

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF LOU "THE TOE"
GROZA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Lou "the Toe" Groza for his years of involvement in the Cleveland area.

Mr. Groza was born in Martins Ferry, Ohio and remained in state attending Ohio State University in 1942. Just one year into his college education, Mr. Groza was drafted by the U.S. Army for service in World War II. In the Army he served as a surgical technician in a medical battalion.

In 1946, after his service had ended, Lou Groza returned home to Ohio and promptly tried out for the Cleveland Browns. Just one year after joining the team, Groza was promoted to starting tackle and helped guide the Browns to a perfect (14-0) season and the All-America Football Conference title.

During his extraordinary twenty-one year career, Mr. Groza helped steer the Cleveland Browns to eight championships and led them into another five championship games. In addition to the team glory that Mr. Groza promoted, he also earned individual honors being named to six All-National Football League (NFL) teams, nine Pro Bowl squads and left the league as the all time points and games played leader with 1,349 and 216 respectively. In fact, so impressive was his kicking ability that he still ranks in the top fifteen points leaders in NFL history.

In 1968 the Cleveland Browns showed their respects towards the incredible talents of Mr. Groza by retiring his number (76) in a ceremony at Cleveland Municipal Stadium. The National Football League also paid homage to Mr. Groza by inducting him into their Hall of Fame in 1974.

With his football career over, Mr. Groza did not disappear from public life, instead he remained a fixture in the Berea, Ohio community for more than three decades. The city recognized him by renaming the street of the Cleveland Browns training camp "Lou Groza Way" and assigning the Browns' headquarters the street address 76.

Lou Groza was a patriot, football legend and a city treasure. He will be missed by the entire Northeast Ohio Community. My fellow colleagues, let us recognize Mr. Groza for his years of achievement.

IN HONOR OF COLUMBIA
LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind and

its sister organizations across the country. Founded 100 years ago, the Columbia Lighthouse is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing education, training, and rehabilitation services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Seventy percent of blind adults are unemployed. The Lighthouse organizations are fighting to change that statistic. Since 1931, the Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind has been serving my home district employing blind individuals. Operating for the first several years in borrowed buildings, the organization employed the blind in weaving, sewing, and broom manufacturing. The Dallas Lighthouse has come a long way, now employing over 100 individuals in manufacturing various products, and offering rehabilitation programs for those with vision disabilities.

Today, the Lighthouses are evolving to meet today's changing business environment, emerging in the world of technology and e-commerce. The Columbia Lighthouse recently launched ReelBooks.com, a Web site that retails more than 16,000 audio books, while providing the visually impaired with valuable training in an industry sorely lacking trained employees.

The work of the Lighthouses is changing the face of blind America. Those with vision disabilities have the right to be active, assimilated and contributing members of society. I am proud of the services provided by the Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind and its sister organizations throughout America. The opportunities these organizations can provide for people with vision disabilities are immeasurable. I salute the Lighthouses and the people they serve today.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF FORMER
CONGRESSMAN HENRY B. GONZALEZ

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Henry B. Gonzalez.

As the first Hispanic Congressman from Texas, he was very active in the fight for civil rights for all Americans.

Henry was a close friend of mine before I came to Congress. When he was Chairman of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development, he asked me to testify before the subcommittee. At that time I was Sheriff of Mahoning County and had refused to sign transfer deeds for foreclosures on homes in my district. He also helped me to pass legislation that provides counseling to homeowners who are in danger of losing their homes.

Henry B. Gonzalez was truly a great American with a lot of guts, who will be greatly missed. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on Friday, November 3, and I would like the RECORD to indicate how I would have voted had I been present.

For rollcall vote No. 593, I would have voted "yea."

For rollcall vote No. 594, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. Speaker, I was also unavoidably detained in my district on Monday and Tuesday, November 13-14, and I would like the RECORD to indicate how I would have voted had I been present.

For rollcall vote No. 595, I would have voted "nay."

For rollcall vote No. 596, I would have voted "nay."

For rollcall vote No. 597, I would have voted "yea."

THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MOST REVEREND
ANTHONY M. PILLA AS BISHOP OF
CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Reverend Anthony Michael Pilla. He will be celebrating the twentieth anniversary of his position as Bishop of Cleveland on January 7, 2001.

Born in Cleveland, Reverend Pilla was educated in a combination of both public and private schools. He was ordained into the priesthood on May 23, 1959. Throughout his life he has shown commendable dedication to the promotion of religion and harmony within the Cleveland community. Bishop Pilla began his life in the priesthood as Associate Pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish, Middleburg Heights. Pope John Paul II announced his choice of Father Pilla as Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland on June 30, 1979. The following year he was named the Ninth Bishop of Cleveland.

The Reverend Pilla was well schooled in Philosophy and History. He has also taken a wide variety of positions of responsibility. He was appointed a member of the United States Catholic Conference 1985-1987. His appointment as Vice President of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1992 is a testament to the respect he has earned as a religious leader.

Bishop Pilla has always demonstrated the importance of using faith to transcend religious division, and to address the needs of the whole community. As a result, his work has a

• 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.

universal appeal. His pastorals, such as "World Peace" and "A Call for One Another" demonstrate this. Bishop Pilla has been outstanding as a unifying force in the Cleveland community.

I feel blessed to consider Bishop Pilla as one of my personal friends. I have had the opportunity to work with him on a variety of issues for the benefit of the people of Cleveland. Both as a community leader and as a friend, Bishop Pilla has always shown the utmost integrity and honesty. In his work and his life he has shown the highest order of caring for others.

My fellow colleagues, today I speak in recognition of the twentieth anniversary of The Most Reverend Anthony M. Pilla as Bishop of Cleveland.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF
JAMES L. HAIR

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the passing of Mr. James L. Hair. Jim Hair was a Navy veteran of the Korean War and faithfully served his country as a civil servant for over 30 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He was recognized throughout the Corps for his depth of knowledge of the organization, his caring disposition, and his wise counsel.

During his career he accomplished a number of firsts for the Corps. On the Sam Rayburn/Town Bluff hydropower project, he developed the agreements with the local sponsors whereby the sponsors paid 100 percent of the total project costs up front, the first of its kind in the Corps. After the passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, he worked on one of the first cost sharing agreements with the city of Austin, Texas. He was the first executive assistant in the Southwestern Division of the Corps of Engineers, a very demanding position that provides a valuable liaison between the Corps and this august body. This is a position he retired from in 1989.

There are several members here today who have benefited from his assistance in developing authorization and appropriation legislation for much needed civil works projects and programs throughout our great nation. For his outstanding service, he was recognized with the Superior Civilian Service Award from the Secretary of the Army, and most recently, he was selected to the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees of the Southwestern Division Corps of Engineers. He was the epitome of the invaluable civil servant.

Additionally, he was a pillar of his community; the first mayor of the city of Briar Oaks Texas; Chairman of the Board of Directors for a multimillion-dollar credit union; and an active participant on the board of many other civic and private organizations. He was devoted to his wife, Wanda, his family, the Corps, and his country. He passed away on November 26, 2000, in Fort Worth, Texas, at the age of 68. Jim Hair, a truly great American, will be sorely missed by his family, friends and the nation.

CONGRATULATING NICK ROWE OF
MORAVIA, NEW YORK

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Nick Rowe, a star soccer player from the 31st.

On September 12 of this year, Nick, the varsity goalkeeper for the Moravia High School Soccer team, broke a 21-year-old national record for accumulating 1,130 saves. The previous record of 936 saves was set by Brian Siebrasse of Malta, Illinois in 1979—three years before Nick was even born.

Nick was featured in the September 25th edition of Sports Illustrated, and on ESPN in celebration of his record-breaking performance.

So, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to join Nick's family, friends, and teammates in congratulating him on this outstanding achievement. We all wish him well on his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF
CONGRESSMAN CHARLES CANADY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity to recognize the service and accomplishment of one of our colleagues, Congressman CHARLES CANADY. As the representative for the people of the 12th district of Florida, CHARLES CANADY has made significant contributions to the legislative debate on a number of important issues facing both the state of Florida, as well as the nation as a whole. The people of Florida, and his colleagues in the House, will miss his presence and leadership.

As a result of his service and diligent efforts, Congressman CANADY has been able to achieve significant legislative accomplishments. He introduced and worked to secure passage of the Lobbying Disclosure Act, the first significant reform of lobbying regulations in over a generation. To accomplish this difficult goal, CHARLES took a bipartisan approach and reached across party lines to pass this important legislation without amendments that would have diluted the bill's effectiveness.

Congressman CANADY has also been an active proponent for the freedom of religious expression. To that end, he introduced the Religious Liberty Protection Act, which protects against government encroachment on free religious expression in public places, and that bill was subsequently passed by the House of Representatives.

More recently, I had the pleasure to work with CHARLES and the other members of the Florida Delegation on one of the most significant pieces of environmental legislation this nation has ever passed, the Everglades Restoration bill. As a member of the Florida Delegation, Congressman CANADY can take pride in knowing that his work will contribute to the economic, environmental, and cultural vitality of the state, saving this precious national treasure for generations to come.

We will all miss the contributions and camaraderie CHARLES has shared with us. This will be an exciting time in the lives of the Canady family, as they await the birth of their second child. As a friend and fellow Floridian, I wish CHARLES, his wife Jennifer, his daughter Julie Grace, and the newest addition to the Canady family, the best as they embark upon a new chapter in their lives. I look forward to working with CHARLES in other capacities in the future as he continues his service to the people of Florida.

IN HONOR OF SENATOR GRACE L.
DRAKE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Ohio State Senator Grace L. Drake. As senator she held a most distinguished political career, marked by numerous accomplishments and awards. Today, as her 17 years of service to the Ohio State Legislature is coming to a close, I offer my recognition and admiration for her exalted work.

Appointed to the office of State senator in May 1984, Senator Drake was re-elected handily in November of the same year. She has served on numerous committees throughout her tenure. Most recently, she served as chair of the Senate Health Committee since 1989, and as a member of the committees on Rules, Reference, and Ways and Means.

Widely recognized as one of Ohio's outstanding legislators, she has introduced over 146 pieces of legislation, passing over 60 of them. This remains a record unmatched by any current member of the Ohio General Assembly. Recognizing Senator Drake's hard work and dedication to the people of Ohio, Ohio Governors, and Senate Presidents have rewarded her with key State appointments to the powerful State Controlling Board, chairman of the Retirement Study Committee, and the first chairman of the Women's Policy and Research Commission, among numerous others. Senator Drake has also served as chairman of the Senate Economic Development and Small Business Committee, and has used her knowledge of Ohio's economy to hold economic development seminars in Cuyahoga and Medina Counties. Credited with stimulating economic growth in Northeast Ohio, she was recently appointed to serve on the Ohio Development Financing Advisory Council.

Senator Drake has played key roles in forming and building three major statewide organizations, namely, the Ohio Dairy Strategic Planning Task Force, to address the needs of the Ohio Dairy industry; the Ohio Higher Education Business Council, in cooperation with the Ohio Board of Regents and all of Ohio's public and private universities; and the Ohio Farmland Preservation Task Force, which addresses the issues of farmland loss and the need for preservation.

Due to all of Senator Drake's commitment, she has been the recipient of many awards and honors. The United Conservatives of Ohio chose her to receive the Watchdog of the Treasury Award four times, for her commitment to keeping the costs of government down. She has also been awarded three Outstanding Legislator of the Year Awards from

the Ohio Speech and Hearing Association. In 1955, she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, the first State senator to be granted this honor. In 1997, Senator Drake received the Ohio State Bar Association's Distinguished Service Award. Most recently, she has been awarded an honorary doctorate in public administration by Cleveland State University and an honorary masters degree in anesthesiology from Case Western Reserve University.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing the dedication and distinguished law-making career of Senator Grace L. Drake. The General Assembly, as well as the people of Ohio, are losing a unique legislator who understood the value of public service. Let us commend her on 17 years as an Ohio State Senator.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOOMING GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize one of the churches in my district. This year Blooming Grove Missionary Baptist Church of McLeansboro, IL celebrates its 150th anniversary. I thought it appropriate to acknowledge the church's rich and colorful past along with the congregation's contribution to society.

After a long petitioning process, Blooming Grove was accepted for membership at the tenth annual meeting of the Franklin United Baptist Association in Johnson City, IL. Today, 150 years later, the church is still going strong. Led by Pastor Bro. Gary Davenport for the past 14 years, Blooming Grove has a regular attendance of 75 dedicated citizens. Throughout the years the church has contributed to local and national charities. In fact, as early as 1907 church records state that Blooming Grove gave \$7.33 to China to help in their suffering. The congregation may have changed in size for the past 150 years, but through it all there has always been a strong church body willing to do all they can to keep the congregation together.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I commend the Blooming Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Due to the perseverance and dedication of the congregation, it is clear that the church is an asset to the community.

HONORING DR. LOU PULLANO,
BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the achievements of my constituent and friend, Dr. Lou Pullano, Ed.D, of Long Branch, N.J. Lou is retiring from Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, N.J., after 28 years of outstanding service as a professor and administrator.

Lou has made many remarkable contributions to the local and educational communities of Monmouth County over the course of his career. Perhaps his most outstanding achievement and lasting contribution is the creation of the Brookdale College Radio Station, WBJB 90.5 FM. This small station has grown in listenership and is now recognized as a leading model for school-sponsored stations. In fact, I understand it is now broadcasting with National Public Radio.

Lou's career at Brookdale has been varied and far-reaching, thereby accounting for the tremendous love and respect in which he is held by thousands of students, current and former. For many years, he was a faculty member and professor of Communications Media and became director of Arts Communications, which included the departments of Music, Arts, Graphics, Theater and Speech.

In addition, he was more recently named Brookdale Director of Telecommunication Technologies, which includes radio and cable television broadcasts, and in charge of the Performing Arts Center at Brookdale. Now, upon his retirement, he is also in charge of Distance Education Programs.

Lou is among those who have made Brookdale Community College the educational gem that it is among community colleges in New Jersey and across the country.

I know I speak for all the students past and present at Brookdale, as well as the community of Long Branch and the County of Monmouth, when I wish Lou well in his retirement and thank him for his many years of outstanding and dedicated service.

TRIBUTE TO GRACE MCCARTHY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life and contributions of Grace McCarthy, who passed away just a few days ago at the age of 92.

One of Pacifica, California's most passionate and influential citizens, Grace McCarthy added value and beauty to almost every aspect of civic life in Pacifica and in San Mateo County. Her countless contributions were not made simply from her strong sense of public duty, but from the affection and loyalty she had for the city and citizens of Pacifica.

Mr. Speaker, the phrases "ecologically sound" and "environmental protection" were not as popular thirty years ago as they are today, but Grace did a great deal to give them meaning in Pacifica. Never bending simply because some opinion leaders may have disagreed with her, Grace was a maverick whose steadfast views and boundless energy were key to protecting Pacifica's natural splendor beginning in the 1970's.

Nothing demonstrates this more than Grace McCarthy's appointment to the first Coastal Conservation Commission for Pacifica and to the California State Coastal Commission. During her tenure, Grace fought unpopular battles and was often at odds with fellow commission members, but her views always earned respect because of her unquestioning devotion

to protecting and preserving the coast in and around Pacifica. The Pacifica Tribune commented, "As a member of the Central Coastal Conservation Commission, she catches it from both sides. Free enterprise businessmen and property owners figure she's aligned with those who would 'close' the coast. The environmentalists accuse her of being aligned with the free enterprise business and property owners . . . Fortunately, Mrs. McCarthy is a practical, tough not easily intimidated or discouraged public servant who's doing a hard job well."

Mr. Speaker, Grace's inherent respect for natural beauty existed before she came to reside permanently in Pacifica with her husband and children. Grace and her husband, Carl, met at Yosemite National Park, where, fortuitously, Carl paid a chance visit and Grace was attending a nature convention. Grace and Carl's mutual love for nature augmented Grace's devotion to Pacifica's coast and its evergreens.

Decades before environmental issues were in vogue, Grace McCarthy devotedly and doggedly fought for wilderness parks, open space, riding and hiking trails, and the dedication of parks in new subdivisions. Although she was a fierce, determined and indomitable conservationist, in her public activities and in her private life, she was the epitome of her name—Grace.

Mr. Speaker, all of us who honor Grace McCarthy will look to Pacifica's treetops and coastline and know that much of what we cherish there is ours to enjoy because of Grace's energy, foresight, fierce determination and firm conviction. We will miss her in the fights that lie ahead, but her spirit will continue to inspire and guide our actions.

IN HONOR OF THE NORTH OLMSTED MUNICIPAL BUS LINE (NOMBL)

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I honor Ohio's oldest municipally owned bus system, the North Olmsted Municipal Bus Line (NOMBL), which is celebrating 70 years of service to the community of North Olmsted and surrounding suburbs.

NOMBL, located in North Olmsted, serves over one million customers annually, having come a long way since the line's first red and white-painted bus made its first official trip to Cleveland at 5:15 a.m. on March 1, 1931; the first day's revenue was \$24.65.

NOMBL was founded after Southwestern Railway decided to discontinue trolley services for the region. Mayor Charles Seltzer, Clerk Elroy Christman, Solicitor Guy Wheeler and resident John Schindler borrowed money to lease two used buses and drove them to Columbus, Ohio to get the vehicle licenses necessary to operate a bus line. With consistent and continued dedication to service and commitment to excellence, NOMBL buses became a landmark in Cuyahoga County.

Today, the active 40-coach fleet operates seven different routes under a contract with the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA). Operating under this agreement

since 1975, NOMBL maintains operation and city ownership while having access to new buses and equipment, technologies, natural gas fueling capabilities, and garage space, enabling the line to better serve customers. Evolving through appearance changes, service expansions and various partnerships, NOMBL has remained committed to dependable and faithful service, with much thanks given to and appreciation for its dedicated and responsible employees.

Mr. Speaker, let us recognize the achievements of the NOMBL, which will be honored at the 70th Anniversary Luncheon on March 1, 2001, for 70 years of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXCELLENCE OF THE READING JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL ESTEEM TEAM

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the Reading Junior-Senior High School Esteem Team, which received Ohio's 2000 BEST Practices Award on October 10, 2000. The BEST Practices Award honors groups that improve the performance of Ohio's students through innovative, effective approaches to common education challenges.

The Esteem Team has an outstanding record of positive results. I have met and worked with several members of the Team, and I can say firsthand that their work has made a very significant difference in the Cincinnati community.

The Team was founded in 1989 by three senior students at Reading Junior-Senior High School. The goal of the program is to instruct and motivate other students to lead safe, healthy lifestyles. The group is student-run, and, since 1989, it has blossomed from a handful of members to its current count of almost 90. Molly Flook Woodrow, who teaches special needs students at Reading Junior-Senior High School, serves as the Team's advisor and has done so since the Team was established.

The Esteem Team members play a critical role in our community by serving as role models and contributors to safe, drug-free lifestyles for other students. The Team primarily educates elementary and secondary students by providing current, accurate information on the dangers and often life-threatening effects of drug abuse. Through organized workshops, group discussions, role-playing and informative skits, these young leaders have developed an effective message that teaches students to make good decisions and to be responsible.

The Esteem Team has been instrumental to efforts to reverse substance abuse trends in our area, and we are very fortunate for the hard work of its members. All of us in the Cincinnati area congratulate the Esteem Team on receiving Ohio's 2000 BEST Practices Award.

HONORING FAIR LAWN
COUNCILWOMAN FLOSSIE DOBROW

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a longtime resident of the Borough of Fair Lawn, New Jersey who is completing her 24th year of service to our community as a distinguished member of the Borough Council. Mr. Speaker, I honor Councilwoman Florence Dobrow, who is better known as Flossie to her many friends and supporters.

Flossie became politically active as part of the Fair Lawn Independent Democrats and was first elected to the Borough Council in 1976. In July of 1981, Flossie became the Borough's 18th Mayor and served one term.

Having earned the support and respect of the people of Fair Lawn, Flossie has been re-elected time and again to the Borough Council and today is recognized in the Hall of Fame of the New Jersey League of Municipalities for her year of public service.

Flossie's accomplishments in Fair Lawn are legendary. The Dobrow Field Complex, which for years has been used by youngsters to play a number of sports, is named in honor of her contributions to our community.

As a founder of the Fair Lawn Garden Club, Flossie created what is popularly known as "Flossie's Posse," to engage local community members in making certain that shrubs and flowers throughout the Borough are being managed properly.

Simply put, Flossie is a local treasure, much as her cousin Abe Stark was a treasure to Ebbets Field, where his "Hit Sign Win Suit" was a legend of a different kind. With her late husband Saul and her son Ira, she has contributed to Fair Lawn in every respect. Today, Flossie's grandson is the object of her love and devotion.

I understand that Flossie's remarkable years of service to the Borough of Fair Lawn will be the subject of a testimonial dinner that will be held on December 7, 2000. As a proud resident of Fair Lawn, I join my fellow Borough residents in saluting Flossie and the outstanding example she has set for others to follow.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Flossie Dobrow on the occasion of this well deserved tribute and wish her health and happiness in the years to come.

REGARDING INDIA'S FIGHT
AGAINST TERRORISM

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, the terrorist attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*, in which 17 young American sailors lost their lives, and 39 were seriously wounded, was but the latest tragic reminder of the threat that the world's democratic nations face from the specter of terrorism. For many years, the United States has worked with our friends and allies to combat the scourge of international terrorism. This cooperation recognizes the mutual enlightened

self-interest of democracies that face common threats to develop common means of responding to those threats.

Few countries have suffered as much from international terrorism as India. India, a nation with deeply rooted democratic traditions, must remain vigilant against an ever-present threat of terror fomented from many of the same forces that seek to attack U.S. interests and cause harm to Americans, such as Osama Bin-Laden and the forces associated with his international terrorist network.

That is why I am encouraged to see that cooperation between the United States and India on the anti-terrorism front has been strengthened and deepened. At the two U.S.-India summit meetings this year—one here in Washington the other in New Delhi—a framework for bilateral cooperation in the war against terrorism has been adopted, including establishment of a Joint Working Group on counter terrorism. We should see to it that this cooperation is strengthened and that this Joint Working Group continues to meet productively on a regular basis.

In particular, I am encouraged that the U.S. and India have decided to expand the mandate of the Joint Working Group to include discussion on such issues as narco-terrorism and Afghanistan. During his visit to Washington in September, Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee raised the situation in Afghanistan, India's concerns about the nature of the Taliban government and its connection with international terrorist organizations, concerns which the United States shares. Our two nations agreed to set up a framework for talks to deal with our common concerns about Afghanistan, and I will work to encourage progress on this front.

For nearly two decades, India has suffered from cross-border terrorism in Punjab, in Jammu and Kashmir and in other parts of India. Thousands of lives have been lost to the terrorists' bombs and guns. Last December, an Air India jet was hijacked by individuals subsequently identified as Pakistani nationals with possible links to ISI, an intelligence organization of the Pakistan Government.

On a recent report on the CBS news magazine "60 Minutes," Marine Corps General Anthony Zinni, outgoing commander of U.S. forces in South Asia told reporter Steve Kroft that he believes it is "very possible" that nuclear weapons in Pakistan could wind up in the hands of extremist religious leaders.

These are the kinds of threats that India faces on an ongoing basis.

The U.S. State Department has indicated its growing concerns about terrorism in the South Asia region. Congress must, if necessary, urge the State Department to act on designating those Pakistani-based militant groups that have so far escaped designation as Foreign Terrorist Organizations. Otherwise, those very groups will take the lack of action on our part as a signal that we are tolerating the very terrorist actions our laws are intended to interdict, thereby encouraging further terrorist action against innocent populations.

Like the United States, India recognizes that terrorism represents an assault on the very notion of an open, democratic society. And like the United States, India is not about to surrender to those forces that seek to murder innocents, exact blackmail and tear the fabric of civil society. We have long worked with the other great democracies of the world to make

a common stand against those forces. We must see to it that the beginnings of cooperation we have seen with India, the world's largest democracy, will move forward to protect the lives of our people and build a more secure future for both of our great nations.

IN HONOR OF GRACE F. SINAGRA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the memory of Mrs. Grace F. Sinagra, a long-time resident of Lakewood, OH who passed away on November 22, 2000 at the age of 87.

This remarkable woman owned and operated Sinagra's Food Market in Lakewood for 51 years along with her husband of 60 years, Nate Sinagra, who passed away in 1990. The couple was known locally for their tremendous generosity and concern for their fellow citizens. During the Great Depression, the Sinagras frequently extended credit to those in need, so that they could afford to feed their families. However the end of the depression did not mark the end of the Sinagra's charity. The two continued to donate food on a weekly basis to the Sisters of the Poor Clares.

For Grace Sinagra, this altruism began at a very early age. In 1916, when she was only 3 years old, Sinagra left the comfort of home in Alexandria, Virginia and traveled with her family to Sicily to bring her grandmother to the United States. However, due to the outbreak of World War I, the family was forced to delay their return until 1919. This experience must have made a significant impression on her, for she continued this type of heroism and selflessness for the rest of her life.

Mrs. Sinagra is survived by her son Anthony Sinagra of Lakewood, OH, her daughters Theresann Santoro of Lyndhurst, OH and Sister Annette of Adrian, MI; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one brother.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in remembering Grace F. Sinagra. The memory of this great woman will surely endure in the hearts of all those whom she touched.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF FORMER
CONGRESSMAN HENRY B. GONZALEZ

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of former Representative Henry B. Gonzalez. He was a good friend and a respected colleague during the course of our service together in the House of Representatives. I wish to extend my sympathies to his wife, Bertha, and their children. I wish them well as they continue life without their beloved "Henry B."

Henry Gonzalez's long career in public service was a distinguished one. He was the first Hispanic to be elected to the San Antonio City Council. He was the first Hispanic elected to

the Texas State Senate. He was the first Hispanic elected to represent Texas in the U.S. Congress. He tirelessly and passionately represented his constituents for more than half a century. He became particularly well known as a champion of the poor and the downtrodden.

The high point of Henry Gonzalez's 37 years as a member of this body was when he became chairman of the Banking Committee, a post he held for three terms. As chairman, he played a key role in resolving the savings-and-loan scandals of the 1980s. He also made his mark advocating for the expansion of affordable housing opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, as I bring to a close my own career in the House, I frequently reflect on the issues, the legislation, and the people that engaged me here the most. Henry Gonzalez ranks high. I will miss him a great deal.

RECOGNITION OF BEN VINSON III

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recommend to my colleagues a fascinating article written by Ben Vinson III, entitled, "Blacks in Mexico," published in *El Aguila Del Hudson Valley*. Ben Vinson, a native of Johnstown, PA, is an Assistant Professor of Latin American History at Barnard College, Columbia University. He has just completed a book on black soldiers in Colonial Mexico, "His Majesty's Men." I am extremely proud of the fact that Ben once was an intern in my congressional office and I submit the following article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From *El Aguila del Hudson Valley*, Nov. 2000]

BLACKS IN MEXICO

(By Ben Vinson III)

As Hispanic Heritage month and the Dia de la Raza are still present in our memory, it becomes important to reflect upon the full diversity of Latin America. Few other regions in the world are as racially rich, and few have achieved the same level of cultural accomplishment. From music and the arts to politics and science, people of Latin American descent have made significant contributions. Names such as Oscar Arias Sanchez, Jorge Luis Borges, Diego Rivera, Che Guevara, Rigoberta Menchu, and Celia Cruz, are just a few of the famous figures who have had a tremendous impact on our times. But what is often overlooked is the role that Africa has played in the region's heritage and the development of its people. With over 450 million inhabitants, Latin America has one of the world's largest populations. Yet what is not as well known is that up to 1/3 of all Latin Americans today can claim some African ancestry, according to research conducted by the Organization of Africans in the Americas (OAA). In 1992, there were as many as 82 million Afro-Latinos in the hemisphere, with some living in unlikely places such as Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia. Even in the United States today there are between 3.5 to 5 million Afro-Latinos residing in the country.

What does this mean? Simply that one cannot celebrate the Hispanic heritage without celebrating the connection with Africa, regardless of one's national origins. Mexico is an excellent example. With so much empha-

sis on the country's Indian history, it has become easy to overlook links with an African past. But these links exist. When Columbus first sailed to the coast of southern Mexico between 1502-1504, he could not have imagined that within a hundred years, this land would become the largest importer of African slaves to the New World. Between 1521 and 1650, Mexico alone imported nearly half of all the black slaves introduced into the Americas. They worked in a variety of professions, including the farming industry, on tobacco and sugar plantations, as domestic workers, and in silver mining trades. Anywhere that the Spaniards lived, they took African slaves with them. Because of this, Mexico's black population was spread out everywhere, from the northern frontier towns near the current U.S.-Mexican border, to the southern villages near Guatemala and along the coast of the Yucatan.

Blacks mixed quickly with the indigenous and mestizo populations. Some of this had to do with the condition of slavery itself. Not many women were brought from Africa, which forced many men to marry non-black women. After 1650, the number of black inter-racial marriages had increased so much that some scholars believe that Mexico's version of mestizaje owes a great debt to Africa. According to Dr. Patrick Carroll, it was essentially blacks that fused the indigenous and white races together, since both Spaniards and Indians frequently had sexual relations with blacks. Sometimes these relations were more frequent than they had with one another.

Blacks were not just slaves in Mexico. African slaves were commonly released from bondage through buying their freedom, using small amounts of money that they were able to save on their jobs. Sometimes masters also freed their slaves because of their good services, or because they feared that they would be punished by God if they kept them. By 1800, Mexico possessed one of the largest numbers of free-blacks in the world, just behind countries like Brazil. In fact, the total number of blacks in Mexico numbered over 370,000, representing nearly 10% of the population.

What happened to Mexico's blacks? We don't see much of them in the media, nor has there been a strong effort to write about them in history textbooks. The percentage of Afro-Mexicans has grown smaller over time. Although there are almost a half a million blacks in the country today, they represent less than 1% of the national population, and they live mainly in the coastal areas of Veracruz, Oaxaca, and Acapulco. The general Mexican population is often aware of a small black presence in their country, especially in Veracruz. But oftentimes these people are viewed as foreigners, mainly Cuban immigrants, who are not truly a part of the nation. While Cuban immigration at the end of the 19th century was significant towards increasing the number of blacks in Mexico, the descendants of Mexican slaves still remain an important part of the Afro-Mexican population.

When one travels to the west coast of Mexico we can see these roots, as I did during a research trip four years ago. In the village of Corralero, Emiliano Colon Torres (age 99) spoke about how he participated in the Mexican Revolution along with other Afro-Mexicans, and even black Cubans. But times were difficult, both before and after the war. As he and several others noted: "Some [darker] blacks, especially one Cuban musician, found it difficult to marry because of their race. A very popular musician who had migrated from Cuba died without ever marrying." Such comments reveal a phenomenon that exists not just in the black areas of Mexico, but in other places in Latin America where

blacks live. Skin color has made it difficult to gain full acceptance in society. This can lead to lower self-esteem, as well as a denial of certain aspects of one's African heritage. Despite the fact that the region surrounding Corralero has a long Afro-Mexican history, stretching back into the 1600s, when I asked people how blacks first entered their area, I almost always received the same answer: "Blacks arrived to our coast in the 1940s when a Russian ship sank off shore. There was a black crew working on the ship, and they came to our area and began to populate it." Another version of the story involves a Japanese plane that crashed near the shore, also with a black crew. While there is some evidence of wreckage, these stories deny an entire history involving slavery and the slave trade. Perhaps this is the intention. By not being associated with Africa and slavery, Afro-Mexicans can elevate themselves. Instead of being associated with Africa's negative stereotypes, such as a lack of education, barbaric behavior, and poverty, Afro-Mexicans become associated with the rich Japanese and the powerful Russians. These are better images. It is also possible that the people of Corralero and its neighboring towns knew little of a deep Afro-Mexican past because they have not had access to information about their African history and heritage.

Hispanic Heritage month and El Dia de la Raza are times when we can remedy situations like these. Hispanics and Latin Americans do not need to apologize for, or hide their African heritage. It is part of a great cultural strength, which contributes to the richness and diversity of the region. In the same manner that we recall the early events that led to the development of the Americas, let's not forget that in each of our countries, Africa had an important role too. And whether through subtle mestizaje or more overt influences, an African heritage continues to shape who the Latin American people truly are.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ARMED SERVICES VOTE RESERVE ACT

HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I thought I would be at home with my family at this time, preparing for the holidays, but we are here, and we have work to do. One of the areas that we should address before we adjourn is the disgraceful treatment of our overseas military personnel by partisan political operatives.

At the behest of political operatives, lawyers spread out across Florida with a specific goal in mind—to disenfranchise the men and women of our Armed Forces who are living abroad. So they distributed a 5-page primer on how to kill these votes, and they challenged every absentee ballot they could from our servicemen and servicewomen, managing to block more than 1,400 votes from being counted.

They didn't block these votes from being counted a second, third, or fourth time—they blocked them from being counted even once. These votes now sit in the trash, and barring congressional action this year, those votes will never be counted.

Along with my friend CURT WELDON, I am today introducing the Armed Services Vote Rescue Act, which will count those ballots cast

by our military personnel stationed overseas. And it will not just make sure they are counted in future elections, it will make sure that they are counted in Florida this year. Legal scholars assure us the bill is entirely constitutional.

The bill essentially adopts the standard articulated by Senator ZELL MILLER in the Washington Post of November 20th:

Any ballot from a man or women in the military who is serving this country should be counted—period. I don't care when it's dated, whether it's witnessed or anything else. If it is from someone serving this country and they made the effort to vote, count it and salute them when you do it.

I was in Kosovo earlier this year and let me tell you—obtaining a postmark is not the first thing on our soldiers minds, nor should it be. Or imagine those on aircraft carriers—they don't wait around to find a postmark—they get the mail off the carrier the first chance they get.

Those who defend our Nation should not be mistreated the way they have been wronged this year in Florida, and no man who would be Commander-in-Chief should seek to exclude the votes of the men and women he would command.

You know, at the same time Florida officials were dismissing valid military ballots, these same Florida counties, according to the Miami Herald, accepted the illegal votes of as many as 5,000 felons, including at least 45 killers and 16 rapists. So rapists' votes were counted, but soldiers' votes were trashed. The Congress cannot let that stand.

We have more than 30 original cosponsors on the bill and endorsements from a growing list of veterans groups. So be fore we adjourn, let's give each and every Member the opportunity to cast a simply vote, so there can be no mistake: Do we stand without military men and women, or do we stand with partisan lawyers out to obstruct their votes?

Let's pass the Armed Services Vote Rescue Act and do right by our military personnel.

I submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following letters from various veterans groups who have endorsed this legislation as well as a copy of the memo that was used to exclude these military ballots.

NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Alexandria, VA, December 1, 2000.

Hon. MATT SALMON,

U.S. House of Representatives, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SALMON: The Non Commissioned Officers Association of the USA (NCOA) is writing to state our strong, unequivocal support for the Armed Services Vote Rescue Act.

The sacred oath of all military personnel, officers and enlisted alike, is to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. Incredibly, military personnel sworn to preserve the Constitution, at great personal risk, were in more than 40% of the cases in Florida denied their most basic right to have their vote counted in the November 2000 general election. The outright rejection of armed services absentee ballots, as appears to be the case, because of some discriminatory pre-conceived notion that military votes might favor one side versus the other, is unacceptable and should not be allowed to stand.

Military members give up many rights while serving in the Armed Forces. Restrictions are placed on their political activities

and Armed Forces members understand and abide by those limits. The right to vote is the only form of political speech that a military member can exercise freely and without restriction. Denying the vote of military personnel and their eligible family members, who have complied with all applicable registration and voting requirements, is unconscionable. The very thought of it should chill the spine of all freedom loving people.

NCOA salutes your effort to reverse this recent travesty and thereby re-enfranchise Florida's military absentee voters. The fact that any individual, group, political party or candidate for national office would systematically seek to marginalize military absentee ballots is appalling. The call to arms has been issued. Fix bayonets. Count on NCOA'S full support for swift consideration and enactment of the Armed Services Vote Rescue Act.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. SOMMERS,
President/CEO.

LARRY D. RHEA,
Director of Legislative Affairs.

THE RETIRED ENLISTED ASSOCIATION,
Alexandria, VA, December 5, 2000.

Hon. MATT SALMON,
Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SALMON: On behalf of the over 100,000 members of The Retired Enlisted Association and Auxiliary, we applaud you for introducing The Armed Services Vote Rescue Act.

We have received numerous phone calls, letters and emails from thousands of military retirees and survivors concerning the current problems with the counting of absentee ballots from military personnel deployed in distant locations.

We join you in the effort to insure that soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coastguardsmen have the same opportunity to vote as the American people who are provided the defense of our nation.

Sincerely,

MARK H. OLANOFF,
National Legislative Director.

AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION,
Temple Hills, MD, December 1, 2000.

Hon. MATT SALMON,
Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SALMON: On behalf of the 150,000 members of this association, I applaud you for taking the initiative to introduce legislation that would require all overseas absentee ballots from military members to be counted.

Our association has received numerous telephone calls and email messages expressing the outrage of our active duty and retired military members. It is a sad day for America when the votes of our men and women, who on a daily basis make sacrifices and dedicate their lives to ensuring our freedom, are denied the right to vote for their next commander in chief.

The "Armed Services Vote Rescue Act," if enacted would help "re-enfranchise" military voters not only in Florida, but across the country and around the world. Again, thank you for sponsoring this much needed legislation.

Sincerely,

JAMES D. STATON,
Executive Director.

AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN &
CORREGIDOR, INC.,
San Antonio, TX, December 2, 2000.

Hon. MATT SALMON,
House of Representatives, Cannon House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SALMON: As commander of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, I take this opportunity to commend you in your effort in introducing legislation to protect the vote of the military personnel.

On behalf of the members of this organization, I relate to you our overwhelming support for this legislation.

We are outraged at the deliberate attempt to throw out the absentee ballots of the military in Florida. It is a national disgrace.

Again, we fully support your effort in introducing legislation to enact the Armed Services Vote Rescue Act.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. ALEXANDER,
National Commander.

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Arlington, VA, November 30, 2000.

Hon. MATT SALMON,
House of Representatives, Cannon House Office
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SALMON: I am writing to you on behalf of the 70,000 members of the Navy League of the United States in support of the Armed Services Vote Rescue Act.

Deployed military members have accepted the risk of missions and remote assignments ordered by the commander in chief. They swear to defend the Constitution of the United States. It is inconceivable that the very men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms under law should be denied the privilege of voting.

The men and women in uniform must not be deprived of their right to vote and have their vote counted. The Armed Services Vote Rescue Act will ensure that the votes cast by members of our armed services are counted.

The Navy League, as a civilian patriotic organization, is dedicated to the support of America's sea services and supports this bill.

Sincerely,

RADM JOHN R. FISHER,
USN (Ret.),
National President.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE
U.S., VFW NATIONAL HEAD-
QUARTERS,

Kansas City, MO.

NATIONAL VETERANS' LEADER IRATE OVER
REJECTION OF MILITARY BALLOTS

WASHINGTON, DC, November 24, 2000.—The Commander-in-Chief of the 1.9-million-member Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) today again expressed his outrage over the failure of the State of Florida to include more than 1,400 absentee military ballots.

"I just returned from visiting America's troops overseas," said Commander-in-Chief John F. Gwizdak. "These young men and women are serving under extraordinarily difficult conditions for a nation that has just taken away one of their most basic rights—the right to vote. It is absolutely unconscionable that any party or official would seek to include dimpled or damaged ballots and reject, out of hand, any ballot from those who proudly serve this nation because that ballot failed to pass through the U.S. Postal System. If any ballots should be counted, it should be those of our nation's heroes first."

"I call on the decency of both candidates and the State of Florida to correct this grievous injustice," said Gwizdak. "How can we send young men and women into harm's

way if we are unwilling to give them the basic right upon which this nation was founded? Anyone who fails to grasp the magnitude of this injustice does not understand the principals of the U.S. Constitution. They should hang their head in shame."

Gwizdak is from Stockbridge, Georgia and a retired military officer, having served 10 years as an enlisted soldier and 10 years as an officer, retiring in 1978 at the rank of Captain. He is a decorated Vietnam veteran having received a Combat Infantryman's Badge, a Purple Heart for wounds received in battle as well as a Bronze Star with a "V" for valor among other decorations.

Date: November 15, 2000.

To: FDP Lawyer.

From: Mark Herron.

Subject: Overseas Absentee Ballot Review and Protest.

State and Federal law provides for the counting of "absentee qualified electors overseas" ballots for 10 days after the day of the election or until November 17, 2000. Sections 101.62(7)(a), Florida Statutes defines as "absentee qualified elector overseas" to mean members of the Armed forces while in the service, members of the merchant marine of the United States and other citizens of the United States, who are permanent residents of the states and are temporarily residing outside of the territories of the United States and the District of Columbia. These "absentee qualified electors overseas" must also be qualified and registered as provided by law.

You are being asked to review these overseas absentee ballots to make a determination whether acceptance by the supervisor of elections and/or the county canvassing board is legal under Florida law. A challenge to these ballots must be made prior to the time that the ballot is removed from the mailing envelope. The specific statutory requirements for processing the canvass of an absentee ballot including of overseas absentee ballot, are set forth in Section 101.62(2) (c)2, Florida Statutes:

If any elector or candidate present believes that an absentee ballot is illegal due to a defect apparent on the voter's certificate, he or she may at anytime before the ballot is removed from the envelope, file with the canvassing board a protest against the canvass of the ballot specifying the precinct, the ballot, and the reason he or she believes the ballot to be illegal. A challenge based upon a defect in the voters certificate may not be accepted after the ballot has been removed from the mailing envelope. The form of the voter's certificates on the absentee ballot is set forth in section 101.64(1), Florida Statutes. By statutory provisions, only overseas absentee ballots mailed with an APO, PPO, or foreign postmark shall be considered a ballot. See Section 101.62(7)(c), Florida Statutes. In reviewing these ballots you should focus on the following:

1. Request for overseas ballots: Determine that the voter affirmatively requested an overseas ballot, and that the signature on the request for an overseas ballot matches the signature of the elector on the registration books to determine that the elector who requested the overseas ballot is the elector registered. See Section 101.62(4)(a), Florida Statutes.

2. The voter's signature: The ballot envelope must be signed by the voter. The signature of the elector as the voter's certificate should be compared with the signature of the elector of the signature on the registration books to determine that the elector who voted by ballot is the elector registered. See Section 101.68(c)x, Florida Statutes.

3. The ballot is properly witnessed: The absentee ballot envelope must be witnessed by

a notary or an attesting witness over the age of eighteen years. You may note that these requirements vary from the statutory language from the Section 101.68(a)(c)1, Florida Statutes. Certain statutory requirements in that section were not proclaimed by the Justice Department pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, Sec. DE 98-13.

4. The ballot is postmarked: With respect to absentee ballots mailed by absolute qualified electors overseas only those ballots mailed with an APO, PPO, or foreign postmark shall be considered valid. See Section 101.62(7)(c), Florida Statutes. This statutory provision varies from rule 15-2.013(7), Florida Administrative Code, which provides overseas absentee ballots may be accepted if "postmarked or signed and dated no later than the date of the federal election."

5. The elector has not already voted (duplicate ballot), in some instances an absent qualified elector overseas may have received two absentee ballots and previously submitted another ballot. No elector is entitled to vote twice. (Please insert appropriate FL xxx.)

To assist your review, we have attached the following:

1. A review Federal Postal regulations relating to FPO's and PPO's.
2. A protest form to be completed with respect to each absentee ballot challenged.
3. Overseas Ballot Summarily of Definitions.

Revised Overseas Ballot Summary of Definitions—There are 3 different types of overseas ballots that are valid for return at the counties provided they are postmarked on or before November 7th.

1. Federal Write-in ballot. Must be an overseas voter and must be eligible to vote and be registered under State law. Must have affirmatively requested an absentee ballot in writing and completely filled out request (including signature). Must comply with State laws applying to regular absentee ballots (such as registration requirements, notification requirements, etc.). Ballot contains only Federal races, and is considered to be a "backup" system if the regular state absentee ballot fails to arrive. The intent of the voter in casting the ballot should govern. In other words, minor variations in spelling candidate or party names should be disregarded in ballot counting so long as the intention of the voter can be ascertained. Must be postmarked as an APO, FPO, or MPO in a foreign country or a foreign post office.

2. Florida Advance Ballot Sent out in advance of a regular General Election ballot with state and Federal candidates listed. Must be an overseas voter and must be eligible to vote and be registered under State law. Must comply with State laws applying to regular absentee ballots (such as registration requirements, notarization requirements, etc.). Must have affirmatively requested an absentee ballot in writing and completely filled out request (including signature). Sent prior to the second (or October) primary elections to all permanent overseas registered voters. Must comply with all State laws regarding signatures, witness requirements, etc. Must be postmarked at the APO, FPO or MPO in a foreign country or at a foreign post office.

3. Regular Overseas Ballot. Sent after the second (or October) primary elections to all permanent overseas registered voters and voters requesting an overseas ballot from the county. Must be an overseas voter and must be eligible to vote and be registered under State law. Must comply with State laws applying to regular absentee ballots (such as registration requirements, notarization requirements, etc.). Must have affirmatively requested an absentee ballot in writing and completely filled out request (including signature). Full ballot with all candidates listed. Likely would take precedence over any

advance or federal ballot also returned. Must comply with all State laws regarding signatures, witness requirements, etc. Ballot is designed by the county. Must be postmarked at an APO, FPO, or MPO in a foreign country or at a foreign post office. Below are the definitions for points of origin and postmark that are valid for military overseas ballots:

1. APO (Army Post Office)—A branch of the designated USPS civilian post office, which falls under the jurisdiction of the postmaster of either New York City or San Francisco, that serves either Army or Airforce personnel.

2. FPO (Fleet Post Office)—A branch of the designated USPA civilian post office, which falls under the jurisdiction of the postmaster of either New York City or San Francisco, that serves Coast Guard, Navy, or Marine Corps personnel.

3. MPO (Military Post Office)—A branch of a U.S. civil post office, operated by the Army, Navy, Airforce, or Marine Corps to serve military personnel overseas or aboard ships.

4. Military Post Office Cancellation—A post mark that contains the post office name, state, ZIP Code, and month, day, and year that the mail xxx was cancelled.

Protest of Overseas Absentee Ballot As provided in Section 101.68(2)(c)(2), Florida Statutes, I, as an elector in _____ County, Florida, hereby protest against the canvass of the overseas absentee ballot described below.

County:
Precinct:
The Ballot:

Name of Voter:
Address of Voter:
Reason for rejection:
 Lack of voter signature
 Lack of affirmative request for absentee ballot
 Request for absentee ballot not fully filled out
 Signature on absentee ballot request does not match signature on registration card or on ballot
 Voter signature on envelope does not match signature on registration card
 Inadequate witness certification
 Late postmark (Indicate date of actual postmark)
 Domestic postmark (including Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.)
 No postmark
 Voter had previously voted in this election
 Other
Signature of Person Filing Protest
Print Name

IN HONOR OF RAJ MATHUR

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor the memory of an actively involved

Cleveland citizen and leader of the Indian-American community, Raj Mathur. His recent death at the age of 59, is a sorrowful event for the whole community of Cleveland.

After moving to the United States in the late 1960s to further his education at North Carolina State University, Mr. Mathur went on to teach economics at the University of Akron. After several year of sharing his knowledge with students, in 1974 he shared a piece of his culture with the Greater Cleveland community, opening the Taj Mahal restaurant, which is believed to be the first Asian Indian restaurant in the area.

Dedicated to getting Indian-Americans and Asian Indians involved in the U.S. political process, Mr. Mathur was a founding member of Asian Indians for Better Government. Furthermore, he was a key member of the community helping to start the Federation of Indian Community Associations's Project Seva, which provides Thanksgiving meals for those in need.

In recognition of these efforts, Mr. Mathur received the federation's 1999 Community Service Award. We all owe him a great debt of gratitude for his tireless work in organizing and uniting our community, and for his exemplary record of public service.

We ask the House to join with us today in honoring the memory of this great community leader and role model.