

"member" for purposes of the exemption status and unrelated business income would be expanded to include "ancestors or lineal descendants of the member" (i.e. past or present member of the Armed Services meeting the Congressional charter definition).

We believe this change is not only fair, but recognizes the original intent of Congress, and the fact that more distant relatives of the member will come into existence over time. We hope our colleagues will join us in cosponsoring this legislation. Thank you.

HONORING KENTUCKY NURSES

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the thousands of men and women in Kentucky who have dedicated themselves to that most noble of endeavors: nursing. Every day, nurses—both in Kentucky and across the nation—sacrifice themselves to the causes of caring, of healing, and of loving. By tending to the sick and easing suffering, nurses play a tremendously vital role in the medical profession and our society at large.

We can all recall a time when a nurse became a crucial figure in our lives. When any one of us has been ill or trying to care for a sick loved one, nurses have always been there to provide help. Whether in a strictly medical capacity—mending a bone or administering medicines—or to offer reassurance, a shoulder to cry on, or an anchor of calm in the chaos and upheaval that we all know illness can cause, it seems that nurses perform a thousand and one duties to ensure that pain and suffering are washed away.

Since time immemorial, nurses have been on the front lines of the fight against sickness, but today that fight grows harder. Newly discovered illnesses, an increasing population, and an explosion in the demand for emergency care have all come together to force nurses to assume more and more responsibilities, while, at the same time, they must continue to strive to gain ground in the war against suffering. I understand these issues, and want to give my thanks to nurses across America for maintaining the same unflagging generosity that has characterized the profession in the past. During National Nurses Week this May, I want to especially recognize Kentucky Nurses, those men and women who, day after day, give of themselves to so many people in the Bluegrass State. I hope you will join me in honoring nurses for their commitment to helping others feel better.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING HOMER MAYOR MARY ALICE BELLARDINI

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the work of a tireless village mayor in New York's 25th Congressional District, Mayor Mary Alice Bellardini of the Village of Homer. Mayor Bellardini retired as Mayor on

March 31st after fourteen years at the village's helm. Prior to her initial election as mayor in March 1987, she served as a Cortland County Legislator for almost seven years.

During her tenure, the Village of Homer prospered. She is credited with renewing the village's historical preservation and planning efforts, improving its public water system, expanding economic development efforts and beautifying the Main Street corridor, establishing weekly summer band concerts on the village green, improving public safety operations, and reopening the Water Street bridge as a pedestrian walkway.

I have always regarded Mayor Bellardini as a strong partner in my work in Cortland County. Married to Harry Bellardini, the former Cortland County Republican Party Chairman, Mayor Bellardini is a proud Republican though always anxious to work in a bipartisan manner on behalf of her constituents. She has worked especially close with Democratic Village Trustee Virginia "Ginny" Swartwout—a twenty-six year veteran of village government, who also deserves special recognition for service to her community as she retires from her post this year.

Besides her work on behalf of the people of Homer, Mayor Bellardini is committed to community service. She served as President of the New York State Conference of Mayors from 1995 through 1996. She still holds positions on the Boards of Directors for numerous organizations, including Alliance Bank, Central New York Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Excellus, Inc., the Home Store, and the Cortland County Business Development Corporation. Last year, Governor George Pataki named Mayor Bellardini to serve on a select Advisory Committee to the Quality Communities Interagency Task Force for New York State.

A lifelong Cortland County area resident, Mayor Bellardini has three children and five grandchildren. Though Mary Alice believes that it's time for "a fresh face and new blood" in the village Mayor's Office, I am certain that her accomplishments and dedication as Mayor of Homer will live on for generations to come.

I congratulate her on her retirement from public life, thank her for her over twenty years of service as an elected official, and wish her well in all of life's future pursuits. Her daily presence and involvement at village offices will certainly be missed.

THE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATORS (SPC)

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the Society of Professional Communicators (SPC).

The Society of Professional Communicators began in 1951 as the Worcester County Editor's Council. The original purpose of this group was to improve their internal publications by sharing ideas with one another. They also intended to promote the benefits of the free enterprise system. As the media, technology, and the roles of its members began to change, so did the organization's name. Today SPC consists of a variety of profes-

sionals including photographers, freelance writers, graphic designers, and web managers. This energetic and dynamic organization joins together to exchange ideas and information while keeping pace with new trends. The organization has also expanded its role through community service projects, which include book collections for homeless children, food drives for the community pantry, and journal-writing workshops for women in recovery.

As the SPC celebrates its anniversary on May 8, this organization will be looking forward to the next 50 years of energy and growth both personally and professionally. Mr. Speaker, the Society of Professional Communicators should be celebrated for its years of dedication to improve society and its communities.

HONORING JAN DOETS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jan Doets for his lifetime commitment to the tourism industry and his role as a goodwill ambassador for America.

Jan Doets has been a leader and innovator in the tourism industry throughout his 40 year career, making him an invaluable resource to his colleagues and a strong force in the tourism community. Jan has a wide variety of talents, but has specialized exclusively in American travel arrangements for the last 20 years. He has been responsible for sending over 150,000 people to California to appreciate the beauty of our state.

Jan Doets is truly the epitome of an entrepreneur. Already a successful member of the tourism community in the Netherlands, he was the first direct seller of tours from the Netherlands to the United States. It comes as no surprise then that after the American component of his business was founded, he and his wife Sietske watched their business flourish. Jan was so successful that in 1983 he was known as Mr. America #1 in the tourism community.

In 1990, Jan renamed his business Jan Doets American Tours and it has continued to grow as he constantly adds new services and tours of the United States. Jan and his daughter Elske have traveled thousands of miles experiencing the country so that he might share his knowledge with others who wish to explore America. He has sent over a quarter billion dollars to the United States in business, and has been a frequent visitor to Mariposa County and Yosemite National Park. Throughout Jan's career he has shown deep ties, commitment and partnership with our country, communities and individual county visitor bureaus. He has made it his lifetime goal to share the best that America has to offer with his fellow citizens of the Netherlands. Jan has truly been a significant force in bringing the United States and the Netherlands closer together.

As Jan Doets retires we not only honor his lifetime commitment to the tourism industry, but also his unparalleled generosity, strength and dedication to his work and loved ones. Jan Doets has truly left his mark on our community forever.