

working machines. As such, the federal government should provide the money necessary for the implementation of a nationwide standard of voting and double-blind checking, and make each state upgrade its equipment so that it meets this standard for any federal election. This would be expensive, at first, to implement, but, in the long run, it will cut back on the number of problems that are caused by outdated equipment, and it would save on costs of staff needed to count and recount ballots. While none of these reform methods can be implemented overnight, by the 2004 presidential election, it should be possible to have at least a nationwide voting standard in action that allows for double-blind checking. As for electoral vote splitting and transferable voting, these methods would be harder to implement. While both of these methods are fair and relatively easy to incorporate into the voting process, they would require a small leap of faith by conservative Americans who maintain that the system is extremely good as it stands. This statement is true, but the U.S. electoral system has not changed much over the past 225 years, and thus little is done to correct flaws exposed periodically. If these reforms had been in place for the 2000 presidential election, the entire controversy in Florida never would have occurred, and Al Gore, the popular victor, would have won the presidency, 272 electoral votes to 266 votes. Thank you very much.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY PREGERSON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional individual, Harry Pregerson. He is not only the oldest active Judge of the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and a man of legendary accomplishments, he is a good friend whose wise counsel I rely upon. I am pleased that he will be honored by the San Fernando Valley Bar Association on September 29, 2001, with the prestigious Stanley Mosk Legacy of Justice Award.

Judge Pregerson began his legal career, after graduating from Boalt Hall Law School, in private practice. In 1964, he was named to the Los Angeles Municipal Court and subsequently to the Superior Court. In 1967, President Johnson appointed him to the United States District Court for the Central District of California. Later, Judge Pregerson was named to the Ninth Circuit by President Carter. Each of these prestigious appointments were a direct result of his hard work, talent and dedication. During these years, he garnered an impressive reputation and earned the respect of his colleagues.

In addition to his judicial career, Judge Pregerson has been a longtime advocate for the homeless, especially homeless veterans. He has overseen the construction of thousands of dwelling units for homeless veterans in Los Angeles County. In 1988, Judge Pregerson started the Bell Homeless Shelter, a shelter which today provides a full array of social services to homeless individuals in East Los Angeles. Recently, he helped bring together local law enforcement authorities, judges and county officials to create a new program that assists veterans convicted of minor violations complete a rehabilitation pro-

gram and return to a productive life. His special affinity for helping veterans probably comes from his own distinguished military service. He himself is a war veteran who was seriously wounded in the battle of Okinawa during World War II.

The San Fernando Valley Bar Association's recognition of Judge Pregerson is not surprising since the event commemorates commitment to the legal profession and the public. Judge Pregerson's distinguished service on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and numerous public service projects clearly demonstrate his very strong commitment to the law and the community.

It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Judge Pregerson for his outstanding achievements, and to congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

APPROVING EXTENSION OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO PRODUCTS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring attention to an increasingly serious problem affecting the public trust and truth in advertising. Today as we debate H.J. Res. 51, to approve the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment with respect to the products of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, I wish to make my colleagues in the House aware of the misleading marketing of the Vietnamese basa fish as catfish.

Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana farmers who endured, and continue to endure, the significant capital risk and time investment to raise catfish—notice I use the term catfish—should not be made to compete with a foreign product bearing no similarity to North American catfish. Vietnamese Pangasius, also known as the basa fish, has flooded the American market and now accounts for 20% of all catfish sold in the United States. This basa fish, however, is not catfish yet it is labeled catfish and even bears the industry logo.

American catfish farmers, who have worked for over a quarter of a century and spent half a billion dollars in research and development, deserve better. They deserve the assurance that their government will take the steps necessary to ensure their product retains the public trust and is not compromised in any way. Similarly, when a consumer purchases catfish they have the right to expect they are purchasing grain-fed, pond-raised North American freshwater catfish. The basa fish, however, is not grainfed, nor pond-raised, neither is it the American species.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues carefully consider the erroneous marketing of basa fish before reaching any decision on extending nondiscriminatory treatment to the products of Vietnam.

IN RECOGNITION OF OPPORTUNITY, INC. ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Opportunity, Inc. an exceptional organization located in Highland Park, Illinois. This extraordinary enterprise is a fine example of the initiative needed to help more people move from welfare to work allowing them to pursue the American dream.

Opportunity, is a not-for-profit contract manufacturer that employs over 125 persons, most of whom have developmental, physical and/or emotional disabilities. Founded in 1976, the company's mission is both to provide a mainstream plant environment in which "Handicapable" people can reach their full potential by working and earning a paycheck and to provide customers such as Baxter International, Allegiance Healthcare, Searle, Gerber, UreSil, and Medline with the best possible service.

As everyone understands, budget constraints compel us to look for ways to effectively address important needs without government subsidies, and Opportunity is leading the way in this regard. A model of community response, entrepreneurship, and innovation, the company demonstrates how competitive and productive "Handicapable" employees can be.

When I visited Opportunity, I learned that it's business success, while impressive, pales in significance to the positive contributions it has made to its employees' lives. I experienced firsthand how proud, dedicated and competitive they are. Clearly, Opportunity is an organization that lives up to its name.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a congressional district that includes enterprises of this caliber. It is my pleasure to salute the employees, management and directors of Opportunity as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary on September 15, 2001 at a gala dinner with Harry M. Jansen Kraemer, Jr., Chairman and CEO, Baxter International.

HUMAN CLONING PROHIBITION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to make clear my concerns about the legislation before us today.

I absolutely oppose the cloning of human beings for any purpose. Even the thought of human cloning is immoral, unethical and repugnant. I am concerned, however, that in our zeal to outlaw this abominable practice, we have overstepped necessary prohibitions and have acted to stop lifesaving research before it even begins.

Today the House has failed to make the important distinction between reproductive cloning that creates a human being and the use of cloning research technology that does not create a human being. An outright ban on

such research technology, which scientists believe can lead to treatments or cures for currently deadly diseases, is shortsighted in the extreme.

Even more disturbing, H.R. 2505 goes further to ban the importation of any therapies created from cloning research technology. This means that any product or therapy developed anywhere in the world using this technology, could not be used by American patients. Consider for a moment a cure for Parkinson's, diabetes or ALS developed in the United Kingdom using cloning research technology—Americans would be banned, under penalty of prison and a \$1 million fine, from using that therapy. That is wrong.

Today, I supported an alternative that would have banned reproductive cloning while specifically protecting therapeutic research cloning by maintaining the status quo—private, strictly regulated research. This alternative, offered by Representative GREENWOOD, would have allowed scientists to pursue promising research that could show how to create stem cells from a person's own DNA, avoiding problems with immune system rejection. The alternative would have allowed scientists to study how stem cells become specialized, and thus provide insight into the mechanisms responsible for abnormal cells that result in some cancers and birth defects. It would have allowed research into how cells age and are regulated, potentially leading a treatment or a cure of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other degenerative diseases of the brain or spinal cord. Unfortunately, this alternative failed.

The opportunities at the doorstep of medical research are unparalleled in our history. H.R. 2505, although well intentioned, simply goes too far.

Mr. Speaker, it is possible to ban human cloning without stopping lifesaving research and that is what this House should do.

THE REVEREND FATHER ROBERT E. NILON, S.J.—A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to honor the achievements of Reverend Robert E. Nilon, S.J. of Miami as a dedicated Jesuit for sixty years. He has faithfully served parishioners in Alabama, Florida and Louisiana as a Parish Priest. Father Nilon was ordained to the priesthood to follow in the steps of St. Ignatius of Loyola on June 16, 1954.

Reverend Nilon has accepted various Florida assignments. Several locations include GESU Church in Downtown Miami, St. Ann's Church in West Palm Beach, St. Mary's Church in Key West, and is currently serving the Sacred Heart Church in Tampa, Florida as Parish Priest and Hospital Chaplain.

The Jesuits are not in pursuit of personal fame when accepting assignments as needed in the home or mission field. However, occasionally there are opportunities to do great things. One of Reverend Nilon's most memorable occasions took place in Rome in 1999 when he celebrated Mass in the company of His Holiness, John Paul II, who was celebrating the 400th Anniversary of the Jesuits.

His work is an inspiration to others in our community and will set a precedent for societal advancement. As a parish priest and pastor, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to others that proves to be an affirmable resource for the community.

Father Nilon will be honored on August 12, 2001 at the GESU Church where a Mass of Thanksgiving will be presided by Archbishop John C. Favalora. We congratulate Father Nilon for his outstanding contribution to our community and wish him all the best in health and continued prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS CHEATHAM, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas Cheatham, Jr., a native of Benton, MS. After a long and distinguished career of public service, Mr. Cheatham announced his retirement on June 30, 2001.

Mr. Cheatham was a dedicated employee of the State of Mississippi for 27 years with tenures at both the Department of Public Safety, Motor Vehicles Division and as a tax collector with the Mississippi State Tax Commission. Prior to this, Mr. Cheatham served in the military for 28 years with the Mississippi National Guard, where the qualities of dedication and punctuality were instilled into him. These traits followed him throughout his career, evidence in the fact that he was always on time for work.

Although Mr. Cheatham enjoyed his time with the State his real passion was coaching little league baseball. He spent 37 years coaching the Grove Park Royals, an eight to twelve age team, in Jackson, MS. As leader of the team, Mr. Cheatham enjoyed many successful seasons, this past year going 19 and 1. He was instrumental in the development of many young individuals on and off the field. He has also been fortunate enough to see several of his players eventually go on to play Major League Baseball.

Mr. Cheatham will be missed by a lot of people at work, but if anyone is more deserving of retirement it is him. He should be commended because he is truly a modern day "role model," displaying the characteristics of integrity and commitment for all to admire.

PROGRESS ON CURING PARKINSON'S DISEASE

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease, I rise today to recognize the fourth anniversary of the passage of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act.

I was so very honored to be an original co-sponsor to this legislation, named for Arizona Representative Mo Udall.

This landmark legislation expands basic and clinical research in Parkinson's Disease and establishes Morris K. Udall Centers, for awards for Excellence in Parkinson's Disease Research.

Today I express my full support for a continuation of Parkinson's Disease research.

Approximately, 1,000,000 Americans are afflicted with Parkinson's, with 60,000 more diagnosed each year—one every nine minutes.

Approximately 40% of those afflicted are under the age of 60, effectively removing them from the work force.

Parkinson's is the biological opposite of Alzheimer's disease: while Alzheimer's destroys the mind, leaving the body intact and functioning, Parkinson's destroys the body's ability to function, taking away the physical abilities necessary to daily life while leaving the mind prisoner inside the body.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope as science moves forward, especially in the area of stem cell research, which holds hope for the millions with Parkinson's that a cure will be found soon, and that the legacy of Mo Udall will live forever.

JOHN RANDOLPH, JR., HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the selection of John M. Randolph, Jr., C.P.A., as 2001 Community Leader of the Year by the Northeast Branch of the Arthritis Foundation. Mr. Randolph will be honored with a dinner on Sept. 13.

A well-respected business leader, John Randolph has also devoted countless hours to improving the community of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1959 to attend college and made the Wyoming Valley his home. A frequent speaker for professional and community service groups, John has often shared his financial expertise with the community. The list of his personal and professional affiliations and memberships is long and impressive.

King's College, from which he graduated with a bachelor of science in accounting in 1963, has benefited greatly from his service. He has served on the college's board of directors since 1992, served as vice-chairman of the board since 1996 and chaired the Jubilee Capital Campaign that raised approximately \$21 million over four years. King's awarded him the Kilburn Medal in 1999 for extraordinary service to the college.

He has also been honored with the Annual Trustee Award by College Misericordia, where he served as chairman and vice chairman of the finance committee. He has also served on the board of directors at Keystone College and on the President's Council at Wilkes University.

Mr. Randolph also was admitted to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Business Hall of Fame by Junior Achievement of Northeastern Pennsylvania and was awarded the prestigious Annual Community Service Award by B'nai B'rith.

Additionally, he serves on the boards of directors of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber