

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION HONORING SENATOR JIM CARNES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Senator Carnes has been named chairman of the Senate Energy, Natural Resources and Environment Committee.

Whereas, Senator Carnes has been named vice-chairman of the Finance and Financial Institutions Committee.

Whereas, Senator Carnes will also sit on the Agriculture, and Highways and Transportation Committees.

Whereas, Senator Carnes has continuously demonstrated his commitment and love for his family, his community and his country, I am honored to call him a friend and a constituent.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MADRID PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION ACT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Madrid Protocol Implementation Act. This implementing legislation for the Protocol related to the Madrid Agreement on the International Registration of Marks was introduced in the past four Congresses. While the Administration has not forwarded the treaty to the Senate for ratification, the introduction of this legislation is important in that it sends a signal to the international community, U.S. businesses, and trademark owners that the Congress is serious about our Nation becoming part of a low-cost, efficient system for the international registration of trademarks.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) administers the Protocol, which in turn operates the international system for the registration of trademarks. This system would assist our businesses in protecting their proprietary names and brand-name goods while saving cost, time, and effort. This is especially important to our small businesses which may only be able to afford world-wide protection for their marks through a low-cost international registration system.

The Madrid Protocol took effect in April 1996 and currently binds 12 countries. Without the participation of the United States, however, the Protocol may never achieve its purpose of providing a one-stop, low-cost shop for trademark applicants who can—by filing one application in their country and in their language—receive protection by each member country of the Protocol.

In previous Congresses, the Department of State objected to ratification based on its dispute with the European Community over a vot-

ing rights procedure that would apply to the administration of the treaty. An acceptable resolution to this problem was reached during the 106th Congress, and the House passed the bill under suspension of the rules without opposition. Unfortunately, Senate ratification of the Protocol and passage of the implementing language were derailed as result of a private dispute over a mark ("Havana Club") between a rum distiller (Bacardi) and a French concern (Pemod) which formed a joint venture with the Cuban government. Although negotiations to develop an acceptable compromise failed, it is my understanding that the Senate and trademark community will redouble their efforts to resolve this problem during the present term.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to move this legislation forward as a way of encouraging all parties involved in the Bacardi dispute to intensify their negotiations. House consideration of the Protocol will also assure American trademark holders that the United States stands ready to benefit imminently from its ratification.

I urge my colleagues to support the Madrid Protocol Implementation Act.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor Lithuania's Independence Day, which occurred on February 16th. This is the 83rd Anniversary of this historic event.

The Republic of Lithuania declared independence on February 16, 1918. The Lithuanian people enjoyed a 22 year period of self-rule and freedom before the occupation of the Soviet Union in 1940. Their traumatic times did not end there. In 1941, Nazi Germany invaded and 90% of Lithuania's 250,000 Jews were killed. The Soviets regained control over the area in 1944, resulting in a 46 year occupation, during which 700,000 Lithuanians were either deported to Siberia, forced into exile, imprisoned or shot.

Throughout all of their struggles, the Lithuanian people never gave up on their dream of independence. In 1990, they were the first Baltic State to secede from the Soviet Union and declare independence. After a hard fought struggle with the former Soviet empire, Lithuania finally regained independence.

I offer my congratulations on the stability of the country as a republic with a strong hold on democracy and a growing economy. I wish the Republic of Lithuania the best as they work for full integration into the world community, NATO and the European Union.

The people of Lithuania are proud and courageous, and I salute their faithfulness, endurance and patriotism. I extend my warmest wishes to the Republic of Lithuania as they celebrate another year of freedom.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN ALBERT WARD

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor Glenn Albert Ward, an outstanding citizen and dedicated community leader who passed away on January 11, 2001, at the age of 81. He is survived by his wife Lee, his son John Ward, his brother Jerri, as well as grandchildren and stepchildren.

Mr. Ward was born in Kansas City, Kansas but moved to California soon after, making San Mateo County, California his home for more than 35 years.

He began his career at American Associated Indemnity Insurance Company before becoming manager at Owl-Rexall Drug Company in San Francisco. He later spent a number of years with Metcalfe Rexall Pharmacy in San Carlos. He was also an active member of the public sector. Prior to retiring, he was a financial officer for the San Mateo County Probation Department. Mr. Ward enriched the lives of countless people as an understanding and fair superior. With his intelligence, common sense, warmth, and wisdom, he earned the love and respect of those who crossed his path. His deep regard for public service was passed on to his son John, who served with distinction as a member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. To this day, I am proud to have served as a colleague of John's on the Board.

Glenn Ward was known to be a world traveler and a passionate aviator. He traveled across the United States countless times. His passion extended to numerous community activities. He was a dedicated volunteer at Messiah Lutheran Church in Santa Cruz and a "founding father" of the Vista de Lago Homeowners Association in Scotts Valley. For more than half a century, he was involved with the Masonic Order, San Carlos Lodge, and Santa Cruz Lodge.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a noble man who helped make our nation what it is today and to most especially extend to his son John our abiding sympathy. Together, they were one of the most devoted and admired father-son teams I've ever known.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR. JOHN RAYTIS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Mr. Raytis, publisher of the Times Recorder and the Coshocton Tribune, resigned from his position.

• 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.

Whereas, Mr. Raytis was a publisher in the community for six years.

Whereas, Mr. Raytis received the Sertoma Service to Mankind Award in 2000, and remains active in the community.

Whereas, Mr. Raytis has continuously demonstrated his commitment and love for his family, his community and his country, I am honored to call him a friend.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the "Patent and Trademark Office Reauthorization Act," and urge my colleagues to support what will prove to be an important contribution to our high-tech economy.

Briefly, by way of background, the operations of the Patent and Trademark Office are fully-funded through user-fee revenue; the agency receives no stipend from the taxpayers. Since 1992, however, more than \$600 million in PTO funds have been withheld and used for other purposes. This policy results in manpower shortages and inhibits the development of modernization efforts at the agency. With PTO workloads increasing every year, the ultimate losers are the men and women who pay the fees to have their patent and trademark applications processed. Our country suffers as well, since the development and export of intellectual property is crucial to the national economy.

The Patent and Trademark Office Reauthorization Act will protect PTO revenues from diversion to other programs. The bill accomplishes this goal by amending two key provisions of section 42 of the Patent Act, which prescribes the PTO funding mechanism.

First, the requirement in subsection (b) that all agency funds be credited to a special PTO Appropriation Account is deleted; instead, such funds are to be credited to a PTO Account in the Treasury.

Second, the requirement in subsection (c) that subjects agency access to and expenditure of collected fees to appropriations is also deleted. This means that the Commissioner will have the authority to collect all fees and use them for agency operations until expended.

This is a necessary bill for reasons that are known by all who support the operations of the Patent and Trademark Office. I urge my colleagues again to endorse the measure.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MICHAEL G. WOODS

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a dedicated public servant in

my hometown of Norwalk, California. Sergeant Michael G. Woods of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will retire next month after 23 years of service to the citizens of Los Angeles County. It is truly an honor to recognize him today.

Sergeant Woods moved to the United States from England in 1957 and graduated from Glendale High School in 1964. Sergeant Woods joined the United States Navy in 1965 and served in Vietnam from 1966–1967. After being discharged from the service in 1968, he married his wife Jackie and began work for Sears, Roebuck and Co., working at the Glendale and Hollywood stores. Michael and Jackie became the proud parents of two daughters, Lori, born in 1969, and Toni, born in 1973.

Sergeant Woods left Sears in 1978 and joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department that same year beginning in the custody division. In 1979, he received an Associate's degree from Glendale Junior College. During this time, he quickly advanced in the department, was promoted to the Transportation Bureau and then to Field Operations in 1982 serving various stations throughout Los Angeles County. Eventually, he was given the responsibility for conducting background investigations of potential deputy sheriff trainees. Finally in 1996, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and transferred to the Norwalk station. During this time he served as a patrol sergeant and acting watch commander. Sergeant Woods was also active in the departments community relations outreach in areas such as the ride share program, civilian volunteer program, reserve program and special programs to name just a few.

I want to personally express my warmest wishes to Sergeant Michael G. Woods and his family as they embark on the next phase of their life's journey. The people of Los Angeles County and the State of California have been exceptionally well served by his dedication and devout public service.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE LOCK-BOX ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, in this time of unprecedented budget surpluses, the first and most important responsibility Congress has is to protect Social Security and Medicare, and the senior citizens they serve. On February 13th, the House of Representatives took this first step when it overwhelmingly passed H.R. 2, the Social Security and Medicare Lockbox Act of 2001.

I was proud to support this bill, as I did last year. H.R. 2 prevents any other legislation or amendment from dipping into Social Security or Medicare Trust Fund Surpluses. This proposed lockbox would ensure that trust fund surpluses can only be spent on their intended uses of retirement and health care security.

Until we enact Social Security and Medicare reform legislation, which I hope we will do in

this Congress, all trust fund surpluses will be used to pay down the national debt. The money cannot be used for any other programs or spending projects, period. Before we consider tax cuts, we owe our seniors no less than this.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING REPRESENTATIVE JIM ASLANIDES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Representative Aslanides has been named to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Whereas, Representative Aslanides will serve on the Energy and Environment, and Health and Family Services Committees.

Whereas, Representative Aslanides has continuously demonstrated his commitment and love for his family, his community and his country, I am honored to call him a friend.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF RICHARD A. VANDER EYK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Police Chief Richard A. VanderEyk, who retired from the Pleasant Ridge Police Department on February 2, 2001.

Chief VanderEyk's public service began in March of 1967 when he entered the United States Air Force. After his discharge from the Air Force, Chief VanderEyk was employed as an officer with the Pleasant Ridge Police Department in 1973. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1988 and to Chief in 1991.

Chief VanderEyk earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice and continued to improve his skills through education. He attended the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Criminal Justice Management Institute's New Chiefs School in 1991 and in 1997–1998 the Police Staff and Command School at Eastern Michigan University.

Chief VanderEyk has supported the law enforcement community at every level. Beginning with his membership in the Fraternal Order of Police, then extending to the National Association of Chiefs of Police and the Michigan Association of Police. He also served as treasurer and a member of the executive board for the Oakland County Association of Chiefs of Police.

Throughout his life, dedication and hard work have been synonymous with this outstanding public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief VanderEyk for his years of public service and in wishing him and his wife, Jacqueline, good health and happiness in the years ahead.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK TEXAS FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF KILLEEN AND BELL COUNTY, TEXAS

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the First National Bank Texas for 100 years of service to the people of Killeen and Bell County.

Originally known as the First National Bank of Killeen, it was organized with capital stock of \$25,000 on Feb. 27, 1901.

It has provided uninterrupted service to Central Texans through two World Wars, the Great Depression, the construction of Fort Hood, the Cold War, 18 U.S. Presidents and the dawn of a new millennium. The bank also has been a trendsetter: the city's first elevator was located in its lobby in the 1960s and the bank introduced the first automated teller machine to the area in the 1970s. The bank continues to innovate in the areas of retail and Internet banking.

Today, February 27, 2001, the bank, now known as First National Bank Texas, will celebrate its 100th year anniversary with a community-wide celebration.

The bank, the oldest bank in Bell County, has had its ups-and-downs but ultimately it has flourished over the years. It now employs more than 1,100 Texans across the state, with 690 in Bell County. The bank is one of the largest nongovernmental employers in the area. Modern reminders of early bank leaders C.R. Clements and Will Rancier are with us today in the form of the C.R. Clements Boys and Girls Club and Rancier Avenue.

I ask Members to join me in offering congratulations to the First National Bank Texas on a century of growth and service to Central Texas families and businesses.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SSI MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2001

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, many States have decided to increase the amount of money welfare recipients can earn before their Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefit is reduced. This strategy produces two very beneficial effects: It rewards and promotes employment and it helps working families escape poverty. Unfortunately, the primary Federal program that helps low-income disabled and elderly Americans has not pursued a similar strategy. In fact, the income exclusions for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program have been frozen in time for nearly thirty years.

In 1972, a general income exclusion (GIE) for SSI was set at \$20 a month, meaning the first \$20 of outside income did not count dollar for dollar against the SSI benefit amount, which is currently \$530 a month for an individual. This GIE is usually applied to Social Security income, which of course is based on

past employment. In addition, an earned income exclusion was also established in 1972 to allow a disregard of the first \$65 a month, plus half of the remaining earnings. Neither of these provisions, which reward past and current work efforts, have been increased in the past three decades. If they had kept pace with inflation over that time period, the GIE would be worth \$80 a month and the earned income exclusion would be set at \$260 a month.

I am introducing the SSI Modernization Act to reduce these work disincentives, as well as to decrease obstacles to saving and pursuing an education. The bill would increase the GIE to \$40 a month and the earned income exclusion to \$130 a month, and then index those amounts to inflation in future years. To encourage individuals to save for their future, the bill also would increase the SSI asset limit from \$2,000 for an individual and \$3,000 for a couple to \$3,000 for an individual and \$4,500 for a couple. Furthermore, the legislation would increase the disregard level for small amounts of income received on an irregular basis, and it would simplify the treatment of educational grants and scholarships under SSI income and asset rules. Finally, the bill would postpone eligibility redeterminations for SSI recipients turning 18 years of age, if they are attending a secondary school and are under the age of 21. This last provision recognizes that applying a work-based eligibility standard (under which adults are considered) is not appropriate for a disabled youth still attending high school.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this effort to update the SSI program and to increase incentives for working, saving and pursuing an education. Having waited almost thirty years to address many of these issues, we cannot afford to wait any longer to reward work and to improve the quality of life for our Nation's disabled and elderly.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING REPRESENTATIVE NANCY HOLLISTER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Representative Hollister will serve as vice-chairwoman of the House Energy, and Environment Committee.

Whereas, Representative Hollister has been named to two other committees—Public Utilities, and Retirement and Aging.

Whereas, Representative Hollister has continuously demonstrated her commitment and love for her family, her community and her country, I am honored to call her a friend.

TRIBUTE TO REABER NELL LUCAS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, although death is a part of life, often times it becomes difficult to accept. Last week, Ms.

Reaber Lucas, a dear friend of mine, passed away. Ms. Lucas was born on July 4th, 1946 in Amite County, MS to Willie, Sr. and Ora Lee Wesley Harden Lucas, who both preceded her in death.

Reaber graduated from Bettye Mae Jack High School in Morton, MS and attended Milwaukee Area Technical College where she studied Social Work. Later she attended Jackson State University majoring in Accounting. Utilizing her background in Accounting and Social Work, Reaber served as Branch Director, Division of Community Services for the State of Mississippi Department of Human Services, until her retirement in 1997. Reaber thoroughly enjoyed serving as a community activist as an active member of the Hinds County Federation of Democratic Women and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Reaber devoted her life to Christ at an early age, and joined Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Meadville, MS. After the family moved to Morton, MS, she joined Christian Triumph Missionary Baptist Church. While Reaber lived in Milwaukee, WI, she became a member of St. Matthews Methodist Church. After relocating to Jackson, MS, she continued to be faithful to God and became a member of New Hope Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend Dr. Jerry Young, where she continued to serve until her death.

One of the many attributes Reaber possessed, was her ability to empower and organize. Reaber's energetic work ethic and responsibility to her community was the primary reason for many of the African-American elected officials, myself included, currently representing Jackson, Mississippi. Reaber believed that African-Americans should have a voice and the only way to insure that was to help them exercise their right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, it's only fitting that I recognized Ms. Lucas during Black History Month. Without her assistance, I can't be certain that I would be here today as a Member of Congress. Reaber was an asset to her family, community, city and state. She will be truly missed.

A TRIBUTE TO NASA EMPLOYEES AT MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the NASA employees and contractors at Marshall Space Flight Center for their role in the successful delivery of NASA's Destiny Laboratory Module, the second of the U.S. pressurized modules, to the International Space Station. I am proud to say that the extremely talented men and women of the Boeing Company built Destiny in my district at the Marshall Space Flight Center. This includes the successful design, development, assembly, integration, and testing of Destiny, as well as its delivery to Kennedy Space Center in November 1998.

The Destiny Laboratory, the long-awaited centerpiece of the Space Station, will allow the United States and its international partners to perform fundamental science experiments

around-the-clock in the microgravity environment of space. This state-of-the-art module has a capacity of 24 rack locations, of which 13 are especially designed to support important scientific research. Once these racks arrive on later Shuttle flights, scientists can begin fundamental long-term research in space that can help improve the quality of human life back on Earth. Some of the first experiments will focus on the growth of proteins in the absence of the effects of gravity, hopefully leading to a better understanding of the true structure of harmful viruses that develop under strong gravitational effects on Earth. The Station will also allow researchers to study how the human body is affected by long-term exposure to the low-gravity environment of space, which is a crucial first step in establishing a human presence elsewhere in our solar system.

Mr. Speaker, while *Destiny* is primarily intended to be the key U.S. science facility on board Station, the addition of this engineering marvel to the current Space Station configuration on-orbit will also expand the Station's power, life support, and attitude control capabilities. It will enable the transfer of flight control responsibilities from the Russians to NASA personnel, providing command and control capability for NASA's Mission Control in Houston. The Station had been under Russian command and control since the launch of the Russian-built *Zarya* Module in November 1998. The addition of the *Destiny* Laboratory, which is 28 feet in length and 14 feet in diameter, will also give Station occupants more habitable space than was available aboard *SkyLab* or *Mir*.

The launch of *Destiny* now allows NASA to focus on providing other high priority capabilities necessary to complete the ISS. One of these capabilities will be provided by the U.S. Propulsion System, and is necessary to eliminate our dependence on the propulsion systems on board the Russian Service Module and the regular launch of Russian Progress vehicles. It is also time for NASA to aggressively move forward with the U.S. Habitation Module, which would provide safe living quarters for the full complement of seven Station inhabitants. This is the module that will provide for the crew and enable a full vigorous science research program to bring about the expected return on the taxpayer's investment in this unique national resource. Mr. Speaker, the Habitation Module and much of the Propulsion System will be built at the Marshall Space Flight Center by Boeing—the same highly skilled team that also constructed the U.S. Unity node—and therefore I believe they will be in good hands.

Mr. Speaker, North Alabama has a long heritage of spacecraft construction, starting with the rockets that placed men in Earth orbit and eventually on the Moon. I am proud to congratulate the world-class Space Station team in North Alabama for continuing this proud heritage of excellence with the development of the *Destiny* Laboratory Module. I expect it to be one of the highlights of this year's space program.

FISCAL DISCIPLINE MUST APPLY TO PENTAGON ALSO

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, in an area where we talk about our military budgets in almost unbounded terms—whether it's the hundreds of billions of dollars of accounting entries in Pentagon books that can't be supported, or the multiple billions of dollars that Congress added to the Pentagon's coffers in recent years beyond what the administration requested—it's easy to lose any sense of scale about this spending or the sacrifices we make for such largess. Therefore, I submit into the RECORD the following piece by John Isaacs, President of the Council for a Livable World and one of the most thoughtful voices in America on the subject of rational national security spending.

PENTAGON UPSET WITH \$14 BILLION BOOST (By John Isaacs)

President George W. Bush's recent decision to use the Clinton Administration's defense budget request for fiscal 2002 has set off a wave of criticism. Big defense spenders are angry that the \$310 billion request for Department of Defense programs is only a \$14 billion increase from last year's budget. Only in Washington would a \$14 billion raise be considered "paltry." To put it in perspective here are some comparisons:

How much is 414 billion?

It's more than the defense budgets of all the state of concern—Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Cuba, Sudan and Syria combined (\$12.8 billion).

It's greater than total federal spending on law enforcement activities including the FBI, DEA and the INS (\$13.6 billion). President Bush just announced he will cut the Justice Department budget by one billion dollars.

It's equal to the entire budget of the U.S. Treasury Department.

It's more than the federal government spends on higher education (\$13.8 billion).

It's almost as much as the non-military international affairs budget (\$15 billion).

It's equal to all federal government expenditures on water resources, conservation and land management, and recreational resources combined (\$14.3 billion).

It's greater than the Gross Domestic Products of 40 individual nations including: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Angola, Estonia, Chad, Cambodia, Niger, Madagascar, Jamaica, Haiti, Trinidad & Tobago, Qatar and Papua New Guinea.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF CAROLINE MULLEN AND CARLOS ESPINOSA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Caroline and Carlos are to be united in marriage;

Whereas, they will declare their love before God, family and friends;

Whereas, this momentous day will begin their years of sharing, loving and working together;

Whereas, may Caroline and Carlos be blessed with all the happiness and love that two people can share and may their love grow with each passing year;

Whereas, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Caroline and Carlos on their recent engagement. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Caroline and Carlos many years of happiness together.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNI- VERSARY OF THE TOWN OF HAD- LEY

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the town of Hadley, New York, February 27, 2001.

I have always been proud of the heritage and physical beauty of the 22nd Congressional district of New York which I have the privilege to represent. To savor the history and character of the picturesque towns in the Hudson Valley and Adirondack Mountains is the reason that I return home every weekend.

We often forget that the real America is the small towns and villages that are rich in pride and culture, and not the bustle of Washington. It is these small towns and villages where the great traditions of this country were founded. I would like to talk about one of these great towns today.

Mr. Speaker, the town of Hadley, New York in Saratoga County will be commemorating 200 years of existence since they separated from the nearby towns of Greenfield and Northumberland back in 1801. Hadley is one of the many beautiful river towns that we have in New York State. Located at the southern gateway to the Adirondacks and where the Sacandaga River meets the Hudson River, Hadley has endured many transformations.

Like so many of the small river towns, Hadley has seen the rise and fall of the mills. Hadley has been transformed from a mill town to a power source with two dams located inside of the township providing electricity for many New York State residents. Even though many things have changed there, like everywhere else, there is something that still remains an unmistakable part of the town's character. That is the distinct small town charm and the good citizens of Hadley. This can be seen throughout all areas of the town, including the churches, the fire department, and the fields where children play and farmers work. Yes, Mr. Speaker, the neighborly hospitality is one thing that thankfully hasn't changed in Hadley. The pride and values of the citizenry is one of the most admired traits of small towns, not only in New York's 22nd district, but throughout America.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the 1628 citizens of Hadley for their commitment to their values and their hard work in organizing a celebration of their heritage. I offer a full written history of the Town of Hadley that I am submitting into the RECORD. therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride to ask all members of the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to the citizens of Hadley on the towns' 200th birthday and also in wishing them many more years of good fortune.

HADLEY

The town of Hadley originated February 27, 1801 from the Town of Greenfield and Northumberland. Corinth was removed in 1818 and a section of the Town of Day in 1819.

This town is located in the far northeastern corner of Saratoga County and is nestled in the Kayaderossera Mountains at the southern gateway to the Adirondack Mountains where the Sacandaga River meets the Hudson River.

Hadley is surrounded by the Warren County Towns of Stony Creek to the north and Lake Luzerne to the east. Corinth, in Saratoga County is to the south and Day is to the west. We have no record on how Hadley got its name.

EARLY SETTLERS

First settlement was about 1788. A man by the name of Richard Hilton is credited with being the first settler.

The first Supervisor of the Town of Hadley was Benjamin Cowles in 1801.

A man named Wilson taught the first school from 1791 to 1820. There was a log schoolhouse in the Ellis neighborhood—John Johnson and Walter Knott were the teachers.

1826—First organization of Baptist Church—Reverend Chandler was Pastor, John Lovell and John Jenkins were deacons. Lynwood Cemetery is located next to the church.

1844—Wesleyan Methodist Church—Ministers in charge were the Reverends S.H. Foster, James Dayton and William Hawkins. Walter Sutliff was class leader.

The first saw mill was built in 1791 by Delane and Hazard. The first grist mill was built in 1803 by Jeremy Rockwell. In 1807 the first store was also built by Rockwell.

December 1, 1865 the Hadley Railroad Station was constructed, and at the time the railroad was named the Adirondack Railway. In 1902 the Delaware and Hudson acquired the railways. This railroad station saw large amounts of vacationers on their way to local resorts for the summer season, until it was closed on August 5, 1958. Railroad spurs served the paper mill, grist mill and wooden until it was closed on August 5, 1958. Railroad spurs served the paper mill, grist mill and wooden ware factory in the Town of Hadley. November 17, 1989 the last freight train carrying iron ore from Tahawus passed through Hadley. There are plans for possible future use of the tracks for a tourist attraction train ride.

The wooden ware factory and saw mill were located near the railroad station. The factory made wood items of white birch from the adjacent saw mill, later the factory became a shirt factory. In the early 1920s Delbert Pasco opened a feed and grain business. Joseph White purchased the buildings in 1967, replacing the saw mill with a garage. Both the garage and former factory burned on February 3, 1969. Mr. White then built the logging truck garage which now occupies the site as Biondi Rigging.

The Railroad House, built in 1866 by John Kathan of Conklingville, was located on land next to the former Post Office on Rockwell Street. The Railroad House, then run by the Taylor family, burned in 1899. Paul King purchased the property in 1900 and erected the Arlington Hotel. The hotel was 3 stories high and had 30 rooms. An Arlington stage met passengers at the D&H Stanton, just down the street. The King family continuously operated the hotel until its destruction by fire February 12, 1954.

The Jeremy Rockwell Homestead was built in 1812. The 12 room home of federal style architecture had Corinthian pillars topped with Grecian Urns and a central, second story Palladian window. The timbers of the home were lumbered from the property. Jer-

emy Rockwell settled on the Hudson River due to the availability of water power. A grist mill and a saw mill were built but washed out in 1830. Burned July 4, 1886.

The Rockwells became prosperous and influential in the Hadley-Luzerne area, being successful in several business ventures. The large front portion of their home burned July 4, 1886 and the back portion burned several years later.

The River Rock Hotel was located between the Jeremy Rockwell home and the bridge to Luzerne. It was operated by Mr. Toomey and his partner Guy Phelteplace. The hotel accommodated 28 guests. Foundation ruins, which remain from the hotel or a store, also in this vicinity, can be seen to the left approaching the bridge.

The Cascade House—Harmon Rockwell one of Jeremy Rockwell's 13 children, built the Cascade House in 1843. The hotel stood on the high bank of the Hudson River below the bridge over the gorge and offered a scenic view of the river and mountains. In 1878 Rockwell's grandson Charles built the Rockwell Falls Fiber Company beyond the Cascade House, which later was used as an office for the paper mill.

Paper Mill—Looking from the bridge to the confluence of the Hudson and Sacandaga Rivers, retaining wall ruins of the former George West Paper Mill may be seen on the Hadley side of the river. In times of melting snow and unusually heavy rainfalls, river water flows into the wall ruins. The paper mill began operation in 1878 and closed about 1923. The buildings were demolished in 1936 after the New York Power Company purchased the property, now owned by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation.

Jeremy Rockwell was Justice of the Peace as early as 1808 and continued to act as such until 1830. From 1816 to 1819 he was Town Clerk, and in the spring of 1819 was elected Supervisor of the town, he continued until his death in 1835. Jeremy Rockwell also held offices of Associate Judge, member of the Assembly and was a member of the Convention that framed the Constitution of 1821 for the State. He died August 14, 1835 at the age of 70.

Since October 21, 1826 there was a Hadley Post Office where Jeremy Rockwell was Post-Master. The Post Office was a small booth building at the entrance to the wooden plank bridge to Lake Luzerne. In 1877 a new Post Office building was located on the south side of Rockwell Street adjacent to the bridge. The building was moved close to the four corners when the new concrete bridge was built in 1932 and continued until 1991 when a new building was erected on Old Corinth Road, to house the post office. Currently a Laundromat and dog groomer occupy that building.

Saratoga Rose—The private residence, Hill Top was built in the 1880's by the Myers Van Zandt family. Myers, a New York City businessman, married Catherine Rockwell, granddaughter of Jeremy Rockwell. Through the years the home has been the Upper Hudson Sanitarium, residence of the paper mill superintendent, Rozelle's Funeral Home in the 1930's and apartments in the 1940's. In 1984 it was restored and opened as Highclere Inn and Restaurant by Margaret and James Mandigo. Further renovations were made by Nancy and Anthony Merlino and reopened as Saratoga Rose on May 31, 1988.

The VanZandt Cottage—The Jeremy Rockwell Family lived in the cottage, built in 1792 until the larger Rockwell family home was completed in 1812. Jeremy Rockwell's granddaughter Catherine and her husband Myers VanZandt occupied the cottage until the completion of their home, Hilltop, in the 1880's. The cottage was moved to the opposite side of the street when Niagara Mohawk

purchased the property in 1926. The cottage is presently the residence of the Garofalo family.

The Bow Bridge—The Parabolic Bridge, better known as the Bow Bridge, was built in 1885 to replace an 1813 wooden covered bridge, which burned. The Bow Bridge is one of the 3 iron lenticular truss bridges built in New York State and is the only one yet standing. The Bow Bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 25, 1977.

Henry Rockwell Home—Better known locally as the Fowler Home, was built in 1817 by Jeremy Rockwell for his first born son Henry. Many design elements were copied from Jeremy's own home.

The soil in the Town of Hadley is sandy and light with many large boulders. In the southeastern part of the town stands the iron mountain, Mount Anthony, which rises to a considerable height. It is the highest peak in the Kayaderossera Range. The ore is not rich enough to be mined for a profitable business.

In 1930 the Sacandaga River was made into a dam 27 miles long, by flooding the river valley from Hadley to Broadalbin. This is known as the Conklingville Dam. In 1953 the river below the dam was flooded for a mile and a half becoming Stewart Dam. There is just a short distance left of the Sacandaga River until it meets the Hudson River, flowing in from the north. Therefore, today we have 2 dams in the Town of Hadley.

1. The Town of Hadley installed the lighting district on October 4, 1930.

2. January 3, 1928 the Van R. Rhodes Fire Department was formed and the Ladies Auxiliary was organized June of 1939.

3. The Hadley Fire Tower, erected of wood in 1916, was replaced by New York State with a steel tower in 1920.

4. A High School was located on the Stony Creek Road, opposite the present Town Hall. It was a 2 story wooden building, which was destroyed by fire in 910. On July 30, 1909, in the Town of Lake Luzerne, a replacement school was accepted.

The Town of Hadley has, in the past, had 3 doctors. Dr. Thompson, Dr. Rodgers, and Dr. Leo Giordano. At present, there are no doctors in town.

Politics in the Town of Hadley. The Town Board is predominantly Republican.

Population of the Town is 1,628, according to the 1990 census.

Schools—Hadley-Luzerne Central School currently serves the population.

Public Housing—Today there are several apartment buildings in the town.

Sports—We have a Park Committee that maintains and improves the Sam Smead Memorial Park. There are several softball teams that have league play throughout the summer, and the park is also used by the school, churches, and individuals for planned activities.

Highest point of elevation is Hadley Mountain at 2,653 feet. The entrance is on Tower Road.

Industrial Enterprises—Lynwood Tannery was built in 1848 by Gordon Conkling. The paper collar/box factory, owned by James Libby, began its operations 1872.

HONORING CLAUDIA STANLEY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Claudia Stanley for being

named a 2001 Top Ten Business Woman. She will receive the award at the annual convention of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) in Atlanta, GA.

Claudia was nominated by the local Ponderosa Chapter of ABWA in Fresno. She has served as President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Bulletin-Committee Chairman, and Ways and Means Chairman for the Ponderosa Chapter.

For nearly a decade Claudia has effectively run her successful business, the certified public accounting firm C. Stanley CPA & Associates. Her business currently serves more than 350 clients.

Stanley is originally from the Boston area. She moved to Fresno with her family at the age of 12. She attended the former Queen of the Valley Academy. After high school she worked at a minimum-wage job before deciding to tackle college. She earned a bachelor's degree in business with an emphasis on accounting from Fresno State University. It took her 11 years to finish college because she held a full time job while attending class at night.

Her career and philanthropic achievements include teaching Sunday School for 24 years and membership in the local chapter of the Society of California Accountants.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Claudia Stanley for being named a 2001 Top Ten Business Woman. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Stanley many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTY REYNOLDS

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons southern Indiana is such a great place to live is because our citizens and organizations generously contribute their time and their money to help their neighbors and their communities.

There are times, however, when a Hoosier shows a commitment to better his or her community that is above and beyond the outstanding work that is done every day. One of these Hoosiers is Ms. Christy Reynolds, of Jeffersonville, Indiana. She recently donated \$25,000 to Haven House Services, a non-profit organization that provides shelter, support, and services to people in need in Clark, Floyd, and Harrison Counties.

While making a contribution of \$25,000 to any charitable program or organization is an act of great generosity, Christy's donation is even more remarkable. She was once close to being a resident of Haven House herself. A single mother of two daughters, ages 3 and 12, Christy and her family have lived in Jeffersonville their entire lives. As a teenager, Christy dropped out of high school and struggled with many of her parental responsibilities. She found her way to Haven House Services, a place that offered her healing, hope, and a chance to learn a vocation.

She overcame some major obstacles and got on the right track. She is now employed as a VISTA volunteer at Haven House. She helps organize Haven House's spring and summer fundraisers, as well as the annual Christmas party. Haven House throws for its clients in Clark and Floyd counties.

Recently, Christy's father passed away after a long bout with lung cancer and she inherited \$75,000. She gave \$25,000 of this inheritance to Haven House.

I salute Christy for this wonderful act of charity. As Haven House helped Christy get through her own difficult times, Christy is making it possible for Haven House to help other people who know the pain of being homeless and without hope. Christy has bought a home, left the welfare rolls, and in her own words, "did what was right by giving to others. Because when you give, it comes back to you." Christy's contribution should be a reminder to all of us what generosity and love of neighbor really mean.

HONORING JERRY MARTIN AS THE MERCED—MARIPOSA CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, Mr. Jerry Martin, who is being recognized as Labor Leader of the Year by the Merced-Mariposa Central Labor Council. Jerry has brought tenacity, dedication, leadership, commitment and a certain "Martin Style" to labor organizing and political activities in California's Great Central Valley. He has been intimately involved in the development of Local 1288 of the United Food and Commercial Workers, one of the most effective and successful unions in the Central valley.

Jerry has also made the Merced-Mariposa Central Labor Council one of California's most effective and respected labor organizations. When the Merced-Mariposa Central Labor Council gives its word, it keeps it. Whether it is financial power or people power, or both, once a pledge is made, it is kept. Elected officials also know the Labor Council will hold them accountable, that once their word is given, it too, must be honored.

Jerry Martin has also made the annual Merced-Mariposa Central Labor Council "Union Yes" dinner one of the most interesting political events in California. People who come to this dinner never know what they will get, but they do know it will be memorable.

It is with great pride, and a little trepidation, that I recognize Jerry Martin for his many years of devoted work on behalf of the working men and women of our valley, our state, and our nation. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jerry Martin as Merced-Mariposa Central Labor Council Labor Leader of the Year.

HONORING RETIREMENT OF SUSAN McCAHAN

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the public service of Susan McCahan, Executive Assistant to the Speaker of the House of Maryland.

Susan served as Executive Assistant to five Maryland Speakers of the House, myself included. Her behind the scenes work created an efficient and productive work environment. Thanks in large part to Susan's extraordinary talents the Maryland Legislature was transformed into one of the most productive, respected, and effective legislative bodies in the nation.

Speakers came and moved on, but Susan McCahan was the stable influence that permitted continuous improvement in the Maryland House of Delegates. Under her supervision, the first House Office Building was constructed. She helped institute professional management within the legislative branch of government. Budget discipline was instituted.

Her interest in the legislative page program enabled hundreds of high school students from throughout Maryland to participate in the democratic process.

In addition to her legislative duties, Susan also served as chair of the Leadership Staff Section to the National Conference of State Legislators. Her leadership in the Speaker's Society—the organization for former members of the House of Delegates—gave her the distinction of serving as the Executive Director of that organization.

On a personal note, during eight years as Speaker, Susan's professional management skills allowed me the opportunity to concentrate on policy development.

In 1967 when Susan McCahan started her public service, the legislative branch of Maryland government was dominated by the Executive branch. Today, thanks in large part to Susan, the Maryland Legislature is an independent and strong voice in developing and overseeing state policy.

I would ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Susan McCahan for her service and contributions to the legislative process and the State of Maryland and wishing her well in her retirement.

HONORING REV. CHESTER MCGENSY FOR HIS PORTRAITS OF SUCCESS AWARD

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Chester McGensy for receiving the Portraits of Success Award. This award pays tribute to Reverend McGensy's involvement in the African-American community. His active involvement has made him a role model for the members of his local community.

Reverend McGensy was born and raised in Fresno. In 1986, as a General Building Contractor, he established Delta Electric, an electrical contracting company. His company became a vital part of Fresno's economy employing several individuals. In 1990, while operating Delta Electric, Chester felt a holy calling into the gospel ministry. He decided to further his education in the gospel by attending the Mennonite Brethren Seminary. After nine successful years in business, Chester left his company to begin a new church in Northeast Fresno. In 1995 he began Family Community Church with 5 members. Under his leadership,

the church membership has grown to over 750 members. The church has recently completed its first structure, a 22,000 square foot multi-purpose building in Northeast Fresno.

His involvement with community organizations include: West Fresno Ministerial Alliance, No Name Fellowship, Edison High School Parent Club, Clovis West Foundation, Evangel Home, Marjoree Mason Home, Angel Tree Project, Feed Fresno Food Give-A-Way, Prison Ministry, Salvation Army Bell Ringers, Poverello House, and the Rescue Mission.

His accomplishments have earned him a Portraits of Success Award, presented by KSEE-24 and Companies That Care in recognition of African-American History Month.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Reverend Chester McGensy for his commitment to improving the lives of the people in the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Reverend McGensy many more years of continued success.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE
LOCK-BOX ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2001

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2 because I believe we should honor the commitment our government has made to protect America's seniors. We must guarantee that the money American workers pay into Social Security and Medicare, plus all of the interest those Trust Funds earn on this money, is used to keep Medicare and Social Security solvent. Not only will this bill help us shore up Social Security and Medicare, but taking these Trust Funds off-budget will allow us to pay down our national debt and keep our economy strong.

Congress should protect the retirement funds we have promised to military retirees in the same way we are protecting Medicare and Social Security. We must not spend or otherwise dedicate any funds that are currently building in the Military Retirement Trust Fund, the on-budget fund that pays the military pensions of hundreds of thousands of men and women who have served this country in uniform.

At the end of the year 2000, the balance of the Military Retirement Trust Fund was \$163 billion. Over the next 10 years, the Congressional Budget Office projects that more than \$100 billion additional dollars will be set aside in the fund.

Few people realize that the current the budget surplus estimate includes money already promised to military personnel for their retirement. We should not consider any of the dollars set aside for military retirees as part of this surplus. And we certainly should not spend any of the money in the Military Retirement Trust Fund for purposes other than paying the retirement benefits of our fighting men and women. While I support this bill, I hope my colleagues will do the right thing by passing similar legislation to protect the Military Retirement Trust Fund.

My colleague, GENE TAYLOR, and I have introduced a resolution calling on Congress to preserve the Military Retirement Trust Fund.

H. Res. 23, the Military Retirement Protection Resolution, says Congress should not use the Military Retirement Trust Fund money for anything but what it is intended for: paying military retirement benefits. That is the least we can do for the men and women who send so much of their lives defending our nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS.
CHRISSIE WOOLCOCK COLLINS

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the late Mrs. Chrissie Woolcock Collins, the cofounder of one of the world's most famous medical information and identification devices, Medic Alert. Mrs. Collins was memorialized at a service on Saturday, January 27, 2001.

Medic Alert Foundation is the nation's leading emergency medical information and identification service, and one of the world's largest non-profit organizations, representing over 4 million members worldwide. The service has helped protect and save lives for nearly 45 years.

Mrs. Collins was born on July 30, 1906, in Douglas, Isle of Man, British Isles. She and her family immigrated to Turlock, California in 1912. She attended elementary schools in Turlock, and graduated from Turlock High School in 1923.

She earned a bachelor degree in music from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California in 1928. In 1929 she married Marion Carter Collins whom she met in the eighth grade. Her husband went on to earn his medical degree and was a practicing physician in Turlock. Mrs. Collins was formerly employed as supervisor of music for the Turlock Elementary School System and as choral director for adult education in Turlock. She and Dr. Collins raised four children—Michael, Linda, Tom and Margaret.

In 1953 while on vacation her daughter, Linda, cut her finger. She was taken to the Lillian Collins Hospital in Turlock and attended to by her uncle, Dr. James Collins. He performed a skin test before injecting Linda with the full dose of tetanus antitoxin. Instantly, she went into anaphylactic shock, developed hives, had difficulty breathing and had to be sustained by an oxygen tent.

Dr. and Mrs. Collins took the lessons learned from their daughter's mishap and developed them into concepts that today characterized the first and most recognized emergency medical information service, Medic Alert Foundation. They realized that the need for immediate recognition of a medical condition by emergency medical personnel was a concern shared by millions of others. Together, they designed an emblem that has stood the test of time and remained virtually unchanged over the years. They used a version of the healing arts symbol, the caduceus, or staff of Aesculapius, flanked by the words 'Medic Alert' in red. A jeweler in San Francisco crafted the bracelet and engraved Linda's allergies to tetanus antitoxin, aspirin and sulfa drugs on the back. The original bracelet, now in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institution, signifies the importance of the Collins' ef-

forts and dedication. Today, the Medic Alert emblem is worn by more than 4 million members worldwide.

Her dedication and commitment to the community continued throughout the years. In addition to her participation in many civic and social organizations, she was honored by the Muir Trail Council of Girl Scouts, the Native Daughters of the Golden West, the Turlock Chamber of Commerce as well as many other organizations.

Her contributions and influence on Medic Alert Foundation are legendary. She is recognized not only as the organization's co-founder, but its conscience and spirit as well. From 1960 until her death, Mrs. Collins served on the board of directors for the Medic Alert Foundation.

It is an honor and a privilege to recognize the life and accomplishments of Mrs. Chrissie Collins. Through Mrs. Collins' continued efforts, Medic Alert Foundation is a worldwide organization that has served countless numbers of people. I am very proud that Medic Alert Foundation calls Turlock, California its home. Mrs. Collins' legacy will serve as an example for the community today, tomorrow and for our future.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE
ADJUSTMENT ACT—A DESCRIPTION

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, The Federal Deposit Insurance Adjustment Act indexes deposit insurance coverage to inflation every three years, as well as retroactively indexing back to 1980, thus raising the deposit insurance ceiling to approximately \$200,000.

Since 1980, FDIC deposit insurance has lost almost half of its value on an inflation-indexed basis. Today, deposit insurance is less than it was in 1974 when FDIC coverage was doubled to \$40,000.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Adjustment Act provides depositors with increased security while strengthening the safety and soundness of the banking system. It will help local communities by enabling depositors to keep more of their money in local banks, where it can be reinvested for community projects and local lending. Lastly, it will help small depositors, especially those on fixed incomes and small businesses, who need liquidity, or who are not in a position to take advantage of our stock market or to bear the risks inherent in the stock market.

STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY THE
AIRLINE MERGER MORATORIUM
ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, we are in the midst of a merger tsunami. Airline mergers are sweeping over us, and airline competition will be lost in the tide. Ten major airlines are

preparing to consolidate into three mega airlines controlling eighty-five percent of the U.S. commercial air transportation services.

A GAO report that I, along with my colleague JAMES OBERSTAR (MN), requested made clear in December that the proposed US Airways/United merger would trigger further consolidation of the industry, thereby reducing the industry to as few as three major carriers. That prediction has come true faster than any of us imagined. It appears that the mere possibility of a United/US Airways merger has prompted American Airlines to buy Trans World Airlines. Now press reports indicate that Delta Airlines, Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines are also exploring a strategic alliance.

No one believes that these mergers are going to benefit consumers. We need a moratorium to determine how detrimental the impact of these mergers will be on the flying public.

Twenty-two years into deregulation, we have been left with fewer airlines, eroding passenger service, and gridlock. President Bush would have the opportunity during a moratorium to order a comprehensive review of how these mergers will adversely impact the public. Newly appointed U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft would have the necessary time to fully understand the problems, opportunities and constraints faced by new carriers.

A moratorium would provide the Bush administration with sufficient time to establish a new merger policy. These are enormously complex mergers where the public interest must be a factor in determining whether to allow them to go forward.

A moratorium would provide Congress an opportunity to request its own independent analysis of consolidation-related issues from the Transportation Research Board (TRB)—as Congress did in 1999 with respect to the DOT Competition Guidelines.

Congress could seek a TRB analysis of the many merger-related questions that remain open including the following:

What are the anticipated long-term impacts on air transportation system workers should these mergers be approved?

Is US Airways really a failing airline? If so, why in United paying a huge market premium to acquire it?

What is the best use of publicly owned take-off and landing time slots at Reagan National Airport?

What would be the national economic impacts from a labor strike among airline employees should these mergers consolidate the airline industry into three major carriers?

Generations of American taxpayers have poured their hard-earned tax dollars into building our nation's aviation infrastructure. These same taxpayers now find themselves at the mercy of the marketing departments of mega-carriers who can decide with impunity which regions of the country will live or die based on their access to air service.

We owe it to our constituents to take a hard look at how these mergers will further impact our communities.

CBC HEARING ON ELECTION
REFORM

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, in 1857, the Supreme Court majority penned these infamous words: "[The black man has] no rights which the white man was bound to respect." The state of minority voting rights in America is in disorder, and I see a direct line between the debacle of 2000 and that shameful ruling in the Dred Scott case that found that blacks could not be citizens of the United States of America. From that decision and onto Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896, which struck down a federal law passed to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, black Americans have known that the Supreme Court can, at its worst, become a reflection of the particular mutation of racism of the day.

We find ourselves today in a serious retrenchment on our country's commitment to mainstreaming into American life its former slaves. Affirmative action has been decimated. The Voting Rights Act has been bludgeoned, with its enforcement section due to expire in less than a decade, and the ability of minorities to elect their candidates of choice severely hampered by the Supreme Court in its rulings limiting the ability to create black-majority congressional districts and limiting the enforcement powers of the Department of Justice.

But no one, I'm certain, ever thought that the kind of voter suppression witnessed in the 2000 Presidential elections would ever be revisited upon America's minorities. If I had to give a State of the State of the Minority Vote, I would say that disfranchisement, not enfranchisement, is the order of the day. First, in 1978, the Burger Supreme Court turned the Fourteenth Amendment sideways by outlawing the use of racial quotas implemented for the purpose of including minorities in America's life. A few years later, the Rehnquist Court stood the Fourteenth Amendment on its head by issuing its startling decision in *Shaw v. Reno* that completely changed the political map for America's minorities. In the Court's ruling in *Johnson v. Miller*, Georgia's redistricting case I learned the hard way that Supreme Court justices, like other participants in our judiciary, are political actors first and foremost. I saw them dismantle my district and pave the way so that other black voters across the South could receive similar mistreatment.

The Voting Rights Act was passed to prohibit impediments to voting. The original focus was literacy tests, poll taxes, and direct threats and intimidation, along with redistricting, dual voter lists, location of polling places and eventually, voter registration, and purging of names from the voter list. However, innovation has never been lacking among those who want to suppress and deny minority voting rights. As we have seen in the debacle of the Year 2000 Presidential Elections, especially in Florida, minority voter suppression comes in many forms.

Take my State of Georgia. In the majority black precincts of my district, the chaos was so pervasive it could have been planned. In one precinct in my district, white police even blocked the entrance and refused free access

for voters because of an erroneous belief that I hadn't supported their pay raise. Too often there was only voter list. There were poorly trained elections workers, old equipment and overcrowded precincts right next to unused spacious accommodations. The frequent inability to handle high voter turnout is particularly disgraceful. Having to stand in line, sometimes outside in the rain and sometimes for as many as five hours, is outrageous and unconscionable and should not be tolerated anywhere, let alone the world's wealthiest nation. Yet that happened at many of my precincts in my district. It is also inexcusable to stand in line for hours, only to reach the table and be told that you are not at the correct voting place, that there is no time to get to the correct place and that you won't be able to vote. This also happened over and over again in my district.

Interestingly, we have Democrats in charge of our county, yes they vote to deny funds to allow a smooth voting process for the areas of the county now experiencing tremendous population growth. It shouldn't be surprising that this population growth is nearly all black. What makes this governing body's failure to appropriate the necessary funds to accommodate our new voters is so shocking that we had this same scenario in 1996, a Presidential election year and the year in which I faced reelection in a majority white district with well-financed white Democratic and Republican opposition. An overwhelming black turnout returned me to Congress despite the new district and in the process the county elected its first black sheriff and superior court clerk. They immediately voted to give the black newspaper the legal organ designation and a change in the county was evident. There should not have been a repeat of the chaos this year, but there was. I would suggest that perhaps the leaders responsible for appropriating funds for DeKalb County don't want large voter participation from the black residents on its south side. That's the only way I can explain the failure to fund adequately the elections office for the past four years. I would argue that, this is a subtle violation of the Voting Rights Act with the intent and effect of suppressing the minority vote.

Let me address other ways that we are disfranchised:

A recent study by the Southern Regional Council found that punchcard machines are disproportionately used by black voters in Georgia and disproportionately fail to register votes. Similar findings come from other states, yet many states are hard-pressed for funds for the infrastructure of democracy. If Congress fails to fund modernization of election equipment in the United States and better training and education of pollworkers and voters, we will send the message that it doesn't matter if votes aren't counted. A one-time Federal investment equal to less than one percent of the annual defense budget would give Americans the voting mechanics a modern democracy—let alone one of our status—demands. If President Bush truly wants to move beyond the controversy in Florida, his immediate step must be to support full federal support to states in modernizing equipment and procedures.

Why should people who have served their time and paid their debt to society be permanently disfranchised from America's body politic? Fourteen States bar criminal offenders

from voting even after they have finished their sentences. Once these people have returned to society, become good mothers and fathers, have jobs and are taxpayers, why should they not be allowed to vote? And because of the disproportionate impact of racism in this country, blacks and Latinos bear a disproportionate share of the burden of the loss of the right to vote. If Canada and other countries can take affirmative action to register former prisoners and bring them into full citizenship, then so can America. That's why I have cosponsored and plan to sponsor legislation having this effect on the federal level.

I strongly support creation of black-majority legislative districts. In a winner-take-all system in which 50.1 percent of voters can win 100 percent of power, they often are the only vehicle for people of color winning representation. But why should we accept these winner-take-all electoral rules that by definition deny representation to any political grouping that is in a minority in an area? What makes Republicans living in a majority-Republican district any more deserving of a chance to elect someone than Republicans living in a majority-Democratic district? Why should the black voters who were so happy to help elect me in my original congressional district no longer have that chance just because the courts ordered my district changed? How can some downplay the role of race in voting in America even as no blacks or Latinos serve in the U.S. Senate—and no State has a black or Latino majority?

I work hard to represent everyone in my district, but I have no illusions; a large number of my constituents would prefer another Representative. And as the only Congresswoman from Georgia and the only black woman Representative from the deep South States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, I feel an obligation to speak for many people outside my district. Different voting systems would allow elections to be based on this reality, rather than the fallacy that Members speak only for the people in their districts.

Our entire electoral system should be reformed to make our institutions more reflective of America's voters. That's why I have authored in each of the past three Congresses the Voters Choice Act which allows the States to adopt proportional voting systems. Of the world's 36 major, full-fledged democracies, 33 use forms of proportional representation for national elections. Proportional systems also have a history in the United States. For example, then-governor George W. Bush signed legislation in Texas that has contributed to more than 50 localities moving to proportional systems in Texas. In May 2000, Amarillo used cumulative voting for the first time to elect its school board. It resulted in victories by the first black candidate ever to win a seat, the first Latino candidate to win since the 1970s, a tripling of voter turnout and widespread acceptance of the new rules. It is proportional representation in the Republic of South Africa that allows the Afrikaaner parties to have representative in the South African Parliament despite majority rule.

The principle of proportional voting is simple: That like-minded voters should be able to win seats in proportion to their share of the vote without hurting the rights of others—which is to say that 20 percent of like-minded voters in Peoria call fill one of five city council

seats with its cumulative voting system, and 51 percent will elect a majority of three seats. It mechanisms range from party-based systems, which allow small parties to win seats, to candidate-based systems that would simply widen the "bid tent" of the major parties. Either way, its impact would be powerful in reinvigorating American politics, encouraging more cooperative policy-making and giving voters a greater range of choice.

Campaign finance reform must become more than a slogan, but law if we are to really give voters a choice in candidates. Right now, the special interests select the candidates before we even get to vote, so our choices as voters are severely limited due to the influence of special interest political money. I have benefited from current laws, as my incumbency helped me raise enough money to have the chance to reach new voters and hold onto my seat in Congress even after it was converted into a white-majority district. But that doesn't stop me from wanting to establish a political playing field in which all Americans have a chance to play, not just those with money or rich friends.

America is increasingly becoming a country of people of color. We know that southern resistance to minority gains of the Civil Rights Era never ended. But as America becomes a country of color we have seen southern resistance spread across our land. We must remain vigilant. Any policy that has the effect of suppressing or diluting the votes of people of color is not sustainable and violates the Voting Rights Act. We have severe problems facing us today. A black boy born in Harlem has less chance of reaching age 65 than a boy born in Bangladesh. Twenty-six black men were executed last year. And too many black men have been relegated to the streets, underpasses, and heating grates of America's urban cities. It is only through the vote that we will be able to change the conditions in our community and to right the multitudinous wrongs that have been foisted upon our condition. We have the power to change the status quo and our opponents know that well. That is why the practice of minority voter suppression is alive and well. However, until now, we didn't realize the power that we have. The Emperor is naked now. And as a result, the devious acts of minority vote suppression have been laid bare for the world to see. We have seen them too. I predict that the black electorate will never be the same. Just like white America, we now know that our votes count and as a result we will demand that our votes be counted.

HONORING CAROLYN GOLDEN FOR
HER PORTRAITS OF SUCCESS
AWARD

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn Golden for receiving the Portraits of Success Award. This award pays tribute to Ms. Golden's involvement in the African-American community. Her active involvement has made her a role model for the members of her local community.

Carolyn graduated from Fresno University in 1973. In 1974, she began work as a Deputy

Probation Officer. From 1978 to 1991 she served as a Campus Probation Officer, a Placement Officer, and a Superior Court Investigator. In 1991, Carolyn became the Probation Services Manager for the Fresno County Probation Department. She also serves as the Project Coordinator of the Victim/Witness Program in Fresno County.

Her involvement with volunteer and professional organizations include: KVPT, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Black Catholic United, N.A.A.C.P., YWCA Marjoree Mason Center, Big Brother/Big Sister, Central Valley March of Dimes, African-American Museum San Joaquin Valley, Citizen's Advisory Committee for Pleasant Valley State Prison, Women's Criminal Justice Association, Black Peace Officer's Association, California Victim Witness Coordinating Council, AD HOC Committee Member, Domestic Violence Round Table, California Probation & Parole Correctional Association.

Her accomplishments have earned her a Portraits of Success Award, presented by KSEE-24 and Companies That Care in recognition of African-American History Month.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Carolyn Golden for her commitment to improving the lives of the people in the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Carolyn Golden many more years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAL
RESEARCH INVESTMENT ACT

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce bipartisan legislation, the Paul Coverdell Medical Research Investment Act.

Under the current tax code, deductible charitable cash gifts to support medical research are limited to 50% of an individual's adjusted gross income. This bill would simply increase the deductibility of cash gifts for medical research to 80% of an individual's adjusted gross income. For those individuals who are willing and able to give more than 80% of their income, the bill also extends the period an individual can carry the deduction forward for excess charitable gifts from five years to ten years.

In what is perhaps the most important change for today's economy, the bill allows taxpayers to donate stock without being penalized for it. Americans regularly donate stock acquired through a stock option plan to their favorite charity. And often they make the donation within a year of exercising their stock options. But current law penalizes these donations by taxing them as ordinary income or as capital gain. These taxes can run as high as 40%, which acts as a disincentive to contribute to charities. How absurd that someone who donates \$1,000 to a charity has to sell \$1,400 of stock to pay for it. The person could wait a year and give the stock then, but why delay the contribution when that money can be put to work curing disease today. The MRI Act is premised on a simple truth: People should not be penalized for helping others.

PriceWaterhouseCoopers, relying on IRS data and studies of charitable giving, conducted a study on the effects of the MRI Act.

It concluded that if the proposal were in effect last year there would have been a 4.0% to 4.5% income in individual giving in 2000. This amounts to \$180.4 million additional dollars in charitable donations for medical research—dollars that would result in tangible health benefits to all Americans. If the additional giving grew every year over five years at the same rate as national income a billion dollars more would be put to work to cure disease. Over the course of ten years, the number jumps to \$2.3 billion in new money for medical research. For many research efforts, that money could mean the difference between finding a cure or not finding a cure.

The returns from increased funding of medical research—not only in economic savings to the country, but in terms of curing disease and finding new treatments—could be enormous. The amount and impact of disease in this country is staggering. Each day more than 1,500 Americans die of cancer. Sixteen million people have diabetes—their lives are shortened by an average of fifteen years. Cardiovascular diseases take approximately one million American lives a year. One and a half million people have Parkinson's Disease. Countless families suffer with the pain of a loved one who has Alzheimer's. And yet these diseases go without a cure. We must work towards the day then they are cured, prevented, or eliminated—just like polio and smallpox were years ago.

Increased funding of medical research by the private sector is needed to save and improve American lives. New discoveries in science and technology are creating even greater opportunities than in the past for large returns from money invested in medical research. The mapping of the human genome is but one example. Dr. Abraham Lieberman, a neurologist at the National Parkinson's Foundation, was quoted in Newsweek as saying that the medical research community today is "standing at the same threshold that we reached with infectious disease 100 years ago."

The MRI Act encourages the financial gifts that will enable that threshold to be overcome. I hope you will join me in supporting it.

IN TRIBUTE TO NORWEGIAN
AMBASSADOR TOM VRAALSEN

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the co-founders of the Friends of Norway Congressional Caucus—Representative EARL POMEROY of North Dakota, Representative JOHN THUNE of South Dakota, and myself—to pay tribute to a dear friend, His Excellency Tom Vraalsen, as he concludes his tenure as the Norwegian Ambassador to the United States. After five years of distinguished service here, Ambassador Vraalsen is leaving to become the Norwegian Ambassador to Finland.

Ambassador Vraalsen's record of public service to his own country, and to the world community, is remarkable. Prior to his tenure as Norwegian Ambassador to the United States, he served as the Norwegian Ambassador to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

He served as Norway's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1975 to 1979. A member of the Foreign Service since 1960, Ambassador Vraalsen has also held several positions in Norwegian embassies in Peking, Cairo, Manila, and Jakarta.

Ambassador Vraalsen is a respected expert in international humanitarian and socio-economic development issues—having most recently served as Special Envoy of the U.N. Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in the Sudan in 1998. In addition, he has written numerous papers and articles on African economic development issues, as well as conflict prevention and resolution, and he is author and co-author, respectively, of two books: *The U.N.—Dream and Reality* (1984) and *U.N. in Focus* (1975).

Our friendships with Ambassador Vraalsen have been complemented through our work with him on the Friends of Norway Congressional Caucus—an organization we established in the House of Representatives in 1999. Ambassador Vraalsen first developed the idea to create the Caucus, which he believed would help foster connections between American and Norwegian leaders and address issues of concern to the Norwegian-American community. Many members of our Caucus are of Norwegian heritage, or represent states in which a significant proportion of Norwegian-Americans live.

The Friends of Norway Congressional Caucus has grown, and today it boasts over 40 members. With Ambassador Vraalsen's cooperation and encouragement, the organization has served as an important medium for promoting cultural, commercial, and economic ties between the United States and Norway.

Ambassador Vraalsen has served his country well as Ambassador to the United States. We feel honored to have worked with him. As he embarks upon a new path in his career of service, we will miss his advice and counsel on issues important to our two countries.

Mr. Speaker, today we wish Ambassador Vraalsen the best of luck, and good health and happiness always. We will miss him.

COMMENDING THE COMMUNITY
SERVICE OF THE HOLYOKE
MALL AT INGLESIDE IN HOLYOKE,
MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the outstanding community service of the Holyoke Mall at Ingleside in Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Many communities in western Massachusetts have faced significant economic and social challenges since the paper industries which once dominated our region's economy moved south and west in the latter half of the twentieth century.

Holyoke, Massachusetts is one such city. But, fortunately for its residents, Holyoke has been blessed with superior creative leadership, both in the public and private sector. Economic revitalization, educational advancements and hope for a better tomorrow are all on the rise in Holyoke, and the Holyoke Mall at Ingleside, one of the city's best corporate

citizens, is a big part of Holyoke's bright future.

Each year for the past nine years, the Holyoke Mall has helped produce "The Future Begins Here" coalition event that supports children's programs throughout the Pioneer Valley. Some of Holyoke's neediest children benefit from "The Future Begins Here," and the Holyoke Mall should be commended for its strong commitment to the initiative. May 6, 2001 will mark the tenth year of the event, with the Holyoke Mall still on board as a key partner.

I commend the Holyoke Mall at Ingleside's focus on the children of the Pioneer Valley. It will help build a better tomorrow for everyone in western Massachusetts.

RECOGNIZING CLOVIS UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Clovis Unified School District for receiving the Meritorious Budget Award. The Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International is given for excellence in the preparation and issuance of a school system annual budget.

ASBO International and school business management professionals designed the Meritorious Budget Awards Program to enable school business administrators to achieve a standard of excellence in budget presentation. This program has helped school systems build a solid foundation in the skills of developing, analyzing, and presenting a budget.

The Meritorious Budget Award is only given to school districts that have met or exceeded the Meritorious Budget Award Program Criteria. This is the only award program that is specifically designed to enhance school budgeting and honor a school system for a job well done.

The Association of School Business Officials International, founded in 1910, is a professional association that provides programs and services to promote the highest standards of school business management practices, professional growth, and the effective use of educational resources.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Clovis Unified School District for receiving the Meritorious Budget Award. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Clovis Unified School District many more years of continued success.

“REMEMBER THE TITANS”: EX-
TOLLING THE VIRTUES OF
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Black History Month and to salute the millions of African-Americans who have made enormous contributions to our culture.

We in the Eighth District of Virginia are particularly proud to celebrate Black History

Month in 2001, for during the past few months Americans have become familiar with one of the greatest stories of racial reconciliation in our nation's history. I refer to "Remember the Titans," which is the story of the integration of the T.C. Williams High School football team. "Remember the Titans" was released last fall by Disney Pictures and features actors Denzel Washington and Will Patton.

In 1971, the Alexandria City Council voted to integrate T.C. Williams High School, a decision that was criticized by many in the community, as T.C. Williams was one of the first schools to be integrated in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We were still in the midst of the Vietnam War, and on the domestic front, relations between those of different races were strained and unstable.

During the summer of 1971, Coach Herman Boone, an African-American who had been coaching in North Carolina, secured the Head Coach position at T.C. Williams High School, a decision that infuriated the white football players and coaching staff already in place at the school. Many of the football players threatened to leave the team and not play football, rather than play for a black coach. Mr. Bill Yoast had been the Assistant Coach at T.C. Williams High School and was next in line to be named Head Coach when Coach Boone arrived on the scene. Coach Yoast remained the Assistant Coach of the football team, and he too struggled with the decision that had been made, even contemplating retiring from coaching football.

After a rocky beginning, Coach Boone and Coach Yoast focused on the same goal: to have the best football team in Virginia, and the country, a goal which they achieved. The Titans won every game that they played, and ended the season as the second best high school team in the nation.

The 1971 T.C. Williams High School football team embodies the ideals we celebrate during Black History Month. In a sense, the football players along with Coaches Boone and Yoast became a family, one which united not only their divided school, but their community as well. Friendships were formed between black and white students that are sustained to this day. We should recall the lessons of the Titans today: to look beyond the outward appearance, and to look instead, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us, at the content of character.

The integration of T.C. Williams High School in 1971, and the peaceful transition that followed after the community as a whole gathered behind the team, paved the way for other schools in Northern Virginia to integrate. I am extremely proud to represent the City of Alexandria and especially T.C. Williams High School, which today remains one of the most culturally diverse high schools in Virginia, where 40 different languages are spoken daily by students from over sixty countries. The student body at T.C. Williams High School is very reflective of the diversity, and more importantly, of the unity, of our great nation.

I am very proud, Mr. Speaker, that the story of Coach Herman Boone and this remarkable team will forever be a part of Black History Month.

MOVING HUMANITY TOWARD A GREAT FUTURE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to the attention of my colleagues, a thoughtful article by Frank Kelly that appeared in the Santa Barbara News-Press, entitled "Moving Humanity Toward a Great Future" on October 1, 2000.

Mr. Frank K. Kelly has been a journalist, a speechwriter for President Truman, Assistant to the Senate Majority Leader, Vice President of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, and Vice President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article:

The sight of 152 national leaders streaming into the United Nations headquarters for a Millennium Summit meeting filled me with rejoicing. The leaders were called together by the Secretary General to develop plans for action to move toward lasting peace and a sustainable future for every one on Earth. They endorsed an eight-page plan to deal with the world community's hardest problems—and the U.N. staff has responded to the Summit mandate.

That gathering was particularly encouraging for me because it came close to being what I had envisioned 33 years ago in articles for the Center Magazine and the Saturday Review. Those articles focused on the signs I saw then of the coming transformation of humanity—when people everywhere would act to meet the needs of every member of the human family. I saw the creative power of human beings being released in a glorious surge of new achievements.

In the Center Magazine articles, I proposed that the Secretary General should be authorized by the U.N. to present annual reports on the state of humanity—reports based on information drawn from all the nations and broadcast around the world each year. I contended that the reports should emphasize the noblest deeds and wisest statements of human beings in every field. It should salute Heroes of Humanity—men and women who were highly creative and compassionate, who served one another and helped one another, who broke the bonds which kept others from developing their abilities, who displayed the deepest respect for the inherent dignity of each human person.

The Millennium Summit was certainly based on the transforming principles that I expected to see. Secretary General Kofi Annan asked leaders there to take every possible step to enable the people of every country to move upward in health and prosperity, and to make a strong effort to reduce the number of people living in dire poverty by 50 percent by the year 2015. His goals were clearly similar to those of an American president—Harry Truman—who declared in an inaugural address in 1949: "Only by helping the least fortunate of its members to help themselves can the human family achieve the decent, satisfying life that is the right of all people."

The gathering of the world's political leaders at the U.N. this year must be followed year by year by reports to humanity from the Secretary General. Year after year, the people of this planet must be reminded of what wonderful, mysterious, amazing beings they actually are. There must be continuing celebrations of human greatness.

I do not believe that political leaders—even the best ones among them—can ade-

quately represent the brilliance, the beauty, the enormous diversities of human beings. Future Summit meetings and future reports must involve singers and dancers, choirs of voices, painters and sculptors, novelists and historians and poets, musicians and composers, mystics and spiritual servants, mediators, theologians, retreat masters, and scientists, homebuilders and architects, craftsmen and teachers, administrators and fire wheelers—people from every field. And every celebration should proclaim and reflect the inexhaustible energies of love.

The Millennium Summit revived for many the people the torrent of hope with which we began the New Year. One the first day of the year 2000 there were television broadcasts from places we had never seen before—showing people welcoming the new era with songs and dances, with outburst of exuberant joy. We felt the kinship of belonging to one human family—but that wave of linkage subsided as the patterns of previous centuries took over again. The new perspectives which we had glimpsed through global communications were not absorbed into our thinking and acting.

But the gathering of leaders at the U.N. brought back our awareness of the fact that we do live in a time of transformation. With all their capacities and their limitations, the leaders made informal contacts with one another than they had never experienced before. When Fidel Castro came close to Bill Clinton and shook Clinton's hand before anyone could stop him, there was a moment of change that would not be forgotten. And the President heard comments from other leaders who milled around him and approached him as person, he responded to them and he had a personal impact on each one of them.

The effects of the Millennium Summit will be felt in countless ways. The U.N. has already gained new vitality from it—new attention from the media, new understanding from people who had largely ignored it. The leaders who mingled there, who talked in the halls and encountered one another unexpectedly, will feel wider responsibilities to the world community as well as to their own nations.

Yet this time of transformation goes far beyond the repercussions from a conference of presidents and prime ministers. It has started dialogues in the homes of people everywhere—and around the Earth through the Internet. It calls for a continuous recognition of the creative events occurring in all countries. It demands a wider awareness of the fast currents of change that are carrying us into new circles of conflict and compassion, new embraces new surges of evolution, tall feelings of hope that great things are coming.

In July, 50 passionate advocates of long-range thinking and constructive action took part in a three-day meeting at La Casa de Maria, a conference and retreat center in Santa Barbara, with the purposes of connecting their lives to one another and becoming more effective in benefiting humanity and a threatened world. Much attention was given to the ideas of Joanna Macy, a Buddhist philosopher and activist, who believes that many signs indicate a great turning in human attitudes. She asserts that many people are turning away from destructive habits of an industrial society toward a life-sustaining society—toward cooperative actions to save the Earth. She believes that this movement "is gaining momentum today through the choices of countless individuals and groups."

The men and women in the sessions at La Casa cited these goals: "To provide people the opportunity to experience and share with others the innermost responses to the present condition of our world: to reframe

their pain for the world as evidence of their interconnectedness in the web of life and hence their power to take part in its healing; to provide people with concepts—from system science, deep ecology, or spiritual traditions—which illumine this power along with exercises which reveal its play in their own lives . . . to enable people to embrace the great turning as a challenge which they are fully capable of meeting in a variety of ways, and as a privilege in which they can take joy”

The soaring presence of joy permeated the gathering in Santa Barbara. We danced and we sang, we looked at one another face to face, finding deep realities in each other's eyes; we imagined what the people of the next century might ask us if we were confronted by representatives of future generations. We went far forward in time and in our sharing of our thoughts and emotions. We laughed together and some of us came close to tears. We felt the potential greatness of the human species.

That experience in the beautiful surroundings of La Casa de Maria on El Bosque road reinforced my conviction that Summit Meetings for Humanity should be held annually or possibly more often. It made me determined again to uphold a right of celebration as a human right essential for a full understanding of the immortal power in the depths of human beings.

Walter Wriston, author of “The Twilight of Sovereignty,” has given us a vivid description of the increasing impact of the global communications system which now provides unlimited channels for education and illumination: “Instead of merely invalidating George Orwell's vision of Big Brother watching the citizen, information technology has allowed the reverse to happen. The average citizen is able to watch Big Brother. Individuals anywhere in the world with a computer and modem can access thousands of databases internationally. And these individuals, who communicate with each other electronically regardless of race, gender, or color, are spreading the spirit of personal expression—of freedom—to the four corners of the Earth.”

Noting that we are now living in what can be called a global village, Wriston observed: “In a global village, denying people human rights or democratic freedoms no longer means denying them an abstraction they have never experienced, but rather it means denying them the established customs of the village. Once people are convinced that these things are possible in the village, an enormous burden falls upon those who would withhold them.”

This is the Age of Open Doors—and the doors cannot be closed against anyone. More than 50 years ago, the U.N. General Assembly endorsed a revolutionary statement drafted by committee headed by an American woman, Eleanor Roosevelt—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Assembly called upon all member countries and people everywhere “to cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories.” The Declaration is now part of the human heritage—an essential element in the aspirations of people all over the planet.

The Declaration proclaims a bedrock fact: “Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.” Every Summit Meeting for Humanity in all the years to come should begin with a reading of the 30 specific articles of the Declaration. It encourages us to become intensely aware of our own marvelous gifts—the pack-

age that came to us in the process of becoming human. It sanctions the pleasure of trying new thoughts, of taking new steps on new paths, and tossing our fears behind us. In the light of it, we welcome the hunger to know and to grow that we see in all the glorious beings around us.

Many scientists now acknowledge that human beings embody the creative power of the universe in a special way. We are connected with the divine power that shaped the stars and brought all things into existence. We limited only by the range of our imaginations—our visions of what can be done.

Herman Hesse, a great novelist, described our situation most beautifully. In one of his books, he wrote: “What then can give rise to a true spirit of peace on Earth? Not commandments and not practical experience. Like all human progress, the love of peace must come from knowledge.”

It is the knowledge of the living substance in us, in each of us, in you and me . . . the secret godliness that each of us bears within us. It is the knowledge that, starting from this innermost point, we can at all times transcend all pairs of opposites, transforming white into black, evil into good, night into day.

The Indians call it Atman; the Chinese; Tao; the Christians call it grace. When the supreme knowledge is present (as in Jesus, Buddha, Plato, or Lao-Tzu) a threshold is crossed, beyond which miracles begin. The war and enmity cease. We can read of it in the New Testament and the discourses of Gautama. Anyone who is so inclined can laugh at it and call it “introverted rubbish,” but to one who has experienced it his enemy becomes his brother, death becomes birth, disgrace honor, calamity good fortune. . . .

“Each thing on Earth discloses itself twofold, as ‘of this world’ and not of this world. But ‘this world’ means what is outside us. Everything that is outside us can become enemy, danger, fear and death. The light dawns with the experience that this entire ‘outworld world’ is not only an object of our perception but at the same time the creation of our soul, with the transformation of all outward into inward things, of the world into the self.”

As humanity moves from one summit to another, as the deep connections of the human family shift from the outward world to the world within us, as we know one another fully at last, the inner knowledge enfolds all of us. A glorious age is around us, and in us and we will take it all into ourselves.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. BONO. Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent for all legislative business during the week of February 12, 2001 through February 16, 2001, due to a medical condition. As a result, I missed the following votes: On Tuesday, February 13, 2001—question “On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended” (Roll No. 12) for issue H. Res. 7—Congratulating the Prime Minister-elect of Israel, Airl Sharon, calling for an end to violence in the Middle East, reaffirming the friendship between the Governments of the United States and Israel—question “On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended” (Roll No. 13) for issue H.R. 2—So-

cial Security and Medicare Lock-Box Act. On Wednesday, February 14, 2001—question “On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass” (Roll No. 14) for issue H.R. 524—Electronic Commerce Enhancement Act—question “On Passage” (Roll No. 15) for issue H.R. 554—Rail Passenger Disaster Family Assistance Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” for question “On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended” for issue H. Res. 34 (Roll No. 12), “yea” for question “On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended” for issue H.R. 2 (Roll No. 13), “yea” for question “On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass” for issue H.R. 524 (Roll No. 14), “yea” for question “On Passage” for issue H.R. 554.

A TRIBUTE TO EMILY RADANOVICH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my niece, Emily Radanovich, for her outstanding performance on the basketball court for the Mariposa High School girls JV basketball team. As a proud uncle, Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter the following Mariposa Gazette article:

RADANOVICH GOES WILD IN DOUBLE-OVERTIME
(By Bruce Gilbert)

In eleven years of covering the Mariposa High girls JV basketball team, this reporter has never before witnessed a performance quite like the one put on by freshman point guard Emily Radanovich in last week's memorable 59-58 win over Orestimba.

With the teams second leading scorer, Katie Lombard, not in uniform due to illness, and with the entire starting front line of sophomores Shannon Poole, Lindsay Miller and Lisa Bower in foul trouble throughout the game, and all eventually fouling out, Radanovich put the Grizzlies on her diminutive back and carried them to victory with long-range shooting, never before seen by this reporter at the girls JV level. All Radanovich did was burn the nets for an eye-popping 31 points, including a sensational six three-pointers. The young freshman sank 11 out of 19 shots from the floor and three out of four free throws, while also handing out three assists.

Radanovich, off a pass from freshman guard Elizabeth Steele, connected on her third basket of the quarter to give MCHS a 40-38 lead with just 16 seconds remaining. However, OHS answered with an outside shot a split second before the buzzer sounded to send the game to overtime.

The overtime began with Radanovich nailing her fifth trey of the game, but Orestimba responded with a basket of their own. Miller then sank a free throw to make it 44-42, and freshman forward Desirae Gilbreth followed with a bucket off an assist from Radanovich to bump the MCHS lead up to 46-42. Radanovich then stripped the OHS point guard of the ball and drove in for a lay-up to give the Grizzlies a 48-42 lead.

The Warriors responded with a pair of free throws, but at the other end of the court MCHS freshman Amanda Fuqua answered with a pair of charity tosses to re-establish the six point lead at 50-44. Orestimba then connected on a three-pointer and added a

pair of freebies to cut the Grizzley lead to 50-49.

With the clock ticking down, the Warriors were forced to foul with five seconds remaining. Radanovich then made one of two with OHS rebounding and calling time-out with four seconds left. Orestimba inbounded the ball to mid-court, and a Warrior drove the left side of the lane, putting up a six-foot bank shot just before the buzzer sounded to send the game into a second overtime.

In the second extra period both teams seemed focused on defense as OHS took the lead at 52-51. Radanovich then bombed in her sixth shot of the night from beyond the arc to give MCHS a 54-52 lead. Following a free throw by Fuqua, and with just 40 seconds left, freshman forward Melissa Bevington stunned the Warriors by hitting from just inside the arc, giving the Grizzlies a five-point lead at 57-52.

OHS answered with a three-pointer of their own, but were forced to foul Radanovich to regain the ball. With 24 seconds left to play, the smiling Radanovich hit nothing but net on both free throws, making it 59-55. The Warriors then air-mailed another trey in the closing seconds to make the final score 59-58.

Besides Radanovich, Fuqua also played well in the absence of the sophomore front court, finishing with eight points and a game high 13 rebounds. Miller had 12 rebounds before fouling out, while Steele totaled nine boards and three assists.

The JV's are now 15-9 on the season, and 9-3 (tied for second) in SL action. They will conclude their season this Thursday, Feb. 15, at 6 pm., when they host the Gustine Reds (9-3 in league).

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Emily Radanovich, as well as the entire girls JV team at Mariposa High School. I urge my colleagues to join me in applauding Emily and the girls for a great season and a job well done.

EVEN OUTSIDE INDIA, SIKHS CONTINUE TO BE HARASSED BY THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND ITS ALLIES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, a disturbing case of Indian harassment against the Sikhs recently came to my attention. Dr. Harjinder Singh Dilgeer is a Sikh who serves as co-editor of the International Journal of Sikh Affairs. Dr. Dilgeer is a Norwegian citizen.

Dr. Dilgeer went to India a few years ago to work for the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC). When new leaders achieved power in the SGPC, Dr. Dilgeer lost his job. He decided to move his family back to Norway.

On January 1, Dr. Dilgeer and his wife and two sons went to the New Delhi airport. The Indian immigration authorities at the airport detained the Dilgeer family because Dr. Dilgeer was on the Indian government's blacklist. An immigration official took Mrs. Dilgeer and the Dilgeer's two sons into another room. He accused them of not being related to Dr. Dilgeer and he threatened them.

After about an hour, Dr. Dilgeer demanded to speak to the Norwegian Ambassador and to a Member of Parliament who is a friend of his. At that point, the Dilgeers were allowed to

board their flight. They arrived at the gate with just two minutes to go.

The Dilgeers' flight to Moscow, where they were to meet a connecting flight back to Norway, missed the connection, so the Dilgeers had to stay in Moscow. They were supposed to be put up in a hotel, but when the Russian immigration authorities checked their passports, they detained Dr. Dilgeer and his family at the airport because Dr. Dilgeer was labelled an "International Terrorist." They said they were acting on information received from Indian immigration authorities. The Dilgeers spend the night sleeping on the airport floor while Dr. Dilgeer was in a Russian lock-up.

Russia is India's long-time ally. India supported the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and has a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union. Russia was one of the countries whose Ambassador attended a meeting led by Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes to discuss setting up a security alliance "to stop the U.S." The Indian government used its influence with its old ally to harass a Sikh simply for leaving the country.

This is typical of Indian tyranny. The Indian government 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 70,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Dalits, Assamese, Tamils, Manipuris, and others. Two independent investigations confirmed that the Indian government massacred 35 Sikhs in the village of Chithi Singhpora in March and evidence suggests that the government was responsible for the murders of six Sikhs last month. The book *Soft Target* shows that the Indian government shot down its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 people, to damage the Sikhs. Christians have been subject to a wave of violence and oppression since Christmas 1998. This repression has included church burnings, raping nuns, murdering priests, and the burning to death of a missionary and his 8- and 10-year old sons. The *Hitavada* newspaper reported in 1994 that the Indian government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, to foment covert terrorist activity in Punjab, Khalistan, and in Kashmir. These are just some examples of India's ongoing tyranny against minorities.

Mr. Speaker, this is not acceptable conduct from any country, especially one that claims to be "the world's largest democracy." Yet despite a pattern of tyranny India remains one of the largest recipients of U.S. aid. That aid should be ended and Congress should go on record in support of self-determination for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagalim, and the other minorities seeking their freedom from India. That is the best way to ensure freedom for all the people in South Asia.

I would like to place in the RECORD a report on the Dilgeer incident by Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon, editor of the International Journal of Sikh Affairs. It is very informative about India's repressive treatment of minorities.

[From the International Journal of Sikh Affairs]

TORTURE, THREATS AND INHUMANE TREATMENT BY INDIAN IMMIGRATION PERSONNEL AT THE INDIRA GANDHI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ON 1ST JANUARY, 2001 AND BY THE RUSSIAN IMMIGRATION PERSONNEL, MOSCOW (INTERNATIONAL) AIRPORT, MOSCOW, RUSSIA

(By Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon, Editor)

No. of Victims: Four (Husband and wife and Two sons) (a) First Names of victims:

(Dr.) Harjinder and Mrs. Harjinder Middle Name: Singh, Mrs. Dilgeer & Singhs (Two sons).

Dr. Harjinder Singh Dilgeer is an authority on the Sikh faith, Sikh history and Sikh culture. Dr. Dilgeer is the founder and Editor in Chief of *The Sikhs: Present and Present An International Journal of Sikh Affairs*. Dr. Dilgeer is the Editor in Chief (on leave) of the *International Journal of Sikh Affairs* ISSN 1481-5435.

(b) Family Name: Dilgeer (Author of the article, "Delhi Airport Te Sikh Naal Salook" meaning "Delhi Airport Authorities' Treatment To the Sikhs": Sant Sipahi (International), Punjabi monthly, published from AMRITSAR, PUNJAB, February 2001, Volume 55 (issue No 2), p. 34-35.

(c) E-mail address: Sant Sipahi C/-<santsipahi@hotmail.com>; 4313 Ranjitpura; Post office: Khalsa College, AMRITSARJI 143 002, India.

(d) Country: formerly of PUNJAB, India (C/-<santsipahi@hotmail.com>; 1413 Ranjitpura; Post office: Khalsa College, AMRITSARJI 143 002, India) Citizenship: Norwegian Travelled on: Norwegian Passport Airline: Aeroflot Russian Airline Flight No.: Not available.

(e) Persons involved: Family of the Victims (Total 4 persons of a family).

(f) Details of incident: Dr. Harjinder Singh Dilgeer, Mrs. Dilgeer and their two sons arrived at the Delhi airport on 1st January, 2001, to go back to his country, Norway. His connecting flight was via Moscow. After checking in, Dr. Dilgeer and family went to the Immigration counter. The immigration authorities detained the family as his name was in their computer (Black listed). One of the immigration personnel told his colleague that he (they) is going out of country and let him/them go. However, the checking continued and they were asked to sit on a bench. In the meantime, another personnel came. He took away their passports (Dr. Dilgeer and Mrs. Dilgeer; their sons travelled on the mother's passport). This immigration personnel asked Mrs. Dilgeer and her sons that you have to prove that you are Dr. Dilgeer's wife and his sons. In the meantime another personnel named Chohan (Chauhan) came. He behaved rudely. Dr. Dilgeer told him that "I am not an Indian citizen and you behave like a gentleman." This Chohan fellow took Mrs. Dilgeer and their sons along and asked them (mother and sons) and threatened them that "you have no relationship with Dr. Dilgeer." Dr. Dilgeer and you (three) are not related. The immigration personnel threatened them and applied psychological pressure during the interrogation. One hour had gone/passed. Then Dr. Dilgeer demanded from the personnel that "he would like to speak to the Ambassador of Norway, Delhi, on phone. Also he would like to speak to one of his friend who is a Member of Parliament of India. After his demand, the immigration personnel changed his behavior and "stamped their passports." Dr. Dilgeer and family arrived just "two" minutes before closing the aircraft's door.

TREATMENT AT MOSCOW AIRPORT

The flight from Delhi missed connection to their flight to Norway. The Russian Immigration personnel checked their passport in order to provide them Hotel until the next available flight to Norway. Dr. Dilgeer was told that you cannot stay in a hotel and you will have to stay at the airport, because you are an "International Terrorist." Their terminology of the International Terrorist was based on the "Terrorists' List provided by the Government of India." The Moscow Immigration authorities kept him (Dr. Dilgeer) in a lock up under their custody. Dr. Dilgeer's family spent the night at the airport and slept on the floor.

This has been the treatment, threats and slandering the Sikhs by the Indian immigration personnel at the Delhi international airport and by the Russian airport authorities of the Moscow airport. India, as everybody knows it, is the best partner (political) bed fellow of Russia in the world affairs.

The writer, Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon (Machaki), Managing Editor and Acting Editor in Chief of the International Journal of Sikh Affairs ISSN 1481-5435, requests the Amnesty International, UN High Commission for Human Rights and other agencies to consider Dr. Dilgeer and his family's case based on the serious violations of their human rights, violations of the rights as international passengers and defaming Dr. Dilgeer as International terrorist by the Russian immigration authorities, based on the information provided to them by the world's "terrorist" administration. India is known to the peace-loving countries of the world as "the largest democracy, India." Democracies do not harass and kill innocent citizens and torture them indiscriminately.

BLAME CONGRESS FOR HMO'S

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I highly recommend the attached article, "Blame Congress for HMOs" by Twila Brase, a registered nurse and President of the Citizens' Council on Health Care, to my colleagues. Ms. Brase demolishes the myth that Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), whose power to deny Americans the health care of their choice has been the subject of much concern, are the result of an unregulated free-market. Instead, Ms. Brase reveals how HMOs were fostered on the American people by the federal government for the express purpose of rationing care.

The story behind the creation of the HMOs is a classic illustration of how the unintended consequences of government policies provide a justification for further expansions of government power. During the early seventies, Congress embraced HMOs in order to address concerns about rapidly escalating health care costs. However, it was Congress which had caused health care costs to spiral by removing control over the health care dollar from consumers and thus eliminating any incentive for consumers to pay attention to costs when selecting health care. Because the consumer had the incentive to control health care cost stripped away, and because politicians were unwilling to either give up power by giving individuals control over their health care or take responsibility for rationing care, a third way to control costs had to be created. Thus, the Nixon Administration, working with advocates of nationalized medicine, crafted legislation providing federal subsidies to HMOs, preempting state laws forbidding physicians to sign contracts to deny care to their patients, and mandating that health plans offer an HMO option in addition to traditional fee-for-service coverage. Federal subsidies, preemption of state law, and mandates on private business hardly sounds like the workings of the free market. Instead, HMOs are the result of the same Nixon-era corporatist, Big Government mindset that produced wage-and-price controls.

Mr. Speaker, in reading this article, I am sure many of my colleagues will think it ironic that many of the supporters of Nixon's plan to foist HMOs on the American public are today promoting the so-called "patients' rights" legislation which attempts to deal with the problem of the HMOs by imposing new federal mandates on the private sector. However, this is not really surprising because both the legislation creating HMOs and the Patients' Bill of Rights reflect the belief that individuals are incapable of providing for their own health care needs in the free market, and therefore government must control health care. The only real difference between our system of medicine and the Canadian "single payer" system is that in America, Congress contracted out the job of rationing health care resources to the HMOs.

As Ms. Brase, points out, so-called "patients' rights" legislation will only further empower federal bureaucrats to make health care decisions for individuals and entrench the current government-HMO complex. Furthermore, because the Patient's Bill of Rights will increase health care costs, thus increasing the number of Americans without health insurance, it will result in pleas for yet another government intervention in the health care market!

The only true solution to the health care problems is to truly allow the private sector to work by restoring control of the health care dollar to the individual through Medical Savings Accounts (MSAs) and large tax credits. In the Medicare program, seniors should not be herded into HMOs but instead should receive increased ability to use Medicare MSAs, which give them control over their health care dollars. Of course, the limits on private contracting in the Medicare program should be lifted immediately.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I hope all my colleagues will read this article and take its lesson to heart. Government-managed care, whether of the socialist or corporatist variety, is doomed to failure. Congress must instead restore a true free-market in health care if we are serious about creating conditions under which individuals can receive quality care free of unnecessary interference from third-parties and central planners.

[From the Ideas On Liberty, Feb. 2001]

BLAME CONGRESS FOR HMOs

(By Twila Brase)

Only 27 years ago, congressional Republicans and Democrats agreed that American patients should gently but firmly be forced into managed care. That patients do not know this fact is evidenced by public outrage directed at health maintenance organizations (HMOs) instead of Congress.

Although members of Congress have managed to keep the public in the dark by joining in the clamor against HMOs, legislative history puts the responsibility and blame squarely in their collective lap.

The proliferation of managed-care organizations (MCOs) in general, and HMOs in particular, resulted from the 1965 enactment of Medicare for the elderly and Medicaid for the poor. Literally overnight, on July 1, 1966, millions of Americans lost all financial responsibility for their health-care decisions.

Offering "free care" led to predictable results. Because Congress placed no restrictions on benefits and removed all sense of cost-consciousness, health-care use and medical costs skyrocketed. Congressional testimony reveals that between 1969 and 1971, physician fees increased 7 percent and hos-

pital charges jumped 13 percent, while the Consumer Price Index rose only 5.3 percent. The nation's health-care bill, which was only \$39 billion in 1965, increased to \$75 billion in 1971. Patients had found the fount of unlimited care, and doctors and hospitals had discovered a pot of gold.

This stampede to the doctor's office, through the U.S. Treasury, sent Congress into a panic. It had unlocked the health-care appetite of millions, and the results were disastrous. While fiscal prudence demanded a hasty retreat, Congress opted instead for deception.

Limited by a noninterference promise attached to Medicare law—enacted in response to concerns that government health care would permit rationing—Congress and federal officials had to be creative. Although Medicare officials could not deny services outright, they could shift financial risk to doctors and hospitals, thereby influencing decision-making at the bedside.

Beginning in 1971, Congress began to restrict reimbursements. They authorized the economic stabilization program to limit price increases; the Relative Value Resource Based System (RVRBS) to cut physician payments; Diagnostic-Related Groups (DRGs) to limit hospital payments; and most recently, the Prospective Payment System (PPS) to offer fixed prepayments to hospitals, nursing homes, and home health agencies for anticipated services regardless of costs incurred. In effect, Congress initiated managed care.

NATIONAL HEALTH-CARE AGENDA ADVANCES

Advocates of universal coverage saw this financial crisis as an opportunity to advance national health care through the fledgling HMO. Legislation encouraging members of the public to enter HMOs, where individual control over health-care decisions was weakened, would likely make the transition to a national health-care system, where control is centralized at the federal level, less noticeable and less traumatic. By 1971, the administration had authorized \$8.4 million for policy studies to examine alternative health insurance plans for designing a "national health insurance."

Senator Edward M. Kennedy, a longtime advocate of national health care, proceeded to hold three months of extensive hearings in 1971 on what was termed the "Health Care Crisis in America." Following these hearings, he held a series of hearing "on the whole question of HMO's."

Introducing the HMO hearings, Kennedy said, "We need legislation which reorganizes the system to guarantee a sufficient volume of high quality medical care, distributed equitably across the country and available at reasonable cost to every American. It is going to take a drastic overhaul of our entire way of doing business in the health-care field in order to solve the financing and organizational aspects of our health crisis. One aspect of that solution is the creation of comprehensive systems of health-care deliver."

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon heralded his desire for the HMO in a speech to Congress: "the Health Maintenance Organization concept is such a central feature of my National Health Strategy." The administration had already authorized, without specific legislative authority, \$26 million for 110 HMO projects. That same year, the U.S. Senate passed a \$5.2 billion bill permitting the establishment of HMOs "to improve the nation's health-care delivery system by encouraging prepaid comprehensive health-care programs."

But what the House of Representatives refused to concur, it was left to the 93rd Congress to pass the HMO Act in 1973. Just before a voice vote passed the bill in the House,

U.S. Representative Harley O. Staggers, Sr., of West Virginia said, "I rise in support of the conference report which will stimulate development of health maintenance organizations. . . . I think that this new system will be successful and give us exciting and constructive alternatives to our existing programs of delivering better health services to Americans."

In the Senate, Kennedy, author of the HMO Act, also encouraged its passage: "I have strongly advocated passage of legislation to assist the development of health maintenance organizations as a viable and competitive alternative to fee-for-service practice. . . . This bill represents the first initiative by the Federal Government which attempts to come to grips directly with the problems of fragmentation and disorganization in the health care industry. . . . I believe that the HMO is the best idea put forth so far for containing costs and improving the organization and the delivery of health-care services." In a roll call vote, only Senator Herman Talmadge voted against the bill.

On December 29, 1973, President Nixon signed the HMO Act of 1973 into law.

As patients have since discovered, the HMO—staffed by physicians employed by and beholden to corporations—was not much of a Christmas present or an insurance product. It promises coverage but often denies access. The HMO, like other prepaid MCOS, requires enrollees to pay in advance for a long list of routine and major medical benefits, whether the health-care services are needed, wanted, or ever used. The HMOs are then allowed to manage care—without access to dollars and service—through definitions of medical necessity, restrictive drug formularies, and HMO-approved clinical guidelines. As a result, HMOs can keep millions of dollars from premium-paying patients.

HMO BARRIERS ELIMINATED

Congress's plan to save its members' political skins and national agendas relied on employer-sponsored coverage and taxpayer subsidies to HMOs. The planners' long-range goal was to place Medicare and Medicaid recipients into managed care where HMO managers, instead of Congress, could ration care and the government's financial liability could be limited through capitation (a fixed payment per enrollee per month regardless of the expense incurred by the HMO).

To accomplish this goal, public officials had to ensure that HMOs developed the size and stability necessary to take on the financial risks of capitated government health-care programs. This required that HMOs capture a significant portion of the private insurance market. Once Medicare and Medicaid recipients began to enroll in HMOs, the organizations would have the flexibility to pool their resources, redistribute private premium dollars, and ration care across their patient populations.

Using the HMO Act of 1973, Congress eliminated three major barriers to HMO growth, as clarified by U.S. Representative Claude Pepper of Florida: "First, HMO's are expensive to start; second, restrictive State laws often make the operation of HMO's illegal; and, third, HMO's cannot compete effectively in employer health benefit plans with existing private insurance programs. The third factor occurs because HMO premiums are often greater than those for an insurance plan."

To bring the privately insured into HMOs, Congress forced employers with 25 or more employees to offer HMOs as an option—a law that remained in effect until 1995. Congress then provided a total of \$373 million in federal subsidies to fund planning and startup expenses, and to lower the cost of HMO pre-

miums. This allowed HMOs to undercut the premium prices of their insurance competitors and gain significant market share.

In addition, the federal law pre-empted state laws, that prohibited physicians from receiving payments for not providing care. In other words, payments to physicians by HMOs for certain behavior (fewer admissions to hospitals, rationing care, prescribing cheaper medicines) were now legal.

The combined strategy of subsidies, federal power, and new legal requirements worked like a charm. Employees searching for the lowest priced comprehensive insurance policy flowed into HMOs, bringing their dollars with them. According to the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the percentage of working Americans with private insurance enrolled in managed care rose from 29 percent in 1988 to over 50 percent in 1997. In 1999, 181.4 million people were enrolled in managed-care plans.

Once HMOs were filled with the privately insured, Congress moved to add the publicly subsidized. Medicaid Section 1115 waivers allowed states to herd Medicaid recipients into HMOs, and Medicare+Choice was offered to the elderly. By June 1998, over 53 percent of Medicaid recipients were enrolled in managed-care plans, according to HRSA. In addition, about 15 percent of the 39 million Medicare recipients were in HMOs in 2000.

HMOs SERVE PUBLIC-HEALTH AGENDA

Despite the public outcry against HMOs, federal support for managed care has not waned. In August 1998, HRSA announced the creation of a Center for Managed Care to provide "leadership, coordination, and advancement of managed care systems . . . [and to] develop working relationships with the private managed care industry to assure mutual areas of cooperation."

The move to managed care has been strongly supported by public-health officials who anticipate that public-private partnerships will provide funding for public-health infrastructure and initiatives, along with access to the medical records of private patients. The fact that health care is now organized in large groups by companies that hold millions of patient records and control literally hundreds of millions of health-care dollars has allowed unprecedented relationships to form between governments and health plans.

For example, Minnesota's HMOs, MCOS, and nonprofit insurers are required by law to fund public-health initiatives approved by the Minnesota Department of Health, the state regulator for managed care plans. The Blue Cross-Blue Shield tobacco lawsuit, which brought billions of dollars into state and health-plan coffers, is just one example of the you-scratch-my-back-I'll-scratch-yours initiatives. Yet this hidden tax, which further limits funds available for medical care, remains virtually unknown to enrollees.

Federal officials, eager to keep HMOs in business, have even been willing to violate federal law. In August 1998, a federal court chided the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for renewing HMO contracts that violate their own Medicare regulations.

THE RUSE OF PATIENT PROTECTION

Truth be told, HMOs allowed politicians to promise access to comprehensive health-care services without actually delivering them. Because treatment decisions could not be linked directly to Congress, HMOs provided the perfect cover for its plans to contain costs nationwide through health-care rationing. Now that citizens are angry with managed (rationed) care, the responsible parties in Congress, Senator Kennedy in particular,

return with legislation ostensibly to protect patients from the HMOs they instituted.

At worst, such offers are an obfuscation designed to entrench federal control over health care through the HMOs. At best they are deceptive placation. Congress has no desire to eliminate managed care, and federal regulation of HMOs and other managed-care corporations will not protect patients from rationing. Even the U.S. Supreme Court acknowledged in its June 12, 2000, *Pegram v. Herdrich* decision that to survive financially as Congress intended, HMOs must give physicians incentives to ration treatment.

Real patient protection flows from patient control. Only when patients hold health-care dollars in their own hands will they experience the protection and power inherent in purchasing their own insurance policies, making cost-conscious health-care decisions, and inciting cost-reducing competition for the cash.

What could be so bad about that? A lot, it seems. Public officials worry privately that patients with power may not choose managed-care plans, eventually destabilizing the HMOs Congress is so dependent on for cost containment and national health-care initiatives. Witness congressional constraints on individually owned, tax-free medical savings accounts and the reluctance to break up employer-sponsored coverage by providing federal tax breaks to individuals. Unless citizens wise up to Congress's unabashed but unadvertised support for managed care, it appears unlikely that real patient power will rise readily to the top of its agenda.

RECOGNIZING MAULDIN-DORFMEIER CONSTRUCTION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mauldin-Dorfmeier Construction for receiving the prestigious Excellence in Construction Eagle Award. Mauldin-Dorfmeier is receiving the "Best of the Best" Award from the Golden Gate Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors.

Mauldin-Dorfmeier Construction, Inc. (MDC) was established in 1983 by Patrick Mauldin and Alan Dorfmeier. Their general contractors activities are focused in central and northern California. MDC has its administrative offices and construction yard based in Fresno.

MDC has a staff of over 55 professionals, including experienced project managers, engineers, and over 150 skilled craftsmen ready to take on any construction task. Their current bonding capability is in excess of \$100 million, with the ability to bond individual projects in excess of \$50 million.

Mauldin-Dorfmeier has received many industry awards, including the coveted "Constructor Award for Excellence in Client Service," awarded by the Associated General Contractors of California for the Bulldog Stadium Expansion.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mauldin-Dorfmeier Construction, Inc. for receiving the Excellence in Construction Eagle Award. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mauldin-Dorfmeier many more years of continued success.