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No. 16

## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 6, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN SHIMKUS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, You created each of us in Your own likeness. In the divine image You created us. Male and female You created us.

May we know our dignity by the very fact of our creation, our being, our very living this new day imaging You.

May we treat each other with the sacred honor that each is due. Seeing Your reflection in the eyes of the other, may we touch intelligence, imagination, internal powers and know eternal freedom.

Lord God, having come from You, living in You and destined for You, guide us in all we say and do this day, to sustain and further Your creation.

Teach this Congress and all people of this Nation how to seek the best ways to be Your instruments of a new creation; loving only what is good and seeking only what is true and lasting, now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PENCE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### REMEMBERING FOUNDING FATHERS WHO FOUGHT AGAINST SLAVERY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on this day in history, February 6, 1865, 136 years ago, the 13th amendment went into effect, ending 246 years of slavery in America. Slavery was introduced into America in 1619 by the Dutch and subsequently encouraged in the Colonies by the British Crown. In fact, it was not until after the Declaration of Independence was signed that it became possible to abolish slavery, and half of the States promptly did it at that time.

Significantly, the major opposition to slavery in America was led by religious groups like the Quakers, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Methodists, and was joined by many of the religious Founding Fathers, including signers of the Declaration like Benjamin Rush, John Witherspoon, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, and John Adams, as well as the signers of the Constitution like Rufus King, John Dickinson, James Wilson, and William Livingston.

While much attention today is often paid to Founding Fathers who owned

slaves, nearly nothing is said of the many who opposed slavery. Therefore, it is worth remembering that the work of so many of our Founding Fathers to end slavery finally came to maturity when the 13th amendment was adopted, 136 years ago.

### REMEMBERING ALAN CRANSTON

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, my first job offer on the Hill came from the late California Senator, Alan Cranston, who will be remembered at a memorial service this afternoon by generations of colleagues and staffers.

Though I never worked on Alan's staff, I relied on him for counsel and support for 3 decades. Alan was a mentor to me when I served in senior staff positions for Senator John Tunney. I always had the sense that Alan was looking out for John and me, and for California's interests.

We remained friends through the years and saw each other last at Stanford University only a few months ago.

Alan's counsel and continued focus on issues he cared passionately about, especially world peace, set the marker. He was always working. No doubt he was working until the moment he left us.

I was fortunate to know and learn from him. We were fortunate to have him as a congressional leader for 24 years.

### RONALD REAGAN MEMORIAL ACT

(Mr. HANSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and very fitting that I am today introducing the Ronald

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Reagan Memorial Act as we celebrate this great man's 90th birthday. This bill establishes a Presidential memorial for one of the most influential men of the 20th century. As one of our most notable Presidents, Ronald Reagan initiated policies that helped win the Cold War, tamed the economic stagnation of the early eighties by cutting taxes and increasing funding for the national defense, and helped to restore the United States as the leader of the world front. In doing so, President Reagan helped restore the America people's faith in our system of government and capitalism and returned pride in being an American.

Specifically, this bill creates and then requires the Ronald Reagan Memorial Commission to cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior in the National Capital Memorial Commission to identify and then recommend to Congress an appropriate site for the construction of a memorial honoring former President Ronald Reagan.

This bill specifies that the memorial be situated in "Area 1" as identified in the Commemorative Works Act, and that is between the Lincoln Memorial and the United States Capitol building. The Ronald Reagan Memorial Commission would also select the memorial design and raise the necessary funds to complete the memorial.

Mr. Speaker, this bill honors a great American who deserves a national tribute in a place of prominence and recognition.

#### COZY DEALS BETWEEN NON-PROFIT MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES AND FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Last week, Mr. Speaker, the Wall Street Journal reported on some cozy deals between nonprofit medical research institutes and for-profit companies. It works this way: a nonprofit institute wins millions in research dollars from the National Institutes of Health. The director of the institute also happens to own a for-profit company that has exclusive rights to the institute's research. The for-profit company turns that research into a marketable product and makes millions. Everyone is flush, except for American taxpayers.

Does this raise conflict-of-interest issues? You bet. Why is the Federal Government using our tax dollars to give for-profit companies a free ride? Good question.

Why do Americans pay the highest prescription drug prices in the world, when billions of U.S. tax dollars go into the development of these drugs? Because Congress is not doing its job.

The U.S. invests more than any other nation in medical research. The drug industry feeds off our tax dollars to develop outrageously profitable drugs,

and then they "thank" American taxpayers by charging us the highest prices in the world.

It is a racket, and it must stop. Drug companies must compensate taxpayers fairly through lower prices or royalty payments for our front-end investment in their products.

#### TAX RELIEF NOW

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, last month Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan echoed what this Republican-led Congress has supported for years, that we should pay down our national debt and grant Americans tax relief, instead of increasing the size of the Federal Government.

According to the Census Bureau, Mr. Speaker, the average household pays almost \$9,500 in Federal income taxes this year, and that is twice what the average family paid in 1985. But we do not only pay Federal income taxes, we pay taxes when we use the phone, buy clothing, pump gas, sell stock, sleep at a motel, ride on an airplane, get married, or even when we die.

It is time for hard-working Americans to get a break from all of these taxes. Now is the time. We can enact meaningful tax relief while still remaining fiscally responsible and paying off our national debt.

There is no excuse, Mr. Speaker, not to give the Americans what they want, what they need, and what they deserve, a tax break.

#### SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT'S PRO-AMERICAN, PRO-WORKER, RETROACTIVE TAX CUT

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, there are opponents trying to kill President Bush's tax cut. They say it is too big, it is not targeted. They say it is even retroactive.

Now, if that is not enough to glorify a 1040, they say they are upset because all Americans would get a tax cut.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. I support the pro-American, pro-worker, retroactive tax cut of President Bush.

Let me say this, Congress: there are not two or three United States of America, there is just one; one people, under God. And one tax cut that qualifies for all of America strengthens our Republic.

I yield back the fact that we have a Tax Code that would give Hulk Hogan a hernia.

#### AMERICA NEEDS TAX RELIEF NOW

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, while the Federal Government prepares to inhale a nearly \$5.7 trillion tax surplus over the next 10 years, I rise to speak on behalf of the families, small businesses and family farms of Indiana who face a much less promising future.

Despite the talk of boom times, Hoosier families in my district are faced with layoffs at major employers in Columbus and New Castle, Indiana; and many of the small businesses dependent on these companies are fearful as well.

This House of Representatives is the heart of the American Government; and as such, it should resonate with the hearts of the people.

Mr. Speaker, the people's hearts are anxious with increasingly disappointing news about our economy. All this while income tax rates measured as a percentage of the economy are at the highest level ever.

Mr. Speaker, our Congress must again be the Congress of economic recovery. President Reagan, whose birth we celebrate today, showed us the way to turn around this American economy, by cutting taxes for all taxpayers. In order for our country to recover economically, we must cut taxes big and cut taxes now.

#### ELIMINATE THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask an important fundamental issue of fairness that particularly affects the middle class, and that is the question, is it right, is it fair that, under our Tax Code, a married working couple, a couple with two incomes, pay higher taxes just because they are married? Is it right that 28 million married working couples pay on average \$1,400 more in higher taxes just because they are married, \$1,400 more than an identical couple that chooses to live together outside of marriage? That is wrong.

I was proud when this House and Senate last year sent H.R. 6, the Marriage Tax Elimination Act, to the White House to be signed into law. Unfortunately, President Clinton at that time vetoed our effort to eliminate the marriage tax penalty.

But we have an opportunity. President Bush has indicated during his campaign he would sign into law the Marriage Tax Elimination Act, a bipartisan effort to wipe out the marriage tax penalty.

Let us pursue this opportunity. As we work to provide broad-based, real fundamental tax relief for working families, let us remember middle class working couples, and let us eliminate the marriage tax penalty.

## IT IS TIME FOR TAX RELIEF

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, every American who pays taxes deserves a tax cut. With consumer confidence starting to slump and the economy starting to slow down, the Congress and President needs to work in a bipartisan manner to pass meaningful tax relief for the American people. Cutting taxes is essential to strengthening our economy.

With President Bush, we have a greater opportunity to get tax relief to the American people. President Bush has a tax relief proposal that will cut taxes for every American who pays taxes. This proposal will spur economic growth in two ways: first, it will put more money in the wallets of the American people; second, it will take money off the table in Washington, making it more difficult for the government to grow out of control.

Mr. Speaker, we need to reduce marginal tax rates; we need to eliminate the death tax; we need to eliminate the marriage penalty; and we need to have a charitable tax deduction. A series of changes needs to be made in the Tax Code to make it more fair and simpler for all Americans.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

## THIRD REPORT ON OPERATION OF ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 203(f) of the Andean Trade Preference Act (ATPA) of 1991, as amended (19 U.S.C. 3201 et seq.), I transmit herewith the third report to the Congress on the Operation of the Andean Trade Preference Act.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 5, 2001.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

□ 1415

## RECOGNIZING 90TH BIRTHDAY OF RONALD REAGAN

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 7) recognizing the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 7

Whereas February 6, 2001, is the 90th birthday of Ronald Wilson Reagan;

Whereas both Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan have distinguished records of public service to the United States, the American people, and the international community;

Whereas Ronald Reagan was twice elected by overwhelming margins as President of the United States;

Whereas Ronald Reagan fulfilled his pledge to help restore "the great, confident roar of American progress, growth, and optimism" and ensure renewed economic prosperity;

Whereas Ronald Reagan's leadership was instrumental in extending freedom and democracy around the globe and uniting a world divided by the Cold War;

Whereas Ronald Reagan is loved and admired by millions of Americans, and by countless others around the world;

Whereas Ronald Reagan's eloquence united Americans in times of triumph and tragedy;

Whereas Nancy Reagan not only served as a gracious First Lady but also led a national crusade against illegal drug use;

Whereas together Ronald and Nancy Reagan dedicated their lives to promoting national pride and to bettering the quality of life in the United States and throughout the world; and

Whereas the thoughts and prayers of the Congress and the country are with Ronald Reagan in his courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Congress, on behalf of the American people, extends its birthday greetings and best wishes to Ronald Reagan on his 90th birthday.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to have the House consider House Joint Resolution 7, important legislation introduced by the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

This resolution expresses the sense of the House of Representatives in recognition of President Ronald Reagan's 90th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor Ronald Reagan, our Nation's 40th President, who joins only John Adams and Herbert Hoover as former presidents to reach the age of 90.

President Reagan moved into the White House in 1981, 7 years after

America lost confidence in the presidency due to Watergate, 6 years after the end of the Vietnam War, which ripped America apart and, during dire economic times, including high inflation, high unemployment, and high interest rates. Across the country, morale was low. America was embarrassed in Iran with the hostage crisis, and our standing abroad had been greatly diminished.

And then came Ronald Reagan, riding into Washington to save the American spirit.

From the moment he placed his hand on the Bible to take the oath as President on January 20, 1981, it was clear that America would once again stand tall. In his inaugural address, Ronald Reagan said that we had every right to dream heroic dreams. After all, he said, "Why not? We are Americans."

Ronald Reagan came to office disdained by many so-called wise men and women. They called him an "amiable dunce" and an actor reading a script. They twisted his belief in a strong defense and staunch anticommunism into a caricature of a war-monger unable to deal constructively with the Soviet Union. They were aghast at his common-sense characterization of the Soviet Union as an "evil empire," and his prediction that it was headed for the "ash heap of history."

But President Reagan was a man of character and a man of conviction. He was a leader, a man not mesmerized by polls and focus groups, but one with the courage to stand up for what was right.

With the strength of his beliefs and his faith in the ideals in the Founders and the inherent talent, energy and character of the American people, Ronald Reagan transformed our country and our world.

He brought the world closer to peace and ended the nuclear arms race with the Soviet Union. Thanks to President Reagan's determination and leadership, the Berlin Wall fell, and then the Soviet Union fell, and with it, all the statues and monuments to Lenin, Stalin, and other former Soviet Union leaders. President Reagan had brought the Cold War to an end. The world was finally at peace.

Ronald Reagan lead our economy out of an economic abyss and into years of prosperity with low interest rates, low unemployment, and low inflation. He rebuilt the hollow military force that he inherited into a fighting force second to none. America stands tall today, thanks to the leadership of Ronald Reagan. He is a giant among presidents and remains a larger-than-life figure who changed the world for the better.

Ronald Reagan was a President with class, dignity and respect for the high office to which he was elected. Future historians will recognize him as one of America's truly great Presidents. For all that he did, for all that he said, and for all that he stood for, President Reagan deserves our admiration, our respect, and our gratitude. On behalf of

all Americans, we in the Congress proclaim: Happy 90th birthday, President Reagan.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to stand up here to honor the man, Ronald Reagan, today. My father was born only 6 days after Ronald Reagan. He passed away early last year and shared, as a World War II veteran as Ronald Reagan was, my father shared the same values and the same patriotism that my friends talk about with Ronald Reagan.

I hope that we learned something from the Reagan years. We all watched this country in 1981. This country went down the course of tax cuts for the wealthiest citizens, big increases in military spending, the beginning of Star Wars, and the beginning of the most persistent, obscene budget deficits that this country had ever seen, to the point that by 1992, when President Clinton was elected, we were running up the budget deficit; we were spending \$1 billion a day more than we were bringing in. We ran a deficit which was \$1 billion in 1981 when President Reagan took office, a debt of \$1 trillion that went to \$5 trillion in those 12 years.

So while we do honor President Reagan today, and we have taken the last 8 years to clean up, if you will, that debt, those fiscal problems we were in, I hope that we can honor Ronald Reagan best by, while honoring the good things he did, but not repeating the mistakes he made, not repeating the way that some want to today with tax cuts for the rich, more increases in military spending, and Star Wars running up again these huge budget deficits.

So I hope that we honor the man, and we certainly, on this side as, Democrats have no objection to this bill and support the measure. We honor the man and we learn from history's mistakes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

When I first was elected to Congress in 1988, it was the last year of the Reagan administration. I had worked for President Reagan in the White House as his legal counsel, and because the Congress is sworn in shortly before the Presidential Inauguration, as we recall from the events of just a few weeks ago, I served in this House of Representatives under President Reagan for a period of a few weeks. My colleague from southern California, also elected to the House of Representatives that year, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER), who is here in the Chamber with us today,

likewise had been here when President Reagan came and addressed us from the floor of the House, the minority Members then, because we were a Republican minority, and I sat in that back row, and President Reagan, who not being a former Member of Congress, stood at this particular rostrum, which is reserved under our traditions, because it is on the left-hand side of the aisle, for the Democrats. He described his career and how he became involved in public life as the leader of a labor union, how he had campaigned for Harry Truman, and how the principles of freedom that he stood for had remained with him all of that time. But, he said, about midway through his adult life, while he helped fashion those principles, his party did not, and he strode, purposefully across the floor from this rostrum to this rostrum and said, that is how he became a Republican. But the truth is that after two terms as President, Democrats and Republicans overwhelmingly claimed Ronald Reagan as their great President and a great leader and a great spokesman for the ideas that Americans, not Republicans, not Democrats, all share.

It was 20 years ago that this brave and idealistic man came to Washington, and I will say that with the benefit of a fifth of the century since that time, it is pretty clear that Washington has rarely seen his like. He is a hero to the Nation, and I can honestly say he is a hero of mine. We have seen that heroism once again as he and his wife, Nancy, whom we all fondly recall as our First Lady, wage their brave fight against Alzheimer's disease.

Ronald Reagan has lived a remarkable life of leadership, first as the head of a great labor union, then as governor of California, now our most populous State, two terms, then two terms as President of the United States. The same qualities brought him through each of those remarkable careers. The courage to be candid, to be honest, to be forthright, the courage fortified by faith and by humor. Even now on his 90th birthday, I am sure, were he with us today, I am sure he would tell us a joke about his age. I remember when I worked for him at the White House he used to say, I have already lived 20 years longer than my life expectancy at birth, and that has been a source of annoyance to a great many people.

His courage created the unique optimism that is now always associated with President Reagan, and that spread throughout the whole country. Our Nation became more optimistic, believed more in itself as a result of his leadership. When President Reagan stood at the Brandenburg gate and said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall," he did so at a time when most people in official circles in Washington believed that the Berlin Wall and, indeed, Soviet communism itself, were permanent facts of life, to be accommodated and, perhaps, at best, contained. But Ronald Reagan knew better. Shortly after he said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear

down this wall," the Berlin Wall did, in fact, come tumbling down, and half a continent in chains for 45 years was liberated.

President Reagan, of course, would deny much credit for this. He attributed it to America and its own ideals. Here is what he said on December 16, 1983, when he created the National Endowment for Democracy. "Speaking out for human rights and individual liberty and for the rule of law is good and right," he said, "but it is just not good enough. We must work hard for democracy and freedom, and that means putting our resources, organizations, sweat and dollars behind a long-term program," and he had a long-term program to win the Cold War, and today we are all the beneficiaries of it.

President Reagan saw this not as a great military victory alone, although surely it ended that doctrine of mutual assured destruction that loomed like a shadow over all of our lives for so many decades but, rather, even more as a victory of freedom for millions of people enslaved by communism.

I will mention in response to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), that because I worked in the White House during the Reagan administration, I saw that here in Congress, President Reagan was unsuccessful in controlling spending. Yes, he did bring America's top tax rates from 70 percent down to 28 percent, and yes, that did ignite an economic expansion that we are still living through today; but no, President Reagan did not bring us deficits, for during the 1980s tax revenues to the government more than doubled as a result of that economic expansion that he started. Instead, it was runaway spending in Congress that President Reagan unsuccessfully railed against. In his last State of the Union address from this very rostrum, he asked Americans to give him a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution, so that even if Congress were unwilling to be fiscally responsible, we could live within our means.

□ 1430

Mr. Speaker, I say to President Reagan, I am happy to tell him that his message has sunk in. We are all Reaganites now, for all of us working together, Republicans and Democrats, are balancing the budget. We are now arguing about how to spend the tax surplus or give it back to the taxpayers.

These are happy times. Indeed, all of it, I think, can be dated back to the hard work and leadership provided by President Reagan.

So, Mr. Speaker, for President Reagan's 90th birthday, how about if we promise to complete the Reagan revolution here in Congress. Happy birthday, Mr. President.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON).

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, it is a real pleasure for me to be able to rise and speak in support of this resolution, and join my two distinguished colleagues from California, Mr. COX and Mr. ROHRBACHER, who are both alumni of the Reagan administration.

Later this afternoon I will have a bill on the floor that further honors the legacy of Ronald Reagan by naming a post office in my congressional district after our 40th President.

I feel very strongly that what we are doing today and what we are doing as part of the Reagan Legacy Project in items like naming a post office after Ronald Reagan are extremely important.

Ronald Reagan was a man who was harshly criticized by the liberal Democrat-leaning press in the United States throughout his Presidency. Much of his legacy will be defined by those press reports, and, as well, by those historians who, in addition to journalists, tend to be overwhelmingly liberal, Democratic-leaning, anti-Republican and anti-conservative in most of their philosophy.

So therefore, I think it is extremely important that people such as ourselves raise our voices and try our best to get the truth out.

In this regard, I was extremely pleased just Sunday to pick up a copy of the Washington Post, a newspaper that had been, I think, harshly critical of much of the Reagan administration initiatives, and lo and behold, there was a favorable story in there indicating that when we actually sit down and read some of Ronald Reagan's papers that are being made available to the public, lo and behold, we find that he was actually smart; that he actually had very, very good insights into what he was doing. To see this indeed printed by the Washington Post to me was extremely gratifying.

Ronald Reagan indeed was one of the greatest Presidents in our Nation's history, and I believe was one of the greatest of the 20th century. As was very, very well outlined by my colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, in his comments earlier, he came to office at a time when we had very high inflation rates, high unemployment, low morale.

We had been through some very difficult years. His policies were successful not only in ending the Cold War and turning that economic crisis around, but probably, more importantly, lifting the American spirit.

We are living under the legacy of the policies that he introduced back then still to this day. Economists attribute the strong economy of the nineties to Alan Greenspan and the policies of Ronald Reagan. It is therefore fitting that we honor him on his birthday in this way.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER).

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to join my colleagues and

thousands of Idaho citizens in sending the very best of birthday wishes to President Ronald Reagan on his 90th birthday, or, in his words, the 51st anniversary of his 39th birthday.

When President Reagan came to office 20 years ago, he was faced with double-digit interest rates, rampant inflation, high unemployment, long gas lines, a weakened military, low national morale, and with a Democrat-controlled House, he, too, sought a bipartisan agreement and support, and in that process, cut the tax rates 25 percent, reduced wasteful spending, strengthened our national defense, and restored America's pride and her respect.

I was honored to serve on President Reagan's Task Force on International Private Enterprise. His vision of free markets, reducing tax burdensome regulations, and smaller, more responsible government, is as relevant in the year 2001 as it was in 1981.

America thanks President Reagan for his vision and leadership. Our prayers are with him and our prayers are with Nancy.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER).

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor former President Ronald Reagan on the occasion of his 90th birthday. For those of us who worked with him, it is a tremendous source of satisfaction that our former boss is now being given the credit that he is due as one of America's greatest Presidents.

Every day it is becoming ever more clear that the long period of prosperity our people have enjoyed started in January of 1983. January of 1983 is when Ronald Reagan's economic policies, especially his tax program, went into full effect. At that point the economy took off like a rocket, and it has not ceased to expand since then to this very day, except for a very short 6-month dip in 1999 and 1992, unfortunately during a presidential election.

By the time President Clinton took office, however, the man who now claims credit for this long period of expansion, the growth rate in the economy was already 5.4 percent based on, of course, the strong economy that ignited in January of 1983.

My apologies to my friends on the other side of the aisle, but it was President Reagan whose policies led to this dramatic uplifting of the well-being of the American people that we have enjoyed for over a decade now.

Most of all, one of the factors that has insured that prosperity was that Ronald Reagan had a tough pro-freedom, pro-strength foreign policy that ended the Cold War and ushered the world into a new historic era of peace. The potential for world peace was never greater than at the end of his term in office, so that hundreds of billions of dollars that would have been

spent on weapons now can build better lives for people and help pay off our debt. Our brightest minds, instead of focusing on developing technologies that will kill people more effectively, now can focus on technologies that will uplift the condition of humankind. That is what Ronald Reagan brought us, the kind of world that Ronald Reagan brought us.

The peace and prosperity to which I refer did not just happen. It came as a result of the courage and the wisdom of Ronald Reagan, a former lifeguard in a very small town in Illinois. A lifeguard, that is how he started out, and that is what he did for his entire life. He saved the lives of 17 people in a small lake, and continued trying to save people for the rest of his life.

He invested in the military, in our military, to win the Cold War. Just like we did in World War II, we invested a lot of money. There was a great deal of debt in World War II, but under his leadership, America went on the offensive. We began supporting freedom fighters, battling Soviet troops and surrogates from Afghanistan to Nicaragua, and supported democratic movements in Poland and in the Soviet Union itself.

In the end, the greatest and most sinister threat to freedom on our planet collapsed in its own evil. It would not have happened without the vision of Ronald Reagan, a former lifeguard, and yes, a former sports announcer and a former actor.

Today it is often said that the accomplishments I have mentioned would have happened anyway, without Ronald Reagan. Well, it just is not so. Ronald Reagan fought his battle against people who opposed everything he was trying to do every step of the way. He made things happen with the strength of his convictions and the power of his speeches.

He was maligned as heartless and as stupid by people who disagreed with his approach. Let me add, a majority of Democrats in this Congress and in the Congress at that time consistently voted to undermine every attempt Ronald Reagan made to confront Soviet expansionism, whether it was the supporting of anti-Communist forces in Latin America or the rebuilding of our military strength. Had their policies been heard and carried the day, we would still be in the Cold War and still be spending those billions of wasted dollars on weapons systems that now can be spent in economy-building ways.

Ronald Reagan was a good-hearted man. He was a strong man, but a good-hearted man, as good-hearted as I have ever met. He was hurt by suggestions that he was a mean-spirited person or did not care about others.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). All time has expired.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 3 additional minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Each side will control 3 additional minutes.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHR-ABACHER).

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, by insisting on responsible policies, President Reagan proved that he cared much more about the needy and down-trodden than his touchy-feely liberal critics whose decades-long failed policies had kept millions of Americans in despair and dependency.

Yes, during the Reagan years there was a budget deficit, as has been mentioned, just as there was in World War II. That deficit can almost all be attributed to our military buildup, and I admit that, certainly, that was the factor. But it was that buildup that permitted us to end the Cold War and to lower the level of defense spending and now to balance our budget, which is exactly what we have done. Now, in the spirit of Ronald Reagan, we are cutting taxes and paying down and paying off the debt.

Finally, the viciousness against Reagan was at times so much. However, he himself kept a positive attitude. Reagan was often described as a puppet, a man, just a front man, and other decision-makers were using him. This characterization is so contrary to the reality of those of us who knew him that it just boggles the mind.

The now famous Berlin Wall speech in which Ronald Reagan called for Gorbachev to tear down the wall, every one of his senior advisors told him, begged him, pleaded with him not to say it, but Ronald Reagan knew that if he was to remain true to the things that he had believed in all his life and was going to give hope to those people around the world, that they had to know that we believed in what we had been saying. He had to tell Mr. Gorbachev to tear down that wall, even though George Schultz and all his advisors and people in this city today who claim to have written that speech for Ronald Reagan were people who were actually advising him not to give the speech.

Reagan stayed true to his ideals, and he saved the world in doing so. Today, the Ronald Reagan we knew and loved still lives, and he grows in stature as history reflects upon his enormous accomplishments and leadership. We wish him a happy 90th birthday.

We enter now a new millennium, celebrating our liberty, secure in our peace, and blessed by prosperity and unimagined opportunity. A man of vision and ideals saw this as he looked ahead. He took the steps and stands that were necessary to make it happen.

We thank Ronald Reagan. Now it is up to us, and I am certain if he were with us today, he would be just as confident of the American people as he ever was, and he would urge us on to greater heights and achievements because, after all, as he reminded us, we are Americans. So, what is holding us up? Let us get going.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, President Reagan has also enjoyed a special relationship with the American people. In 1994, after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he wrote a heartfelt letter to all of us. "My fellow Americans," he wrote, "I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead."

Thanks to President Reagan, there is still a bright dawn in our future. For that, President Reagan deserves our gratitude, our best wishes, and our love. Happy birthday, President Reagan. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to support this joint resolution.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan. As we honor his life it is important to reflect on what he has contributed to our nation. As I consider this remarkable life, from his boyhood to the present, I see the heroic figure of a man coming to the rescue.

His first period of public service was when he served as lifeguard at Lowell Park in Dixon, Illinois. In seven years as a lifeguard, he is credited with saving 77 lives. To this very day, the sum of Ronald Reagan's contributions is measured by what he has done for others.

After a successful career in Hollywood as an actor and union president, Reagan again turned to public service. He witnessed the turmoil of the 1960s and the difficulties facing his beloved state of California. He saw the need for leadership and a new course directed from the governor's mansion. Never before holding public office, Ronald Reagan boldly stepped forward and offered his vision to the voters of America's most populous state. He won in a landslide.

After two terms in Sacramento, Governor Reagan saw a series of threats menacing the United States. He challenged the incumbent Republican President in 1976 for the nomination, and, although he did not succeed, he revitalized the conservative movement. In 1980, Reagan again entered the presidential race and this time he won his party's nomination.

I remember well the era of uncertainty that clouded America's future. Communism had reached the zenith of its power with strongholds in Asia, Africa, Europe, Cuba, and even Central America. American hostages were held in Iran and the enemies of the United States celebrated our weakness. Our economy was deflated and the American people dispirited.

Here in Washington in 1980, the President buckled to the pessimism of the time and called on the people to accept that our best days were gone. Ronald Reagan would have none of that—not the nonsense that America was a crippled giant, or that our best days were history. He placed before the American people his vision that we could overcome any hardship and route any challenge.

He renewed our belief in ourselves and we elected him to the White House. Again, Ronald Reagan came to the rescue. He turned our economy around, rebuilt our military, and aggressively outlined our national interests. The results were astounding.

Double-digit inflation and a 70-percent tax rate drained out economic vitality. He pushed the top tax rate down to 28 percent and broke the back of inflation. In the last 18 years, we

have enjoyed economic growth in all but six months. Our recent prosperity is rooted in the seeds Reagan planted 20 years ago.

Reagan applied his faith in freedom and opportunity to world events as well. He knew that if we stood up to communism, it would be the forces of oppression that would collapse. Now, the Cold War is over—his unwavering defense of freedom and economic opportunity has transformed the world.

Our prosperity and our security are the legacies of Ronald Reagan. However, I think his most lasting gift to the nation is the rekindled American spirit. Thank you President Reagan for all you have done for the nation and for the world. I join everyone in wishing you a happy birthday.

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, thank you for this opportunity to add the voices of New York's First Congressional District as we honor a true American hero, President Ronald Reagan, on the celebration of his 90th Birthday.

At a dark time in our country's history, President Reagan reminded our nation of its greatness of all we had accomplished over the course of 200 years of history, and all the potential we held in store. If only we could shed the great sense of pessimism that plagued our country.

And why not? America has always been the home of the industrious, the self-reliant, and those who knew that a better way to a better future could, and would be found. Americans have excelled because they won't settle for second best, or merely for the best that is available. We constantly strive to make things better.

President Reagan knew this, and he knew it was his mission to remind us of that. It was his mission to restore our faith and confidence in our nation and ourselves.

Spreading his message in a way that cut across all social and economic classes, President Reagan cut to the heart of the arguments of popular pessimism, and revealed their folly. He inspired us as a nation. As a people.

President Reagan knew America could be better. He reminded us that America is, and always has been, the land of hope, freedom and prosperity, the destination of millions who dream of coming here and sharing in, and contributing, to our destiny with greatness.

Under his guidance, America's prominence in the World community was restored. Our economy blossomed, and hope and promise spread from neighborhood to neighborhood. Community to community. From one coastline to another.

Ronald Reagan was the voice in the darkness that reminded us of this. It wasn't just nostalgic longing after a decade of economic, military and social decline. It was a fact. Just look around.

And just as we have countless times in our history, from the Sons of Liberty to the spirit of inventors such as Thomas Edison and the great economic expansion of the Eisenhower Administration, America rallied.

President Reagan led our charge. We as a nation seized our destiny, under his leadership, and proved once again that we were the best on the planet. Simply because of a man who, like our father, told us that he believed in us, and knew all along that we could.

He inspired all Americans to make a contribution into our communities. On a personal

note, I distinctly recall how President Reagan energized me to get involved in public service. His words and actions instilled within me the importance of public service. His guiding principles of tax relief, patriotism, contributions to our communities, and pride in our country led me to public service. To use the skills I learned in private industry to enhance the quality of life of my neighbors, friends and family.

I can't imagine America today if it hadn't been for Ronald Reagan. For that, and so much more, on behalf of citizens of New York's First Congressional District, grateful for your service to our nation and the inspiration you are, I wish you the very best of birthdays.

Mr. Speaker, thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 90th birthday of former President Ronald Reagan, a decent and honorable man, who had the unique ability to see what was best about America and appeal to "the better angels of our nature."

He came into office when America was suffering from a crisis of confidence, and he gave us back our voice.

By invoking images of a "shining city upon a hill" he reminded Americans not only of our national heritage, but of how the oppressed and downtrodden of the world looked to this nation for leadership.

In my recent trip to Africa I was again reminded of how incredibly blessed America is. It is my firm belief that to whom much is given much is required.

Those who are oppressed and downtrodden today still view this nation as Ronald Reagan described it a decade ago—a "shining city upon a hill"—a beacon of hope and democracy.

And so, in the spirit of President Reagan's birthday I ask that you take a moment to reflect on how we can continue to embrace this calling. While the Cold War is over, the Berlin Wall is down, and Soviet communism is in the ash heap of history as Reagan predicted it would be, there are still those fighting for the freedom that we so often take for granted. Whether it be the persecuted House Church pastor in China or the frightened civilian in the Sudanese marketplace praying not to be the unlucky target of daily bombing raids, these people demand a voice.

President Reagan was a champion for human rights in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. He spoke up in defense of freedom and democracy. He raised the cases of dissidents during his high-level meetings with Soviet officials. He made passionate and eloquent speeches outlining America's values. He engaged, but he engaged forthrightly and he backed up engagement with action.

President Reagan once said, "We must be staunch in our conviction that freedom is not the sole prerogative of a lucky few, but the inalienable and universal right of all human beings."

Sadly President Reagan does not remember the hope that his words provided to millions living behind the Iron Curtain. But we can not forget. For while the times and circumstances may have changed, the yearning for freedom has not.

We send our best wishes today to Ronald Reagan and with those wishes go our appreciation as a grateful nation that we were fortunate enough to have him serve as our President.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the birthday of our 40th President, Ronald Reagan.

It is natural on birthdays to reflect on the mark one has made in life. We have much to reflect upon today, on Ronald Reagan's Ninetieth birthday. Because of his leadership, Americans are more prosperous, secure, and free.

Reagan's leadership has left America more prosperous. The record economic expansion of the past two decades can be directly attributed to the policy changes enacted by Ronald Reagan. Cutting taxes, deregulating industries, and greatly reducing the possibility of catastrophic war have proven a winning formula for economic success. Leaders across the world have learned and are copying his example.

When his contemporaries pursued an industrial policy or a middle ground between capitalism and socialism, Reagan opted for limited government. As a result, America has reaped virtually uninterrupted economic growth and surged ahead of rivals in technological innovation.

Reagan's leadership has left America more secure. His grand strategic plan brought down the greatest threat to our way of life. His contemporaries counseled détente and feared confrontation with the Soviet Union. But Reagan unabashedly called it the Evil Empire and wanted nothing less than its destruction.

After years of military decline, Reagan rebuilt and restored the morale of our military. Never has a nation become so mighty as the United States, and it is due in no small part to leadership of Ronald Reagan.

And Reagan's advocacy of the Strategic Defense Initiative will shortly bear fruit as we build a national missile defense. He recognized the insanity of MAD, and though we should instead construct a physical, rather than merely psychological, defense to protect Americans and our allies from the horror of nuclear war.

Most important, Reagan's leadership has left Americans and the world more free. Domestically, Americans are freer than before Reagan entered the Oval Office. And, his philosophical legacy has shifted the momentum of history toward, rather than away from, greater individual freedom.

Around the world, hundreds of millions of people formerly enslaved by communism have been liberated by the collapse of the Soviet Union, precipitated by Ronald Reagan. Only five countries remain so enslaved. Even citizens in countries that were not communist also enjoy greater freedom, as their governments recognize the success of the Reagan model and decrease government interference in their lives.

In increasing our prosperity, security, and freedom, president Ronald Reagan succeeded greatly in the most crucial functions of government. For this, he is one of our greatest presidents.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 7, a bill to recognize the accomplishments and legacy of President Reagan.

What is the standard we use to judge our Presidents? How do we appropriately honor those men who have served our great nation and the office of the Presidency with great distinction, courage, honor, and vision? In this city, which is already graced with so many

memorials of marble, granite, and bronze, to men and women who have loved freedom more than life and their country more than self—how can we best remember and celebrate the service rendered to these United States and to those dedicated to the cause of freedom throughout the world by President Ronald W. Reagan?

President Reagan represents the spirit that has made America strong. He began his eight years in office at a time when America appeared to be on the ebb—economically and militarily demoralized. But for President Reagan—it was morning in America. America during the Reagan years was an America of hopes fulfilled and a place where dreams came true. Reagan's America was to be a Shining City on a Hill—shining the light of freedom for all peoples throughout the world. This was his vision, a vision from which he never wavered.

In a speech given in 1964, President Reagan responded to his detractors, to those who said that only bigger and more powerful governments could provide security despite the price of freedom.

He said:

They say the world has become too complex for simple answers. They are wrong. There are no easy answers, but there are simple answers. We must have the courage to do what we know is morally right. . . . You and I have a rendezvous with destiny. We will preserve for our children the last best hope of man on earth or we will sentence them to take the first step into a thousand years of darkness.

Throughout his life, President Reagan has fought against tyranny and oppression—against that thousand years of darkness. He did not shy back from calling the communist Soviet Union an Evil Empire; He did not hesitate to support those freedom-fighters who were engaged in battle against tyranny; He fought back relentlessly against every attack against America's people and her interest.

His moral courage and his conviction that America should be the example for all who would desire freedom to pursue life, liberty and happiness never failed and he is an example to all Americans. Around the world today, we are harvesting the benefits of that vision and hard labor as more and more nations around the world are turning from tyranny and oppression to democracy and justice.

I still share President Reagan's vision of America as a Shining City on a Hill shining its light freedom around the world. It is only fitting that we honor the lifetime and legacy of this great American hero. As long as freedom is our watchword and liberty our call to arms, America will continue to so shine its light into the world for all to see.

Mr. KERNS. Mr. Speaker, today history is made, as President Ronald Wilson Reagan is one of only three President's to reach the age of 90. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish President Reagan a Happy Birthday!

President Reagan is the reason I am able to stand here before my colleagues today. His strength as a leader, inspired me to someday serve this great nation, as he so eloquently has served. And I feel honored that I have been given the opportunity.

Because of his hard work and devotion to conservative ideals, his presidency resulted in one of the most dynamic periods in recent

U.S. history, refocusing our nations business, international and social agendas. We are a better country today because of his leadership.

It is my hope, that I may be able to work with my colleagues to continue what President Reagan started, "to make government work with us, not over us; stand by our side, not ride on our back." We are still working to continue what he started 20 years ago, "the era of national renewal".

We are faced with many important domestic policy decisions before us this Congress. Many of the same issues President Reagan's presidency was faced with including tax cuts, social security reform and issues concerning medicare. May we always be able to look back on his years and have them guide us into the next century.

Let us be able to remember President Reagan's daily optimism and wake up each day with the aspirations of making today better than yesterday, and tomorrow better than today.

As we work to make tomorrow better, may we remember his bi-partisan message that "there is no such thing as a left or right. There is only an up or down.

Let us keep President Reagan's vision for America alive and never back down on what we believe will make this world a better place, doing what sometimes may seem the impossible. Let us remember his words that make the unthinkable a reality. "Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate! Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

The President once remarked: "What I'd really like to do is go down in history as the President who made Americans believe in themselves again."

The Gipper said it best, "we will always remember, we will always be proud, we will always be prepared, so we may always be free."

Hapy Birthday to President Reagan!

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on this day, Ronald Reagan will join John Adams and Herbert Hoover as the only Presidents to reach age 90. We know him as our 40th President. However, many do not know the precedents set by him. For example:

He was the oldest man elected president;

He was the first Hollywood actor to be elected President, earning the monikers, "Dutch," "The Gipper," and "The Great Communicator," and

He appointed the first woman to the supreme court, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Ronald Reagan was born in Tampico, Illinois on February 6, 1911. While at Eureka College, he studied economics and sociology, played on the football team, acted in school plays, and served as class president. While in college, young Reagan proven himself to be a strong, well-liked, vocal leader, characteristics that would suit him well in future endeavors.

After graduation, Reagan worked as a sports announcer for WOC, a radio station in Davenport, Iowa. Subsequently, he pursued a career in broadcasting and acting.

In 1947, after serving for three years in the U.S. Army, he was elected president of the Screen Actors Guild. As president of the Screen Actors Guild, Reagan became embroiled in disputes over the issue of Communism in the film industry; his political vies shifted from liberal to conservative. Moreover,

he toured the country as a television host, becoming a spokesman for conservatism—taking it to the mainstream.

Leadership extended beyond Reagan's film career into public service. He focused on understanding the nation's institutions and developed a philosophy and outlook that he implemented throughout his political career. Furthermore, Reagan was able to rally others to believe in his political ideals as he ascended into higher legislative positions.

In 1966, Ronald Reagan successfully secured a bid for governorship. While Reagan was governor, he cut the state budget and raised taxes. He signed a new billion dollar tax increase, which helped balance the state budget. In addition, he raised person and sales taxes, and lowered property taxes. As a result of his popular appeal, he was reelected for a second term in 1970. After a successful eight years as governor of California, Ronald Reagan focused exercising his leadership skills in the highest public office in the United States.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan won the Republican Presidential nomination. While working with Congress, Reagan obtained legislation to stimulate economic growth, curb inflation, increase employment, and strengthen the national defense. He embarked upon a course of cutting taxes and Government expenditures, refusing to deviate from it when the strengthening of defense forces led to a large deficit. His staunch approach to public policy combined with his savvy appeal has earned Ronald Reagan the title as "The Great Communicator." We all can learn from the legacy of Ronald Reagan.

Today, this nation and this body celebrates his 90th birthday. This resolution acknowledges not only his birthday, but his role as our 40th President.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this resolution.

Mr. MARKEY. Today our nation's 40th President turns ninety—one of only three other Presidents in our history to reach his ninetieth year. With recent advances made in health and science, we can anticipate many more of our future Presidents to live into their nineties, along with the entire U.S. population.

But what impact does an increase in our country's aging population have? And what sort of quality of life will our elderly enjoy? I have my concerns.

Currently there is a threat facing our elderly population—a wave, gaining momentum and sweeping its way through the minds of our aged. This disease afflicts President Reagan. It is Alzheimer's and it threatens the future for our nation's elderly, their families and our health care system.

Alzheimer's is indiscriminate and cruel, it creeps into the brain, captures the mind and steals the memory—irrevocably altering the personality of its victims leaving not only loved ones unrecognizable to the Alzheimer's patient but the patient unrecognizable to her loved ones. This is what makes this disease particularly cruel . . . the loss of the thread of continuity that weaves itself through every experience of our lives and defines us as who we are.

It was only forty years ago that researchers considered Alzheimer's Disease a rare disorder. But since then, scientists have come to realize that it is far more common than we originally thought . . . so common in fact that

today Alzheimer's Disease is the leading cause of age-related dementia in the country.

So common—that one in ten Americans over the age of 65, and one out of every two Americans over the age of 80 are afflicted.

So common—that 37 million Americans say they know someone with Alzheimer's.

So common—that 19 million Americans say they have a family member with the disease.

So common that 2.7 million spouses, relatives and friends care for people with Alzheimer's.

And so common that today over 4 million Americans suffer with the disease.

The word epidemic is derived from the Greek word "epideemia" which translates literally to "a visit." Alzheimer's has become the epidemic of our aging population . . . but given the projection that by 2050 14 million Americans will be afflicted—unless we find a way to stop this disease—Alzheimer's won't be just visiting our aging population, Alzheimer's will be moving in.

Two years ago, I joined with my Republican colleague Chris Smith of New Jersey to create the Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease. To date over 130 Members of Congress have signed on. And last Congress, I along with my dedicated colleagues fought to increase NIH research funding for Alzheimer's research—I am pleased to say NIH received somewhere in the range of an \$85 million increase bringing the total budget for federally funded Alzheimer's research to \$515 million.

In addition, I was able to include a \$300 million (or \$1.3 billion over 10 years) provision in the Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 2000 that would make it possible for homebound Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's Disease to go to adult day care and religious services mass or synagogue, without losing their home health benefits. Believe it or not, before this provision was passed into law—Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's Disease would lose their home health benefit if they went to church or adult day care.

My efforts to improve the lives of those afflicted and affected by Alzheimer's are animated by my own personal experience with my mother's battle. However, there is one program—a bill I introduced last Congress which made its way into law—that was specifically inspired by ongoing discussions I had with the doctors who treated my mother's illness.

In talking to these caring physicians, I was made aware of the lack of funding for clinical research or as physician-scientists call it "translational" research. Specifically, there is not enough applicable research being done on "real" people with the disease or likely to get the disease. Not enough focus on cutting edge treatments, and preventative measures.

The Alzheimer's Clinical Research and Training Awards program which passed into law last Congress will provide \$11.25 million over five years to fund physician-scientists in translational research. It's a small start but I'm hoping this program will grow.

In the battle against Alzheimer's we've accomplished some—but there is still so much more we must do. By working together to increase funding for research, prevention and care, it is my hope that President Reagan and the millions of other Americans who currently suffer with Alzheimer's will be the last generation to experience this devastating epidemic.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of the Resolution, H.R. 7, expressing the sense of Congress on behalf of

the American people, to extend our birthday greetings to our former President, Ronald Reagan, who turns 90 today.

I am pleased to associate myself with the legislation we will be considering immediately after this Bill, which renames the facility of the U.S. Postal Service in West Melbourne, Florida, in honor of President Reagan.

Of our 43 Presidents, only two prior to today—John Adams and Herbert Hoover—reached their 90th birthday. It is a remarkable achievement and it is totally appropriate that the Congress make note of it.

In recent years, the publication of new material—including the love letters written by the President to his wife, and the radio addresses which he delivered from 1977 until 1980—have led to a long overdue reassessment of our 40th President by historians and by the general public. While some unfairly had characterized President Reagan as a mouthpiece for others, the historic evidence now shows beyond dispute how erroneous that perception has been. Ronald Reagan was the author of his own thoughts and the articulator of them. His vision and leadership helped bring about a better nation and a better world, and it is long overdue that he received appropriate credit for his contributions.

Americans across the nation have long held President Reagan in high regard. President Reagan became known for his skill at inspiring his audience. He was eloquent and effectively expressed his philosophies to all people. He united our nation after what many considered the most turbulent time in history, and in times of tragedy, such as the Challenger explosion, his words of sympathy and consolation eased the grief of our nation.

President Reagan's skills as "the great communicator" may have obscured the fact that he was a genuine visionary. When President Reagan took office, America and the Soviet Union held the world under a sword of Damocles, with the threat of nuclear war never far from our minds. President Reagan fully grasps the most valuable of all lessons of history—the lesson that negotiations are futile if we do not go to the bargaining table from a position of strength.

Though President Reagan faced challenges at home from many who disagreed with this belief, he never wavered. The fruit of his efforts, the 1988 Arms Control Treaty, heralded our final victory in the Cold War, and ushered in the era of pax Americana.

Today, President Reagan faces the most serious fight of his life as he battles against Alzheimer's disease. May his family receive some solace and strength from the knowledge that his friends and admirers, including those of us in this chamber, always keep in our thoughts and prayers, the "Gipper".

His birthday today is a reminder to all of us of just how precious life is, and an appropriate time to commemorate the genuine contributions of this great American hero.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to associate my name with these legislative initiatives which honor one of the great Americans of the 20th century, our 40th President, Ronald Reagan.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 90th birthday of former President Ronald Reagan and to pay tribute to his distinguished service during his eight years as our Nation's leader. President Reagan's idealism and vision set the stage for remarkable achievements both at home and abroad.

His policies placed America on a course for economic growth and prosperity and military superiority in the world—helping to secure America's position as the world's super power and the pivotal leader of the free world.

President Reagan's optimism for life, and his ability to inspire, renewed our citizens' commitment to the values and principles of freedom and justice upon which our Nation was founded. His policy of "peace through strength" brought an historic ending to the Cold War, dismantling much of the Soviet Union's military might and positioning our armed forces for victory a few years later in the Persian Gulf. His domestic policies introduced an era of economic expansion that would help carry us through the end of the 20th century. His efforts to combat crime and drugs and to reevaluate our Nation's healthcare system marked the beginnings of much-needed and long-overdue reforms.

In short Mr. Speaker, President Reagan embodied those qualities that we seek in our Nation's leaders—vision, optimism, decency, integrity, responsibility. He believed in democracy, freedom, and the basic goodness of America. And he led by example. I am honored to join my colleagues today in honoring this great American and great former President—Ronald Reagan—and extending to him and to his wonderful wife, Nancy, our best wishes and our eternal gratitude for their contributions to our great Nation.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan exemplified honor and dignity while serving his country and restored stability to an unstable nation. The United States will be forever indebted to this exceptional man. I am proud and humbled to honor our 40th President, Mr. Ronald Reagan, on his 90th birthday.

President Reagan focused on rebuilding our country's military forces and developing a defense system to protect our shores. On May 15, 1993, Mr. Reagan delivered the Commencement Speech at The Citadel. This remarkable address highlighted his continued support of our military and the need for military readiness, an issue clearly facing us today.

It is with honor and humility that I read to you a part of his address:

"It is said that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance. And I'd like to offer several reasons why we must stay strong militarily:

"First, despite the spread of democracy and capitalism, human nature has not changed. It is still an unpredictable mixture of good and evil. Our enemies may be irrational, even outright insane—driven by nationalism, religion, ethnicity or ideology. They do not fear the United States for its diplomatic skills or the number of automobiles and software programs it produces. They respect only the firepower of our tanks, planes and helicopter gun ships.

"Second, the Soviet Union may be gone, but even small powers can destroy global peace and security. The modern world is filled with vulnerable "choke-points"—military, geographic, political and economic . . .

"Third, technology—for all its blessings—can enable new enemies to rise up overnight. Scientific information flows to ambitious dictators faster than ever . . . who can predict what will be the 'blitzkriegs' of tomorrow?"

President Ronald Reagan advised against weakening the military in peacetime, and, in turn, honored the young men willfully seeking

the opportunity to serve our nation. He further commented, "In my eighty-two years, I've seen America drop her guard time and time again—and each time with tragic consequences . . . Today, the United States dominates the world arena. Once again, our noble first instinct is to seek peace. And that's why America needs the brave and skilled soldiers of The Citadel more than ever."

I share many of President Reagan's views on military readiness. I am happy and proud to add that we share one more thing—we both received Honorary Doctorates from The Citadel.

Happy Birthday, Mr. President.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to in support for the purpose of recognizing Ronald Reagan's 90th Birthday (H.J. Res. 7)—the 40th President of the United States. This resolution simply extends the best wishes and warm birthday greetings of the 107th Congress to former President Reagan on this 90th birthday.

Twelve years after leaving the White House with plans to spend his sunset years chopping wood and riding horses. Ronald Reagan celebrates his 90th birthday while battling old age, Alzheimer's disease and a broken hip. These are not easy obstacles for a wonderful man like Ronald Reagan or his loved ones. Fortunately, I have learned that Mr. Reagan will celebrate his 90th birthday very quietly at his home with a birthday cake (likely his favorite chocolate) and his lovely wife, Mrs. Reagan.

Reagan basked in the glory of retirement for six years, then learned he had Alzheimer's. Mrs. Reagan, his wife of nearly 49 years, has vigilantly guarded his privacy since he withdrew from public view on Nov. 5, 1994, with a poignant letter about his Alzheimer diagnosis. "I know this touched many of my fellow Americans. I only wish there was some way I could spare Nancy from this painful experience," he wrote.

Former President Reagan was recognized as the Great Communicator for good reason. His powers of persuasion over foe and friend—which extended to a range of issues—were considerable. He clearly held views with an acute passion. He loved public policy and spent a great deal of his life assuming the highest office of the land. From speeches early in his political career and his final days in Hollywood, through the White House years and into retirement, President Reagan has left a vast legacy of achievement.

The perceptions of Ronald Reagan as a political figure and a foreign policy maker are numerous. I respected the fact that Ronald Reagan was dedicated to winning the Cold War. By the end of his presidency, he had led the groundwork for the fall of the Soviet Empire. While many of us never viewed the Soviet Empire as the danger that he envisioned, we respected his vision and determination to spread freedom around the world.

Finally, let me just make a few remarks about Mr. and Mrs. Reagan. We should salute the couple's extraordinary courage in continuing to share their story with the world, building awareness, and lifting the enormous stigma of Alzheimer's and showing that life goes on. Again, happy birthday, Mr. Reagan.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor one of our nation's greatest patriots and most respected Presidents, Ronald W. Reagan, on this, the 90th anniversary of his birthday.

There are those Americans who today will remember Ronald Reagan as the charismatic 40th President of the United States. A leader who by the sheer force of his immutable optimism gave America a reason to be proud and secure of our place in the world.

Others will remember the "Great Communicator" who in the wake of "stagflation" and an oil crisis, articulated a doctrine of personal responsibility and limited government, which brought to our nation economic stability, security, and self-respect.

But I am here to honor another Reagan. A man of steely convictions, and resolute vision. A man who in one simple speech redefined America's purpose, and gave us all new certitude that we would prevail against the Soviet Union.

In 1983, the international stage was a different place than it is today. The Soviet Union still stared menacingly westward over the satellite states of Eastern Europe. The nuclear arms race was a reality, and fear of nuclear war gripped the nation.

It was in this atmosphere of Cold War fear, and amid growing calls to give up the arms race that Mr. Reagan, at perhaps his most eloquent, strode onto a stage in Orlando, Florida and delivered a speech that put his critics on notice that America would not back down. America would stand, alone if she must, to defend and protect the institutions of liberty and freedom from the Communists.

He reminded us not to ignore the facts of history, and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire because, as he said, "to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding is to remove ourselves from the struggle between right and wrong and good and evil." He reminded us not only of why we were fighting, but of what we were fighting for. The cold war was a struggle between good and evil, freedom and oppression.

It was this message which President Reagan carried with him to my hometown of Miami, FL. At the Orange Bowl Stadium, and in the middle of Little Havana, he placed the Cuban Dictator, Fidel Castro, on notice—that the United States would stand firm against the tyrannical Castro regime and would defend the right of the Cuban people to live free of oppression; that the United States would not tolerate communist Cuba's continued threats against U.S. national security and regional stability.

His words still carry with them a strength and clarity of vision which only the greatest of leaders possess. His insistence that this was the path America would take was tempered by the knowledge that in doing so, we would all share in the glory of the right and the honorable. Ronald Reagan reminded us all that America was strong, that America was right, that America was proud.

The legacy of Ronald Reagan is secure, for no other reason than the fact that he stood up for America and said in a strong, clear voice that patriotism is not dead, and that liberty and freedom are always worth fighting for.

Because of this President Reagan, I would like to thank you for your service to your country, and wish both you, and Mrs. Reagan, Godspeed.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to be here today to honor President Ronald Reagan on his 90th birthday. President Reagan's policies have shaped this great nation and set us on the path to the longest

peacetime economic expansion since the end of the Second World War. His optimism restored Americans' confidence in our great nation and in themselves.

President Reagan once said "A leader, once convinced a particular course of action is the right one, must have the determination to stick with it and be undaunted when the going gets rough." President Reagan proved he was a true leader. Despite dire predictions from pundits about his policies, Reagan fought for what he believed in and made the country better off as a result.

President Reagan inherited an economy that was out of control with high inflation, interest rates and unemployment. Americans were being held hostage in Iran and the Soviet Union was threatening freedom across the world. Once elected, Reagan embarked on an ambitious agenda to reduce taxes, reduce Americans' dependence on the federal government, and achieve "peace through strength" by rebuilding our military. His tax cuts stimulated the economy and Americans re-elected him by one of the largest margins in U.S. history. During his second term, we began to see the results of Reagan's commitment to the principles of individual rights for all and projecting military strength with the weakening of communist control of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. These principles led soon thereafter to the collapse of the Berlin Wall the Soviet Union.

America is still experiencing the benefits of the Reagan's economic policies of lower taxes, free trade and reliance on free markets. We have had eighteen consecutive years of nearly unbroken economic growth and low inflation. Productivity is growing and incomes are rising. As Reagan stated at the end of his presidency:

In eight short years, we have reversed a 50-year trend of turning to the government for solutions. We have relearned what our founding Fathers knew long ago—it is the people, not the government, who provide the vitality and creativity that make a great nation. Just as the first American Revolution, which began with the shot heard 'round the world, inspired people everywhere who dreamed of freedom, so has this second American revolution inspired changes throughout the world. The message we brought to Washington—reduce the government, reduce regulation, restore incentives—has been heard around the world.

One of Reagan's greatest legacies is that he restored Americans' confidence in themselves and reminded them that the government has no power except that granted it by the people. I look forward to continuing Reagan's revolution by fighting for lower taxes, less intrusive government and individual responsibility.

Happy Birthday President Reagan and God bless.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 7.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1445

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The Chair must remind all Members that remarks in debate should be addressed to the Chair and not to others who may be viewing proceedings.

RONALD W. REAGAN POST OFFICE  
OF WEST MELBOURNE, FLORIDA

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 395) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2305 Minton Road in West Melbourne, Florida, as the "Ronald W. Reagan Post Office of West Melbourne, Florida."

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 395

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

**SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.**

The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2305 Minton Road in West Melbourne, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Ronald W. Reagan Post Office of West Melbourne, Florida".

**SEC. 2. REFERENCES.**

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the Ronald W. Reagan Post Office of West Melbourne, Florida.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 395.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is supported by the House delegation from the State of Florida and it is fitting and appropriate that we bring this legislation to the floor today to commemorate the 90th birthday of our great leader.

There has been much written and known about former President Reagan, and everybody has a favorite story or anecdote. We will, however, be unable

to capture all facets of his life during our allotted time.

Mr. Reagan, our 40th President, won a landslide victory in 1980 and was easily reelected 4 years later. Ronald Wilson Reagan came from humble beginnings. He was born in Tampico, Illinois, son of a salesman with a mother who was a devout member of the Disciples of Christ Church.

After moving to various locations, the family settled in Dixon, Illinois, where his father became part owner of a shoe store and his mother did occasional work to supplement the family's meager income.

Young Ronald Reagan excelled in sports and received a scholarship to attend Eureka College. Even with a scholarship, he had to work hard to stay in college. He graduated with a B.A. in economics and sociology, the first person in his family to attend and graduate from college.

He showed an early interest in politics, but did not participate. He did, however, show interest in some form of show business. "Dutch" Reagan, as he was known, became a very popular sportscaster in Iowa. Soon thereafter, he went to Hollywood where he was offered a 7-year contract with Warner Brothers for \$200 a week, an offer he could not turn down. He then brought his parents to live with him in California; and although not an instant star, he was a steady worker.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan became President of the Screen Actors Guild in 1947; and several years thereafter, his activities with the Screen Actors Guild aroused his latent interest in politics. Thereafter, when his longstanding friend, Barry Goldwater, won the Republican nomination for President, Mr. Reagan helped with the campaign. Soon after, he was persuaded to run for governor of California, a race he won by a landslide over a popular incumbent. He won reelection in 1970.

Ronald Reagan was nominated for President in 1980, supporting the issues of family, work, neighborhood, peace, and freedom. He became the oldest President to be elected in our Nation's history. Two months after his election, he was the victim of an assassination attempt, but made a remarkable recovery.

He served the Nation as President for 8 years and now resides in California. In 1994, after several years of writing, traveling, and silence, former President Reagan, who was known as the Great Communicator, wrote a handwritten letter informing the Nation he had the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Perhaps the essence of President Reagan's life is captured in his own words. He wrote: "In this land of dreams fulfilled where greater dreams may be imagined, nothing is impossible. No victory is beyond our reach. No glory will ever be too great.

"The world's hopes rest with America's future.

"Our work will pale before the greatness of America's champions in the 21st Century."

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 395.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 395, which names a Post Office after Ronald W. Reagan, was introduced today by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON). This measure is identical to H.R. 5309 introduced last year by the gentleman and which was passed by the House on October 27 of the year 2000.

Ronald Wilson Reagan, known as "Dutch," "The Gipper" and "The Great Communicator," was the 40th President of the United States. He served as President from January 1981 to January 1989. At 73, he was the oldest man ever elected to the Presidency. And, as remarked earlier, today marks his 90th birthday.

He was an actor by profession, but he also served as the Governor of my State of California from 1966 to 1979. During his Presidency, his economic policies came to be known as "Reaganomics." In November of 1994, former President Reagan announced that he was afflicted with Alzheimer's.

Although a number of facilities have been named after the former President, schools, streets, highways, and even the Washington airport, a crowning achievement was when President Clinton dedicated the Ronald Reagan Building here in Washington D.C. in 1998. That building houses an international trade center, international cultural activities, the Agency for International Development, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON).

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand on the floor of the House today to honor our former President, Ronald Reagan. Today is an appropriate day to consider this bill, because it is President Reagan's 90th birthday.

Today, we wish him the very best. We have the opportunity to honor a man who made us proud again to be Americans. As was stated, I have introduced this legislation to designate this Post Office at 2305 Minton Road in West Melbourne, Florida, as the "Ronald W. Reagan Post Office of West Melbourne." This Post Office is in Florida's 15th Congressional District, and I am pleased that every member of the Florida Congressional Delegation has signed on as a cosponsor of this bill.

Last year, I introduced similar legislation and it passed the House on Octo-

ber 27. Due to time constraints, the Senate was unable to give final approval to the bill prior to its adjournment. However, now it is more appropriate than ever for this House to pass this bill again.

Former President Reagan is a true American hero, and naming this U.S. Post Office after him is a fitting way to honor his legacy.

Ronald Reagan was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois. He was a man with many ambitions, growing up a Midwestern boy in hard economic times. He worked his way through Eureka College. He started his career as a radio announcer; and in 1937 went to Hollywood where he appeared in more than 50 movies. He became president of the Screen Actors Guild and was involved in fighting Communist influences in Hollywood.

In 1966, he was elected the Governor of the State of California by a margin of more than 1 million votes; and then was elected governor again in 1970 to another 4-year term.

In 1980, Reagan was elected to serve as our 40th President. Ronald Reagan set our Nation on a path to prosperity. He was a strong moral leader and made Americans proud to be Americans. The economic policies he pursued in the 1980s set a firm foundation for the economic prosperity that we have experienced over the last decade as well.

Ronald Reagan reinvigorated the American people through smaller government, putting a lid on inflation, and strengthening our national defenses.

President Reagan's persistence in achieving peace through strength carried our Nation to its longest recorded period of peacetime prosperity.

President Reagan negotiated a treaty with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles. Mr. Reagan went to Berlin and challenged Mr. Gorbachev to "Tear down this wall." His 8 years of persistence paid off; and as a result of his tireless fight for freedom, the Iron Curtain fell shortly after he left office.

President Reagan certainly followed through with his 1980 campaign pledge to restore "the great, confident roar of American progress and growth and optimism."

I am happy that we are considering this legislation today, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this effort to name this post office in my congressional district in Ronald Reagan's honor.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 395.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

### HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 28) honoring the contributions of Catholic schools.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 28

Whereas America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence, but provide students more than a superior scholastic education;

Whereas Catholic schools ensure a broad, values-added education emphasizing the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people;

Whereas the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 1999-2000 academic year was 2,653,038, the total number of Catholic schools is 8,144, and the student-teacher ratio is 17 to 1;

Whereas Catholic schools provide more than \$17,200,000,000 a year in savings to the Nation based on the average public school per pupil cost;

Whereas Catholic schools teach a diverse group of students and over 24 percent of school children enrolled in Catholic schools are minorities;

Whereas the graduation rate of Catholic school students is 95 percent, only 3 percent of Catholic high school students drop out of school, and 83 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development; and

Whereas in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, "Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Catholic Conference and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools; and

(2) congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 28.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER).

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in support of House Resolution 28, which recognizes and honors the contributions of Catholic schools in the United States. Our Nation's Catholic schools have a long tradition of academic excellence, and I am pleased to join in recognizing them today.

As this new Congress begins, it is fitting that we are focusing on the impact and the important role that Catholic schools play in providing a well-rounded education for America's young people; one that gives special attention to the academic, moral, and social development of our children.

One of the top priorities for the Committee on Education and the Workforce will be to reauthorize this year the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which provide benefits to both public and private schools. Across our country, many Catholic schools participate in many programs and activities assisted by these funds.

Last year, Catholic schools around the country enrolled more than 2.6 million children in more than 8,000 Catholic schools across the country. The student-teacher ratio in most Catholic schools is 17-to-1, and more than 24 percent of their students come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, 95 percent of Catholic school students graduate; and 83 percent of their high school graduates go on to pursue a higher education. It stands to reason that if it were not for our Nation's Catholic schools, and the dedicated teachers who serve them, the achievement gap between the disadvantaged students in our society and their peers would be even wider.

Moreover, I would point out that of the total students enrolled in Catholic schools, about 13 percent are not of the Catholic faith. These students come from a wide variety of faiths and have chosen to attend a Catholic school. I think that it speaks to the mission and success of Catholic educators to reach out to all students and their parents who are seeking the best possible education for their children, especially for inner-city schools in which the majority of students enrolled are non-Catholic.

Mr. Speaker, I can attest to the outstanding contributions, dedication, and accomplishments of Catholic schools, because I and my 11 brothers and sisters are products of Catholic schools in Ohio. I attended St. Peter and Paul Elementary School in Reading, Ohio and Archbishop Moeller High School in the Cincinnati suburbs. I then went on to attend and graduate from Xavier University.

□ 1500

Catholic schools have made a positive difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of students in my State and around the country. Outstanding schools such as Archbishop Fenwick High School in Middletown, Ohio; Stephen T. Badin High School in Hamilton, Ohio; and Sidney Lehman High School in Sidney, Ohio; and countless Catholic elementary schools throughout my district, they have shaped the lives of countless students and continue to make a profound contribution on our communities.

I am proud of how these and all Catholic schools emphasize intellectual, spiritual, moral and social values and produce well-rounded citizens. Catholic schools have found a way to teach students not only academic knowledge, but also real-life lessons in service to mankind and respect for one's neighbors.

This resolution is very simple. We want to rightly honor and congratulate Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers for their ongoing contributions to education and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter and stronger future for this Nation.

I want to commend the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) for his leadership in sponsoring this legislation and urge my colleagues to vote in support of it.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand with my colleagues and recognize our Nation's Catholic schools.

First, I must point out the number of Catholic schools in our Nation. There are 8,200 elementary and secondary Catholic schools in the United States. They do, indeed, deserve to be celebrated.

What a great gift to our Nation these schools provide, producing graduates who are not only academically capable but also such a great part of the community. Our Catholic schools not only teach subjects like the alphabet and the Pythagorean Theorem and the Preamble to the Constitution, but they teach our students how to be part of our communities.

They teach that service to others is an integral part any life, religious or lay. They teach the dignity of the individual. They teach students to work for justice and to help each child develop a strong moral compass to follow.

Today, I believe I am joined by several colleagues who also are known for their support of education.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues, to recognize the contributions of America's Catholic elementary and secondary schools and congratulate these schools, the students, the teachers, and their parents

for the dedication to education in our country.

I would like to thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER), the sponsor of this legislation, and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, as well as the majority leader, for bringing this important resolution to the floor this afternoon.

This resolution recognizes Catholic schools and Catholic Schools Week. This is an event sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association and the United States Catholic Conference and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's Catholic schools.

Catholic schools are widely acclaimed for their academic success. Central Ohio, which I am fortunate enough to represent, is blessed with many outstanding Catholic schools. In fact, St. Francis DeSales, a Columbus Catholic high school in my neighborhood, is a past recipient of the U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon Schools Award for Excellence. This is the highest award any private or public school can achieve.

But Catholic schools provide more than a superior scholastic education. They ensure a broad education emphasizing the development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in our young people. They produce students strongly dedicated in our faith, values, families, and communities. Indeed, they are central to building a sense of community in this country that all Americans should have the opportunity to enjoy.

I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this resolution, and I strongly support its adoption by the House.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how many speakers the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) has?

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, we believe there will be three additional speakers.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, since none of mine have shown, if the gentleman from Ohio would like to go ahead.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) for granting me the time in which to speak on this important resolution.

Today I rise in strong support of the resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic schools to our children and the educational system. As the debate on education continues and reform education continues, I think it is vitally important to recognize people and schools who have succeeded in educating our children.

America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence and among the many fine academic Catholic schools in this Nation.

In the city of Reno, for example, there is Bishop Manogue High School, which has a long and distinguished record of excellence in their academic and athletic programs.

Catholic schools, like Bishop Manogue, emphasize the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people. These values are crucial to the future of our Nation, especially as our society tends to grapple with problems like the breakdown of the family and school violence.

I want to thank our Catholic schools for their dedication to our children, and I look forward to working with them toward our goal of improving the education of every child.

As an original cosponsor of this resolution, I encourage all of my colleagues to strongly support its passage and the contributions that Catholic schools have made to our children and to our Nation.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, does the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) have any other speakers? We do not have any on this side other than myself to close.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately we have two more speakers, and they are not here.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) has the right to close. If the gentleman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ) will proceed.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, growing up Catholic in a pretty Catholic family, I know firsthand that the Catholic Church has always sought to feed the hungry and clothe the poor. We welcome immigrants, people who speak different languages and bring very different needs. We welcome everyone as we work to help the rich and the poor, the powerful and the powerless.

Catholic schools, too, welcome diverse studentbodies with open arms. It is not just Catholics who attend Catholic schools; children who need special attention, dedicated teachers attend Catholic schools. Families who are looking for an added dimension to faith and morals sometimes choose Catholic schools. Parents who want safe schools that excel in academics choose Catholic schools.

Today with our communities' public schools, the Catholic schools and the Diocese of Orange educate, in every sense of the word, our children. Various schools, like Santa Margarita High School or Mater Dei in my own district, Servite in my district, Rosary, Connelly, and numerous elementary parochial schools, all are Catholic schools.

So, Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to recognize Catholic schools and the educators, parents and parishes who make these wonderful institutions possible.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Dela-

ware (Mr. CASTLE), who is the subcommittee chairman on the issue we are debating.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Ohio for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution honoring Catholic schools and their contributions to our communities throughout our Nation.

Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of the important role that Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the country play in providing a values-added education for America's young people.

This tradition of honoring Catholic schools is 27 years old this year and is one I believe should continue.

Just last week, students from St. Hedwig Elementary School in Wilmington, Delaware, visited me in Washington, D.C. during Catholic Schools Week. I was impressed by all they have been learning and achieving, and I compliment them for their hard work and interest in our democratic process.

While the majority of our students are enrolled in public schools, Catholic schools still play a key role in our entire society. Over 2.5 million children attended 8,000 Catholic schools last year throughout the United States.

In my State of Delaware, which is the size of a congressional district, we have over 15,000 students attending 38 Catholic schools, all of whom obviously contribute greatly to their communities.

I thank the students, teachers, principals, and the administrators for making the Catholic community shine in my State.

I regard Catholic schools as a team player with public schools, other private and parochial schools and home schools in defining America's education system.

According to the National Catholic Educational Association, the graduation rate of students in Catholic schools is nearly 95 percent. The dropout rate is just about 3 percent. Eighty-five percent of all Catholic school graduates go on to college. These achievements impress me and deserve to be honored today on the House floor.

I would just add, Mr. Speaker, the importance of the integration of all the education of our young children, as they get into more choice, more opportunities for our kids, more comparisons, the Catholic schools, along with all the other schools, add to this mix. Our goal should be to educate every child in America as well as we possibly can. Certainly Catholic schools aid in that; and for that, we are very blessed. I honor them and appreciate them and encourage support for this resolution.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to close by saying that sometimes I think people think those of us who are so supportive of public schools may not be as supportive of our

private schools, but the reality is that we care about all of our schools and those institutions who choose to help educate our children. Today I have been proud to talk about our Catholic schools and the way that they excel and the way that they complement the rest of the education system that we have here in the United States.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased that Congress has recognized the important role that Catholic Schools play in our community. As a Latino, I know the important place in our history of Catholic Education. In my district, the Saint Thomas Aquinas High School is regarded as both an academic and athletic giant. The San Bernardino Diocese School System under Bishop Gerald Barnes has made major investments into their school system to bring their students education into the 21st Century.

Even though I am a strong supporter of public schools, I understand the importance Catholic Schools have played in our nation's education. The quality of education provided at Catholic schools is truly remarkable. Not only do they focus on academic achievement but they also instill values and moral lessons in young people. Their curriculums are often full of programs in character development and community service. Catholic school students graduate with a wide variety of skills that will not only help them in their careers but also in their family and community life. I am pleased to support this resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic Schools.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the invaluable contributions of our nation's Catholic schools.

Last week was Catholic Schools Week, and January 31st was National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools. In honor of these events, my colleague, Mr. SCHAFFER from Colorado, has introduced a resolution to honor our nation's Catholic schools.

The United States Department of Education has provided us with statistics that show Catholic schools take in children from many different ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds and yield well educated, college-bound, young adults.

Our nation's Catholic schools boast a 95 percent graduation rate and 83 percent of their students go on to college.

Not only do these children come away from their schools with strong academic credentials, but they gain an appreciation for the importance of faith, family, and community that is critical to our society's well being.

At a time when our nation is asking the question: "How can we give our children the best education possible?" The Catholic schools are providing some answers by demonstrating what works.

For these achievements, I congratulate Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for our nation's students.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to join with my colleagues in passing House Resolution 28, honoring the contributions of Catholic schools to academic excellence. Catholic schools have enhanced the quality of life for the community, as well as hundreds of thousands of young people who have benefited from its commitment to developing their minds and their spirits.

I would like to recognize the good work of schools such as Notre Dame High School, Resurrection High School, Northside Catholic Academy Schools, and St. Scholastica Academy in Illinois. These Catholic schools, like their counterparts, provide critical leadership and support to the intellectual development of the lives of so many in Illinois. With a 95 percent graduation rate, and 83 percent rate of continuing on to higher education, catholic schools deserve our recognition for the work they do.

I applaud the success and commitment of Catholic schools in the 9th Congressional District and in this nation.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of our nation's Catholic schools. Catholic schools not only provide students with an excellent education but also provide spiritual enrichment.

The contributions made by Catholic schools often exceed the classroom walls. The curriculum is designed to challenge students and to encourage religious awareness and development of morals and values. Students are encouraged to volunteer in a range of activities including working in soup kitchens, aiding other students with homework or working to improve a neighborhood park.

During the past 30 years, Catholic schools around the nation have made significant improvements in enrolling minorities and have continued to expand the educational mission in urban areas. There are approximately 1,020 Catholic schools in urban areas today.

A common complaint of parents and teachers is overcrowding in classrooms. Catholic schools often provide students and teachers with the opportunity for learning on a personal level. For instance, class size on average provide a ratio of 17 students to every one teacher, allowing teachers to focus on the needs of individual students. The effectiveness of this system is repeated in the statistic that 83 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college and the drop-out rate is only 3.4 percent.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these institutions and the wonderful contributions they make in their communities and in our nation's future.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of house resolution 28 which celebrates the contributions of Catholic schools throughout the nation. From the easternmost point of the U.S. Virgin Islands to the westernmost tip of Orote Point in Guam, Catholic schools continue to provide a valuable education to more than 2.5 million students in the United States.

As Guam is home to more than 1,00,000 Roman Catholics, representing an overwhelming majority of the resident population, I am particularly pleased to speak in support and in recognition of the contributions of Catholic schools today.

Guam has a long and rich history of Catholicism since the island was discovered by Ferdinand Magellan in 1521, who docked at Guam with his chaplains during his sail around the world. The year 1662 ushered the first of many arrivals of Spanish missionaries. Over time various types of Catholic education have been provided in Guam beginning with the tradition of "Eskuelan Pale", or Catholicism classes, which taught basic literacy in Guam for 275 years today's modern school facilities which usher in 21st Century lessons into the

classroom. Several religious orders and countless cadres of lay teachers have provided educational guidance and have broadened opportunities for Guam's school children since the end of World War II, when a formal Catholic school system was established. The School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Mercy, Dominican Sisters, the religious orders of Capuchin, Franciscans, Jesuits and Marists have all served to educate Guam's school children.

There are three Catholic high schools in Guam, including: Notre Dame High School in Talofofo; Academy of Our Lady of Guam in Hagatna; and Father Duenas Memorial School in Mangilao serving an enrollment of approximately 1,100 students. There are also seven elementary and middle schools, including: Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School in Sinajana; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Agat; Saint Anthony School in Tamuning; Saint Francis School in Yona; San Vicente School in Barrigada; Santa Barbara School in Dededo and Dominican School in Yigo, serving an estimated enrollment of 2,300 students. Four Catholic nursery schools in Guam Bridge the continuum of education from infancy to elementary. These include the Dominican Child Care Center in Ordot; the Infant of Prague in Mangilao; Maria Artero in Agana Heights; and Mercy Heights in Tamuning.

Although I have not attended Catholic schools, as a former educator raised in the Catholic faith, I certainly appreciate the education provided by Catholic schools. Three of my five children have attended Catholic schools in Guam and in Virginia and 10 of my 17 staffers in both my District and D.C. offices are products of the Catholic school system in Guam and the Philippines. Additionally, my aunt, Mary Underwood, was instrumental in the establishment of the Catholic school system after World War II. She was also the first native of Guam to become a nun.

Catholic schools have often provided a broad, value-added education and shape to the life-long development of moral, intellectual, physical and social values of students. Catholic Schools Week is the culmination of an annual national celebration of the important role that Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the country play in the education of our nation's students.

At this time, I would like to commend the contributions of all Catholic schools, students, parents, teachers and administrators in Guam and across the nation. I would also like to recognize the contributions of the Archdiocese of Hagatna, which oversees the administration of Guam's Catholic schools, and particularly Archbishop Anthony Apuron, for continuing the tradition of providing excellence in the education and moral well-being of the children of Guam.

I urge your support of House Resolution 28.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to adopt H. Res. 28 commending the contributions of Catholic schools. As a Roman Catholic having attended and graduated from Catholic Schools and a Catholic university, I am proud to be the original sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, today the House voices its strong support for the goals of Catholic Schools Week and recognizes the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools. The House also congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across our

great nation for their ongoing contributions to education and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for America. As the first clause of the resolution states, "America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence, but provide students more than a superior scholastic education." Mr. Speaker, this is the essence of the resolution.

Catholic schools ensure a broad values-added education, emphasizing the life-long development of moral, intellectual, fiscal and social values in America's young people. Americans have responded positively to Catholic schools. The total Catholic school student enrollment for 1999 and 2000 was 2,653,038, which is an increase over the 1998 and 1999 school year. The total number of Catholic schools is 8,144. The student/teacher ratio in those institutions is less than 17 to 1.

Catholic schools provide more than \$17 billion a year in savings to the nation based on the average school per pupil cost, enabling more money to be spent on students in government-owned schools. Catholic schools teach and contribute to a diverse group of students. Twenty-four percent of school children enrolled in Catholic schools are minority students. The graduation rate of Catholic school students is 95 percent, and only 3 percent of Catholic high school students drop out of school. Eighty-three percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college. Mr. Speaker, these are impressive statistics, and they quantify why America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for academic excellence.

Catholic schools not only develop sound academic abilities in their students, but they produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, their values, their families, and communities. Catholic schools do this by providing an intellectually stimulating environmental rich in spiritual development and moral character.

In 1972, a pastoral message was adopted by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops that stated the following, "Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also for the destinies of the many communities in which he lives."

It is on that basis, Mr. Speaker, that this resolution recognizes Catholic schools and Catholic Schools Week. This is an event sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association, which is, by the way, the largest private organization of professional teachers in the world. It is also sponsored by the United States Catholic Conference and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

So today the House congratulates Catholic schools, their students, their parents, and teachers across the country, for their ongoing contributions to education and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter and stronger future for this nation.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Catholic School Week and I want to spend a few moments commending the

Catholic schools in my home district of El Paso, Texas and in other parts of our country for a job well done.

There are many Catholic Schools in my district including Cathedral High School and Loretto Academy; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Blessed Sacrament, Father Yermo, Holy Trinity, Our Lady of the Assumption, Our Lady of the Valley, St. Joseph's, St. Patrick's, Saint Pius the X, St. Raphael's, and St. Michael's. I know each and every one of these schools contributes greatly to the fabric of the educational system in El Paso, and I am proud of the efforts of all of the priests, nuns, teachers and other support staff in these schools. They work tirelessly to improve the lives of our children.

Our Catholic schools continue to show exemplarily results in education. They share, with other Catholic schools across the nation, a long-standing tradition of excellence. The Catholic schools in El Paso continue to show steadfast commitment to teaching and spiritually guiding young men and women as they prepare for higher education and for life's many challenges. Catholic schools continue to exhibit strong leadership, a clear vision and sense of mission that is shared by the schools, students, parents, and alumni. In El Paso, our Catholic schools have exhibited high quality teaching and have provided a safe environment for learning. Spirituality, as a guiding principal, should be emulated across our country. The values that are instilled at our Catholic schools are fundamental values that are central and important to the functioning of society as a whole.

Daily school prayer, religion classes, and school Mass emphasize God's central role in our lives. As a Catholic myself, God and reverence are personally and centrally important to me and I appreciate the commitment that our Catholic schools make in insuring that our students will have faith and prayer in their lives. I cannot overstate how important faith in God is to overall success and happiness in life.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to acknowledge Archbishop Armando X. Ochoa of the Archdiocese of El Paso for his strong leadership and dedication. He continues to support the mission of our Catholic schools in educating our youth. I urge all my colleagues to join with me and commend all of the people across the country who make the Catholic schools so successful.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic schools in America. I congratulate the more than 8,000 Catholic schools that serve this nation's students. I am a product of Catholic schools as a graduate of Holy Family High School in Birmingham, Alabama so I know first hand about the value of a Catholic school education.

According to the National Catholic Education Association, Catholic schools serve over two and a half million students a year. With an impressive average student-teacher ratio of 17 to 1, Catholic schools provide the necessary one-on-one teaching that students need to learn. My graduating class of Holy Family had 23 students who graduated with me! I was able to bond with my classmates and had a true sense of family and support. My experiences with Sister Mary Catherine, Sister Mary Ambrose, Sister Mary Mathilda, Sister Jean Bernadette, Father Nathaniel, Fa-

ther Carl, and Father Alvin instilled in me and the other girls at Holy Family an appreciation for Math and Science that was unprecedented at that time. The same quality education that I enjoyed as a youth is making a difference in communities across the United States, including my 37th District of California.

I am proud of the four Catholic schools in my district that have created rigorous educational environments with quality teaching: St. Miguel Catholic School in Los Angeles, California, Verbum Dei High School in Watts, California, St. Albert the Great Catholic School in Compton, California, Our Lady of Victory Grade School in Compton, California and St. Philomena Grade School in Carson, California. These schools make a tremendous contribution to the community and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

Many years ago, my Catholic education spawned a love of learning that I have treasured throughout my life. Institutions that generate this type of intellectual curiosity in our nation's youth are critical to developing productive, hardworking citizens and leaders of tomorrow. That is why I join my colleagues in recognizing America's Catholic schools. I commend the community of teachers, students, parents and administrators that have established this high standard for learning that challenges and engages students. They are playing an integral role in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the children of today and the leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to recognize the splendid reputation, the years of dedicated service, and the outstanding achievement of Catholic Schools. During Catholic Schools Week, it gives me great pleasure to extend warm remarks that highlight the achievements of a leading institution that provides immeasurable educational support to neighborhoods and communities throughout our Nation.

In fact, Catholic Schools in America have had a tremendous impact in the lives of many Americans. For example, Chicago has the Largest Catholic School System in the United States. It is comprised of 277 elementary schools serving close to 105,000 students. In addition to educating younger students, the Chicago Catholic School System provides direction and oversight to 48 secondary schools; its programs and services reaches the lives of 33,648 teenagers.

In Chicago and abroad, Catholic Schools have provided education and service to those that have been traditionally left behind in our society. For years, through their educational programs, they planted seeds of hope in the minds and hearts of many poor and neglected children, which have germinated to produce leaders and champions.

So, I graciously thank our teachers, counselors, Nuns, and Priests in our Catholic Schools for their years of dedicated service. And I urge them to "keep on, keeping on" as they continue to prepare our young to excel in the New Millennium.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in recognizing the contributions of our Nation's Catholic schools. As Father Andrew Greeley of Chicago has observed: "Our Nation's Catholic schools are a seventh sacrament." Today, we salute Catholic teachers and students around the world. As a product of Catholic schools, back home in Toledo I can attest to the quality of instruction,

the professional and nurturing approach of the many fine sisters, priests and lay teachers whom I remember so fondly, and in fact still count among my friends and advisors to this day.

Despite the coarsening of our popular culture, what I call the 'poverty of affluence', it is heartening to know that total Catholic school enrollment for the 1999–2000 school year was over 2.6 million students at more than 8,100 schools. In my home state of Ohio, there are over 193,000 students attending 528 Catholic schools. In these quality institutions, joined by many fine public schools, character and commonly cherished values are instilled into generation after generation. Honesty, integrity, love of family and country, self-respect and self-discipline are just a few of the hallmark results of Catholic-based education.

Catholic schools are one of the cornerstones of our educational system providing faith based educational opportunities to those families who desire their children to have a Catholic faith based education. Catholic schools accept young people from every walk of life, from all economic and ethnic backgrounds. These schools have played an historic role in welcoming and teaching the sons and daughters of immigrants, whether they be Irish, Polish, Hungarian or Russian, whether they are African-American, or Chinese or Latino, just to name a few. In the heart of our Nation's biggest cities and most humble rural towns, Catholic schools continue this missionary endeavor.

It is my pleasure to honor the contributions of Catholic schools, both the men and women who lead and teach and care so deeply for our young people. Those students have made, and continue to make, a difference in the life of their families, communities and world.

Our system of education is most appropriately conducted on the local level. Therefore, it is both our right and responsibility to support our schools, our teachers, parents, support staff, administrators, our sisters and priests, and our children, whom we know will one day inherit and take responsibility for all of our work and world.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our nation's Catholic schools and the record of excellence they hold in our children's education.

I believe our most profound responsibility is to ensure that every child has a first-class education, that no child is left behind and that all students share in the pride and promise of educational opportunity—Catholic education provides that opportunity.

As a former student at the University of Notre Dame and a former teacher at Mount Saint Michael's Academy in the Bronx, NY, I know the benefits Catholic schools and universities provide to students in America.

Our children deserve the best schools in the world; they deserve schools that will help them meet the challenges of tomorrow. That is why I'm pleased with the bipartisan support H. Res. 28, "Honoring our Catholic Schools," is receiving from my colleagues in the House today.

America's student drop-out rate is increasing at an alarming pace. But our nation's Catholic schools have given a diverse group of students the inspiration, environment and counsel they need to stay in school. A tribute to the strength and quality of a Catholic school education is the 95 percent graduation rate among Catholic high school seniors.

America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for providing small classrooms where each student can have the attention they need to achieve their future goals. America's Catholic schools also graduate a record 83 percent of students who go on to college.

I believe that while we call for higher standards in our nation's schools, we must also recognize those schools that are providing the education America's students need to succeed. I am pleased to join with my colleagues in honoring the contributions of Catholic schools. After all our children are our country's most precious resource.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Catholic schools across America and back home in Illinois. All Catholic schools, their teachers, administrators, parents and students should be congratulated for their vital role in promoting and ensuring a bright future for this country.

It is amazing that Catholic Schools graduate 95 percent of their students and that 83 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college. I know that the education and, more importantly, the values, that were imbedded in me at St. Patrick's high school in Chicago proved themselves invaluable in college and in my professional career.

In my hometown of Chicago, the Catholic Archdiocese has an unparalleled record of educating students of all racial and economic backgrounds. Chicago has one of the largest Catholic school systems in the nation, and the best and the brightest in Chicago are often alumni of their Catholic schools.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for scheduling this vote honoring the contributions of Catholic Schools. It is my hope that they will continue to flourish and prosper for the benefit of millions of school children around the country.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools. As a Catholic school graduate, I know the value of a Catholic education. I know first hand that Catholic schools teach students discipline, pride and respect for learning. I am so grateful to the priests, nuns and lay persons who taught me at St. Peter's Elementary, Holy Name Elementary, Parmadale, St. Aloysius Elementary, St. Colman Elementary and St. John Cantius High School for their love and guidance through my formative years.

I especially wish to recognize the delegation of students, teachers and parents that make the National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools a special day. Their commitment to ensuring an exceptional education and maintaining quality Catholic schools ensures that Catholic students in the future will continue to benefit from outstanding educational opportunities. An overwhelming percentage of Catholic high school graduates attend college, which is a sign of the excellent work of our Catholic School system.

I would also like to recognize the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) for their efforts to promote educational and catechetical goals. By sponsoring programs like the Seton Awards, which recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Catholic education, the NCEA works diligently to insure better education across America.

Providing quality educational opportunities for all children is one of the most important goals of our society. I am encourage by the

ongoing involvement of the students, teacher and parents who are observing the National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in celebrating Catholic Schools.

As a student at St. Mary's elementary school in St. Croix from kindergarten through eighth grade, a graduate of St. Joseph's Mountain School in St. Joseph's, New York, and St. Mary's College, Notre Dame Indiana, I personally owe a debt of gratitude to catholic schools for what I have been able to achieve.

Catholic schools across the country have contributed greatly to the communities in which they exist and the nation at large. Numerous studies show that parents place their children in Catholic schools for the superior academic achievement of Catholic school students. They 1996 tests of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) sponsored by the U.S. government demonstrated that students in Catholic schools score higher than those in public schools. As a result, Catholic school education is becoming a popular choice among parents. Catholic preschool enrollment has increased by nearly 223% since 1987–88.

As I pay tribute to the 8144 Catholic schools in this country, I want to pay tribute to those schools that have nurtured and educated me, those that I have already mentioned, and St. Pius V in Jamaica, New York.

I also would also like to make special mention of the Catholic Schools in my district—St. Mary's, St. Joseph and St. Patrick's in St. Croix, and Saints. Peter and Paul in St. Thomas. The people of the Virgin Islands and I appreciate them for all they do and have done for the children of our islands.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the sponsors of the H. Res. 28 in honoring the success of Catholic Schools in providing a quality education to millions of children around the country. However, I am concerned that this resolution also contains language that violates the spirit, if not the letter, of the establishment clause of the first amendment, thus insulting the millions of religious Americans who are struggling to educate their children free from federal control and endangering religious liberty.

The success of Catholic schools has been remarkable. Catholic schools operating in the inner-city have been able to provide an excellent education to students written off by the educational establishment as "unteachable." Contrary to the claims of its critics, Catholic schools do not turn away large numbers of children in order to limit their enrollment to the "best and the brightest." In fact, a few years ago the Archdiocese of New York offered to enroll all students who had been expelled from New York's public schools! Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation, the Family Education Freedom Act (H.R. 368) which would help more parents afford to send their children to Catholic, or other religious schools, by providing them with a \$3,000 tax credit for K–12 education expenses.

While I join with the sponsors of this legislation in praising Catholic schools, I am disturbed by the language explicitly endorsing the goals of the United States Catholic Conference. The Catholic Conference is an organization devoted to spreading and advancing Catholicism. While the Conference may advance other social goods through its work,

those purposes are secondary to its primary function of advancing the Catholic faith. This is especially true in the case of Catholic schools which were founded and are operated with the explicit purpose of intergrating Catholic doctrine into K–12 education.

Therefore, even though Congress intends to honor the ways Catholic schools help fulfill a secular goal, the fact is Congress cannot honor Catholic schools without endorsing efforts to promulgate the Catholic faith. By singling out one sect over another, Congress is playing favors among religions. While this does not compare to the type of religious persecution experienced by many of the founders of this country, it is still an example of the type of federal favoritism among religions that the first amendment forbids.

What is the superintendent of a Baptist private school or a Pentecostal home schooler going to think when reading this resolution? That Congress does not think they provide children with an excellent education or that Congress does not deem their religious goals worthy of federal endorsement? In a free republic, the legislature should not be in the business of favoring one religion over another. I would also like to point out the irony of considering government favoritism of religion in the context of praising the Catholic schools, when early in this century Catholic schools were singled out for government-sanctioned discrimination because they were upholding the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Allowing Congress to single out certain religions for honors not only insults those citizens whose faith is not recognized by Congress, it also threatens the religious liberty of those honored by Congress. This is because when the federal government begins evaluating religious institutions, some religious institutions may be tempted to modify certain of their teachings in order to curry favor with political leaders. I will concede that religious institutions may not water down their faith in order to secure passage of "Sense of Congress resolutions," however, the belief that it is proper to judge religious institutions by how effectively they fulfill secular objectives is at the root of the proposals to entangle the federal government with state-approved religions by providing taxpayer dollars to religious organizations in order to preform various social services. Providing taxpayer money to churches creates the very real risk that a church may, for example, feel the need to downplay its teaching against abortion or euthanasia in order to maintain favor with a future pro-abortion administration and thus not lose its federal funding.

Of course, the idea that politicians should bestow favors on religions based on how well they fulfill the aims of the politicians is one that should be insulting to all believers no matter their faith. After all, despite what a few of my colleagues seem to think, Mr. Speaker, we in Congress are neither omnipotent nor divine.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I join the sponsors of H. Res. 28 in their admiration for the work of Catholic schools. However, I also have reservations about the language singling out the religious goals of one faith for praise.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker I rise in support of this measure to recognize the role Catholic Schools have played in the education of America's Children.

Last week over 8,200 Catholic elementary and secondary schools nationwide celebrated

their 27th annual Catholics Schools Week. This event was established to increase support for private Catholic schools and to recognize their accomplishments and contributions to the country.

"Catholic Schools Week" celebrates education that goes beyond preparation for a secular life; it is an education that prepares students for a Christian life. Parents who chose to send their children to Catholic Schools do so because they not only want their children to have an excellent education in reading, writing and arithmetic, they also want to them to have a Christian education.

Although public schools can prepare children for a secular life through a good education, they are constitutionally bound not to extent their role as educators into the area of religious education. I strongly urge parents who would like the benefits of public education and the rewards of faith based education to make a commitment to work with those religious communities that share their beliefs in the development of after school and weekend parochial programs.

This bill states that Congress supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association and the U.S. Catholic Conference, and congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers for their contributions to education.

Catholic schools teach a diverse group of students, 24 percent of whom are minorities. Moreover, only three percent of Catholic high school drop out of school and 83 percent go on to attend college.

Finally, the resolution states that, by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in moral guidance, Catholic schools produce students and, ultimately, citizens who are strongly dedicated to their faith and communities.

I offer my heart felt thanks to the Catholic Schools across the nation for their dedication to excellence in the classroom as they prepare young people to achieve excellence in life. In closing I would like to extend a special thanks to the Catholic Schools in Houston like Saint Philips High School, and Saint Pius High School.

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this resolution on Catholic education, and to share with my colleagues some of the rich history and achievements of Catholic schools in New Mexico.

The Catholic Church has had a presence in the American Southwest for over 400 years. Before public education was established in New Mexico, Catholic friars began teaching at local Indian pueblos. In the early 1800s, the Spanish government, cooperating with the Catholic Church, established schools in the territory of New Mexico.

Today New Mexico has 29 Catholic elementary schools and 4 secondary schools. Over 8,000 New Mexico children are enrolled in Catholic schools and the ethnic composition of the student body reflects the rich diversity of New Mexico (Hispanic 43%, Anglo 31%, American Indian 11%). I am very proud of New Mexico's Catholic schools and their students. Last year 324 students graduated from Catholic high schools in New Mexico. This is a 99% graduation rate and, of those, 99% went on to post-secondary education.

It's the dawn of a new century: It is a century in which knowledge is a commodity chil-

dren must have to succeed. Catholic schools across America are giving our children this opportunity.

Catholic schools have given New Mexico's children the wings they need to achieve their dreams. As Catholic schools nationwide celebrate Catholic school week, we thank them.

Mr. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, House Resolution 28.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

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#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

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□ 1800

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 6 p.m.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order: House Joint Resolution 7, by the yeas and nays, and House Resolution 28, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

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#### RECOGNIZING 90TH BIRTHDAY OF RONALD REAGAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the joint resolution, House Joint Resolution 7.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H. J. Res. 7, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 0, answered “present” 7, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 9]		
YEAS—410		
Abercrombie	Davis, Thomas	Hostettler
Ackerman	M.	Houghton
Aderholt	Deal	Hoyer
Akin	DeGette	Hulshof
Allen	Delahunt	Hunter
Andrews	DeLauro	Hutchinson
Army	DeLay	Hyde
Baca	DeMint	Insee
Bachus	Deutsch	Isakson
Baird	Diaz-Balart	Israel
Baker	Dicks	Issa
Baldacci	Dingell	Istook
Baldwin	Doggett	Jackson (IL)
Ballenger	Doolley	Jackson-Lee
Barcia	Doolittle	(TX)
Barr	Doyle	Jefferson
Barrett	Dreier	Jenkins
Bartlett	Duncan	John
Barton	Dunn	Johnson (CT)
Bass	Edwards	Johnson (IL)
Bentsen	Ehlers	Johnson, Sam
Bereuter	Ehrlich	Jones (NC)
Berkley	Emerson	Jones (OH)
Berman	Engel	Kanjorski
Berry	English	Kaptur
Biggert	Eshoo	Keller
Billirakis	Etheridge	Kelly
Bishop	Evans	Kennedy (MN)
Blagojevich	Everett	Kennedy (RI)
Blumenauer	Farr	Kerns
Blunt	Fattah	Kildee
Boehlert	Ferguson	Kilpatrick
Boehner	Filner	Kind (WI)
Bonilla	Flake	King (NY)
Bonior	Fletcher	Kingston
Borski	Foley	Kirk
Boswell	Ford	Kleczka
Boucher	Fossella	Knollenberg
Boyd	Frank	Kolbe
Brady (PA)	Frelinghuysen	Kucinich
Brady (TX)	Frost	LaFalce
Brown (OH)	Gallegly	LaHood
Brown (SC)	Ganske	Lampson
Bryant	Gekas	Langevin
Burr	Gephardt	Lantos
Burton	Gibbons	Largent
Callahan	Gilchrest	Larsen (WA)
Calvert	Gillmor	Larson (CT)
Camp	Gilman	Latham
Cantor	Gonzalez	LaTourette
Capito	Goode	Leach
Capps	Goodlatte	Levin
Capuano	Gordon	Lewis (CA)
Cardin	Goss	Lewis (GA)
Carson (IN)	Graham	Lewis (KY)
Carson (OK)	Granger	Linder
Castle	Green (TX)	Lipinski
Chabot	Green (WI)	LoBiondo
Chambliss	Gutierrez	Lofgren
Clay	Gutknecht	Lowe
Clayton	Hall (OH)	Lucas (KY)
Clement	Hall (TX)	Lucas (OK)
Clyburn	Hansen	Luther
Coble	Harman	Maloney (CT)
Collins	Hart	Manzullo
Combest	Hastert	Markey
Condit	Hastings (FL)	Mascara
Cooksey	Hastings (WA)	Matheson
Costello	Hayes	Matsui
Cox	Hayworth	McCarthy (MO)
Cramer	Herger	McCarthy (NY)
Crane	Hill	McCollum
Crenshaw	Hilleary	McCree
Crowley	Hilliard	McDermott
Cubin	Hinche	McGovern
Culberson	Hinojosa	McHugh
Cummings	Hobson	McIntyre
Cunningham	Hoeffel	McKeon
Davis (CA)	Hoekstra	McKinney
Davis (FL)	Holden	McNulty
Davis (IL)	Holt	Meehan
Davis, Jo Ann	Honda	Meek (FL)
	Hookey	Meeks (NY)
	Horn	Menendez

Mica	Regula	Spratt
Millender-McDonald	Rehberg	Stearns
Miller (FL)	Reyes	Stenholm
Miller, Gary	Reynolds	Strickland
Miller, George	Riley	Stump
Mink	Rivers	Stupak
Mollohan	Rodriguez	Sununu
Moore	Roemer	Sweeney
Moran (KS)	Rogers (MI)	Tancredo
Moran (VA)	Rohrabacher	Tanner
Morella	Ros-Lehtinen	Tauscher
Murtha	Ross	Tauzin
Myrick	Rothman	Taylor (MS)
Nadler	Roukema	Taylor (NC)
Napolitano	Roybal-Allard	Terry
Neal	Royce	Thomas
Nethercutt	Rush	Thompson (CA)
Ney	Ryan (WI)	Thompson (MS)
Northup	Ryun (KS)	Thornberry
Norwood	Sabo	Thune
Nussle	Sanders	Thurman
Oberstar	Sandlin	Tiahrt
Obey	Sawyer	Tiberi
Olver	Saxton	Tierney
Ortiz	Scarborough	Toomey
Ose	Schaffer	Towns
Otter	Schakowsky	Trafigant
Owens	Schiff	Turner
Oxley	Schrock	Udall (CO)
Pallone	Scott	Udall (NM)
Pascrell	Sensenbrenner	Upton
Pastor	Serrano	Velazquez
Paul	Sessions	Visclosky
Payne	Shadegg	Vitter
Pelosi	Shaw	Walden
Pence	Shays	Walsh
Peterson (MN)	Sherman	Wamp
Peterson (PA)	Sherwood	Watkins
Petri	Shimkus	Watt (NC)
Phelps	Shows	Watts (OK)
Pickering	Simmons	Waxman
Pitts	Simpson	Weiner
Platts	Sisisky	Weldon (FL)
Pombo	Skeen	Weldon (PA)
Pomeroy	Skelton	Weller
Portman	Slaughter	Wexler
Price (NC)	Smith (MI)	Whitfield
Pryce (OH)	Smith (NJ)	Wicker
Putnam	Smith (TX)	Wilson
Radanovich	Smith (WA)	Wolf
Rahall	Snyder	Wu
Ramstad	Solis	Wynn
Rangel	Souder	Young (AK)
	Spence	Young (FL)

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—7

DeFazio	Sanchez	Woolsey
Johnson, E. B.	Stark	
Lee	Waters	

NOT VOTING—16

Becerra	Graves	Moakley
Bono	Greenwood	Osborne
Brown (FL)	Grucci	Quinn
Buyer	Hefley	Rogers (KY)
Cannon	Maloney (NY)	
Conyers	McInnis	

□ 1827

Ms. SANCHEZ and Ms. WATERS changed their vote from “yea” to “present.”

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:  
Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 9, I did not have a beeper notification. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 9, I didn't get a beeper notification and the vote was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to the provisions of

clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on each additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 28.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 28, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.  
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 0, answered “present” 1, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 10]		
YEAS—412		
Abercrombie	Clement	Frelinghuysen
Ackerman	Clyburn	Frost
Aderholt	Coble	Gallegly
Akin	Collins	Ganske
Allen	Combest	Gekas
Andrews	Condit	Gephardt
Army	Costello	Gibbons
Baca	Cox	Gilchrest
Bachus	Coyne	Gillmor
Baird	Cramer	Gilman
Baker	Crane	Gonzalez
Baldacci	Crenshaw	Goode
Baldwin	Crowley	Goodlatte
Ballenger	Cubin	Gordon
Barcia	Culberson	Goss
Barr	Cummings	Graham
Barrett	Cunningham	Granger
Bartlett	Davis (CA)	Graves
Barton	Davis (FL)	Green (TX)
Bass	Davis (IL)	Green (WI)
Bentsen	Davis, Jo Ann	Gutierrez
Bereuter	Davis, Thomas	Gutknecht
Berkley	M.	Hall (OH)
Berman	Deal	Hall (TX)
Berry	DeFazio	Hansen
Biggert	DeGette	Harman
Billirakis	Delahunt	Hart
Bishop	DeLauro	Hastings (FL)
Blagojevich	DeLay	Hastings (WA)
Blumenauer	DeMint	Hayes
Blunt	Deutsch	Hayworth
Boehlert	Diaz-Balart	Herger
Boehner	Dicks	Hill
Bonilla	Dingell	Hilleary
Bonior	Doggett	Hilliard
Borski	Dooley	Hinche
Boswell	Doolittle	Hinojosa
Boucher	Doyle	Hobson
Boyd	Dreier	Hoeffel
Brady (PA)	Duncan	Hoekstra
Brady (TX)	Dunn	Holden
Brown (OH)	Edwards	Holt
Brown (SC)	Ehlers	Honda
Bryant	Ehrlich	Hookey
Burr	Emerson	Horn
Burton	Engel	Hostettler
Callahan	English	Houghton
Camp	Eshoo	Hoyer
Cantor	Etheridge	Hulshof
Capito	Evans	Hunter
Capps	Everett	Hutchinson
Capuano	Farr	Hyde
Cardin	Ferguson	Insee
Carson (IN)	Filner	Isakson
Carson (OK)	Flake	Israel
Castle	Fletcher	Issa
Chabot	Foley	Istook
Chambliss	Ford	Jackson (IL)
Clay	Fossella	Jackson-Lee
Clayton	Frank	(TX)

Jefferson	Moore	Shadegg
Jenkins	Moran (KS)	Shaw
John	Moran (VA)	Shays
Johnson (CT)	Morella	Sherman
Johnson (IL)	Murtha	Sherwood
Johnson, E. B.	Myrick	Shimkus
Johnson, Sam	Nadler	Shows
Jones (NC)	Napolitano	Simmons
Jones (OH)	Neal	Simpson
Kanjorski	Nethercutt	Sisisky
Kaptur	Ney	Skeen
Keller	Northup	Skelton
Kelly	Norwood	Slaughter
Kennedy (MN)	Nussle	Smith (MI)
Kennedy (RI)	Oberstar	Smith (NJ)
Kerns	Obey	Smith (TX)
Kildee	Olver	Smith (WA)
Kilpatrick	Ortiz	Snyder
Kind (WI)	Osborne	Solis
King (NY)	Ose	Souder
Kingston	Otter	Spence
Kirk	Owens	Spratt
Kleczyka	Oxley	Stark
Knollenberg	Pallone	Stearns
Kolbe	Pascrell	Stenholm
Kucinich	Pastor	Strickland
LaFalce	Payne	Stump
LaHood	Pelosi	Stupak
Lampson	Pence	Sununu
Langevin	Peterson (MN)	Sweeney
Lantos	Peterson (PA)	Tancredro
Largent	Petri	Tanner
Larsen (WA)	Phelps	Tauscher
Larson (CT)	Pickering	Tauzin
Latham	Pitts	Taylor (MS)
LaTourette	Platts	Taylor (NC)
Leach	Pombo	Terry
Lee	Pomeroy	Thomas
Levin	Portman	Thompson (CA)
Lewis (CA)	Price (NC)	Thompson (MS)
Lewis (GA)	Pryce (OH)	Thornberry
Lewis (KY)	Putnam	Thune
Linder	Radanovich	Thurman
Lipinski	Rahall	Tiahrt
LoBiondo	Ramstad	Tiberi
Lofgren	Rangel	Tierney
Lowey	Regula	Toomey
Lucas (KY)	Rehberg	Towns
Lucas (OK)	Reyes	Trafigant
Luther	Reynolds	Turner
Maloney (CT)	Riley	Udall (CO)
Manzullo	Rivers	Udall (NM)
Markey	Rodriguez	Upton
Mascara	Roemer	Velazquez
Matheson	Rogers (MI)	Visclosky
Matsui	Rohrabacher	Vitter
McCarthy (MO)	Ros-Lehtinen	Walden
McCarthy (NY)	Ross	Walsh
McCollum	Roukema	Wamp
McCrery	Roybal-Allard	Waters
McDermott	Royce	Watkins
McGovern	Rush	Watt (NC)
McHugh	Ryan (WI)	Watts (OK)
McIntyre	Ryun (KS)	Waxman
McKeon	Sabo	Weiner
McKinney	Sanchez	Weldon (PA)
McNulty	Sanders	Weller
Meehan	Sandlin	Wexler
Meek (FL)	Sawyer	Whitfield
Meeks (NY)	Saxton	Wicker
Menendez	Scarborough	Wilson
Mica	Schaffer	Wolf
Millender-	Schakowsky	Woolsey
McDonald	Schiff	Wu
Miller (FL)	Schrock	Wynn
Miller, Gary	Scott	Young (AK)
Miller, George	Sensenbrenner	Young (FL)
Mink	Serrano	
Mollohan	Sessions	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—19

Becerra	Cooksey	Moakley
Bono	Fattah	Quinn
Brown (FL)	Greenwood	Rogers (KY)
Buyer	Grucci	Rothman
Calvert	Hefley	Weldon (FL)
Cannon	Maloney (NY)	
Conyers	McInnis	

□ 1839

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GRUCCI. Madam Speaker, due to the death of my mother-in-law, Mrs. Carmella Fierro, I was unable to participate in today's recorded votes. However, I would have voted in the affirmative on each of the three suspension bills on today's agenda:

H.J. Res. 7 Recognizing the 90th Birthday of Ronald Reagan, H.R. 395 Ronald Reagan Post Office Designation, and H. Res. 28 Honoring the Contributions of Catholic Schools.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO ENTERTAIN A MOTION TO SUSPEND RULES ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2001

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Speaker be authorized to entertain a motion to suspend the rules relating to H.R. 132 on Wednesday, February 7, 2001.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

PRESIDENT REAGAN TURNS 90

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, tonight we celebrate the 90th birthday of President Ronald Reagan, and I would like to read some lines from a column that appeared on Sunday in the London Times in London, England. It was written by Andrew Sullivan, and frankly I cannot say this better than he did about a President that I have admired literally for many, many years. Let me read and I quote: "He will turn 90 on Tuesday, but in all likelihood he will barely be aware of it. The cruelty of Alzheimer's has robbed Ronald Reagan of the capacity for clear memory. But that doesn't apply to the rest of us.

"He seems, in some respects, a historical oddity now, his political and cultural presence obscured by the Clinton psychodrama and the Bush dynasty. But his successors do not begin to compare—either in achievement or legacy."

□ 1845

Madam Speaker, Reagan stood for two simple but indisputably big things: the expansion of freedom at home and the extinction of tyranny abroad. He achieved both.

When he came into office, the top tax rates in the United States were 70 percent. Against all odds, Reagan slashed the top rate to 28 percent and ignited the economic boom that is still with us.

He was right about taxation and the role of government. He was also right about the other great question of his day, the Soviet Union.

I will never forget the moment I heard his "evil empire" speech. It was broadcast on Radio 4 with skeptical British commentary about this inflammatory new president who knew nothing about the complexities of communism.

But for all the criticism, what came through in my teenage brain was the actual truth. Yes, the Soviet Union was evil. Who now doubts that? He alone saw that communism was destined to be put on the ash heap of history, as he told the House of Commons, and he helped put it there.

Think of Tony Blair and Bill Clinton. In the 1980s, they were nuclear freeze supporters; and yet both now thoughtlessly enjoy the soft and easy fruits of a greater man's courage.

The critics harp on the economic deficits of the Reagan era, but the truth is that the Federal revenue boomed on Reagan's watch. What created the deficits was an unprecedented increase in defense spending, the bargaining chip that eventually forced the Soviets to surrender.

The end of the welfare entitlement was also presaged by Reagan. Reagan's unlikeliest dream, the nuclear missile defense, is also still with us. Lamppooned as "Star Wars," it will soon regain the pre-eminence it deserves in American military defense, as Donald Rumsfeld aggressively moves it forward.

He was devoted to his second wife with a romantic zeal, wore a coat and tie at all times in the Oval Office, a room he considered sacred.

Madam Speaker, it takes time to recognize greatness and sometimes it appears in the oddest forms. When he dies, this country will go into shock. For Americans know in their hearts that this unlikely man understood the deepest meaning of their country in a way nobody else has done for a generation.

Madam Speaker, I remember when Ronald Reagan, just outside of this Capitol, stepped aboard Marine One for the last time and saluted back and left the presidency. I remember turning to my wife and saying, "He was a long time coming. He will be a long time gone."

Mr. President, on behalf of a grateful Nation, let me say, thank you, God bless you, and happy birthday.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GUTKNECHT. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I so much appreciate my colleague for taking a moment to express

his deep appreciation for truly one of the greatest Americans of all time, former governor of California and President of the United States, Ronald Reagan.

I want to share with my colleagues just a couple of thoughts because my colleague has been kind enough to take this time.

I will never forget, while a member of the State Legislature, one day listening to television as I heard for the first time Ronald Reagan giving a speech for then candidate for President Barry Goldwater. And I rolled over and said to my family, "By golly, he ought to run for governor of California." And by golly, not very far after that, he did run and was successfully elected.

During that period of time, it was my privilege to work very closely with the governor. And people should know this about Ronald Reagan, two items I would mention. The first is it was my privilege to work with him on what is now known as the Child Development Act of 1972. It was the first quality preschool day-care act in the country and now serves as a model for the country, a Ronald Reagan-signed bill in 1972. And 25 years later the Federal Government discovered it might be an issue.

Another item: In the southland in my district in California, air quality is by far the most serious challenge we faced in the last 20 or 30 years. It was Ronald Reagan who signed model language developing a regional district that has developed the toughest clean air standards in the entire country, leading the country.

Above and beyond that, let me say that the gentleman is correct at pointing to this great man as President of the United States.

#### TRIBUTE TO RONALD REAGAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I wanted to further say to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) that the job that Ronald Reagan did as President, my colleague has expressed almost the wonderment of that very well. But the thing that we must all remember is that the East-West confrontation is now a thing of the past, and indeed we are on a pathway for long-term opportunities for peace, not just for the United States but for the world; and if it were not for Ronald Reagan's leadership, I cannot say that we would be there today.

So while I will be happy to yield to my colleague, I very much appreciate his commentary in working with us at this very serious time in his life congratulating him on his 90th birthday.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, if I could just say, I was one who sort of came of age politically under Ronald Reagan, and he was and always will be to me a tremendous teacher of true principles,

and he seemed to have a tremendous understanding of the American people.

We certainly wish our current President, George W. Bush, the best. And we all, I think, could be better students of what Ronald Reagan tried to teach; and if we learn nothing else, it is that we need to continue to relearn those simple principles, I think we will all be better served.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I certainly very much appreciate the consideration of my colleague.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON).

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Let me just say that tonight we are going to hear, my colleagues, all kinds of great things that Ronald Reagan accomplished as President of the United States. But I want to tell my colleagues real briefly a little personal aside that happened to me.

My mother and stepfather, who died 2 years ago, both were working class people. My mother worked as a waitress for 18 years at L.S. Ayres & Co. Tea-room. She used to bring her tips home to help keep the house afloat. And my stepfather was what they called a sand hog in a foundry. Not very glamorous jobs.

When I entered politics, I told them one day I wanted to be a congressman to serve in the United States Congress. And, of course, they both had great aspirations for me, but they, in the back of their minds, thought I would never make it.

So I promised my mom and my dad that, if I ever made it to the United States Congress, I was going to take them in the front door of the White House to meet the President of the United States, not the back door, but the front door.

And so, the time came when I was elected; and it just so happened that Ronald Reagan was the President of the United States and a man whom I think was one of the greatest Presidents we ever had. The day came when I was going to take my mom and dad over to the White House and go in the front door to meet the President. And unbeknownst to me, Ronald Reagan's staff, because the President had asked them to, had called and said, we want to know something about Dan Burton, his background and everything before he comes over so we can talk to his parents.

And when we went in the Oval Office to meet the President of the United States, this little waitress and this man who worked in a foundry all his life getting up at 5:30 in the morning, he walked in and he shook their hands and he started telling them what a great guy I was, and told them all the things he knew about me and what a great asset I was to the United States Congress. He did not need to do that, but it sure was great for me and it was great for my mom and dad.

And so, I thank President Reagan very much for making my mom and dad feel like they were two of the proudest people in the United States one day in my life.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I say to the President, our colleagues and all Americans join together in joining Ronald Reagan, our great President, a very happy 90th birthday.

#### FAMILY FARM EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHOWS. Madam Speaker, the unusually cold winter and the dramatic increase in heating costs are hurting everybody in my State of Mississippi.

Clearly, we need to encourage more domestic production of oil and gas.

But in Mississippi, we need immediate action, we need help today, especially for our region's agriculture industry.

Some farmers and ranchers have seen their gas bills double and triple over the last year. And this is through no fault of their own.

Our own local economy depends on agricultural production, which is a major employer in many of our communities.

These days the industry has been devastated by the dramatic rise in the cost of gas. This may not be a natural disaster, like a tornado or a flood, but this is a disaster just the same. This is an economic disaster that threatens the very existence of farms throughout our region.

Today I introduced a bill that will provide both immediate and long-term emergency assistance to our farmers and ranchers. My bill, the Family Farm Emergency Energy Assistance Act, will authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants that would not have to be repaid to help local agricultural producers deal immediately with financial pressures caused by this crisis.

This bill would also make low-interest loans available to help deal with the energy crisis for the months ahead.

This important legislation needs to be enacted quickly. Our farmers need help, and they need it now.

I am calling upon our leaders in Congress to move this emergency assistance bill quickly to passage. I will not rest until the Family Farm Emergency Energy Assistance Act becomes law.

#### EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, yesterday was the eighth anniversary of the signing of the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Since 1993, that landmark legislation has allowed 35 million Americans to take time off from their jobs to be with children or ailing relatives without fear of losing their jobs. That is peace of mind for the American worker, and it is something that all workers need and deserve.

But even with FMLA in place, not all parents are taking the time off that is available to them. In fact, a recent study by the U.S. Department of Labor found that 88 percent of eligible employees who need time off do not take it because they cannot afford to go without a paycheck.

Scientific research shows that early bonding between parent and child is exceptionally critical to that child's future, to that child's success. Yet 83 percent of women who give birth are back to work within 6 months, and 70 percent of them say it is because they need the money.

Madam Speaker, America's children are paying the price for their parents' need to earn a living; and those parents are forced to choose between the needs of their children and putting food on the table. And that is not right.

The Family and Medical Leave Act has helped millions of families. But what we are finding out is there are millions more who are being left behind. It is time that the United States joined the more than 120 countries around the world that provide paid leave for new parents.

Let us face it, times are changing. If today's children are lucky enough to have two parents living with them, chances are that both parents are in the workforce and they work outside of the home. Parents are working hard. They are commuting long hours. And it is our children who are being left behind due to today's hectic lifestyles.

Studies find that parents are spending an average of 52 days a year less with their children than they did 30 years ago, 52 days a year less with their children.

We have to give parents the tools they need to bridge the gap between work and family, especially when there is a new baby in the home.

Along with Senator CHRIS DODD of Connecticut, I have, again with this Congress, introduced legislation to provide start-up funding for States that want to establish paid leave programs for new parents.

Already, my State of California offers new moms paid maternity leave through their State Disability Insurance. Women are eligible for up to 4 weeks of leave before delivery and 6 weeks after. That means a great deal for mothers. It means a lot to the newborns and the newly-adopted children. And, in the long-run, it will mean a great deal for the children as they grow up and become successful and are working on their futures.

But 10 weeks is not enough time. It is too short.

As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I con-

tinue to work to make education our top priority. But I have come to realize that having the best schools and the best teachers in the world will not matter if kids are not ready to learn when they enter the classroom.

One thing that we need to do to help them be ready to learn is have them bond with their parents right after birth or right after adoption.

□ 1900

As my cochair and I on the Democratic Caucus Task Force for Children came to the conclusion last year that part of our children's agenda was paid leave for new parents, we realize that it is more critical than ever to allow paid leave so that kids will get a good start.

Madam Speaker, parents want to be there for their children. Children are their number one priority. As a parent and a grandmother, I know how important those first weeks and months are to the parent and to the child. Let us show America's families, their parents and their children that the Family and Medical Leave Act was a good start but that these parents, these families, deserve more. Let us make paid leave for new parents a priority in this Congress.

Our children are 25 percent of our population, but they are 100 percent of our future.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H. J. Res. 7. Joint resolution recognizing the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-83, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the reappointment of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) as a member of the National Council on the Arts.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2761 of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, appoints the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) as Co-Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-550, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following Senators to serve as members of the James Madison Commemoration Commission—

the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER); and

the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-398, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the

following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry—

William Schneider, Jr., of New York; and]

Robert J. Stevens, of Maryland.

#### PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY 107TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I hereby submit the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary for the 107th Congress for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. These rules were adopted by the Committee on January 31, 2001, in a meeting that was open to the public.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, RULES OF PROCEDURE, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS, ADOPTED JANUARY 31, 2001

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE—ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Wisconsin, *Chairman*, Henry J. Hyde, Illinois, George W. Gekas, Pennsylvania, Howard Coble, North Carolina, Lamar S. Smith, Texas, Elton Gallegly, California, Bob Goodlatte, Virginia, Steve Chabot, Ohio, Bob Barr, Georgia, William L. Jenkins, Tennessee, Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas, Chris Cannon, Utah, Lindsey O. Graham, South Carolina, Spencer Bachus, Alabama, Joe Scarborough, Florida, John N. Hostettler, Indiana, Mark Green, Wisconsin, Ric Keller, Florida, Darrell E. Issa, California, Melissa A. Hart, Pennsylvania, and Jeff Flake, Arizona.

John Conyers, Jr., Michigan, Barney Frank, Massachusetts, Howard L. Berman, California, Rick Boucher, Virginia, Jerrold Nadler, New York, Robert C. Scott, Virginia, Melvin L. Watt, North Carolina, Zoe Lofgren, California, Sheila Jackson Lee, Texas, Maxine Waters, California, Martin T. Meehan, Massachusetts, William D. Delahunt, Massachusetts, Robert Wexler, Florida, Steven R. Rothman, New Jersey, Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin, and Anthony D. Weiner, New York.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

#### Rule I

The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

#### Rule II. Committee Meetings

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Tuesday of each week while the House is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) At least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session) before each scheduled Committee or subcommittee meeting, each Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall be furnished a list of the bill(s) and subject(s) to be considered and/or acted upon at the meeting. Bills or subjects not listed shall be subject to a point of order, unless their consideration is agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or subcommittee.

(d) The Chairman, with such notice to the ranking Minority Member as is practicable, may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Chairman.

(e) Committee and subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e., meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(f) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(g) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any subcommittee thereof, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(h) Transcripts of markups shall be recorded and may be published in the same manner as hearings before the committee and shall be included as part of the legislative report unless waived by the Chairman.

#### Rule III. Hearings

(a) The Committee Chairman or any subcommittee chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee, or subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman or subcommittee chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(e) The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the committee which are decided to be printed shall be published in verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. Individuals, including Members of Congress, whose comments are to be published as part

of a committee document shall be given the opportunity to verify the accuracy of the transcription in advance of publication. Any requests by those Members, staff or witnesses to correct any errors other than errors in the transcription, or disputed errors in transcription, shall be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Prior to approval by the Chairman of hearings conducted jointly with another congressional committee, a memorandum of understanding shall be prepared which incorporates an agreement for the publication of the verbatim transcript.

#### Rule IV. Broadcasting

Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio and still photography except when the hearing or meeting is closed pursuant to the Committee Rules of Procedure.

#### Rule V. Standing Subcommittees

(a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: anti-trust law, tort liability, including medical malpractice and product liability, legal reform generally, and such other matters as determined by the Chairman.

(b) There shall be five standing subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:

(1) *Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property*: copyright, patent and trademark law, information technology, administration of U.S. courts, Federal Rules of Evidence, Civil and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(2) *Subcommittee on the Constitution*: constitutional amendments, constitutional rights, federal civil rights laws, ethics in government, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(3) *Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law*: bankruptcy and commercial law, bankruptcy judgeships, administrative law, independent counsel, state taxation affecting interstate commerce, interstate compacts, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(4) *Subcommittee on Crime*: Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(5) *Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims*: immigration and naturalization, admission of refugees, treaties, conventions and international agreements, claims against the United States, federal charters of incorporation, private immigration and claims bills, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee and ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting Members, of each subcommittee to which such Chairman or ranking Minority member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such subcommittee.

#### Rule VI. Powers and Duties of Subcommittees

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and

other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

#### Rule VII. Non-Legislative Reports

No report of the Committee or subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

#### Rule VIII. Committee Records

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use according to the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the ranking Minority Member of any decision to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

### PROTECTING OUR GREATEST MILITARY ASSET: OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, as we begin the 107th Congress and our debate turns to our national security, I want to remind our colleagues that we must remain vigilant in protecting the greatest asset in our defense arsenal, our military personnel. Without our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, we cannot sail our ships, fly our fighters, or put boots on the ground to protect our Nation's interests here and abroad.

Our highly qualified, well-trained military personnel are the core of our Nation's defense. I am concerned that the new administration will rush to fund high visibility weapons systems with important political constituencies, like the National Missile Defense, at the expense of ensuring that our military personnel remain the best in the world.

I believe we must make every effort to continue to recruit quality service members to ensure the continued success of our Armed Forces. With the good economic times, rising numbers of high school graduates going on to college, low unemployment, myriad job opportunities in the private sector, and a whole host of other factors, it is no secret that the military services have been experiencing difficulties in recruiting and retaining enough qualified individuals.

Last year, all of the services reached their yearly recruiting goals for enlisted active duty personnel, but this success was not easily achieved. For example, the Air Force, which historically has an easier time recruiting, had

to establish a special task force in order to improve its recruiting program. This year, the services are forecasting that they will each make their active duty recruiting goals for enlisted personnel. Time will tell.

Active duty recruiting is not the only challenge facing the services. Maintaining a suitable reserve force to provide the additional support for our military is also a daunting challenge. Last year, two of the seven reserve components, the Navy Reserve and the Air Force Reserve, missed their enlisted recruiting goals.

Currently, the Army National Guard and the Naval Reserve are both on a path to miss their projected goals for this fiscal year. Both the Army and the Air National Guard are struggling to meet a higher recruiting mission with fewer recruiters than last year. With our growing dependence on the Guard and the Reserve, these difficulties are a cause for serious concern. Unlike years past, our military cannot operate effectively without the participation of the National Guard and Reserve. So we must do everything possible to ensure that we devote sufficient resources to Reserve and Guard recruiting.

Retaining those highly trained service members who are already in the military is also vitally important. We cannot afford to lose the investment we make in our service members by failing to provide adequate education, training, working conditions and quality of life to make military service an attractive career option. Today, highly skilled, motivated individuals are being enticed to leave the military and to use their skills and expertise in the private sector. We simply cannot allow this trend to continue if we hope to remain the world's most foremost military power.

Last year, enlisted retention was a particularly acute problem for the Air Force. In the officer corps, the Army missed its officer retention goal by 1,069 while the Air Force was short 523. Many officers who leave are in the junior officer ranks. These are the leaders of tomorrow; and if we hope to keep them in the military, we must be responsive to their needs and concerns.

Spending on high-tech weapons systems is important, but we simply cannot afford to neglect the people side of our defense equation. The personnel and compensation systems of today are based on outdated notions which do not make sense for the 21st Century. For example, the up or out promotion system may not make the most sense in an era where we have computer experts who aspire only to work with computers for their entire careers.

We need to revisit how the services fill critical specialty positions. The current retirement system, which penalizes those who do not stay for a full 20-year career, clearly merits scrutiny. And although the Committee on Armed Services addressed retiree health care last year, it is clear to me that the TRICARE system, which also serves

the active duty and reserve communities, is broken and needs to be fixed.

If we do not attend to these people programs, all the sophisticated weapons systems in the world will not do us any good because we will not have enough people who are smart enough and well trained enough to operate them.

We simply cannot afford to let that happen. Therefore, as we begin this new millennium, let us renew our commitment to the dedicated men and women who serve in our Nation's military and to ensuring that our Nation's Armed Forces continue to be the best trained, most highly qualified force in the 21st Century.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. MINK of Hawaii addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BERRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AKIN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, on this 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan, I think all of us should be inspired; and we unfortunately are a country that has grown so cynical that, okay, it is not cool to say something nice about Ronald Reagan because I am a Democrat or it is not good to say something about Jimmy Carter because I am a Republican. Yet, I think all people who have served in public service in the courthouses, in the school boards and in the Nation's Capital, in the State legislatures around the country deserve respect for their contributions and for their attempts to make the world a better place.

I was a college student when I first knew of Ronald Reagan. He was running for President in 1976. I was in the Ford camp, but I listened to his speeches very carefully and realized over the next several years that he, in fact, had something to contribute and something to say.

Reagan's ideas, I would say, were probably basic conservative philosophies of less government, of individualism, of people solving problems and not government solving problems, and yet beyond that there seemed to be something else in him, a little twinkle in the eye that maybe captured our imagination; in the words of a poet, maybe took the ordinary and made them extraordinary, and had this ability to galvanize the people of America to try to do their best. In his inaugural address, his closing line was, "Good Morning, America." And he would say repeatedly, after all, we are America; America, where great things happen.

I had the opportunity this weekend to hear our new President, George W. Bush, speak, and I saw a lot of the same tendencies, a sincerity. The ideas are ideas that we in this Congress have debated many, many times, and yet there seems to be something new. There seems right now to be a new energy, a new chemistry in this town.

People, I think, Democrat and Republicans, are excited. Here we have a President of the United States who went to the Republican retreat this weekend, where we were doing our budget planning. No big deal, a Republican President going to a Republican retreat. Yet, after that he went to the Democrat retreat to talk to them, to reach out to them. Indeed, he has met several times over the past couple of weeks with Democrat group after Democrat group, Democrat leader after Democrat leader, holding out his hands.

In that Republican retreat this weekend, rather than taking a partisan swing at the Democrats, who often were not so kind to him and did not show the same benevolent spirit or the magnanimity that he has, he held everything up with high integrity. He referred to Mr. DASCHLE with great respect. He referred to the institution of Congress and the passing of legislation with great respect.

I am looking forward to working with this gentleman. I like his ideas on education, local control for local school boards, the teacher in the classroom who knows the kids' names, where she will have a lot more input in the process. After all, that teacher knows what the needs of the classroom are. More professionals, more computers, more classroom space, more bricks and mortar. The teacher who knows the children's names, who knows which ones need a hugging and which ones need an A or a B; they are the ones who should be leading education, not the bureaucracy out of Washington, D.C.

I am very interested in his passion for education.

On the subject of taxes, it is just this easy: If you knew that the Federal Government could operate, pay all of our obligations and all of our normal functions of government on your contribution as a taxpayer, you would probably say, okay, I do not like paying my taxes but you need the money,

fine. But if you found out we could do it on less than what you were paying in, you would probably want the money back.

I had the opportunity to talk to a little girl at Johnson High School over the break. She had a job, senior in high school, made \$7.00 an hour. So I said to her, Julie, if you work for two hours, you make \$14. Do you get to take it all home?

She said, no. I have to pay about \$4 in taxes.

I said, okay. On the \$14 you earn, you have to pay \$4 in taxes. If you knew that I could run the government on \$3.50 of that money, what would you want me to do with the extra 50 cents?

She said, give it back to me.

Now, why does she want it back and what is she going to do with that money? She is going to buy more CDs, more hamburgers, fill up her tank a few more times; and when she does that, she stimulates the economy, businesses expand, jobs are created, more opportunities, more people are working. Therefore, less people are on welfare, more are paying taxes, more paying into the system than taking out of the system, and it is a win/win. It is what Adam Smith, the great economist, called the invisible hand of America that makes the whole engine thrive.

If this senior in high school at Johnson High in Savannah, Georgia, could understand that, why is it so many people in Washington are confused about it? The surplus does not belong to the government. It belongs to the 17-year-old Julies around the country, and Bush understands this. I am looking forward to working with the new President on this.

On Social Security, he supports a lockbox. He says, we are going to save Social Security, not just for the next election but for the next generation. And in doing so, we are not going to change benefits for near-retirees or for retirees. We are not going to have a tax increase, and that is important. And from there on we are going to work on a bipartisan basis to do what is best for the American people.

The reason I believe that we have a new President and a new administration in the White House is because George Bush dared to stick his foot in the water of issues. Rather than skirting around the edge, he got into the water. I think the American people are ready for a substantive debate on real issues that affect all of us.

So on this birthday of Ronald Reagan, let me wish the Reagan family the best, but let me also wish the best to the Bush family and make a pledge that this Member of Congress is ready to work.

□ 1915

#### TRIBUTE TO RONALD REAGAN ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AKIN). Under the Speaker's announced

policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material on the following Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, this leadership Special Order is one that we dedicate to and devote the time to our 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, we have a number of Members on the majority side who have indicated a desire to speak during a portion of this Special Order. I have got a number of remarks I would like to make; but others here are here now, so I will immediately yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CRANE).

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I want to express appreciation to my distinguished colleague from Colorado for taking this time this evening to honor a man who has had a profound impact on the lives of all of us, and a very positive impact in my estimation, and I am a former U.S. history professor, I think the greatest impact of anybody in the lifetime of anyone today, a positive impact that has had a reverberating positive effect, not just here in the United States, but worldwide.

I was familiar, of course, with Ronald Reagan, as one of the most popular and handsome movie actors growing up as a child and going to the movies; but it was not that Ronald Reagan that I got really attached to. Rather, it was during the 1964 campaign.

I was teaching history at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, at the time, and got involved. One of the things that was frustrating in that campaign was we were not communicating our message well on behalf of Barry Goldwater. But something that happened during that campaign was Ronald Reagan delivered a speech that was taped, and that taped message that Ronald Reagan delivered for Barry Goldwater in the 1964 campaign was far and away the most effective message in getting our word out to the people at the grassroots. It certainly turned me on.

I was then intrigued to learn that Ronald Reagan had only been a Republican for 2 years. He had been a Democrat until 1962; and he became a Republican that year, so he had been working on behalf of the values that he believed in, which extended beyond party lines.

Ronald Reagan believed in the same values that he had believed in when he was still a registered Democrat, but he communicated them effectively, and that resounding message was something that we took from that 1964 cam-

paigned on into future elections. It was something that got so many of us that were involved in the Goldwater campaign excited that we pushed to try to get Ronald Reagan the nomination at the 1968 convention down in Miami.

I know there was tribute paid for him getting elected Governor of California. That was demoralizing to us, because Ronald Reagan felt that to continue to go from the election of governor to seeking the Presidential nomination was not proper. So we were disappointed that our troops were split down in Miami, and I was down there working behind the scenes for Ronald Reagan at that time.

In 1976 again we had that window of opportunity, and we all got charged up and excited. I must confess to you that the biggest disappointment I have ever experienced in politics was when Ronald Reagan, by that very narrow margin, lost the nomination in 1976. I remember standing on a balcony at one of the hotels down there with tears in my eyes, because I was fearful that was the end of the Ronald Reagan candidacy.

Because of that, I got in that Presidential race in 1980, in the summer of 1978, because it was the principles I believed in; and I was fearful that Ronald Reagan might wait until the end of 1979 and then say, Well, Mommy and I have looked at it and decided to go to the ranch. I figured there was no way I could get name identification between the end of 1979 and getting into that Presidential cycle. As a result, I entered that race.

Ronald Reagan ended up getting in that race, as you all know, and I told him at the time, because I only got 2 percent of the vote in the New Hampshire primary, I knew it was all history, I was going to stick it out through the Illinois primary in mid-March because our candidates out there were on the ballot indicating who they were going to support at the convention, and they were all going to take a bath if they had my name after theirs, and I figured I had an obligation to take a bath with them. But I reassured Ronald Reagan that all of those people would support him and I would support him as soon as we got Illinois behind us. That is exactly what happened.

We went on, as you well know, to the most exciting victory, at a time in our history when Jimmy Carter, the retiring President at that time, was looking to the future of this country with total despair. But those of you that remember back to that era remember that we suffered an inflation rate of 14 percent, 14 percent, that last year. We had unemployment rates and interest rates that were staggering, and, sad to say, President Carter looking to the future was despondent and thought this country had peaked.

Ronald Reagan saw it from a totally different perspective, and he took it and ran with it and started to elevate this country and the world on the right

path. That includes not only the biggest tax cut in history, that we are still benefiting from, but I want to also read from some remarks that Ronald Reagan made when he was over at the Brandenburg Gate at that time. That is when the Wall was still there in Berlin.

He pointed out that Krushchev had predicted that he is going to bury us. Mr. Reagan said, "But in the West today, we see a free world that has achieved a level of prosperity and well-being unprecedented in all human history. In the communist world, we see failure, technological backwardness, declining standards of health, even want of the most basic kind, too little food. Even today, the Soviet Union still cannot feed itself."

He went on to say, "We welcome change and openness; for we believe that freedom and security go together, that the advance of human liberty can only strengthen the cause of world peace. There is one sign the Soviets can make that would be unmistakable that would advance dramatically the cause of freedom and peace.

"General Secretary Gorbachev, if you seek peace, if you seek prosperity for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, if you seek liberalization; come here to this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, open this gate. Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

Amen. And we know the Wall came down.

I had a meeting in my office today with 12 businessmen from Russia coming to talk about expanded trade opportunities between us and them. It is exciting to hear them expressing their interest in pursuing those values and those principles that Ronald Reagan played such a key role in achieving.

It is something that has brought our Nation to a peak that is unprecedented in history, and it simultaneously has brought the world to a peak unprecedented in history. It is not that we still do not have a lot more to accomplish, we do indeed; but we can be excited about this.

Let me just conclude with one final word. Ronald Reagan, and I say this as an Illinoisan, Ronald Reagan is the only President we have ever had from the State of Illinois. He was born in the little town of Tampico. He grew up in Dixon, Illinois. In high school and while he was going to college, he used to serve as a lifeguard at a park there every summer, and he pointed out that he did that for 7 years. He was working for like \$15 or \$20 a week in those days. But he pointed out that during the 7 years that he served in the capacity of lifeguard, that he saved 77 lives, 77 lives.

I just want to pay tribute to the man who has saved more than 77 lives as he remarkably did in his years as a lifeguard. He has saved millions and millions of lives, and he has left his permanent stamp on the course of history. We salute that gentleman who has turned 90 today and pay tribute to him.

God bless you, President Reagan. We are all eternally grateful for that un-

precedented role that you played in our national experience and which will never be forgotten.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS).

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank my friend and colleague from Colorado for granting me the time to speak on this very important issue this evening.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to join my colleagues this evening in recognition of former President Ronald Reagan's 90th birthday. Last year, for his 89th birthday, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DUNN), the late Senator Paul Coverdell from Georgia and I introduced legislation to bestow the Congressional Gold Medal to President Ronald Reagan and his beloved wife, Nancy, in honor for their individual, and, may I say, combined dedicated service to the United States. I would like, Mr. Speaker, once again to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for joining with me in that tribute, a tribute which touched both President Reagan and Mrs. Reagan very deeply.

Upon passage of the Reagan Congressional Gold Medal bill, Mrs. Reagan remarked personally to me, "It means a lot to us to receive so much support at this difficult time, and we are very honored."

Yet, Mr. Speaker, and may I say not surprisingly, honor and fame were never the priorities of Ronald Reagan, and his journey to the White House was not marked by a desire for personal power or position of personal privilege. He preferred to see himself, however, as just a simple citizen who was called upon to serve the Nation he so loved.

Ronald Reagan truly is a great American in every sense. Led by his belief in the limitless potential of Americans, President Reagan turned the tide of public cynicism and sparked a national renewal.

During his 8-year tenure, the United States enjoyed a period of astonishing economic growth, renewed military superiority and international respect. Ronald Reagan's contagious optimism and passionate patriotism served as an inspiration to the entire Nation. Under his leadership, Americans believed once again in that American dream.

As we enter the 21st century, Mr. Speaker, our Nation still finds its strength in President Reagan's ideals and his steadfast confidence in democracy, freedom, and America. Often as Americans we look back at our history to learn from our mistakes, but as well as Americans we look back and celebrate our triumphs.

The leadership and accomplishments of President Reagan certainly will not be forgotten, for they shaped the country we call home and the world today as we know it.

Thank you, President Reagan, for your commitment, dedication, and faith in America and her people. Today as you celebrate your 90th birthday,

please know that we wish you and Mrs. Reagan the very best, and we also thank you for distinguished service to our great Nation.

Mr. SCHAFFER. I thank the gentleman for joining us tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield the floor to my good friend and colleague from the great State of Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO), who a few years before coming to Congress was an appointee in the Reagan administration and served with distinction in our region out in the West in the Department of Education.

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER).

It is true, as has been cited here by other Members, that there was one time in history, about 1966 or 1967, at the time I was in college in Colorado, and I happened to see a television rebroadcast of a speech that, again, as I say, has been cited here, by Ronald Reagan. It was at a campaign rally for Goldwater. I was mesmerized by that speech. It was the first time I had heard that man speak. I was amazed at his ability to capture the imagination of the audience he was speaking to directly and of the millions of people he was speaking to through the power of television.

I was later privileged to be a delegate to the national convention, a Reagan delegate in the 1980 election, and shortly thereafter was asked to serve, as the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) mentioned, in the Reagan administration.

Although I am truly humbled and proud of my service here in this body, it is a wonderful experience; it is an incredible experience for anyone. I must say that I have never cherished anything in my public life more than I have cherished the time I spent in Mr. Reagan's administration, because I was serving in the Reagan revolution and he made me feel like a revolutionary, and he gave me the zeal and the ardor and the enthusiasm for the cause.

His words inspired me. His integrity illuminated the American spirit. How wonderful it was to be proud of the President of the United States. How wonderful it was to see him up there on that dais when he spoke to the assembled Congress of the United States, or when he spoke at the Berlin Wall or when he spoke at Normandy. How wonderful it was to recognize that this man, the leader of the free world, was in fact a man with as great a heart as anyone who has ever occupied that office.

□ 1930

I have in our office in Denver, our regional office, I have almost a shrine to Ronald Reagan. We have everything, every imaginable picture that has ever been taken, we have all of the Christmas cards that they sent us from the White House in those days, and every time I walk into my office, I look back

and see that and I am just again re-inspired for what he did for us.

Mr. Speaker, Michaelangelo, I believe it was, stated once, when they asked him about his particular talent as a sculptor, and I am certainly paraphrasing here, I know I am not quoting, but he said something like, I am just the person that takes away all of the exterior rock from this form that God has put inside that thing. I can see it in there. I am just moving the rock away, that is all I am doing. I often think of Ronald Reagan in that way. I think that Ronald Reagan saw the beauty of America and the American spirit. He saw it inside a complex and somewhat rough mold that we would see it as, someone without his insight, and he saw the opportunity of America, the greatness of America, and he expressed it eloquently. And, in doing so, he let us all see inside that rock. He let us all see that form. He made us all part of that incredible experience.

Mr. President, you made us proud. You made me proud to be part of the Reagan revolution. And even as you said good-bye to America, you, once again, inspired me personally in your message to the country when you told us of your debilitating disease, of Alzheimer's, and I say you inspired me personally because my father is stricken with the same affliction.

This is the way the President left us; these are the words he gave us in this letter: "I have recently been told that I am one of the millions of Americans who will be afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

"Upon learning this news, Nancy and I had to decide whether as private citizens we would keep this a private matter or whether we would make this news known in a public way. In the past, Nancy suffered from breast cancer and I had my cancer surgeries. We found through our open disclosures we were able to raise public awareness. We were happy that as a result, many more people underwent testing, they were treated in early stages and able to return to normal, healthy lives. So now we feel it is important to share it with you. In opening our hearts, we hope this might promote greater awareness of this condition. Perhaps it will encourage a clearer understanding of the individuals and families who are affected by it.

"At the moment I feel just fine and I intend to live the remainder of the years God gives me on this earth doing the things I have always done. I will continue to share life's journey with my beloved Nancy and my family. I plan to enjoy the great outdoors and stay in touch with my friends and supporters.

"Unfortunately, as Alzheimer's disease progresses, the family often bears a heavy burden. I only wish there was some way I could spare Nancy from this painful experience. When the time comes, I am confident that with your help, she will face it with courage and faith.

"In closing, let me thank you, the American people, for giving me the great honor of allowing me to serve as your President. When the Lord calls me home, whenever that may be, I will leave with the greatest love for this country of ours and eternal optimism for this future.

"I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead.

"Thank you, my friends. May God always bless you."

And may God always bless you, Mr. President, and happy birthday.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HART).

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado for allowing me the time to honor this great statesman. I am pleased to see that so many of my colleagues have thoughts about the gentleman, President Reagan.

Interestingly, from a different perspective, as a college freshman, I did have the opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to travel to Cleveland to witness the presidential debate in Cleveland, Ohio between President Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan. That evening, I saw what so many of us came to know as the quintessential Reagan, the perfect mix of humor and sincerity, while still being able to communicate the passions and desires of our Nation. Most people remember that debate for his famous challenge to President Carter over Medicare. However, my memories focus more on the hope that he presented for America that night. I saw a man who sought to govern this Nation not for self-serving reasons or for power, but for the chance to restore the confidence and the spirit to all Americans, a vision which all of us shared, regardless of our party affiliation.

While President Reagan's policies, once he was in office, guided our country to a brighter future, it was his leadership skills that brought us together as a people. He possessed the unique ability to express our emotions during both times of sorrow and celebration, whether he was soothing our distraught public during the time after the Challenger Space Shuttle disaster, or his fiery cry to Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin wall, he was both comfortable and confident in his role as the voice of America, but he always took it very seriously.

It is important to note that his philosophies evolved from a lifetime spent on both sides of the political spectrum. He was not a partisan. He was convicted. In his early years he was a staunch supporter of F.D.R., campaigned for Harry Truman, while years later delivered a rousing speech in support of Barry Goldwater. His message, though, from that speech is one that really rings true today, and that is that government had gotten too big and too intrusive. His message is one that was carefully formulated through

his life experiences as a union President and as governor of California. His ideological evolution is the personification of the man. He carefully studied both sides of the issue before he took a stand. He always had principles. He always stood by them, regardless of their popularity. He was a true leader, never one who would settle for the path of least resistance.

Many of the issues that we find ourselves discussing on the floor of the House today are those that were first suggested by President Reagan, such as his Strategic Defense Initiative or Star Wars. Perhaps most notably, he predicted the demise of the communist regime years before scholars and pundits would even acknowledge that his claim was plausible. As early as 1982, he foresaw that the "march of freedom and democracy" would leave communism on the ash heap of history where it belongs, and where a lot of us thought it belonged, but where we were not so sure to believe that it could actually happen. His words were dismissed as out of touch. I am very pleased that he was able to see that prediction come true.

Overall, Ronald Reagan's greatest gift was his unbridled optimism. It enabled him to transcend the partisanship of Washington, which I am just starting to experience, and unite our Nation. He realized that the strengths and principles of our democracy are more powerful than any adversity or obstacle that we could ever be faced with. When he was asked in 1991 whether he was responsible for the end of the cold war and the revitalization of our economy, he humbly said that people should believe in themselves, and he was pleased that he was able to get us to believe in ourselves again. He did not take credit for the great accomplishments that he really deserved credit for. It is that ability, that "aw, shucks" sort of manner that I think endeared him to a lot of people across the Nation, Republicans, Democrats, Independents, people who were not interested in politics at all. Those who knew him as an actor loved him still.

It is his faith in Americans and the resilience of our great Nation that I remember most about President Reagan. Twenty-one years ago, he taught me about the honor and importance of public service to our country. Today, he continues to inspire a new generation of Americans, as all of the writers and people who knew him place before a new generation stories of his life, stories of his goals, stories of his leadership.

I am pleased that a younger generation is going to be able to experience Ronald Reagan again. I am just sorry that they are not going to be able to experience him in the personal way that we did. My prayers go out to Ronald Reagan and his family tonight on his birthday. My hopes are that the Lord will be with him, and I wish him the happy birthday we all hope we can have.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PLATTS).

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise tonight to join my colleagues in paying tribute to our Nation's 40th President, Ronald Wilson Reagan on this, his 90th birthday.

When Ronald Reagan was elected President in 1980, I had just graduated high school. Already involved in politics, I followed and admired President Reagan over the next 8 years in office, and certainly ever since.

In that time, the world changed a lot. President Reagan challenged the Soviet Union to "tear down this wall," and the wall came down. He saw a day when Eastern Europe would join the Free World, and it did. He stayed firm at Reykjavik and, for the first time, Russia and America stopped building, and started destroying, nuclear weapons.

Over those 8 years, America itself changed.

Ronald Wilson Reagan was the eternal optimist, a believer in America's abilities, ideals, and innate goodness. His faith in the greatness of our Nation was best expressed when he said, "In this land of dreams fulfilled where greater dreams may be imagined, nothing is impossible, no victory is beyond our reach, and no glory will ever be too great."

Ronald Reagan restored America's confidence in itself.

Three years ago, in commemoration of President Reagan's 87th birthday, I had the pleasure of joining First Lady Nancy Reagan at the Reagan Library in California. I was there as an elected official at that time with the Pennsylvania General Assembly, a step that helped lead me here to becoming a member of this great institution. But I was there, most importantly, to pay tribute to, and to express my deep gratitude to President Reagan for his tremendous service to our Nation. In my conversation with Nancy Reagan that day, my message was simply one of thanks. Thanks to her and, through her, to President Reagan for their dedicated, hard-working and outstanding service to our great Nation and its citizens.

President Reagan's conduct in office and his statesmanship, his love of country, were great role models for all of us citizens, and they were very inspiring to countless citizens. His example helped to reaffirm my commitment to the ideals of public service, to the ideals of giving back to one's Nation, and certainly helped to reaffirm my interest in serving in office and to serving here in Congress.

I am greatly honored to join with my colleagues tonight in saying, Mr. President, happy birthday, and God bless you and this great Nation of ours, the United States of America.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Pennsyl-

vania for joining us tonight and for his fine remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of President Ronald Reagan on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

More than 12 years having passed since Mr. Reagan left the White House in Washington, the passing of time only magnifies his greatness as a leader and as a human being. I ask our colleagues to recall those early days of the Reagan era.

I remember all too well that January 20, 1981, President Reagan inherited a nation wallowing in pessimism produced by the previous decade. I also remember how Mr. Reagan strode into Washington, confident of America's promise and ideals, and quickly revived this country's morale. By reminding Americans, we are the most able people in the world, he reinvigorated our patriotism like no other President of the postwar era.

Mr. Reagan's tenure in the oval office was underscored by his amazing life story, a tale of one of America's most popular leaders. Most of us remember Mr. Reagan as President. But if we examine his earlier years, we learn a lot about Mr. Reagan, the man, and what fueled the vision he brought to Washington, D.C.

What is often overlooked is that long before he became our 40th President, Mr. Reagan was a liberal Democrat, and just like his father, he cast the first presidential vote that he ever cast for Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1982, and he campaigned for Harry Truman in 1948.

□ 1945

Perhaps Mr. Reagan felt obliged to be liberal in his younger days. After all, at 26 Mr. Reagan left the great Midwest and his promising radio career to go to Hollywood. The work ethic instilled in him as a young boy growing up in Illinois paid off. He earned a reputation as a solid, dependable performer, even though he appeared in mostly less-than-memorable films.

Despite the environs of Hollywood, Mr. Reagan's political philosophy evolved as the years passed. While the sixties brought a new era of liberal rule to America, from the Kennedys to the Great Society, Mr. Reagan became more troubled by what he perceived as the erosion of American liberties.

He found himself siding with the country's new conservative movement. Granted, it was not the popular thing to do, especially given his trendy California backdrop. But by 1964, Mr. Reagan was backing Barry Goldwater for President, campaigning vigorously for the Arizona Republican.

It was a mighty display of political courage, and at the same time, it was the courage that brought Mr. Reagan a change of political thought and affiliation which eventually won the former actor two terms as California's governor, and of course 8 years as our President, 8 glorious years that changed America.

How did he do it? Some say it was his vision and his unmatched ability to communicate. Others credit his warmth and congeniality. Still others attribute his success to his strength and his determination.

Whatever the case, no one can dispute the gravity of Mr. Reagan's accomplishments. No one can argue the greatness of his years as our Nation's chief executive. Given the mess he inherited, Reagan's legacy is one to behold.

Remember 1979? The country had fallen victim to the days of malaise, with 21 percent interest rates, 14 percent inflation rates, skyrocketing unemployment, and long gas lines. It was Ronald Reagan who restored the American economy by setting it on a course for long-term success.

With dramatic tax cuts and other measures, Reaganomics produced the longest peacetime economic expansion in the history of the United States. Since 1981, when President Reagan's economic programs were first enacted, we have had less than 2 years of recession. Mr. Reagan understood that if we motivate good people, successful, productive people, instead of punishing them, the whole country would fare better. More than anyone else in the last half century, he brought that concept home and empowered millions of Americans to reach new heights of excellence.

We all reap the rewards of Mr. Reagan's leadership still today. In addition to his economic legacy, we remember Ronald Reagan for conducting the most successful foreign policy in the 20th century. He presided over the conquest of communism and brought the Cold War to a conclusion, all because he never lost faith in the virtues of the American free market and our democratic gospel.

When dealing with the Soviets, Mr. Reagan put aside his affability and labeled the evil empire for what it was. By confronting the Soviet Union with massive rearmament, he gave Americans the upper hand. By replacing detente with the policy of containment and rollback, he was the first President to reach an arms reduction accord with the Soviets. He broke the debilitating grip of the Nation's post-Vietnam syndrome, and restored our confidence in the American military.

In the realm of social issues, President Reagan was a conservative of the heart. He sided with and supported at every turn the traditionalists. He convinced us that smaller government was a good thing. He waged with unprecedented stamina the national war on drugs and crime, and without apology, he valiantly defended the sanctity of the unborn.

No focus groups, no poll-driven shifts, no triangulation, Reagan was driven by what was in his heart and what he perceived to be right. Opposed by a hostile Congress and a rabidly liberal news media, Mr. Reagan stood up for what he believed was correct, and stood up to those who he opposed.

Indeed, the Reagan years were revolutionary years. Looking back, that revolution was not only a shift in the legislative priorities and White House personnel, it was an intellectual challenge to the status quo that had reigned for a generation prior. Suddenly, because of Mr. Reagan, no serious national politician wanted to be identified as a "liberal." Of course, the same holds true even for today.

With a perfect blend of realism and idealism, this courageous man single-handedly overhauled our system of politics, as well as our collective outlook. The greatest communicator of all time, he reaffirmed with eloquence the value and validity of the American dream. Most of all, he trusted his fellow Americans like no other.

As he said in his farewell address, by appealing to our best hopes, not our worst fears, to our confidence rather than to our doubts, he made us conscious of our own potential. He restored our optimism, and brought together his party and his countrymen in an unprecedented manner. Never were we as proud to be Americans as when the Gipper was at the helm.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCHAFFER. I yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. HAYWORTH. I thank the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. Speaker, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, this Congress remembers President Ronald Reagan, celebrating his life and his legacy.

In the current time, where some confuse legacy with licentiousness; when some confuse notoriety with being notorious; when some, regardless of partisan stripe or political philosophy, so confuse the notion of leadership to be poll-driven rather than principle-based, we celebrate the life of Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Prime Minister Thatcher said that one man more than any other was responsible for the spread of freedom and the embrace of democracy in the world. His name is Ronald Reagan.

It is interesting, Mr. Speaker, at a time when the dominant media culture castigates simplicity for lacking in intellectual rigor, the triumph of Ronald Reagan is the notion that simple beliefs sincerely held are not only eloquent, they are eminently practical: faith, family, freedom; the notion that individual spirit outweighs the heavy hand of bureaucratic government; the notion to first provide for the common defense to ensure not only national security, not only personal security, but financial security. These are the lessons of Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Speaker, those who hear me come to the well from time to time note my fondness for an observation of Mark Twain. Quoting Mark Twain, now, "History does not repeat itself, but it rhymes."

Our greatest leaders, regardless of political pedigree, were those brave

souls who unflinchingly embraced a set of principles and knew the true meaning of leadership: that leadership is not the searching for a legacy, it is the creation of a record; that history is best served by working with the energy and intellect and all we can bring at this time, in this place, in the circumstances in which we find ourselves, understanding that the Constitution is not just a document to be put on the shelf to collect dust, but the very cornerstone of our liberty, and if you will, in the parlance of the 21st century, the mission statement that defines us.

Ronald Wilson Reagan, called by some a revolutionary, instead went about the business of restoration, restoring more than our pride, restoring a sense of national purpose. That is what we celebrate, and that is what we remember, and that is what will sustain us in the days ahead, celebrating his life and his accomplishments, and learning from the rhythm and rhyme of his days in Washington the example that can motivate us in what he called the last best hope of mankind.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for joining me tonight on the floor. I was in college, starting my freshman year, it was 1980, during the campaign between President Reagan and President Carter, and I remember the first debate, I think it was the debate in Cleveland, that was televised.

All of my friends who I had just met at the University of Dayton met in my dormitory room, so imagine 10 or 15 people packed into a small little cell and watching this debate on television. For many of us at that time, we were just starting to figure out where we stood politically in America.

We were just youngsters, graduated from high school and moving on to college. President Carter, as you know, was a very honorable man, a very well respected President, in his personal qualities. He might have caused some, those of us who ended up being pretty conservative in Washington, to be at least open and attracted in some ways to the liberal thought governing the country at that time.

But it was that debate that stated with such clear terms the distinction between liberal leadership in America and a conservative vision for America's future. It was at that point in time, after watching the whole debate, that I was inspired in a way that is almost beyond description. I not only decided that I wanted to become an active Republican, but signed up that very day with the Republican organization there at the University of Dayton, and that was the beginning of my political activism.

That was what really radicalized me on this concept of American liberty and American freedom, and conservative from the standpoint that President Reagan harkened back to the early days of our Nation's founding. He quoted Washington, Jefferson, Adams, Madison, Franklin, and all the rest,

and applied the wisdom of those Founders to every modern problem that confronted America at the time.

It was that sense of continuity, that sense of American purpose, that firm belief that God has blessed the United States of America with a destiny that is truly the hope for the world, that was something that I wanted to be part of. That was the America that attracted my grandparents as immigrants to this country. That was the America that I wanted to be part of. That was the America that I wanted to work for. That was the America that I wanted to entrust my children to as I raised my family, and raised them up in a glorious Nation that Ronald Reagan has delivered to them.

Ronald Reagan's speeches throughout the course of his Presidency, and even after his retirement, have had that kind of effect on American after American after American. To this day when we speak with Members of the Congress, our colleagues, it is remarkable the number of times core beliefs, the fundamentals of philosophy that people bring to this Congress, have been inspired by President Reagan, by some speech that he made, by some action he took, by some moment of courage when, against all odds, he stood up not for what was politically expedient, not for what pollsters might have advised him, but stood up for what was right and what was just and what was fair.

That is the kind of courage that I think about often on this House floor. It is something that I know many of us think about, not just on the President's birthday. We think about President Reagan every day as we carry out the business of the United States Congress.

□ 2000

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Colorado is caught up in collegiate reverie for what was for the gentleman a political epiphany in the campaign debates of 1980, I thought back in my own memory to a brilliantly beautiful day in late October in 1992 when former President Reagan, answering the call of duty to his party and to his Nation, hit the campaign trail.

It was my honor to serve as a master of ceremonies at a time, while as a public figure, as a broadcaster, still ostensibly was a private citizen, not a candidate for political office, not an office holder. In that appearance, one of his last public campaign appearances, the genius of Ronald Reagan came through. And, again, it was not something that would please the intellectual elite, but it was the simplicity of his optimism.

Another great President, Dwight David Eisenhower, noted that the most important component of leadership is optimism. In contrast to those who came before who, in a moment of introspection and personal disappointment, referred to a national malaise, Ronald

Reagan championed the essential goodness of the American people. That notion that tomorrow would bring a better day, that notion that this constitutional republic represented the last, best hope of mankind, that vision of a shining city on a hill was more than poetic license. For Ronald Reagan, it was a vision that he championed every day to make reality.

The lessons are legion and the examples are great. When professional diplomats of the State Department said, "Oh, no, do not give that speech," Ronald Reagan went to West Berlin and in the sight of the terrible wall, Mr. Speaker, said, to the general secretary of what was then the Soviet Union, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

His sense of purpose and his clear and unmistakable call led eventually to The Wall coming down and opportunity and freedom being swept up, not only across what was called East Germany, but all of Eastern Europe.

When he said the Soviet Union would be relegated to the dustbin of history, he was not disdainful of the Russian people but instead of the tyranny and the ultimate unworkability of their system. And Ronald Reagan was right.

When those in this town championed, oh, we must have a nuclear freeze, we must be subservient to the Soviet Union, we must throw up our hands in hopelessness and despair, Ronald Reagan believed in the goodness of the American people and the constitutional charge of this unique, grand experiment. And his vision, his prophecy was correct.

A British writer today put it, talking about other contemporary leaders, saying of those who may have sat in seats of power here or in the halls of Parliament from our British allies, lesser men who easily enjoy the fruits and labors of a greater man with firm conviction.

That is what we remember and that is what we champion and that is why the American people, regardless of political party, rise as one, Mr. Speaker, to say "Happy Birthday, President Reagan."

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, that vision of the shining city on the hill is one that the President did make a reality. And despite the fact that in the 1984 Democrat National Convention it was Governor Cuomo whose job it was to discredit the President in the course of his reelection campaign, stood there before the convened assembly and ridiculed that vision of the shining city on a hill and said that it was unsuitable for an American ideal, for an American understanding of itself.

But as I have since learned and had a chance to meet many people through the course of being a Member of Congress around the world, I have come to realize just how prophetic Ronald Reagan was and that these words were not merely words. These were not hollow statements. These were not just a pretty collection of syllables. America really is the shining city on the hill.

And at the time, was the hill to which, the city to which people around the world in some very dire circumstances looked toward with hope and with optimism. Sometimes that vision of America was all they had.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of a trip I took to Israel. I met with Mr. Scharansky who had grown up in the old Soviet Union and who had spent a number of years in the Russian gulags being oppressed as a political prisoner, as a Jew, and in a very antireligious society in the Soviet Union. He said that when word passed through the prison cells that Ronald Reagan had publicly and emphatically described the Soviet Union as an "evil empire," that was the day their hearts began to pound, because they knew that it was just a matter of time before they were released.

As I stood there in Jerusalem listening to this story years later about a former Soviet prisoner, it made me extraordinarily proud, not just to be an American, but to be one who voted for, supported, worked for Ronald Reagan and his candidacy, because it was a victory that did more than set the United States of America on the proper course. It was a victory that did represent that shining city on the hill that shone bright to the darkest corner of the globe and represented real hope and opportunity and optimism for those who saw no other source of optimism.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard lots of stories like that. I have heard stories like that from people who have spent time in Chinese prisons suffering behind bars as a result of religious persecution. That the words of President Reagan, the firmness with which he would deal when it came to communism and the oppressive nature of communism, it has inspired revolutionaries across the planet. It has inspired those whose thirst for democracy has been fulfilled. It has inspired those who have run for office in countries where pro-democracy, pro-free markets, pro-religious expression, those kinds of sentiments are all but abolished. And we see President Reagan's firm commitment to these concepts taking root in some of the most unlikely places.

Here in the United States, as I mentioned before, there are many, many people who have come to Congress for the first time this year who have won seats in the State legislatures around the Nation, who have campaigned and won titles as county commissioner and city council member and school board member, who are inspired in their vision of a constitutional government of local strength, of a Nation that defines itself from within, inspired to run for office in the first place, to be active in their communities, and to lead as real Americans lead.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan taught us that character means the world. With his unwavering moral sense, steeped in selflessness and decency, President Reagan offered a vision, a vi-

sion to all America, and then he followed through. For that I am grateful, as is this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the former President, "Mr. President, I thank you and happy birthday. America and the world are better because of you, because of your courage, and because of your sacrifice. We shall never forget you."

If we have time left, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado for yielding. As the gentleman discussed, those who have crossed his path who have run for public office, whether in this country or beyond these borders, I think of the scores of young people who apply for internships or that first job here in Washington or back in our districts who unfailingly cite the example of Ronald Reagan coming to political awareness, whether in elementary school or junior high, looking to that example of leadership. It is an example which will continue to inspire and motivate what he called the last, best hope of mankind.

Mr. Speaker, it is the optimism that this noble experiment would continue. That despite the travails and the challenges we face, our basic goodness as a people and our reliance on principle and the notion of limited government will prevail. We shall not see his like again, though he will be emulated, though he always will be remembered.

Mr. Speaker, the special nature of the leadership of Ronald Reagan, his optimism, his eloquence, his leadership ability, his foresight give us all reason to pause on this, his 90th birthday, not only to remember the past, but to pledge ourselves to work in the present, to provide for a glorious future. For as he said, America's greatest days are still to come.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to close with three quotes from President Reagan. In his first inaugural address in January of 1981, he said, "No arsenal or no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women."

Later that year, in September of 1981, he said, "We who live in free market societies believe that growth, prosperity, and ultimately human fulfillment are created from the bottom up, not the government down. Trust the people."

And, finally, in a speech to the Republican National Committee, August 23, 1984, President Reagan said this: "In this springtime of hope, some lights seem eternal; America's is."

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for recognizing me for this special order and for all of my colleagues who joined in this special order tonight in wishing President Reagan a happy 90th birthday. The country is grateful for the President's service and for his optimism and passion for the country.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of business in the district.

Mr. GRUCCI (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

## SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SHOWS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SHOWS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SKELTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BERRY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. ROGERS of Michigan) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. BIGGERT, for 5 minutes, February 7.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LEWIS of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION  
SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

Joint Resolution recognizing the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 7, 2000, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,  
ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

527. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department

of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Retained Water in Raw Meat and Poultry Products; Poultry Chilling Requirements [Docket No. 97-054F] (RIN: 0583-AC26) received January 26, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

528. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Post-loan Policies and Procedures Common to Guaranteed and Insured Loans (RIN: 0572-AB53) received January 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

529. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Policy on Audits of RUS Borrowers; Management Letter (RIN: 0572-AB66) received January 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

530. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Air Force which occurred in the fiscal year (FY) 1986, FY 1987, and FY 1988 Aircraft Procurement, and the FY 1988 Operation and Maintenance (O&M), Air Force appropriations, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

531. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Air Force which occurred at the 438th Air Mobility Wing (now the 305th Air Mobility Wing), located at the McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

532. A letter from the Chief, Programs and Legislation Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that Headquarters Air Mobility Command has conducted a Business Analysis to reduce the cost of the Andrews Air Force Base (AFB), Maryland, 89th Airlift Wing Aircraft Maintenance and Base Supply function, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.

533. A letter from the Secretary of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Secretary's determination and findings that it is in the public interest to use other than competitive procedures for a particular procurement, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(7); to the Committee on Armed Services.

534. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the approved retirement and advancement to the grade of general on the retired list of General Patrick K. Gamble, United States Air Force; to the Committee on Armed Services.

535. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a report entitled, "The Community Reinvestment Act After Financial Modernization: A Final Report" pursuant to section 715 of the GRAMM-Leach-Bliley Act; to the Committee on Financial Services.

536. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Determining Adjusted Income in HUD Programs Serving Persons With Disabilities: Requiring Mandatory Deductions For Certain Expenses; and Disallowance for Earned Income; Delay of Effective Date [Docket No. FR-4608-F-03] (RIN: 2501-AC72) received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

537. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

ment, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision to the Application Process for Community Development Block Grants for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages; Delay of Effective Date [Docket No. FR-4612-F-03] (RIN: 2577-AC22) received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

538. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Discontinuation of the Section 221(d)(2) Mortgage Insurance Program; Delay of Effective Date [Docket No. FR-4588-F-03] (RIN: 2505-AH50) received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

539. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-P-7600] received January 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

540. A letter from the Secretary of the Treasury and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting a report on the feasibility and desirability of mandatory subordinated debt, pursuant to Section 108 of the GRAMM-Leach-Bliley Act, P.L. 106-102; to the Committee on Financial Services.

541. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting the pay-as-you-go report, as required by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended; to the Committee on the Budget.

542. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report on the Cost Estimate For Pay-As-You-Go Calculations; to the Committee on the Budget.

543. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program; Delay of Effective Date—received January 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

544. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program; Delay of Effective Date—received January 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

545. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Assistance to States for the Education of Children With Disabilities; Delay of Effective Date—received January 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

546. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program; Delay of Effective Date—received January 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

547. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards, Department of Labor, transmitting a report entitled, "Minimum Wage and Overtime Hours Report"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

548. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled "Performance Profiles of Major Energy Producers 1999," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 7267; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

549. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the annual financial report to Congress required by the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA), as amended (section 104(b)), pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 379g nt; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

550. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, "Demonstration Projects to Study the Effect of Allowing States to Extend Medicaid to Pregnant Women and Children Not Otherwise Qualified to Receive Medicaid Benefits," pursuant to Public Law 101-239, section 6407(g)(2) (103 Stat. 2267); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

551. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report on the Anticybersquatting Consumer Protection Act of 1999, section 3006 concerning the abusive registration of domain names; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

552. A letter from the Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Technology Opportunities Program [Docket No. 981203295-0355-05] (RIN: 0660-ZA06) received January 9, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

553. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons (RIN: 1904-AB05) received December 18, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

554. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled "Performance Improvement 2000: Evaluation Activities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

555. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a study concerning any safeguards needed to ensure that the health care of individuals with special health care needs and chronic conditions, enrolled with Medicaid managed care organizations are adequately met, pursuant to Section 4705(c)(2) of the Balanced Budget Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

556. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Facsimile Transmission of Prescriptions for Patients Enrolled in Hospice Programs [DEA-190F] (RIN: 1117-AA54) received January 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

557. A letter from the Director, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a report on Sensitive Subpopulations and Drinking Water Contaminants; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

558. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's report entitled, "Response to Section 6102(e) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

559. A letter from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau,

Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Revision of the Commission's Rules to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems [CC Docket No. 94-102] received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

560. A letter from the Chief, Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Numbering Resource Optimization [CC Docket No. 99-200] Petition for Declaratory Ruling and Request For Expedited Action on the July 15, 1997 Order of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Regarding Area Codes 412, 610, 215, and 717 [CC Docket No. 96-98] received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

561. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Creation of Low Power Radio Service [MM Docket No. 99-25; RM-9208; RM-9242] received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

562. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.622(b), Table of Allotments, Digital Television Broadcast Stations (Charlotte, North Carolina) [MM Docket No. 00-178; RM-9914] received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

563. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—2000 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 68 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations [CC Docket No. 99-216] received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

564. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, transmitting a report on the Board's technical and scientific review of the Department of Energy's program to characterize a site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, for its suitability as the possible location of a repository; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

565. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the final report on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); (H. Doc. No. 107-38); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

566. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting a report containing an analysis and description of services performed by full-time USG employees during Fiscal Year 2000, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2765(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

567. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 27-0 to certify the the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States for Coalition Surveillance and Reconnaissance (CSR), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

568. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the FY 1999 Report on Accounting for United States Assistance under the Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Pro-

gram, pursuant to 37 U.S.C. 403(b) nt; to the Committee on International Relations.

569. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the State, transmitting the final report from the White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy; to the Committee on International Relations.

570. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification that the Republic of Turkmenistan and the Republic of Tajikistan are committed to the courses of action described in Section 502 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511); to the Committee on International Relations.

571. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendments to the International Traffic in Arms Regulation: Canadian Exemption—received January 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

572. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-396, "Seniors Protection Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

573. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-552, "Protections from Predatory Lending and Mortgage Foreclosure Improvement Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

574. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-501, "Tax Clarity Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

575. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-547, "Washington Convention Center Marketing Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

576. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-543, "New E-Conomy Transformation Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

577. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-559, "Child Support and Welfare Reform Compliance Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

578. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-518, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 4335, S.O. 98-245 Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

579. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-469, "Board of Education Campaign Contribution Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

580. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-549, "Liquor Sales Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

581. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-558, "International Banking Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

582. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-468, "Equal Opportunity for Local, Small, or Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

583. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-482, "Bishop Samuel Kelsey Way Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

584. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-505, "Sales Tax Holiday Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

585. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-506, "Workers' Compensation Administrative Law Judges Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

586. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-507, "Make a Difference Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

587. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-508, "Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

588. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-510, "Banner Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

589. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-481, "Snow and Ice Control Program Temporary Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

590. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-470, "Moratorium on the Construction of Certain Telecommunications Towers Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

591. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-478, "Lovejoy School New Housing and Economic Development Temporary Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

592. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-477, "Funeral Services Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

593. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a

copy of D.C. ACT 13-479, "Health and Hospitals Public Benefit Corporation Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

594. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-511, "Estate Tax Technical Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

595. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-512, "Soil and Water Conservation Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

596. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-554, "Motor Vehicle Excessive Idling Exemption Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

597. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-544, "Information Technology Apprenticeship Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

598. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-545, "Street Festival One Day Public Space Rental Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

599. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-541, "Women's Health and Cancer Rights Federal Law Conformity Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

600. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-542, "Convention Center Authority Shaw Community Development Fund Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

601. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-551, "Uniform Per Student Funding Formula Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

602. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-550, "Off-Premises Wall Sign Moratorium Temporary Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

603. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-540, "Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Scheduling and Notice Requirement Act 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

604. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-539, "Interim Disability Assistance Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

605. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-514, "District of Colum-

bia Emancipation Day Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

606. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-487, "Gray Market Cigarette Prohibition Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

607. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-533, "Retirement Reform Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

608. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-486, "Emergency Medical Services Non-Resuscitation Procedures Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

609. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-538, "Election Day Challenge Procedures Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

610. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-509, "District of Columbia Municipal Regulations Publication Improvement Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

611. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-515, "Taxicab Drivers Protection Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

612. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-532, "Closing of Public Alleys in Square 236, S.O. 00-36 Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

613. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-466, "Insurance Demutualization Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

614. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-537, "Nonprofit Corporation Voting Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

615. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-536, "Administrative Procedure Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

616. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-522, "Mandatory Autopsy for Deceased Wards of the District of Columbia and Mandatory Unusual Incident Report Temporary Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

617. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-531, "Closing of O Street, N.E., S.O. 98-124, and Closing of Public Alleys in Square 670, S.O. 90-235, Act of

2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

618. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-530, "Wage-Hour Enforcement Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

619. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-520, "Disposal of District Owned Surplus Real Property Temporary Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

620. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-521, "Noise Control Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

621. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-519, "Gallery Place Economic Development Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

622. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-516, "Driving Under the Influence Repeat Offenders Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

623. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-504, "ANC Procurement Exclusion Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

624. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-502, "Service Improvement and Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Support Special Education Student Funding Increase Non-service Nonprofit Provider Clarifying and Technical Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

625. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-467, "Public Disclosure of Findings and Information in Cases of Child Fatality or Near Fatality Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

626. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-480, "Citizens with Mental Retardation Substituted Consent for Health Care Decisions Temporary Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

627. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-498, "Redevelopment Land Agency Disposition Review Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

628. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-517, "Mortgage Lender and Broker License Renewal Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

629. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a

copy of D.C. ACT 13-555, "Insurance Trade and Economic Development Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

630. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-513, "Government Employer-Assisted Housing Program Teacher, Police Officer, and Firefighter Hiring Incentive Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

631. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-557, "Prohibition on Abandoned Vehicles Amendment Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

632. A letter from the Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, transmitting a list of all reports issued by GAO during December 2000, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 719(h); to the Committee on Government Reform.

633. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 13-556, "Opportunity Accounts Act of 2000" received February 2, 2001, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1—233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

634. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Freedom of Information Act Regulations; Delay of Effective Date [Docket No. FR-4292-F-03] (RIN: 2501-AC51) received February 2, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

635. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting notification that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to submit an Annual Report for FY 2000 that consolidates a number of statutorily required financial and performance management reports; to the Committee on Government Reform.

636. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

637. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting an annual report on commercial activities inventory list; to the Committee on Government Reform.

638. A letter from the Director, Financial Management, General Accounting Office, transmitting the FY 2000 annual report of the Comptroller General's Retirement System, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9503(a)(1)(B); to the Committee on Government Reform.

639. A letter from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

640. A letter from the Inspector General, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a report on the list of commercial activities for 2000; to the Committee on Government Reform.

641. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting the FY 2000 Annual Performance Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

642. A letter from the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, transmitting a report on the "FY 2000 Accounting of Drug Control Funds"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

643. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of the Los Angeles, CA, Appropriated Fund Wage Area (RIN: 3206-AJ23) received December 19, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

644. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the St. Louis, MO, Special Wage Schedule for Printing Positions (RIN: 3206-AJ24) received December 19, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

645. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Philadelphia, PA, Special Wage Schedule for Printing Positions (RIN: 3206-AJ22) received December 19, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

646. A letter from the Acting Director, Peace Corps, transmitting the Strategic Plan under the Government Performance and Results Act for FY 2000-2005; to the Committee on Government Reform.

647. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting notification of the intention to accept a 360-acre land donation to be added to wilderness areas, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1135(a); to the Committee on Resources.

648. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting a report entitled, "Status and Trends of Wetlands in the United States 1986 to 1997"; to the Committee on Resources.

649. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—New Mexico Regulatory Program [NM-041-FOR] received January 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

650. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the biennial report on the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for fiscal years 1998 and 1999; to the Committee on Resources.

651. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Prohibited Species Donation Program [Docket No. 000905252-0339-02; I.D. 080700D] (RIN: 0648-AN98) received December 19, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

652. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Processor Vessels Using Hook-and-line in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands [Docket No. 000211040-0040-01; I.D. 120800B] received December 19, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

653. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting a report on the Apportionment of Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC) Membership in 2000, pursuant to section 302 (b)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-STEVENSON Fishery Conservation and Management Act; to the Committee on Resources.

654. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a report entitled, "The Sexual Victimization of College Women," pursuant to Section 40506 of the Violent Crime Control and

Law Enforcement Act of 1994; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

655. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule—VISAS: Reissuance of O and P Nonimmigrant Visas (RIN: 1400 AA-96) received January 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

656. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report entitled, "The Unfinished Work of Building One America"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

657. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Office of the General Counsel, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Adjustments to Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts [Release Nos. 33-7946; 34-43897; 1A-1921; IC-24846] received January 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

658. A letter from the Regulations Officer, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Sanctions Against Motor Carriers, Brokers, and Freight Forwarders for Failure To Pay Civil Penalties [Docket No. FMCSA-00-7332] (RIN: 2126-AA54) received January 8, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

659. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's report entitled, "The Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation Program: Annual Report to Congress FY 1999," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 9604i(D); to the Committee on Science.

660. A letter from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting a report entitled, "Women, Minorities, and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering: 2000," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1885d; to the Committee on Science.

661. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Small Business Investment Companies—received December 19, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Small Business.

662. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the United States Government Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2000,

pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 331(c); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

663. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Comments on Research Credit Regulations [Notice 2001-19] received January 31, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

664. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Liabilities Assumed in Certain Corporate Transactions [TD 8924] (RIN: 1545-AY63) received January 8, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

665. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Guidance on Reporting of Deposit Interest Paid to Nonresident Aliens [REG-126100-00] (RIN: 1545-AY62) received January 16, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

666. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Notice to Interested Parties [REG-129608-00] (RIN: 1545-AY68) received January 16, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

667. A letter from the Chairman, International Trade Commission, transmitting a report on Investigation No. TA-204-3 entitled, "Lamb Meat: Monitoring Developments in the Domestic Industry" pursuant to section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

668. A letter from the Regulations Officer, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance; Determining Disability and Blindness; Revision to Medical-Vocational Guidelines (RIN: 0960-AE42) received January 17, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

669. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting a supplemental FY 2001 request for additional funds, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437d(d)(1); jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Appropriations.

670. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Second Edition of the Research and Development Plan, required by Section 5108 of the Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-

First Century (PL 105-178); jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Science.

671. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a report entitled, "Action Plan for Reducing, Mitigating, and Controlling Hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico"; jointly to the Committees on Science, Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure.

672. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting His report to increase investment in and access to assistive technologies and a quality education, and help integrate Americans with disabilities into the workforce and into community life; (H. Doc. No. 107-39); jointly to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Financial Services, Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, the Judiciary, and House Administration and ordered to be printed.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

*[Omitted from the Record of January 30, 2001]*

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. SHOWS, and Mr. KOLBE):

H.R. 303. A bill to amend title 10, United States code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TANCREDO (for himself, Mr. CANTOR, and Mr. BAKER):

H.R. 316. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit for education expenses of children receiving or eligible to receive free or reduced price school meals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.