

Judge Summers was destined for leadership from his early years, when he graduated from Rusk High School as an Eagle Scout and valedictorian of his class. Judge Summers served bravely in the Navy during World War II, and graduated with honors from a great institution of higher learning—the University of Texas in Austin.

But Judge Summers didn't stay in Austin—he came back to his roots in Rusk. After several years of private practice, he served as city attorney, county attorney, and county judge of Cherokee County for eight years.

Judge Summers will be remembered for his many successes as County Judge of Cherokee County. Every year of his administration, Judge Summers won a top financial rating for the county. He payed off remaining debt on the county courthouse, oversaw the construction of the Cherokee County Agricultural Annex Building, and secured the development of many State Farm-to-Market roads, as well as the US Highway 69 stretch from Rusk to Jacksonville.

From 1957 to 1978 he served as District Judge for the Second Judicial District. After 21 years in the job, he continued his service as Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals for the 12th Supreme Judicial District of Texas, a position he held until 1989.

Judge Summers and his wife Inez were active members of their community, participating in the First United Methodist Church in Rusk, where each served as chairman of the Administrative Council. Judge Summers was also president of the Kiwanis Club and a member of Euclid Lodge Number 45. Judge Summers passed away on November 26, 2000.

Our prayers are with Mrs. Summers, the couples' children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and their friends and family members who will share their grief—and their memories—in this time of sadness.

TRIBAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LOAN FORGIVENESS ACT

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons I am here today as a member of Congress is that I was inspired by some excellent professors as a college student.

These professors taught me new ways of looking at the world, and kindled an excitement about learning that still burns today. Where all of my professors helped me acquire knowledge common to liberal arts students of my era, these select few not only taught me, but also ignited my passion for public service.

This nation is blessed with many excellent professors, but one sector of higher education has a harder time than others attracting the best and the brightest. This sector is the tribal college and university system.

The average salary for teachers at tribal colleges and universities is approximately \$25,000—one-half that of the salary of a teacher at a state college or university.

A sad consequence of these low salaries is that tribal colleges and universities are a training ground for new teachers to get their feet wet; they make short stops before moving on to better paying jobs at other colleges and uni-

versities. As a result, the students suffer from both a lack of good teachers and good curriculum.

The Tribal College and University Loan Forgiveness Act gives tribal colleges and universities a tool to attract and keep excellent teachers despite the salary gap.

By providing loan forgiveness, tribal colleges and universities can bring something additional to the negotiation table. Teachers who commit to working in a tribal college or university that have Direct, Perkins, or Guaranteed Loans that are not in default, are eligible for loan forgiveness for up to five years. Total loan forgiveness will be provided for up to \$15,000 in the aggregate of the loans the student currently has.

Tribal colleges and universities, teachers, and students will all benefit from this bill. Furthermore, the Native American communities who send their tribal members to these institutions also benefit.

Tribal colleges and universities not only prepare students for jobs both on and off the reservations, but they also offer programs to the local communities such as adult education, local economic development, and remedial and high school equivalency programs.

The passage of this bill, with bipartisan support, will help these institutions continue their work of not only educating, but bringing out the very best of tribal students and communities.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF COMBATTING TUBERCULOSIS

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Texas, Mr. REYES, for introducing this important resolution.

Dr. David Heymann of the World Health Organization once described tuberculosis as “a disease once thought to be under control, which has returned with a vengeance to kill 1.5 million people a year.”

TB was once the leading cause of death in the United States. In the 1940s, scientists discovered drugs that would treat TB, and infection rates began to decline. Since that time, however, infection rates both in the U.S. and abroad have increased dramatically. Today, one third of the world's population has a latent TB infection. These increases have not gone unnoticed by international organizations. In fact, in 1993, the World Health Organization declared tuberculosis a global emergency.

These increases in infection rates are due to a number of causes. Increases in HIV/AIDS infection rates are accelerating the spread of TB. In addition, poorly supervised or incomplete treatment threatens to make TB incurable as multidrug resistant TB cases rise.

This problem is particularly serious in underdeveloped countries. A total of 22 countries are home to 80 percent of TB cases. Tuberculosis is particularly prevalent in India, Southeast Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Russia, and parts of Latin America. The problem with TB poses a long term threat to global health. It is estimated that, if efforts to fight TB are not strengthened, 35 million people will die of the disease in the next 20 years.

H. Res. 67 addresses many of these problems. The bill recognizes the importance of combating TB on a worldwide basis and acknowledges the severe impact that TB has on minority populations in the US. By passing the resolution, we are recognizing the importance of substantially increasing US investment in international TB control. The bill also emphasizes the importance of efforts to eliminate TB in our own nation.

It is my hope that by passing this resolution, Congress will make a commitment to fighting TB both on the national and global level.

CELEBRATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 180th anniversary of Greek Independence. Almost two centuries ago this month, the Greeks rose up against the Ottoman Empire to establish a modern Greek state. Greeks and Greek Americans everywhere can look back proudly on the accomplishments of their people over the last 180 years. But Americans also owe a large debt to Greece for its friendship and democratic traditions. All Americans should take time on this anniversary to reflect on the shared values, traditions and history of the United States and the Hellenic Republic.

When our founding fathers in this country sought inspiration for our democracy, they looked back to the republics of ancient Greece. The Greeks, likewise, looked to the United States for inspiration and support as they sought to establish their own independent nation. Since that time, many Greeks came to the United States in search of freedom and opportunity—so many, that for a time in the early twentieth century, one out of every four young Greek men came to the United States. Their contributions have been felt in the Arts, the Sciences, and government.

Greece itself has also been a true friend of the United States. From Greece's valiant resistance of Nazi Germany in World War Two, to her efforts supporting the world community in the Gulf War, Greece has stood beside the United States. This cooperation is based not just on shared interests, but on the stronger bond of shared values. And when these values have been threatened, the Greek nation has stepped forward to defend these values, even when it means risking the lives of her sons and daughters.

I mention this because the United States should not take this commitment lightly. Just as we here in America hesitate before we send our troops in harm's way, so do other democracies. Yet, over the last century, Greece has stood by the United States. The United States needs to stand by Greece.

As a mature democracy, Greece is our strongest ally in a region in turmoil. “While relations have improved between Greece and Turkey, real issues remain between these two historic antagonists. Cyprus, the Aegean Islands, and the treatment of minorities in Turkey are all issues that demand resolution. This administration must compel the Turkish government to negotiate in good faith on these