

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