

San Mateo, California in Business Administration with a specialization in Public Affairs. Developing an interest in housing needs, Mr. Williams attended New York University's Real Estate Institute as well as the National Housing Center Institute in Washington, D.C. He is a Certified Manager of Housing, an Accredited Residential Manager, and a Licensed Real Estate agent in the State of New York.

Earl is currently serving as the Chairman of Community Planning Board 5. He was recently elected Democratic State Committeeman for the 40th Assembly District. As a Lions Club member, he has served as the District Governor for Brooklyn and Queens and has fundraised for multiple charities. He is also a former member of the 75th Precinct Community Council as well as the Panamanian Council of New York.

He has been recognized extensively for his devotion to East New York. As Director of Starrett Information Technology and Education Center, he has provided computer training for his community. For his devotion, Mr. Williams is the recipient of a Presidential Medal, three Presidential Leadership Awards and is also the recipient of a Melvin Jones Fellowship. The City of New York and the New York State Senate have also recognized his contributions.

Mr. Speaker, Earl Williams has devoted his life to serving his community and his church. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

ALL WARS VETERANS' MEMORIAL

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the West Sacramento Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8762 for establishing an All Wars Veterans' Memorial in West Sacramento, California. After several years of hard work and planning, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8762 established a Veteran's Plaza on the City of West Sacramento's scenic riverfront as a tribute to the hundreds of thousands of America's military veterans who have served their country during all its wars. I am pleased to report that June 16, 2001 will mark the completion of the first-ever all wars veterans' memorial in the city of West Sacramento. I commend VFW Post No. 8762 for their dedication to serving our veterans, in addition to their constant vigilance in remembering America's Prisoners of War/Missing in Action veterans.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO HELP OUR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS BECOME MORE EFFICIENT BY FACILITATING THE PRIVATIZATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITIES

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by Representative MATSUI in

the introduction of an important piece of legislation to help our military installations become more efficient by opening up their water and wastewater installations to competition. This legislation will allow the Department of Defense to use these savings to accomplish their main mission, protecting our nation.

In 1998, Congress realized that an innovative and more efficient system was needed to rid the Department of huge backlogs in their capital infrastructure and to free up funding for meeting readiness and procurement needs. Specifically, the Strom Thurmond Defense Authorization Act directed the military to outsource the operation of its water and wastewater utilities.

The intention of the program is to have a private contractor take control of the facility and be solely responsible for its operations. The Government would then repay these costs over the term of the contract in the form of utility rates.

Unfortunately our tax code has kept these important savings from happening. Existing law requires the Internal Revenue Service to subject this transfer to the so-called "Contribution In Aid of Construction"—or CIAC—tax on the full replacement value of the system. This federal transfer tax is paid by the DoD and it amounts to a circular transfer of money with no net benefit to the U.S. Government.

Not only does the CIAC penalize competition and efficiency, it also discriminates against new entrants into the water and wastewater market. Through guidelines crafted for an out-of-date system, the tax code currently only exempts traditional water and wastewater providers from this CIAC tax. This uneven application creates a huge distortion and will likely discourage many potential private sector bidders to operate the DoD's systems. Without robust competition to offer these services, DoD will never realize the needed savings intended by the 1998 defense authorization bill.

My legislation corrects this tax-code discrepancy among all potential providers. DoD will be able to maximize competition and evaluate all potential bidders under its utility privatization programs based upon the true cost of their services. It will ensure the successful implementation of this cost-saving effort and provide desperately needed financial flexibility to meet other pressing national defense priorities. I urge my colleagues to join me on this proposal.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL VALENTINO FALCON

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor to the accomplishments of Corporal Valentino Falcon, City of Chino, Officer of the Year 2001.

Corporal Falcon joined the Chino Police Department on April 24, 1989. He was promoted to Corporal on September 15, 1996.

As Weaponless Defense Instructor, and Assistant Team Leader on the SWAT team, Corporal Falcon has instructed the Citizen Academy participants in gang crimes. He has also addressed the attendees of the California

State Parent and Teachers Association on gang crimes and violence in schools. He has generously volunteered to share his expertise by going on Patrol to mentor marginal trainees going through the Field Training Office Program. Corporal Falcon continues to provide support to officers wherever they are assigned.

Corporal Falcon currently serves as the President of the Political Action Committee, the Chino Police Department liaison for the Inland Empire Coalition Against Hate Crimes, and is a member of the Inland Valley Robbery/Homicide Investigators Association, the San Bernardino County Gang Violence Suppression Project, and the Inland Empire Gang/Drug Task Force.

Assigned as the case agent in the investigation of the death of Officer Russell Miller, his involvement in developing the effective use of PowerPoint in the closing arguments will become the norm in the near future. His diligence and outstanding professional approach to each case he handles, have gained the respect of other police agencies, and members of the legal community.

The exemplary commitment to the Chino Police Department, leadership skills and exceptional civic responsibility demonstrated by Corporal Falcon have truly earned him the recognition as Chino Police Officer of the Year. I sincerely extend my congratulations and thank him for his service to his community.

IN HONOR OF GILBERT RIVERA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Gilbert Rivera, a man who takes tremendous pride in his heritage and humble beginnings, for his tireless work on behalf of his community.

Gilbert Rivera left Puerto Rico for the Bedford-Stuyvesant community of Brooklyn when he was nine years old. After graduating from Automotive High School, Rivera entered the United States Army.

After finishing his service in the United States Army, Gilbert began working for a small construction company and saved his money to start his own company. His dream was realized when he and his twelve siblings started AM & G Waterproofing after purchasing an abandoned building. As a self-starter, Gilbert knew what it would take to make his businesses succeed and today he employs over two hundred workers at AM & G. Mr. Rivera has also been tremendously successful with his other enterprise, the Park Avenue Home Center, which boasts over 15,000 square feet of retail space and offers top name, quality products for both contractors and consumers.

In addition, Gilbert has a deep commitment to his community and recognizes that with his success comes his responsibility for leadership and mentoring. That is why he is a benefactor to numerous charitable and community programs. Rivera's belief in "giving back" to the community is visible by looking at the programs which he supports that influence inner city minority youth.

Mr. Speaker, Gilbert Rivera has devoted his life to better serving his community. He