

UC Berkeley. As a member and former Chairman of the Council on Competitiveness, he is committed to improving U.S. economic competitiveness and leadership in world markets. The Council, composed of corporate CEOs, university presidents, and labor leaders, focuses on strengthening U.S. competitiveness through innovation and technology.

William Hambrecht is an inspiration and a friend to many. His brilliant leadership has changed the face of California business and philanthropy. It is my honor to recognize the achievements of my constituent, and to join with his wife Sally and the Bay Area Council in acknowledging his contributions and ongoing dedication to social justice and the advancement of the Bay Area's wellbeing. I applaud his commitment to his community and cherish his friendship.

BROWNSVILLE TEXAS IS ALL
AMERICAN CITY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share my pride today in the beautiful South Texas city of Brownsville which was chosen by the National Civic League and Allstate Insurance Company as an "All American City." Brownsville was one of 10 municipalities named All American Cities.

This is a recognition for civic excellence honoring communities where citizens, government, businesses, non-profits and others demonstrate successful partnerships to resolve critical challenges before the community. Brownsville is a great example of this dynamic.

Brownsville's unique location "On the Border by the Sea," with its multi-cultural, historical and natural resources, is a good look at what America will be, and should be, over the next decades. It is a friendly city, populated by smart, visionary people which borders both the Gulf of Mexico and Mexico itself.

Brownsville's rich history includes: Karankawa Indians, Spanish explorers, vaqueros (Mexican cowboys), ranchers, soldiers, prospectors and present day captains of business and industry. The City of Brownsville was incorporated in 1853, taking its name from Fort Brown Post Commander Major Jacob Brown.

But of all the natural resources, easily the most valuable, most often-cited natural treasure is the people of Brownsville themselves. The nicest people I know live in the Rio Grande Valley. The life is easy, but the work is hard. So often, the border area is seen by both the United States and Mexico as a separate region, a place unto itself.

But the people there find ways to deal with the challenges that face them . . . the challenge of finding the water the community needs, keeping up with the rapidly-growing population, and supporting infrastructure for the international trade that flows across the U.S.-Mexico border.

This bi-cultural city, which is big, but not too big, is a family oriented place of beauty. The unique plants and wildlife, resacas, proximity to the beach and to the neighboring country of Mexico, all bring tourists to this area of the country in droves.

This leading border city whose people come together when the mission or purpose calls is most deserving of this award. All the people who participated in the award process are to be commended.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the community of Brownsville on this outstanding achievement.

TAIWAN PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-
BIAN CHAMPIONS HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan recently completed his first year of service as head of state, and I would like to take this occasion to congratulate him and comment on a few of Taiwan's achievements.

Taiwan has long been a friend of the United States. Over the last decades, Taiwan has made great strides towards becoming a model of rapid political reform. Taiwan subscribes to the private enterprise system and offers its people one of the highest standards of living in Asia. In terms of its trading relations with us, Taiwan represents our seventh largest export market, thus providing many jobs for our manufacturers. In addition, more than 30,000 Taiwan students are studying at U.S. colleges and universities. The U.S. is the number one destination for most of Taiwan travelers. Taiwan and the United States share many values in common such as attachment to freedom, democracy, and human rights.

One of the most notable feature of President Chen's administration is his championing of human rights. For many decades, human rights had been a taboo subject in Taiwan until Taiwan's martial law was repealed in 1987. In recent years, the government has been cooperating with civic groups to recognize the government's past mistakes and has taken concrete steps to help raise human rights awareness. Under the sponsorship of the Human Rights Foundation, in 1999 a monument was erected in Green Island, off the southeast coast of Taiwan, opposite Taitung County. The monument was to help people remember the many victims who were imprisoned and died in Green Island, a notorious prison camp. To prevent future violations of human rights, Chen's government has made every effort to guarantee its people the most basic human rights—freedom of expression, the right to assemble peacefully, and freedom of association. There will be no more prisoners of conscience and no more extrajudicial killings. Civil liberties are to be respected at all times.

In his inaugural address delivered on May 20, 2000, President Chen committed Taiwan to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Declaration and Action Program of 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights. In essence, President Chen believes that every citizen ought to enjoy the right to work, the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the right to an education, the right to medical care, the right to participate in elections, and the right to social security in the event of unemployment,

illness, and disability. Also, President Chen has urged the Taiwan legislature to consider drafting legislation to protect the rights of women, children, the elderly, and the indigenous people, laborers, and soldiers. Clearly, there is a long way to go and human rights work is a never ending effort.

It is appropriate that we applaud Taiwan's many efforts in upholding and maintaining human rights for its people. Taiwan is indeed fortunate to have its president as its foremost human rights champion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber when rollcall votes Nos. 206, 213, 214 were cast. I want the RECORD to show that had I been present in this Chamber at the time these votes were cast, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 206, "yes" on rollcall vote 213, "yes" on rollcall vote 214.

IN HONOR OF AMBASSADOR
JAMES C. HORMEL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished, accomplished man who by devoting his life to public service has become a champion for social justice, a leader in his community, and an example of courage for us all. Today, Thursday, July 19 in my district in San Francisco, the American Civil Liberties Union will honor Ambassador James C. Hormel with the 2001 On The Frontline Award. He is most deserving of this award and I am proud to acknowledge his contributions on this occasion.

Ambassador Hormel graduated from Swarthmore College and received his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School where he later served as the Dean of Students. He also established the James C. Hormel Public Service Program at the University, which encourages law students to venture into public service.

Ambassador Hormel has spent a lifetime fighting sexual orientation discrimination. He helped originate the Human Rights Campaign, the country's largest gay and lesbian political organization. For the last two decades, Mr. Hormel has assisted many local and national AIDS organizations, including San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand, AIDS Emergency Fund and Shanti Project.

In 1996, the San Francisco Public Library opened the James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center. Mr. Hormel's generous donation kicked off a major fundraising campaign and created an endowment to ensure the center's continuing development.

Ambassador Hormel was nominated to serve as Ambassador to Luxembourg. Mr. Hormel lived in the glare of the spotlight but he did not shy away from the intense inspection of his personal life. He remained graceful,