

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. MICHAEL DEBAKEY

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Michael DeBakey on the occasion of the dedication of the Methodist DeBakey Heart Center. For 50 years, Methodist has been the home of internationally acclaimed heart surgeon Dr. Michael DeBakey, thereby attaining worldwide recognition for its state-of-the-art cardiovascular care. Dr. DeBakey has been a pioneer of modern medicine, and has helped raise the standard of health care for all mankind. His list of accomplishments, from his innovations in open-heart surgery to his recent pioneering work in the field of telemedicine, is a catalog of many of the greatest accomplishments in the history of medicine.

Dr. DeBakey serves as Chancellor Emeritus of Baylor College of Medicine, and is internationally recognized as the most famous heart surgeon in the world and a living legend. He is a senior attending surgeon at the Methodist Hospital, the largest hospital in the Texas Medical Center in my District. This prolific surgeon and humanitarian has performed more than 60,000 cardiovascular procedures and has trained thousands of surgeons who practice around the world. Dr. DeBakey's name is affixed to a number of organizations, centers for learning, and projects devoted to medical education and health education for the general public. It is an honor to the Heart Center that the institution being dedicated on this occasion bears his name.

The Methodist DeBakey Heart Center is a leader in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and research of heart disease. The Center has attracted world-renowned physicians who are continuing the ground-breaking work of Dr. DeBakey and his associates, who developed many of the life-saving techniques at the Methodist Hospital. Annually, the Center performs more than 6,000 cardiac catheterizations, 2,500 angioplasties, 1,300 open heart surgeries, and has performed more than 425 heart transplants in the last 10 years. The Center is a joint effort between the Methodist Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine, which share the common goal of improving quality of life and satisfaction among heart patients.

While Dr. DeBakey's life-saving inventions and trailblazing techniques have awed the medical community over the years, his most treasured accomplishments are the family bonds he and his wife Katrin have managed to maintain despite a rigorous schedule. He is close to his four grown sons and daughter, as well as to his own siblings.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Dr. DeBakey has distinguished himself as a spectacular surgeon and a caring humanitarian to his patients. I commend him on his inspiring five decades of service to the Houston Medical community, and I look forward to the med-

ical advances that will continue to emanate from the Methodist DeBakey Heart Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I returned to Ohio yesterday afternoon for the funeral of former Ohio Governor James A. Rhodes, under whom I served as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives. Consequently, I was absent from the House floor during yesterday's rollcall votes on H. Con. Res. 31, H.R. 624, and H. Con. Res. 47. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each of those bills.

TRIBUTE TO ROGER FONTES

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, today, all eyes are turned to California and the current electricity crisis. While there are many problems and many causes, it is important that we also take a moment to give credit to the individuals and entities that have helped meet our State's energy needs and helped chart a path out of this current crisis. Roger Fontes is one of those individuals.

For the past 13 years, Mr. Fontes has served as the Assistant General Manager of the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), a joint action agency that serves the wholesale power needs of 15 public power systems, including the City of Gridley in my District. NCPA has been a shining star within the State, and Roger Fontes has played a critical role in that success. Under Roger's supervision, NCPA constructed geothermal, hydroelectric and gas-fired power plants to meet their communities' needs in a reliable and cost-effective fashion. In the midst of the current crisis, it is worth noting that these municipal utilities are islands of stability. Roger also oversaw NCPA's legislative and regulatory programs, advancing sound energy policies for the consumers and businesses they serve.

Prior to joining NCPA, Mr. Fontes was responsible for state-wide generation and transmission planning at the California Energy Commission. He also worked at the Los Angeles Department of Environmental Quality and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

While Roger is retiring from NCPA, he is not leaving the field. Roger and his family are moving to Orlando, where he will be the general manager of the Florida Municipal Power Agency. We will miss him in California, but are heartened by the knowledge that his sound

public policy counsel will continue to be available. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Roger Fontes for his service to California electricity consumers and to with him and his family the best in his future endeavors.

LOS ANGELES SCHOOL OF MAKE-UP

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to celebrate the Los Angeles School of Make-Up and their contributions to our community. The Los Angeles School of Make-Up, also known as the Make-Up Designory or MUD, has a strong reputation of supporting education and human rights throughout Southern California.

The founders of the Make-Up Designory Tate P. Holland, John R. Bailey, and Karl E. Zundel, believe that in order to improve their community, one must be an active participant in it. This believe is realized through their involvement in numerous philanthropic activities and educational partnerships.

In addition to serving as educational partners with the Hollywood Entertainment Museum and the Los Angeles County Sheriffs' Juvenile Honors Program, the Make-Up Designory also participates in many local events. Annually, the Make-Up Designory commits to supporting the Kid's Day L.A., KIEV's Special Children's Christmas Program & Party, the Santa Clarita Youth Organization, the Burbank International Children's Film Festival, the Deidre Hall Mother's Day Festival, and the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Walks. In addition, the Make-Up Designory has actively participated in and donated to many other events, including the CBS "Running Scared" Educational Programs, the March of Dimes, the Revlon Run/Walk, the American Cancer Society Walk, the Mesothelioma Applied Research Fund, the Toluca Lake Lion's Charity, the Toluca Lake Garden Club, and the Charter Oak Elementary School Benefit Silent Auction.

Despite their many commitments, the Make-Up Designory has also found time to work with the Diamond Bar Sister City Program. Their generosity has permitted an orphaned, indigent high school honors student to continue his education, thus gaining the ability to continue the circle of community service. Moreover, the Make-Up Designory has joined the Diamond Bar Sister City Program in sponsoring a foreign exchange student by granting him a full scholarship. As a result of this scholarship, a gifted student will be able to realize his life-long dream of becoming a professional Make-Up Artist, a highly valuable skill-set in Southern California.

Tate P. Holland, John R. Bailey, and Karl E. Zundel continue to demonstrate that when individuals take the time to help others, they

• 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.

better not only individual lives, but our community as a whole. Mr. Speaker, I ask this 107th Congress to join me in offering our praise and accolades to the Make-Up Designory and its founders.

INTRODUCTION OF "HEATHER FRENCH HENRY HOMELESS VETERANS ASSISTANCE ACT", H.R. 936

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Heather French Henry Homeless Veterans Assistance Act. This important legislation establishes a national goal of ending homelessness among our nation's veterans within a decade. Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe if 40 years ago we as a nation had the resolve and resources to send men to the moon and return them safely to Earth within a decade, today our great nation can end homelessness among veterans with adequate resolve and resources within ten years.

The measure I introduced today for myself, and almost 100 of my colleagues, is named to recognize and honor Heather French Henry, Miss America 2000. During her year of service to America, Heather French Henry committed the full measure of her time, talents and energy to addressing the needs of homeless veterans. She was our national conscience, calling on us to do more, to do enough to help veterans escape the prison of homelessness. She encouraged homeless veterans to break free from their chains of homelessness. She seems to be everywhere at once advocating for our homeless veterans. Homeless veterans have no better friend and voice.

If we consider how much one young woman accomplished during her year of service as Miss America on behalf of our nation's homeless veterans, there can be no doubt this nation can end homelessness among veterans within a decade. If our nation demonstrates the care, compassion, and fidelity to ending homelessness among veterans as Heather French Henry did during her year of service as Miss America, a decade from now there will be no homelessness among veterans.

The end of veteran homelessness and prompt action on the Heather French Henry Homeless Veterans Assistance Act are a high priority for many. These goals are strongly supported, for example, by the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans and its hundreds of member organizations throughout the nation who daily provide essential services to homeless veterans. I am also pleased the Veterans Organizations Homeless Council which represents many major military and veterans service organizations strongly supports the legislation I am introducing today.

Homelessness is a complex problem for which there is no "quick fix." Homeless veterans are likely to face more than one serious challenge. They are more likely to have seri-

ous chronic mental illness, substance use disorders, significant chronic illnesses or disease, to lack the social networks that help most of us through our difficulties and to lack job and even basic living skills. The programs provided by the Heather French Henry Homeless Veterans Assistance Act addresses these problems with comprehensive solutions.

Programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in assisting homeless veterans should be expanded. Better coordination among the services offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs and those offered by other federal, state and local agencies is also needed. Support for private-sector programs serving homeless veterans must be affirmed. We must also make full use of leading experts to enrich current services to homeless veterans and assess program effectiveness and develop needed innovations. A new VA Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans and an effective federal interagency taskforce on homeless are important parts of the solution.

Many programs provided or funded by VA have demonstrated their effectiveness. Mental health professionals agree, for example, that placement in the community can work, but only with careful monitoring and support of vulnerable populations. This legislation creates incentives for VA to make these services—called Mental Health Intensive Community Management programs—more widely available to veterans with serious mental illness.

Supportive, therapeutic housing is necessary for a veteran's recovery from substance abuse. These "safe havens" must be provided and available to help a veteran in transition from homelessness to a more rewarding life. Community-based providers and more VA domiciliaries are needed to help meet the needs for transitional housing. Comprehensive services for homeless veterans must be more available in our major metropolitan areas to assure that veterans receive services in addition to full information about resources available to them. In our nation's Capital veterans have neither a VA domiciliary nor a comprehensive homeless veterans service program. Both are clearly needed now.

Community-based organizations must receive more assistance to achieve the goal of ending homelessness among veterans. VA's Homeless Grant and Per Diem Providers are a critical source of support to the mission of caring for our nation's homeless veterans. Community-based providers use a collaborative approach to funding and caring for homeless veterans—many of the programs draw from a complex array of funding streams. The cost of caring for veterans is often subsidized by the other funding sources from local, state, and private entities these

VA can and must do more to establish formal agreements with other agencies in and outside of the government in order to ensure that various agencies carefully coordinate services to ensure that veterans at risk of homelessness do not become homeless. The Departments of Defense, Labor and VA cooperatively provide a Transitional Assistance Program (TAP) for servicemembers who are about to be discharged from the military. This cooperative program could be a model for vet-

erans who are leaving penal institutions or hospital settings. VA should work with a variety of community and other government programs to ensure a safety net is in place.

Finally, my bill advocates a small demonstration program to offer transitional assistance to veterans making the very difficult transition from institutionalization to independent living. These veterans must be provided every chance possible to make it on their own. A one-time, limited grant will provide our veterans a better opportunity to obtain work and housing and avoid becoming homeless and living on the nation's streets.

Mr. Speaker, a member of my staff recently visited a program in Las Vegas, Nevada, where she was told that VA staff can "usually" find a bed for a dying homeless veteran within his or her last week of life. As a nation, we should be outraged and shamed by this treatment of men and women who have served our nation in uniform. Surely we owe our veterans more. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting homeless veterans on their path to recovery and their full integration into mainstream society to the extent possible. Join me by supporting the Heather French Henry Homeless Veterans Assistance Act.

TAX CREDIT FOR WIND ENERGY PRODUCTION

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to bring to the attention of the House a measure that has been introduced to extend the current, and very important, tax credit for wind energy production (the PTC) until the year 2007.

I introduced this legislation with my Ways and Means colleagues JERRY WELLER, BOB MATSUI and KAREN THURMAN—as well as JIM MCCRERY, ROB PORTMAN, WES WATKINS, and JIM RAMSTAD—because of the pressing need to get this issue addressed. If we do not extend the credit, the current PTC will expire at the end of the year—a situation that would deliver a stunning setback to a form of alternative energy development that is needed more now than ever, given our growing energy difficulties.

Mr. Speaker, wind energy production credit was originally enacted under the bipartisan Energy Policy Act of 1992 and has enjoyed strong, bipartisan support every since. In fact, during the 106th Congress, 197 House members cosponsored H.R. 750 to extend the credit.

What the credit itself does is to provide an inflation-adjusted 1.5 cents per kilowatt-hour credit for electricity produced with wind power equipment. The credit is only available if the wind energy equipment is located in the United States and electricity is generated and sold by a U.S. taxpayer.

There should be no question, given the current domestic energy crisis, that the need for

fostering alternative energy sources in the United States is critical—and wind energy has phenomenal potential. As of now, the majority of domestic wind development has been located in California, but there are numerous other states that have great natural potential, including North Dakota, Texas, Kansas, South Dakota, Montana, Nebraska, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Iowa and

Wind energy projects also offer a boon to farmers, particularly those in the Farm Belt—one of the most promising areas for the development of domestic wind resources. Wind power projects and ranching and farming are fully compatible; wind plants can be located and operated with little or no displacement or interference with crops or livestock. And for farmers and ranchers, the lease payments paid to them by wind operators serve as a stable source of extra income.

Wind projects also create important new economic opportunities in the communities in which they are located. New wind facilities lead to increased local tax bases, new manufacturing opportunities, rental income for farmers and ranchers and new construction, and ongoing operational and maintenance jobs. This leads to more jobs and other economic opportunities in rural areas where those things can be scarce.

Equally important, wind energy is an environmentally friendly form of energy that produces no air or groundwater pollution.

Unfortunately, none of these benefits are possible without the production tax credit.

Wind energy is viable and working, but without the credit, development would be hindered dramatically. As we know all too well, energy prices are in a terrible state of flux now. This sort of fluctuation makes the financing and development of wind projects terrifically difficult. Put simply, the production tax credit abrogates this problem by leveling the costs of production through a guaranteed revenue stream. In the end, such a guarantee—which must be at least five years to ensure viability—will foster a cost-effective and environmentally sensitive energy sector. And that is exactly what we need.

For all these reasons, we owe it to ourselves to pass a five-year extension of the wind energy production tax credit. And I urge my colleagues in both the House and Senate to continue to support this important fledgling industry.

HONORING ROHM AND HAAS
TEXAS, INCORPORATED

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rohm and Haas Texas, Incorporated for its participation in the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) Star Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). Rohm and Haas employees and management should be commended for maintaining excellent safety and health programs in their workplace that is recognized by OSHA as a model for the industry. The fact that Rohm and Haas has achieved Star Program status demonstrates that the company is capable and willing to meet all VPP requirements of excellence in safety.

Rohm and Haas Texas Incorporated has been a responsible member of the Deer Park community for 50 years, safely manufacturing chemicals for use in the disposable diaper, automobile, paint, coatings and communication industries. Construction on the Deer Park Plant began in 1947 and in July of the following year, the first shipment of acetone cyanohydrin was made to another Rohm and Haas plant in Pennsylvania to produce acrylic sheet.

The Deer Park Plant would become the company's largest and most productive with five major expansions in the fifties, followed by four in the sixties, two in the seventies, two in the eighties and six in the nineties. Employment has climbed from 132 in 1948 to more than 850 today, making the plant one of the largest industrial employers in the area. When wages, purchases and taxes are considered, the plant and employees are responsible for adding more than \$85 million each year to the local economy which, in turn, creates an estimated 4,500 jobs for others in the community.

Rohm and Haas' Deer Park plant has demonstrated a proven commitment to improving worker safety and health. By joining the VPP Association, Rohm and Haas' Deer Park plant has taken a leadership role in achieving safety, health, and environmental excellence through cooperation among communities, workers, industries, and governments in the United States.

Employees at Rohm and Haas are enjoying the benefits of a safer worksite through VPP. Since the VPP's inception in 1983, participation in the program has grown from three to more than 500 sites. By participating in this program, Rohm and Haas has chosen to improve safety at its worksite and to reduce injury and illness rates. Rohm and Haas employees are true partners in these improvement efforts and take on critical roles in helping their workplaces to achieve safety excellence. The total workforce of Rohm and Haas should be proud of the recognition by the industry and community that comes with being an OSHA Star worksite.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Rohm and Haas Texas, Incorporated for recognizing that compliance enforcement alone can never fully achieve the objectives of OSHA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from the House floor during last night's vote on S.J. Res. 6 (rollcall vote No. 33). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye," as I did on the rule earlier in the day.

OSHA's burdensome and excessively costly ergonomics regulations were not based on sound science, and were not subjected to the requisite legislative consideration. The estimated cost of compliance for their 600-page plan to regulate every nook and cranny of American workplaces ranged into the hundreds of billions of dollars. No one could even guarantee that OSHA's proposal would protect workers from injury—but we do know that businesses would have to terminate employ-

ees just to be able to afford to implement the plan.

Mr. Speaker, owners of small and large businesses through the Fourth Ohio District know the vital importance of maintaining a safe and healthy workplace for their employees. Without exception, all of them have voluntarily taken steps to protect their workers—without the heavy hand of government forcing them to do so. Employers know that their productivity will suffer otherwise, as will their workers' paychecks.

I am gratified that our first use of the Congressional Review Act will stop these new rules from going into effect, and look forward to President Bush's signature on this joint resolution of disapproval.

OTPOR

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I had the opportunity to meet five representatives from the independent, non-governmental organization Otpor. "Otpor," in Serbian, means "resistance," and the organization was founded in the mid-1990s by students from Belgrade University and elsewhere in Serbia, who had enough of Slobodan Milosevic's choke-hold on the neck of Serbian society.

Their efforts have forged a strong bond between idealism and realism. Otpor members engaged in passive resistance, never advocating violence nor returning the blows they received from the police and other thugs under Milosevic's control. Instead, they had a stronger weapon—determination and persistence. Fear would not keep them from putting up their posters, from wearing their black-and-white emblem of a clenched fist. Moreover, they kept their eye on the goal of a democratic and tolerant Serbia at peace with its neighbors and with itself. The organization appointed no specific leader, in a strategy to thwart any attempt to compromise the individual—they had learned the lesson from observing the many opposition politicians in Serbia who had been compromised.

During the past two years, more than 1,500 Otpor activists, of about 50,000 based in over 10 Serbian cities, were arrested and interrogated by security forces under Milosevic's control. One of the five who visited my office had himself been arrested on 17 occasions. Prior to the September 2000 elections, Otpor worked closely with the democratic political opposition, independent trade unions, NGOs and other youth groups to mobilize voters. Otpor's activists played a crucial role in the street demonstrations that began immediately following the elections and led to Milosevic's downfall.

The impressive delegation of five Otpor activists visiting Washington included Slobodan Homen, Nenad Konstantinovic, Jovan Ratkovic, Jelena Urosevic and Robertino Knjur, all in their mid- to late-20s and very

good English speakers. It is amazing to realize that they all grew up in the cruel, hateful and impoverished world Slobodan Milosevic had created for them in the 1990s. In the meeting, they provided one piece of very good news. One Otpor activist, Boris Karajcic, had testified in 1998 before the Helsinki Commission which I co-chair and was beaten up on the streets of Belgrade a few weeks later. Today, Boris is a member of the Serbian parliament. He is an active part of Serbia's future.

Otpor itself will also be part of Serbia's future. While Milosevic is out of power, there is much to be done to recover from the nightmare he created. First, they are investigating and compiling complaints about the police officers who brutalized them and other citizens of Serbia who opposed the regime, and they will seek to ensure that officers who seemed to take a particular delight in beating people for exercising their rights are held accountable. They want to see Milosevic himself arrested, both for his crimes in Serbia and the war crimes for which he faces an international indictment. The Otpor group also advocates the founding of a school of public administration, which does not exist in Serbia and is desperately needed as the government bureaucracies are swollen with Milosevic cronies who have no idea how to implement public policy. Along similar lines, they hope to begin an anti-corruption campaign. Finally, they pointed out that, with the fall of Milosevic, the united opposition now in power has no credible, democratic political opposition to it. Until Serbian politics develop further, they intend to serve some of that role, being a watchdog of the new leaders.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the Otpor group with which I met has a track record of accomplishment, ideas for the future, and a good sense of how to bring those ideas into reality. While they have had the heart and the courage, they also have had the assistance of the United States through the National Endowment of Democracy and other organizations which promote democratic development abroad. I hope my colleagues will continue to support this kind of assistance, for Serbia and other countries where it is needed, which serves not only the interests of the United States but the cause of humanity.

COLEMAN INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the owners, Don and Diane Coleman, and the employees of Coleman Industrial Construction of Kansas City, Missouri, for their recognition by the National Railroad Construction Maintenance Association (NRC). Coleman Industrial Construction has been presented with the NRC's Contractor Safety Award. The NRC annually recognizes one firm with less than 25 employees from among more than 200 firms nationwide for their outstanding, accident-free record among small railroad contractors.

This distinction does not come about easily. It is the result of many hours of work, semi-

nars, and training provided by Coleman Industrial Construction coupled with the tireless efforts of all its employees to focus on reducing the risks of accidents and injury. Due to the work of the experienced and professional employees and their "safety-first" attitude, Coleman Industrial Construction has been able to go 14 years without a "lost time" accident.

While Coleman Industrial Construction is being recognized among other small railroad contractors, their performance is a standard for all industries. Their continued emphasis on job safety serves as a worthy model nationwide.

Again, I congratulate and commend the owners and employees of Coleman Industrial Construction on their outstanding performance in reducing injuries at the workplace.

A BILL TO AMEND THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 TO REPEAL THE REQUIRED USE OF CERTAIN PRINCIPAL REPAYMENTS ON MORTGAGE SUBSIDY BOND FINANCINGS TO REDEEM BONDS, TO MODIFY THE PURCHASE PRICE LIMITATION UNDER MORTGAGE SUBSIDY BOND RULES BASED ON MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. NEAL, in introducing our bill, "The Housing Bond and Credit Modernization and Fairness Act." Our joining together in introducing this bill today is indicative of the broad bipartisan support Housing Bonds and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit) programs enjoy.

The Congress has an unusual opportunity, without creating any new program, to create new housing opportunity for tens of thousands of low- and moderate-income families every year. All it will take is enactment of minor legislative changes to eliminate obsolete provisions in the two principal Federal programs that finance the production of affordable housing: Housing Bonds, or single family Mortgage Revenue Bonds (MRBs), as they are commonly known, and the Housing Credit.

This bill builds on important legislation Representative NEAL and I introduced and supported in the last two Congresses to increase the Housing Bond authority by nearly 50 percent to make up for the effects of inflation. In the 106th Congress this piece of legislation, as well as the Housing Credit legislation, had the phenomenal support of 375-plus House cosponsors from both parties, from all regions of the country, and from rural and urban districts. Finally, in late 2000, legislation applicable to both the Housing Bonds and Housing Credit was enacted into law.

The Housing Bond and Credit Modernization and Fairness Act does three things. First, the bill would repeal the Ten-Year Rule, a provision added to the MRB program in 1988 that prevents States from using homeowner payments on such mortgages to make new mortgages to additional qualified purchasers.

States estimate that, between 1998 and 2002, the Rule will mean the loss of over \$8.5 billion in mortgage authority, denying tens of thousands of qualified lower income homebuyers each year the ability to obtain affordable MRB-financed mortgages. Second, the bill would replace the present unworkable limit on the price of the homes these mortgages can finance with a simple limit that works. No reliable comprehensive data exists in all areas of the country to determine average area home prices. The current price limits were issued in 1994 based on 1993 data. They are obsolete and well below current home price levels in most parts of the country. Many qualified buyers simply cannot find homes that are priced below the outdated limits.

The answer is to modify the present limit, set in Washington, with a simple formula limiting the purchase price to three and a half times the qualifying income under the program.

We would like to acknowledge the leadership and support of our colleague Representative BEREUTER, who introduced last year and reintroduced in this Congress this element of our legislation as a freestanding bill.

Finally, the bill makes Housing Credit apartment production viable in rural areas by allowing statewide median incomes as the basis for the income limits in that program. This change would apply the same methodology in determining qualifying income levels that is used in the MRB Program. HUD data shows that current income limits inhibit Housing Credit development in at least 1,700 of the 2,364 non-metropolitan counties across the country.

It is noteworthy that the changes proposed by The Housing Bond and Credit Modernization and Fairness Act were endorsed by the bipartisan National Governors Association at its recently concluded meeting. The governors know how important the Housing Bond and Housing Credit programs are in giving states the ability to meet the housing needs of low- and moderate-income families. The governors know that we need to do more to ensure that the important increase in authority that over 375 House Members cosponsored last year really can reach as many qualified people as possible.

Even after the passage of last year's legislation, over 100,000 qualified lower income homebuyers are not able to get an affordable MRB funded mortgage and over 70 percent of non-metropolitan counties across the country will be inhibited in full use of the Housing Credit program.

For those of you that cosponsored those bills last year, and those of my colleagues who are new to the Congress, we hope you will join our bipartisan effort to see that these important provisions are enacted as part of tax legislation this year.

HOUSING BONDS AND CREDITS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, Representative AMO HOUGHTON and I are today introducing legislation to make three important changes to two of the most popular and efficient housing programs before Congress, the single family Mortgage Revenue

Bond (MRB) program and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program.

First, this bill repeals the ten-year rule, a provision added to the MRB program in 1988 that prevents the states from fully using mortgage bonds by limiting the extent to which new mortgages can be made on outstanding bonds on which prepayments have been made by the original beneficiaries. States estimate that, between 1998 and 2002, the ten-year rule means the loss of over \$8.5 billion in mortgage authority, denying over 100,000 qualified lower and moderate income home buyers affordable MRB mortgages.

Second, the bill replaces the present limit on the price of homes these mortgages can finance with one that works better given the fact that there is no reliable comprehensive data that exists to determine average area home prices. The current price limits were issued in 1994 based on 1993 data. They are, obviously, obsolete and well below current home price levels in most parts of the country. We propose a simpler formula limiting the purchase price to three and a half times the qualifying income under the program. This will work to preserve the goals of current law while providing a realistic limit on the program for almost all areas of the nation.

Finally, the bill makes housing credit apartment production more viable in rural areas by allowing statewide medium incomes as the basis for the income limits in that program. While this provision may need some technical adjustment, it is clear that the current rules do not provide sufficient incentives to build apartments in very low income rural areas.

Mr. HOUGHTON and I believe these changes, when combined with the increase in the caps on these programs enacted last year, will ensure a strong, effective housing program that will meet the needs of our constituents now, and well into the future. We hope these changes will be adopted in the near future.

CONGRATULATING THE 2000 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING WINNER, JOLYNN MELLIS FROM COLLEGE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN LADSON, SC

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today Mrs. JoLynn Mellis, a teacher from College Park Elementary School in Ladson, South Carolina, was awarded the 2000 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Award by the National Science Foundation. I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Mellis on this prestigious award. This award, the nation's highest commendation for K-12 math and science teachers, recognizes sustained and exemplary work, both inside the classroom and out. These outstanding teachers serve as role models for their colleagues.

Mrs. Mellis exemplifies what is great about America's public schools. Mrs. Mellis recognizes that our children are our future; she has taken on the crucial responsibility to ensure her students master the math and science skills they require to make that future a bright

one for South Carolina and for the United States of America. She has fulfilled this responsibility in outstanding fashion. I commend Mrs. Mellis for her hard work and dedication. Thank you, Mrs. Mellis.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill that will create incentives to reduce the price of prescription drugs for American consumers.

As I travel around the Second Congressional District of Tennessee, I speak with many people. One concern I hear over and over again is the high cost of medications. Many seniors, in particular, often face a choice between things like medicine, food and heat.

However, this problem is not isolated only to the elderly. All Americans face these steep prices. For example, single mothers and poor working families also have to buy medications. As a father, I cannot imagine anything worse than not being able to afford medicine for a sick child.

As has been discussed many times, there are a lot of complex reasons that prices are so high, and it goes far beyond greedy manufacturers as some have suggested. I believe the primary culprit is a bloated federal bureaucracy that adds years and literally tens of millions of dollars to the development cost of new drugs.

Some new drugs can cost more than a billion dollars to bring to market. In exchange, these drugs have a profound impact on the health of Americans and hundreds of millions of people worldwide. Fundamentally, we need to find ways to reduce these development costs.

The second great inequity is that many countries have draconian cost controls. While these formularies may be sufficient to pay the price to physically produce a pill or medicine, they rarely take into account the phenomenal expenses that went into the development of the drug. These development costs are then shifted to a much smaller consumer base of consumers who end up paying outrageously high prices. If manufacturers and researchers were ever completely stripped of the ability to recover these costs, the flow of new drugs would slow dramatically, if not end completely.

Nevertheless, it is wrong that Americans are so often asked to pay the price for drugs that benefit all mankind. It is particularly frustrating to consumers when they see our neighbors to the North and South paying much lower prices for exactly the same drug.

I believe that this situation needs to be examined and addressed. In the meantime, my proposal would extend a new tax incentive to domestic manufacturers who could demonstrate that they are offering drugs to American consumers at the same average price the drugs are offered to citizens in Canada and Mexico. Hopefully this tax provision will strongly encourage drug makers to reduce their prices for average American consumers.

American ingenuity is fueling the greatest health revolution in the history of mankind. We need to do everything possible to fulfill the

promise of this research and alleviate suffering for everyone. However, American consumers deserve fair access to the products of our Nation's research engine, and I hope my legislation will encourage manufacturers to find innovative ways to reduce domestic prices or more equitably spread development costs among a larger base of consumers abroad.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and improve healthcare for all American consumers.

INTRODUCTION OF VETERANS AMERICAN DREAM HOMEOWNER-SHIP ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, thousands of former servicemen and servicewomen in five states are currently prohibited from receiving state-financed home mortgages. That is why Congressman HERGER and I, along with seven of our colleagues, are introducing the Veterans American Dream Homeownership Assistance Act. This legislation is similar to bills we introduced in the 104th, 105th, and 106th Congresses.

In order to help veterans own a home, Congress created a program where states could issue tax-exempt bonds in order to raise funds to finance mortgages for owner-occupied residences. Five states—Wisconsin, Alaska, Oregon, California, and Texas—implemented such a program for their veterans. Under a little-known provision in the 1984 tax bill, Congress limited the veterans eligible for this program to those who began military service before 1977.

As a result of the 1984 tax bill, veterans who entered military service after January 1, 1977 are prohibited from receiving a state-financed veterans mortgage. This means veterans who served honorably in Panama, Grenada, or the Gulf War cannot get veterans home mortgages from their state government. Are those who began serving our country after January 1, 1977 any less deserving than those who served before?

This arbitrary cutoff was created to raise additional revenue in the 1984 tax bill by limiting the issuance of tax-exempt bonds. When this provision was enacted, post-1976 veterans were a small percentage of all veterans, without much voice to protest this discriminatory change. But, nineteen years later, there are thousands of veterans who have served our nation honorably.

Mr. Speaker, as time goes by, this legislation takes on increasing importance. The State of Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs has informed me that if the cap on veterans bonds is not lifted this year, the State will be forced to disband the program because too few veterans are eligible for the program.

This legislation would simply eliminate the cutoff that exists under current law. Under our proposal, former servicemen and servicewomen in the five states who served our country beginning before or after January 1, 1977 will be eligible to qualify for a state-financed home mortgage. This legislation does not increase federal discretionary spending by 1 cent. It simply allows the five states that

have a mortgage finance program for their veterans to provide mortgages to all veterans regardless of when they served in the military.

There is no justification to allow some veterans to qualify for a home mortgage while others cannot. Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to help those veterans who have served after January 1, 1977 to own a home and pass this important legislation into law.

CELEBRATING THE CALIFORNIA
POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTENNIAL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize an educational institution that deserves praise for a century of distinguished teaching, research, and public service to the state of California and the nation. On March 8, 2001, California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo will begin an 18-month celebration of its centennial.

Indeed, Cal Poly, as the university is often called, has a great deal to celebrate. In the 1890's, Myron Angel, a San Luis Obispo County chronicler, was dismayed by the practical ineptness he experienced in spite of his college education. He campaigned for a local facility that would "teach the hand as well as the head, so that no young man or young woman would be sent off in the world to earn their living poorly equipped for any task." Angel's prominence reinforced an earlier proposition of the district state senator, Sylvester C. Smith, to build a polytechnic institute in San Luis Obispo. Southern Pacific Railroad had just completed the last link in its coastal route and subsequently backed the proposal as an effort to increase business for the new line. On March 8 in the first year of the 20th century, legislation founding the California Polytechnic School was signed into law after six years of debate.

The law included the practical mandate of its founders, "To furnish the young of both sexes mental and manual training in the arts and sciences, including agriculture, mechanics, engineering, business methods, domestic economics, and others such branches as will fit the students for non-professional walks of life." A great deal changed in the ensuing decades—including the definition of a professional—California Polytechnic School, a vocational high school, grew into California Polytechnic State University, a premier undergraduate institution. The essence of the original charge is still part of the state law, and has remained constant in the university's present philosophy.

A tour of the modern Cal Poly campus traces the progression of ten decades, and confirms the strength of the original "learn by doing" philosophy. Among the facilities spread across the university's 5,051 acres are fourteen research centers and institutes. The founders would be pleased to observe the activity, for example, in the Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute, where students apply their knowledge and research to assist the community's landowners and public agencies in improved urban forest management. They would

also marvel at the Dairy Products Technology Center, where hands-on student research provides new and improved safety methods and technologies for the dairy products used by all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of relevant facts about Cal Poly that warrant recognition. Its first enrollment of 20 students has grown to 17,000, and the institution has bestowed more than 107,000 bachelor's and master's degrees since 1942. And during World War II, 4,700 cadets were trained at the Navy's pre-flight programs located at Cal Poly. Remarkably, 97 percent of Cal Poly graduates are successfully employed or admitted to graduate school within a year of graduation.

Cal Poly nears the end of its first century still focused on its founding purpose, which is an achievement that has not gone unnoticed. Last year, US News and World Report named California Polytechnic State University the Top Regional Public University in the Western United States for the eighth consecutive year. Cal Poly also received the 2001 designation for Best Undergraduate Computer Engineering Department without a Ph.D. Program awarded by the same publication. The National Science Foundation has recognized Cal Poly's science program as among the most innovative in the nation. And the University Center for Teach Education is the only program in the state selected to join the prestigious National Network for Education renewal.

As California Polytechnic State University rises among the ranks of major American universities, time continues to test and prove the worth of a Cal Poly education. The centennial slogan, "A Century of Achievement, A Tradition for the Future" clearly expresses the school's pride as an evolving institution, while remaining true to the school's original vision. Cal Poly graduates possess the knowledge and skills to step right into professional careers of planning, designing, building, operating and improving whole structures as well as entire communities, of managing farms and businesses, of developing minds and expanding knowledge. In short, Cal Poly and its graduates are making a profound contribution to the quality of life in California, the nation, and the world.

Mr. Speaker I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating California Polytechnic State University on a century of remarkable achievements.

NATIONAL SHAKEN BABY
SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to establish the last week in April as National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week.

This cause was presented to me by one of my constituents, Joyce Edson. Joyce's son, James, was shaken by his licensed child care provider between March and April of 1998. As a result, James was sent to the emergency room with a skull fracture, subdural hematoma, bilateral retinal hemorrhages and a broken right femur. He was only five months old.

While James survived this tragic period, he unfortunately still experiences periodic sei-

zures, and is under the continual care of a pediatric neurologist and ophthalmologist.

Mr. Speaker, many other children are not so lucky. Each day, more than three children in the United States die from abuse and neglect. Furthermore, over 3,000 babies under the age of one are diagnosed with Shaken Baby Syndrome annually, while thousands more are misdiagnosed or go completely undetected.

Mr. Speaker, it saddens me that this situation even exists. However, I am hopeful with the designation of National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week, Congress can increase the knowledge of and ultimately prevent this dreadful occurrence.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
THOMAS P. EICHLER, FORMER
SECRETARY OF THE STATE OF
DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICES AND SERVICES FOR
CHILDREN YOUTH AND THEIR
FAMILIES

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to as Delaware's lone Member of Congress to honor and pay tribute to a leader in the Delaware community, Thomas P. Eichler. Tom Eichler is a dedicated, caring, compassionate, and effective individual who led two state agencies in Delaware during my tenure as Governor and after my departure. I felt fortunate to have him serve with me and I am proud to call him my friend.

As Secretary of Health and Social Services for Delaware, Tom Eichler instituted Welfare Reform before it became popular. Under Tom Eichler's leadership, Delaware's First Step Program was initiated to assist welfare recipients transition from welfare to work. Many of the individuals who participated in this program are now working and providing a brighter future for their families and our communities. In addition, Tom was a leader in health care reform and helped to pave the way for all children in Delaware to have access to health care.

As the Secretary of the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, Tom helped guide and develop improvements for the Ferris School and Juvenile Justice programs. His efforts to provide better programming and educational facilities for juvenile delinquents at the Ferris School has been seen as a national model that other communities are attempting to emulate. He also established Child Mental Health programs that assist many young members of our community.

Tom Eichler's impact on the State of Delaware has touched many people, and most importantly in a positive manner. I first came to know Tom when he was attempting to change individuals' views on ocean dumping and he assisted me with testimony before Congress. From there he went to work as Regional Administrator for Region III, EPA. In the mid-1980's I asked him to serve in my cabinet where his assistance was outstanding. After my departure he continued to serve Delaware in the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families. He was called upon to serve

several Governor's, to assist in difficult situations, and he served the people of Delaware admirably. His ability to take on the toughest jobs, reach consensus and have positive outcomes for our community were unsurpassed.

As he retires from working for the State of Delaware I want to honor and thank him on behalf of the people of Delaware for his commitment to making our state a better place for all of us to live and work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, due to the weather I was unavoidably detained on Tuesday, March 6, 2001, and missed rollcall votes 26 and 27. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 26 and "aye" on rollcall vote 27.

Additionally, I was detained on Wednesday, March 7, 2001, and missed rollcall vote 28. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 28.

ARMY RESERVE OFFICER NOT ALLOWED TO WEAR RELIGIOUS SYMBOL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Trilok Singh Puniani is a member of the Army Reserve who is being denied the right to wear the symbol of his religion. Dr. Puniani is a Sikh and is required by his religion to wear his turban. It is one of the five symbols of Sikhism. Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, has written to the President on Dr. Puniani's behalf.

Dr. Puniani joined the Army reserve in 1999. There had been an exemption granted that permitted the wearing of a turban while in uniform and there are three Sikhs who have achieved the rank of Colonel who wear their turbans. However, new regulations adopted in July 1999, just a month before Dr. Puniani joined the Army Reserve, denied this exemption for those who joined the service after 1984.

Mr. Speaker, the turban is not a hat. It is a religious symbol like the cross or the star of David. It should be afforded the same treatment.

One concern about this regulation is that it might discourage Sikhs and other minorities from joining the military services of the United States. Our armed services need manpower. We should not be discouraging anyone from joining. These minority Americans are important to our country and to the Army.

Canada and Britain have significant numbers of Sikhs in their military. They both allow these Sikhs to wear their turbans. Why can't we?

Whatever your religious beliefs, the military should treat you equally. This is about civil rights and equal treatment. We cannot give a preference to any religion, but we also cannot discriminate against any religion. I strongly

urge the Secretary of Defense to restore the exemption so that the religious expression of Dr. Puniani and others will be respected.

I insert Dr. Puniani's complaint and Dr. Aulakh's letter to the President into the RECORD.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
1901 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 802,
Washington, DC, February 20, 2001.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President of the United States,
The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Today I received by email a letter from Dr. Trilok Singh Puniani, who is a practicing physician and a member of the Army Reserve. He wrote to me about the regulation of July 1999 denying Sikhs who joined the military after 1984 the ability to wear their turbans.

The turban is a symbol of the Sikh religion. A practicing Sikh is symbolized by five symbols, one of which is uncut hair covered by a turban. In view of this, Dr. Puniani writes that "this new regulation will deprive the opportunity of joining the US Armed Forces of many aspiring Sikhs who have tremendous potential to serve the country." I agree with him. This would be a loss for America and for its armed forces.

Today there are over half a million Sikh citizens in the United States. They would be deprived of the opportunity to serve their country, the United States of America.

Not to allow Sikhs in the military to practice their Sikh religion is discriminatory and bad for morale. Sikhs fought valiantly in World Wars I and II along with the Allied forces in Europe and Africa. They suffered heavy casualties. The Sikh soldiers wore their turbans. Belgium erected a special monument to the Sikh forces in Ypres.

The British and Canadian forces encourage Sikhs to maintain their Sikh appearance. I respectfully urge you to follow their lead and order the armed forces of the United States to allow Sikhs to practice their religion. By so doing, you would raise the morale and effectiveness of the armed forces. America allows freedom of religion and the armed forces would be the best place to put it into practice.

Thank you for your attention to this problem. God bless you and God bless America.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
PRESIDENT,
Council of Khalistan.

Enclosure: Email from Dr. Puniani.

[Received by email, February 20, 2001]

Re Denial of Sikh attire in the U.S. Army.

RESPECTED DR. AULAKH, I would like to bring to your attention that I am in the U.S. Army Reserve since Aug. 1999. According to army regulation there was a provision to an exception for religious accommodation to wear turban while in the uniform. However, with new regulation published in July 1999 retroactive as of 1984, the request for religious accommodation will not be entertained, with exception of Sikhs who joined the U.S. Army prior to 1984.

To my knowledge, there are three other turbaned Sikhs in the US Army in the rank of Colonels. I am not sure about their date of commission. Those of us who joined the army after 1984 may have to separate honorably.

My concern is that this new regulation will deprive the opportunity of joining the US Armed Forces of many aspiring Sikhs who have tremendous potential to serve the country. America is the champion of democracy and we are being discriminated. I believe as physicians and in other fields we are a valuable asset to the US Army.

The Sikh soldiers are well respected in the British and Canadian Royal Armed Forces and encouraged to maintain their Sikh appearance. Why this discrimination in the US?

I think that this matter be brought to the attention of the Senators and the Congress in Washington for us Sikhs to be part and parcel of this nation and allowed to serve the country with pride.

I am also writing to my local congressman and the unit commanders of the US Army Reserve.

I am looking forward to seeing you in person when you visit us in Fresno. I will be happy to provide you with more information if needed.

Wish you all the best and a long life.

TRILOK S. PUNIANI,
Fresno, CA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on March 6 and 7, I was unable to cast my votes on rollcall votes: No. 26 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 724; No. 27 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 727; No. 28 on approving the journal; No. 29 on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 79; No. 30 on motion to suspend the rules and agree on H. Con. Res. 31; No. 31 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 624 as amended; No. 32 on motion to suspend the rules and agree on H. Con. Res. 47; and No. 33 on passage of S.J. Res. 6. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on roll call votes 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, and 32; and "nay" on roll call votes 29, and 33.

IN MEMORY OF STEVEN S. CAUDLE

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, the Henrico County Division of Police has lost one of its best. Steven S. Caudle was suddenly taken from his wife, Susan, and two daughters, Kristen, 19, and Jamie, 15 when the car in which he was riding veered off the road on January 26, 2001.

A Richmond native, Mr. Caudle was a 21-year veteran of the Henrico County Division of Police. Upon graduating from Highland Springs High School, he served four years in the army as a military policeman. He then returned home to Henrico County and began his law enforcement career. He worked for a number of years in the Street Crimes Unit before moving to a job providing technical support on narcotics investigations. Eventually, he returned to his roots and served an additional four years with the Uniform Division.

Described by friends and family as a soft-spoken southern gentleman with a great sense of humor and an incredible laugh, Mr. Caudle was an enthusiastic collector of Civil War artifacts. During his free time he liked to play pool, go fishing for rockfish in the Chesapeake Bay, and spend time with his daughters skiing and tubing on the Pamunkey River.

Those who knew him best lauded his skills as an officer, a person, and most importantly as a father. According to Sgt. J.J. Riani, "the thing that came most naturally to him was being his daughters' father." His wife of nearly 25 years described Mr. Caudle as "the best detective there ever was. If there was a crime out there, he could solve it. He lived life to its fullest. He didn't waste a moment of living. He was always there for his friends, willing to help anybody at anytime for anything."

Perhaps Mr. Caudle's legacy can best be described by his children. Daughter Jamie, 15, said, "I think my dad was like probably the coolest parent ever. I could tell him anything. He was not only my father but my best friend. I loved him and he loved me and I know I made him proud." Older daughter Kristen, 19, said, "Daddies are supposed to be heroes. They're supposed to be strong. They're not supposed to die."

Today we remember a true hero. Steve Caudle put service before self and family ahead of all others. Steve will be missed not only by the people who knew him, but by those in the community that he served with dignity, respect and true heroism.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOMERVILLE
ARTS COUNCIL

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Somerville (Massachusetts) Arts Council and to Cecily Miller, who served as its director for fifteen years. Ms. Miller transformed a small, under-funded coterie of art lovers into a powerful community force. It is no exaggeration to say that Ms. Miller used art to forge community. Somerville has historically been a city of immigrants and working people. During the decade I served as Mayor, Somerville experienced some gentrification but no loss of neighborliness. Cecily Miller played no small part in that achievement. To bring people together, she created ART BEAT, an annual celebration of arts, crafts, music, and dance that draws large, orderly, and animated crowds to our public squares.

In addition to the public festivals, I would like to cite three of her most imaginative projects:

(1) The Garden Awards—each year Somerville gardens are displayed in brilliant photographs, and the gardens are as different as our citizens. Some of the backyards are restrained and minimalist, some explode with flowers and vegetables bursting through chain-link fences. The photograph in my Longworth office shows an exuberant man, in ripe middle age, holding aloft dahlias. People have different ideas of the way they want their own yard to look, but no difficulty in recognizing the beauty of their neighbors'.

(2) The Illumination Tour—Somerville householders illuminate their homes and gardens for the winter holidays. Cecily Miller recognized these decorations as a genuine art form, and organized a trolley tour of the most spectacular installations. Again, she helped citizens to share and celebrate their neighbors' observances.

(3) The Mystic River Mural—a public housing projects abuts an inter-state highway that

obscures the Mystic River. Cecily Miller raised grant money so that teenagers from the project could work with professional artists on a mural. They covered the barrier with imaginative approaches to the water. Now, instead of graffiti, we see a river and a riverbank: reeds, herons, people fishing, swimming, chatting. Most important, young people learned that they could transform an ugly scene into a thing of beauty.

I regret that Cecily Miller is leaving the Somerville Arts Council. I am deeply grateful for all that she has done for the people of Somerville.

HONORING 21 MEMBERS OF NA-
TIONAL GUARD KILLED IN
CRASH ON MARCH 3, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with the families and loved ones of the 21 brave men who died while serving their nation. Serving in the military is a tough and demanding job not only for those who choose to serve, but the families who are forced to live without them, who wave goodbye knowing they may never see them again.

I met recently with General Harrison with the Florida National Guard, and we talked about the great work the Guard was doing, all while being called for more and more missions. We are particularly thankful for the Guard in my home state of Florida because of the great support they offer. Whether it's fighting our wildfires or preparing for our hurricanes, the Guard is always there for us in our time of need.

I speak for my colleagues and all my constituents in thanking every man and woman who puts their life on the line for this country. Not just when tragedy strikes, but for every day that you protect us from harm.

TRIBUTE TO BILL AND CLAUDIA
COLEMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Bill and Claudia Coleman for their gracious donation to the University of Colorado. On January 16, 2001, University of Colorado president Elizabeth Hoffman accepted their donation, the single largest gift ever given to an American University. The gift, totaling \$250 million, will be used to establish the University of Colorado Coleman Institute for Disabilities. The program will fund advanced research and development of innovative technologies intended to enhance the lives of people with cognitive disabilities.

Cognitive disabilities are associated with a number of conditions, such as mental retardation and developmental retardation. "This will make CU the international center of excellence in developing adaptive assistance tech-

nologies, based on advanced biomedical and computer science research and computer science research, for people with cognitive disabilities," Hoffman said.

Bill is the founder and chairman of BEA Systems of San Jose, California, and his wife Claudia, is a former manager with Hewlett Packard. An Air Force Academy graduate and former executive with Sun Microsystems, Bill said the idea for the donation came from a tour of CU's Center for LifeLong Learning and Design. Bill and Claudia are no strangers to cognitive disabilities. They have a niece with the disability, and they understand the benefits and the promise new technologies offer.

The Coleman's plan to play an active role in the institute. They said the "incredibly strong" team of researchers at CU played a decisive role in the decision to give the University the endowment. "We have witnessed the challenges this population faces every day with problem solving, reasoning skills and understanding and using language," Bill said. "I passionately believe that we as a society have the intelligence and the responsibility to develop technologies that will expand the ability of those with cognitive disabilities to learn, to understand and to communicate," he added.

Mr. Speaker, this is an unprecedented gift by both Mr. and Mrs. Coleman. Their generosity and vision will help countless Americans now and in the future. For that, they deserve the thanks and praise of this body.

RECOGNIZING THE ENERGY TECH-
NOLOGY AGREEMENT RECENTLY
SIGNED BY THE STATE OF WEST
VIRGINIA, TOGETHER WITH
PARTNERS IN ACADEMIA AND
INDUSTRY

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, over the past several weeks, we have been painfully reminded of how heavily our economy relies on affordable, abundant energy. The events that we've experienced—from massive supply disruptions in the west to sharp price increases in the east—also have opened many eyes to the need to devise a sound national energy policy.

Along with a number of my colleagues in this House, I have long advocated the benefits of more fully incorporating coal into America's energy mix. The abundance and value of our nation's coal reserves are well-documented, and are absolutely key to moving our country toward the desirable goal of greater energy independence.

That is why I am pleased by the memorandum of understanding signed January 30, 2001, in Morgantown, W.Va., between partners in government, industry and academia. They have pledged to team together on coal research, development and commercialization initiatives—initiatives which will enable West Virginia to build on its role as a leader in the search for national and international energy solutions.

I would like to recognize the signatories to this memorandum, beginning with our distinguished former colleague, the Honorable Robert E. Wise Jr., who now serves as governor

of the State of West Virginia. Joining Governor Wise in ratifying this landmark agreement were David C. Hardesty Jr., the president of West Virginia University; Patrick R. Esposito Sr., the president of Augusta Systems Inc., on behalf of the tenants of the Collins Ferry Commerce Center; and Ralph A. Carabetta, deputy director of the National Energy Technology Laboratory, or NETL.

These officials, and the organizations they serve, are to be commended on their efforts to more fully integrate NETL-developed technologies into the marketplace. Their memorandum of understanding re-affirms Senator ROBERT C. BYRD's foresight in promoting energy research, and will further capitalize on his success in building a strong fossil-fuel portfolio at NETL.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to salute the partners in this agreement, and to wish them much success in their new collaboration.

IN HONOR OF THE SUCCESS OF ST. MICHAEL AND UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise in congratulations to the success of St. Michael Hospital in maintaining the tradition of high quality, community health care.

Last year, the life of St. Michael Hospital, a full service community hospital, was threatened by a buyer who sought to close it. Without notice, patients were told to find other physicians, wards were closed, ambulance service was stopped and units were shut down. Once the community learned of the pending closure, they sprang into action to save St. Michael. A massive effort began. Neighborhood residents spoke out, the City Council supported, doctors and nurses worked tirelessly and my office filed an amicus brief to prevent the closure, supported by hundreds of constituents.

Today, St. Michael Hospital is not only in stable condition, but growing its services and expanding its facility. Not even a year after it stood at the brink of closure, it is now in the middle of plans to increase the size of the emergency room by 50 percent. Construction will begin in a few months to allow the hospital to create more treatment areas for trauma patients. Later this month, two renovation projects are slated to begin. A new inpatient gero-psychiatric ward was opened last December after renovation was completed on the fourth floor. St. Michael has even started a shuttle service for patients without transportation.

For 117 years, St. Michael Hospital (formerly St. Alexis) has done a remarkable job of tending to the health of Clevelanders. It has provided high quality health care to hundreds of thousands of patients, no matter their color, country of origin, age or ability to pay. Over 20 percent of its patients are unable to afford health care, but they are treated at St. Michael.

Our community has long known the institution's strength of compassion, and we are now so lucky to witness its strength of determina-

tion and resilience. St. Michael has rebounded with new medical care programs, an increase in patient volume and an improved financial situation. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the work of St. Michael Hospital and the University Hospital Health Network which came to its rescue. I ask that you join with me in congratulating all who have brought St. Michael Hospital back to life.

CONGRATULATING WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION JOHNNY "THE QUIET MAN" RUIZ

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, Johnny "The Quiet Man" Ruiz, a young man from my district, for winning the World Boxing Association Heavyweight title this past weekend in Las Vegas. I do not stand here today to boast about the athletic prowess of a world class champion but rather to commend Johnny for the grace and dignity with which he has carried himself throughout his climb to the upper echelons of the boxing world.

As the first Latino heavyweight world champion, Johnny is truly a hometown hero to the people of Chelsea, Massachusetts. Johnny was a hero long before his upset victory over four-time champion Evander Holyfield on Saturday evening. Last August, after losing a very close and controversial decision to Holyfield, Johnny came home from Las Vegas to find hundreds of his supporters waiting on his doorstep to cheer his arrival. They knew they already had a champion among them.

Like many young husbands and fathers throughout the country; Johnny spends his free time coaching Little League baseball, Pop Warner Football and is actively involved in the parent's group at his children's school. That is the man that is the new heavy weight champion. That is Johnny Ruiz. Like many of his neighbors, Johnny Ruiz is a hardworking family man, who proudly represents a city of hard working people. Johnny just happens to go to work at the Somerville Boxing Club under the watchful eye of his trainer Norman Stone.

Years from now we will surely be hearing many stories about the boxing triumphs of this heavyweight champion from Chelsea. People will talk about how they used to watch him run by their house or storefront while he was training. We will hear about rematches and world rankings. However, there is one story that stands out in my mind. On the evening of the first Holyfield-Ruiz fight, the then-WBA champion Holyfield was hosting a postfight victory party at the Paris Hotel. Accompanied by his boyhood friends, Ruiz, an exhausted and defeated challenger walked through the many reporters, cameras and Holyfield fans to extend a congratulatory hand to his most recent opponent. This gesture caught Holyfield by surprise more than Johnny's overhand right last Saturday night. The champion told Johnny "that was the most class an opponent has ever shown after a fight". That story truly embodies Johnny Ruiz.

It is reassuring to know that behind all the hype and trash talking in professional sports

there are still athletes out there who are true gentlemen. There are still men like Johnny "The Quiet Man" Ruiz: a neighborhood kid who had a little bit more talent and worked a little bit harder to get his shot. More importantly, he never forgot his roots—he never forgot the neighborhood and city he was fighting from. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate "the neeewww WBA heavyweight champ of the worlllld Johnny Ruiz!!!"

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Peace Corps as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

The Peace Corps is a powerful symbol of America's commitment to encourage progress, create opportunity, and expand development at the grass roots level in the developing world and at home.

Today, its volunteers are working to bring clean water to communities, teach children, help start new small businesses, and stop the spread of AIDS.

Since its beginning, in 1961, more than 161,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 134 countries. These are people who are dedicated and committed to making this a better world.

After serving and teaching in other countries, Peace Corps volunteers return to the U.S. with a greater understanding of other cultures and peoples.

It is truly a mutually beneficial cross-cultural exchange.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the thousands of Peace Corps volunteers, past, present, and future, and in commending the Peace Corps for empowering and encouraging progress around the world for the past four decades.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday March 5, I missed two votes numbered 26 and 27. I missed these votes on account of illness. If present, I would have voted "yea" on both suspension bills.

OPPOSING NATIONAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION OR NATIONAL TEACHER TESTING

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to forbid the use of federal funds to develop or implement a national system of teacher certification or a national teacher test.

My bill also forbids the Department of Education from denying funds to any state or local education agency because that state or local educational agency has refused to adopt a federally-approved method of teacher certification or testing. This legislation in no way interferes with a state's ability to use federal funds to support their chosen method of teacher certification or testing.

Federal control of teacher certification will inevitably lead to a national curriculum. National teacher certification will allow the federal government to determine what would-be teachers need to know in order to practice their chosen profession. Teacher education will revolve around preparing teachers to pass the national test or to receive a national certificate. New teachers will then base their lesson plans on what they needed to know in order to receive their Education Department-approved teaching certificate. Therefore, I call on those of my colleagues who oppose a national curriculum to join me in opposing national teacher testing and certification.

Many educators are voicing opposition to national teacher certification and testing. The Coalition of Independent Education Associations (CIEA), which represents the majority of the over 300,000 teachers who are members of independent educators associations, has passed a resolution opposing the nationalization of teacher certification and testing. As more and more teachers realize the impact of this proposal, I expect opposition from the education community to grow. Teachers want to be treated as professionals, not as minions of the federal government.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to join me in opposing national teacher certification or national teacher testing. Training and certification of classroom teachers is the job of state governments, local school districts, educators, and parents; this vital function should not be usurped by federal bureaucrats and/or politicians. Please stand up for America's teachers and students by signing on as a cosponsor of my legislation to ensure taxpayer dollars do not support national teacher certification or national teacher testing.

DON'T FORGET THE MUSTANG
FREEDOM FIGHTERS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, March 10th is the 42nd anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising Day and the Chinese occupation of Tibet. Every year we appropriately celebrate this solemn day by recognizing and remembering the thousands of Tibetan people who gave their lives on March 10th struggling for their freedom. This past year the brutality of the Chinese occupation government has been exceptionally cruel to Tibetan Buddhist religious practitioners. Many monks and nuns have been executed and tortured to death for their beliefs while the Panchen Lama still remains under detention. Accordingly, it is fitting that this month the Bush administration will introduce a resolution in Geneva at the United

Nations Human Rights Commission condemning the Chinese government's contemptible lack of concern for the rights of the Tibetan and Chinese people.

We welcome the Bush administration's open-eyed approach to dealing with the Chinese government on human rights issues and its signals that it is willing to assist our friends on Taiwan. We are therefore hopeful that our government's policy toward Tibet will be brought in line with this refreshing pragmatism. A good start would be by remembering and recognizing the people of Kham who began their resistance against Chinese expansionism almost 51 years ago when the Communists launched their invasion of eastern Tibet in 1950. The brave Khampas and people from Amdo being intensely loyal to His Holiness the Dalai Lama and willing to sacrifice their lives to protect their religious beliefs and institutions, bore the brunt of the PLA's brutal effort to conquer Tibet. Years before Mao's hardened shock troops marched into Lhasa, the people of Kham and Amdo struggled against all odds to turn back the atheist Communist invaders. To this day they still pay dearly for their religious beliefs and struggle for their rights. Their lands and their monasteries have yet to be completely returned to them and the Chinese government has yet to pay reparations.

During the 1950's and up until the early 1970's our government supported the Tibetan cause by training and equipping their fighters and by drawing attention in the international community to the Tibetan plight. When our government ended our assistance to the Tibetan fighters in the early 70's who were then operating out of Mustang, a remote area of northern Nepal, many of them stayed in Nepal. To this day, a number of these men and women still struggle for their survival while some have passed on.

Fourteen years ago, the Congress passed a resolution condemning China's occupation of Tibet. When President Reagan signed it, Lodi Gyaltzen Gyari, a great Khampa, a good friend and His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Special Envoy urged Congressman Charlie Rose and myself to send two of our staff assistants to travel to India and Nepal to learn more about the Tibetan issue. Towards the end of that visit, they met with a number of the Mustang fighters in a small camp in Pokara, Nepal. Our congressional staff reported back to us that these Khampas were still prepared to give their lives for their nation and remained intensely loyal to the United States. They continued to believe that we would never abandon them although it appeared to the outside world that that was exactly what we had done. The camp leader remarked to our staff, "friends don't abandon friends and America stands up for what is right."

When the Congress heard about these brave, earnest Khampas, we committed ourselves to renewing our Nation's contact with the Tibetan people. We passed the historic sense of the Congress resolution stating that Tibet is an occupied country and His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government-in-Exile are the true representatives of the Tibetan people. In addition, we directed the Voice of America to transmit into Tibet, thus giving the Tibetan people their first clear window to the outside world. Moreover, we en-

sured that various forms of political and material assistance began to flow to the Tibetan diaspora.

Accordingly, on this March 10th anniversary, may the Khampa fighters and all the elderly men and women of Tibet who continue their struggle inspire us today by their courage and enduring devotion to the cause of Tibetan freedom. As America—who offered them hope and then withdrew its promise—is especially indebted to the freedom fighters, I will look into how we might offer them more than just our sincere thanks. I have learned that many Tibetan elders are living in destitute conditions in Nepal and India. Let us all bear in mind the Mustang freedom fighters on this occasion and begin to consider how we can demonstrate in real terms that their cause remains our own.

DISAPPROVING DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR RULE RELATING TO
ERGONOMICS

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, the ergonomics issue is not new. It was first proposed by Secretary Elizabeth Dole under the Bush administration and has since been subjected to over a decade of intense scientific analysis. It did not surprise anyone last year, because we have had many hearings on the topic, received hours of testimony, gone through a lengthy public rulemaking process, and debated the matter extensively here on the floor of the House.

This joint resolution, on the other hand, has been launched with no public hearings, no committee markups, no committee reports, no committee study, and almost no debate. Forcing this resolution through is a backdoor attempt to undermine the legitimate public rulemaking process in a way that has never been done before.

Thousands of employers have successfully implemented ergonomics programs resulting in the significant reduction of ergonomic injuries and illnesses and the savings of millions of dollars. Companies as diverse as 3M, Ford Motor Co., Fieldcrest-Cannon, Red Wing Shoes, Perdue Farms, and the Fresno Bee have implemented ergonomics programs that not only substantially reduced injuries and illnesses, but produced significant productivity improvements as well.

The fact is that ergonomics works. The National Academy of Sciences has said so, hundreds of successful businesses have said so, and the American public has said so.

If there are problems with the existing ergonomics standard, then the appropriate way to address them is through rulemaking. Passage of a CRA resolution not only dooms the existing standard, but delays for years and perhaps indefinitely the development of any general ergonomics standard. This is not just bad for workers, it is bad for business, and it is bad government.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this resolution.

REPEAL OF EXECUTIVE ORDER
13166

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, on August 11, 2000, former President Clinton signed Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency."

When signing Executive Order 13166, former President Clinton cited concerns that "language barriers are preventing the federal government and recipients of federal financial assistance from effectively serving a large number of people in this country." His main concern was that those who do not speak English are not able to apply for and receive federal assistance.

Mr. Speaker, Executive Order 13166 requires all federal agencies to examine the services they provide, as well as identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP). The Executive Order requires federal agencies to develop and implement a system to provide those services in any language that LEP individuals may speak.

Mr. Speaker, we are already beginning to witness the potential costs associated with the implementation of Executive Order 13166. On January 10, 2001, the Department of Justice released a plan to implement Executive Order 13166. This Departmental plan not only creates new services that the federal government must provide, but the plan also imposes a remarkable number of new and costly requirements on every federal agency.

In addition, the Department of Justice has announced plans to develop translations of documents into 30 languages. Now, the Department of Transportation believes that traffic signs in English are problematic. Mr. Speaker, we must stop this tremendous cost burden on the United States taxpayer.

Today, I join several colleagues in introducing legislation to rescind Executive Order 13166. Rescinding this burdensome executive order will not only alleviate a costly mandate on federal agencies, but also protect our great nation from further language barriers.

Implementing Executive Order 13166 will only reinforce language barriers in the United States. Rather than discourage people from learning English and enjoying the benefits associated with English proficiency, the United States should encourage all individuals united by one government to join in a single language. Executive Order 13166 does not encourage those seeking benefits from developing English proficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the repeal of Executive Order 13166.

RECIPIENT OF THE DAILY POINTS
OF LIGHT AWARDS, NETTIE REYNOLDS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this moment to recognize Nettie Reynolds of

Gypsum, Colorado, The Points of Light Foundation recipient of The Daily Points of Light Award. The Daily Points of Light Award honors an individual or organization that makes a positive and lasting difference in the lives of others. The award is a fitting tribute to a woman who has given of herself immeasurably during the course of her distinguished life.

For more than 30 years, Nettie Reynolds has volunteered to serve her community. She first served her community as a teen member of the Civil Defense League. Then, in 1969, she organized the town of Gypsum's Ladies' Volunteer Fire Department, where she held the position of Fire Chief until she retired in 1997. She also managed and ran emergency medical calls with the Western Eagle County Ambulance District for many years. In addition, Nettie has been active in health care organizations and various other emergency medical service agencies. And in her "spare time" Nettie still finds time to visit with seniors and disabled citizens, giving them affection and making them feel loved.

Mr. Speaker, Nettie Reynolds is a role model that people of all ages can and should look up to. It is obvious why Nettie Reynolds was chosen as The Points of Light Award recipient, I think that we all owe her a debt of gratitude for her service and dedication to the community.

Nettie, your community, state and nation are proud of you and grateful for your service.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to introduce a resolution recognizing and supporting the goals of International Women's Day. Women in the United States organized the first Women's Day in 1908 and helped inspire the international movement. International Women's Day celebrated on March 8th, began as a movement for voting rights and labor rights. Over the years, it has grown, and today, it is seen as a day for asserting women's political, economic, and social rights, for reviewing the progress that women have made, as a day for celebration, and as a day for demonstration.

In the early 1900's, the solidarity of women working on suffrage and improved labor conditions led to the formation of the first women's labor union, the Women's Trade Union League. Almost a century later, we have much to celebrate, yet we also have much work left to do to advance the status of women worldwide.

Women all over the world are contributing to the growth of economies, participating in the world of diplomacy and politics, and improving the quality of lives of their families, communities, and nations. And we should honor the women who have led us this far. Women like, Jane Addams, Coretta Scott King, Gloria Anzaldúa, Maya Lin, Aung San Suu Kyi from Burma (now Myanmar), the Mirabel sisters from the Dominican Republic, Shabana Azmi from India, Rigoberta Menchu from Guatemala, Eleanor Roosevelt, Oprah Winfrey, Eve

Enslar, Dorothy Cotton, Wangari Maathai from Kenya, and Fatou Sow from Senegal. Women around the globe, from the Americas, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South Asia, and Europe have all contributed enormously to the struggle for gender equality and the advancement of women.

We must continue the struggle. While the right to vote has been won here in the United States, there still remain women in many countries fighting for their voices to be heard and for representation in their political process. Furthermore, women still earn less, own less property, and have less access to education, employment, and health care than men.

The statistics of violence against women are appalling. Globally, one out of every three women and girls has been beaten or sexually abused in her lifetime. Each year, there are 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 women and children illegally trafficked across international borders, with 50,000 women and children transported to the United States. It is estimated that 130,000,000 girls and young women have been subjected to female genital mutilation, with at least 10,000 girls at risk of this practice in the United States. These statistics are unacceptable. We are in the midst of a global crisis and we can not afford to continue passing on this crisis of violence to our sons and daughters.

It is promising that for the first time, the international community has declared that sexual crimes against women during times of war will no longer be considered natural occurrences of war but will be punishable as a crime against humanity. Crimes against humanity are less in severity to only those of genocide.

I applaud and honor the work of women all over the world who live and fight the struggle every day. I also urge Congress to pass my resolution which will reaffirm the United States government's commitment to pursue policies to end discrimination and violence against women and pursue policies that guarantee basic rights for women both in the United States and in countries around the world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LANDMINE
ELIMINATION AND VICTIMS AS-
SISTANCE ACT OF 2001

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Landmine Elimination and Victims Assistance Act of 2001.

I am proud that I am joined in this effort by Representatives QUINN and MCGOVERN. They have been strong leaders in our fight to eliminate the scourge of landmines around the world and I look forward to continuing our work together. We are also joined by a bipartisan group of nearly 30 other Members of Congress. Our legislation is the companion to Senator LEAHY's bill which he will be introducing shortly as well with a bipartisan cast of sponsors.

The legislation accomplishes four things. It expresses the sense of Congress that the Department of Defense should field currently available weapons, other technologies, tactics

and operational concepts which provide suitable alternatives to landmines. I believe that alternatives exist that are more effective and less costly than mixed mine systems and that also match more closely our country's doctrine of mobility warfare. This view is shared by many active and retired military officers.

It also calls on our nation to end its use of mines, and to join the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines as soon as possible. In addition, it also codifies the Leahy-Evans U.S. moratorium on mine exports, which has been in effect since 1992 and is official United States policy.

Finally, it establishes an inter-agency working group, involving the Departments of State, Defense, Health and Human Services, Education and the VA, to develop a comprehensive plan for expanded mine action programs, including programs to assist mine victims.

The bill is the latest chapter in the work of many members of Congress to address the tragedy surrounding the proliferation of landmines. The carnage caused by landmines is well-known. Too many poor and developing countries have suffered tens of thousands of civilian casualties. The crisis that has afflicted much of the third world led to an outcry that forced the world to act.

The resulting international treaty, the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines has gained international acceptance more quickly than any other arms control treaty in history. The treaty, which came into force in 1998, has been signed by 139 countries and ratified by 110. However, our nation has not signed the treaty. It is a glaring absence considering our role as the world's remaining superpower.

President Bush has not indicated how he wants to proceed on the landmine issue. However, I hope that he sees that he has a tremendous opportunity in front of him. First he has the chance to reclaim US leadership and achieve the distinction of blazing the way to a truly landmine free world. It is a role that could help achieve universalization of the treaty which in turn would not only limit the threat of these weapons to civilians but also to our own soldiers who too often face landmines in peacekeeping duties around the world.

Second, he can eliminate a weapon which actually hinders our forces instead of helps them. Our current military doctrine emphasizes mobility on the battlefield. This will become even more of a focus as we move towards the more mobile forces that the Army has envisioned in its efforts at "Transformation". However, deploying "mixed" mine systems comprised of anti-tank mines deployed with anti-personnel mines actually restricts the movement of US forces on the battlefield. Even with self destructing mines that destroy themselves within hours, our forces may need to move through an area that was just mined minutes before. That is the essence of mobility warfare—being able to move at a moments notice as the battlefield changes. It is why former Marine Corps Commandant Al Gray once stated "What the hell is the use of sowing all this if you're going to move through it . . . We have many examples of our own young warriors trapped by their own minefields . . . We even had examples in Desert Storm."

However, this does not mean we have to give away military capability. We also have "smart" weapons currently in the inventory that can more effectively deal with armored

threats and that do not have the "side" effects of landmines on our mobility doctrine and the safety of our fighting men and women. The US has been developing alternatives with the support of myself and Senator LEAHY. While these technologies show great promise, we must remember that we do have the ability today to have a landmine free military that is more capable and effective.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear to me that moving towards a landmine free military is a win-win for our nation and the world. We can help eliminate the scourge that has cost tens of thousands of innocent men, women and children their lives and limbs while better protecting our own military and achieving a more effective fighting force. However, it will take leadership.

We will fight hard to move this legislation. It will help demonstrate the will of Congress to show leadership on this issue, make permanent the export moratorium and establish an interagency working group that will more effectively provide the expertise of our own government in dealing with the staggering human costs that mine have already inflicted and will continue to inflict. Above all, I hope it is seen by the President as an invitation to strengthen US policy so we may see the day of a landmine free world sooner rather than later. I look forward to working with the President and his Administration.

RESOLUTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CONDEMNING RACIAL SLANDER BY SENATOR ROBERT BYRD

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus:

RESOLUTION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CONDEMNING RACIAL SLANDER BY SENATOR ROBERT BYRD OF WEST VIRGINIA

Whereas, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus regret the many years, in the not so distant past, when certain members of the House and Senate freely used racial slurs on the floor and in other public places; and,

Whereas, our great nation has made great strides in both de jure and de facto race relations and has established a new moral standard in public discourse; and,

Whereas, the administration of William Jefferson Clinton greatly advanced progress in race relations through his policies of inclusion and the President's demonstration of great personal comfort among all racial, religious, and ethnic groups; and,

Whereas, the current political environment is such that negative and derogatory sentiments, attitudes, and practices of the past are being resurrected as new, caring, and compassionate versions of sanctioned segregation; and,

Whereas, the sentiments, attitudes and behaviors of the Ku Klux Klan have long ago been condemned by the majority of Americans and outlawed by the U.S. Constitution; and,

Whereas, United States Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia recently made a statement using a racial slur regurgitated from the painful past Ku Klux Klan era, that was hurtful, incendiary, and counterproductive; and,

Whereas, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus consider it one of our priority duties to offer moral leadership on behalf of our constituents and to the American people in general, and to resist any attempt to move our great nation back in time to our ugly legacy of racial injustice, insensitivity and intolerance, now therefor be it

Resolved That the members of the Congressional Black Caucus hereby, without rancor or malice, condemn Senator Byrd's racist statement and the sentiment of lingering intolerance it reflects. We respectfully request all members of the House and Senate to publicly and privately convey a similar condemnation; be it further

Resolved That this proclamation of Condemnation be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD; and be it further

Resolved, That United States Senator Robert Byrd make his statements of apology from the floor of the U.S. Senate.

THE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATE REDUCTION ACT OF 2001

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Individual Income Tax Rate Reduction Act. This legislation will provide immediate, across the board marginal income tax rate reductions for all wage earners in this country, while reducing the marriage tax penalty.

A new day has arrived in Washington. The new President is leading the effort to focus national attention on the issues that Americans support. This week, Congress has taken the first step to implement tax code changes that will benefit all wage earners. The marginal income tax rate reductions proposed by the President, reported by the Committee on Ways and Means, on which I serve, and recently passed by the House of Representatives, will have a tremendous impact on providing individuals and families with greater financial security. At a time when the federal coffers have billions of dollars in excess revenues, coupled with the slowing growth of the economy, is more appropriate than ever to provide a refund to taxpayers who have overpaid the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I fully support the legislation that has been passed by the House of Representatives. But frankly I believe we can do more. Today I introduce legislation that will reduce the marginal income tax rates. However, at the center of this legislation is my belief that we must reduce the amount of taxes taken out of paychecks today. My legislation makes effective immediately a reduction in all of the marginal rates. In addition, over the next few years, the number of rates will be reduced from 5 to 4.

Current law	Collins bill	Effective
15 percent	12 percent	Jan. 1, 2001.
28 percent	25 percent	Jan. 1, 2001.
31 percent	28 percent	Jan. 1, 2001.
36 percent to 39.6 percent	33 percent	Phased down Jan. 1, 2001 to Jan. 1, 2006.

My legislation will also reduce the marriage tax penalty by increasing the standard deduction for all taxpayers, and making the married

deduction twice that of the single taxpayer's deduction.

Current law	Collins bill	Effective date
\$7,600	\$12,000	Jan. 1, 2001.
\$4,500	\$6,000	Jan. 1, 2001.
\$6,650	\$8,500	Jan. 1, 2001.

This legislation will provide taxpayers with over \$30 billion in tax relief this year alone. Over the next ten years, wage earners will see their income tax bills reduced by over \$1.5 trillion. It is anticipated that the Congressional Budget Office will soon update their projected budgetary estimates and report that there will be billions more available in unanticipated non-Social Security excess revenues. That is more reason than ever to provide taxpayers with meaningful tax reductions. Please join me in cosponsoring the Individual Income Tax Rate Reduction Act of 2001, so that we can provide tax relief as soon as possible.

DISAPPROVING DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR RULE RELATING TO
ERGONOMICS

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this harmful resolution which will prevent America's workers from safer working conditions.

Over two years ago, Congress mandated that the National Academy of Sciences conduct a study to review the impact of repetitive workplace motions. Now that the results are back, the Republican majority is disappointed. They don't like the results. So, they are trying to kill the rule entirely.

This Disapproval Resolution is simply another attempt to delay and ultimately block implementation of critical ergonomic workplace guidelines. These reasonable standards, already issued by the Department of Labor, will ensure that workplace safety guidelines are in place to prevent increasingly common workplace injuries.

More than 647,000 Americans suffer serious injuries and illness due to musculo-skeletal disorders each year. These injuries are currently costing businesses \$15 to \$20 billion annually in workers' compensation costs. Yet, it has been estimated that the ergonomics standards will prevent 4.6 million injuries over the next decade, and will actually save employers and workers \$9 billion each year.

Tragically, these injuries disproportionately affect women workers. Although women make up 46 percent of the workforce and 33 percent of those injured, 63 percent of repetitive motion injuries happen to women.

Women experience 70 percent of carpal tunnel syndrome injuries that result in lost work time. This is unacceptable and we must act now to prevent these injuries.

Americans who are willing to work hard each day to support themselves and their families deserve reasonable standards to prevent workplace injuries.

Many of the workers who will be covered by these common sense guidelines often work more than one job just to make ends meet. They work long hours loading trucks, moving

boxes, and delivering packages. Their jobs aren't easy, but they are willing to show up every day and do their best.

The last thing these hard-working Americans want is to get hurt. These sensible standards will keep them on the job and prevent costly workplace injuries.

Opponents of these common-sense guidelines claim that they will "regulate every ache and pain in the workplace." This is simply not true. These standards will only ensure that companies make someone responsible for ergonomics standards and that employees are not afraid to report these injuries. This is hardly an overwhelming request.

We must keep the Ergonomics standards in place. These standards protect hard-working Americans who deserve to work without the threat of injury.

I urge all of my colleagues to stand with hard-working Americans and to oppose this harmful legislation.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY MARCH 17,
2001

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 17th, again we approach another glorious, joyous Saint Patrick's Day. The Irish people around the globe, along with the millions here in our nation linked to the Emerald Isle by heritage, as well as their friends worldwide, join in celebrating this glorious day honoring the patron saint of that beautiful country of so many warm and generous people.

The American experience is linked closely with the Irish people. Ireland has given us numerous Presidents with links to both the north and south. Its diaspora fought for our nation as early as with General George Washington as we gained our own independence from Great Britain. Today, more than 44 million Americans claim Irish heritage.

It is only fitting that our nation assist the Irish people in finding lasting peace and justice in the north of Ireland and in ending the bitter, divisive, and tragic conflict, that the Irish call the "Troubles." For the past eight years the U.S. Congress in a bipartisan way fully supported President Clinton in all of his Irish peace process initiatives which eventually helped produce the Good Friday Accord of April 1998, under the guidance and steady hand of former U.S. Senator George Mitchell.

The Good Friday Accord is the road map for lasting peace and justice in the north of Ireland, which we and all the parties to that accord, as well as both governments in the region should honor, abide by, and use for the new shared governance created so that both traditions can live in harmony, peace, and equality in the north under the concept of mutual consent. The Irish people north and south approved the accord in referendum. They want peace!

Now, with a new Administration coming to power in Washington, many wonder if the Irish peace process will be given the same priority by the Administration of George W. Bush. We in the Congress stand ready to provide the same kind of across the board bi-partisanship support for the new Administration in the con-

tinuing search for a lasting peace and justice in Ireland. We owe that to the new Administration, as well as to the Irish people, who have given so much to this nation of ours from its very founding until today.

Candidate George W. Bush supported the GOP platform in Philadelphia in 2000 which said: "The next President will use the prestige and influence of the United States to help the parties achieve a lasting peace." Candidate Bush himself went on to set out his own approach in a letter to the Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern on September 8, 2000, stating ". . . the entire island of Ireland have a friend in George W. Bush. America should remain engaged in the Irish peace process, and I will work hard and pray always for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland."

For those of us who have observed President George W. Bush in his first weeks of office abiding by and living up to his 2000 campaign promises and pledges, no one doubts that Ireland will be high on his foreign policy agenda, and that the Congress will support him.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the letter from George W. Bush to the Irish Prime Minister at this point in the RECORD and I invite my colleagues to join in wishing our Irish-American friends and all of Ireland a Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

GOVERNOR OF TEXAS,

Austin, TX, September 8, 2000.

HON. BERTIE AHERN, T.D.,
Taoiseach, Republic of Ireland.
Dublin, Ireland.

DEAR BERTIE: I want to extend my personal greetings to you, and to express my admiration for your commitment to peace in Northern Ireland. The road has been long, and it has not been easy, but you have succeeded in furthering reconciliation and bringing an elected representative Assembly to Northern Ireland.

You may be assured of my personal interest and full commitment to helping move the peace process forward. I believe that the support of the United States was an important element in helping the parties achieve the Good Friday Agreement, and that America should be ready, if necessary, to appoint a special envoy to further facilitate the search for lasting peace, justice, and reconciliation.

I am encouraged by the very real economic growth that has come to the entire island of Ireland. At least part of this growth can be credited to the strengthening of business ties between the United States and Ireland, and I strongly support continued and increased private American investment in both Northern Ireland and the Republic.

I am also encouraged by the work of Chris Patten and his Commission in reviewing and recommending reforms of the police authorities in Northern Ireland. I appreciate the importance of tradition and symbols, and the sensitivities of the communities in Northern Ireland on this issue, and support the full implementation of the Commission's recommendations.

Please know that you and the people of the entire island of Ireland have a friend in George W. Bush. America should remain engaged in the Irish peace process, and I will work hard and pray always for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH.

EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week the European Court of Justice, the supreme judicial body of the European Union, ruled that a former employee of the European Commission (EC), Mr. Bernard Connolly, was legitimately fired by the Commission after he published a book critical of the European Monetary Union. Although the court, in ruling against Mr. Connolly's appeal of his sacking, attempted to cloak its decision in the right of the EC to take disciplinary action when an employee's behavior undermined the trust and confidence that needs to exist between employee and employer (Connolly had published his book without prior permission from the EC), it went on to ascribe to the EC the right to curb dissent and punish individuals who "damaged the institutions image and reputation." In making this kind of argument, the Court comes disturbingly close to harkening back to the discredited concept of seditious libel.

The European Union is already under fire because of the lack of democracy in the way many of its institutions, particularly the European Commission, has operated. There is a lack of transparency in the manner in which regulations are established and promulgated, there is said to be a significant lack of accountability on the part of certain important categories of senior EU officials, there is said to be too little oversight exercised by institutions representing the citizens of Europe, and the legislative branch, the European Parliament, which under a regular democracy would fulfill such functions, is still in only the initial stages of asserting such prerogatives more than a quarter of a century after its establishment. In the light of this remaining democratic deficit, the European Court of Justice's ruling against Mr. Connolly is not so much surprising as it is alarming.

Mr. Speaker, it has been longstanding policy of the United States to support the creation of first, the European Economic Community, which became the European Community, and then in 1992, the European Union. It made sense from the standpoint of our own interests to have an overarching institution which could serve as a brake upon the possible resurgence of nationalism and conflict on the European continent, and to have our closest trading partners organized as a single market with a single set of regulations for us to do business on the other side of the Atlantic.

Now, however, we are seeing much more ambitious and far reaching efforts aimed at creating, if not a "United States of Europe," then a federated Europe with as many of the attributes of a single state as can be agreed upon by its member nations. The European Security and Defense Policy is one manifestation of these efforts, and it has certainly caused a great deal of concern because of the potential to weaken NATO and undermine the solidarity of the North Atlantic Alliance. Another manifestation is the emergence within the European Commission of much more strident economic and trade policies which have fostered increasingly bitter and divisive disputes between the U.S. and our European trading partners.

The ruling of the European Court of Justice in the Connolly case strikes at the heart of our common traditions and institutions which are pinned upon basic precepts of human rights. None of which is more fundamental than freedom of speech. If the EU truly believes that it can set itself up to be beyond the reach of spoken or written criticism of its policies, then Mr. Connolly's statement, "The Court is acting as the sinister organ of a tyranny in the making" is completely accurate, and those of us who value the trans-Atlantic relationship need vigorously to speak out against it. Our relationship with our friends in Europe will only ensure so long as we continue to hold in common our belief that human rights are fundamental in our society, and our faith in the traditions and institutions that underpin our democratic form of governance.

CERRO GRANDE FIRE ASSISTANCE

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, last year was a difficult one for our country's public lands and the people and communities who live near them. It was dry and hot and firefighters worked long, back-breaking hours to extinguish flames that seemed to go on without end. My colleagues in this House know of the tragedies Americans experienced last year because of forest fires. It was a very hard year.

But some situations were made even worse when the fires weren't natural disasters. Some were started by the very people we trusted to steward the land. The National Park Service started a fire in my home state of New Mexico during a particularly dry and windy week. More than 400 people lost homes and businesses to the Cerro Grande fire, and hundreds of acres of tribal lands were also devastated.

Congress acted quickly, though, and passed The Cerro Grande Fire Assistance Act, S. 2736. It was attached to the Military Construction Appropriations bill and was signed into law on July 13, 2000. This legislation made up to \$455 million available to fire victims so they would be quickly compensated for their losses and could begin rebuilding their lives.

Things seemed to progress well, save for a few kinks that were worked out. But it's tax season, and there are hundreds of people in my home state of New Mexico who are waiting to file their taxes because they need information about how to characterize federal government compensation for the May 2000 Cerro Grande fire.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued and will continue to issue hundreds of payments in response to filed claims for compensation. However, there remain several unresolved questions regarding this compensation. As the April tax-filing deadline quickly approaches, taxpayers need to know what portions of the compensation they receive are taxable and how that will be determined. In spite of repeated requests from the New Mexico congressional delegation, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has still not issued a written decision resolving these questions. These Americans deserve answers now.

The Internal Revenue Service is not playing fair. Although very clear about its tax filing

deadlines and penalties for noncompliance, the IRS is not extending the same courtesy it requires. How can taxpayers meet deadlines when they lack information the IRS must provide?

The federal government started this fire and must continue to take responsibility for it. This disaster never should have happened. I am committed to doing everything I can to ensure that the federal government moves quickly, makes the necessary decisions, and allows the victims of this horrendous fire to rebuild their lives.

RECOGNITION OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, AND A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR CYNTHIA JOHNSTON TORRES

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of March as Women's History Month and March 8 as International Women's Day. I would also like to honor the late Honorable Cynthia Johnston Torres, a distinguished member of the Third Guam Legislature.

Women's History Month is a time to pay tribute to the women of our nation, in appreciation for their contributions to the political, social, economic, and cultural development of our country, in recognition of the many struggles and obstacles that they face, and in honor of the integral role that women have played in American history. Women make up over half of our country's population, or about 139 million in 1999, and have changed our nation in positive ways. Women have made their mark in various fields such as science, business, education, health, the public sector, the arts, entertainment, and the list goes on.

The progress of women today must be considered in conjunction with continuing challenges. Today women affect and are affected by the major issues on our nation's agenda, including health care, Social Security, Medicare, tax reform, etc. Most recently, ergonomics issues are impacting women, who represent 64 percent of repetitive motion injuries that result in lost work time. It is encouraging that six in ten women participate in the labor force, however employment discrimination and unequal pay still exist. The future looks promising as women are demonstrating increased participation in all levels and branches of government. Unfortunately, expectations still exist about their "traditional" roles.

Today, women are marrying at later ages, yet domestic and family violence continues throughout the country. Also across the nation, women's studies and gender studies are on the rise in higher education institutions, however women still need to be acknowledged as critical players in the history of America. Today I would like the opportunity to recognize the achievements of women amidst such challenges, challenges that our entire nation must face from within the fifty states to the five territories.

Women's History Month has its own history that illustrates the gains women have accomplished in the last century. In order to reflect on international connections among women,

some European nations have been celebrating International Women's Day on March 8 since 1911. Following women's suffrage in 1920 and the valuable contributions made by women to the war industries during the 1940's, women's issues were pushed to the forefront during the 1960's. The history of women was finally acknowledged in schools during the 1970s, and in 1981, the National Women's History Project spearheaded the initiative for National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress passed a resolution in recognition of this week, and in 1987, the week was expanded to National Women's History Month. In keeping with the annual

My district of Guam proudly takes part in celebrating Women's History Month. The Bureau of Women's Affairs holds events recognizing women's accomplishments, addressing women's issues, and empowering women to be the best that they can be. The theme for 2001 is "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision," and there will be a proclamation signing not only for Women's History Month but also for the Year of the Family.

Today, the spirit of community in Guam was alive and well, as the Bureau of Women's Affairs and the Guam Council of Women's Club celebrated International Women's Day. In an event involving the participation of various women's clubs and organizations from the government of Guam and the private sector, organizations learned more about each other and shared information while cultural delicacies and artwork of Guam were showcased for all to see.

The children of Guam are also active during Women's History month, as they participate in a poster and essay competition in promotion of this year's theme "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision." Elementary school children submit posters, and middle school and high school students enter essays, all of which are displayed at the Center Court at Micronesian Mall. Such an event raises early awareness on women's issues and fosters early recognition of women's contributions to Guam.

Finally, at the end of the month, the outstanding women of Guam for the year 2000 will be honored at the 7th Annual Awards Banquet at the Guam Marriott Resort. Winners from the categories of non-traditional role; grandmother; GovGuam/Federal (civil service); mother; community (local/military); and private sector will be announced. The influx of nominations illustrates that indeed the island embraces women of courage and vision.

Although this year's award recipients have not yet been named, the numerous women before them can again be recognized for paving the way in demonstrating leadership skills and commitment to our community and to our nation. For example, women in the public sector in Guam have made great strides over the past half century. They continue to be role models for our youth while encouraging political participation for all of the people of Guam.

In the Executive Branch, Lieutenant Governor Madeleine Bordallo holds the highest position held by a woman in Guam, and she currently serves her second term at this important post. There are 11 out of 60 female

heads of agencies, including Andrea Finona of the Guam passport Office; Sheila Torres of the Agency for Human Resources and Development; Jeanette R. Yamashita of the Chamorro Affairs Department; Isabel Lujan of the Department of Commerce, Rosie R. Tainatongo of the Department of Education; Deborah J. Bordallo of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities; Geraldine "Ginger" S. Underwood of the Guam Educational Telecommunication Corporation, KGTF; Taling Taitano of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority; Dr. Davina Lujan of the Guam Memorial Hospital; Thelma Ann Perez of the Guam Power Authority; and Christine K. Scott-Smith of the Guam Public Library.

In addition, 6 out of 40 deputy directors are women. They are: Rosanna San Miguel of the Agency for Human Resources and Development; Tina Muna-Barnes of the Department of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities; Jamema G. Maravilla of the Guam Energy Office; Cil P. Orot of the Guam Public Library; Theresa R. Cruz of the Guam Visitors Bureau; and Aurora F. Cabanero of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Agency.

While others have served in acting capacities, Lourdes T. Pangelian is the only woman who has served as the permanent Chief of Staff for the Governor of Guam. Another noteworthy woman is Doris Flores Brooks, a former Senator in the Guam Legislature who is the first woman to be elected as Public Auditor.

As you can see, political representation by women is encouraged on Guam. Guam law requires all Government of Guam boards and commissions to maintain at least two female members. Several key boards have female chairpersons, such as former Senator Pilar Cruz Lujan at the Guam Airport Authority; Lillian Opena at the Guam Council of Youth Affairs; Dr. Heidi San Nicolas at the Guam Development Disabilities Council; Miriam S. Gallet at the Guam Environmental Protection Board of Directors; Corina G. Ludwig at the Guam Mass Transit; Ann Muna at the Guam Memorial Hospital; Bernadita Quitugua at the Guam Museum; and Arlene P. Bordallo at the Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors.

Women's participation in the Legislative Branch has also increased over the years. The first elected female to public office was Rosa T. Aguigui of Merizo, who was elected to the Guam Congress in 1946. Since 1986, women represented nearly 1/3 of the membership of the Guam Legislature. Female membership was at its peak in 1990 seven women were elected to serve in the 22nd Guam Legislature, which consisted of 21 members. During three separate years, women were the highest vote-getters for a legislative campaign: in 1986, Marilyn D.A. Manibusan had the most votes, in 1988, it was Madeleine Z. Bordallo; and in 1990, Doris Flores Brooks captured the largest number of votes. Female legislators that have held the highest offices are Vice Speaker Katherine B. Aguon; Legislative Secretaries Pilar C. Lujan, Elizabeth Arriola, Judith Won Pat-Borja, and Joanne Brown; and Rules Committee Chairperson Herminia Dierking.

In 1954, Largimas Leon Guerrero Untalan and Cynthia Johnston Torres were the first

women to be elected to the Guam Legislature. Currently, 3 out of the 15 Members are women: Senator Joanne M.S. Brown, who is Legislative Secretary and Chairperson of the Committee on Natural Resources; Senator Lou A. Leon Guerrero, who is the Assistant Minority Leader; and Senator Judith "Judy" T. Won Pat, the Assistant Minority Whip. Past members include: Lagrimas Leon Guerrero Untalan, Cynthia Johnston Torres, Katherine B. Aguon, Carmen Artero Kasperbauer, Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Elizabeth P. Arriola, Pilar C. Lujan, Marilyn D.A. Manibusan, Hermina Duenas Dierking, Marcia K. Hartsock, Martha Cruz Ruth, Doris Flores Brooks, Marilyn Won Pat, Senator Hope A. Cristobal, Senator Carlotta Leon Guerrero, and Senator Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson, who is currently a Superior Court Judge. The highest staff position held by a female in the Guam Legislature is Deputy Director, held by Dorothy Perez.

Women have made promising gains in the Judicial Branch as well. Two out of 17 judges of the Superior Court are women: Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood and Judge Katherine A.

Past female mayors include: Rossana D. San Miguel of Chalan Pago; Patricia S. Quinata of Dededo; Nieves F. Sablan of Piti; and Cecilia Quinata Morrison of Umatac. Past Vice Mayors include Doris S. Palacios of Dededo; Teresita B. Umagat of Dededo; Margaret D. Mendiola Mayor of Sinajana; and Marie S. N. Leon Guerrero of Tamuning-Tumon.

Women have also held high positions in political parties. Mayilyn D.A. Manibusan was the first and to date the only female chairperson of the Republican Party, holding office in 1986, and Priscilla Tenorio Tuncap was the first female chairperson for the Democratic Party from 1990 to 1992. Pilar Cruz Lujan was elected last year and currently serves as the Democratic chairperson. Pilar Cruz served as the Vice Chairperson of Guam's Republican Party in the past. Nationwide, Madeleine Z. Bordallo is the longest-serving national committee woman on the Democratic National Committee and has served in this capacity since the Kennedy Administration.

In addition, Antoniette Duenas Sanford is the only woman to have served as Chairperson of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, and Eloise Baza has served as the first female President of the Guam Chamber of Commerce for the last several years.

As a native Chamorro from Guam, I am proud to announce some of the "firsts" for Chamorro women, a few of which I have mentioned already. Dr. Olivia Cruz was the first Chamorro woman licensed by the Medical Licensure Board; Frances Marie Tydingco Gatewood was the first Chamorro woman judge of the Superior Court; Elizabeth Gayle was the first Chamorro woman to be civil engineer; Dr. Rosa Robert Carter was the first Chamorro woman president and the only female President of the University of Guam; Mary Inez Underwood was the first woman of Chamorro ancestry to enter the religious life; Elizabeth Barrett Anderson was the first

Chamorro woman Attorney General; Rosa T. Aguigui Reyes was the first Chamorro woman elected to public office, as a member of the Guam Congress; Dr. Katherine B. Aguon was the first Chamorro woman to earn a doctor of philosophy degree and the first female vice speaker of the Guam Legislature; Cynthia Torres and Lagrimas Leon Guerrero Untalan were the first Chamorro women elected as senators, both serving in the 3rd Guam Legislature; and Asuncion Flores was the first Chamorro woman appointed member of the assembly of the Guam Congress.

These women in public service have been exemplary for the entire island and for our nation. I am truly honored to represent a district with such strong women leaders.

Historically, the women of Guam have always played an important role in Guam society. In pre-Western contact times, the Chamorro society was based on a matrilineal clan system in which women performed important and powerful roles in the lives of the people. Lineage was traced through the female line and it was the relationships via the mother which determined wealth, social standing and power. Even with the onset of Western contact which was patrilineal in nature (particularly from Spain), the Chamorro female retained much formal and informal power in Guam society. This has carried itself to the present and girls and women continue to be influential in some social settings and dominant in others. Openness to female leadership and women in influential roles have been part of the Guam scene in spite of Western contact.

We must also pay tribute to the women who I have not mentioned by name, yet who have also had a significant impact on our lives: working women, who fight for equal pay and non-discriminatory treatment; the women who stand up against domestic and family violence; the women who teach our children to become future leaders and the women who continue to learn in higher education institutions; the female community leaders who advocate for women's issues and for all important issues; lesbian women who are still fighting for the acceptance that they rightfully deserve. Last but not least, let us pay tribute to mothers, who provide love and direction so that our children are raised to become citizens with decency and values; single mothers, who make sacrifices every day so their children can live good lives; daughters, who grow up to become independent women of integrity and diligence; and wives, who provide companionship and stability.

These are the women we celebrate in March for Women's History Month, and these are the women we should celebrate all year round. I urge my colleagues to recognize Women's History Month, not only because women's history is key to American history, but because women have contributed so much to our nation through their strength, courage, and vision.

At this time, I would like to make note of the recent passing of a woman who has provided inspiration to all of the people of Guam, the Honorable Cynthia Johnston Torres. It is with a great sense of loss that we commemorate Senator Torres, a distinguished member of the Third Guam Legislature who passed away two days ago at the age of 89 on March 6, 2001.

Senator Torres is a noted figure in Guam politics. She holds the distinction of being one of the first women to be elected to public office

on the island of Guam. Along with Lagrimas L.G. Untalan, the late senator was elected to serve in the Third Guam Legislature in 1954. They were the first and only women elected to the Guam's unicameral Assembly during the first ten years of civil government on Guam. Although women had previously served as appointees to the Guam Congress, an advisory board to Guam's Naval governors during the first half of the last century, Senators Torres and Untalan's election marked the first time that women would serve as "elected" representatives to the people of Guam.

Foremost among the reasons behind the candidacy of Guam's first women senators were two specific objectives—these objectives were to define the character of Guam politics in the years to come. The candidates intended to set a precedent. They wanted to have Guam's women

The other objective set forth in the 1954 elections was to break the concept of block voting—a practice where an "X" placed by a voter on a large box within the ballot automatically casts votes for a certain party's slate of candidates. During the elections for the First and Second Guam Legislatures, the forerunner of the Guam Democratic Party, the Popular Party, was the only major political party in existence. Members of this party had absolute control of the First and Second Legislatures. In 1954, Senator Torres' election as an independent to the legislature earned her a prominent position which ensured leadership status when the Territorial Party—the forerunner of the Guam Republican Party—was formed in 1956. Guam voters have since been known to cross party lines and cast votes for candidates they feel most qualified rather than for party affiliations.

As a member of the Third Guam Legislature, Senator Torres played a vital role in the passage of important legislation—the most notable being Public Law 42, which established trial by jury in certain cases within the jurisdiction of the District Court of Guam. In addition to a wide range of bills which codified the island of Guam's administrative and corporate procedures, the establishment of the Guam Memorial Hospital, the only civilian hospital, took effect during the Senator's tenure.

Although undoubtedly a very distinguished political figure, Senator Torres left a more distinct mark in the field of education. Born on July 27, 1911, to William G. and Agueda Iglesias Johnston, the senator took a path not much different from the ones taken by her parents. As the daughter of prominent educators, her parents' profession led her to devote her life to the field of education. Having received training in California, Senator Torres returned to Guam in 1932 to be a teacher. She married a successful local entrepreneur, Jose Calvo Torres, shortly thereafter. Mr. Torres passed away in 1946. The Senator took over his business ventures and quickly became a respected member of the local business community.

Having noted the lack of educational opportunities for Guam's handicapped children, Senator Torres decided to sell her business interests in 1958 in order to pursue a degree in elementary and special education. Upon completing her Master's Degree at the University of California in San Diego, she came back to Guam to become a consultant for the island's only school for the physically and men-

tally handicapped children. She later became its principal. Under her direction, the school developed and implemented educational and vocational programs which she added to the customary custodial care provided by the school to handicapped children.

She retired from government service in 1975 and, in recent years, has served the community through her involvement in civic organizations. She was a member of the University of Guam Board of Regents, the Guam Economic Development Authority, the Marianas Association of Retired Citizens. She was a co-founder and charter member of the Guam Lytico-Bodig Association, she has served as chair to the Guam Memorial Hospital's Board of Trustees and she was a past-president of the Guam Association of Retired Persons.

For all her work and accomplishments, Senator Torres was conferred numerous awards and commendations. She has received several commendations from the Guam Legislature including Resolution 282 from the 20th Guam Legislature which recognized and commended her love and service for the people of Guam. In addition, she was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Law Degree from the University of Guam in 1981 and the Distinguished Leadership Award from the American Biographical Institute for Outstanding Education.

Senator Cynthia Johnston Torres leaves a great legacy of service and devotion to the island and people of Guam. A pioneer in the field of politics and education, her endeavors and accomplishments provide inspiration to the men and women of Guam. As we mourn her passing, her perseverance and energy will forever live in our hearts.

Adios, Senator Torres, yan gof dangkalo na si Yu'os Ma'ase ginen todos I taotaon Guam. You are an inspiration to the people of Guam and to our nation. During Women's History Month and beyond, we will celebrate your life and your legacy.

THE "VETERANS AMERICAN
DREAM HOMEOWNERSHIP AS-
SISTANCE ACT"

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my Ways and Means colleague Congressman KLECZKA in introducing the Veterans American Dream Homeownership Assistance Act. This very worthy legislation will help veterans in five states, including California, to achieve their dream of home ownership.

Five states—Wisconsin, California, Texas, Oregon, and Alaska—have a program in which the states issue tax-exempt bonds to finance home mortgage loans to veterans. Under a little-known provision in the 1984 tax bill, veterans living in those five states who began military service after 1976 are prohibited from receiving a state-financed veterans home mortgage.

This means that our servicemen and servicewomen who served in Grenada, Panama, and the Gulf War cannot get veterans home mortgages from their own state government while veterans who served before that time are fully eligible. Are those who began serving their country after 1976 any less deserving than their predecessors?

This arbitrary cutoff was created to raise revenue for the 1984 tax bill by limiting the use of tax-exempt bonds to finance state veterans mortgage programs. In 1984, there were very few veterans who entered service after 1976. Because of their small numbers, the affected veterans were unable to stop this unfair change in the law. But, fifteen years later, there are hundreds of thousands of veterans who have served our country honorably in that period and they are calling for a change in the law. The state veterans affairs departments believe that if this bill becomes law, they can help a great number of the post-1976 veterans purchase their own home.

Our bill will simply eliminate the arbitrary cutoff that exists under current law. Under our proposal, former servicemen and servicewomen who served our country beginning in 1977 or any other year after that will be eligible to apply for a home mortgage loan provided by their state. This legislation does not increase federal discretionary spending one cent—it simply allows the states to help their veterans own a home regardless of when they served.

Mr. Speaker, arbitrary rules in the tax code should not stop our states from helping all veterans who served our nation honorably. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join with us in supporting this measure to assist those who have spent so much of their lives defending our freedom.

EXPANDING HOMEOWNERSHIP

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, this week, I introduced two bills designed to strengthen the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) single family mortgage loan program. The two bills, H.R. 859, the "FHA First-time Homebuyer Act" and H.R. 858, the "FHA Down Payment Simplification Act," would expand homeownership, reduced defaults on FHA loans, and simplify the process of securing an FHA loan.

The first bill, the "FHA First-time Homebuyer Act" would pass along to first-time homebuyers the saving from HUD's recent cut in the FHA up-front loan fee into a dollar for dollar reduction in the required down payment. In addition, by conditioning this down payment reduction on a requirement of homeownership counseling, the legislation would reinstate the financial incentive for first-time homebuyers to undergo pre-purchase homeownership counseling, thus reducing default rates for these borrowers.

Late last year, HUD reduced the up-front premium customarily charged on single family FHA loans from 2.25% to 1.50% of the loan amount. However, because of a quirk in the statutory formula which sets maximum loan limits, not a single dollar of this premium reduction accrues to the borrower with respect

to lowering the down payment. Thus, a major portion of the benefit of the fee reduction benefit is deferred until the loan is paid off or prepaid—which could be years or even decades later.

My legislation would allow 100% of the recently announced FHA fee reduction to be passed along to a first-time homebuyer in the form of a reduced down payment. This will have the effect of reducing a borrower's down payment by as much as \$1,755, depending on the loan size. Reduced down payments will make it easier for young families to buy a home.

Moreover, this down payment reduction will not pose a risk to the FHA single family mortgage fund, since maximum loan-to-value levels, even with this change, will not be any higher than they were prior to last year's fee reduction. In practice, the legislation would have the effect of reducing defaults, because the lower down payment option is conditioned on the borrower competing a course in homeownership counseling.

The second bill, the "FHA First-time Homebuyer Act" would make permanent the temporary FHA down payment simplification formula, which is scheduled to expire in December of next year. The FHA down payment simplification formula is widely considered to be a tremendous improvement over the confusing, two-part down payment formula that preceded it.

Unfortunately, our recent practice of providing only a periodic extension of this improved down payment formula has resulted in unneeded uncertainty. Last year, as its interim status was about to expire, the FHA Commissioner was forced to issue a clarification that loans closed before October 1, but insured after October 1 were eligible for the simplified treatment. Subsequently, Congress was forced to step in to pass a stop-gap 30-day extension, and then a further 26 month extension of the simplified formula, through December, 2002. A permanent extension, supported by the major real estate organizations, would avoid these periodic crises.

FHA is an effective program which helps middle class and low-income families buy a home, and makes a \$2.4 billion annual profit for the government. These two bills will make it even better.

SOUTH BAY WOMEN'S SUMMIT

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, in honor of International Women's Day, I would like to highlight an event occurring in California's 36th District in April. To recognize women throughout my district, the Women's Coalition South Bay is sponsoring the South Bay Women's Summit.

This Summit will give us the opportunity to discuss issues important to women around the world, such as workplace and pay equity and improved childcare.

Mr. Speaker, another critical issue that will be discussed is reproductive choice. I respect every woman's personal decision on choice, and feel strongly that Congress should not dictate to women how that choice should be ex-

ercised. This right is coming under attack around the world, and here in the United States. The South Bay Women's Summit will give women the chance to talk about ways we can protect this right, including ensuring access to Mifepristone and allowing U.S. funding of overseas family planning clinics.

The women of the South Bay provide networking opportunities, a shoulder to lean on, and the chance to relax with good friends. I am proud to be participating in the South Bay Women's Summit, which will illuminate issues that deserve our attention, and provide a framework for future action.

OUR SERVICEMEN DESERVE MORE

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the needs of our servicemen. Often, we will hear that our servicemen require a pay raise. That is absolutely true, however, not for the reasons usually cited. They simply deserve it.

Mr. Speaker, over the past several months I have had the opportunity to visit the military bases in my district and to speak with many of the junior soldiers, sailors, and Marines about their service. Without hesitation, they have all told me that they love serving the country, but are frustrated by the constant deployments, poor housing, and a constant lack of spare parts.

I realize that we have addressed some of these problems, but we have much more to do. If we do not more fully address them, we will shortchanging not only ourselves, but actively endangering our grandchildren. However, the issue remains, our servicemen deserve more.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that our President has forwarded a budget that will allow us to substantively increase our servicemen's pay and benefits. This is good for the present, however, more needs to be done in the long term.

The realities are ugly. Our servicemen are underpaid. Furthermore, over the past several years, we have set military pay .5% below the Employment Cost Index. This was wrong. It shouldn't have happened. But worst of all, it treats our servicemen as second-class citizens. While civil service has never paid as much as the civilian sector, we should at least ensure that those who provide the most important civil service, defense of our nation, the same level of compensation as other government employees.

This is an issue of justice, and an issue of fundamental fairness. It is not acceptable to ignore this issue any longer.

Mr. Speaker, now I realize that this is something that cannot be solved overnight. However, it is an issue that we must address for the future. For, if we continue to treat our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines in such a manner, they will eventually realize that our servicemen will vote with their feet.

While they won't rank it first among their problems, our servicemen do cite this injustice. But, let me take a minute to cite why this is even more urgent. Our services, with our

encouragement, have fundamentally transformed to become more family friendly. As a result, the pressure on many servicemen increases when they are forced to move overseas. Oftentimes, their spouse is unable to find employment, and as result, these families lose a significant part of their income.

Mr. Speaker, families are a force multiplier when you deal with an all volunteer force. They are a motivator and an integral part of our defense strategy. Because of this, we must address inadequate pay. The time has come. We need to address this now and for the future. We have waited too long.

We must raise our servicemen's pay.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY MAZZOLA

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great San Francisco leader, Larry Mazzola, for his years of dedicated service to the community. The Bay Area Union Labor Party is honoring Larry, and it is my privilege to join them in praising this outstanding San Franciscan.

When Larry entered the workforce in 1961, he began as an apprentice in the UA. Upon his graduation, he became an Assistant Apprenticeship Coordinator. Working with the UA's Local Union 38 in San Francisco, he became a Business Agent in 1972. By 1980 he had risen to be Business Manager of Local 38 as his father had before him. In addition to his responsibilities as Business Manager, he currently serves on the UA's General Executive Board.

Outside of his work with the UA, Larry has been active in a broad array of positions in the labor movement. For more than twenty years, he has served as the President of the San Francisco Building and Trades Council and serves on the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council. In both of these roles, Larry's leadership has helped to unify and develop San Francisco's labor movement. Larry has also been a member of the advisory board of San Francisco Community College's Labor Studies Program since 1972.

Larry has also twice served as an official for the City and County of San Francisco. He has brought a consistently thoughtful voice to his service on the San Francisco Airport Commission since his appointment in 1994. From 1993–1995, he served with distinction as a Commissioner on the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission.

Not only has Larry given much of his own life to the labor movement, but he has given the next generation of leadership as well. As he once followed in his father's footsteps, Larry's sons are now following in his. Larry Jr. is now the Business Agent for UA Local 38 and Stephen is the Assistant Apprenticeship Coordinator.

Larry Mazzola has been an outstanding leader for San Francisco. His work in the labor movement and in the community has earned him the respect and appreciation of our City. I join his mother, Vera; his wife, Stephanie; and his children, Lori, Larry Jr., and Stephen in Congratulating him on this award.

IN HONOR OF SADIE VILENSKY'S
103RD BIRTHDAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a very prominent and inspirational woman on her 103rd birthday—Sadie Vilensky.

Sadie was born on March 8, 1898, in Henry Street Hospital in New York City, New York. She and her family moved to Jersey City, New Jersey in 1904. As a beautiful, young woman (she still is today), she married and moved with her husband to Scranton, Virginia in 1922. In 1929, she and her husband moved with their son and daughter to Los Angeles, California where they reside today.

In the 1930's Sadie and her family joined the Beth Jacob Synagogue, an orthodox sect of the Jewish religion. She served as the secretary to the Sisterhood for many years. Today, she is the oldest member of the synagogue. Her other affiliation is with the Jewish War Veterans Ladies Auxiliary. Sadie served in many offices in the organization include being elected President of Auxiliary #66.

During the 1940's Sadie was an office manager of the Mount Sinai Hospital Clinic which is now Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. The hospital is a cancer treatment center for the terminally ill. Throughout the 1950's and 1960's, Sadie opened the Los Angeles Council of Mizrahi Women of America which is part of the Jewish Federation. The Los Angeles Council is the Israelis' official network for religious, secondary, and technical education. Under her guidance as the Executive Secretary, the Council assisted over 14,000 Israeli children throughout a network of 55 schools, children's homes and youth villages throughout Israel.

Just before Sadie retired in the early 1970's, she was recognized for her years of commitment and service to the Jewish Federation, the Los Angeles Council of Mizrahi Women of America, by being named Honorary Executive Secretary. Her national office then asked her to lead a tour of 36 men and women for a three-week Passover Tour. Sadie proclaimed that "[the trip] fulfilled a dream of a lifetime."

Sadie is an incredible woman who has served the community in many exceptional ways. She is a beautiful, strong, and very inspirational woman who is young at heart and full of the spirit of life. Colleagues, please join with me today in wishing a very Happy Birthday to Sadie Vilensky.

HONORING THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE MADE BY 28 UNITED STATES SOLDIERS KILLED DURING OPERATION DESERT STORM

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I support H. Con. Res. 39, a resolution that honors the ultimate sacrifice made by 28 United States soldiers killed by an Iraqi missile attack on Feb-

ruary 25, 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, and resolving to support appropriate and effective theater missile defense programs.

I was delayed from making it to the House floor last week and unable to record my vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 39 due to airline problems and delays.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION FOR SAFE SCHOOLS AND SAFE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 2001

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Alternative Education for Safe Schools and Safe Communities Act of 2001. This legislation will assist States and school districts in their efforts to fund alternative education programs and services for students who have been suspended or expelled from school and reduce the number of suspensions and expulsions. This legislation will provide our schools with an important tool in their efforts to ensure safer schools and safer communities while providing vital educational opportunity.

Presently, numerous students are suspended or expelled from school annually. Regardless of the reason these students received a suspension or expulsion—disruptive behavior, verbal abuse, a violent act—they are often left to fend for themselves without any educational services, or worse yet no supervision or guidance. The loss of educational services for these students is a destructive force to their chances to advance academically, be promoted from grade to grade, or to resist the temptation to drop out of school. In addition, students not in school and without any supervision can bring the problems which necessitated their suspension or expulsion to the community—increasing juvenile delinquency and possibly other violence and crime.

Under the Gun-Free Schools Act, schools are required to expel a student for one-year if they bring a firearm to school. In school year 1997–1998, that amounted to 3,507 expulsions. Unfortunately, fewer than half of these students were referred for alternative education placements. In fact, students expelled for firearm violations often do not receive education services through alternative programs or schools. This lack of continuing education and supervision may put the community at risk of gun violence from these children.

While there are times when students may need to be removed from their school due to behavior, whether violent or non-violent, little is accomplished by risking their academic future through a lack of educational services. This legislation will promote alternative placements for suspended or expelled students so the problems they brought to school do not become problems of the community. The legislation would also require school districts to reduce the numbers of suspensions or expulsions of students. I would like to make it clear that this program's funding should not make it easier to remove students from the classroom in greater numbers, but rather should enhance the ability of school districts to provide continuing educational services for the students they do remove from the classroom.

Specifically, the Alternative Education for Safe Schools and Safe Communities Act of 2001 would authorize \$200 million to assist school districts in reducing the number of suspensions and expulsions and establishing or improving programs of alternative education for students who have been suspended or expelled from school. Additional specifics of the program include:

States would receive allocations based on the amount of Title I, Part A dollars they receive. States would then distribute 95 percent of this funding to local school districts.

School districts would use funding to both reduce the number of suspensions and expulsions and establish or develop alternative education programs.

Students participating in alternative education programs would be taught to challenge State academic standards.

Students would be provided with necessary mental health, counseling services and other necessary supports.

States and school districts would be required to coordinate efforts with other service providers including public mental health providers and juvenile justice agencies.

School districts would have to plan for the return of students participating in alternative education programs to the regular educational setting, if it is appropriate, to meet the needs of the child and his or her perspective classmates.

School districts would have to meet continually increasing performance goals to maintain funding. These performance goals include: reductions in the number of suspensions and expulsions, reduction in the number of incidents of violent and disruptive behavior, and others.

The Department of Education would be required to identify or design model alternative education programs for use by school districts and then disseminate these examples of "best practices."

The future of all our children is too critical to allow those who have been suspended or expelled from school to become the future burdens on our social welfare system, or to have the disruptive and unsafe acts they did in schools take place in the greater community. I urge Members to cosponsor this legislation.

GUAM'S 480TH ANNIVERSARY OF
DISCOVERY DAY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Ferdinand Magellan, one of the world's most famous explorer's, who also became known as the first European to circumnavigate the Earth, landed on Guam on March 6, 1521. In observance of this landing, the people of Guam celebrate Discovery Day. This past Tuesday, March 6, 2001, Guam celebrated the 480th year anniversary of Discovery Day.

When Ferdinand Magellan landed on Guam, he brought with him a crew dying of starvation and suffering from scurvy. The Chamorro people, the indigenous people of Guam and the original inhabitants of the island, welcomed the explorer and his crew to the shores of Guam and extended their hospitality. They re-

plenished their water supply, restocked the ship with fresh fruits, vegetables and other food items the explorer and his crew needed.

It is important to know that prior to Ferdinand Magellan landing on Guam, the Chamorro people lived a communal life. When someone extended a lending hand, reciprocity was an unspoken understanding among the Chamorro people—to ask for something that one needed was not viewed the way someone from the western world would view it. An islander did not need to ask, they simply went to their neighbor and took what they needed. In western society this would be seen as stealing, in the ancient communal society this was seen as sharing. Everybody owned everything and shared whatever they had with others in the community—nobody was left to want for anything. This was a structured and a highly organized society with a people who had customs and beliefs of their own, were excellent craftsmen, fishermen and seafarers.

Historians are not clear on the exact date or reason the ensuring event took place, but to punish the Chamorro people for taking his skiff, Magellan killed several Chamorro male villagers and burned many of their homes. It may have been that the Chamorro people only expected reciprocity for their hospitality and as seafarers they were curious in the skiff. It may also have been the lack of knowledge and understanding of a different society's structure and beliefs that led to Magellan punishing the people of Guam. What the Chamorro people believed as payment for their hospitality was more than likely viewed as theft from the perspective of Magellan and his crew. Soon after this unfortunate event Magellan and his crew left.

It seems ironic that Guam would celebrate a day which actually led to death and destruction on the island, and it seems ironic that Guam would celebrate a day alleging its discovery, when in fact, Guam was not a desolate island; it was a populated island, with organized societal structures and a full and robust civilization.

The commemoration of Magellan's visit is now ironically merged with the celebration of Guam's native culture. During the month of March schools, businesses, and community organizations take the time to reflect upon the meaning, the spirit, and the survival of the Chamorro people. As one of the originators of the celebration in Guam schools, I take great pride in acknowledging the spirit of self-renewal and self-discovery which Guam is currently undergoing. I also must take note of the historical disaster which befell the Chamorro people of Guam as a result of contact with the Europeans. In the century after Magellan, Spanish

A great Chamorro leader of the 17th century saw the meaning of colonialism and the physical, as well as mental, consequences of domination. Hurau is commemorated in history as having made a speech to his warriors. I want his speech to be inserted in the RECORD so that his generation of Chamorros can be remembered for their heroism, and so that future generations of Chamorros will be reminded of this heroism, and so that all Americans will become knowledgeable of the history and trials of a great people.

HURAU'S SPEECH TO HIS WARRIORS

The Europeans would have done better to remain in their own country. We have no need of their help to live happily. Satisfied

with what our islands furnish us, we desire nothing else. The knowledge which they have given us has only increased our needs and stimulated our desires. They find it evil that we do not dress. If that were necessary, nature would have provided. They treat us as gross people and regard us as barbarians. But do we have to believe them? Under the pretext of instructing us they are corrupting us. They take away from us the primitive simplicity in which we live. They dare to take away our liberty which should be dearer to us than life itself. They try to persuade us that we will be happier and some of us have been blinded into believing their words. But can we have such sentiments if we reflect that we have been covered with misery and maladies ever since these foreigners have come to disturb our peace? Before they arrived on the island we did not know insects. Did we know rats, flies, mosquitoes and all the other little animals which constantly torment us? These are the beautiful presents they have made to us. And what have their floating machines brought us? Formerly we did not have rheumatism and inflammations. If we had sicknesses we had remedies for them. But they have brought us their diseases but do not teach us the remedies. Is it necessary that our cupidity and evil desires make us want to have iron and other bagatelles which only render us unhappy? The Spaniards reproach us because of our poverty, ignorance and lack of industry. But if we are poor, as they claim, then what do they search for here? If they didn't have need of us, they would not expose themselves to so many perils and make such great efforts to establish themselves in our midst. For what purpose do they teach us except to make us adopt their customs and subject ourselves to their laws and lose the precious liberty left to us by our ancestors? In a word they try to make us unhappy in the hope of an ephemeral happiness which can be enjoyed only after death.

They treat our history as fables and fictions. Haven't we the same right concerning that which they teach us as incontestable truths? They abuse our simplicity and good faith. All their skill is directed towards tricking us; all their knowledge tends only to make us unhappy. If we are ignorant and blind, as they would have us believe, it is because we have learned their evil plans too late and have allowed them to settle here. Let us not lose courage in the presence of our misfortune. They are only a handful. We can easily defeat them. Even though we don't have their deadly weapons which spread destruction all over, we can overcome them by our number. We are stronger than we think and we can quickly free ourselves from these foreigners and regain our former freedom.

I take the opportunity to bring this historical background to the House in order to provide the basis of understanding for legislation I recently introduced, H.R. 308, An Act to Establish the Guam War Claims Review Commission, and a House Concurrent Resolution, A Resolution to Reaffirm the Commitment of the United States to help Guam achieve full Self-Governance, I will soon introduce.

After more than four centuries of colonial rule, Spanish, Japanese, and American, the people of Guam are entering a new world of self-discovery. Discovery by others is not nearly as important as discovery of one's self, definition by others is meaningless if you cannot initially define yourself, and determination

of your future pales in significance to self-termination. Guam, in full partnership with the United States, and in strong desire to remain an integral part of the United States, is now undergoing a process of self-discovery, self-definition, and self-determination. This process will eventually wind its way through this body and call upon each and everyone of us, not only to treat with respect the experiences of the people of Guam, but to fully apply the best

principles of democracy and fair play which makes America the great Nation that she is.

In the coming weeks, I will explain in greater detail H.R. 308, the Guam War Claims Review Commission and the Concurrent Resolution that reaffirms the United States Commitment to help Guam achieve full-self-governance. Both of these proposals seek justice for the people of Guam and true democracy and fair play as unique members of the American family.

In conclusion, I must believe that the people of Guam celebrate Discovery Day to recognize our rich culture and understand our unique history. This will enable us to understand how we are perceived and allow us to articulate our true history so that we, along with the United States, in this New World order era, can redefine and maintain our strong relationship, and allow Guam to a greater voice in how Guam is governed.