

nation in advancing the frontiers of discovery, and allow us to solve the most pressing problems of our time.

CONGRATULATING THE ROCHESTER HOST LIONS CLUB ON ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY, AUGUST 30, 2001

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, recognizing that the Rochester Host Lions Club is part of the Lions Club International, which was founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1917; and acknowledging the Rochester Host Lions Club, chartered on September 2, 1921, is the oldest Lions Club in New York State;

Recognizing that the Rochester Host Lions Club's dedication to serving those in need has made a measurable impact on the community, by contributing to the betterment of the City of Rochester, its surrounding areas, and New York State;

Recognizing the Rochester Host Lions Club's significant efforts in serving persons who are visually, hearing, and handicapped impaired, including SightFirst, the world's largest blindness prevention program; and acknowledging the Lions' efforts to establish the first eye bank in the United States;

Recognizing the Rochester Host Lions Club's many other community service efforts, including purchasing glasses for the needy, volunteering for the Salvation Army Christmas collection, hosting fundraising events for various community service organizations, and contributing funding to shelters, youth centers, community groups, and substance abuse treatment centers;

Urging the Rochester Host Lions Club to continue its exemplary public service to the community, as evidenced by its current fundraising work to expand its school-based health clinic program to include a dental and eye care facility;

Recognizing that members and friends of the Rochester Host Lions Club have come together this evening, August 30, 2001, to commemorate this important day in the Lions Club's history, its 80th Anniversary;

Resolved that I, Rep. Louise M. Slaughter, congratulate the Rochester Host Lions Club on its 80th Anniversary; and resolved that this proclamation will be submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE
ENERGY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 4) to enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4, the Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act, and urge my colleagues to vote against this legislation.

The growth of the U.S. economy over the last decade has significantly increased our nation's need for energy. Maintaining a reliable and affordable supply of power is essential to American businesses and consumers, and we must take precautions to ensure that our economy is not stalled due to blackouts or prohibitively high energy costs. Our nation's energy policy should guarantee access to affordable power, encourage conservation efforts, and pursue increased use of environmentally responsible and renewable sources of energy. While I applaud the House's effort to address our nation's energy needs, I am greatly troubled by some of the provisions of the SAFE Act.

H.R. 4 permits energy exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), which I strongly oppose, as drilling in this environmentally fragile area would have a harmful impact on its diverse array of animal and bird species. I am greatly disappointed by this destructive provision, and believe we must protect Alaskan wilderness by continuing the current moratorium on drilling in ANWR.

The SAFE Act also misses a prime opportunity to decrease oil consumption by increasing corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards for our nation's vehicles. I support the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOEHLERT) to require sport utility vehicles (SUV's) to meet the fuel efficiency requirements of passenger vehicles, rather than adhere to the current light trucks standard. Closing this "SUV loophole" could reduce U.S. daily oil consumption by 1 million barrels—the approximate daily estimated oil yield from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

I am also disturbed that the bill provides such extensive tax breaks to the oil and gas industry. Though the energy sector is reporting record profits, H.R. 4 offers billions of dollars in tax deductions for oil and gas activities. This provision is particularly egregious in light of the recently passed \$1.35 trillion tax cut that now endangers our federal surplus. Additionally, the bill further threatens our dwindling surplus by repealing existing fuel taxes for railroad and inland waterway transportation.

Again, I appreciate the efforts of many of my colleagues to address our nation's energy needs, but I have significant reservations with some of the priorities of H.R. 4, and hope that we will be able to address some of these concerns in the near future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, due to a field hearing of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Veterans Affairs being held in my district, I shall be unavoidably absent for today.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR.
ROBERT BYERS, M.D.

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and decorated career of Dr. Robert Maxwell Byers. The oldest son of Dr. John Maxwell Byers and Charlotte Winchester Byers, Robert has spent more than 30 years at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Byers grew up in the small town of Elkton, Maryland. An athletic teen who excelled in baseball, basketball, and track, Robert continued his athletic participation at Duke University, where he studied pre-Med. In 1959, he entered the University of Maryland Medical School in Baltimore where he excelled in his academic studies and received membership to the AOA and the Rush Honor Medical Society. In 1961, he married his high school sweetheart, Marcia Davis.

During his third year of Medical School, Robert was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve, and later rose to the rank of Captain in 1986. In 1963, Dr. Byers began his general surgical residency at the University Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. Five years later, he left for the Republic of Vietnam, as a fully trained general surgeon, with the 1st Marine Division. He received a unit commendation medal and combat action ribbon for his service in Vietnam. In 1969, he was certified by the American Board of Surgery. The following year, after his discharge from the Navy, he moved his family to Houston, Texas.

In Houston, Dr. Byers began a fellowship in Surgical Oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. This was the decision that molded his career in Head and Neck Surgical Oncology. Over the past thirty years at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Byers climbed the ranks to Professor and Surgeon. His career has been decorated with many awards and honors. He was honored with the distinguished Alano J. Ballantyne, Chair of Head and Neck Surgery in 1998, and was selected to give the Hayes Martin Memorial Lecture at the 5th International Conference on Head and Neck Cancer. Dr. Byers has authored or co-authored more than 200 works, including published papers, book chapters, and monographs. Throughout his time at M.D. Anderson he has contributed to the education of more than 300 residents, who are now becoming the future leaders of this field of health care.

In addition to his professional work, Dr. Byers has played an active role in the Houston community. With four sons, MacGregor, Robby, Matthew, and John, he was actively involved in coaching Little League and basketball. All of us in the greater Houston area have benefited from Dr. Byers' dedication and commitment to the medical field and his family.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Robert Maxwell Byers is a Veteran, a doctor, a father, a community activist, and a man whose commitment to the public good sets a model for future generations to follow. I applaud the long and accomplished career of Dr. Robert Maxwell Byers and wish him continued success in future endeavors.