

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH
ANNIVERSARY OF HADASSAH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 90th anniversary of one of America's foremost organizations, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. This organization has grown to become the largest women's and Jewish membership organization in the United States, comprised of over 300,000 individuals. Hadassah will begin to celebrate its 90th year on February 26, 2002.

Since its founding in 1912, Hassadah's devoted members have helped improve the lives of women and indeed, all of humanity. Foremost among these contributions is Hadassah's incredible contributions to health care in Israel. Their flagship project, the Hadassah Medical Organization, provides health care of the highest caliber to a myriad of individuals from throughout the Middle East, without racial, religious or national prejudice, and also aids the training of health care workers. In addition, Hadassah's humanitarian mission has long made the organization a supporter of a peaceful and stable Middle East.

Within the United States, Hadassah is an active player on a number of critical public policy concerns. This includes a program for breast cancer detection and awareness, Jewish family programs, and the encouragement of civic participation. Hadassah also places an emphasis on education of both its members and the general public, especially in regard to American-Israeli relations, separation of church and state, and women's health.

I congratulate Hadassah on its commitment to improving the lives of countless people in the Middle East and here in America. The past 90 years have demonstrated the need for organizations such as Hadassah, and I wish its members nothing but continued success in the future.

TRIPARTITE MEETING ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I recently participated in the Tripartite Meeting on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy, sponsored by GLOBE USA, the affiliate of Global Legislator's Organization for a Balanced Environment (GLOBE), a voluntary non-partisan educational association comprised of Senators and Representatives from our Congress that is dedicated to promoting a balanced and informed policy regarding our environment. I applaud the work of our distinguished colleagues Representatives SHAYS, the chairman of GLOBE USA; JIM GREENWOOD, president of GLOBE International; MARK UDALL, vice president of GLOBE International and co-chair, House Renewable Energy and Efficiency Caucus, and all of our colleagues who attended and contributed to the informative sessions with our colleagues from Canada, the UK, and the EU.

One thing we all agree upon is the important role that renewable and alternative sources of energy play in our national energy policy and debate. H.R. 4, which passed in the House on August 2, 2001, contained provisions for alternative and renewable sources of energy. On December 5, 2001, the Senate Energy Committee chairman introduced S. 1766, an omnibus energy bill that responds to H.R. 4, which also contains provisions for research and development funding for alternative and renewable sources of energy. H.R. 4, drew much criticism as a result of its provisions allowing for oil exploration and drilling in ANWR and for not adequately increasing the CAFE Standards of light trucks and SUV's. It is imperative that our two legislative bodies reconcile their differences, so that our nation may have a comprehensive energy plan that makes sense for the American people. Today's meeting reemphasized the importance of renewable and alternative sources of energy in our ever evolving and dynamic global community.

I have long advocated renewable energy and strongly believe that we can not continue to utilize fossil fuels at the rate of our consumption. It is only through research and development of renewable and alternative sources of energy that our Nation can be free from its reliance on foreign sources of oil from nations that are hostile to our Nation, our democratic system of government and our way of life.

Mr. Speaker, when the price of crude oil trades at \$38 a barrel, we hold hearings, send letters to the President, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of State seeking their intervention with the OPEC nations to bring the price of oil down. Congress threatens sanctions and passes resolutions condemning OPEC. Now that the price of oil is low, and where we can purchase a gallon of gasoline for less than \$1.10, there is a tendency for all of us to become complacent and we fail to remember the exorbitant price of gasoline. The fact is, that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a cartel, and in a very short period of time the price of imported crude may spike, and for the most part there is very little that we can do when OPEC shuts off the spigot, but watch oil prices soar. We can not out pump OPEC and the only way to beat them at their own game is to develop a robust "portfolio" of alternative and renewable sources of energy. There is an energy crisis confronting our Nation, and like cancer it is in temporary remission, waiting to rear its ugly head when we think we have defeated it and when we least expect it. When that occurs it is at the expense of the hard working people of our nation, impacting every sector of our economy.

By incorporating renewable and alternative sources of energy such as wind, biomass, hydropower, geothermal, photovoltaic, fuel cells and the hybrid-vehicle technology, not just as part of our national energy plan, but as part of our national persona, we not only accomplish our goal of energy self-sufficiency, but we will also fulfill one of our national security priorities. Former CIA Director Woolsey asserts that our reliance on foreign oil is one of the top three national security threats to our nation. By adopting a comprehensive program of research and development in renewable and alternative sources of energy, we not only will

reduce a major threat to our national security, but we will also strengthen our homeland defense initiatives, by taking a threat out of the equation.

By establishing realistic goals, utilizing and harnessing the entrepreneurial and technological spirit, drive, creativity and ingenuity of the American people in developing alternative and renewable sources of energy; we will also reduce the catastrophic effects that fossil fuel has on our environment, thereby preserving our precious environment and our resources for generations to come.

Moreover, I believe that the Administration should continue to be engaged in the Kyoto negotiations process and we should continue to use our leadership and consensus building to enter into an agreement that is both realistic and enforceable for our nation, and is amenable to its prospective signatories.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to make alternative and renewable sources of energy a national priority. By working with our colleagues throughout the world we can achieve our shared energy goals.

IN HONOR OF EDUCATORS IN CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 5, 2002

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Cleveland teachers for today's event: Salute to Teachers—Celebrating Cleveland's Educators.

Today's event celebrating the efforts of Cleveland teachers originated from the work of Fox 8 photojournalist Herb Thomas and Assistant News Director Sonja Thompson who, while working on special assignment on the issue 14 campaign, became familiar with the work and efforts of Cleveland educators. Their discovery compelled them to hold this event to inform the public and recognize the many good works of Cleveland area teachers.

Teachers are often a source of inspiration and success to many of us. Indeed, Cleveland teachers have a most important responsibility of giving our children the educational tools needed to equip them to face any challenge in their future lives. Being in contact with their students almost daily, a teacher's influence goes beyond just textbook reading, writing and arithmetic. Teachers are, by virtue of their position, often charged with the responsibility of caring and nurturing each student's personal, social and emotional development. They come to develop strong interpersonal relationships with their students which often last well beyond the elementary and secondary school years. Cleveland educators deserve high recognition for their efforts in enriching the minds and hearts of many of our community's children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Cleveland educators who are touching the lives of thousands of students. They have given their time and dedication to the local community and have earned the respect of students, faculty, and the entire Cleveland community.