

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUREKA WOMEN'S CLUB

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Eureka Women's Club of Humboldt County, California.

Formed in 1901 as the Monday Club Federation of Eureka, the club quickly allied with the California Federation of Women's Clubs, and finally became known as the Eureka Women's Club. The club membership has provided countless hours of service for the betterment of the community.

Through cultural and educational events, as well as charitable interests, the Eureka Women's Club has encouraged a high moral standard and abiding interest in the historical traditions of Eureka and the region. Their legacy includes advocacy for the preservation of the acclaimed California Federated Women's Club Grove along the Eel River in Humboldt Redwoods State Park, as well as their classic Craftsman styled 1917 clubhouse, located at 1531 J Street, in the Victorian Seaport town of Eureka, California.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor the members of the Eureka Women's Club and acknowledge their dedication and commitment to the many worthwhile projects over the past century that have enhanced the broader community.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DEBUTANTES OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the accomplishments and bright future of thirty-one young ladies in my district. These outstanding young women will be honored on February 23, 2001 at the Forty-Third Annual Debutante Presentation Ball. In conjunction with the upcoming ball, five of these debutantes, Carlquista Champagne Johnson, Deanna Dion-Belvin Davis, De'Shandra Natasha Teague, Jasmine Greene and Jessica LaTori Burwell, will be honored by their parents this Saturday at a Sweetheart Tea.

I wanted to take a moment and recognize these women for their dedication to the debutante program. For these past few months, these women have attended training sessions emphasizing the areas of leadership, health, careers, personal enhancement and social graces. Before celebrating their coming of age in the traditional ball these women will have completed cultural and community service projects and prepared a scrapbook.

Chosen on the basis of academic, leadership, personal development, social graces, spiritual and civic awareness, these women represent the promise of a better future and the potential for making a difference in their community. This year the Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha is following the international theme of "Blazing New Trails".

I commend these debutantes for blazing new trails of knowledge and understanding. I also commend their parents for their dedication to their daughters' upbringing and success. I send my best wishes to the debutantes for a delightful tea and a magical Ball.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM OSBORNE

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, on February 6, 2001, I was unavoidably detained and missed having the opportunity to vote on H.J. Res. 7, a resolution recognizing the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan. If I had been present, I would have voted for the resolution.

President Reagan served his country honorably as President and was a great leader of the free world. He is very deserving of this recognition on his birthday, and I deeply regret that I was not present to vote in favor of the resolution honoring him.

IN HONOR OF ANN BALDERSON

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ann Balderson of Dartmouth, Massachusetts. For over 25 years, Mrs. Balderson has served the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a devoted schoolteacher, and she will retire on June 30th of this year. I commend her for her tireless efforts aimed at educating and molding the minds of our greatest resource, our children.

Mrs. Balderson has spent the majority of her career in the Dartmouth school system. After graduating in 1965 from Notre Dame College of Maryland in Baltimore, Mrs. Balderson moved to Massachusetts to continue her career as an educator, and she has continued to this day as a teacher of the 2nd grade. Today, I join with her husband William, and her two children Margaret and Robert, and applaud her for her many years of distinguished service. Nothing is more important than the education of our children, and I commend and thank Ann Balderson for devoting 25 years of her time and energy to the youth of Massachusetts.

TRIBUTE TO JULIE GRISHAM

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements of Julie Grisham, Senior Public Health Manager for Health Promotion and Director of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health for the Public Health Department of Santa Clara County. Ms. Grisham is retiring after 30 years of dedicated service to the people of Santa Clara County.

Julie Grisham began serving in the Department of Public Health in 1971 as a staff Public Health Nurse. She was consistently commended for her dedication and the quality of her nursing care and was promoted first to Supervising Public Health Nurse and then AIDS Program Manager before assuming her current roles of Senior Public Health Program Manager for Health Promotion and Director of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health.

Julie Grisham demonstrated leadership and vision in both Santa Clara County and the State of California by assuming the responsibilities of President of the California Conference of Local Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Directors and President of the California Public Health Association, North. She took active roles in promoting legislation through such committee assignments as Children and Families Committee Liaison, the Santa Clara County Health Department Frontline Leadership Committee and the Early Childhood Development Collaborative.

Julie Grisham is a role model and a leader both in her community and in the county, and is valued as a coworker and a friend. The Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System has benefited greatly from her vision, expertise, commitment and care for the community and her coworkers.

I wish to thank Julie Grisham for her tireless and loyal service to the County and wish her the best in her future endeavors. Furthermore, she has my personal thanks for our years of friendship. Though we will miss her creativity, expertise and commitment, her dedication has left its mark on both the Public Health Department and all of Santa Clara County.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HARRISBURG BULLDOGS

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize and congratulate one of my district's high school football teams. The Harrisburg Bulldogs of Harrisburg, IL recently won the Illinois Class 3A state football championship. The Bulldogs defeated the Oregon Hawks 41-13 in the championship game at University of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

Illinois' Memorial Stadium. The Bulldogs ended their season with a perfect record of 14–0.

Led by coaches Al Way and Greg Langley, members of the 2000 Harrisburg Bulldogs include Roth Clayton, Braden Jones, Joey Pilcher, Kyle Smithpeters, Walker Franks, Bob Dovell, Noah Stearns, Blake Emery, Brad Brachear, John Potts, Jeff McDonald, Mike Hancock, Nathan Potts, Cameron Chapman, Matt Oshel, A.J. Smith, Kyle Hicks, Jared Borders, Seth Hall, Tyler Rumsey, Justin Aud, Chris Stokich, Jacob Potter, Jacob Grubbs, Mark Hancock, Houston Ellis, Bard Karnes, Denver Milligan, Marques Scott, Kory Potts, Josh Goemaat, Patrick Beal, Travis Jerrels, Joe Speaks, Nick George, Alan Hurd, Jason Pigg, Justin Milligan, Daniel Henderson, Travis Boots, Travis Butler; cheerleaders, Casey Sowels, Jayna Beal, Sophia Hobson, Brooke Lane, Krystal Eudy, Liz Franks, Erin Brannock, Devin Kielhorn, Ashley Williams, and Brittany English.

The members of the Harrisburg Bulldogs should be proud of their achievement. I congratulate them and wish them good luck in future football seasons.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN R. STOKES,
HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize Humboldt County attorney and World War II hero John Reynolds Stokes, who died Friday, January 5, 2001 in Arcata, California at the age of 83. His life was dedicated to the defense of democracy in war and in peace.

John Stokes grew up in Southern California and received his undergraduate education at Santa Barbara State College. In 1942 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army Air Corps and was trained to fly the Martin B–26 Marauder. Stationed in England, he flew many missions over France. His 29th mission was the D-Day bombing of the Normandy Coast. After the liberation of Paris, Group Commander Stokes, based in France, made his last combat flight on March 13, 1945. He served with valor and distinction and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with ten Oak Leaf Clusters. Throughout his life, he stayed in touch with survivors of the 344th Bomb Group with whom he had shared the perils of war. He returned often to France to visit with French comrades.

John Stokes returned to California and entered Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley. After graduation in 1948, he moved to Arcata, California with his wife Edith where he practiced law for more than fifty years. He served that community as City Attorney from 1950 to 1983. He was a member of the State Bar Board of Governors from 1979 to 1982 and was Chairman of the Committee of Bar Examiners from 1985 to 1986. Many young lawyers, new to the practice of law, were grateful for his guidance and counsel.

A life-long Democrat, he took particular pleasure in helping young people who sought careers in public service. Many successful

candidates valued his advice and support. He served as Chairman of the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee for ten years.

Courageous in war, honorable and valiant in the pursuit of justice, John Stokes devoted his life to safeguarding the liberties we all enjoy as American citizens.

He has left a distinguished legacy to his five children, Katherine, John, Mary, Lucy and Emily, as well as his grandchildren, Sam, Catherine and Anna.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize John Reynolds Stokes for his unwavering commitment to the ideals and values that sustain our great country.

TRIBUTE TO MISS REBECCA PASSION, MISS RODEO USA OF ATHENS, ALABAMA

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding success of Rebecca Passion of Athens, Alabama. Crowned Miss Limestone Rodeo 2000, Miss Passion represented Limestone County at the IPRA National Finals in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on January 15. Miss Passion was crowned Miss Rodeo USA on January 20. As her community gathers to honor her victory this Saturday at the Limestone County Sheriff's Rodeo Arena, I would like to join them in congratulating her.

Miss Passion's win is a testament to her talent, hard work and perseverance. The grueling competition included a test of riding skills, a public speaking portion and a lengthy interview. She excelled in all levels and surpassed the other competitors easily.

I know that Limestone County is very proud of their "hometown hero". They have supported her every step of the way. The Miss Rodeo USA crown is a crown that she shares with her community. Miss Passion is a wonderful role model and I know that she will use her time as Miss Rodeo USA to serve her community.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I congratulate Miss Passion and wish her a rewarding reign as Miss Rodeo USA. I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INDEPENDENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONSUMER ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, today I have the pleasure of introducing the Independent Telecommunications Consumer Enhancement Act of 2001.

As many will recall, last year I introduced H.R. 3850, the Independent Telecommunications Consumer Enhancement Act of 2000, to lessen the burdens on small and mid-sized telephone companies and allow them to shift more of their resources to deploying advanced telecommunication services to consumers in all areas of the country.

Small and mid-size companies are truly that—while the more than 1,200 small and mid-size companies serve less than 10% of the nation's lines, they cover a much larger percentage of rural markets and are located in or near most major markets in the country.

Some of these telephone companies are mom and pop operations typically serving rural areas of the country where most other carriers fear to tread—in high cost places where it is less profitable than more populated areas.

In 1996 Congress passed historic legislation in the form of the Telecommunications Act. Section 706 of the Act sent a clear message to the American people and to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that the deployment of new telecommunications services in rural areas around the country must happen quickly and without delay.

Unfortunately the FCC has not made it any easier for small telephone companies to deploy advanced services in rural areas—in some cases they've actually made it more difficult. The reason is that the FCC more often than not uses a one size fits all model in regulating all Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILECs). This type of model may be fine for the big companies that have the ability to hire legions of attorneys and staff to interpret and ensure compliance with the federal rules.

However, I for one would rather see the small and mid-size companies use their resources to deploy new services and make investment in their telecommunications infrastructure.

Two examples of these burdensome FCC requirements are CAM and ARMIS reports.

These reports, separately, cost about \$500,000 to compile and would equate to a small phone company installing a DSLAM or other facilities to provide high speed Internet access to customers in rural areas.

Just to give you an example of how burdensome these reports are, the Commission's instructions for filling them out are over 900 pages long. More often than not, the FCC does not refer to—and in some cases simply ignores—the data filed by mid-size companies.

Let me be very clear, however, that the bill does nothing to restrict the Commission's authority to request this or any other data at any time.

I want to be fair—the FCC should be commended for their efforts to bring some of these reporting requirements down to a reasonable level. In fact, during our hearing on this legislation, the FCC told the Telecommunications Subcommittee that it may be issuing a notice of proposed rule-making on the reporting requirements for 2 percent companies sometime this fall.

The problem, though, is that the agency's time frame on issuing these proposed rules has changed like the Wyoming winds. It's time those obligations are met and this legislation would solidify what the FCC has promised to do for a long time.

In addition, I want everyone to know that I have bent over backwards to accommodate many of the initial concerns that some members had with this legislation and have incorporated a majority of their helpful suggestions.

Some of the changes that were adopted during the Commerce Committee's consideration of the bill took into account several technical provisions that will continue to allow the FCC to do its job but in a way that still ensures that small and mid-size companies are treated differently.

Mr. Speaker, I want to state for the record what this legislation does and what it does not do.

The bill does not reopen the 1996 Act; it does not fully deregulate two percent carriers; and it does not impact regulations dealing with large local carriers. It would, however, be the first free-standing legislation that would modernize regulations of two percent carriers; it would accelerate competition in many small to mid-size markets; accelerate the deployment of new, advanced telecommunication services; and benefit consumers by allowing two percent carriers to redirect resources to network investment and new services.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is critical for rural areas across the country where these small telephone companies operate.

Without this bill, these two percent companies will continue to be burdened with this "one-size-fits-all" regulatory approach that has kept them from providing rural areas with what they need most—a share of the new economy.

I want to remind members of the House that H.R. 3850 passed with wide-spread support during the 106th Congress. Unfortunately, the Senate wasn't able to bring up the bill due to time constraints, but I am confident that we will continue to garner support for this common sense regulatory initiative.

In closing I want to thank the original cosponsors of the bill: Reps. BART GORDON, CHIP PICKERING, and TOM BARRETT. The cosponsors and I acknowledged that there may be room for improvement and welcome refinements. As I acknowledged earlier, last year I was very receptive to concerns that individual members and industry representatives brought to my attention. My office has always had an open door policy and that will never change. We look forward to working with incumbent and competitive interests so that in the end the ultimate goal will be realized: improved access to advanced telecommunications and common sense regulatory changes that lessen the burdens on small and mid-size telecommunications providers.

We collectively acknowledge the new leadership at the Federal Communications Commission and look forward to their thoughtful suggestions as well as their own internal changes that will hopefully improve the regulatory environment that these small and mid-size companies operate under.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the members of the Commerce Committee for their help in moving this bill last year and ask my colleagues to once again unanimously support this very important piece of legislation.

RAISING THE SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY AMOUNT FOR PERSONS WITH SPINAL CORD INJURIES

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill that would provide Social Security disability beneficiaries with severe spinal cord injuries the same protections as are afforded the blind.

Many people who suffer from spinal cord injuries are unable to earn a living, and receive Social Security disability.

My legislation seeks to help those who have overcome their debilitating injury, and are able to work.

Under current law, recipients of Social Security disability are eligible for benefits if they are unable to earn no more than the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) amount, which is \$740/month.

The Senior Citizens' Right to Work Act of 1995 increased the SGA amount for blind individuals to \$1000/month. The provision allows blind individuals to qualify for Social Security disability even if their income is \$1000/month. In 2001, the monthly SGA amount was raised to \$1,240/month.

My bill would raise the SGA amount for persons with spinal cord injuries to \$1,240/month. These individuals should not be discouraged from earning income that could supplement their disability payments.

Social Security disability benefits should not be withdrawn from persons with spinal cord injuries because they have the courage to return to work.

I urge my colleagues to join as cosponsors of this legislation.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2001

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Community Access to Health Care Act of 2001, legislation I am introducing to help our states and communities deal with the crisis of the uninsured.

More than 42 million Americans do not have health insurance and this number is increasing by over a million persons a year. Most of the uninsured are working people and their children—nearly 74 percent are families with full-time workers. Low income Americans, those who earn less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level or \$27,300 for a family of three, are the most likely to be uninsured.

Texas is a leader nationally in the number of insured, ranking second only to Arizona. About 4 million persons, or 26.8 percent of our non-elderly population, are without health insurance.

The uninsured and under-insured tend to be more expensive to treat because they fall through the cracks of our health care system. The uninsured and under-insured often can't afford to see the doctor for routine physicals and preventive medicine. Consequently, they arrive in the emergency room with costlier, often preventable, health problems.

Research by the Kaiser Family Foundation underscores this problem. Nearly 40 percent of uninsured adults skip a recommended medical test or treatment, and 20 percent say they have needed but not received care for a serious problem in the past year. Kaiser also reports that uninsured children are at least 70 percent less likely to receive preventive care. Uninsured adults are more than 30 percent less likely to have had a check-up in the past year, uninsured men 40 percent less likely to have had a prostate exam and uninsured women 60 percent less likely to have had a mammogram than compared to the insured.

This broken health care system yields dangerous, sometimes deadly results. The uninsured are at least 50 percent more likely than the insured to be hospitalized for conditions such as pneumonia and diabetes. Death rates from breast cancer are higher for the uninsured than for those with insurance.

Our Nation's health care safety net is in dire need of repair. Communities across the country are identifying ways to better tend to the uninsured, to provide preventive, primary and emergency clinical health services in an integrated and coordinated manner. This kind of service can only be accomplished, however, if our safety net providers have the resources to improve communication to better reach this target population.

The Community Access Program (CAP) promotes this kind of interagency coordination and communication. It stems from a very successful Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded project that demonstrated how community collaboration can increase access to quality, cost-effective health care. The Community Access to Health Care Act of 2001 provides competitive grants to assist communities in developing programs to better serve their uninsured population.

Funding under CAP can be used to support a variety of projects to improve access for all levels of care for the uninsured and under-insured. Each community designs a program that best addresses the needs of its uninsured and under insured and its providers. Funding is intended to encourage safety net providers to develop coordinated care systems for the target population.

The Clinton Administration created a \$25 million CAP demonstration project in FY 2000. More than two hundred applications were submitted by groups from 46 states and the District of Columbia. Applications were evenly distributed between urban and rural areas; and six were submitted by tribal organizations.

Funding in FY 2000 provided grants to 23 communities. An increase to \$125 million in FY 2001 will make grants available to an additional 55 projects. While this increase has helped communities get their program off the ground, more can be done to ensure that future funding is available.

I would like to highlight one program, the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services Department, in my hometown of Houston, TX. This program is a good example of how CAP funds can improve a community's health care network. Harris County, Texas is the third most populated county in the nation and the most populated county in the state with approximately 3.2 million residents.

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission estimated that in 1999, 25.5 percent of the total population in Harris County—834,867—was uninsured. Harris County's CAP project aims to assist three populations: Those with incomes under 200 percent of the Federal poverty level; those with incomes over 200 percent of the Federal poverty level; and those who are under insured.

The primary focus of this project is to improve the interagency communication and referral infrastructure of major health care systems in the city. This will improve their ability to provide preventive, primary and emergency clinical health services in an integrated and coordinated manner for the uninsured and under insured population. Harris County will

place particular emphasis on the development and/or enhancement of the existing local infrastructure and necessary information systems.

In addition to expanding the number and type of providers who participate in collaborative care giving efforts, Harris County would establish a clearinghouse for local resources, care navigation and telephone triage to increase accessibility and reduce emergency room care. The clearinghouse will receive referrals of uninsured patients from health service providers and patient self-referrals. The consortia will give special attention to health disparities in minority groups. It will establish a database for monitoring, tracking, care navigation and evaluation. In Harris County, it is expected that this initial support from grant funds would become self-sustained through contributions from participating providers, especially smaller primary care providers who can rely on the centralized triage program for after-hours response.

Harris County will also develop a plan to allow private and public safety-net providers to share eligibility information, medical and appointment records, and other information. The program will beef up efforts to make sure families and children enroll in programs for which they might be eligible, including Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In addition, Harris County would facilitate simplified enrollment procedures for children's health programs.

Fortunately for my constituents in Houston, Harris County's program is eligible for a grant through the FY 2001 demonstration project. They have completed their site visit, and are in the final stages of having their program approved. Unfortunately, communities who weren't fortunate enough to receive grants are still searching for ways to improve the health of their uninsured.

We in Congress have argued for years about the federal government's role in ensuring access to affordable health care. I believe that some type of universal care should be a priority for the long term. For the short term, however, authorizing the CAP program will place much-needed funds in the hands of local consortia who, working together, can help to alleviate this crisis—town by town and patient by patient.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH PEATMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Joseph Peatman for his exceptional 41 years of service to the legal field and his outstanding commitment and generosity to the Napa Valley community.

Joe Peatman was born in Los Angeles in 1934 and was admitted to the bar in 1959 after completing his education at Stanford University. His extensive experience within the community can be traced back over 40 years. From the early-60s through the mid-70s, he was a member of the Napa County Board of Supervisors and served as a Trustee and President of the Napa Valley Unified School District.

He has also served, Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Board of Directors to the Napa

National Bank and as a Member of the Board of Visitors of Stanford Law School from 1978–1980. He is a member of the Napa County Bar Association and served as its President from 1963–1964. A managing partner in the professional law corporation of Dickenson, Peatman & Fogarty, established in 1965, he has specialized in land use, zoning, and real estate law for the past 41 years. On December 31, 2000, Joe Peatman officially retired from his successful legal practice.

In addition to his numerous legal accomplishments, Joe Peatman continues to be an active member of the Napa community. His contributions to the Queen of the Valley Hospital Foundation ensure that quality health care is available to the northern California community. He serves as the Executive Director of the Gasser Foundation and a Member of the Board of Trustees of the American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts. The Gasser Foundation is Napa Valley's largest philanthropic organization and its two main beneficiaries are Queen of the Valley Hospital and Justin-Siena High School. The American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts is posed to provide an array of public programs, including films, classes, demonstrations, tastings, and workshops for those individuals who enjoy food and drink as expressions of American culture.

Joe Peatman and his wonderful wife of 43 years, Angela, reside in Napa. They have three children and seven grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize, congratulate and thank my friend Joe Peatman for his 41 years of extraordinary service to the legal profession and to the community of Napa Valley. I wish him the best of luck in future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ELDER EDWARD EARL CLEVELAND OF OAKWOOD COLLEGE

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to one of this century's most powerful evangelists, Elder Edward Earl Cleveland. As a worldwide evangelist traveling to over 67 countries of the world, Oakwood College is very fortunate to have had the talents of Elder Cleveland reside on their campus since 1977. During his fruitful 24-year career, Elder Cleveland has shared his evangelistic techniques with Oakwood students as a Lecturer in the Department of Religion at the College.

Cleveland's life and accomplishments are truly extraordinary. He has conducted over 60 public Evangelism campaigns, trained over 1100 pastors world-wide, preached on 6 continents and brought over 16,000 new believers into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

His involvement with his community and his commitment to civil rights is no less impressive. Cleveland participated in the First March on Washington in 1957 with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He took the message of Dr. King with him to Oakwood organizing the NAACP Chapter for students there. He also took it to his Church where he was the first African-American integrated into a department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

I believe Elder Cleveland's blessed life can be captured in his life philosophy, "I have seen God, for so long, do much with so little, I now believe He can do anything with nothing—meaning me." Thank goodness he had left a library of his works for us to learn from including "The Middle Wall," "The Exodus" and his most recent work, "Let the Church Roll On."

As Elder Cleveland retires, I would like to extend my gratitude for his service to his family, his wife Celia, his son Edward Earl and his grandsons Edward Earl II and Omar Clifford for sharing their beloved husband, father and grandfather with the world.

On behalf of United States Congress, I pay homage to Elder Cleveland and thank him for a job well done. I congratulate him on his retirement and wish him a well-deserved rest.

HONORING DR. JOHN M. SMITH, JR. OF BEATTYVILLE, KENTUCKY FOR 50 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED AND DEDICATED MEDICAL SERVICE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, our nation's history is filled with countless stories of people from humble beginnings who turn their challenges into triumphant success. These stories have a familiar ring: ambitious and hard-working young people from rural communities making good in the big city.

These inspiring stories, however, sometimes have a down side. In southern and eastern Kentucky, for example, the hope for bigger and better things has at times created an 'out-migration' of our best, brightest and most effective young people. At the same time that they were seeking a better life away from rural areas, the friends and family members they left behind continued the struggle at home to improve the quality of life in their communities.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I want to salute a Kentucky citizen who made the choice to stay and fight—helping thousands of people in one of the most remote regions of the nation. Please join me in this salute to my constituent, Dr. John M. Smith, Jr., of Beattyville, Kentucky.

More than a half-century ago, as a young medical student, John Smith faced the common problem of how to finance a medical education. In 1942, after graduating Phi Beta Kappa with an undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky in Lexington, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served with distinction through the war years until 1946. He saved, scraped and borrowed money to begin his coursework at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, but he needed much more financial help. Fortunately, he learned about the Rural Medical Fund, sponsored by the Kentucky State Medical Association.

The idea of the scholarship fund was simple: a student would receive a year of financial assistance at the U of L medical school in exchange for a commitment to practice one full year in a rural county that was short of doctors. After graduation, and service as a medical intern in the U.S. Navy, Dr. John Smith, Jr., chose Lee County, Kentucky.

The Louisville Courier-Journal newspaper recognized Dr. Smith in an October 26, 1952, article by Joe Creason, which I ask to be inserted in the record at the conclusion of these remarks. In that article, the essence of Dr. Smith's commitment to Lee County and the people of Beattyville is clearly expressed:

"If John Smith is a fair sample, then the Rural Medical Fund can be pronounced quite a large success. He has now served his year of obligation, owns a home in town and shows no signs of leaving, which is exactly what sponsors of the fund were hoping for. They reasoned that if they could get young doctors into rural areas for a year or so, some of them, at least, would settle down to permanent practice."

Mr. Speaker, Dr. John Smith had the opportunity to serve his year in Lee County and move onto a more lucrative practice elsewhere. Instead, he chose a career that now spans 50 years. He has helped thousands of people in a mountainous and remote area who would otherwise have been forced to travel many miles for medical care. Most folks who drive down country roads need a map to find their bearings. Dr. Smith could find his way simply by knowing the homes of the countless patients he visited over the years.

Since opening his practice in Beattyville on July 16th, 1951, he has been a distinguished member of the Kentucky medical community. He is the owner and operator of The Smith Clinic in Beattyville, which provides primary medical care to families in Lee County and beyond. Since 1985, he has served as the medical director for Lee County Constant Care, Inc., a nursing home facility, and is the medical director of the Geri-Young House, a senior care facility. His outstanding record of accomplishments has earned him the award of Citizen of the Year from the Beattyville/Lee County Chamber of Commerce.

Tomorrow evening, surrounded by his family, friends, colleagues, patients and admirers, Dr. John M. Smith, Jr. will be honored for his 50 years of distinguished and dedicated medical service. I regret that I am unable to join this celebration personally, but know that I join literally thousands of fellow Kentuckians who extend our congratulations and our humble gratitude.

Most of all, we are grateful that Dr. Smith made that choice 50 years ago to stay among us—choosing to help make our home a better place to live. Mr. Speaker, Dr. John M. Smith, Jr. has been a success beyond measure. His dedication, his professionalism, and his generosity has enriched us all and will continue for years to come. He is an outstanding Kentuckian and American who has earned the respect of this House. I thank you for joining me in this recognition today.

[From the Courier-Journal, Oct. 26, 1952]

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY
(By Joe Creason)

John M. Smith, Jr., had a pretty good idea he'd be in for some unusual times when he hung up shingle and started the practice of medicine in Beattyville, Ky.

After all, he knew beforehand that Lee County was one of some 40 in Kentucky that was critically short on doctors, having then—in 1951—only one for a population of more than 8,000 people.

And he knew six other neighboring counties of mountainous East-Central Kentucky—Clay, Owsley, Jackson, Wolfe, Powell and Menifee—likewise were on short rations indeed, so far as doctors were concerned.

So he must have suspected he'd face a lot of situations and experiences not generally covered in medical textbooks.

But, even with all that forewarning, it's extremely doubtful if Dr. John M. Smith, Jr., expected the time would come when a tractor would be the only way he'd be able to get into a remote area to see a patient.

Or that he'd have to cross the rain-swollen Kentucky River in a rowboat in the dead of winter with a half-blind woman at the oars.

Or that he'd ever take country hams—at the exchange rate of \$1 a pound—in line of payment for medical services.

Or that a dozen and one other unusual experiences would come his way in less than a year and a half.

For that's just the length of time Dr. John M. Smith, Jr., one of the first 12 products of the Rural Kentucky Medical Scholarship Fund, has been practicing in Beattyville.

The Rural Medical Fund, sponsored by the Kentucky State Medical Association in cooperation with the University of Louisville School of Medicine, was started in the 1946-47 school year. The purpose of the fund, raised by public subscription, was to provide better medical care for the people of rural Kentucky. Medical students needing financial help may borrow from the fund and make repayment on the basis of a year of practice in a doctor-short section for each year of aid.

To translate the intention of the fund into a real situation, John Smith received help from it for one year—1946-47. That was his first in medical school and the year the first of his two sons was born. Having very little he could use for money, he borrowed in order to get started in school. After that he needed no help.

In return for that year of financial assistance, he was obligated to devote one year's practice to a county approved by the State Board of health as needing doctors. After looking over the field, he chose Lee County.

If John Smith is a fair sample, then the Rural Medical Fund can be pronounced quite a large success. He now has served his year of obligation, owns a home in town and shows no signs of leaving, which is exactly what sponsors of the fund were hoping for. They reasoned that if they could get young doctors into rural areas for a year or so, some of them, at least, would settle down to permanent practice.

During his year-plus in Lee County, Dr. John Smith has given medical help to hundreds of people from a rather populous and mountainous seven-county area who, conceivably, would have had none otherwise.

Moreover, the people he serves are the kind who don't go rushing off to the doctor with every stomach-ache, or some such.

"Most of these folks are stoic and will suffer a long time before coming in," he says.

"Why, I've had patents with pneumonia walk in to the office from seven or eight miles away.

"I do all I can for them and send them to the hospital—the nearest one is in Richmond, 52 miles away—only in emergencies," he adds. "After all, many of my patients can't afford to go to the hospital with every ache and pain like city folks."

Sponsors of the fund actually got a more than somewhat rare bargain in John Smith. They didn't get just one rural doctor—they got two. For his wife also is a doctor, a 1945 medical graduate of New York University, and she recently opened an office at Booneville, 12 miles south in adjoining Owsley County.

Although there were two doctors in Booneville, both were old. One had suffered a stroke. Smith was receiving so many patients from that area it seemed a perfect spot for his wife to open an office to relieve some of the strain.

Now that he's settled in Lee County, John Smith has become a family doctor in every sense of the word. He's known as "Doc" everywhere and can call most of the folks he passes on the road by their first names. He can point to children he brought into the world. He is taken into confidences, sought out for advice on every conceivable situation.

Since opening his office, he has been too busy even to attend a single movie. The only days he has been away from work was once during a medical meeting and the couple days he was out last winter with the flu.

Incidentally, that case of the deep sniffles came in the line of duty. He was called to see a woman in the Oakdale section of the county who was sick with pneumonia. He had to follow a narrow path above an ice-laced creek in reaching the home.

As he inched along the bank, it suddenly caved in and he was dunked, bag, baggage and pill bottles, into waist-deep water. He went on and completed the call before changing clothes, something he'd raise Cain with a customer for doing, and the result was flu.

Smith keeps a pair of galoshes in the back of his car for hiking over terrain not suited even for the most sturdy horseless carriage. And it's quite often that a car can't make it back into a particularly rough, hilly section. As, for instance, when the husband of a sick woman had to ride him in and out on a tractor, the only transportation that could make the trip.

Then there was the boat ride last winter that he—a veteran of three years of destroyer-escort duty in the Navy—never will forget. He had gone to call on a patient who lived on the other side of the North Fork of the Kentucky River some distance above Beattyville. The only way across the river was by boat. The return was long after sundown and in inky darkness. The pilot was a partially blind woman.

"I crouched in the bottom of the boat," he recalls, "and wondered about my life insurance."

"How she hit the tiny landing on the other side of the river in that darkness and pulling into a swift current, I'll never know."

Numerous times he has been called to see patients in parts of the area he doesn't know. In such cases, the family of the sick person will more or less blaze a trail for him. They'll place a forked stick at the place he's supposed to turn off the main road and leave assorted other signs along the way.

He gets night calls, of course, but not as many as might be expected.

"These folks are sturdy, and they'll usually stick it out until morning," he says.

But the night calls do come. This spring he was roused at 1 a.m. He went with the caller to see the man's wife, gave her some pills and returned home to bed.

Less than 30 minutes later, he was brought out of bed again. It was the same man.

"Better come again, Doc," he urged, "she ain't a bit better."

Lots of patients have been unable to pay cash for doctor-work. So Smith has taken almost everything in payment. He keeps well supplied in ham, chicken and farm produce.

"At first my wife had a little trouble understanding what some patients were talking about," he says.

"Folks would come in and say, 'Take a look at this kid, Doc, he's been daunceyin' 'round,' and she'd have a hard time figuring what they meant."

"But since I was born in Perry County and grew up in Jackson County, I knew when they talked about 'daunceyin' 'round' or 'punying 'round,' another very descriptive bit of speech, they meant the child was sort of dragging around and showing little life."

Since he opened his office, another young doctor has come to Beattyville. Sam D. Taylor, born there, and also a U. of L. graduate,

returned home in August to start practice. The two have worked out a scheme whereby one day a week they take the other's office calls. That allows them to get one day all to themselves.

Smith has his office in what was an old drugstore across the street from the Court-house. He has divided the gunbarrel-shaped space into a reception room, office, drug room, examination room and delivery room. He delivers babies at homes, but prefers to have expectant mothers come to his office where he has all necessary equipment, including oxygen. He keeps them 10 to 12 hours after the delivery and sends them home in an ambulance.

Beattyville has no pharmacist, so Smith has to dispense his own pills and medicines. Neither is there an X-ray machine in town, although he hopes to install one soon.

Besides his unusual doctoring experiences, Smith has the rather unique distinction of having served as an officer in two different branches of the Navy within a five-year period.

After being graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1942, the 30-year-old Smith went into the Navy as a line officer. Upon his discharge, he entered medical school and was graduated in 1949. Then, following his intern work, along came the war in Korea and he volunteered to go back into the Navy, this time as a medical officer. He served for more than a year in Louisville at the recruiting station.

His second discharge came July 6, 1951. He opened his office 10 days later.

In the nearly seven years since the Rural Medical Fund was set up, 64 students have received \$100,450 in financial help. Twelve of those students, including Smith, have served at least one year in rural areas. Nine are still there. Of the three who left the rural field, one is in the Army, one is sick and one moved to another state.

Besides Smith, other fund-helped doctors with at least one year in rural practice are O. C. Cooper, Wickliffe; Carson E. Crabtree, Buffalo; Oscar A. Cull, Corinth; William G. Edds, Calhoun; Clyde J. Nichols, Clarkson; Benjamin C. Stigall, Livermore; William L. Taylor, Guthrie, and Loman C. Trover, Earlington.

Six other doctors who were helped by the fund completed their internship in July and now are practicing in the country.

"Rural practice gets next to a fellow," John Smith says. "You have to make a lot of changes from what they say in the books—you have to be down-to-earth and forget all about dignity and professional manners at times.

"But there's an awful lot of satisfaction in serving people who really need help."

Which pretty nearly describes the country doctor.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM BENJAMIN
GOULD IV

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize the accomplishments of William Benjamin Gould IV, the Charles A. Beardsley Professor of Law at Stanford Law School. Professor Gould was Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board from 1994–1998. While awarding William Gould his fifth honorary doctorate, the Rutgers University President remarked: "perhaps more than any other living

American . . . [he has] contributed to the analysis, the practice, and the transformation of labor law and labor relations."

William Gould has been a member of the National Academy of Arbitration since 1970, and has arbitrated and mediated more than 200 labor disputes, including the 1989 wage dispute between the Detroit Federation of Teachers and the Board of Education of that city, as well as the 1992 and 1993 salary disputes between the Major League Baseball Players Association and the Major League Baseball Player Relations Committee. William Gould was named in *Ebony Magazine's* "100+ Most Influential Black Americans" List for 1996, 1997 and 1998. He is a member of the Stanford University John S. Knight Journalism Fellows Program Committee, and the Rand Institute Board of Overseers.

I commend to my colleagues the following article by Professor Gould, which appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on January 17, 2001.

[From the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Jan. 17, 2001]

"BORKING"—THEN AND NOW
(By William B. Gould IV)

When Bill Clinton was inaugurated as president in January 1993, most Republicans in Congress commenced a sustained drive against the legitimacy of his election, notwithstanding the undisputed nature of his victory.

Except for the gays-in-the-military controversy, the most immediate conflicts related to confirmation of his nominees at the Cabinet and subcabinet levels.

"Nannygate" doomed Zoe Baird, his first choice for attorney general, but soon ideas and political philosophy were to affect the debate about Lani Guinier (whose Justice Department nomination as assistant attorney general in charge of the civil rights division was withdrawn), and Jocelyn Elders (who was confirmed as surgeon general).

Both were African American. I was the third of Clinton's black subcabinet early selections (for chairman of the National Labor Relations Board), and, although confirmed, I attracted the largest number of senatorial "no" votes of any administration appointee during that time.

Bill Lann Lee, a Chinese American lawyer from California, was put forward for assistant attorney general, but his nomination was stymied. He was forced to serve on an acting basis, without Senate confirmation.

Opposition to Clinton nominees was said by some to be Republican vengeance for the Senate's 1987 rejection of Robert Bork for the U.S. Supreme Court. The press created a verb, "Borked." The term is now attached to the pending nominations of John Ashcroft for attorney general, Gale Norton for secretary of the interior, and the now-withdrawn candidacy of Linda Chavez for secretary of labor.

The Borking of Clinton nominees differs from the Borking of the Bush triumvirate.

Formal debate about my nomination, for instance, focused on my proposals to strengthen existing labor law. This contrasts with Chavez, who opposes minimum wage, family leave and affirmative action legislation. The contention was that when I would adjudicate labor-management disputes, I would use my reform proposals aimed at fortifying the law.

Bork was attacked primarily because he had opposed most civil rights legislation affecting public accommodations and employment. The Senate rejected him because he was outside the mainstream in the race arena and also opposed the Supreme Court's *Roe vs. Wade* decision.

Ashcroft and Norton, like Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., extol the virtues of the Confederacy and lament its defeat, which spelled slavery's extinction. As Missouri's attorney general, Ashcroft fought desegregation orders in that state. He was a vigorous opponent of affirmative action. As senator, he single handedly scuttled the nomination of a black Missouri judge to the federal bench—an act which President Clinton properly denounced as "disgraceful," illustrating the unequal treatment of minority and women nominees.

As senator, Ashcroft decried the cherished American principle of separation of church and state, railed against common-sense gun control legislation and, like Bork, denounced *Roe vs. Wade*. Thus, like Bork, the question is whether he can faithfully enforce and promote laws to which is so deeply opposed.

All of this is in sharp contrast to the three of us Clinton nominees whose sin was fidelity to existing law. In 1993, today's supporters of Ashcroft derailed the nomination of those of us who supported the law. Now they support those who would radically transform it.

Some deference to a new president's nomination is appropriate. This was not followed in the Clinton era. As a result, the president was obliged to nominate middle-of-the-road and sometimes downright innocuous judicial candidates and to accept Republican selections for his own administrative agencies.

No one's interests are served if the Democrats now wreak havoc for Bush in response to the Borking visited upon Clinton. But elected representatives have the right and duty to both scrutinize and reject nominees who are out of the mainstream and who would disturb precedent in the absence of a mandate. A half-million Gore plurality in the voting and the murkiness of the Florida ballot hardly supply a mandate for George W. Bush.

WASTEFUL GOVERNMENT
SPENDING

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I believe that one of the most serious problems facing our country today is wasteful government spending. Each year our government spends billions of taxpayer dollars on things that are ineffective and simply unnecessary.

I have heard many stories from federal employees about the pressure to spend all of the money they have been appropriated for a given fiscal year. Agency administrators know that if they have a surplus at the end of the fiscal year, it is likely that their budgets will be cut the following year.

That is why I have decided to introduce legislation to address this problem. This bill will allow government agencies to keep half of any unspent administrative funds. This money can then be used to pay for employee bonuses. The remaining half would be returned to the Treasury for the purpose of reducing the national debt.

My bill rewards fiscal responsibility by giving employees a direct benefit for saving taxpayer dollars. At the same time, it will address one of the biggest problems facing our Country—the national debt. I think this is an important step toward restoring the financial security of our Nation.

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS EDUCATION ACT—MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHER RECRUITMENT ACT

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills aimed at improving the quality of education in areas that need immediate attention. One would provide incentives for prospective teachers to train in math and the sciences; the other would increase opportunities for gifted students from all backgrounds to succeed.

The Math and Science Teacher Recruitment Act would allow forgiveness of up to \$10,000 in federal student loans for math and science majors who teach in a middle or secondary school for up to six years. Beginning with the successful completion of the third year of teaching, educators could have \$2,500 in loans forgiven each year, up to a total of \$10,000. This bill will provide an incentive for students majoring in math, the sciences, engineering, and technology to choose education as a career. Students are failing to grasp basic math and science concepts because they are being taught by teachers who are not grounded in the field. Last year, only 41 percent of our students learned math from teachers who majored the subject in college. This bill helps to ensure that our children will be taught by teachers who have extensive knowledge of mathematics and the sciences.

I am also reintroducing the Gifted and Talented Students Education Act, with my colleagues, Representatives ETHERIDGE, MORELLA, BALDACCI, BURR, MOORE, ALLEN, MINK, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, FILNER, ENGLISH, BOUCHER, BONO, BERKLEY, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, STARK, and Mr. WHITFIELD. The measure provides grants to State educational agencies to identify gifted and talented students from all economic, ethnic and racial backgrounds—including students with limited English proficiency, those who live in low-income areas and students with disabilities. The measure authorizes State educational agencies to distribute competitive grants to local educational agencies, which will allow them to develop and expand gifted and talented education programs. This bill will ensure that all gifted children will have access to challenging programs designed to develop and enhance their gifts and reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, we must ensure our children are ready and able to take on the challenges of the new economy. I strongly encourage my colleagues to cosponsor these important pieces of legislation and work toward their passage.

RECOGNIZING RABBI DAVID WHITE FOR ACHIEVING A DOCTOR OF DIVINITY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize an outstanding

member of our Napa community, Rabbi David White, for his 25 years of service as a rabbi and for achieving a Doctor of Divinity degree.

Rabbi White was raised in San Francisco, the only son of Rabbi Saul E. White, who served as Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom for 48 years. After his Bar Mitzvah at Beth Sholom, Rabbi David White began his journey by attending Camp Tel Yehuda in New York at the age of 17. The camp was a Young Judaea academic summer program providing leadership in Israel, Zionism and youth programming.

Entering the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1970, David was ordained a Conservative Rabbi five years later. In 1977, Rabbi White obtained his first pulpit, Congregation Kol Shofar in Tiburon consisting of 45 families. Rabbi White left in 1991 after the Congregation had grown to 200 families.

After 14 dedicated years of service to the synagogue, Rabbi White entered the business world, creating Relationship Resources Unlimited, establishing awareness of partnership and collaboration. Since 1993, he has been working at both Congregation Beth Sholom as a rabbi and at Relationship Resources Unlimited.

Rabbi White was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of the Napa Valley, a program of philanthropy dedicated to meeting the needs of many worthy groups and causes. In addition, Rabbi White is the Executive Director of the Wine Spirit, exploring the relationship between the wine industry and spirituality, and an active member of the Napa Interfaith Council.

On March 14, 2001, Rabbi White will be honored by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York with an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Rabbi David White for his enthusiastic participation in and generous contributions to the Napa community, his 25 years of dedicated service to the Rabbinate and for the monumental goal of attaining the Doctor of Divinity degree.

TO BILL AND MARY KOCH,
CUSTOMERS WERE FAMILY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill and Mary Koch of Bear Creek Township, Pennsylvania, who recently closed their beloved Koch's Deli in Wilkes-Barre after 20 years of excellent service.

For more than 10 years, my district office was located next door to Koch's Deli, and almost every day that I was working from Wilkes-Barre, I stopped into the deli for a cup of coffee or a cheeseburger. Like everyone else who frequented the deli, I could always count on welcoming smiles and excellent service.

To the Koches, people in their deli were not just customers—they were friends and family. Their business is housed in the Ten East South building, which is home to dozens of senior citizens, and near Washington Square, another residence for the elderly. Bill and Mary delivered meals to many of them and even ran errands for them, such as banking, picking up their mail and getting their prescrip-

tions filled. And even regular customers who did not need these favors often found their orders waiting for them on the table when they came in. Basically, Koch's Deli became for many residents of Wilkes-Barre a home away from home.

Before starting the deli, Bill already had a long career in the restaurant business, having risen to district manager for a chain, but found that it took too many hours away from his family. So Bill and Mary went into business for themselves, and eventually involved their three daughters. Becky, Christine and Lisa, who are all grown now, learned valuable skills at the deli, like handling money and interacting with people.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Bill and Mary personal friends, as well as constituents. I am pleased to call the Koch family's long service and many kindnesses to the attention of the House of Representatives, and I wish them all the best in their retirement.

RUSSIA'S UNFREE PRESS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, while there are many aspects of recent developments in Russia which are encouraging, especially in the economic area, there are also some very disturbing trends from the standpoint of human rights and democracy. Recently, in the Boston Globe, one of the leading American scholars focused on Russia, Marshall Goldman, wrote about the disturbing aspects of President Putin's apparent opposition to freedom of the press. As a professor of economics at Wellesley College, who is also the Associate Director of the Center for Russian Studies at Harvard University, Mr. Goldman is one of the most acute observers of what is happening in Russia and I think his very thoughtful analysis ought to be widely read by those of us who have policy making responsibilities. I submit it for the RECORD.

RUSSIA'S UNFREE PRESS

(By Marshall I. Goldman)

As the Bush administration debates its policy toward Russia, freedom of the press should be one of its major concerns. Under President Vladimir Putin the press is free only as long as it does not criticize Putin or his policies. When NTV, the television network of the media giant Media Most, refused to pull its punches, Media Most's owner, Vladimir Gusinsky, found himself in jail, and Gazprom, a company dominated by the state, began to call in loans to Media Most.

Unfortunately, Putin's actions are applauded by more than 70 percent of the Russian people. They crave a strong and forceful leader; his KGB past and conditioned KGB responses are just what they seem to want after what many regard as the social, political, and economic chaos of the last decade.

But what to the Russians is law and order (the "dictatorship of the law," as Putin has so accurately put it) looks more and more like an old Soviet clampdown to many Western observers.

There is no complaint about Putin's promises. He tells everyone he wants freedom of the press. But in the context of his KGB heritage, his notion of freedom of the press is something very different. In an interview

with the Toronto Globe and Mail, he said that that press freedom excludes the "hooliganism" or "uncivilized" reporting he has to deal with in Moscow. By that he means criticism, especially of his conduct of the war in Chechnya, his belated response to the sinking of the Kursk, and the heavy-handed way in which he has pushed aside candidates for governor in regional elections if they are not to Putin's liking.

He does not take well to criticism. When asked by the relatives of those lost in the Kursk why he seemed so unresponsive, Putin tried to shift the blame for the disaster onto the media barons, or at least those who had criticized him. They were the ones, he insisted, who had pressed for reduced funding for the Navy while they were building villas in Spain and France. As for their criticism of his behavior, They lie! They lie! They lie!

Our Western press has provided good coverage of the dogged way Putin and his aides have tried to muscle Gusinsky out of the Media Most press conglomerate he created. But those on the Putin enemies list now include even Boris Berezovsky, originally one of Putin's most enthusiastic promoters who after the sinking of the Kursk also became a critic and thus an opponent.

Gusinsky would have a hard time winning a merit badge for trustworthiness (Berezovsky shouldn't even apply), but in the late Yeltsin and Putin years, Gusinsky has earned enormous credit for his consistently objective news coverage, including a spotlight on malfeasance at the very top. More than that, he has supported his programmers when they have subjected Yeltsin and now Putin to bitter satire on Kukly, his Sunday evening prime-time puppet show.

What we hear less of, though, is what is happening to individual reporters, especially those engaged in investigative work. Almost monthly now there are cases of violence and intimidation. Among those brutalized since Putin assumed power are a reporter for Radio Liberty who dared to write negative reports about the Russian Army's role in Chechnya and four reporters for Novaya Gazeta. Two of them were investigating misdeeds by the FSB (today's equivalent of the KGB), including the possibility that it rather than Chechins had blown up a series of apartment buildings. Another was pursuing reports of money-laundering by Yeltsin family members and senior staff in Switzerland. Although these journalists were very much in the public eye, they were all physically assaulted.

Those working for provincial papers labor under even more pressure with less visibility. There are numerous instances where regional bosses such as the governor of Vladivostok operate as little dictators, and as a growing number of journalists have discovered, challenges are met with threats, physical intimidation, and, if need be, murder.

True, freedom of the press in Russia is still less than 15 years old, and not all the country's journalists or their bosses have always used that freedom responsibly. During the 1996 election campaign, for example, the media owners, including Gusinsky conspired to denigrate or ignore every viable candidate other than Yeltsin. But attempts to muffle if not silence criticism have multiplied since Putin and his fellow KGB veterans have come to power. Criticism from any source, be it an individual journalist or a corporate entity, invites retaliation.

When Media Most persisted in its criticism, Putin sat by approvingly as his subordinates sent in masked and armed tax police and prosecutors. When that didn't work, they jailed Gusinsky on charges that were later dropped, although they are seeking to extradite and jail him again, along with his treasurer, on a new set of charges. Yesterday

the prosecutor general summoned Tatyana Mitkova, the anchor of NTV's evening news program, for questioning. Putin's aides are also doing all they can to prevent Gusinsky from refinancing his debt-ridden operation with Ted Turner or anyone else in or outside of the country.

According to one report, Putin told one official, you deal with the shares, debts, and management and I will deal with the journalists. His goal simply is to end independent TV coverage in Russia.

An uninhibited press in itself is no guarantee that a society will remain a democracy, but when it becomes inhibited, the chances that there will be such freedom all but disappear.

When Western leaders meet Putin, they must insist that a warm handshake and skill at karate are not enough for Russia and Putin to qualify as a democratic member of the Big 8. To do that, Russia must have freedom of the press—a freedom determined by deeds, not mere declarations.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH W. MONFORT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor the life of a great American, Mr. Kenneth W. Monfort of Greeley, Colorado. A cattleman, philanthropist, community leader, humanitarian, devoted father and husband, Mr. Monfort exemplified the American dream and the great western spirit. Sadly, Kenny Monfort passed away on Friday, February 2, 2001.

Mr. Monfort had a long and distinguished career in the cattle industry in which he pioneered many new processes and innovations. His first measure of success came at the age of 12, winning the prize of Grand Champion Steer at the National Western Stock Show. From there he used hard work, intelligence and perseverance to turn the family's 18 head of cattle into the largest stockyard operation in the world.

From the prosperity in his business, Mr. Monfort used his wealth to enrich the lives of all around him. During his childhood in the Great Depression, Kenny Monfort learned the value of giving back to the community, and in turn, has passed this lesson on to his four children. Through the Monfort Family Foundation and individual contributions totaling over \$33 million have been donated to a wide variety of organizations in the Monfort name.

Today Greeley, Colorado is a much better place for having had Kenny Monfort as a native son. One merely has to look around at the many landmarks bearing the Monfort name to see the impact his generosity has had. To the north one can see the Monfort Children's Clinic treating the children of low-income parents. To the west is Monfort Elementary where every student is taught to be a steward of the community. To the east is the Monfort School of Business at the University of Northern Colorado educating the future business leaders of tomorrow. To the south, new-born babies are brought into the world in the safety of the Monfort Birthing Center.

Despite his tremendous success in all he did, Mr. Monfort will always be remembered

as a modest, humble man whose legacy serves as a role model to those who knew him and whose lives he touched. I ask the House to join me in commemorating the remarkable Mr. Kenneth W. Monfort of Colorado.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE VETERANS BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH ARMY AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL PHILIPPINE SCOUTS, H.R. 491

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 491, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2001. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this worthy legislation.

On July 26, 1941, President Roosevelt issued a military order, pursuant to the Philippines Independence Act of 1934, calling members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army into the service of the United States Forces of the Far East, under the command of Lt. Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

For almost 4 years, over 100,000 Filipinos, of the Philippine Commonwealth Army fought alongside the allies to reclaim the Philippine Islands from Japan. Regrettably, in return, Congress enacted the Rescission Act of 1946. That measure limited veterans eligibility for service-connected disabilities and death compensation and also denied the members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army the honor of being recognized as veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

A second group, the Special Philippine Scouts called "New Scouts" who enlisted the United States armed forces after October 6, 1945, primarily to perform occupation duty in the Pacific, were similarly excluded from benefits.

It is long past due to correct this injustice and to provide the members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the Special Philippine Scouts with the benefits and the services that they valiantly earned during their service in World War II.

There are some who may object to this legislation on the grounds of its cost. In years past, when we were running chronic deficits, this may have been a valid argument. That past validity however, has been dispelled by today's record surpluses.

While progress has been made towards restoring these long overdue benefits to those brave veterans who earned them, much remains to be done. I would remind my colleagues that time is not on the side of these veterans. Each year, thousands of these veterans pass away. We have a moral obligation to correct this problem before the last of these dedicated soldiers passes from this life.

These Philippine veterans have waited more than 50 years for the benefits which, by virtue of their military service, they were entitled to back in 1946.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to carefully review this legislation that corrects this grave injustice and provides veterans benefits to members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and to the members of the Special Philippine Scouts.

I request that the full text of the bill be included at this point in the RECORD:

H.R. 491

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2001".

SEC. 2 CERTAIN SERVICE IN THE ORGANIZED MILITARY FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE SCOUTS DEEMED TO BE ACTIVE SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 107 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking out "not" after "Army of the United States, shall"; and

(B) by striking out "except benefits under—" and all that follows in that subsection and inserting in lieu thereof a period;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking out "not" after "Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 shall"; and

(B) by striking out "except—" and all that follows in that subsection and inserting in lieu thereof a period; and

(3) by striking out the subsection (c) inserted by section 501 of H.R. 5482 of the 106th Congress, as introduced on October 18, 2000, and enacted into law by Public Law 106-377, and the subsection (c) inserted by section 332(a)(2) of the Veterans Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-419).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

"§ 107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts".

(2) The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts."

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on January 1, 2002.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—No benefits shall accrue to any person for any period before the effective date of this Act by reason of the amendments made by this Act.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION REGARDING QUALITY OF CARE IN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. COYNE, Mr. FROST, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MILLER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. STRICKLAND to re-introduce a joint resolution calling for a White House conference to discuss and develop national quality of care recommendations for assisted living facilities (ALFs). Between 800,000 and 1.5 million American seniors currently reside in ALFs and these numbers may double in the next 20 years. Until recently, the industry has been al-

most entirely private-pay. But times are changing and ALFs increasingly seek and receive federal funding through Medicaid's Home and Community-Based Services waiver. In fact, overall spending for this waiver swelled 29% between 1988-1999, due in part to growing numbers of ALF placements.

In many states, industry expansion has not been accompanied by a tightening of quality standards or accountability measures. Instead, the definition and philosophy across ALFs varies from state to state and their is little consistency in state regulatory efforts. Furthermore, a 1999 General Accounting Office report found that 25% of surveyed facilities were cited for five or more quality of care violations between 1996-1997 and 11% were cited for 10 or more problems. Frequently cited problems ranged from providing inadequate care, particularly around medication issues, to having insufficient and unqualified staff.

I'd like to call attention to an article entitled, "Assisted Living" firm prospers by housing a frail population," published on January 15th in the Wall Street Journal. This article discusses industry trends and carefully details the business practices and policies of Sunrise Assisted Living, Inc., one of the country's most successful ALF companies. At a time when many of its competitors are posting large operating losses, Sunrise earns millions of dollars in profits each year. How do they do it?—by accepting elderly applicants with serious health conditions and collecting extra-care fees, sometimes as high as \$1640/month (on top of regular monthly fees) for very sick or cognitively impaired residents. Paul Klassen, Sunrise's chief executive, makes no bones about this marketing strategy. At a recent orientation for new Sunrise managers, he urged that "the frailest of the frail" be considered as candidates for assisted living.

Although originally developed as an alternative to nursing homes, this article makes abundantly clear that ALFs are now recruiting the same frail seniors that might otherwise be served by nursing homes. Yet the average Sunrise facility (housing 90 residents) maintains only one registered nurse on duty for 8-12 hours per day. Nursing homes of that same size average four to five nurses on duty at all times. Furthermore, nursing homes must comply with federal quality regulations, but ALFs answer only to states, where there is considerable variation in terms of regulation and oversight.

This regulatory variation can have deadly consequences. As reported by the Wall Street Journal, staffing issues contributed to the death of a visually-impaired Sunrise resident in Georgia, who was awaiting delivery of a liquid herbal supplement. At the resident's request, a substitute concierge delivered a package that was not specifically addressed to the resident. After drinking what they thought was an herbal supplement (but was really caustic bathroom cleaner), both the resident and his wife became critically ill and she died several days later. Perhaps as disturbing as the incident itself, is the fact that the facility's only penalty to date has been a paltry \$3000 state fine.

Closer to home, last August in my district, an elderly woman passed away in an assisted living facility due to hemorrhaging from her dialysis shunt. Two times, she pressed her call pendant for help, but no help came. Instead, the ALF staff cleared the alarms and reset the

machines both times. The facility did not place a 911 call for assistance until 1 hour and 34 minutes later. There was no nurse on duty, and all four resident aides in the facility at the time have denied responding to the calls or clearing/resetting the call system. This situation is still under investigation, but it highlights the seriousness of inadequate quality of care in these facilities.

I believe that ALFs that receive federal funding should be required to meet reasonable, commonsense quality standards to protect residents. This joint resolution presents a valuable opportunity for policymakers, industry stakeholders, and consumers to discuss and debate how best to develop these needed quality standards. Frail, elderly ALF residents must be protected and sub-par facilities must face real consequences. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to protect frail seniors in ALFs throughout our country.

The resolution has been endorsed by the Consumer Consortium on Assisted Living, California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, National Association for HomeCare, and Elder Care America, which are organizations active in protecting consumer interests in assisted living and other settings. The January 15, 2001 article by Ann Davis of the Wall Street Journal appears below:

"ASSISTED LIVING" FIRM PROSPERS BY HOUSING A FRAIL POPULATION

(By Ann Davis)

ATLANTA.—Early last year, Tom Spiro, the director of a Sunrise Assisted Living Inc. home here, warned his boss he might lose another resident.

It wasn't welcome news. The home's 71% occupancy was already far below the corporate target of 95%. But the resident, an 82-year-old woman just out of a hospital, could no longer walk, took a battery of medications and was being fed from a tube. Mr. Spiro felt that his assisted-living facility—a nursing-home alternative that provides less care—was in no position to accommodate someone so frail.

He was told he was being too cautious. "There was pressure to take everybody," he says. Ultimately, Mr. Spiro retained the resident, along with several others he considered too infirm. Even so, with the home's performance still lagging a few months later, he was asked to resign.

Linda Selvidge, who was his boss but has also since left the company, says it made sense to keep the elderly woman as a resident because her husband was in the facility. But Ms. Selvidge acknowledges urging Mr. Spiro to accept residents despite his reservations. "Being frail is nothing to be nervous about," she recalls telling him.

THE MISSION

Why such eagerness to enroll clients whose care would seem sure to mean extra cost, complexity and risk? One reason is the company founders' longtime commitment to offering a homelike alternative to nursing homes. But accepting residents who are infirm also helps to fill beds, at a time when the assisted-living industry is burdened by overcapacity. And Sunrise, more so than its competitors, has figured out how to make serving such clients a profitable business.

The assisted-living industry is at a crossroads, two decades after springing up amid dissatisfaction with nursing homes. Its mission was to offer attractive housing—for those who could afford it—where the elderly could get help with daily routines like bathing and dressing, but no intensive nursing

care. Yet while the initial target was the relatively healthy elderly, providers have increasingly targeted frailer and frailer people since a capacity glut developed in the late 1990s. At the same time, staffs of assisted-living homes often aren't qualified or permitted to do some of the things nursing homes do for infirm residents, such as administer medication. And because the facilities typically aren't paid by Medicaid, they needn't meet the extensive federal regulations nursing homes face. This has led critics to call for tighter controls on whom the facilities can admit—even as some residents and families are pushing in the opposite direction, claiming a right to choose the homes regardless of any risk.

Sunrise's founders, Paul and Terry Klaassen, make no apologies for housing ailing seniors. The couple, who own 13.2% of the McLean, Va., company, refer to shunting old people into nursing homes as "the dreaded act of our society." At a recent orientation session, Mr. Klaassen, who is Sunrise's chief executive, urged new managers to see "the frailest of the frail" as candidates for assisted living.

Meanwhile, Sunrise facilities have higher operating-profit margins than those of other public assisted-living companies that disclose this information. A key reason for its success is occupancy. A rule of thumb in the business is that facilities don't produce much profit till they reach about 90% occupancy, but can throw off rich profits above that level. Sunrise averages 91.4% occupancy at homes open at least a year; most competitors are below 90%.

Sunrise credits its customer service. In addition, says David Schless of the American Seniors Housing Association in Washington, some other companies "have had much shorter resident stays" because they "haven't ever been willing to provide some of the supportive-care services to care for the truly frail elderly" that Sunrise does.

Sunrise doesn't just enroll more people—it also charges them more. The company "has figured out how to price its services better than its competitors," Mr. Schless adds.

Sunrise makes the business pay by charging hefty premiums for care beyond assisted living's basics, which are help with dressing, bathing and getting around. Competitors do something similar in pricing, but Sunrise collects extra-care fees from a larger percentage of residents, about 60%, than most. Extra-care fees average \$517 a month per resident at Sunrise; they come to about \$200 a month at one major competitor, Alterra Healthcare Corp.

And despite the industry overcapacity, Sunrise manages to raise fees. It has increased the base rent about 5% a year (now an average of \$2,700 monthly). And lately it has made a concerted effort, when residents grow frailer, to reassign them to higher-care, higher-price categories. In typical homes, residents' monthly bills are \$677 higher than they were in 1998, figures supplied by Sunrise show. The company's costs for resident care have risen just \$180 a month per resident, the same figures show.

Mr. Klaassen says fees went up because local Sunrise managers realized they weren't charging enough, given the costs and staff time that frailer residents require. The CEO also says Sunrise spends more to run its homes than others do, and that the key to success is offering consumers such high quality that it contrasts sharply with a nursing-home environment. "Competitors that are not as full charge less," Mr. Klaassen says, "and that's their problem. Most assisted-living communities do not charge enough and do not spend enough."

Sunrise earned \$15.5 million the first three quarters of 2000, including gains on the sale

of several properties it is managing under contract. Rival Alterra had a \$35 million net loss in the nine months, and another big competitor, the Marriott Senior Living Services unit of Marriott International Inc., had a \$6 million operating loss. Sunrise's stock is up about 50% from a year ago, making the Klaassens's stake worth about \$60 million.

Sunrise's methods have been put to a severe test in Atlanta. The city seemed an ideal market when Sunrise was launching a big expansion in the 1990s. It targets metropolitan areas "with dense rings of relatively affluent people," says the company's president, Tom Newell. Sunrise ultimately built or acquired six assisted-living facilities in the Atlanta area and two more elsewhere in Georgia.

TARGETING ELDER DAUGHTERS

Its marketing focus isn't the elderly themselves but their grown children. The target customer is a 45-to-64-year-old eldest daughter who is deciding how to care for an octogenarian parent. The chain adapts ideas from other franchises, setting out to emulate, as Mr. Klaassen puts it, the pleasant environment of the Ritz-Carlton and the personalized customer service of Nordstrom.

Many Sunrise buildings resemble sprawling Victorian mansions, with curving staircases. They have hair salons, libraries and small kitchens in rooms, whose doors have locks for privacy. To avoid an institutional feel, handrails in hallways look like molding. Signature touches include ice-cream parlors with jukeboxes that play Sinatra and exhibits of antique wedding dresses to stimulate memories.

Peggy Farris of Atlanta jumped at the chance to put her mother in a special Sunrise unit for Alzheimer's patients rather than in a nursing home. Now her mother is taking part in flower-arranging and music programs and "seems to be flourishing more than she was in my home," Ms. Farris says. A great many other customers are similarly pleased.

Sunrise was part of a building boom that added about 3,700 assisted-living beds in Atlanta in four years, quintupling the supply, according to market-research firm AZ Consulting. The facility Mr. Spiro managed was half-empty and losing tens of thousands of dollars a month for parts of 1998 and 1999, Sunrise records show.

Competitors resorted to price wars. Sunrise experimented with discounting, too, but mostly it threw its energy into recruiting residents. Marketing directors at five of its homes were asked to log 20 face-to-face meetings, 100 phone calls and 200 mailings a week to potential customers and medical professionals, some recall. One incentive: a commission of about \$250 whenever a new customer made a deposit.

Chris Boyce of Atlanta says that after Marriott expressed reluctance in 1998 to take his mother, who was incontinent, the Sunrise in Decatur, Ga., accepted her, along with her husband. "Sunrise told us they would handle my parents until they died," Mr. Boyce says. Nonetheless, he eventually moved them to a nursing home when their health declined further.

Sunrise also scored points with hospitals' "discharge planners," making it easy for them to place patients needing too much care to go home. With Sunrise, "we can make a call in the morning and by the afternoon it's taken care of and the patient is moving in," says John Dornbusch, a planner at DeKalb Medical Center in Decatur.

In handling health needs, Sunrise facilities are quite different from nursing homes. Despite nursing homes' chronic problems with short staffing, those the size of Sunrise's homes—about 90 residents—average two reg-

istered nurses and two or three licensed practical nurses on duty at all times, according to federal data. Sunrise says it usually has one registered nurse on duty the eight to 12 hours during the day and none the rest of the time. Nursing homes also have to have an on-call medical director. Assisted-living homes rely on residents' own outside doctors.

While nursing homes are supposed to meet numerous federal requirements, assisted-living homes face only state regulation. In about half of the states, they come under antiquated rules covering "board and care" group homes. Such homes, which fell out of favor in the 1970s provided meals and minimal assistance, often in private houses and for just two or three residents. While many states have strengthened the regulations, there is still lots of leeway.

Medication is a particularly knotty issue. A key function of nursing homes is administering medicines to residents, whether pills, IVs or injections. Not so at assisted-living facilities, in most states. Georgia's rules say that with a few exceptions, notably insulin shots, assisted-living homes' staffs are allowed only to prompt residents to take their medication. Putting a pill in a resident's mouth and helping him or her hold a glass of water to swallow it isn't permitted.

But some aides feel they have no choice. Sharon Thompson, a former caregiver on the Alzheimers' floor at Sunrise at East Cobb (County) says that if she merely left a pill on a table, the resident, often wouldn't take it. While the rules said that in such a case she should simply note on the resident's files that the person refused the medication, she says she routinely placed pills to people's mouths and got them to swallow. Otherwise, "in an Alzheimers' unit, they'll never get their medications, I know you're not supposed to administer medicine, but what are you going to do?"

ADMISSIONS RULES

Tim Cox, a Sunrise senior vice president, says there are various ways around this problem, including asking the family to give the medicine and developing an eating or drinking routine that gets the resident accustomed to taking medicine at a certain time. "It is never appropriate to administer if the regulations do not permit us to," he says. A Georgia regulator says the medication issue is one of the reasons for restricting whom assisted-living homes can admit.

Georgia bars assisted-living facilities from taking certain kinds of residents, such as people too weak to propel a wheelchair or walker in an emergency evacuation. In six months, the state has cited Sunrise's six Atlanta-area homes for accepting 27 residents who needed more care than the homes were licensed to provide, Alterra and Marriott, which together have seven Atlanta homes, were each cited just once. David Dunbar, Georgia's top long-term-care regulator, calls Sunrise's number of citations "unusual."

Yet the state has never asked Sunrise to discharge a resident, he says. When cited, a facility can simply apply for a waiver to keep the person. The state routinely grants one if it is the resident's and family's wish to stay and if the home explains how it can meet the resident's needs, the regulator says.

A government ombudsman wasn't so lenient in 1998, when Sunrise at East Cobb sought to admit a man to its Alzheimer's unit who couldn't communicate, dress, feed himself or walk. Laura Formby, who had been notified of the case by a social worker, says she found the man "totally unacceptable" for assisted living and contacted the facility, which canceled the admission.

Sunrise President Tom Newell says Sunrise tries to “balance risk” against the preferences of residents and family. It sometimes asks the relatives of people who want to remain, despite worsening health, to supplement the care at their own expense. “We work with the regulators to explain how we will be able to care for them,” Mr. Newell says. “Part of the plan that’s developed to allow them to live in assisted living would be private-duty aides they would bring in or home-care agencies.”

Gwen Birchall says she paid Sunrise \$930 a month in extra-care charges for her aged mother but still felt obliged to hire an aide. She says she also did certain chores that Sunrise staff had promised to handle, and her husband routinely washed dishes after meals to free up frazzled Sunrise caregivers. She moved her mother to a nursing home in January. Told of the case, Tiffany Tomasso, Sunrise’s president of resident-care operations, says such an experience is “unfortunate” but when the company is made aware of these concerns, it addresses them right away.

FINE-TUNING

Sunrise calibrates its staffing levels precisely with residents’ “acuity level”—how medically needy they are—and facilities quickly adjust workers’ hours when the resident mix changes. Sometimes, Sunrise appears to cut it too close. After a Dec. 5 inspection of Sunrise at Huntcliff Summit in Atlanta, Georgia regulators said the facility “has consistently operated with fewer employees than needed to properly safeguard the health, safety and welfare of all residents.” Muriel Flournoy, an 87-year-old resident of the facility, says, “If you need help at night, it can be almost impossible to get an answer.”

Ms. Tomasso says Sunrise’s review of its hours at that home indicates staffing was “well within the parameters of our model” and exceeded minimum state staffing ratios. She adds that Sunrise increases staff hours when a resident is reassessed at a higher-care level. “It’s a very fluid process,” she says. As for Ms. Flournoy’s complaint, “We’re never happy when customers don’t feel their needs are being met,” Ms. Tomasso says. A company spokeswoman adds that Sunrise has recently taken steps to improve response time at night to address her complaint.

In 1999, Sunrise rolled out new, more-expensive pricing tiers, such as “Plus Plus” for extra-sick residents and “Reminiscence Plus” for those with later-stage dementia. Such care levels can add as much as \$1,640 a month in fees. Families say they were told that residents placed in higher-care categories would get more staff time. But Carla Neal, former head of the Alzheimer’s floor at Sunrise at East Cobb, says her boss told her she was “overstaffing” her floor and should stick more closely to the staffing formula. She says she wound up giving residents less attention than before, even though they were now paying more. “There wasn’t any way we could deliver the care needed,” says Ms. Neal, who left Sunrise.

Rick Gagnon, who was her boss but who also has since left, terms the staffing guidelines “quite appropriate.” Caregivers, he observes, “tend to err on the side of the person whom they’re caring for.” But also important, in his view, are managers with “the corporate mentality to make the system work.”

Staffing issues contributed to a death at Sunrise at East Cobb last July. A volunteer was filling in at the front desk for an absent concierge when a visually impaired resident asked for a package he thought contained a liquid herbal supplement he was expecting.

Though the box was addressed to Sunrise, not to the resident, the volunteer delivered it to the man’s room, a state “complaint narrative” says. The liquid was a caustic bathtub cleaner. The man and his wife each drank some. He became critically ill and she died a few days later.

The state fined the company \$3,001 after alleging that it had failed to provide the care these residents needed. Sunrise’s Mr. Cox says the facility erred in not training the volunteer to safeguard all packages in the mailroom. Since Mr. Cox was interviewed, the surviving husband has filed suit against Sunrise.

FIGHTING AN EVICTION

Some of Sunrise’s rivals have also drawn regulatory scrutiny. For instance, Michigan regulators cited Alterra last summer for accepting a number of patients the state deemed too sick for assisted living.

Alterra helped two of the residents find an attorney, and the residents then sued the state of Michigan, alleging that their eviction would violate federal laws barring housing discrimination against the disabled. The suit is pending, but in the meantime, Michigan has enacted a law saying regulators must let a resident stay in an assisted-living facility if the resident, the family, the resident’s doctor and the facility all agree the person can remain. It isn’t clear whether the new law applies to the two who sued.

In the Atlanta area, Sunrise’s efforts to recruit and accommodate increasingly infirm residents finally paid off. Its facilities there now have occupancy and operating-profit rates in line with company averages. Meanwhile, marketing and pricing efforts continue. To interest younger seniors in its facilities, Sunrise is testing a new service, Sunrise At Home, which sends aides and nurses to private residences. It is also casting about for new ways to cater to the oldest and frailest of Americans. Internally, the initiative is dubbed “Plus Plus Plus.”

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CREATE THE “WORKER’S INCOME TAX CREDIT”

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to provide substantial tax relief to all Americans through the Worker’s Income Tax Credit. In brief, this bill will create a refundable tax credit equal to 6.2% of wages, up to a maximum of \$350 per earner. For couples, the credit is computed per earner, for a maximum credit of \$700 per couple.

I believe any tax cut plan should pass two requirements: it should be fair, and it should be fiscally responsible. This proposal meets both standards. The Worker’s Income Tax Credit provides a tax cut to all workers, but provides the most relief to those who need it most—middle and lower income workers. And it does so without undermining fiscal responsibility. This proposal will cost less than \$440 billion over ten years, leaving enough surpluses to achieve the goals of debt reduction and meeting critical investment needs.

“The Worker’s Income Tax Credit Is Fair and Simple.”—All workers, rich and poor, will benefit from this tax cut. But the relief will be greatest for those whose tax burden is most onerous—middle and lower income working

families. The vast majority of the tax cut’s benefits would accrue, not to the wealthiest 10% of tax payers, but to the remaining 90%. Compare this to President Bush’s version of tax fairness and equity. When fully phased in, the \$2.1 trillion Bush tax plan would deliver half of all its benefits to the wealthiest 5% of taxpayers. President Bush may hold up highly-stylized examples of waitresses and lawyers who will benefit from his tax cut, but in reality, it will tax a legion of tax lawyers to determine who qualifies and who doesn’t for the Bush tax cuts. But the complexity of his plan can not obscure the basic fact of where most of the money goes—and it doesn’t go to the waitresses of this country. For example, while the lawyer earning \$200,000 in President Bush’s example would receive a tax cut of approximately \$3,100 a year, a waitress who is married with family earnings of \$25,000 would receive absolutely no benefits from the Bush tax plan.

Low-income workers will benefit from the Worker’s Income Tax Credit because the credit is refundable. A full-time minimum wage earner would qualify for the full \$350 credit, and a couple working at minimum wage would receive a \$700 credit. But the benefits are not limited to low-income workers. Anyone earning more than \$5,600 a year would qualify for the full credit, and those earning less would receive a partial credit.

“The WITC is a better alternative to President Bush’s Marginal Rate Cuts.”—Because a majority of Americans pay more in payroll taxes than they do in income taxes, adjustments to marginal income tax rates will not provide significant tax relief to most taxpayers, and particularly to lower and middle income workers. In focusing on marginal rate adjustments, particularly to lower and middle income workers. In focusing on marginal rate adjustments, particularly at the high end, President Bush makes our tax system more regressive, favoring wealthier taxpayers over middle and lower income workers. While the bottom 40 percent of the population would receive just 4% of the Bush tax cuts, the wealthiest 1% of taxpayers would receive 43% of the total tax cuts. The Worker’s Income Tax Credit does just the opposite, favoring lower and middle income workers over the wealthy by extending a refundable credit to all workers, even when they face little or no income tax liability.

“The Worker’s Income Tax Credit will alleviate the Marriage Tax Penalty.”—There is considerable support in this Congress for addressing the marriage tax penalty. I am strongly in favor of achieving a workable solution to addressing this problem in the tax code, but I would also offer the Worker’s Income Tax Credit as a means of providing some relief from the penalty. In short, the tax credit is doubled for two-earner married couples. As a result, it will provide relief from the additional tax burden that two-earner couples face as a result of being married.

“The Worker’s Income Tax Credit is fiscally responsible.”—The tax credit will cost approximately \$440 billion over ten years, less than 1/4 the estimated cost of the Bush tax plan, which has grown to exceed \$2 trillion by recent estimates.

Given current and projected budget surpluses, it is appropriate to provide taxpayers with significant tax relief. However, favorable surplus estimates do not give us license to pursue an irresponsible fiscal policy. We

worked hard during the 1990's and made painful budget decisions to achieve the surpluses we now enjoy. It would be tremendously irresponsible to squander that effort before we achieve our debt reduction and federal investment goals.

The total cost of the broad-based Worker's Income Tax Credit is modest enough that it could be combined with other reasonable tax cut priorities. I have suggested that a reasonable tax package would not exceed \$700–\$800 billion over ten years, allowing room for passage of a number of other tax cut priorities in addition to the Worker's Income Tax Credit.

Mr. Speaker, if we can all agree on the principles of fairness and fiscal responsibility in considering any tax cut, then I hope we can also agree that the Worker's Income Tax Credit is an excellent means of providing tax relief to the American people this year.

The text of the bill follows:

H.R. —

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Worker's Income Tax Credit Act of 2001”.

SEC. 2. REFUNDABLE CREDIT FOR INDIVIDUALS BASED ON EARNED INCOME.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to refundable credits) is amended by redesignating section 35 as section 36 and by inserting after section 34 the following new section:

“SEC. 35. WORKER CREDIT.

“(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—In the case of an individual, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this subtitle for the taxable year the amount equal to 6.2 percent of the sum of—

“(1) the individual's wages, salaries, tips, and other employee compensation includible in gross income, plus

“(2) the individual's earned income (as defined in section 401(c)(2)).

“(b) LIMITATION.—The amount allowed as a credit under subsection (a) to an individual for any taxable year shall not exceed \$350.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1324(b)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “or from section 35 of such Code,” after “1978.”.

(2) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking the last item and inserting the following new items:

“Sec. 35. Worker credit.

“Sec. 36. Overpayments of tax.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

RECOGNIZING 90TH BIRTHDAY OF
RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2001

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate President Reagan's birthday. Although he left office more than 12 years ago, after eight years of distinguished service as our Commander in Chief, Americans today con-

tinue to benefit from the fruits of his hard work. It is for that reason; I rise to honor Ronald Reagan on his 90th birthday.

During the 20th Century America witnessed the rise of a handful of great leaders. From Theodore Roosevelt to Franklin Roosevelt to John Kennedy, America rose to prominence—she expanded internationally, built the Panama Canal, overcame a Great Depression and fought two world wars. However, it was under Ronald Reagan that America achieved her true greatness.

President Reagan was a common man who, unlike many who came before him, entered politics at a later stage in life. He did so because of a belief that the country was headed in the wrong direction. A common man who touched every American, Ronald Reagan used his charm and steadfast beliefs to right the direction and shape the United States into the great country she is today.

President Reagan turned around the public perception of government, sparked economic growth, restored the military, won the Cold War and restored our faith in America.

My first memory of Ronald Reagan dates back to 1964 when Ronald Reagan spoke to the country on behalf of the Republican candidate for President that year—Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona. On a personal note, my father, Stephen Shadegg, worked for Senator Goldwater during the 1964 presidential campaign. This afforded me the opportunity to experience, first-hand, what a true visionary and leader Mr. Reagan was. Ronald Reagan gave a speech on behalf of Senator Goldwater that year. It later became known as “A Time for Choosing.” Many of the points he raised in that speech I hold dear and use to guide my judgment while serving the citizens of my District and the state of Arizona.

In that speech President Reagan spoke of several principles Republicans, indeed all Americans, continue to hold dear. The first principle is personal freedom. Ronald Reagan quoted James Madison when he stated that the Framers of the Constitution, “base[d] all our experiments on the capacity of mankind for self-government.” He was correct: Each person should be able to live with the freedom that the Constitution guarantees. Ronald Reagan spent every day in office seeing to it that this principle was advanced and defended.

The second principle that President Reagan advocated was that the government is beholden to the people. Not the reverse. He stated: “This idea that the government was beholden to the people, that it had no other source of power is still the newest, most unique idea in all the long history of man's relation to man.

“This is the issue of this nation: whether we believe in our capacity for self-government or whether we abandon the American Revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-distant capital can plan our lives better than we can plan them ourselves.” Therein lies the essence of President Reagan. Personal choice should not be a right or a gift. Rather, left to their devices, the American people would grow the economy, improve our schools, save for the future and have personal flexibility to achieve those goals. Ronald Reagan showed us the way. We, the American people, proved him right.

During the speech, he also asked: “Are you willing to spend time studying the issues, mak-

ing yourself aware, and then conveying that information to family and friends?” He continued: “Will you resist the temptation to get a government handout for your community? Realize that the doctor's fight against socialized medicine is your fight. We can't socialize the doctors without socializing the patients. Recognize that government invasion of public power is essentially an assault upon your business. If some of you fear taking a stand because you are afraid of reprisals from customers, clients or even government, recognize that you are just feeding the crocodile hoping he'll eat you last.” Truer words have never been spoken, Mr. Speaker. In fact, these words ring true today.

Mr. Reagan extended his vision to a third principle—the economy and the tax code. His belief in lower taxes and private enterprise was based upon the idea that each individual best knows how to spend their money and manage their store. Like the Founding Fathers, President Reagan believed that government control of any enterprise leads to control of the people who run them. How correct he was when he stated:

“The Founding Fathers knew a government can't control the economy without controlling the people. And they knew when a government sets out to do that, it must use force and coercion to achieve that purpose. So we have come to a time for choosing. Public servants say, always with the best of intentions, “What greater service we could render if only we had a little more money and a little more power.” But the truth is that outside of its legitimate function, government does nothing as well or as economically as the private sector.”

President Reagan led by those principles. His faith in the individual, belief in free enterprise, and unending conviction in providing freedom of choice in everyday decisions helped to restore the “great, confident roar of American progress, growth and optimism.” The “choice” was right then. It is right today. Yet, we must continue to fight for these principles today.

In his farewell address in January of 1989, President Reagan modestly summed up his eight years in office, “All in all, not bad, not bad at all.” Well, Mr. Speaker, I believe this is more fitting of his overall contribution to the American public: “All in all, not bad, not bad at all.” Happy Birthday Mr. President. We salute you.

IMPROVING EDUCATION THROUGH
THE THREE R'S

HON. SUSAN DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, there is widespread agreement that improving education must be our priority in this session of Congress. Fortunately, there is bipartisan agreement about much of the thrust of a program to use our surplus to substantially increase funding for programs that will reach the poorest students.

An important area that we must work on, however, is how to deal with schools where children are not succeeding in learning. As a member of the California Assembly's Education Committee, I worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to address

this issue. The program which was put in place makes very clear rewards for schools which demonstrate improvement for students at all levels of achievement.

But what happens where a school doesn't improve? This is the important difference. We do not propose using critical funds in the Title I program for low income students to offer a portion of the cost for a child to seek private education. Instead, the failing schools themselves much be changed—through focusing professional development dollars on the principals and teachers or, if necessary replacing the leadership altogether. No school should be allowed to fail.

One of the most critical elements of the New Democrat proposal for the Three R's, therefore, is investment in recruiting, training, and retraining teachers. We must do our best to support our professional educators. Every child has a right to an excellent teacher.

FARMERS NEED A SAFETY NET IN ADDITION TO FLEXIBILITY

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the February 2, 2001, Omaha World-Herald. The editorial highlights the challenges in developing a workable agriculture policy which maintains flexibility while providing farmers with assistance when needed.

"FREEDOM" NOT IN FARM LAW

The time is at hand for the U.S. government and the Americans involved in production agriculture to decide how they're going to coexist for the next few years. For farmers, in addition, there is the matter of how to survive in a world in which their product is often available in income-depressing surplus.

Freedom to farm, the tag line given to the 1996 federal farm policy, came along at an inopportune time. The original plan—an end to federal crop subsidies as of next year—turned out to be impractical. Something else is needed.

The underlying philosophy was worth a try. Agriculture was stagnating under the old system, in which farmers received subsidies for planting a specified number of acres to a specified crop. The 1996 idea was to de-link subsidies from planting decisions for a half-dozen years while continuing the flow of cash in the form of transition payments.

This was "freedom to farm." At the end of the transition period, the subsidies would theoretically dry up. Farmers, having tailored their production to maximize their income from the marketplace, would theoretically be ready for financial independence.

Now, with the transition period nearing an end, agriculture's ability to take that next step is more than a little doubtful. It turned out that even a relatively deregulated grain-producing industry couldn't respond in time to take advantage of fast-changing market conditions. As the Asian currency crisis worsened in the late 1990s, American farmers were stuck with huge piles of grain they had produced on the theory that the Pacific Rim boom would be sustained into the new century. From planning to planting to harvest takes many months. When conditions change, it's too late if the crop is in the ground.

The transition payments, instead of descending as planned, have skyrocketed. Since 1996, when the total was \$7 billion, the amount quadrupled. This year's \$28 billion constituted half of all the revenues that farmers received from their operations.

This isn't healthy. But the best idea to come out of a federal panel, created to monitor the outcome of the 1996 approach, is a new variety of subsidy to provide income maintenance for farmers when hit by sagging market demand for their products.

Subsidies have a downside. They keep inefficient operations from being squeezed out by efficient competitors. This creates a self-fulfilling cycle. Inefficiency intensifies the demand for subsidies, leading to more inefficiency.

Subsidies, in addition, sometimes undermine the political support for agriculture in parts of the country where the Midwestern corn-wheat-cattle-hogs economy is not well understood. Eastern commentators include farms among the recipients of corporate welfare. They seem to forget that subsidies have been part of a cheap-food policy under which Americans pay a lower percentage of their income for food than is possible in nearly any other part of the world.

So the aid the government has given to agriculture is not necessarily bad. Indeed, former Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman said the alternative would have been chaos in rural America last year. And the current secretary, Ann Veneman, says a "safety net" of some sort has to be kept in place, although she has not been more specific.

Few farmers and ranchers, given a choice, would accept the subsidized way of life as opposed to an economic system in which they had an even chance to get a fair return on their labor and investment. On the other hand, survival would be difficult, with conditions as they currently are, without what Veneman calls a safety net.

Accordingly, designing a system that makes sense financially, politically and socially is a task for the sharpest economic minds. As they proceed, some thought should be given to what returns—such as habitat restoration, wetlands preservation and the safeguarding of productive land in the form of conservation reserves—might be secured, in the process, for the tax-payers.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 9

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the current state of California's electricity crisis and the use of the Defense Production Act.

SD-538

FEBRUARY 12

2:30 p.m.

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the current outlook for the national defense budget.

SD-608

FEBRUARY 13

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on current and future worldwide threats to the national security of the United States, to be followed by closed hearings (in Room S-407, Capitol).

SD-106

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the first Monetary Policy Report for 2001.

SH-216

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Aging Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the nursing shortage and its impact on America's health care delivery system.

SD-430

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Hart/Rudman Commission findings on terrorism.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on the nomination of Joe M. Allbaugh, of Texas, to be Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

SD-342

FEBRUARY 14

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the impact of recent pardons granted by President Clinton.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the Department of Transportation's management challenges.

SD-124

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the issues of saving investors money and strengthening the Security and Exchange Commission.

SD-538

FEBRUARY 15

9:30 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings on proposed legislation to strengthen certain education programs.

SD-430