

third party obtain consent from an individual before making commercial use of that person's Social Security number (SSN). In fact, any non-criminal use not explicitly allowed by law would face this restriction, including the growing commercial use of SSNs as personal identifiers by various businesses.

Social Security numbers have become our default identifiers for many businesses, and thereby the key to much of our most personal information. That has to stop. As identity theft and fraud increases, action must be taken to ensure that this personal information remains private.

Under my legislation, refusing to sell services or goods to consumers who choose not to furnish their SSN would be illegal under the Federal Trade Commission Act, and businesses would be liable for up to \$10,000 in fines per violation for committing unfair or deceptive business practices. Credit bureaus would also be prevented from giving out SSNs without a person's consent. PIPA would amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Social Security Act to authorize civil penalties for privacy violations ranging from \$25,000 to \$500,000.

Information on products or services bought by an individual and from where they were purchased—also known as transaction histories—could not be sold or transferred for marketing purposes unless a consumer gives written consent.

We take for granted that our personal information is private. Unfortunately, that's not the case. We must take action to guard access to our personal information because it's not a commodity to be bought or sold. We as consumers should have the final say over how that information can be used, not some marketing firm.

I first introduced PIPA in the 105th Congress, but this version of the bill is slightly different than last session's because two of the bill's components have been enacted into law. As part of the FY 2000 Transportation Appropriations bill, state DMVs are now prohibited from releasing highly restricted personal information without a person's consent. The law now defines SSNs and photographs as "highly personal information" and requires a person's consent for disclosure by DMVs.

This is a great start, but there's a lot more to be done. We must curb the rampant use of SSNs as personal identifiers. This bill is an important step toward more complete personal privacy protection. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

**DEATH OF ROBERT M. TALLON,  
FATHER OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE ROBIN TALLON**

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House who served with Representative Robin Tallon of South Carolina should know that on January 28, 2001, his father passed away. Robert M. Tallon was 78, and died of a heart attack while doing what he loved, bird hunting in South Carolina.

Bob Tallon was an airborne infantryman in World War II, one of those soldiers of whom

it was said, "uncommon valor was a common virtue." As a staff sergeant in the 82nd Airborne Division, Bob Tallon fought his way from Sicily up the boot of Italy. After waging some of the fiercest fighting of the war in Italy, he parachuted with the 82nd into Holland as part of the bloody operation that Cornelius Ryan immortalized in "A Bridge Too Far," and fought his way from Remagen into the Rhineland.

Bob Tallon came home with his chest full of medals, including Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart. Though worthy of being called a hero, he never thumped his chest or boasted of his valor. He lived his life with the quiet abiding confidence that he had served his country and done his duty.

Though he distinguished himself as a soldier, Bob Tallon's finest accomplishment in life was in marrying Mary Williamson Tallon, a school teacher and a dear woman loved by all who know her. Indeed, anyone who has met Bob and Mary Tallon understands how Robin Tallon got his affable personality and affinity for politics. In addition to Robin, our former colleague, Bob and Mary Tallon had another son, Terry, and a daughter, Cameron.

Bob Tallon returned home from the war to Dillon County, South Carolina, and became President of Tomlinson Stores. He was a mainstay in the Methodist Church and a pillar of the community, involved in every good cause from the Lions Club to the Hospice Society.

Though Bob Tallon lived most of his life within the radius of Dillon, a small town in South Carolina, he lived the kind of life that made this country great. As President Clinton said at Anzio in his own father who also fought in Italy, "They made possible the world we live in."

**TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. HEARIN**

**HON. SONNY CALLAHAN**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of a great man, William J. "Bill" Hearin. Mr. Hearin passed away Monday, February 19, 2001 at the Mobile Infirmary. He was chairman of the boards of the Mobile Register and Energy South, Inc., the parent company of Mobile Gas Service Corp. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Emily, his daughter, Ann Bartlett, and to all of his family at this difficult time.

Bill was very active in the community. He rose through the ranks at the Mobile Register becoming co-publisher, then publisher and president, then chairman. He had one of the longest tenures at the top levels of a metro newspaper, and as a result he had a significant and lasting relationship with Mobile. Hearin was involved professionally in the newspaper industry, where he served as president of the Alabama Press Association, director of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and as a member of the American Newspaper Publishers Association.

Bill Hearin was a leader in Mobile's social circles, where he served on the reception committees for a few of Mobile's oldest mystic organizations. He also served on the committee for the Camellia Ball. He was named

Mobilian of the Year in 1977, and in 1987 he received an award for Outstanding Civic Leader in the state.

After the death of Ralph B. Chandler, Bill took the reigns of the Chandler Foundation, which later became the Hearin-Chandler Foundation. The foundation distributes more than \$10 million among Mobile charities. Mobile can thank Bill Hearin for so many things.

My heart goes out to Mr. Hearin's family and to all those who grieve his passing. He gave unselfishly to the city he loved. William Hearin was a Mobile icon and a true newspaper man in every sense of the word and his contributions to our community will never be forgotten.

**TRIBUTE TO WILSON HIGH SCHOOL**

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, on April 21–23, 2001, more than 1,200 students from across the United States will be in Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. I am proud to announce that the class from Wilson High School from my district in Florence will represent the state of South Carolina in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained profound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The students are: Lakisha Boston, Lynette Carr, Christine Chen, Rebecca Derrick, Ashunti Drummond, Elizabeth Fortnum, Albert Hayward, Anthony Henderson, Benjamin Ingram, Janny Liu, Christina Moss, Jason Owens, Anna Stewart, Tyler Thomas, and Dheepa Varadarajan. I would also like to recognize their teacher, Yvonne Rhodes, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the class.

We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution is one of the most extensive educational programs in the country specifically developed to educate young people about the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after congressional hearings and they consist of oral presentations by the high school students before a panel of judges. The student's testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the simulated congressional committee. The judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge. The 250th Anniversary of James Madison's birth in 1751 offers an appropriate opportunity to examine this Founder's contribution to American constitutionalism and politics. To this end, the national finals will include questions on Madison and his legacy.

Findings suggest that national finalists are less cynical about politics and public officials and participate in politics at a higher rate than do their peers. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program has provided curriculum materials at the upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. Members of Congress and our staff enhance