

as a member of the American Association of School Administrators, the North Carolina Association of School Administrators, and the North Carolina Committee of the Southern Association of College and Schools.

Dr. Tyson's accomplishments in education have been recognized. He has received numerous awards including: 1995–1996 Southwest North Carolina Superintendent of the Year, 1999–2000 Professional Educator of the Year by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and the 2000 Time-Warner Distinguished Educator.

Mr. Speaker, while I have only touched on a fraction of Dr. Ed Tyson's many accomplishments and the impact he has made on his community and profession, I proudly join his friends and colleagues in thanking and saluting him for his years of service and commitment to education and wishing him well in his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
PASADENA MAYOR JOHNNY
ISBELL

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the end of his current term quickly approaches, I rise to celebrate the career of Johnny Isbell, Mayor of the City of Pasadena, Texas. Mayor Isbell has been a central figure on the Pasadena City Council, serving, in various capacities for more than 24 years.

As a dedicated and committed public servant, Johnny Isbell has earned the respect and admiration of the citizens of Pasadena for the many years he has given to local government. He served with distinction on the Pasadena City Council from 1969 to 1978 and again from 1989 to 1993. He first served as Mayor from 1981 to 1985. He was again elected Mayor in 1993 and again in 1997.

Mayor Isbell was born in San Antonio in 1938 and has been a Pasadena resident for more than 50 years. He attended Lee Junior College and received a bachelor of science from the University of Houston in 1968. Johnny also served in the U.S. Army National Guard and the Air Force Reserves.

Johnny has been a presence in all aspects of life in Pasadena, Texas. He is the founder and president of the Apache Oil Company. He is also the former director of the YMCA and served on the board of directors of the Houston Area Transportation Safety Council. He is a past president of the South Pasadena Rotary, a past president of the San Jacinto Day Foundation, an honorary life director of the Pasadena Rodeo Association and a former member of the Harris County Civil Service commission.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that I speak for many when I say that his tireless work will not soon be forgotten, and we are all thankful to him. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the career of Pasadena Mayor Johnny Isbell and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES
SERVICEMEN WHO PERISHED IN
THE KHOBAR TOWERS BOMBING

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2001

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the individuals killed in the Khobar Towers bombing that took place five years ago. On June 25, 1996, terrorists cut nineteen United States servicemen's lives drastically short when they set off a bomb in the allied forces camp in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. The allied forces contained many members of the U.S. armed forces who revealed their undying loyalty to America through their bravery in the ongoing struggle to prevent Saddam Hussein from ever again threatening his neighbors.

On that fatal day, courageous Americans were continuing their efforts to control the US air operation over Iraq. Pilots, ground crews, communications specialists, and anti-missile operators all worked out of the Khobar Towers for the noble cause of fighting against the Allies' enemy.

With one deafening blast, terrorists sent the entire camp into chaos. The earth shook. To the sound of splitting window panes and crumbling walls, the allied forces ran for their lives. As they struggled to find cover from flying debris, nineteen innocent, patriotic individuals breathed for the last time.

This horrific incident was particularly shocking to those of us from Pennsylvania. A short five years before, 28 servicemen and women died when an Iraqi Scud missile plummeted from the sky into a US Army barracks in Saudi Arabia. The attack left 27 Pennsylvanians assigned to the 14th Quartermaster Unit from Greensburg, PA, dead. The attack was the single worst catastrophe suffered by the Allies during the Persian Gulf War.

Like the Scud attack of February 25th, 1991, the attack on Khobar towers was a jolting reminder of the cost of defending freedom. The mission of the 19 heroes of Khobar was the same as their comrades in the Gulf War—to protect our national security by defending our allies against despotism. The risk was the same, and the price paid—an ultimate sacrifice for their country—the same.

These servicemen deserve America's utmost respect for fighting for our country with little regard for their own personal safety. In light of America's approaching birthday, we should honor all of the individuals who sacrificed their lives to preserve this nation for us and our children. Along with these nineteen servicemen, I ask you to join me in honoring all of the members of the armed forces who may no longer be with us, but whose lives we shall remember forever as the great protectors of this wonderful nation. And, to those who continue to fight for the American cause in the Middle East and elsewhere, you have our profound and complete admiration and respect. Our thoughts are always with you.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
AMEND THE FEDERAL WATER
POLLUTION CONTROL ACT TO IN-
CREASE THE FEDERAL SHARE
OF THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING
TREATMENT WORKS IN THE DIS-
TRICT OF COLUMBIA

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2001

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today we introduce a bill to make permanent an 80–20 match for the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA), which serves jurisdictions in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia through its facility at Blue Plains. In fiscal years 1998 and 2000, the 80–20 match was included in appropriations bills. Because the Fiscal Year 2000 provision expires at the end of Fiscal Year 2001, this legislation to make the 80–20 match permanent is necessary.

The Blue Plains facility operated by WASA is the largest advanced waste water treatment plant in the world, serving two million users in the Maryland and Virginia suburbs as well as the District of Columbia. The financial and operational health of this facility is vital to the efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay as well as waters that serve the City of Vienna, and the counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince Georges. Blue Plains is responsible for the largest reductions of nitrogen into the Bay of any facility in the entire Bay Watershed.

WASA has only been able to undertake major facility improvements—including biosolids digestion and handling facilities, major renovations to preliminary treatment facilities, new chemical feed operations, and additional electrical system enhancements—because of the 80–20 formula.

We also seek this change as a matter of fairness. In enacting the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Act), Congress recognized that the District, a city without a state, shoulders an unfair financial obligation in programs in which municipalities normally have state financial assistance. The Act provided for federal support for the state share of several such programs. The region has been unable to take advantage of the usual combination of state and city matches only because this facility, which serves regional partners, happens to be located in the District of Columbia.

A permanent 80–20 federal-local match would place the District on a par with other municipalities and states in the United States. The 20% that the District would continue to assume is equivalent to the burden borne by many other cities in the country. Of course, local rate payers in the region would continue to bear their share.

We urge our colleagues to join us in supporting this important provision that would provide tangible benefits to regional residents and to the Potomac and Anacostia rivers, as well as the Chesapeake Bay, a national treasure.