

HONORING THE BUCKS COUNTY HOUSING GROUP AND BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BCCC) STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF WHEELZ 2 WORK PROGRAM FOR HOUSING CLIENTS

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Bucks County Housing Group and the Bucks County Community College Students in Free Enterprise for the remarkable achievements of the Wheelz 2 Work Program. This innovative program provides donated cars to clients receiving services through the Bucks County's Homeless Assistance Program.

As many of you are well aware, reliable transportation is critical to clients pursuing education, training, and employment as a means of securing self-sufficiency and permanent housing. The Wheelz 2 Work Program fills this need in addition to providing the community a tangible opportunity to be involved in a family's success. The program helps establish a long-term solution by providing a key element that allows people to maintain employment and/or advance in education.

Of significant achievement is the donation of the program's 100th car this October 2001. Nancy Lawrence of Pipersville is donating her 1985 Honda Accord to Housing Group client Michelle Heintz. Ms. Heintz, a single mother with a 3-year-old child, recently graduated from a medical assistant training program. Thanks to the highly successful Wheelz 2 Work Program, Ms. Heintz will now have a reliable way to get to work.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is a nonprofit organization that gives students the tools to learn the free enterprise system in a real working situation. SIFE challenges students on more than 700 college campuses worldwide to take what their learning in the classroom and use this knowledge to better local communities. Bucks County Community College SIFE students launched the Wheelz 2 Work in 1995 as an integral part of its community outreach activities. These students have brought extraordinary energy and leadership to the partnership with the Bucks County Housing Group on behalf of the agency's housing clients.

The Bucks County Housing Group is a private, nonprofit social service agency that provides comprehensive continuum of housing programs for homeless and low-income families throughout Bucks County. Founded in 1979 in response to the increase in the number of homeless families in the county, the Housing Group has worked cooperatively with both the public and private sectors to develop and expand essential services. At present, the Housing Group operates four homeless shelters, two transitional housing programs, a food pantry program and owns and operates three apartment complexes. In addition, the agency offers a First-time Homebuyers' Program and a Homeowners' Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program.

The Bucks County Housing Group and the BCCC Students in Free Enterprise have substantially improved the quality of life for 100

families in their county through their exemplary collaborative efforts. They will continue their important effort to reach out to many others. For this I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these two organizations for outstanding service to the community.

HONORING BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL RECIPIENTS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize that seven blue ribbon schools in my 51st Congressional District of California are being honored as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2001.

In alphabetical order, these schools are: Chaparral Elementary School, Poway, CA. The principal is Holly Brommer, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

Del Mar Hills School, Del Mar, CA. The principal is Gary Wilson, and the superintendent of the Del Mar Union School District is Thomas Bishop.

Los Penasquitos School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Jeffrey King, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

Olivenhain Pioneer Elementary School, Carlsbad, CA. The principal is Emily Andrade, and the superintendent of the Encinitas Union School District is Doug DeVore.

Park Village Elementary School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Kathy Cleveland, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

Solana Highlands School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Brian McBride, and the superintendent of the Solana Beach School District is Ellie Topolovac.

Westwood Elementary School, San Diego, CA. The principal is Suzanne Roy, and the superintendent of the Poway Unified School District is Donald Phillips.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools program evaluates schools based upon their effectiveness in meeting local, state and national educational goals. In 2001, 264 elementary schools are being recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools, including the seven above in California's 51st Congressional District, and 43 in the State of California. Blue Ribbon status is awarded to schools that have strong leadership, clear vision and mission, excellent teaching and curriculum, policies and practices that keep the schools safe for learning, expanded involvement of families, evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards, and a commitment to share best practices with other schools.

I am immensely proud of the men and women whose outstanding and tireless work in the interest of better education has now been recognized through the National Blue Ribbon Schools program. This is particularly close to my heart, because, as a former teacher and coach, and as a father, one of my passions is improving education so that every American can have a fighting chance to achieve the American dream.

And while these seven schools in my district have now been recognized as National Blue

Ribbon Schools, the real winners are all of the children, parents, teachers and citizens who have all been challenged through this recognition to successfully improve education in all of their local communities.

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001 our national tranquility was shattered by terrorists dedicated to violence at a scale we have not seen before. All of us watched in horror as airplanes were used as weapons of mass murder.

Following the attacks, the administration warned us that the terrorists operated within the United States. The Attorney General came to Congress and asked for broad powers to rout out the terrorists who may remain among us.

Fear has crept over our nation. Many Americans across the nation look with suspicion at their Muslim and Arab neighbors. People refuse to touch letters from far away countries. Passengers are denied access to planes because they have last names that sound Arabic. Mosques and businesses owned by Arab American have been attacked by vandals. Some Arab Americans have tragically lost their lives in acts of racial hatred.

As legislators, we need to ensure that any measure designed to strengthen federal investigative powers do not go too far. We must not let fear entice us to toss away the civil liberties that are the centerpiece of our democratic society.

I agree that America must pursue the villains who conspired to kill innocent Americans and to bring our country to a grinding halt. But we must not violate constitutional principles in our search for the conspirators.

The measures included in the USA Act go too far. We tossed away the bipartisan compromise painstakingly passed unanimously by the House Judiciary Committee. We were denied legislative due process. The Committee decision was trashed.

H.R. 2975 allows law enforcement agencies to wiretap and monitor Internet use whenever intelligence gathering constitutes a "significant purpose" of the surveillance. We should not expose citizens to invasions of privacy under vague phrases such as "significant purpose."

The bill H.R. 2975 does not include adequate safeguards to prevent the government from monitoring the communications of innocent people. Citizens may be monitored simply by using a pay phone frequented by terrorists. People may have the shadow of suspicion cast over them by calling a suspected terrorist. Guilt by association will take us back to the dark days of the baseless inflammatory accusations made by the House Un-American Activities Committee.

H.R. 2975 gives the Immigration and Naturalization Service unchecked ability to detain aliens for up to seven days without charges. If the Attorney General continues to detain an individual after seven days, the bill limits the suspect's ability to appeal their detention.

We do not need to expand existing powers the government has used to detain 698 people

during its terrorist investigations. At least 165 people have been held for violating immigration laws and can be detained indefinitely if the government begins deportation proceedings. The government does not even need to prove that they are suspects. Many are detained merely because they are material witnesses.

The bill H.R. 2975 allows grand jury and other sensitive information to be shared with other agencies. It will allow law enforcement and intelligence agencies to share information without a court order. Absent judicial oversight, a key element that prevents significant abuses of power by our law enforcement agencies is removed.

Under H.R. 2975, the government will define "federal terrorism offense" as the intent to influence or affect the conduct of government by intimidation or coercion, or to retaliate against government conduct. This unclear definition may include groups such as Green Peace along with the terrorists.

These measures will take us back to the time when the FBI and CIA investigated citizens such as Martin Luther King and his associates simply because they were deemed a threat to the nation.

Does anyone want to live in a country where you must hide your thoughts and avoid associations for fear of becoming tainted as a terrorist sympathizer?

We must not allow the terrorists to scare us into destroying our cherished values and rights.

I urge my colleagues to listen to the voices of moderation and reason. Do not toss away our sacred civil liberties.

Vote "No" on H.R. 2975 to protect the constitutional principles that have protected the citizens of this nation for more than 200 years.

PATRIOT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2001

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to vehemently oppose H.R. 3081, the Anti-Terrorism bill. In this time of national emergency, Congress must work to provide law enforcement with the necessary capabilities to fight terrorists in the 21st century. However, Congress must also remember that we are dealing with very precious civil liberties that we must not trample.

Today, Congress is considering greatly expanding the power of the federal government to access information and listen to the conversations of people in the United States. We are considering providing greater authority for law enforcement to tap phone lines, to track email and internet addresses, and to swap sensitive information. Issues with this magnitude require cautious consideration with ample time to ponder the consequences.

After careful deliberation, House Judiciary Committee on October 11, 2001 passed H.R. 2975, the "Provide Appropriate Tools Required to Implement and Obstruct Terrorism (PATRIOT) Act." In fact, the committee recognized the importance of the subject matter and the potential consequences of the bill and passed H.R. 2975 unanimously. This bill en-

joyed broad bipartisan support from the Judiciary Committee and members of the full House.

However, in an end run around bipartisanship and the committee process, the House majority leadership brought a different and controversial bill to the floor without allowing time for committee consideration and without even giving Members time to figure out what the bill does. Actually, this new bill was being written at the same time that the House was supposed to be debating the bipartisan PATRIOT Act.

The new 187-page bill contained some very distressing provisions. Under current law, search warrants must include very specific information including what is to be searched, who must cooperate, and who is the target of the search. A provision in the new bill would allow federal investigators to obtain search warrants without specifically naming each person who is involved. Another provision would allow federal authorities to obtain information like credit card numbers and bank account numbers with a subpoena, not a court order, as is the case under current law. Also, many of the provisions that expand the government's search and surveillance powers would not allow Congress to review the new powers until 2006.

Yet, instead of bringing up a bipartisan bill that has worked its way through the committee process, the House Majority hastily brought a very large and complicated bill to the floor that could have serious consequences for the liberties of the American public. Congress must update its anti-terrorism laws for the 21st century, however, we must not sacrifice our civil liberties in a rush to vote on potentially dangerous legislation that has not been adequately reviewed by lawmakers.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Lithuanian American Community, Inc. on this great day, the 12th of October, 2001.

The Lithuanian American Community celebrates Lithuanian heritage and provides educational, cultural, and social services to its membership. Founded in 1951, LAC, Inc. has kept Lithuanian heritage and religious traditions alive in America through its network of Lithuanian Heritage and Language Schools, which provide classes to Lithuanian Americans of all ages.

In the United States today, there are approximately 800,000 people of Lithuanian descent. LAC, Inc. offers a variety of services to Lithuanian Americans. The Human Services Council of the Lithuanian American Community provides legal aid, medical assistance, and other services to Lithuanian Americans across the country.

This organization educates the general public about Lithuanian heritage and seeks to spread their rich culture. The Lithuanian American Community sponsors events such as folk dances, art and science symposiums, and theater festivals.

The Lithuanian American Community has long remained focused on sharing their cultural history through events open to the public, and educating other citizens of their rich and deep culture. They have done an excellent job of supporting cultural interaction between the United States and Lithuania.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Lithuanian American Community, a great organization that has provided support for Lithuanian Americans, and enriched Cleveland with the contribution of their culture and heritage.

TRIBUTE TO HON. ROBERT A. CONTIGUGLIA

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to serving our nation, the 25th District of New York, Cayuga County, and the city of Auburn. From the day he enlisted in the U.S. Army, until today, as he steps down as Judge of Cayuga County Surrogate Court, he has exemplified nothing but dedication to our country and local community. I am honored to congratulate and thank the Honorable Robert A. Contiguglia for his ongoing support and devotion to our community.

Throughout his distinguished career, Judge Contiguglia has embraced several leadership roles with spirit and loyalty. He has served as Chairman of the city of Auburn Zoning Board, Cayuga County Supervisor, Chairman of Cayuga County Legislature, Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, and Assistant Attorney General for the State of New York. He has been an attorney for 45 years and practiced law with his father Anthony J. and brother Louis.

Today we celebrate Judge Contiguglia's lifetime of achievements to express our gratitude for his 23 years of service on the Cayuga County Surrogate Court bench. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I am honored to congratulate Judge Contiguglia for his well-deserved retirement from public life, and thank him for his years of service to Central New York. We wish him and his family the very best.

THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 16, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, Sonoma County, which I represent, as well as Stanislaus County in California, currently face a potential crisis in their mental health communities. In order for these County staffed inpatient psychiatric units to keep their Medicare provider status, under last year's HCFA rule, the hospitals would have to take over employment of County health care workers who currently provide the psychiatric care. Today I am introducing legislation that will enable the hospitals to keep their Medicare provider status