for Goya Foods, Inc., the Nation's largest Hispanic-owned company, to oversee public affairs, media relations, community activities, cultural programs, and corporate contributions. In addition, he supervises all Goya-sponsored special events, parades, and festivals. Mr. Toro has been instrumental in implementing several community and cultural activities, including the United Negro College Fund Annual Telethon, a Goya-sponsored, multi-city concert tour, and Goya's sponsorship of Picasso at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In 1993, Mr. Toro was awarded the prestigious Roy Wilkins Humanitarian Award from the NAACP.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Rafael Toro for his contributions to the Hispanic community.

A TRIBUTE TO DON AND MARY
AUNE

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Don and Mary Aune of Oscoda, Michigan, as their fellow citizens prepare to recognize their contributions to the health and welfare of the Aune Medical Center.

Don and Mary have earned the appreciation of all Oscoda area residents by devoting their tremendous talents, time and energy to the re-development of health services at the site of the former Paul B. Wurtsmith Air Force Base Hospital. When the closure of the base in June 1993 left a void in medical services in the community for civilians and many retired military members living nearby, the Aunes worked with dogged determination to ensure that patients' needs would be filled.

At the time, Don was a newly elected member of the Oscoda Township Board of Trustees and was named Vice President of the non-profit corporation created to address the critical medical care shortage faced by the community. Don soon became Chairman of the Board of Directors and has spent the past seven years in that role.

With Mary's enthusiastic support, Don wielded the gavel with his usual firm and steady hand, shaping the cornerstone for a facility that will serve the needs of friends, neighbors and strangers for years to come. They led the effort to quickly turn a fledgling medical facility into a strong and vibrant operation that now provides more than 7,000 patients from the surrounding community with a host of services from family practice and pediatrics to women's health and radiology.

The Aunes worked untold hours to create an outstanding health center to provide a wide variety of services in a local setting, ensuring that many elderly and physically impaired patients will receive needed care without traveling long distances. Don's leadership, coupled with Mary's behind-the-scenes efforts, was the key to opening this long-awaited and greatly needed facility. They deserve our gratitude.

I hope my colleagues will join me today in paying tribute to Don and Mary Aune for their endeavors on behalf of the entire community. The Aune Medical Center stands as a monument to their enterprise and diligence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on November 2, 3, 13, and 14, as well as December 4, 2000, I was detained with business in my District, and therefore unable to cast my votes on rollcall numbers 592 through 599. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 592, 593, 594, 597, 598 and 599; and "nay" on rollcall votes 595 and 596.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRADLEY W. BEAL, NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTOR ON THE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize my friend Brad Beal, the President and CEO of the Nevada Federal Credit Union, headquartered in my district in Las Vegas, for his recent election to the board of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). Brad has been a leader in the Nevada credit union movement for over 14 years and I am glad to see him receive this national recognition.

For the last decade, Brad has served as the President and CEO of the Nevada Federal Credit Union, which has over \$550 million in assets in 17 branches throughout Nevada. In this role, Brad has been a leader for over 250 employees at Nevada FCU, and a leader for the credit union community, both in Nevada and at the national level. During my time in Congress, he has kept me fully informed about the issues of concern to the 77,000 members of Nevada FCU and credit unions everywhere. Brad has always been sure to take the time to meet with me when he is in Washington, D.C. or when I am in the District, to keep me and my staff updated.

His election to the NAFCU board culminates a long career in the credit union industry. NAFCU is the national trade association that represents federal credit unions and ensures that their voice is heard in Washington. I congratulate my friend Brad Beal on his recent election to the NAFCU Board and look forward

to continuing to work with him and America's credit unions. I know Brad will be an outstanding voice for credit unions everywhere.

IN HONOR OF BELINDA CUEVAS, WHO IS BEING HONORED AS "AN OUTSTANDING HUMAN BEING" BY THE PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Belinda Cuevas of Perth Amboy, New Jersey for being recognized by the Puerto Rican Association for Human Development as "an outstanding community member" and "an outstanding human being."

Born and raised in Perth Amboy, she has demonstrated a continued commitment to her community through her work with the local school and church. She has served as President of the Parent Teachers Organization at the EJ Patten School, and has served as a catechist and member of the choir at La Asuncion Church for a number of years.

In her devotion to the community, Belinda strives to live up to the inspirational example of her late grandmother Balbina DeJesus Hernandez. The mother of four, Belinda knows the importance of setting a good example for her children, Ava Ivis, Gabriela, Alexander, and Emily Janet. She does her best to teach them the importance of service to the community and love for one's neighbors.

Recently, Belinda performed an extraordinary act of kindness when she donated one of her kidneys to save the life of a fellow Perth Amboy resident, Pedro "Pete" A. Roman. When she learned that he suffered from renal failure, she demonstrated remarkable kindness and selflessness by volunteering to be tested as a donor, and eventually donating her kidney. Pete received this gift of life on July 13, 2000 at the Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, and both patients have since recovered and returned to work. It is certain that Belinda's exceptional generosity has changed the lives of Pete and his family forever.

For her service to the community of Perth Amboy as well as her unparalleled show of compassion and selflessness, I ask my colleagues to join me in praising Belinda Cuevas as a truly extraordinary member of the community.

A TRIBUTE TO GERRY HERP

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in this chamber today to honor Gerry Herp on the occasion of his retirement. At the end of the season, Gerry Herp will retire as Head Football Coach of Ubyly Community High School in Ubyly, Michigan. He is truly one of the greatest contributors to Michigan athletics in the past fifty years and he will be sorely missed.

In a career beginning in 1963 and spanning five decades, this legend of the gridiron con-

sistently pushed his team to excellence both on and off the football field. On the field, Coach Herp led the Ubyly Bearcats to an impressive lifetime record of 140 wins, 106 losses and two ties. Under his tutelage, the Bearcats have won nine league championships and garnered two play-off appearances since 1983, a record of success which earned him regional Coach of the Year honors on two occasions.

But beyond the yardage gained, the points scored and the championships won, the true and lasting impact of Coach Herp's commitment to his team and the young people of his community can be measured by the impact he had on the hearts and minds of those he coached. During his career, Gerry not only coached football, baseball and women's softball, he also volunteered much of his time to helping disadvantaged youth involved in the Babe Ruth program, endeavors which endeared him to his community and earned him Ubyly's 1999 Friend of Youth honors.

Of course, his many successes could not have been accomplished without the loving support of his wife. Elrae, and their four daughters, Amy, Betsy, Rachel and Jeralyn and stepdaughter, Lori Flippin.

When Gerry Herp officially steps down as Head Football Coach of Ubyly Community High School at the end of this season, he deserves a place of honor among those who strive to ensure the physical health and mental well-being of our youth through athletic programs. On this day, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gerry on his many victories and wish him well as he cheers on the Bearcats from the stands.

H.R. 5621 MEDICAID DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE (DSH)

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on November 1, 2000 I introduced H.R. 5621, the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) Fairness Act of 2000. This legislation is identical to a bill which was introduced last month by the senior Senator from Illinois, with the full support of the Administration.

In 1997, Congress enacted the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997 (P.L. 105-33). The stated intent of the legislation was to slow the rate of growth in the Medicare program. Unfortunately, the reductions enacted through the BBA went much deeper than expected. As a result, the net and cumulative effects of the Act have severely reduced Medicare reimbursements to hospitals and health service providers.

I opposed the Balanced Budget Act when it was debated by the House of Representatives in 1997. I believed that it was a bad policy then, and believe that it is a bad policy now.

The BBA reductions have been particularly severe on hospitals in Illinois. In my district, which encompasses the south and west sides of the city of Chicago, there are eleven major hospital facilities which have been devastated by BBA reductions. Multiply the losses across the state, and the impact on services is staggering. In the First Session of the current Congress, I introduced the Health Care Preservation and Accessibility Act of 1999, H.R. 3145,

to provide relief to hospitals, community health centers, and skilled nursing facilities harmed by the excessive reductions of the Balanced Budget Act. Although my legislation was not enacted, the intent of many of its provisions were included in the Medicare Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-113). That legislation helped relieve some of the financial strain placed on hospitals and health providers. However, while hospitals and health care providers still struggle under the economic pressures imposed by the BBA reductions, a new series of proposed reductions threaten financial solvency.

In May of this year, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) issued a notice to state Medicaid directors advising of its intent to revise the Medicaid funding formula known as Intergovernmental Transfers (IGT). This proposed rule would slash an additional \$375 million a year in Medicaid funding for Illinois—a state in which the healthcare system is already devastated by the effects of the Balanced Budget Act—and further endanger critical health services for children, senior citizens and the poor.

Both the state of Illinois and Cook County have diligently and constructively used the IGT funding to enhance the health care system, especially for low-income, uninsured and under insured Chicagoans, over the last 10 years. Although under the Health Care Financing Administration's Notice of Proposed Rule-making, the IGT program changes would be phased-in over a 5 year period, the proposed change would severely cripple the State's ability to provide needed health care services to Illinois citizens.

The legislation, which I have introduced with my colleague in the Senate, is designed to increase the Medicaid Disproportionate Share payments to all states and encourage states to use the DSH program as it was intended—to fund uncompensated health care. By increasing the Medicaid DSH payments, we are acknowledging the burden placed on hospitals that treat a large number of Medicaid and uninsured patients by the Balanced Budget Act and the proposed HCFA regulations.

Enactment of H.R. 5621 would allow Illinois, and all of the states, to continue to make inroads towards ensuring that an extensive safety net of hospitals and health care providers exist to provide care to the most vulnerable groups of society.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support H.R. 5621, and if this Congress fails to act on this legislation, I hope my colleagues will join me in making it a priority in the 107th Congress.

HONORING BERT HAGGERTY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the hard work, dedication, and stewardship Bert Haggerty has given Long Islanders, New Yorkers, and Americans as the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Long Island Branch Office Manager.

Bert Haggerty grew up in Woodside, NY, graduated from St. Ann's Academy and earned a bachelor of business administration

degree from St. John's University. He first worked for Touche Niven and then Olivetti Corporation where he enjoyed a successful 30-year career.

Afterward, he joined the U.S. Government in 1984 as district director of the Small Business Administration and became Assistant to the Regional Administrator for New York's regional office. In 1994, he was appointed manager of the SBA's Long Island office and under his stewardship has become a driving force in Long Island's economic scene.

Throughout his tenure as manager, he tripled the number of loans to Long Island's small businesses and significantly increased the amount of capital available to nearly \$1 billion.

Bert Haggerty will be missed by the Long Island community. I wish him and his family a fruitful and enjoyable retirement.

IN HONOR OF JULES J. BONAVOLONTA

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Jules J. Bonavolonta, this year's recipient of the North Ward Center's Monsignor Geno Baroni Award.

The North Ward Center provides educational, cultural, and social programs to improve the quality of life for thousands of Essex County residents. Each year, the Center pays tribute to the life of the late Monsignor Baroni, a man whose dedication to the less fortunate was an integral force behind the Center's development and success. The Center honors the Monsignor by recognizing a community leader, who best exemplifies the life, spirit, and commitment of this inspirational man.

Mr. Bonavolonta was chosen as the honoree this year based on his service to the country in the military, his contributions to the fight against crime, and his rise to success in the business world.

A native of Newark, New Jersey, Mr. Bonavolonta grew up in the Essex County Parish of Sacred Heart Cathedral. He is the son of Italian immigrant Ralph Bonavolonta and American-born Mary Bonavolonta. He attended St. Benedict's Prep and received his Bachelor's and his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Seton Hall University in 1975. During more than six years of service as a Green Beret in the U.S. Special Forces during the Vietnam War, Mr. Bonavolonta returned to the U.S. a highly decorated veteran. He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star with "V" for Valor (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), Purple Heart, Air Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

Upon Mr. Bonavolonta's return, he began his 23-year career of exceptional and dedicated service to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In this capacity, he spearheaded the efforts to combat organized crime in this country. As Chief of the Organized Crime and Narcotics Division of the FBI's New York City Office, he was instrumental in securing the indictments and convictions that made the 1980's the FBI's most successful decade in the battle against organized crime.

Mr. Bonavolonta now serves as Vice Chairman of MBNA America Bank, N.A. He and his

wife Linda have been married for 32 years. They have two children, Maria and Joseph.

For his many accomplishments and for his service to the country, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Bonavolonta, a very deserving recipient of this year's Monsignor Geno Baroni Award.

FAREWELL SALUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL" CLAY

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, there are no new and original accolades that I can add to the many phrases of praise already accorded our retiring Member, WILLIAM "BILL" CLAY. When he arrived during the age of the afro haircut, BILL CLAY had a chest full of invisible medals from the Movement. He helped to guide the years of maximum Congressional Black Caucus solidarity, the time of CLAY, Dellums, CONYERS, Stokes and RANGEL. Those were the days when CBC Members were wise enough not to scramble single handedly for their committee assignment deals. In unison, the Black representatives demanded placements for the good of their local and their Black national constituency. Leadership was forced to seat Peacenick Dellums on the Armed Services Committee where the good old boys refused to give the brother a chair at the table to sit down. The radical CLAY and his conspirators went on the propose the first CBC Dinner against the wishes of prominent White liberal allies. Further into the reign of CLAY, the Voting Rights Act became a reality; and still later sanctions were imposed on South Africa. And the proposal for a Martin Luther King Holiday which started as an impossible dream finally concluded as a magnificent monument to the forward movement of race relations in America. At this point, Mr. Speaker, I wish to associate myself with the numerous other tributes that have already been recorded for our former Postal and Civil Service Committee chairman, and the ranking Democrat on Education and the Workforce. Congressman CLAY is one of the last of the CBC original pioneers. It is important to note that with the recent election of William "Lacy" Clay, his son, the Clay genes will fortunately be remaining in Congress. The following Rap Poem is my final salute to the gentleman from Missouri who now we draft into our "Corps of National American Statesmen", WILLIAM "BILL" CLAY.

BILL CLAY: THE ST. LOUIS CHOICE
(By Congressman Major R. Owens)

Now is the time
To lift high every voice,
Join us to celebrate
Achievements of the St. Louis Choice.
Go ahead and loudly sing,
Let fading memories
Rise and sting;
This St. Louis militant
Earned progress
The old fashioned way—
He jumped in the man's face
To save the day.
Pushing straight ahead,
to mad to be afraid,
Nobody forgets
The trouble he made,
Every cent of dues daily he paid,

Republicans regret
That for so long he stayed.
Indiana's Bob McCloskey
Faxed Democrats an urgent note:
Fly Bill Clay to Florida—
Let the Master recount that vote.
Wrong predictions of the past
Said the CBC wouldn't last;
Now forecasters ask
Who'll lead the new struggle,
What's the future all about?
St. Louis responded:
The let another load
of Bill Clay genes out.
Now is the time
To lift every voice,
Join us to celebrate
Achievements of the St. Louis Choice.

COMMENDING THE FREMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Fremont Police Department for receiving the 2000 Community Policing Award for highly populated cities awarded by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and ITT Industries Night Vision.

The Fremont Police Department was one of five winners out of over 100 entries from communities and agencies across the United States and Canada. The city of Fremont and Fremont Police Department have shown a strong commitment to crime prevention that should be used as a shining example for other communities across America. Currently, Fremont has shown its strong commitment to crime prevention by making sure that there are enough police officers to respond to the issues of crime prevention in the city. Fremont has a staffing ratio of one officer per 1,000 residents, much better than the State and national averages. In a nationally published study, Fremont had the 8th lowest population to officer ratios of the Nation's 289 largest police forces. This low ratio has been maintained even though Fremont has experienced a large growth in population.

This low staffing provides the Fremont Police Department the manpower to carry out innovative approaches to law enforcement. For instance, Fremont as part of their increased use of Community Policing techniques has encouraged leadership building in the neighborhoods. This strategy encourages a stronger partnership between the community and the police department in preventing crime.

Again, I want to extend the highest commendation and congratulations to the Fremont Police Department for its outstanding service to its community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed on rollcall votes 598 and 599. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both 598 and 599.

IN RECOGNITION OF KOSTAS MASTORAS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kostas Mastoras for his outstanding contributions to the Greek community. The Greek Orthodox community will honor Mr. Mastoras at the 65th Anniversary of Evangelismos Tis Theotokou. The parish has chosen to commemorate the event with a special presentation entitled "Remembering Our Past . . . Looking to Our Future."

Born and raised in Kavala, Mr. Mastoras moved to Thessaloniki with his mother soon after his high school graduation to attend Aristotle University. Before graduating from the Department of Economics, he met fellow student Stavroula Papadopoulou, whom he married in 1980. Mr. Mastoras moved to New York to further his education in 1976, earning a Bachelor's Degree from Queens College and an MBA in International Marketing from St. John's University.

As the Director of Marketing for Krinos Foods, Inc., Mr. Mastoras had the opportunity to learn the grocery business and to work closely with the Greek community. In 1982, Mr. and Mrs. Mastoras founded their own company, Titan Food, Inc., dedicated to Greek food and culture. Today, Titan Foods has become the largest Greek food store in the United States, attracting the attention of the national media.

Blessed with three daughters, both Mr. and Mrs. Mastoras are active members of the Greek-American community and the Financial Committee of the Education of Hellenic Societies, and are involved in the PTA of St. Demetrios Schools.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Kostas Mastoras for his many years of dedicated service to the Greek community.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES LESLIE DAVIS POTTER FOR HER SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Leslie Davis Potter and her ongoing dedication to serving the growing needs of central New Jersey families. I applaud the achievements she has made working to address the family planning, educational, and outreach needs of our community.

For over 65 years, Planned Parenthood Association of the Mercer Area (PPAMA) has been providing high quality reproductive health care, education and support to women and families throughout Mercer County. Since its modest beginnings in a tiny three-room clinic, PPAMA has evolved into a full-service agency with four centers that provide a comprehensive range of reproductive health services and educational programs to the community.

Leslie Potter has served central New Jersey families as the Executive Director of PPAMA

for seventeen years. Throughout her tenure, Leslie Potter has worked to increase access to reproductive health services for low-income women, to ensure the reproductive rights of all women and address the growing needs of Mercer County's Latina population with affordable bilingual/bicultural health care. It was under Leslie Potter's direction that the 65-year-old chapter became a certified HealthStart prenatal care provider.

Successfully directing such an active health care organization requires great managerial ability, as well as considerable skills to enlist and motivate thousands of volunteers and supporters who make a community-based organization like PPAMA possible. Leslie Potter has shown that ability and skill to an extraordinary degree. She has also shown great political skill as a public speaker for women's health and women's rights.

Before taking the helm at PPAMA Leslie spent five years as the Director of Planning for Central New York Health Systems Agency. It was here that she worked to establish family planning and primary health care centers throughout upstate New York.

Once again, I applaud the efforts of Leslie Davis Potter and ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing her steadfast commitment to serving our community.

HONORING WALTER F. PAYNE

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Walter F. Payne, president and chief executive officer of Blue Diamond Growers, on the occasion of his retirement. A cooperative owned by nearly 4,000 almond growers, Blue Diamond is the world's largest nut-tree marketing and processing company. Under the steadfast leadership of Walt Payne, Blue Diamond processes nearly one-third of the world's crop of almonds, making that commodity California's largest food export. I ask my colleagues to join with me today in honoring the dedicated service of Walt Payne.

Mr. Payne joined Blue Diamond in 1973 as the director of marketing and planning. In 1990, Mr. Payne was appointed chief operating officer and in 1992 became president and chief executive officer. His prior 17 years as a marketing executive provided him with the necessary tools to lead Blue Diamond into a period of unprecedented growth and fundamental change. Under this leadership, the cooperative was transformed into a more efficient and organized business dedicated to cutting unnecessary costs and increasing production and sales. However, it is his inclusive management style, in combination with his desire for open and honest communication that will truly be remembered.

Mr. Payne has worked tirelessly to include the views of management, member growers and plant workers alike to create a more effective business. In an organization that had previously been run from the top down, Walt found it more productive to establish an environment that encouraged the inclusion of employees, at all levels, in the development and implementation of ideas. In fact, it is this inclusive management style that has proved to be

an integral component to the unprecedented success of Blue Diamond.

When Walter Payne was named CEO, he vowed to spend 15 percent of his time in the fields meeting with growers, listening to and addressing their concerns. It was this commitment to open and honest communication that won him national acknowledgment as "CEO Outstanding Communicator of the Year" in 1998, awarded by the Cooperative Communicators Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to pay tribute to my friend, Walt Payne, a truly outstanding member of our community. As CEO, he fostered an atmosphere based on teamwork, open communication and productivity at all levels. As a testament to his success, Payne's first crop as a young marketer at Blue Diamond totaled 145 million pounds. His last crop set a state record at 830 million pounds. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the accomplishments of an extraordinary leader and wish him all the best as he begins a new phase in his life.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
371

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, in September Congress ratified H. Con. Res. 371, which resolves that Congress supports the goals and ideas of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. Clearly, each Member shares the commitment to keep America's youth drug-free, and return those who have used drugs to a drug-free life. I add these comments in an effort to help achieve this goal.

First, H. Con. Res. 371 states that "26 million Americans currently suffer the ravages of drug or alcohol addiction." This statistic is presumably based on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' 1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, which finds that roughly 26 million Americans are heavy drinkers or are casual-to-dependent users of one or more illicit drugs. The report does not state that these individuals are suffering from an addiction. The absence of this distinction could result in misdirected program development and misappropriated funding. Affected are those who direct public and private resources; to counselors and treatment professionals who develop protocols for assistance; to employers who strive to maintain drug-free work environments; to the criminal justice system which must be accountable to the public they serve; and to our Nation's families who rely on accurate information, accurately communicated.

H. Con. Res. 371 also states that adolescents who undergo addiction treatment report less use of marijuana, less heavy drinking, and less criminal involvement. Let us hold ourselves and treatment outcomes to a higher standard. While interim goals can be applauded, the fact that youth who receive treatment continue to use drugs—albeit less often—and continue to be involved in criminal activity—albeit less often—cannot become our Nation's standard for success.

Nelba Chavez, Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Ad-

ministration, spoke of the need to provide better focus of the treatment programs that serve young people, when she said that, "few seek help, and those who do often receive treatment that is inappropriate. Many treatment programs are designed for adults and are ill-equipped to meet the needs of adolescents."

Although abstinence from illicit drug use is the central goal of all drug abuse treatment, researchers and program staff involved with adult treatment commonly accept reductions in drug use and criminal behavior as realistic goals. Surprisingly, we are now advised by the National Institute on Drug Abuse that "a good treatment outcome may be a sizable decrease in drug use and long periods of abstinence."

Our Nation's policy goal regarding drugs is the creation of a drug-free America. Specifically, in the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, drug abuse is to be curbed by preventing youth from using illegal drugs, reducing the number of users, and decreasing drug availability.

Let us hold this vision of a drug-free America and hold ourselves to this standard. Anything less is a disservice to ourselves, to the adults who currently use drugs and, most certainly, to our most precious resource—America's youth.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREAS
COMODROMOS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andreas Comodromos for his outstanding contributions to the Greek community. The Greek Orthodox community will honor Mr. Comodromos at the 65th Anniversary of Evangelismos Tis Theotokou. The parish has chosen to commemorate the event with a special presentation entitled "Remembering Our Past . . . Looking to Our Future."

Mr. Comodromos, the former Supreme President of the Cyprus Federation of America, was born on the island of Cypress in 1949, where he was raised by his parents in the Greek Orthodox faith. There, he attended high school and performed his compulsory military service before gaining employment with the Cyprus offices of the American Life Insurance Co.

Mr. Comodromos and his wife, Anna Zachariades, had their first child, Eliza, in 1974, the same year Turkey invaded Cypress. To realize a better life for himself and his wife and son, Mr. Comodromos and his family immigrated to America, where he could pursue a college education. In the United States, they became members of the Evangelismos Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox community, and in 1978, Mr. Comodromos graduated Magna Cum Laude from St. Peter's College with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting.

In the following years, Mr. Comodromos celebrated the birth of his second child, Demitrios, while working at the international accounting firm Ernst & Ernst. In 1982, he became a CPA and co-founded the accounting firm of Comodromos Associates with his brother Michael. He is currently the president and managing partner.

In addition to his impressive professional and personal achievements, Mr. Comodromos

has served the community through his firm commitment to the cause of justice in Cyprus. He is dedicated to liberating the island from Turkish occupation. He has served on the board of the Cyprus Federation of America, and was elected president for two consecutive terms (1991–1995). Mr. Comodromos has been recognized for his contributions with several awards and honors, including the 1978 Newcomer Society of America Award, election to the National Council of the Order of St. Andrew, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and the Offikion Archon Dikaiophylax Award.

Mr. Comodromos currently serves as the President of the US-Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Council of Hellenes Abroad of the North and South American Region. He is a member of the Order of AHEPA, the American Institute of CPAs, and the New Jersey Society of CPAs. Mr. Comodromos is actively involved in various business and political endeavors, and continues his commitment to community service at the local and national level.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Andreas Comodromos for his many years of dedicated service to the Greek community.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION FOR COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE FAA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a bill calling for a tough, comprehensive review of the Federal Aviation Administration to focus on the critical need to improve aviation safety and reduce airline delays.

We should all be concerned about aviation safety. Air travel has increased dramatically in recent years. Today, more than 600 million Americans take to the skies each year—and that figure is expected to triple to 1.8 billion people a year by 2020.

With this dramatic increase we have seen increases in operational errors among air traffic controllers, increases in near mid-air collisions, and increases in runway incursions.

I am particularly concerned about internal meetings of FAA safety staff that have been reported in the press revealing statements made by top FAA safety officials concerning weaknesses in their oversight.

I want to emphasize that there are thousands of hard-working, dedicated employees at the FAA who understand the important safety mission of their agency. We need to give them a stable and efficient organizational structure under which they can perform their mission critical jobs.

Mr. Speaker, operational errors among air traffic controllers are up significantly as controllers try to cope with increasing traffic all bearing down on crowded hub airports. At the same time these errors are up, the FAA has announced a plan to significantly reduce the number of operational supervisors available to assist and monitor that traffic. These errors have risen by 25 percent in the past two years alone.

In addition, runway incursions continue to go up, raising cries of alarm from the National

Transportation Safety Board, the Office of Inspector General, and the Congress.

The Inspector General told my Subcommittee seven months ago "this safety issue is one that demands constant high-level attention," so we called for higher budgets, monthly reports and a national summit on the issue. Regrettably, the most recent report shows that runway incursions have not gone down. Instead, they continue to go through the roof.

In addition, FAA has been unable to address the growing problem of airline delays. In the summer of 1999, delays were so high that the FAA announced a special review of its traffic management programs. This review concluded that the agency could do a lot more to provide efficient movement of aircraft around the country, and they promised immediate improvements.

This past summer's delays, however, were just as high as the year before, if not worse.

The American traveling public is getting tired of these horrible delays. Business meetings are canceled, family gatherings are disrupted, commercial deals are passed up when airline commerce does not flow smoothly. I hear my colleagues complain practically every day about the horrible and unacceptable airline delays. For those who fly often, the quality of life is greatly diminished because of this problem.

Mr. Speaker, I served on the House Committee on Public Works and Transportation back in the early 1980s. I still remember FAA Administrator Lynn Helms coming before that committee and testifying about the wondrous improvements in air travel that would come about through modernization of the government's air traffic control system.

Over the next several years, this Congress appropriated billions of dollars for that effort. Yet each year, the General Accounting Office tells us how the FAA continues to fall farther and farther behind in fielding the necessary systems.

First came the termination of the microwave landing system in the late 1980s, then came termination of the advanced automation system a few years later. FAA substituted other navigation and computer programs to take their place.

I wish I could tell my colleagues that these new systems have proceeded well, but many of them have not. FAA continues to experience massive delays in developing satellite navigation and computer systems, even after Congress passed landmark procurement reform legislation to aid the FAA in 1995. Runway incursion radar systems are still not in operational use, even after eight years of development work. The agency simply hasn't been able to bring new technology on line to address these safety concerns.

We already have a number of commissions, contractors, and study groups over the years investigating the "problem" at the FAA. These groups have come up with a long list of recommendations, but, unfortunately, most of them focused on how to get the agency more money. Wrestling control of the agency's finances from Congress has been the underlying theme in almost all of these reports, not improving aviation safety.

The commission I propose would take a comprehensive approach, and it would focus on ways to improve aviation safety for the benefit of all Americans.

Specifically, the bill I have introduced would establish a Commission for Comprehensive Review of the FAA. It would look at both air traffic services and safety oversight by the agency, and make recommendations on both the organizational structure and processes of the agency. The recommendations must address FAA's organization within the existing structure of government.

The commission would have 21 members appointed by the President, and would include representatives from airlines, airports, employee unions, and pilots as well as the DOD and other relevant federal entities. The report of the commission must be submitted to the Congress within one year of enactment.

Mr. Speaker, with a new administration entering the White House in January, there is a great opportunity to start off with a fresh approach in aviation. It is the perfect time for an unbiased, impartial, and independent commission to present new findings—focusing on aviation safety—to help guide the FAA in the right direction for the future. This would be extremely helpful to the new President and the new Congress as we consider how to make our aviation system more safe and efficient for U.S. citizens and those who visit our wonderful country.

H.R. —

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Commission for Comprehensive Review of the Federal Aviation Administration Act".

SEC. 2. COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is to be established a commission to be known as the Commission for Comprehensive Review of the Federal Aviation Administration (referred to in this section as the "Commission").

(b) FUNCTIONS.—the functions of the Commission shall be—

(1) to review existing and alternative options for organizational structure of air traffic services, including a government corporation and incentive based fees for services;

(2) to provide recommendations for any necessary changes in structure of the Federal Aviation Administration so that it will be able to support the future growth in the national aviation and airport system; except that the Commission may only recommend changes to the structure and organization of the Federal Aviation Administration that are within the existing structure of the Federal Government;

(3) to review air traffic management system performance and to identify appropriate levels of cost accountability for air traffic management services;

(4) to review aviation safety and make recommendations for the long-term improvement of safety; and

(5) to make additional recommendations that would advance more efficient and effective Federal Aviation Administration for the benefit of the general traveling public and the aviation transportation industry.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) APPOINTMENTS.—The Commission shall be composed of 21 members appointed by the President as follows:

(A) 8 individuals with no personal or business financial interest in the airline or aerospace industry to represent the traveling public. Of these, 1 shall be a nationally recognized expert in finance, 1 in corporate management and 1 in human resources management.

(B) 4 individuals from the airline industry. Of these, 1 shall be from a major national air carrier, and 1 from an unaffiliated regional air carrier, 1 from a cargo air carrier.

(C) 3 individuals representing labor and professional associations. Of these, 1 shall be from National Air Traffic Controllers Association; 1 from the Air Line Pilots Association, and 1 from the Professional Airways Systems Specialists.

(D) 2 individuals representing airports and airport authorities. Of these, 1 shall be representative of a large hub airport.

(E) 1 individual representing the aerospace and aircraft manufacturers industries.

(F) 1 individual from the Department of Defense.

(G) 2 individuals from the Department of Transportation. Of these, 1 shall be from the Office of the Secretary of Transportation.

(2) TERMS.—Each member shall be appointed for a term of 18 months.

(d) FIRST MEETING.—The Commission may conduct its first meeting as soon as a majority of the members of the Commission are appointed.

(e) HEARINGS AND CONSULTATION.—

(1) HEARINGS.—The Commission shall take such testimony and solicit and receive such comments from the public and other interested parties as it considers appropriate, shall conduct at least 2 public hearings after affording adequate notice to the public thereof, and may conduct such additional hearings as may be necessary.

(2) CONSULTATION.—The Commission shall consult on a regular and frequent basis with the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Defense, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Finance of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(3) FACA NOT TO APPLY.—The Commission shall not be considered an advisory committee for purposes of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

(f) ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS AND STAFF.—The Federal Aviation Administration may give the Commission appropriate access to relevant documents and personnel and shall make available, consistent with the authority to withhold commercial and other proprietary information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Freedom of Information Act"), cost data associated with the acquisition and operation of air traffic service systems. Any member of the Commission who receives commercial or other proprietary data from the Federal Aviation Administration shall be subject to the provisions of section 1905 of title 18, United States Code, pertaining to unauthorized disclosure of such information.

(g) TRAVEL AND PER DIEM.—Each member of the Commission shall be paid actual travel expenses, and per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when away from such member's usual place of residence, in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(h) DETAIL OF PERSONNEL FROM THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall make available to the Commission such staff, administrative services, and other personnel assistance as may reasonably be required to enable the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this section.

SEC. 3. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after receiving the final report of the Commission and in no event more than 1

year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, after consulting the Secretary of Defense, shall transmit a report to the Committees on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Appropriations, and Finance of the Senate and the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Appropriations, and Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(b) CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall include in the report to Congress under subsection (a) a final report of findings and recommendations of the Commission under section 2(b), including any necessary changes to current law to carry out these recommendations in the form of proposed legislation.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

A TRIBUTE TO KIM CHI TRIEU

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Kim Chi Trieu, Program Manager for the Social Services Agency of Santa Clara County. Ms. Trieu is retiring after 16 years of dedicated service to the people of Santa Clara County.

Kim Chi Trieu arrived in the United States in 1983 as a Vietnamese refugee with two of her young children and \$5 in her pocket. Within two weeks, she had found work at Catholic Charities as a job developer. In 1984, Ms. Trieu began her work with the Social Services Agency as a worker with the Targeted Assistance Unit. She helped to establish and put into operation the Central Intake Unit, which was the gateway for newly arrived refugees.

Kim Chi Trieu was promoted to Supervisor of the Refugee Unit in 1985. Her tireless work on behalf of the refugee community earned her the admiration and gratitude of Santa Clara County's many refugee populations: Vietnamese, Hmong, Mien, Cambodian and later, Ethiopian, Somali, Polish, Russian, Bosnian, Serbian, Iranian, and Afghan. In a short time, Ms. Trieu was asked to assume responsibility for the Santa Clara County Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Planning Unit.

With her belief in community partnership, Kim Chi Trieu invited participation from impacted communities in the ever-changing Refugee Services Delivery System. Universally respected as a tactful mediator, she was skilled at working cooperatively with other social service programs and government agencies to ensure all her clients received the benefits to which they were entitled.

In 1996, Kim Chi Trieu expanded her role to assist in the development of the county's Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) program, which has been cited by the Urban Institute as one of the top 10 performing programs in the Nation.

Kim Chi Trieu has been a role model and a leader in her community and in county government. She has been the anchor to freedom for her family, working two jobs to help resettle two dozen family members including her parents. She has not only lived the American dream herself—she has provided countless refugee families with the opportunity to achieve that dream.

I wish to thank Kim Chi Trieu for her compassionate and dedicated service to the County and wish her the best in her future endeavors. Her integrity, compassion, and strength will be sorely missed, but our lives are the richer for having known her.

AN AFFIDAVIT BY MICHAEL
TERLECKY

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, today, I am submitting an affidavit by Michael Terlecky of Mahoning County for the RECORD. The affidavit, signed and sworn on the fourth of December, 2000, alleges, Federal Bureau of Investigation knowledge and participation in illegal gambling activities and other mob related activities.

Terlecky, as a Mahoning County Deputy Sheriff, worked exclusively with the Youngstown Police Department Special Investigations Unit (SIU) to raid and eliminate illegal gambling rings in the Mahoning Valley. He was removed from active duty in 1988 because of a physical disability.

The affidavit alleges gross misconduct on the part of FBI agents Robert Kroner and Larry Lynch. He points to the pressure that was placed upon any law enforcement officer who challenged the illegal activities of James Prato and Joey Naples. Prato and Naples, both local Mafia bosses, ran illegal gambling operations in Youngstown. Rival factions were hit hard by raids while the Prato/Naples operations were left alone. Terlecky alleges Agents Kroner and Lynch attempted to control his gambling raids so that there would be no interference with the Prato/Naples operations.

As the affidavit illustrates, Terlecky was manipulated and neutralized by the local FBI agents' efforts to protect the FBI's participation in illegal activities. Michael Terlecky was dangerous to the local FBI. He was also an unlucky man for having stumbled upon the connections of the Prato/Naples faction and the FBI. For this, he was later indicted and convicted for taking a bribe from another mob boss, Lenine Strollo.

In that trial, Terlecky's attorney was Stewart Mandel. Mandel was a former U.S. attorney within the Justice Department. Following the trial, Mandel became a business partner of mob boss Lenine Strollo for a company in Conneaut, OH. Think about it. Whose interest was Mandel representing, Michael Terlecky or his business partner and mob boss Lenine Strollo?

In subsequent hearings, Lenine Strollo admitted that he never paid Michael Terlecky bribe money. Furthermore, Mandel was indicted and convicted of income tax violations associated with Strollo.

It is clear that Michael Terlecky was innocent of the charges against him and that even his attorney had a conflicting interest in helping him. He was thrown to the wolves while the real perpetrators went unpunished. I will continue to investigate the FBI's knowledge of illegal mob related activities, including the activities of Agents Kroner and Lynch. Also, I have submitted a request to the President for a full pardon of Mr. Terlecky's conviction. His name deserves to be exonerated.

The Terlecky affidavit is being submitted today to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as supporting documentation for my bill H.R. 4105, "The Fair Justice Act." This bill would create an agency to oversee the U.S. Department of Justice and prosecute those involved in any wrongdoing. Today, when something is amiss in the Justice Department, it investigates itself, much like the fox guarding the henhouse. An independent oversight agency would eliminate the conflict of interest that exists today when wrongdoing occurs in the Justice Department.

STATE OF OHIO, COUNTY OF MAHONING:
AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL S. TERLECKY

After having been duly sworn in accordance with law, I, Michael S. Terlecky, hereby depose and say:

SUMMARY

The statements made in this affidavit can be summarized as follows:

During a span of time before March 21, 1998 while I was an active Mahoning County deputy sheriff I obtained actual knowledge that certain Federal Bureau of Investigation agents illegally obtained, controlled, suppressed, manipulated, falsified and tainted evidence. Under the law they abused their authority within the United States Department of Justice when they concealed the illegal activities of organized crime, their motive being, unjust and unlawful enrichment.

These same agents, by means of the abuse of their Federal power, controlled and manipulated local police agencies to do their bidding. That bidding being, the elimination of any illegal competitive opposition for the gangsters with whom they had aligned themselves with.

These same Federal Bureau of Investigation agents, with deliberate indifference, risked the lives of officers of the law while they themselves were breaking the law. These same agents, with deliberate indifference of the trust, allowed me, an officer of the law to be falsely imprisoned so that I could not timely reveal the truth.

1. I am more than eighteen years of age and a resident of Mahoning County, Ohio.

2. I became a Mahoning County, Ohio deputy sheriff in 1977.

3. While I was on active duty as a Mahoning County Deputy Sheriff I exclusively worked with the Youngstown, Ohio Police Department's special investigations unit. One of my main duties was to investigate and arrest people for illegal gambling activity.

4. Because of a physical disability I was taken off active duty as a deputy sheriff on March 21, 1988.

TRAFICANT TAPES

5. During the trial *United States of America vs. James A. Traficant, Jr.* That took place during 1983 the United States Assistant Attorney submitted into evidence audio tape recordings. These audio tape recordings contained the voice of James A. Traficant, Jr. and the voices of Charlie and Orlie Carrabbia. These audio tape recordings were submitted into evidence in support of an attempt to have James A. Traficant, Jr. convicted and sent to prison. These audio tape recordings became known as the "Traficant tapes".

6. In the immediate above mentioned trial, Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent (FBI SA) Robert Kroner gave testimony as a prosecution witness. FBI SA Robert Kroner testified under oath that the "Traficant tapes" were found in a bread box in Joe Derosé's apartment in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I have personal knowledge that FBI SA Robert Kroner lied about the "Traficant tapes" being found in a bread box

in Joe Derose's apartment in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

7. The so called "Traficant tapes" were found by Mahoning County, Ohio Deputy Sheriff Frank Tomaino and me in Joe Derose's apartment in Canfield, Ohio during a multiple shooting investigation by Frank Tomaino, Joseph Rinko and me.

8. What took place just before the "Traficant tapes" were found was as follows: Mahoning County Deputy Sheriffs Joe Rinko, Frank Tomaino and I were present the night just after Joe Derose and a woman were found shot in Joe Derose's apartment in Canfield, Ohio. After we removed weapons from the apartment we wrongly continued to search the apartment. We had plenty of time to get a search warrant. As I was searching the apartment without a search warrant I found a locked closet. I wanted to know what was inside the closet so I used my American Express credit card to "jimmy" the lock. After entering the closet I found audio cassette tapes in plastic containers that were labeled Jim Traficant. At the time I did not know the significance of these cassette tapes, nor did I know Jim Traficant. The Federal Bureau of Investigation then took over the case.

9. I believe that the reason why FBI SA Robert Kroner lied about finding the "Traficant tapes" in Joe Derose's Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania apartment is because he didn't know who listened to the audio tapes after I found them in the presence of Frank Tomaino. Additionally, the audio tapes were found without obtaining a search warrant. I do not feel that I broke any laws in the way I found the audio tapes. However, I feel that I was ethically wrong. The shootings took place in a parking lot outside Joe Derose's apartment on Indian Run Road, Canfield, Ohio which was video camera recorded from a telephone pole. The video camera was put there by the FBI. The FBI said the video camera was not working because it was struck by lightning. To prove the video camera was not working they presented a repair receipt for the video camera.

ROBERT KRONER'S OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE

10. I had a reliable informant for months. He called me on the telephone one night to inform me that someone in Struthers, Mahoning County, Ohio who wanted to pay me a large amount of money if I would not include certain places in my raid on illegal gambling facilities. My informant asked me to meet with him in a donut shop on Youngstown-Poland Road.

11. Because this informant told me months before that he was an informant for FBI SA Robert Kroner, I didn't trust him. Therefore, before I met with this informant I telephoned the Youngstown, Ohio Police Department's special investigations unit (SIU). I spoke with Officer Robin Lees requesting that I be "wired" when I met and spoke with this informant at the donut shop. I felt that I could be "set-up". Officer Robin Lees agreed to me being "wired" and said he would help me.

12. While I met with my informant Officer Robin Lees, another officer named Guzzy and four other officers were parked in a van across the street tape recording everything my informant told me over a 30 to 40 minute period of time. The main topic of what my informant told me was the setting of a meeting with individuals in Struthers, Ohio who wanted to give me money so they could relax on weekends knowing that I wouldn't be around with my gambling raiding team arresting people for illegal gambling. My raiding team had recently raided over 12 establishments. Because Charlie Carabbia was now missing, Joey Naples, along with the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania organized crime

family controlled Struthers, Ohio with only few negotiated exceptions.

13. Immediately after my meeting with my informant Robin Lees gave me the audio tape recording of my informant and my meeting. Because it was late in the day and because I never had a key to the evidence locker at the Mahoning County Sheriff Department the S.I.U. put the audio tape recording in their evidence locker for me so that I could use it as evidence later.

14. Sometime between the night the audio tape recording was placed in the S.I.U. evidence locker and the next day, Robin Lees contacted FBI SA Robert Kroner and informed him about my meeting with my informant, the audio tape recording and the plans of the investigation which included the "payoff" meeting in Struthers, Ohio by members of the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Mafia family.

15. Shortly after, my informant telephoned me. In an irate tone of voice he told me he was angry with me because I wore a "wire" during our conversation at the donut shop. He also informed me that FBI SA Robert Kroner telephoned him to tell him that he had the audio tapes and that if he helped me in any way that he would be indicted.

16. After the above mentioned telephone conversation with my informant I went to the Mahoning County, Ohio Prosecutor's Office and met with Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Bailey. I gave him the facts in support of FBI SA Robert Kroner's obstruction of justice. Assistant Prosecutor Bailey began creating an arrest warrant for me but stopped when I informed him that Robert Kroner was an FBI Agent. Assistant Prosecutor Bailey invited me to present my evidence to a grand jury. I declined because if I received a "no bill" my life and the lives of my family would be in danger.

17. I then went to the Youngstown Police Department's Internal Affairs Office where I filed a complaint against Officer Robin Lees because he gave the audio tape recording to FBI SA Robert Kroner, which put my life in danger. Internal Affairs Officer Lewis refused to help me. However, FBI SA Robert Kroner returned the audio tape recording to Officer Robin Lees who in turn attempted to give it back to me. I refused to accept the audio tape recording because of the break in the chain of custody of evidence and because of the potential altering of evidence. Officer Lenny Skelinski got the audio tape recording, along with a copy of a receipt signed by Officer Robin Lees. Officer Lenny Skelinski put the audio tape recording in the Mahoning County Sheriff Department's evidence locker and logged it in as evidence. FBI SA Robert Kroner wanted me neutralized.

18. I then contacted the Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, DC, and informed them of FBI SA Robert Kroner's illegal actions, those being the obstruction of justice.

19. Based on my personal experience, the hereinabove written and information given to me by Youngstown, Ohio Police Department's SIU Officer Joe Krupa, who was a senior member of the SIU, who I trusted that the Youngstown Police Department did not conduct gambling raids or sports betting raids, I concluded that FBI SA Robert Kroner and FBI SA Larry Lynch, through the Youngstown Police Department, other sources and its special investigations unit attempted to control my gambling raids so that I could only arrest the opposition for who the FBI had allied with their ally being Joey Naples. SIU officer Joe Krupa, in my opinion, was an honest police officer who went "by the book" which compelled me to help him.

20. I assert that FBI SA Robert Kroner telephone conversation with my informant

during which he informed by informant that I was wearing a "wire" at the donut shop could have gotten me killed. I further assert that FBI SA Robert Kroner abused his Federal power to serve his personal interest. On or about March 21, 1988, close to midnight, I was shot at, at point blank range by a person with a 12-gauge shotgun while I was in my unmarked official vehicle. The shot barely missed me. The headrest directly to the right of my head was severely damaged from the shotgun blast. After this incident I was diagnosed as having chronic stress disorder. I was not permitted to return to work. One month later I was indicted for violation of Federal Rico statutes. The person who shot at me with a 12-gauge shotgun was never identified or found. I realized at this point that I was "over my head" with no one to help me. I could not seek help from the FBI because certain FBI agents could not be trusted. I do not have total mistrust of the FBI. I only mistrust certain local FBI special agents who I believe are under the control of organized crime.

THE LOUNGE INCIDENT

21. During the 1980's a restaurant known as the Gatsby Lounge in Austintown, Mahoning County, Ohio was frequented by a higher class of drug dealers. A person who went to the Gatsby Lounge fell under my narcotics surveillance. This person talked to Chief Frank Carbon who in turn talked to me. Chief Frank Carbon informed me that the person who I had under surveillance at the Gatsby Lounge wanted to pay me 2,000 per month to "back off" his establishment (a Lebanese restaurant and known drug house in Austintown Township which I closed down one week earlier). If \$2,000 was not enough I was to let him know. I suspected that the person who I first saw at the Gatsby Lounge was dealing drugs because of the amount of the attempted "payoff" and surveillance of this person being seen with known drug dealers.

22. Having been informed of the attempted "pay off" I informed Mahoning County, Ohio Sheriff Nemeth of the attempted "payoff" who told me to give the information to the FBI. I had reservations about giving the information to the FBI. After some delay I gave the information about the attempted "payoff" to FBI SA's Friedman and Plunkett. Both agents told me not to do anything because they already had an FBI agent from the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania office working undercover at the Lebanese drug house. I didn't believe what FBI SA's Friedman and Plunkett told me because FBI agents do not tell other FBI agents what operations they are working on. Therefore, the immediate question in my mind was. Why would they tell me about a current operation? I wanted away from these FBI agents without them knowing I wanted away from them.

23. During the same conversation with FBI SA's Friedman and Plunkett, Plunkett again lied to me when he told me that he did not know an informant by the name of Bobby Armstrong I knew he knew about Bobby Armstrong because of a conversation I had with him five (5) years ago about Bobby Armstrong. I then asked myself what am I doing with these people? Something is wrong here!

FBI CONTROLLED SIU

24. SIU Officer Joe Krupa secretly asked me to submit for approval of a search warrant to be served on the Diamond Tavern in Campbell, Mahoning County, Ohio which at the time was the illegal numbers hub for the whole organization. I received approval for the search warrant. I personally invited Special Agent Don Harris of the Internal Revenue Service to accompany us on this raid. I

did this to Protect Officer Krupa and me from future retaliation because this was a Joey Naples' stronghold.

25. I took Internal Revenue Agent Don Harris with me to the Diamond Tavern along with approximately 15 officers from Youngstown Police Department's SIU and Mahoning County Sheriff's Department, Lowendowsky who used a camera to film the serving of the search warrant and any arrests. FBI SA Robert Kroner later told me that the only reason I "hit" the place was to increase my monthly "package." Robert Kroner should have known better than to make an allegation like that because if I was going to put pressure on a place like the Diamond Tavern why would I bring an IRS agent with me? How could I possibly fix something where the IRS was included? Indirectly, I found that FBI SA Robert Kroner knew this was a Joey Naples operation and was upset with me for raiding the Diamond Tavern.

26. Youngstown Police Department Officer Joe Krupa, a member of the SIU informed me that SIU was working with FBI SA Robert Kroner and FBI SA Larry Lynch. SIU officer gave me the illegal gambling targets to raid. It was quite apparent that the targets I was given by SIU to raid where limited to people and establishments involved in illegal numbers gaming and small football pools. The SIU did not raid illegal sport betting operations nor did they ask for my assistance in raiding large illegal sport betting operations. The main target of the Youngstown Police Department SIU and FBI was the illegal numbers operation of Michael "SyraK" Serrecchio, a one time Joey Naples rival. I continued to arrest people for sports betting. What appeared strange was the Youngstown Police Department's SIU would be involved in every raid except the raids conducted in their own city. FBI SA Robert Kroner controlled and suppressed information, manipulated both the SIU and me to conduct only certain gambling arrest raids, none of which were directed at Joey Naples' illegal gambling enterprise. At the time it was common knowledge that Lenny Strollo and Joey Naples were growing apart because Lenny Strollo was against narcotics while Joey Naples was involved in narcotics. It should also be noted that at this time Randall Wellington was also chief of police of Youngtown, Ohio, and a personal friend of FBI SA Robert Kroner.

INDICTED & CONVICTED

27. I was indicted and convicted for taking a bribe from Lenny Strollo. I never took a bribe from Lenny Strollo or anyone else. This fact was revealed during a subsequent and related plea bargain hearing in which Lenny Strollo under oath testified that he never paid me a bribe. I also learned after my conviction that my attorney Stewart Mandel was associated with Lenny Strollo. My attorney, Stewart Mandel, might have acted for the benefit of others to help them so that I could not timely reveal the hereinabove written, the truth. Stewart Mandel was later indicted and convicted of income tax violations in connection with Lenny Strollo. I still believe Stewart Mandel is a good attorney who I consider a friend.

28. James A. Traficant, Jr., and I were never political allies. However, I have always respected him, therefore, I give my permission to him to use this affidavit in any way that he deems appropriate.

SPINDLETOP OIL FIELD AND
LUCAS GUSHER

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Texas State Spindletop 2001 Commission's celebration of the Centennial of the discovery of the Spindletop Oil Field and the Lucas Gusher. On January 10, 2001, at 10:32 am, a permanent reproduction of the Lucas Gusher will blow, and the excitement of that moment will be reenacted.

The Lucas Gusher, located just south of Beaumont, Texas, marked the beginning of the Petroleum Age. On January 10, 1901, a team of investors and drillers led by Captain Anthony F. Lucas discovered the greatest oil well ever seen. The area upon which the gusher was discovered, Spindletop Hill, was to produce more oil per day than the annual production of oil in the entire United States.

The discovery of oil at Spindletop drastically changed the country's economy. Within days thousands of speculators, sightseers and fortune seekers swarmed into the small town as news of the discovery spread. By 1902, hundreds of active wells were operating. The vast quantities of oil found at Spindletop first made possible the use of oil as an inexpensive, lightweight and efficient fuel to propel the world into the twentieth century.

On January 10, 2001, I will be present at the Spindletop celebration, and be presenting a copy of this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD statement. Celebrating and honoring the beginning of a new age for the world is altogether fitting and appropriate and deserves the House of Representative's recognition.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN
TRUCKING ASSOCIATIONS AND
ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOYS
FOR TOTS FOUNDATION

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the American Trucking Associations for demonstrating that "someone cares" about the Children of San Diego, California.

The American Trucking Associations urged all individuals who recently attended their Management Conference and Exhibition in San Diego, California to bring a toy. At the end of the conference, 700 toys were collected and donated to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation. Encouraged by their initial success, the American Trucking Associations have extended the toy drive via their website. In fact, donors can now contribute to a toy on-line.

The toys will be distributed to needy children in the San Diego area through the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation. Since 1947, the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves have ensured a gift under the Christmas tree of children who might otherwise experience the holiday without receiving any toys. Over the past 53 years, the Foundation

has grown and is now active in all 50 states. Last year alone, they collected and distributed 13,700,000 toys.

America's truckers will most likely deliver the vast majority of Christmas toys to stores around the country. However, this delivery is truly special, as it demonstrates the positive synergy that is achieved when private industry partners with charitable organizations to improve the community.

Mr. Speaker, the American Trucking Associations asked their members to "send a loving message that someone cares" to the children of the conference host city. Their members responded overwhelmingly, thus deserving the praise and accolades of this 106th Congress for their decision to leave the children of San Diego with a special memory.

IN HONOR OF FRED HASSAN, RECIPIENT OF THE 2000 GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Hassan, the recipient of the 2000 Global Citizen Award from the School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University.

Fred Hassan is currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of Pharmacia Corporation, a pharmaceutical company created by the merger of Pharmacia & Upjohn and the Monsanto Company.

Mr. Hassan, a native of Pakistan, received his Bachelor's Degree in chemical Engineering from the Imperial College of Science and Technology at the University of London in 1967 and his Master's of Business Administration from Harvard Business School in 1972.

At Pharmacia, Mr. Hassan and his management team have established a global organization dedicated to improving health and wellness around the world. Under Mr. Hassan's leadership, Pharmacia collaborates with government, academia, and the private sector to address global challenges in the fields of health care, science, and nutrition. To meet these challenges, Pharmacia, the United Nations Population Fund, and The World Bank created the "Save the Mother's Fund", a program that works to improve obstetric care in order to reduce maternal mortality rates in childbirth. In addition, Pharmacia has partnered with the World Health Organization's European Project on Tobacco Dependence to reduce tobacco-related death and disease among cigarette smokers in Europe.

Mr. Hassan has set an excellent example for other business leaders around the world; to be successful in the business world, while also helping to improve the lives of our fellow global citizens.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Fred Hassan and Pharmacia for their outstanding commitment and contributions to global health and development.